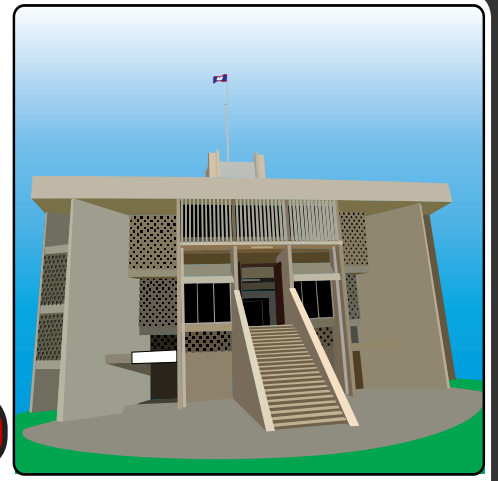




# Capital Weekly

*From the Heart of the Nation to the Soul of the People*



No. 021

Thursday, February 9, 2012

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# Anger or Fear?

## Why PUP Candidates are Jumping Ship



**Anthony Mahler**  
Stepped down from  
Caribbean Shores



**Cordel Hyde**  
Stepped down from  
Lake Independence



**Mark Espat**  
Stepped down from  
Albert Division



**Johnny Briceno**  
Might Step down from  
Orange Walk Central

Gone in less than three weeks, three PUP standard bearers, two of them sitting area representatives; Anthony Mahler from Caribbean Shores; then, Cordel Hyde from Lake Independence; and finally, Mark Espat from Albert Division.

Maybe, we shouldn't say *finally*, because word in the streets is that at least one more is on the brink of jumping off, that one being former PUP Leader Johnny Briceno.

The PUP area reps and standard-bearers who have been stepping down

would have us believe that their primary or sole reason for doing so is that they are unhappy or angry at their current party leadership. But we are too smart to fall for that. We know for a fact that all PUP ex-standard-bearers were in serious trouble and

very much afraid of losing the elections to some of the most aggressive UDP candidates in those divisions in a long time.

It goes without saying that Santino is virtually unbeatable in Caribbean Shores. But in Lake Independence and

*(Continued on Page 2)*

## IDB President in Town



**Luis Alberto Moreno**  
IDB President

**P**resident of the IDB, Luis Alberto Moreno, has been in Belize quite a number of times since this administration came into office in 2008. This week he is here again for the 26<sup>th</sup> meeting of IDB Governors of the Central America and Dominican Republic being held on the island of San Pedro, Ambergris Caye.

One of the major items on the agenda is a project to benefit thirty thousand young Belizean

women and children. Called the Salud Mesoamerica 2015 Initiative, the project aims to reduce maternal and infant mortality among the poor.

It's an innovative public and private partnership that seeking to reduce health equity gaps in Mesoamerica among the poorest populations.

Representing Belize in the absence of Prime Minister Barrow is Acting PM Hon. Gaspar Vega. Honourable

*(Continued on Page 13)*

## Congrats to Mayor Lopez



**Story on Page 3**

## From the Desk of the Chairman

### *The Invisible Hand of the 'lord'*



**Delroy Cuthkelvin**  
Chairman, Editorial Board

The news earlier this week that one of those international financial agencies has downgraded Belize's credit ratings comes as no surprise to us. We won't even name the institution or repeat what it had to say. What's important, we believe, is who's behind it and what's their purpose?

But, before we get to that, let's just say, we're sure the PM himself is not at all surprised either; nor should the Belizean public at large be. In fact, it only served to confirm what the PM warned us of in his statement announcing the elections.

*"Still, the forces opposed to our nationalism and our social justice continue to fight. At home and abroad; they assault our pro-poor and pro-people policies, and some of them even claim to have you on their side,"* the PM said.

As to the invisible hand behind all this, we have no doubt it is that of the lord, not the Good Lord, but the 'bad lord', if you will. He's got currency by the billions and can certainly pay for an international report to his liking. And oh—in case you haven't noticed—the timing is certainly no coincidence, coming amid the election campaign in which the government that dared to take him on in the interest of the nation and people of Belize has a clear lead, by all accounts.

A word to the wise: being from the South, we have certainly seen much better 'jancunu' dance.

So, it's the PM's statement about the Super Bond that sent the wrong message, they say. Obviously, they're listening attentively. We hope they also heard an earlier portion of the PM's statement addressed to the Belizean People: *"You, the People of this Country, are our comfort and our strength. You enable and empower us. You are also our monitors and our judges. Politically we answer only to you."*

One last thing—and this is to the 'bad lord' with the invisible hand—you might have big people and powerful institutions in your pocket, but you certainly don't have the whole world in your hand. Only the Good Lord does. Happy Elections; and God Bless Belize!

# Anger or Fear?

## *Why PUP Candidates are Jumping Ship*



**Santino Castillo**  
UDP - Caribbean Shores



**Mark King**  
UDP - Lake Independence



**Herman Longworth**  
UDP - Albert Division



**Denny Grijalva**  
UDP - Orange Walk Central

*(Continued from Page 1)*

Albert, Mark King and Herman Longworth have also been working like the devil. Add to that the fact that PUP standard-bearers always need lots of money to run an effective campaign (and much of that was not forthcoming this time around to the ex-standard-bearers in question) and it becomes all too obvious why they just could not afford to take the risk and stay on until the elections.

As to Briceno, he and his family have lots of their own money to bank on (by whatever means they've earned it); but it is well known that he has grown weary of spending his own money on the party, reportedly one of his main reasons for stepping down from the leadership. Similarly, the UDP's Denny Grajalva is on the hunt in that constituency, apparently possessed by the Holy Spirit, as Prime Minister and UDP Leader Dean Barrow put it

in his speech in Orange Walk Central where his Country-wide tour took him last Sunday.

Let's wait and see whether Briceno has the courage to press on, or whether like the three others before him, he decides to call it quits.

## Capital Weekly

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To the Soul of the People*

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# Kudos to Plus TV

## *Congrats to Mayor Lopez*

On Tuesday night of this week, February 7, 2012, residents of Belmopan were treated to a first of its kind debate between candidates competing for the position of Mayor to govern the local affairs of the Capital City for the next three years.

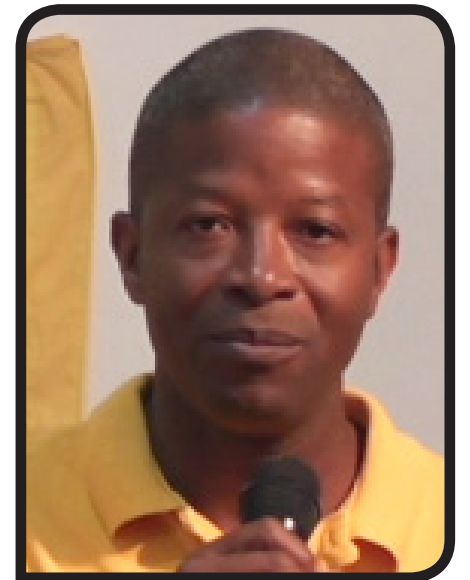


*Independent Marlon Skeen*



*Mayor Simeon Lopez*

poll the PUP candidate, as Paul Morgan himself had already done in the March 2009 Municipal Elections. But for the post of Mayor, the man to beat is really incumbent UDP Simeon Lopez, and in the end we believe none of the others were able to show up the



*VIP Candidate Paul Morgan*

The debate was organized and aired live by Plus TV, which is based in Belmopan, and which is, arguably, pound for pound, the most heavy-hitting station in the land.

Moderating the debate were Louis Wade and Patrick Jason Andrews of Plus TV; and participating in it were all five candidates contesting the municipal elections on March 7 for the position of Belmopan Mayor, namely, incumbent Mayor Simeon Lopez of the UDP, Jorge Flores of the PUP, Paul Morgan of the VIP, and independent candidates Marlon Skeen and Rudy Wade.

From the word go, it was clear that both PUP candidate Jorge Flores and disgruntled PUP independent Rudy Wade were out-classed and out of their zone, and that the real

debate was among UDP incumbent Simon Lopez, VIP's Paul Morgan and breakaway former VIP independent Marlon Skeen.

Both Skeen and Morgan scored major points in their answers to questions posed by residents of Belmopan, and Mayor Lopez was straightforward and effective in addressing all the issues raised and the points put forward, from financial management and accountability, to bars and nightclubs, to infrastructure and sports.

The debate was timely and the format most appropriate as the questions were submitted and posed, not by the moderators, but by the residents themselves, which is to say, the voters that will decide who governs their local affairs for the next three years.

We won't go into a point by point analysis of the debate, but one issue we found particularly interesting (and also quite entertaining) was that of the alleged proliferation of bars, night-clubs and even alleged places of ill-repute. A blinding light was shone on at least one of the very participants making an issue over that aspect of the city's affairs.

As we said before, we believe VIP candidate Paul Morgan and breakaway former VIP independent Marlon Skeen scored major points; and we would add here that, based on the debate, we would not be surprised if they both out-

current mayor or prove that they would be a better choice for the position.

The real winners of the debate were, of course, the residents of Belmopan who got an excellent opportunity, never before afforded them, to have the issues affecting their city being addressed by those who seek to govern their local affairs for the next three years.

In closing, therefore, we say, Respect to Paul Morgan and Marlon Skeen; Congratulations to Mayor Simeon Lopez; and Kudos to Plus TV for a job well done!

Long live Democracy! Long live the Capital City of Belmopan!

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In Living Colours at:  
[belizenews.com/CapitalWeekly](http://belizenews.com/CapitalWeekly)**

# This Valentine's Day give them a gift they won't forget!



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# Noise in the Market

## Don't Worry About it - Check Your Change!



Audrey Matura

Elections are a blessing, and Democracy is a wonderful thing for those who are guaranteed the right to elect their leaders in free and fair elections. In this respect, if no

we are prepared to endure, is that of the annoying voices and not so pleasant faces of attention-loving talking-heads that just cannot refuse the urge to pounce upon these elections as an occasion to gratify their insatiable appetite for airtime.



Dickey Bradley

Haven't we all seen and heard enough of the Audrey Maturas and Yasmin Andrews's, former believers and beneficiaries of the UDP who are now being financed by foreign interests (Oceana, Ashcroft, or both)? Could we be spared the return of the Dickey Bradleys



Yasmin Andrews

and Nuri Muhammads who were part and parcel of the last PUP administration that ran the country into the ground? Can't good old UDP's like Hubert Elrington and Cardona realize that it would be

ashamed of the PUP in which they were once actively involved, that they quietly admire the good things Dean Barrow and the UDP are doing for Belize, but just can't bring themselves to admitting it publicly, especially in an election season?



Nuri Muhammad

Never mind the noise in the market; the real politicians are busy checking their change; and the way things look right now, the official Opposition appears to be seriously short. This is one election they will NOT have enough money to buy.



Hubert Elrington

other, we Belizeans are blessed by the Almighty and coveted by many who can only yearn for such an empowering and peaceful process as we have traditionally enjoyed in choosing our political leaders. But every good thing has its downside; and the ugly side of this democracy, one which



Marcel Cardona

better for them to remain silent and retain some dignity than allow their hate for the current leadership of the party in power to drive them towards effectively endorsing the corrupt and treasonous PUP opposition? And, when will the Francis Gegg and Don Hectors concede that they are exceedingly



Don Hector Silva



Francis Gegg



**We are Keeping**

**Our "WITZ" with us.**

**We are Staying RED!**



By Zelda Hill

# Faith Lift

## Godliness: The Appearance vs the Real Thing

The more acquainted with Scripture one becomes, the less he or she will be surprised at the outrageous statements and actions of others who claim to believe in God, including those who take shelter under the seemingly broad banner of Christianity. The ominous times we are living in, characterized by the blatant disrespect of God's moral laws and the evolution of rebels who dare to point an accusing finger to the holy Creator and pronounce, "You made me this way!" Compel me to reflect on the integrity and the prophetic accuracy of Scripture. The Bible prepares us for the emergence of immoral personalities and activities that will characterize our 'last-days' society using a very descriptive list: ***"People will be lovers of themselves... boastful, proud, abusive... unholy... slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not lovers of the good, treacherous... conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God – having a form of godliness but denying its power..."*** (2 Timothy 3:1-5) Certainly, there is a form or the outward appearance of godliness, which is deceptive and destructive, and then there is true godliness, the real thing. Many 'people of faith' are zealous to maintain this form of godliness but they deny that true godliness is attainable. The outward appearance of godliness is manifested by pronouncements like, "I am a Catholic and I am gay," or by people who attend a church, know Christian doctrines, participate in Christian traditions, observe holy days, wear a

countenance of holiness and may even pray habitually, but continue to approve of or practice ungodly lifestyles such as fornication, homosexuality, adultery, witchcraft, lust, hatred, spouse abuse, child abuse in all its hideous forms, unclean speech, blasphemy, stealing, drunkenness... (see Galatians 5:19) and do so without any sense of conviction or guilt. Often times, their associations with a church result in unjust accusations of wickedness and hypocrisy directed towards the Church,

wicked will not inherit the kingdom of God (1 Cor. 6:9; Galatians 5:21)." Although this 'inconvenient' truth has been recently converted to the unendorsed term, "hate-speech", the Church should never be intimidated to proclaim it because only the knowledge of the truth can set anyone free (John 8:32). Still, there are many who will resist the truth, not because they are ignorant to it but because of a perverse mind. The condoning statements we have heard by homosexuality promoters and those

there can be no true godliness without its spiritual dynamic. Godliness originates from God and can only be acquired and lived through the power of the Holy Spirit. On our own we are perfectly capable of the appearance of godliness but the real thing can be achieved when God empowers us with His own moral goodness. Godliness is reflected in attributes like love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control (Galatians 5:22-23) and as John Wesley renders, "the only true religion in the sight of God is this: to visit with counsel, comfort and relief, the fatherless and widows in their affliction and to keep oneself unspotted from the world (James 1:27)." As long as we are willing to be godly, when we seek God's help, fill our thoughts with His desires, adopt His character and obey His Word, gradually or instantly [depending on our cooperation], the form of godliness will be disrobed. True godliness should be the endeavor of every person who claims to believe in God. Which category of godliness should you conform to? If you choose the real thing, there is definitely no law against the virtues that will characterize your life. To the pleasure of the churches and to the relief of the Attorney General of Belize, no one or group will ever desire to advocate repealing the qualities and activities that will result from true godliness.

***"Having just the form of godliness is meaningless and destructive and will neither bring us in line with the will of God nor bring lasting prosperity in health and wealth to our country, Belize. Although, at first glance, the form may be difficult to distinguish from true godliness, the Scriptures clarify that we will know the difference by the fruits they bear (John 7:16)."***

the name of Jesus Christ gets slandered, and the devil and his rebels "skin their teeth" and rejoice. However; God cannot be mocked because He knows His Church. God's Church is not comprised of those who claim to believe in Him or attend a church but of those who have been forgiven and redeemed, "... washed, sanctified, and justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God (1 Corinthians 6:11)". Undoubtedly, those who comprise the Church were once "sexually immoral, idolaters, adulterers, male prostitutes, homosexual offenders, thieves, greedy, drunkards, slanderers and swindlers (1 Cor. 6:9-10)." But anyone who continues to practice these things, despite their impeccable church attendance, ecclesiastical roles, the size and value of the cross they wear or place under their pillows, God's Word declares that "the

who confuse outright rebellion and deviancy with inalienable human rights, lead those who are familiar with Scripture to realize that indeed, many are imprisoned in "the trap of the devil who has taken them captive to do his will (2 Timothy 2: 26)". Having just the form of godliness is meaningless and destructive and will neither bring us in line with the will of God nor bring lasting prosperity in health and wealth to our country, Belize. Although, at first glance, the form may be difficult to distinguish from true godliness, the Scriptures clarify that we will know the difference by the fruits they bear (John 7:16). Moreover,

## Capital Weekly

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# Always for EDUCATION



..... The UDP introduced the **High-School Subsidy Program** to assist students to enroll and to stay in high school;

2008	5793	Students received \$300 subsidy
2010	6377	Students received \$300 subsidy
2011	6813	Students received \$300 subsidy



..... From 2008-2011 **\$11 million** was invested in **fifty (50)** schools nationwide.



..... From 2008-2011 High School attendance **increased by 25% in PG**



# “Albert Will Be UDP Again!”

## Herman Longsworth’s Brilliant Interview

He might be a newcomer to the political arena, but UDP Albert Candidate Herman Longsworth is quickly making a name for himself as a master at extemporaneous on-the-spot interviews. Longsworth, who has both an intellectual and technical background, is clearly a man on the ground and a man on a mission, focused and not easily side-tracked.

For the second time in a few weeks, Longsworth took on the wily Jules Vasquez of Channel Seven and held his ground, shooting straight from the hips, hitting the mark and wasting no bullets.

Longsworth’s interview with Jules Vasquez, preceded by the news story introduction, is reproduced below:

### Introduction:

With incumbent Mark Espat announcing on Monday that he will not offer himself for the March 7th. Election, Longsworth’s prospects to break the PUP hold on the division immediately and significantly improve.

But, that doesn’t mean it will be easy; statistically, Albert was the PUP’s surest seat - with Espat registering the largest margin of victory for any PUP seat in two successive elections.

So, we found Longsworth today on the campaign trail - where he seemed confident - and hardly moved by Espat’s departure:

### Herman Longsworth - UDP Candidate, Albert

“Jules, it really doesn’t change my strategy or my game plan. We have been on the ground for some time. We have been labouring, trying to ensure that we garner the support. We want - as strong as the PUP are in Albert, or claim to be in Albert - we weren’t so concerned about that. We were more concerned about touching people, and getting people’s support - and we were doing that. So it doesn’t really change my game plan. I will continue to be on the ground, and we will continue to go.”

**Jules Vasquez**



Herman Longsworth, UDP Albert Standard Bearer

“Do you think that this improves your chances? Albert, for the PUP, was considered a sure seat.”

**Herman Longsworth**

“It was considered a sure seat by people other than us. So it doesn’t really - in my opinion - change much. It really doesn’t. People will come out - a lot of people - I have heard the rumors that people will vote for Mark Espat, and not for the PUP. I can’t concern myself with that. We are working towards winning an election and we are talking to people. We are trying to convince people to vote for us. I don’t operate on rumors; I don’t operate on hearsay. I operate on what people tell me personally. So, that won’t affect anything that we are doing, period.”

**Jules Vasquez**

“How will you match up against the new PUP candidate for Albert, David Craig? We know that he lived for many years in this division, and we know also that he is a nephew of Mr. Price.”

**Herman Longsworth**

“Jules, it’s more like how he will match up against me. I have lived in Albert for years myself, but I have been on the ground

in Albert, for almost a year now. We’ve been here; we’ve put in the work. So, it’s more like how he will match up against me.”

**Jules Vasquez**

“The committee which assisted Mr. Espat for all those years, has stood down along with him. Is that significant in so far as he has not inherited the committee as has Ms. Schakron, for example, or Mr. Hoy, for example? Do you think that works significantly in your favor?”

**Herman Longsworth**

“It certainly works against him. I wouldn’t say that it works in my favor, but it certainly works against him. If he does not have any serious machinery in Albert, it’s difficult to put together that kind of machinery that you need to win an election in a month.”

**Jules Vasquez**

“The years between 1993 and 2008 have seen Albert transform from the surest UDP seat, Mr. Goldson’s seat, into one in which the PUP has - Mark Espat specifically - has registered the largest victories for any seat in its party. Do you think that in 2012 you can change that?”

**Herman Longsworth**

“I will change that, Jules,

that’s the goal, and that’s why I’m here; that will change. Albert will be UDP again.”

**Jules Vasquez**

“With respect, I’ve seen Mr. Morison, Ms. Williams, in the past, walk the walk and talk the same talk you’re talking, but when time came for the votes to be counted, they got ‘whap’.”

**Herman Longsworth**

“Jules, I mean no disrespect to anybody, but I am nobody but Herman Longsworth, and what I bring is different from what everybody else brings, I believe. I am here to win Albert, and we will.”

**(Interview ends)**

Nothing is ever entirely sure in politics, but if Longsworth’s proven skill at handling on-the-spot interviews is any indication of his political skills on the ground, then, with Espat out of the way, and the PUP’s newcomer appearing to be out of his zone, so to speak, Longsworth could be well on his way towards accomplishing his mission of returning the Albert Division to the UDP on March 7, 2012.

### National Agriculture and Trade Show

(Belmopan 8th February 2012)

The Ministry of Agriculture takes this opportunity to inform the public that the National Agriculture and Trade Show Committee Met on the 8th of February 2012, as part of its ongoing preparation for this year’s show.

The Official dates of the National Agriculture and Trade Show are 27th to the 29th of April 2012 at the show grounds in Belmopan.

The National Agriculture and Trade Show Committee has been holding meetings in preparation for this year’s event.

Over the past few years the Committee has made an extra effort to ensure that the emphasis of the show is placed once again on the importance of agriculture and its contribution to the development of the country.

# Referendum is What You Want? Why Not Have One on UNIBAM?



Lisa Shoman, lead attorney for UNIBAM



Audrey Matura, Leader of the No-Drilling Referendum Movement

There is nothing wrong, *per se*, with having questions and reservations about offshore drilling. *We do.*

And there is everything right about calling for a referendum on decisions that could have a far-reaching effect on the future of our Country and our People. *Let's have it!*

But, why should we limit ourselves to the issue of Oil-Drilling? While we are at it, why not have a referendum also on the issue of whether or

not to legalize homosexuality in Belize? Seems to us this is an issue that has implications as far reaching—more so, in fact—on Belizean society as we have known it.

And, we have no doubt at all that those of us who are against it are much greater in numbers, and more passionate, indeed, than those who oppose drilling offshore or in protected areas.

We wonder how many of the international agencies would be prepared to

throw their support and money behind such a cause.

The truth, of course, is that this is a movement that requires no funding, local or foreign. Just put a paper and a pen in the collection plate at every church one weekend

and you will be well on your way to attaining the ten percent threshold of signatures from the Belizean population to trigger such a referendum.

Referendum is what you want? Let's have one on UNIBAM!

## Capital Weekly

*From the Heart of the Nation  
To the Soul of the People*

**Shoulder to Shoulder  
with the People**



**RAMON WITZ**

*Getting the Work Done!*

# The Prime Minister's Tour Continued in Orange Walk Central Last Sunday February 5



# The Prime Minister's Tour Continued in Orange Walk Central Last Sunday February 5



# Saldivar to Fonseca: How Can the People Judge You? *By Your Past—Not Your Promises!*



*Hon. John Saldivar*



*Hon. Francis Fonseca*

In our last edition, we exposed the folly, or disingenuousness, in the assertion by PUP Leader Francis Fonseca that this election is not about the past, but about the future.

As we noted, elections are always about the future, but this particular elections is certainly also about the past, especially because the people in the Opposition party who are aspiring to get back into office are the very same people who ran the country into the ground the last time they were in office.

We highlighted, in particular, the Super Bond which is costing us millions in the present and will cost us much more in the future; which in the next two weeks, in fact, will be costing us another 33 Million in interest payments alone; which will cost us 47 Million more in August of this very year when the interest jumps from 6% to 8.5%; which in 2019 will start costing us over 200 Million a year when payments on the capital kick in; and which will cost us over 1.5 Billion (with a B) by the time we finish paying

it off in 2029, those of us who are still alive, and those yet unborn who will be around at that time.

This week, during his Thursday morning appearance of WAVE Radio's morning show, Hon. John Saldivar put the matter in clearer focus when he pointed out that in politics, as in every other aspect of life, when one is seeking to fill a position, one of the main factors taken into consideration is the history of the person seeking to fill that position. As he noted, one of the first requirements upon applying for a job, is that

of providing a resume or curriculum vitae. Some employers even require a police record, he noted, to determine one's criminal record or lack thereof. In the case of the banks, before you are even considered for a loan, your credit-history must be established or ascertained.

In conclusion, Saldivar's point to Fonseca was that as they (the PUP) seek to get back into office, there is only one way for the people to judge their competence and trustworthiness for the job: *"NOT by your Promises, but by your Past!"*





**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**Belize Water Services Ltd.**  
**FEASIBILITY STUDY OF PLACENCIA**  
**PENINSULA PILOT WASTEWATER**  
**MANAGEMENT SYSTEM**

The General Public is hereby informed that the DRAFT FINAL REPORT of the Feasibility Study for the Placencia Peninsula's proposed Wastewater Collection and Treatment System prepared by Halcrow and funded by USTDA is available for public review.

The public consultation period will be from January 27th- February 15th, 2012. A Public Meeting will be held on February 16th, 2012 with BWSL, relevant department of the Government of Belize and Halcrow representatives to address any concerns or comments. The venue and time will be announced at a later date. Electronic copies of the report can be obtained from our Headquarters at the address below during normal working hours, and on BWSL's web site:  
<http://www.bws.bz/PlacenciaProject/>

Project Management Unit  
 Belize Water Services Ltd.  
 # 7 Central American Blvd  
 Belize City  
 Email: IWSPPP.PMU@bws.com.bz



**Tender for the Supply of Vehicles**  
**The Belize National Sanitary Cattle Plan Project**  
**Reference: EU/BNCSP/LO#02 OF 2012**

The Government of Belize (GOB) has received financing from the European Union and intends to apply part of the proceeds to payments for the Contract for the Supply, Delivery and After-sale service of four (4) pickup trucks for the Belize National Sanitary Cattle Plan Project.

**The goods to be supplied and delivered are:**  
**3 Heavy Duty Pickup Trucks (manual transmission)**  
**1 Heavy Duty Pickup Truck (automatic transmission)**

The tender documents can be requested electronically from email address [ssalazarcattlesweep@gmail.com](mailto:ssalazarcattlesweep@gmail.com).

Sealed tenders must be delivered to the Office of the Belize National Cattle Sanitary Plan Project located on The National Agricultural Showgrounds, Hummingbird Highway, Belmopan, Cayo District, telephone number 822-2143.

**The deadline for submission of tenders is Monday, February 27, 2012 at 1:00 p.m. The Public Opening will follow at 1:10 p.m. on Monday, February 27, 2012. Interested tenderers or their representatives are invited to attend.**



**The Belize National Sanitary Cattle Plan Project**  
**Supply of Cattle Identification and Mounting Equipment**  
**Our ref.: EU/BNCSP/IO # 01 of 2012**  
**BELIZE**

The Government of Belize (GOB) has received financing from the European Union and intends to apply part of the proceeds to payments under the Belize National Sanitary Cattle Plan Project for the Supply of Cattle Identification and Mounting Equipment.

**The goods to be supplied and delivered are:**

1. 100,000 ear tags (flag type)
2. 80,000 Electronic Identification (buttons) with electronic chip
3. 20,000 ear tag (button type) without electronic chip;
4. 7 Stick riders for Electronic Identification Ear tag;
5. 50 Universal ear tag applicator (pliers) for cattle,

The tender documents can be requested from the email address [ssalazarcattlesweep@gmail.com](mailto:ssalazarcattlesweep@gmail.com).

Sealed tenders must be delivered to the Office of the Belize National Sanitary Cattle Plan Project located on The National Agricultural Showgrounds, Hummingbird Highway, Belmopan, Cayo District, Belize, Central America.

**The deadline for submission of tenders is March 26, 2012 at 11:00 a.m. Belize time. Followed by the Public Opening at 11:30 a.m. Belize Time. Tenderers or their representatives are invited to attend.**

**IDB President in Town**



*Hon. Gaspar Vega  
 Acting Prime Minister*

*(Continued from Page 1)*

Vega and the IDB President, Luis Alberto Moreno, signed the 1.25 million dollar agreement during the meeting.

Commenting on the effort, the IDB president said, "What brings us to this really innovative project we are very proud to be a part of: this project started with the generosity of the Bill and Melinda Gates

*Foundation, the Foundation of Carlos Slim and the Government of Spain - with a purpose of looking at health issues that, in the case of Belize, will reach 30,000 young women of the ages between 0 and 5 years old. Increase about 10% each point in terms of children from 0 to 5 months who are fed exclusively with breast milk."*

For his part, Honourable Gaspar Vega stated, "With the help of IDB, I am certain that we would be able to do better, not only economically but also socially for the infrastructure of our entire culture of Belize to change to be one that will be looking for more prosperity. Not only from the government sector but also from the very small people, so that we can continue to cut down on our poverty and ensure that we give the best protection possible to the entire country."

The meeting started on Thursday and will end on Friday.

## Health Clinic for Senior Citizens Inaugurated in the Capital City



*The Hazel Hutchinson HelpAge Center in Belmopan*

A health clinic for senior citizens was officially inaugurated two Thursdays ago at the Hazel Hutchinson HelpAge Center in Belmopan.

The clinic room has furniture including a table, chair, sofa, examination table and a computer that is connected to the Belize Health Information System donated through the kind assistance of PAHO/WHO and the Ministry of Health.

Mr. Evan Dakers, President of HelpAge, described the event as the re-establishment of the HelpAge Health Clinic. He mentioned that the branch had a clinic a couple years ago at its previous location but financial constraints made it difficult for the clinic to stay open.

He expressed his gratitude on behalf of all HelpAge members for all the partners who maintained their commitment to make the clinic a reality.

Chief Executive

Officer in the Ministry of Health, Dr. Peter Allen, made brief remarks in which he congratulated the branch for their commitment to ensure the establishment of a health clinic to accommodate members where they can receive medical attention and care in an environment that is comfortable and familiar to them. He described the day as a great leap for the health and wellness of senior citizens.

Brief Remarks were also given by Mr. Paul McCord, Chairman of HelpAge Belmopan branch, Dr. Gerardo de Cosio, Country Representative of PAHO/WHO and Mrs. Bernadette Nicholson, Administrator, Western Regional Hospital.

The Health Clinic is situated in the HelpAge center and a doctor from Western Regional Hospital will have clinic sessions on Mondays for the seniors of Belmopan and surrounding communities who attend that branch.



BELIZE SOCIAL INVESTMENT FUND  
BELIZE MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT  
CONSULTANCY – DEVELOPMENT OF MUNICIPAL GROWTH PLANS (MGP's) FOR THE MUNICIPALITIES OF COROZAL, ORANGE WALK, BENQUE VIEJO, SAN IGNACIO & SANTA ELENA, BELMOPAN, DANGRIGA AND PUNTA GORDA, BELIZE

Loan No: 7958-BZ

Sub-Project ID No: 7958-BZ/C11

Expressions of Interest

The Government of Belize (GOB) has received a loan from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) and intends to apply part of the proceeds of this loan to payments under the contract for DEVELOPMENT OF MUNICIPAL GROWTH PLANS (MGP's) FOR THE MUNICIPALITIES COROZAL, ORANGE WALK, BENQUE VIEJO, SAN IGNACIO & SANTA ELENA, BELMOPAN, DANGRIGA AND PUNTA GORDA, BELIZE

The project comprises small-scale infrastructure improvements; capacity building for the municipality councils; technical assistance to central government in municipal management; and project management and administration. GOB has appointed the Belize Social Investment Fund (BSIF) as the implementing agency for the project.

The consulting services for this assignment under the Quality Cost Based Selection shall carry out the development of municipal growth plans (MGP's) for the municipalities of Corozal, Orange Walk, Benque Viejo, San Ignacio & Santa Elena, Belmopan, Dangriga and Punta Gorda, Belize. The indicative implementation period for the consultancy is April, 2012 – April, 2013. BSIF hereby invites eligible consultants to indicate their interest in providing the services.

Interested consultants must provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the services (brochures, description of similar assignments completed, experience in similar conditions, availability of appropriate skills among staff, current involvement in relevant projects, etc.).

In submitting their Expressions of Interest, applicants should be aware that they will be assessed, inter alia, based on the following areas: technical competence (number of similar projects previously completed and level of comparable responsibility / experience), qualifications and experience (professional qualifications of staff and experience on similar assignments), local and regional experience on similar assignments, financial capability and existing commitments.

Consultants may associate to enhance their qualifications. All information must be submitted in English.

Following the assessment of submissions, a short-list of not more than six applicants will be provided with Requests for Proposals including terms of reference and invited to submit technical and financial proposals. BSIF will not be bound to assign any reason for not short-listing any applicant and will not defray any costs incurred by any applicant in the preparation and submission of Expressions of Interest.

A consultant firm will be selected in accordance with the procedures set out in the World Bank's Guidelines: Selection and Employment of Consultants by World Bank Borrowers, May 2004 (revised up to January 2011).

Interested consultants may obtain further information at the email address below

One (1) original and two (2) hard copies of the Expression of Interest must be delivered by 4:00 p.m., 29th February, 2012 to:

Procurement Officer  
Belize Social Investment Fund  
Belize Municipal Development Project  
3rd Floor, PAPI's Building  
Constitution Drive  
Belmopan  
Belize, Central America  
[lemuel.palacio@sifbelize.org](mailto:lemuel.palacio@sifbelize.org)

## Passport System Down

### PRESS RELEASE

Belmopan 8th February 2012. The Ministry of Defence and Immigration wishes to inform the General Public that the Passport System is down and therefore passport services will be temporarily interrupted until further notice. Please note that all passports due with effect from 7th February, 2012 will not be ready for pick up. Those persons are asked to kindly check with the Department during the week of 13th to 17th February, 2012. Provisions have been made in cases of emergencies. The Department apologizes for any inconvenience caused, and we are working diligently to rectify the problem. For further information kindly contact the Officer-in-Charge, Passport Section at 822-3860 or 822-0284.

# The Republic of China (Taiwan) Partners with University of Belize



Minister Faber, Ambassador Wu, and UB President Doctor Fraser

The Ambassador of the Republic of China (Taiwan) H.E. David Wu and President of the University of Belize, Dr. Cary Fraser will sign a “*Letter of Intent on the Designation of Taiwan Academy Contact Points and Bilateral Cooperation*” on Thursday 9 February, at 11:00 a.m. at the Embassy’s office in Belize City.

Minister of Education and Youth, Hon. Patrick Faber will be present to witness the signing on behalf of the Government of Belize.

The signing seeks to strengthen bilateral exchange in the areas of culture, education and academia, in particular those topics related to Taiwan, and Mainland China.

As the *Contact Point*, the University of Belize will disseminate information to its students, faculty, and staff including other targeted stakeholders regarding scholarship opportunities under the Taiwan Scholarships and Fellowships (TAFS) program. UB will supply information for applicants under the scholarships and fellowships program; provide exclusive access to relevant websites for research; and facilitate exchange of relevant information and publications.

The TAFS program has provided approximately 1,250 grants annually to undergraduate and postgraduate students and researchers worldwide to study/conduct advanced research in Taiwan. It is aimed between Taiwan and the global community at providing access to knowledge, educational links, and establishing a platform for long-term intellectual collaboration.

The University of Belize as the *Contact Point* will be the avenue for opportunities

to engage in cooperation with Taiwan Academy; open related courses and programs; and to set up relevant units or departments. There will also be access certain teaching resources from Taiwan free of charge -teachers and books, resources of the Taiwan Research Seminar; the use of archives of the future Digital Taiwan Academy, as well as access to related digital resources on Sinology compiled by Academia Sinica, the Center for Chinese Studies of the National Central Library, and

the National Science Council.

“This partnership with the Republic of Taiwan is a testament to the role of the University of Belize in creating opportunities for students to acquire knowledge and relevant skills,” said Dr. Fraser. “Such opportunities will allow students to use their knowledge to improve the life of Belizeans across the entire society.”

*The University of Belize  
Education Empowers  
A Nation!*

**UPDATE ON THE BELIZE MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT FOR THE CITY OF BELMOPAN**

Under the World Bank Infrastructure Project four(4) streets will be rehabilitated in the City of Belmopan: One-Way Street adjacent to bus terminal, Nim Li Punit Street, Racoon Street, Hummingbird Drive (a portion)

The following have been accomplished in regards to the project:

- The project has been approved by the Project Steering Committee (PSC).
- The Subproject Agreement has been signed. This agreement outlines the respective responsibilities, rights and obligations of the Social Investment Fund and the Belmopan City Council.
- The Belmopan City Council has deposited an amount equal to 1% of the estimated cost of the project as a counterpart contribution.
- Anthony Thurton and Associates, an engineering consultancy firm, have been hired to prepare the designs, costs estimates and technical specifications for the four streets and work have begun on the designs etc. which is expected to be completed by the end of January 2012.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT**

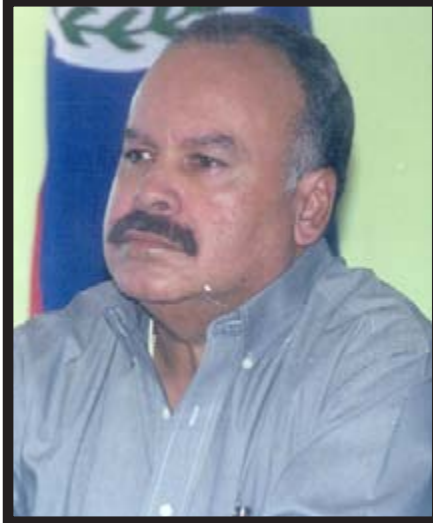
Mr Ernest Raymond, Project Co-ordinator, Belize Municipal Development Project, Constitution Drive, Belmopan Tel: 822-0239/0508 or via email: [ernest.raymond@sifbelize.org](mailto:ernest.raymond@sifbelize.org) or Cell No. 610-1836. Website: [www.sifbelize.org](http://www.sifbelize.org)

# *Superbond Strikes Again!*

## **Another 33 Million Gone!**



*Said Musa, the man who carried the name of Prime Minister when the National Debt got out of hand*



*Ralph Fonseca, the man who ran the country's finances, first as Minister of Budget, then as Minister of Finance*



*Mark Espat, the Architect of the Superbond, recently served as Party Leader for a few days*



*Francis Fonseca, was Attorney General under the Musa Government, now wants to be Prime Minister*

### **February 20, 2012:**

*The Government and People of Belize have to find \$33 Million to make another instalment on the repayment of the Superbond left behind by the last PUP administration.*

### **August 20, 2012:**

*We will have to find another \$47 Million as the interest on the Superbond jumps from 6 percent up to 8.5 percent*

### **August 20, 2019:**

*Repayments go up to \$100 Million every Six Months (200 Million a year), as we start making Bullet Payments on the principal, while continuing to pay off the interest*

### **August 20, 2029:**

*By the time we're finished paying off the Superbond, it would have cost us \$1,588,590,700 (1.5 Billion with a B)*

**We Cannot Forget The Past**

***When We Are Paying In The Present***

**And Will Continue to Pay in the Future**

# Lisa Shoman Again

*On The Wrong Side of Political Pornography*



Lisa Shoman

We won't accuse her without solid evidence, which might never come, but we find it amazing that, once again, Lisa Shoman finds herself having to defend her position and that of her party on another issue having to do with matters regarding basic values and principles.

This time it was a distasteful, pornographic television ad prepared and placed by elements within the PUP, and intended to

make fun of Prime Minister Barrow. Well, the Belizean public at large did not find it funny, and Shoman, as spokesperson for the floundering opposition party had to take to the airwaves in a desperate attempt to convince viewers that she and her party had nothing to do with the advert.

What we found intriguing is that Shoman, although she claimed to know nothing about the production or placement of the ad, was able to state categorically that the ad had only aired once and would not be airing again. Quite a slip for a 'learned' attorney!

Believe it or not, it's Lisa Shoman again, caught up in yet another issue having to do with principles and moral values; not as far-reaching as the UNIBAM matter, but once again she finds herself on the wrong side.

# Continuity of Government



Administration Building in Belmopan where the Cabinet meets

**Belmopan City  
Monday, February 6, 2012**

The Office of the Prime Minister wishes to advise the general public that according to Section 84(6) of the Constitution of Belize, "During the period between the dissolution of the National Assembly and the appointment of a Prime Minister after a general election, the government of Belize shall continue to be administered

by the Prime Minister and the other Ministers and Ministers of State of the Government." This means that even though the National Assembly has been dissolved, the Prime Minister and other Ministers of Government continue to exercise their respective powers until a new Government is constituted after the general election. (END)

**(Office of the Prime Minister Belmopan City)**



## BELMOPAN CITY COUNCIL INCENTIVE PACKAGE 2012/2013



**As of January 1, 2012, Property Owners in the City of Belmopan are eligible to participate in the following discount package:**

- **25% Discount for full payment of 2012/13 Property fees made ON or BEFORE January 31, 2012.**
- **20% Discount for full payment of 2012/13 Property Fees from February 1 and February 28, 2012.**
- **15% Discount for full payment of 2012/13 Property Fees from March 1 and March 31, 2012.**

**N.B. Senior Citizens (65 yrs or older) are eligible for an additional 5% discount for properties on which they reside.**

**For more information visit your Belmopan City Council Offices at 36/38 Trinity Boulevard, Belmopan City  
Or call: 822-2271, 822-2319 or 802-3679**

# Ruperto for President

## *New FFB Elections Coming in March*



*Ruperto Vicente*

It might seem rather anti-climatic, as it will come one week after the much anticipated General Elections, which is the predominant preoccupation of the entire nation at this time. But to football enthusiasts, the FFB executive elections, set for March 15, 2012 is a big thing in its own right.

FFB (Football Federation of Belize), which is the governing body for football in this country, and the body that represents us in FIFA, the international organization that governs football around the world, has given notice that the elections will take place at its upcoming Con-

gress to be held on that date.

By now, most of us might have come to the conclusion that Doctor Bertie Chimilio owns the FFB, as he has been its president for several consecutive terms extending beyond a decade.

But Chimilio's reign might be coming to end as he is being heavily challenged in the elections to be held under new guidelines, which are in fact the old guidelines by which they should have always been held, as opposed to the undemocratic methods that Chimilio and his executive had been employing in order to retain control

*(Continued on Page 19)*

**KINICH AHAU ART FESTIVAL**

**February 19, 2012**

**Altun Ha**

**Archaeological Site**

**9:00am – 5:00pm**

**Food, games, music,**  
live art competition and performances

Transcending Art and Culture, highlighting the wood carving industry

# Ruperto for President

## *New FFB Elections Coming in March*

*(Continued from Page 18)*

indefinitely over the FFB.

It was the determination of Hon. John Saldivar and his Ministry of Sports that eventually led to the overturning of the FFB's most recent election in which Chimilio had himself re-installed for yet another term.

That determination by Saldivar and the Ministry of Sports caused pressure to be brought upon the FFB by FIFA, forcing it to return to its original statutes and hold new elections in a democratic, fair and open manner.

In accordance with those statutes, football associations have been democratically elected in districts throughout the country; and the stage is now set for a showdown at the national level to select an executive for the FFB.

The Electoral committee was accepting invitation up to Monday of this week, February 6, 2012.

Nominated to contest Chimilio for the presidency

is Ruperto Vicente, a well-known and respected veteran footballer and referee.

Running on the same slate with Vicente for other positions are Darlene Pardron of Orange Walk for Vice President; and David Jones and Hilberto Muschamp as officers (members).

We understand that another veteran footballer, Gerald Henry, has also applied to run for the presidency. Henry was also one of the members of the investigating committee that was commissioned by Sports Minister Hon. John Saldivar to establish the democracy, or lack thereof, in the process by which the FFB was conducting the elections that saw Chimilio and his slate being repeatedly re-installed as the executive of the federation.

As football enthusiasts, we were excited the moment we learnt of Ruperto Vicente's application to run for the presidency for the FFB.

We had no reason to believe that in free and fair elections, he would not succeed in win-



*Bertie Chimilio*

ning majority support for the position. That was until we heard there is another challenger for the position.

Two persons challenging Chimilio for the presidency could well benefit Chimilio and give him a chance at maintaining his hold on the FFB. For the good of Football, we are

hoping Gerald Henry and Ruperto Vicente would get together and agree on one challenger. No disrespect to Henry but, in our view, Vicente is clearly the better man for the position.

Hopefully, for Belizean Football, the March 15<sup>th</sup> FFB Elections will mark the dawn of a brand new day.

**Cayo South**  
**Moving Forward With**  
**Dean Barrow, Ramon Witz**  
**and the UDP**  
*Always for The People!*

# UNITED DEMOCRATIC PARTY

## Belmopan City Council Candidates

# March 2012



**Simeon Lopez – Mayoral Candidate**  
Educator for 40 years; Graduate of Western Australia School of Advanced Education- Perth Australia; Resident of Belmopan for 38 years; Completing second term as Mayor of Belmopan.



**Joel Westby**  
Educator and community activist. Presently teaching at Kuxlin Ha Government School (Maya Mopan). Has worked with the Red Cross, HelpAge and Cancer Society and has served as an officer in the Volunteer Battalion of the Belize Defence Force. Internationally accredited softball umpire and current Chief Umpire for softball in the country of Belize.



**Anna Guy**  
Community activist. A part of her neighborhood committee spearheading neighborhood initiatives and advocating for progress. Owner of Emjay's Beauty Salon.



**Amilcar Umaña**  
Educator at the Belmopan Comprehensive School since 1991 and head of the Information Technology department for the past nine years. Graduate of the University of Belize with summa cum-laude distinction. CXC examiner since 1998 and co-author of five computer textbooks; presently pursuing double Masters Degree in Information Technology.



**Steven W. O'Brien**  
Certificate in Economics, Sixteen years experience in Accounting and Management of Food, Beverage, Construction and Tourism Industries. Community Organizer, Sports Organizer, Social and Cultural Activist.



**Tita Balona**  
Primary school teacher at St. Martin's Primary School in Salvapan, Belmopan. Currently pursuing a degree in primary education at the University of Belize.



**Victor Perdomo**  
Businessman. Currently pursuing a Law Degree. Served as Deputy Mayor and councillor for two terms.