



# Capital Weekly

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



No. 035

Sunday, July 7, 2013

Price: \$1.00

**Full Report on Public Service Awards and Luncheon**

## Making Waves in London

### Prime Minister Barrow Concludes Official Visit

Prime Minister Hon. Dean Barrow has just concluded an official visit to London along with his wife, Mrs. Kim Simplis Barrow.

It was, by all accounts, a very successful trip. Mrs Barrow, for her part, raised in a gala event over 200,000 Belize Dollars for the construction of a Pediatric Intensive Care Unit at the KMH. The Prime Minister got the opportunity to meet with very influential personalities like such as Secretary of State Rt. Hon. William Hague and the Right Honorable Lord Mayor of the City of London, Alderman Roger Gifford. He was honored by the City of London where he addressed a special audience of global financiers and businessmen discuss-



*Prime Minister Dean Barrow appearing on Sky News in London*

ing Belize trade and investment. Prime Minister Barrow He had an audience with her Majesty Queen Elizabeth and His Royal Highness Prince Charles. The Prime Minister vis-

ited the Tate and Lyle/American Sugar Refinery, got the opportunity to see Belizean Sugar being delivered, and met with senior officials to coordinate Government of Belize

and investor strategy with relation to the Sugar Industry.

Throughout his visit, PM Barrow proved himself to be an impressive statesman, but where he made his greatest impact was his appearance on the media, namely BBC and Sky News. On Sky News the PM eloquently, insightfully and with great poise discussed a range of issues including the Ashcroft factor; Finance, Banking and Taxes; Foreign Relations; Mandela, Demographics and Race.

His London visit has no doubt had its practical benefits, but in addition to that, the Prime Minister, by the way he handled himself on such a grand international stage, has given a great boost to Belizean national pride and patriotism. Respect, PM Barrow!

## Patrick and Plus Lose First Round



*Patrick Andrews, co-host of Plus TV's Rise and Shine Show*

An application filed by Talk Show Co-Host Patrick Andrews and Plus TV to strike out a defamation claim by Hon. John Saldivar against Andrews and Plus TV was heard before Justice Abel.

Justice Abel dismissed the application in its entirety and ordered that Patrick Andrews and Plus TV pay costs.

The Court ordered attorney's costs in the sum of \$500 to be paid by July 31, 2013.

Basically, the court found that there was no merit to the application by Andrews and Plus TV to strike out Saldivar's Claim.

The substantive case is therefore on course to be heard.

## Belmopan Area Rep Served as Acting PM for the Second Time

For the second time consecutively, Belmopan Representative, Hon. John Saldivar was chosen to hold over as Acting Prime Minister.

Prime Minister Hon. Dean Barrow was on a week long official trip to London, while Deputy Prime Minister Hon. Gaspar Vega took a short two-day personal leave from Friday June 28 to Sunday June 30.

It's an important development because Saldivar is considered a possible contender for UDP Leadership when PM Barrow eventually retires.

Again, it's the second time he was chosen to serve as Acting PM. In Geometry, it's



*Hon. John Saldivar, Belmopan Rep & National Security Minister*

well known you can't draw a line with one point, but with two points, you certainly can.



## From the Desk of the Chairman

### *Let's Start Believing!*



**Delroy Cuthkelvin**  
*Chairman, Editorial Board*

**W**e might need to apologize for editorializing two weeks consecutively about Football, but we can't say there's anything occupying our mind as much these days.

Belize's upcoming trip to the CONCACAF Gold Cup for the first time ever is a great occasion to amplify the national pride we as a people and a nation experienced almost six months ago when our football boys performed respectably well in the Copa Centro America, thereby qualifying for the next level of play.

This past weekend, we witnessed Brazil, a long established power-house in this hemisphere, humiliate the reigning World Cup Champions, Spain, in the finals of the Confederations Cup. In so doing, the Brazilians who were playing at home, set the stage for what their home fans are hoping will be a dominating performance at

next year's World Cup Playoffs which will also be played in Brazil. In so doing, the Brazilians also reminded the nations of ancient Europe who once colonized this part of the World that, in Football and every other realm, new and superior empires have since emerged that must be respected accordingly.

The FIFA Confederations Cup is a tournament for which qualification is secured at the Gold Cup, so a good performance in the United States next week could advance Belize's quest to reach the Confederations Cup in 2015. Our goal is, of course, to eventually reach the World Cup Playoffs; and if these aspirations are to be eventually fulfilled, we must start believing now that they are achievable.

We must, of course, also invest heavily in our boys and the organization behind them who, in our view are putting up the best effort we've seen in our lifetime. They've earned our support, not just a casual kind of support, but the full and unreserved backing of our People and the State; and we must, indeed, put our monies where our mouths are.

Let's face it, there are many sports out there, but in the World, Football is King; and if we want to be great, we had better start believing, and behaving like we do.

## An Exciting Finish!

### The Finals Tied at One a Piece in Saldivar Basketball Classic 2013



*Game One played on Tuesday June 25 at Hilltop Basketball Court*

The finals series participants were set with the first seed, Police Housing Area, anxious to face off against second seed, Cohune Walk Area, to determine who would be crowned champion of the 2013 John Saldivar Basketball Classic.

The best of three series commenced last Tuesday with a showcase of Police Housing Area's athleticism and offensive prowess, as the Police Housing Area took an eighteen to four lead on the second seeded Cohune Walk team. The outlook for the Cohune Walk team seemed gloomy as the run and gun style of the Police Housing Area team clearly out-shined the perimeter focused approach of the Cohune Walk team who seemed unwilling to sacrifice their bodies in order to attack the rim.

When the rains came, Cohune Walk, after cutting a huge lead in half were still 13 points down with 5:40 to go. To protect the players, officials postponed the conclusion of the game with clock frozen at 5:40.

Thursday came, and the tension grew. The final 5:40 of game one would be played and then game two would start after a short intermission. It could mean two wins in one night, and prestige for the victor. The final five minutes of game one proved that Police Housing Area had too big a lead for Cohune Walk to overcome, as Housing Area cruised to the finish with a double-digit win.

It's common for fans to take for granted what sheer adrenaline can accomplish when a basketball player sees his season coming to an end. Game two was a 180 degrees turnaround. The perimeter shots that failed to find the bottom of the net in

game one were now ripping at the cords as the Cohune Walk team jumped out to a lead that it held for the entire game. Each surge from the talented Police Housing Area was countered by Cohune Walk led by veteran Christian Rodriguez, who dedicated much of his offensive focus on the low block of the right side of the court. The simple strategy seemed to dumbfound Police Housing Area.

In the end, Police Housing Area took its first loss in the 2013 John Saldivar Classic, setting up an all or nothing confrontation in Game Three to be played Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> of July at the Hilltop Basketball Court in Belmopan City. One could hardly ask for a more exciting finish to the John Saldivar Basketball Classic 2013.

## Capital Weekly

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# Highway Patrol Strengthened

## Ministry of Transport receives New Vehicles



**Mrs. Sharman Hyde , CEO  
Ministry of Finance and  
Economic Development**

**O**n June 28, 2013, Hon. Rene Montero, Minister of Works and Transport received two new highway patrol vehicles from the Ministry of

recorded a high number of road deaths in 2012, equivalent to approximately 19 traffic deaths per 100,000 inhabitants - Belize still maintains the highest fatality rate record amongst the Caribbean Development Bank member countries.

These highway patrol vehicles are key deliverables under the Project's Enforcement Component which aims at improving traffic law enforcement along the George Price Highway Demonstration Corridor.

These patrol vehicles will be fully equipped with hand held Speed Radar Guns and portable alcohol testing equipment, in addition to emergency and incident management equipment, such as traffic cones, reflective triangles, high-visibility jackets, and base and hand-held radios.

Belize Diesel and Equipment Company Limited and formally handing over the vehicles and keys to the Ministry of Works and Transport, the lead agency in this important and strategic initiative to promote greater adherence to, and compliance with, traffic laws; thus improving road user behavior.

The official launch of the Belize Road Safety Project took place on March 14, 2013 at the George Price Centre for Peace and Development, City of Belmopan, Belize.



**Hon. Rene Montero,  
Minister of Works and Transport**



**CEO Sharman Hyde hands over keys for vehicles to Hon. Rene Montero, accompanied by Deputy Minister Hon. Edmund Castro**

Finance and Economic Development's Road Safety Project.

The Government of Belize has received BZ\$14,495,000 in loan financing from the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) towards the cost of the Belize Road Safety Project and is contributing a further BZ\$3,191,000.

According to data available from the Ministry of Health on Road Safety, Belize

Additionally, in the near future a consultant will be engaged to deliver a training program in traffic law enforcement to 35 enforcement officers in the Department of Transport, the Police Department, and the municipalities.

The Ministry of Finance and Economic Development is officially receiving the two highway patrol vehicles from



**CEO Hyde receives keys to Highway Patrol Vehicles from  
Israel Marin of Belize Diesel and Equipment Company Limited**



**Minister of Works and Transport Hon. Rene Montero and Deputy  
Minister Hon. Edmund Castro pose for a photo with the new vehicles**

## New Brazilian Ambassador



**H.E. Lucio Pires de Amorim and  
Governor General Sir Colville Young**

On Wednesday Morning, July 3, 2013, Ambassador of Brazil to Belize, His Excellency Lucio Pires de

Amorim, presented his credentials to the Governor General of Belize, His Excellency Sir Colville Young.

Ambassador Pires de Amorim spoke of the two countries' lack of knowledge of each other, explaining the need to "bridge the gap" since the nations share similarities in their histories. For his part, the Governor General extended a warm welcome to the Ambassador on behalf of the people of Belize; and expressed his gratitude to the Ambassador for his kind words of cooperation and friendship.

## June Statistics Show Further Reduction in Major Crimes

The figures are still above acceptable levels, but Comparative Crime Statistics for June, 2013 show a continuing trend in the reduction of major crimes countrywide. There were 8 murders countrywide in June, 2013, as compared to 15 in June, 2012, a reduction of almost 50 percent. The overall tally for January to June, 2013 is 59 murders, compared to 75 for the same period in 2012.

As we said before, the figures are still unacceptably high, but the downward trend is encouraging. Hopefully, it sustains.



**Compol Allen Whyllie**



# Making Good News for a Change

## Over 40 Young Men Graduate from Youth Cadet Corps

**M**uch too often these days, when Belizean young men above the age of 13 make the news, it is in not so positive ways, such as violent criminal activity—robbing and shooting, or being shot and killed.

How pleasant and welcoming it was this past week when the news we received about 44 such Belizean young



*The March On by Graduates to begin the Commencement Exercise*

men was that they had in fact successfully completed their course of study and remedial training at the National Youth Cadet Service Corps and were graduating, many of them with honors!



**Rafael Martinez, Police Press Officer, Master of Ceremonies**

Sadly, and we don't know exactly why, the event received very little publicity in the mainstream media. Except for Love FM, represented by the ever positive and inspiring Brother Fem (Eufemio Cruz), we don't



**Mr. William Swan Jr.  
Manager of the Institution**

done by the Minister of Education, Hon. Patrick Faber. This particular event, the Closing Exercise/Graduation for Intake 14 of the National Youth Cadet

on the campus of the National Youth Cadet Service Corps, located near the village of Gracie Rock, around Mile 21 on the George Price (Western) Highway. As the graduates, their family members and invited guests awaited the commencement



**Mr. Dwight Tillett  
CEO, Ministry of Sports & Youth**

of the official ceremonies, they were served with inspirational songs by Brother Fem (and his guitar), who has developed a reputation for easily wearing various hats, including those of journalist, musician and pastor.

The official ceremony kicked off with an impressive march on by the recruits/graduates, who gave the audience a good display of the skills they had developed in military-like drills aimed at instilling in them the discipline and teamwork necessary to become good, effective citizens, both individ-

ually and as part of a synchronized unit engaging in positive and productive activity.

Hon. Herman Longworth inspected the ceremonial Guard of Honor constituted by the recruits/graduates themselves, after which the Belize National Anthem was sung with much gusto and pride. Brother Fem then invited the blessings of the Almighty upon the occasion and the graduates as they



**Eufemio Cruz (Brother Fem)  
provided inspirational music**

made their ceremonial march from within the sheltering walls of the National Youth Cadet Service Corps onto the thoroughfare of life in our Belizean communities beset by the temptations and pressures that have become associated with adolescence and youth these days.

Master of Ceremonies for the occasion was Raphael Martinez, veteran media personality and Police Press Officer. As usual, Raph (as he is fondly known) did an outstanding job, keeping the audience well-entertained even as he moved the program along at a brisk and efficient pace.

If we might be allowed a bit more commentary before getting back to substance and chronology of the program, we found it just as fitting and welcoming as the event itself, the

*Continued on Page 5*



**Hon. Herman Longworth, CEO Dwight Tillett and Allison Brown Mackenzie, Acting Director for the Department of Youth Services**



**Hon. Herman Longworth invited to inspect the Guard of Honor**

remember seeing any reporter or cameraman from the many organizations that crowd the local media landscape in Belize; although, we must admit, we're not sure whether they were notified or invited to the event.

The event was no doubt

Service Corps, which was taking place at the very same time, was being attended by Faber's Deputy, Hon. Herman Longworth, Minister of State in the Ministry of Education.

The Graduation got underway shortly after 10:00 AM



# Making Good News for a Change

## Over 40 Young Men Graduate from Youth Cadet Corps

*Continued from Page 4*

fact that the occasion had afforded the Police Press Officer such a refreshing break from his daily routine of briefing the media on criminal activity which too often featured young men such as these, instead allowing him the opportunity to chair an event in which they were being awarded for their positive achievements in academics, practical training and discipline, the kind of remedial training, molding and inculcation that is, in effect, steering them away from a path that would more than likely lead to such criminal activity.

The official welcome was done by an able graduate, Le-



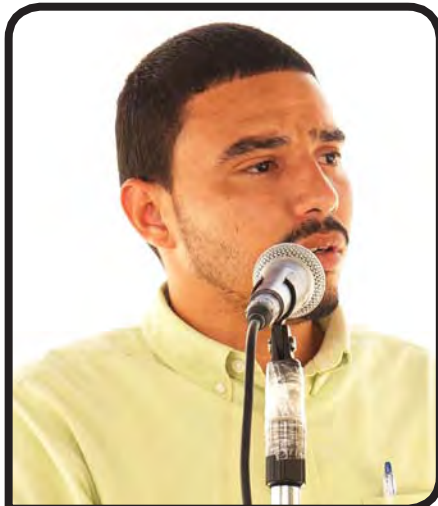
**Leevawn Carpiso, Graduate Welcomed the Invited Guests**

evawn Carpiso, and the opening address was delivered by Mr. Dwight Tillett, Chief Executive Officer in the Department of Youth and Sports.

In his address, Mr. Tillett, a retired High School Principal, Vice Principal and General Manager of Nazarene Schools who has over the years worked with young people in various capacities and through various institutions, remarked that the march on by the graduates was for him a particularly touching and emotive experience, as he couldn't help contemplating what destructive paths these



**Hon. Herman Longworth, Minister of State for Education, Youth and Sports delivered the Keynote Address at the Commencement Exercise**



**Francisco Rosales Youth Business Trust, Belize**

same youths could have been headed down were they not where they were today, having been immersed in the positive training and discipline they have undergone over the past year at the National Youth Cadet Service Corps. Mr. Tillett also outlined and recounted some of the significant milestones reached and crossed in equipping the Institution, both in infrastructural and capacity-wise



**Krystle Chipman Youth Business Trust, Belize**

to fulfill the essential role it is meant to serve. And he noted that the investments made underscore the commitment by

demetic studies, practical training, discipline, and all the related activities in which the youths were engaged during their time spent at the institution.

Guest Speaker for the occasion, Minister of State in the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, Hon. Herman Longworth delivered the keynote address. The Minister congratulated the graduates and wished them the best as they celebrated their success at this particular juncture, and as they prepared themselves to face the challenges of life and to continue pursuing their goals, whether through work or further studies and training at higher levels of education. He commended



**Luke Ramos, Manager of National 4 H Center, Belmopan**

the manager and his staff at the institution for having accomplished so much in the face of the great challenges faced, including the fact that resources are limited. He declared his government's commitment to increase and expand its investments in the institution, and



**The Graduating Class of Intake seated during the ceremony**

the Government to Education, and to the reformation and positive development of our youth.

Manager of the National Youth Cadet Service Corps, Mr. William Swan presented a full report on the program of aca-

he announced the decision by his Ministry to undertake a full review and restructure of the facility to correct institutional weaknesses and the systematic



**The audience of family, friends and other invited guests**

*Continued on Page 8*





By Zelda Hill

# Faith Lift

## Is “A” for “Apples” or for “Abortion”?

For most families around the world, the expectation of a new addition to the family, a baby, is a joyous experience and an opportunity for family-bonding; that’s the way God designed it to be. But as individuals and communities abandon their belief in a Creator and the Biblical declaration of the personhood and value of human life from the womb, the matter of whether an unborn child should live or die becomes a divisive issue. For many pregnant females who may become despondent and for various reasons find themselves torn between the desire to keep their unborn child and the fear of the future, abortion is being offered to them as a viable option.

Here in Belize, policies and laws are being devised to promote abortion as a safe option in our schools and to make it easier for our females, youths and even adolescents, to access legal abortions.

One of the priorities of the Revised Gender Policy 2013 is to integrate Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) as a national development activity. It commits Government to prioritizing the implementation of the SRH Policy (2002) and Strategic Action Plans and to “increase access to reproductive health commodities”. It states that the SRH Policy recognizes “adolescents’ right to SRH services” (adolescents are children between the ages of 10-19 who usually are still in primary and high school).

Another objective of the policy is to “safeguard the rights of women, men, girls and boys to SRH information, education and quality health services that are affordable and accessible to them. Not

surprisingly then, the Policy states that the Government is committed to maintain the existing law on the Medical Termination of Pregnancy (Criminal Code Chapter 101 of the Laws of Belize Revised Edition 2000, Section 112) [Gender Policy pp13-18].

The Sexual and Reproductive Health emphasis in the Gender Policy is a “red flag” since it has recently been exposed in Belize as a “smoke-

to find a way forward to ensure that young people get the necessary information to make informed decisions”. It further claims that these denominational teachers “prefer to engage other agencies which they feel are better equipped to deliver this information” (pp 22-23).

This disclosure begs the questions: Which individuals and organization will be allowed to enter our Primary Schools to teach SRH to our children? Will

right. “Member associations” such as BFLA, provide sexual and reproductive health information, education and services, which include family planning and abortion. IPPF recognizes BFLA for offering “youth-friendly services” through which it relies on peer educators to do outreach activities in 12 schools in Belize. And since the Gender Policy [promoted on the media by the Executive Director of BFLA] now recognizes “adolescents’ right to SRH services”, will BFLA now extend abortion services to our children and without the knowledge of parents?

As legislation globally spreads the red carpet for anti-God and anti-family agendas, the blood of innocent lives disintegrates the moral fabric of the world’s nations. And just in case some expect the Church to surrender and recant, we become even more convinced of our mandate. Children will learn to say “no”, not only to sexual temptation and to abortion but to all evil plans. Children, including adolescents, are uniquely honored by God for their humility, innocence and trust in Him. If anyone causes them to do wrong, it would be better for that person to be thrown into the sea with a large millstone tied around the neck (Luke 17:2).

This war is against principalities, powers, the rulers of the darkness of this world, and against spiritual wickedness in high places (Ephesians 6:11-12), therefore; every individual must choose now to be a facilitator of evil or to become engaged in the war against it.

**“As legislation globally spreads the red carpet for anti-God and anti-family agendas, the blood of innocent lives disintegrates the moral fabric of the world’s nations. And just in case some expect the Church to surrender and recant, we become even more convinced of our mandate...This war is against principalities, powers, the rulers of the darkness of this world, and against spiritual wickedness in high places (Ephesians 6:11-12); therefore, every individual must choose now to be a facilitator of evil or to become engaged in the war against it.”**

screen” for the indoctrination of foreign values and the re-socialization of our children. It is arguable whether SRH’s aim is to delay or encourage sexual activity among our children. It is planned that Adolescent SRH will offer contraceptives to young adolescents such as the pill, condoms, intro-uterine devices, emergency contraception also called Plan B (a contraceptive to be taken after sexual intercourse), abortion services and sex education - all without parental consent. SRH has now become a priority for our children through Health and Family Life Education (HFLE), which is already a part of our national school curriculum.

The Policy also states that because there have been challenges, especially caused by the teachers in Primary denominational schools who have indicated “their discomfort and lack of experience in discussing sexual and reproductive health issues with their students”, the Ministry of Education “plans

our children be misled to believe that an abortion can be as easy as learning their ABCs and that it has no physical, mental, psychological and spiritual repercussions?

The Belize Family Life Association is named in the Policy as a provider of SRH services. BFLA is an organization in Belize, which is listed as a “member association” and partner of the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF). IPPF promotes and supports abortion services globally, and fights together with “member association” for local, national and global policies for the right to sexual and reproductive health as a basic human

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# A Healthy Partnership!

## E U Project Boosts Maternal & Neo-Natal Healthcare

Belmopan, June 28, 2013

The Government of Belize has with the European Union and the Pan American Health Organisation (PAHO) have launched the “Strengthening of critical maternal and neonatal services in Belize” project.

The project is co-financed by the European Union (4.2 M BZD); PAHO (220,000 BZD) and Ministry of Health (1.2 M BZD).

The project goal is to reduce stillbirth and neonatal mortality by one third and increase antenatal coverage to over 95% of the population.

Thanks to this intervention neonates will have access to better conditions during trans-



**Gerrardo De Cosio, PAHO Representative; Doctor Peter Allen, CEO, Ministry of Health; Jesus Baguena, European Union Representative**

fer from district hospitals to the national referral hospital in both public and private organizations providing ambulance services.

The project aims at improving the quality of and access to health services and infrastructure for mothers and children less than five years of age, with an emphasis on preventing maternal and neonatal mortality.

A new national vaccines storage facility will also be built on the site of the Western Regional Hospital in Belmopan and laboratory services as well as storage facilities for blood products will be provided at three district hospitals.

The improved vaccine storage facilities will ensure the lifetime of the cold chambers, offer better protection in case of natural disasters and reduce the risk of vaccine potency loss due to unsafe conditions of the building.

The national referral hospital, three community and three regional hospitals will be provided with medical equipment for maternal and neonatal care including neonatal incubator transportation.

PAHO will deliver training to improve the skills of biomedical technicians and emergency response team

providing ambulance service for at risk or ill neonates.

Health personnel will be trained to secure and ensure the stability of newborn vitals in the first moments of life and four pediatricians will be trained as instructor certification for Neonatal Resuscitation Program.

Infection control plans in all hospitals with areas dedicated to maternal and newborn care will be strengthened under the project, benefiting all mothers and infants utilizing institutional birthing facilities, and procedure manuals for prenatal care and neonatal care will be developed using guides from United Nations agencies.



**Doctor Michael Pitts, Belize's Director of Health Services Ministry of Health**



**Dr. Natalia Largaespada-Beer Technical Advisor for Maternal and Child Health, Min. of Health**

## Ministry of Health Apologizes Takes Steps to Prevent Repeat of Unfortunate Incident

Belmopan, June 25th, 2013.

The Ministry of Health deeply regrets the unfortunate series of events over this past weekend involving the delivery of a baby's corpse to the wrong family at the Western Regional Hospital.

Following the outcome of an initial investigation, findings indicate that there was a procedural error by staff members of the hospital. The Ministry of Health expresses its sincerest apologies on behalf of the management and staff



**The Western Regional Hospital in Belmopan**

to the families involved, and to the public for this breach of

confidence in our institution.

The Ministry of Health

has taken steps through the Public Health Inspectorate to manage the outcome of the situation. Disciplinary action has been taken against persons responsible, and psychological support has been offered to all parties involved. They have accepted and the Ministry intends to do follow-up visits with them.

The Ministry of Health reiterates that this isolated case is being addressed and has taken every necessary measure to ensure that there is not a repeat of this unfortunate incident.



# Making Good News for a Change

## Over 40 Young Men Graduate from Youth Cadet Corps

*Continued from Page 5*

failure by some of the members of staff to meet and adhere to accepted and expected standards of excellence, and to in fully discharge their responsibilities at



**Gregory Reyes, Graduate Delivered a Message in Song**

such a vital institution.

Also speaking at the ceremony was Luke Ramos, Manager of the Government's long established Four-H Program, headquartered in Belmopan near the grounds of the National Agriculture and Trade Show.

Diplomas and a number of certificates, medals and trophies were awarded to the graduates, being presented mainly by the Minister of State in the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, Hon. Herman Longworth. Also on hand to issue certificates from Youth Business



**Graduates stand at attention with their National and Institution Flags as the Belize Anthem is played**

Trust were representatives of that institution which provided for the recruits valuable training in entrepreneurship.

The Vote of Thanks was delivered by Cadet/Graduate Malik Zuniga who did so quite eloquently and effectively, personifying the proficiency, disci-

pline and confidence instilled in the cadets by the institution.

The National Youth Cadet Service Corps is a 14 year old institution which recruits young men between the ages of 13 and 17, some of whom are school dropouts at various levels, and many of whom have behavioral

problems and are perceived to be at risk of being drafted into criminal activity.

The goal of the National Youth Cadet Service Corps is to provide the necessary intervention, remedial training,

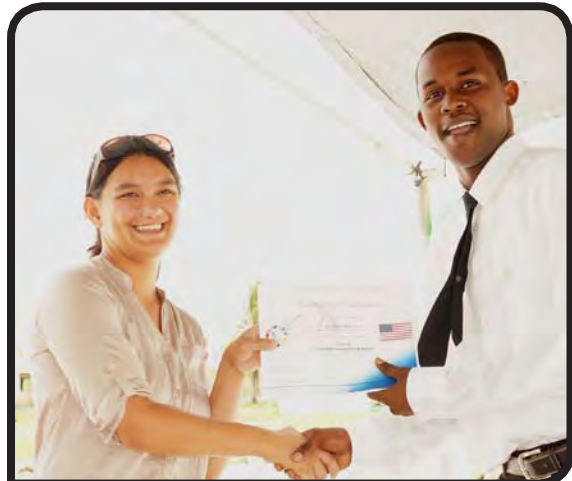
*Continued on Page 9*



**Graduates receiving their Diplomas, presented by Minister of State Hon. Herman Longworth**



**More Graduates receiving their Diplomas, presented by Minister of State for Education, Youth and Sports Hon. Herman Longworth**



**Graduates receiving certificates for successful completion of Entrepreneurial Program conducted by the Youth Business Trust**



# Making Good News for a Change

## Over 40 Young Men Graduate from Youth Cadet Corps

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and character development to enable the students to return to the regular educational institutions to complete their studies and pursue their careers as constructive citizens.

At the National Youth Cadet Service Corps, the recruits undergo a full year of training at one of four levels, depending on their initial assessment and classification. There are two PSE (Primary School Examination) classes, a High School level class and a remedial class.

The cadets are all live-in recruits enlisted from around the country, and their routine involves academic and practical skills training, as well as military-style drills to instill discipline.

Personnel from the Belize Defense Force are attached to the program on a full time ba-

sis. On the weekends, they are all required to attend Church.

As a part of their training to become positive participants in the community, they participate, while at the institution, in community activities, such as the Tenth of September and Independence Day parades, the Love FM Parade, the Olympic Run and various sports tournaments, including the annual La Ruta Maya River Challenge, in which the institution competes in the Intramural Category.

Manager of the National Youth Cadet Service Corps, William Swan says the institution already provides valuable skills training in various fields, and will expand such training to various other fields as investments in the institution increase.

The work of the National Youth Cadet Service Corps deserves acknowledgment and support from the entire Beliz-



*Malik Zuniga, Graduate  
Delivered the vote of Thanks*

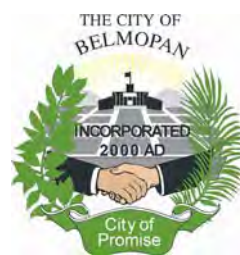
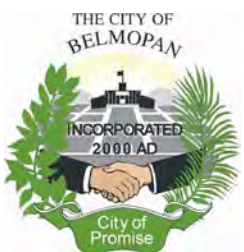
ean community, and the graduates of Recruit Intake # 14 have earned our respect and recognition. In this spirit, we grant each of them special mention, as we reproduce, on the right, the full list of Graduates at the Commencement Ceremonies. Congratulations, Youth Men. The entire Nation is proud of you !

### Graduates of National Youth Cadet Service Corps - Intake 14 June 26, 2013

Alex Meza  
Anthony Hernandez  
Anton Lewis  
Armando Betancourt  
Brian Salina  
Carl Diaz  
Clayton Marin  
Daniel Bennett  
Darby Lucas  
Darnell Lodge  
Darren Flowers  
Dave Rudon  
Delvan Mejia  
Elvis Crispin  
Emerson Duhaney  
Emmanuel Tush  
Emroy Flowers  
Ernest Muschamp  
Estavan Cus  
Francis Uk  
Gary Banner  
George Cucul  
Glenn Lopez  
Gregory Reyes  
Guadeloupe Carrillo  
Henry Cowo  
Henry Portillo  
Jason Perez  
Javier Noralez  
Jesuit Perez  
Jesus Medina  
Jose Betancourt  
Jovannie Mejia  
Kevin Rivero  
Leevan Carpiso  
Malik Zuniga  
Paul Franklin  
Raheem Staine  
Sean Stephens  
Selvin Crispin  
Shane Mejia  
Tyrell Flores  
Tyrone Flores  
Wassan Lewis



*Graduates receiving certificates of distinction in specific disciplines*



## PUBLIC NOTICE

The General Public is hereby advised that the Third Quarterly Meeting of the Belmopan Trade Licensing Board for the year 2013 will be held at the Offices of the Belmopan City Council on Wednesday July 10, 2013 at 10:00 a.m.

All applications must be submitted to the Belmopan City Council by Wednesday July 3, 2013. Any application received after this date will be subject to a Special Meeting fee of \$150.00.

Clerk

**Belmopan Trade Licensing Board**





PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Utilities Commission (PUC)



In exercise of the powers conferred upon it by the Public Utilities Commission Act, Chapter 223 of the Laws of Belize, the Electricity Act, Chapter 221 of the Laws of Belize, the Electricity (Tariffs, Fees and Charges) Byelaws, and all other powers thereunto enabling, the Public Utilities Commission (hereinafter referred to as “the Commission) hereby notifies the general public that it has made and issued the **2013 Annual Review Proceeding Final Decision** (hereinafter referred to as “the Final Decision”) for the Belize Electricity Limited (BEL; the Licensee).

Summary of the Initial Decision:

- a) The Commission approved a Mean Electricity Rate (MER) of \$0.4865 per kilowatt-hour, representing a 0.43% reduction in the MER (previous MER is \$0.4886 per kilowatt-hour).
- b) The Commission approved various adjustments to Cost of Power, Regulated Asset Value (RAV) and other Regulated Values approved for the Full Tariff Period of July 1, 2009, to June 30, 2016.
- c) The Commission approved the following Tariffs to be applied for the Annual Tariff Period (ATP) of July 1, 2013, to June 30, 2014:

Belize Electricity Limited (BEL)

Approved Tariffs for the Period of July 1, 2013, to June 30, 2014

Customer Class	Service Type/ Consumption Block	Rate/Tariff \$/Mth; \$/KVA; \$/KWhr
Social	0 - 60 KWhrs Minimum Charge	0.26 4.00
Residential	0 - 50 KWhrs 51 - 200 KWhrs > 200 KWhrs Minimum Charge	0.39 0.49 0.52 6.00
Commercial 1	0 - 50 KWhrs 51 - 200 KWhrs > 200 KWhrs Minimum Charge	0.39 0.49 0.52 6.00
Commercial 2	Service Charge 0-10,000 KWhrs 10,001-20,000 KWhrs > 20,000 KWhrs	125.00 0.50 0.49 0.47
Industrial 1	Service Charge Demand (KVA) Energy	125.00 39.00 0.37
Industrial 2	Service Charge Demand (KVA) Energy	125.00 24.00 0.32
Street Lights	Energy	0.55

*Note: Due to the small reduction in the MER, the only Tariffs adjusted were those for the Social customer class.*

- d) The Commission approved no adjustments [other than those referred to in *b)* and *c)* above] to any other previously approved Regulated Values, Mean Electricity Rates, Tariffs, Charges and Fees in any relevant Final Decision made for the Full Tariff Period (FTP) of July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2016.

Viewing of Final Decision:

The Final Decision may be viewed in its entirety at the offices of the Public Utilities Commission at 41 Gabourel Lane, Belize City, or from a link available on its Website at [www.puc.bz](http://www.puc.bz), which is currently undergoing maintenance.



# Saluting the MVP of the NBA

## Belmopan Students Shout Out LeBron James

Last Monday, June 24 a crowd of students from Primary schools in the Belmopan area gathered at the National Assembly to show their love and admiration for World renowned NBA Basketball superstar LeBron James of the Miami Heat, who has just led his team to victory in the NBA Finals, thereby securing his second consecutive NBA Championship title, and for the Miami Heat Team



*Primary School Students shouting out the MVP of the NBA, LeBron James*



*NBA Superstar LeBron James,*

it's third NBA Championship.

The students were joined by Belmopan Area Representative Hon. John Saldivar, himself a basketball enthusiast who has done a lot for Sports.

The students were organized by Bernie Tarr, Basketball Technical Officer with the National Sports Council. Bernie is a US Citizen from Cleveland, Ohio, home of the Cleveland Cavaliers which was the club that LeBron James played for when he was first drafted into the NBA.

Here in Belize, Bernie Tarr has been instrumental in selecting young basketball players to attend the

Annual King James Tournament in Ohio played in April.

Earlier this year, a contingent of 15 junior Belizean basketball players attended the tournament. Back then, Tarr explained what is the ultimate goal of the whole exercise:

"The number one goal that we have is to get one of these players

or more a college scholarship through basketball, of course. That's what AAU basketball is all about; all the college coaches in the country are going to be at this tournament. It's one of the world's largest tournaments.

There were ninety-nine teams that participated in this tournament last year throughout the United States, and a few from Canada.

And right now there are no Belizeans that went to high school here that are now playing college basketball; there's not one in the states. So my goal is to get at least one."



*Hon. John Saldivar and Coach Bernie Tarr*



# Good Luck



# Team Belize!!!



# Prime Minister Dean Barrow in London

Sunday, June 23, 2013 - Monday, July 1, 2013





**Prime Minister Dean Barrow in London**  
**Sunday, June 23, 2013 - Monday, July 1, 2013**

**Prime Minister Dean Barrow in London**  
**Sunday, June 23, 2013 - Monday, July 1, 2013**





# “When Will Change Come?”

## Remarks by Hon. Patrick Faber at PSE Award Ceremony

(Bliss Centre for the Performing Arts, Wednesday June 26, 2013)



*Hon. Patrick Faber, Minister of Education, making his remarks at the PSE Award Ceremony*

Good Morning! I am so happy to be here this morning as we honor students who have excelled on this year's Primary School Examination. I am happy too, that for the first time we will also be recognizing schools that have performed well and who have shown great improvement over the past five years (since 2009).

To begin with, we recognize students who have performed outstandingly on the national scale. These are the top 26 students. We normally recognize the top 25, but

exceptional performance! Join me in a resounding round of applause for them. It is true that many, if not all, of these students may have natural ability that allowed them to excel. That notwithstanding, I am sure that these students, their parents or guardians and their teachers will tell you that such performance did not come without effort.

How many hours, days, weeks and months of preparation did they put in to achieve these outcomes? You see, there are two kinds of 'smart' - there is the smart-

teachers they will confirm that their outstanding performance was to a large extent about being smart in setting goals and working tirelessly to achieve them. They will tell you that you need to set goals for yourself because, as you know, if you don't know where you are going, you may just end up there - nowhere.

But they will also tell you that goals are not enough. As the saying goes: A goal without a plan is but a wish! Goals need to be backed up by plans and plans need to be backed up by hard work to implement

like yourselves and to us adults. So, I ask you to continue to be the examples that you are by continuing to set goals, to plan how you are going to accomplish them, and to work hard to effect your plan to accomplish your goals. You have shown that you can do this through your outstanding performance on the PSE, and I am sure in other areas of your life. Keep it up! Keep it up! Keep it up! Let no one or nothing side track you! Let no one tell you that you cannot achieve your goals; you know you can once you plan and work hard for them.

Furthermore, young ladies and gentlemen, encourage and help our peers to do the same; each one, teach one, as they say. As you move onto the next stage of your educational career, I want to encourage you to think not just of academic or educational goals. Rather, as you go onto high school, it is very important for you to begin to set career and life goals. Let your career and life goals determine what your educational goals are. After all, an education is not just for its own sake, it is also for your full personal development and for your contribution to the development of your country.

In setting your career

**“It is true that many, if not all, of these students may have natural ability that allowed them to excel. That notwithstanding, I am sure that these students, their parents or guardians, and their teachers will tell you that such performance did not come without effort.”**

ness which you naturally have, and there is the smartness which comes from hard work and effort. And let me tell you that natural smartness is not a guarantee of success. Often, you need also to have the smartness that comes from hard work. Indeed, there

them.

These young ladies and gentlemen we honor today are perfect examples of this approach - they set goals, they had plans to support such goals, and they carried out their plans through their hard work. Again, let



*Siyun Ye, First Place, Bernice Yorke Institute of Learning, Belize*

this year, because there were several ties, we are recognizing the top 26. The total points scored among these top 26 ranged from 78 to 391 out of 400 points. These are really outstanding scores.

Let us all congratulate these students for their really



*Vincent Hulse, Second Place, St. Andrew's Anglican School, Cayo*

are many who may not be as naturally smart as others but who, through their hard work and effort, are able to excel sometimes to a greater degree than those who are naturally smart but do not put in the hard work. I am sure if you speak to these students, their parents or guardians and



*Nelson Esteban, Third Place, St. Andrew's Anglican School, Cayo*

us once again give kudos to them, not for being naturally smart, but for the smartness that comes from goal setting, planning and hard work! To you students we honor today, I wish to implore you to continue upon this path. You are a shining example to others - both other young people



*Jennessa Sierra, Fourth Place, San Pedro R.C. School, Belize*

goals, it is important to think not just of what you would like to be, but also of what your natural talents and interests are. Too often we are diverted away from our natural talents and interests by peer pressure, social perceptions and, yes, even pressure from adults; yes, even par-

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# "When Will Change Come?"

## Remarks by Hon. Patrick Faber at PSE Award Ceremony

(Bliss Centre for the Performing Arts, Wednesday June 26, 2013)



Agatha Petkau, United Evergreen School, Belmopan, Cayo



Alexandra Gibson, Hummingbird Elementary School, Belize



Alain Morris, St Andrews Anglican School, Cayo



Zahara Zul, St. Andrews Anglican School, Cayo

*Continued from Page 14*

ents. Too often we are so caught up in the paper chase and social prestige of higher and higher degrees and of certain professions that we do not take the time to think about what we are very good at, what we like to do, and with which we can really make a contribution to our communities and country. So, it is important that you set life and career goals and let these inform your educational goals.

It would be remiss of us not to also recognize that the accomplishment of these young people we honor today

is not theirs alone. Indeed, they will no doubt admit that they have had a lot of support - from their school and

**"It would be remiss of us not to also recognize that the accomplishment of these young people we honor today is not theirs alone. Indeed, they will no doubt admit that they have had a lot of support - from their school and from parents or guardians, families and friends."**

from parents or guardians, family and friends. The schools will tell you how they too set goals, had plans and worked

hard to see the success of these young ladies and gentlemen we honor today. Parents and guardians will also tell you of

the goals and plans, the hard work and sacrifices they have had to put for the education of their sons and daughters and

for the success they enjoy today.

I reiterate to you again that there is no substitute for having goals, setting plans and hard work for effecting those plans to achieve your goals. Let us salute your parents or guardians and your teachers for the tremendous support they have been to you.

Today, we are for the first time also recognizing schools whose performance has been outstanding nationally. Let me put some context to what we are trying to do by recognizing

*Continued on Page 16*

## North is Best in June - West is Best in 2013

### Minister of National Security Presents Police Awards



Compol Allen Whyllie, Sr. Supt. Joseph Myvette and Minister of National Security Hon. John Saldivar

For the Third consecutive month, the Northern Zone and the Orange Formation of the Police Department have registered the greatest reduction in major crimes, as confirmed by the comparative crime statistics for the month of June.

Minister of National Security, Hon. John Saldivar has presented a Cheque for \$1,000 and a Certificate of Recognition

to Senior Superintendent Joseph Myvette, head of the Northern Zone and Officer Commanding the Orange Walk Formation; the \$1000 Cheque being for the best performance by the Northern Zone and the Certificate of Recognition for the best performance by the Orange Formation.

The Minister also announced that the Western Zone has recorded the best overall performance throughout the first half of 2013 (January to June) and is therefore receiving from the Ministry a new vehicle (Mahindra Pickup Truck) in recognition of that performance

and in order to further step up its efforts to reduce crime in that zone.

Senior Superintendent of Police Aaron Guzman was on hand to accept the congratulations from the Minister and Police Commissioner Allen Whyllie.

Of note also is that June, 2013 saw a continuation of the downward trend in major crimes as the total number of murders in that month was 8, compared to the total for June, 2012 which was 15, representing a reduction of 47 percent.

The overall tally for January to June 2013 is 59 murders



Hon. Saldivar and Compol Whyllie with Senior Supt. Aaron Guzman & Western formation commanders

countrywide, as compared to 75 for the same period of 2012, representing a reduction of 21 percent.

The award presentations took place on Wednesday July 3, 2013, at the start of the Minister and the Commissioner's monthly meeting with zone and branch commanders held at the National Police Training Academy in Belmopan.



# “When Will Change Come?”

## Remarks by Hon. Patrick Faber at PSE Award Ceremony

(Bliss Centre for the Performing Arts, Wednesday June 26, 2013)



*Jose Torres, San Jose Succotz R.C. Primary School, Cayo*



*Aaliyah Allen, Our Lady of Guadalupe School, Belmopan*



*Nelson Esteban, St. Andrew's Anglican, Receiving Lap-Top*



*Vincent Hulse, St. Andrew's Anglican Receiving Lap-Top*

*Continued from Page 15*

these schools.

First, we want to give credit where credit is due and secondly we want to incentivize, intrinsically or extrinsically, schools to improve. Therefore it is the intent that such recognition will motivate other schools to improve so that they too can be recognized; and secondly, for those who are not so intrinsically motivated, the extrinsic motivation of parental and public pressure for them to improve will come to bear. In short, we are creating a Name and Praise List through this recognition, and the flip side of such a list is a Name and Shame List.

What we are doing is no accident. This is the beginning of what we plan to be Annual School Report Cards (see our education sector strategy on our website) that will be published for parents and the public to see, so that schools who are performing well, not just on examinations but also on other indicators such as repetition, dropout, etc, can be recognized and encouraged to continue doing well; and those who are not, can be encouraged to improve, whether through their own intrinsic motivation or the extrinsic motivation of parental and public pressure.

So, we are beginning with examination scores as one of the first elements of that Annual School Report Card that will be produced by each school. Therefore, using the PSE scores we have come up with School Grade Point Average based on the number of A's, B's, C's, D's and E's their students have

earned on the PSE.

Using this we have come up with a scale that ranges from Zero to Four (0 - 4). The higher the school's GPA, the better. We will be using this GPA to recognize the top 10 percent of schools, in various categories, nationally and at district level. We will also be using the GPA to recognize the most improved schools nationally and district level irrespective of category.

Let me quickly explain the reason for categorizing schools. For too long, we have used the PSE (Primary School

and economically. Furthermore, some schools are small multi-grade schools, while others are large subject teaching schools; and, indeed, there are many other differences. As the old saying goes, it is like comparing apples and oranges. And so, we can't compare them to each other and conclude that one is better than the other. We need to compare each school with other similar schools for a fairer comparison.

Therefore, that is why we have categorized schools into

precursor, our intent, as I mentioned before, is to incentivize schools to improve either intrinsically or extrinsically. Therefore, not unlike what I was praising the students for a while ago - about setting goals, having plans and putting hard work to achieve our goals. What we want the schools to do is examine how they are doing (not just on examinations, but on other aspects of school performance), to set goals and develop, and implement school improvement plans.

Indeed, this has been the basis of our Quality Schools initiative - that schools ask: How are we doing? How do we know? And what are we going to do about it? That is, that they self-evaluate, set goals, and that they develop and implement school improvement plans.

Two weeks ago, we held a press conference in which I, as one media house put it, told some 'inconvenient truths'. At some points during that press conference, I prefaced my remarks with the words, "and I know I am going to get into trouble for saying this". And I proceeded to utter my remarks. Well, ladies and gentlemen, it seems as though I was prophetic. I do not mean to make light of a very serious situation. Let me emphasize that this is not my intention at all. Rather, I wish to reiterate the main points of what I had to say during that press conference. I do this not to provoke further reaction from anyone. I do this

**“The Ministry of Education needs to analyze system performance nationally to inform decision making and we need to provide support to and pressure on managing authorizes, on schools, teachers and even patents to improve... We are calling all to action. Yet, ironically and most recently, some are quick to lay blame at the feet of the Ministry of Education for this, pointing out that it is the Ministry's responsibility for what happens in the education system. Yet when we do take leadership in the exercise of our responsibility, the most resistance often comes from among the very groups with whom the Ministry has consistently consulted and sought input from.”**

Examination) to judge schools in a way that we think is unfair. For too long, we have concluded (especially in the media) that the school from which the top performer comes or the school with the most top performers is the best school. That could be true, yes, but it is not necessarily a fair conclusion to draw.

You see, schools are not all alike. Their students come from different backgrounds socially, culturally

the following categories:

1. Those who had 50 or more students sitting the PSE;
2. Those who had 25 to 49 students sitting the PSE;
3. Those who had 15 to 24 students sitting the PSE; and
4. Those who had 7 to 14 students sitting the PSE.

Through this kind of recognition and the Annual School Report Cards yet to be fully developed, and of which this is a

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# “When Will Change Come?”

## Remarks by Hon. Patrick Faber at PSE Award Ceremony

(Bliss Centre for the Performing Arts, Wednesday June 26, 2013)



*Basket of Fruits presented as a Gift to Hon. Patrick Faber*



*St Andrews Anglican, Outstanding Performance, National Level*



*Margarita Martinez, Our Lady of Guadalupe Vice Principal*



*Ubuntu Award presented to Mrs. Barbara Thummalapally*

*Continued from Page 16*

for the sake of clarity, so that the message is not lost.

Here are the main points that I tried to make:

1. Schools and their Managements and Proprietors need to take ownership for their performance and the quality of education they are providing. Schools need to self-evaluate and develop and implement school improvement plans. Managing authorities need to support their schools in this and where necessary to apply pressure for improvement.

2. Parents or guardians need to be involved in the education of their children. They need to examine how the school is doing; to support, and where necessary, to apply pressure, for the school to improve.

3. Teachers' Unions need to promote and assist in professionalizing the teaching services through helping to uphold the highest standards in the profession as any professional organization should.

4. The Ministry of Education needs to analyze system performance nationally to inform decision making, and we need to provide support to and pressure on managing authorities, on schools, teachers and even parents to improve.

We in the Ministry of Education have had the mantra that Education is Everybody's business. We truly believe this; and so it was in that vein that my remarks were meant. We are calling all to action. Yet, ironically and most recently, some are quick to lay blame at the feet of the Ministry of Ed-

ucation for this, pointing out that it is the Ministry's responsibility for what happens in the education system.

Yet when we do take leadership in the exercise of our responsibility, the most resis-

tance often comes from among the very groups with whom the Ministry has consistently consulted and sought input from. Indeed, it is as though we must ask permission each time we seek to exercise our re-

sponsibility. So what are we to do? When will change come? Ladies and gentlemen, with all of your support and effort we persevere!

***Education is Everyone's Business!***



PUBLIC UTILITIES  
COMMISSION

### PUBLIC NOTICE

#### Public Utilities Commission (PUC)



PUBLIC UTILITIES  
COMMISSION

**The Public Utilities Commission (PUC) hereby serves notice** that in accordance with the Water Industry Act, No. 1 of 2001, Sections 15 and 19, the Commission intends to modify the license granted by the PUC to the Belize Water Services Limited (BWS) on March 22, 2001.

#### Modifications to the License:

The PUC intends to modify **Part IV (Authorized Services Areas)** of the BWS License as follows:

- In the **Corozal District Service Areas**, by adding “Chan Chen, Paraiso and San Joaquin Villages”;
- In the **Belize District Service Areas**, by adding “Caye Caulker, and communities along George Price Highway from Belize City to Mile 21, including Western Pines, West Lake, Mile 8, and Hattieville”;
- In the **Cayo District Service Areas**, by replacing “Belmopan City and suburbs of Salvapan, San Martin and Las Flores” with “Belmopan City and all its suburbs”;
- In the **Stann Creek District Service Areas**, by adding “The entire Placencia Peninsula from Riversdale to Placencia Village and inclusive of Seine Bight and Maya Beach”
- In the **Toledo District Service Areas**, by adding “Elridge and Forest Home Villages”.

#### Reasons for the Modifications:

**For Additions/Replacements:** The Government of Belize, with BWS as Executing Agency, has entered into various loan agreements to fund expansion of water services to these areas and the Government of Belize has entered into agreements with Belize Water Services to provide potable water and in the case of Placencia Peninsula Sewerage Services to certain other areas which have experienced water supply and/or sewage problems over the past few years. Furthermore, BWS has also continued expansion of services within its licenced services areas to reach to areas of continuing development.

**Comments:** Members of the public may make written representations or objections with respect to the proposed modifications to the PUC no later than 25 July 2013.

Please make submissions at the PUC Office at 41 Gabourel Lane, Belize City, via email to [info@puc.bz](mailto:info@puc.bz) or by fax to 223-6825.

#### License Availability:

The full text of the **License granted to BELIZE WATER SERVICES LIMITED** is available for viewing at the office of the Public Utilities Commission, 41 Gabourel Lane, Belize City.

*Issued by the PUC on June 27, 2013*



# A Proud Tradition of Service

## *Public Officers Honoured for 25 Years of Dedication*



**Freya Parham August, Public Service Day National Committee**

**I**t was a day of honor, satisfaction and recognition as the Public Service honored 69 of its dedicated officers who have served the Government and People of Belize for 25 long years, their service never broken for more than a year.

It was the Eight Annual Public Service Awards Ceremony and Luncheon held on Friday June 21 inside the Social Security Board Conference Facility in Punta Gorda Town, Toledo.

The event was held to coincide with the world-wide celebrated United Nations Public Service Day which officially was June 23, observed in Belize this year under the theme, “*Belize Public Service: Facing the Challenges, Embracing the Changes, While Striving for Excellence and Professionalism*”.

The theme itself was coined by a public servant, namely Mr. Fredrick Morter, employed at the Ministry of Works, and chosen from among many others submitted in a competition which has become a central feature of the annual observance of Public Service Day in Belize.

The event got underway around 11:00 AM, the formal part of it featuring a number of inspiring addresses and presentations. Following greetings from the Mayor of the Town,

Mr. Anthony Fuentes, opening remarks were delivered by long-time public officer and current Chairman of the Public Services

Gibson gave the Minister’s congratulatory remarks.

In his congratulatory remarks, Hon. Gibson said:



**Marvin Blades, President of the Public Service Union**



**Patrick Bernard, Chairman of the Public Services Commission**

Commission Mr. Patrick ‘Pat’ Bernard.

Mrs. Freya Parham August, Chairperson for the Public Service Day National Committee,

“Twenty Five years ago, many Public Officers were just becoming acquainted with the institution known as the Public Service and beginning to under-



**Mr Anthony Fuentes Mayor of Punta Gorda**

As you look ahead to the years leading up to your retirement from the Public Service, which is not far away for many of you, I leave you with a challenge: I challenge you to make those remaining years the most productive of your career. Whatever you have contributed to date by the way of service, make the remaining years count more.

Much more is required and expected of our Public Officers today, especially officers like you, our honorees, who have accumulated vast experience over the years, and some of you who hold very important public offices.

I congratulate you once again and encourage you to put your theme into action by facing the challenges, embracing the changes, while striving for excellence and professionalism. Happy Public Service Day!”

Featured Speaker for the occasion was Miss Audrey Wallace, Chief Executive Officer in the Office of the Prime Minister.

In her address Miss Wallace remarked, “Today we are gathered to celebrate and honor those of you who not only responded to the call of public service as a professional, but who have dedicated your professional lives to serving the



**Desi Girls Dance Group performing East Indian Cultural Dance**

tee, who currently serves as Supervisor of Quality Assurance in the Ministry of the Public Service, gave an overview of the Public Service Day & Awards.

There were remarks by the President of the Public Service Union, Mr. Marvin Blades; and Minister of the Public Service and Elections and Boundaries, Senator Hon. Charles

stand your place and role in it.

Today, you are firmly established and should be able to confidently speak on the part you are playing in the delivery of service to our Country. Yours is an important responsibility, and one that is taking on even greater importance as our Country grapples with challenges of development issues.



**Bernard William Reyes**



**Alicia Young**



**Consuelo Alicia Aguilar**



**Rosalva Blanco**

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# A Proud Tradition of Service

## Public Officers Honoured for 25 Years of Dedication



**Audrey Wallace, CEO in the Office of the Prime Minister**

*Continued from Page 18*

Government and People of Belize; and you have done so with a high level of excellence and professionalism. And so, I join everyone today to express my deepest congratulations and ap-

ication and professionalism throughout these challenging economic times. The changes we have already made, and

ly performing at peak productivity. Managers should expect excellence from all employees. Belizeans deserve nothing less!"



**A room-full of Awardees and other Public Officers and Invited Guests**

those on the horizon are part of the continuous renewal and improvement of our institution.

The awards were presented by Governor General of Belize, Sir Colville Young, As-



**Senator Hon. Charles Gibson Minister of the Public Service**

ley, and Lady Lila Vernon and the Baymen's Clan Band.

The closing remarks were delivered by CEO in the Ministry of the Public Service and Elections and Boundaries, Ms Marian McNab. Master of



**Morning Star Group doing Mayan Cultural Medley**

preciation to all of you.

On days like these, I am filled with hope and encouragement for the future of the Public Service; and I feel proud to be part of the team. While it is a time of celebration, it is also a time for reflection and for looking forward.

In conclusion, I want to express my deep gratitude to those public officers across the Country who have demonstrated such a high level of ded-



Although we face continuous change in our organizations, our important responsibilities and mandates remain.

In today's competitive world, ladies and gentlemen, a strong and high performing public service is critical to Belize's success. We must be able to deliver the best advice to Ministers and implement our mandates with excellence. To succeed, our Public Service must be one that is continuous-



**Lady Lila Vernon and the Baymen's Clan Band**

sisted by Ms. Marian McNab, Chief Executive Officer, Ministry of the Public Service and Elections & Boundaries.

On the lighter side of the occasion, there was abundant entertainment featuring a colorful lineup of musical performances and cultural presentations. There was the Desi Girls Dance Group who did an East Indian Cultural Dance, the Morning Star Group which presented a Mayan Cultural Med-

Ceremonies for the occasion was well known Punta Gorda media correspondent and community activist, Paul Mahung.

The official ceremony was followed by a luncheon for which every honoree was afforded the opportunity to invite one additional person.

The idea of Public Service Day and the accompanying recognition of public officers for their long years of service

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**Dorla Cattouse**



**James Thomas Cayetano**



**Anna Williams**



**Dennis Arnold**



# A Proud Tradition of Service

## Public Officers Honoured for 25 Years of Dedication



Beverly Hendy Gallego

Continued from Page 19

and selfless contribution to the government and people of Belize first became a reality back



Rossana Herstig

in 2006, and has been observed ever since. The build-up to the Official Day itself, Public Service Day, also now features a Public Service Information Day which was held roughly a month



Lilia Middleton

ago in Belmopan and other central locations around the country which have a sizable public service workforce. Every year the Public



Francisco Xiu



Noel Harvey

Service Award Ceremony and Luncheon moves to a different district. Last year the event was held in Dangriga. The venue for next years' Award Ceremony



Jacqueline Meighan

has not yet been chosen. (Information for this article was provided by Ms. Ninfa Matus, Chair person of the Public Service Day National Committee who currently serves in



Carolyn Obi

the Ministry of the Public Service as Compliance/Customer Service Officer, and was the coordinator of this year's Award Ceremony and Luncheon.



Audrey Michelle Tench

### The List of Awardees

Consuelo Alicia Aguilar	Martha Melendez
Carla Alpuche	Felicia Mencias
Javier Alpuche	Lilia Middleton
Merlene Alvarez	Marjorie Rebecca Moore
Dennis Arnold	Phillipa Leonie Moore
Valerie Arnold	Ivan Mark Morris
Manuel August †	Candelaria Saldivar-Morter
Cordell Glenn Augustine	Gareth Murillo
Benita Carmita Ayuso	George Myvett
Rosalva Blanco	Humberto David Nabet
Lennox Bradley	Verna Neal
Theresa Bradley	Carolyn Obi
Dorla Cattouse	Michael Pitts
James Thomas Cayetano	Azenette Ann Pook
Cristino Chan	Bernard William Reyes
Hilberto Lucio Chan	Peter Clive Reyes
Hilberta Fuentes	Stephen Rivers
Beverly Hendy Gallego	Paul Karl Schmidt, Jr.
Tirso Eugene Galvez	Miguel Angel Segura
Emery Gill	Vioney Sheppard
Ellajean Louise Gillett	Cardinal Smith
Sheryl Gillett	Lorraine Smith
Lisa Yvette Griffith	Allorie Swift
Diane Patricia Hall	Dario Oscar Tapia
Noel Harvey	Audrey Michelle Tench
Rossana Herstig	Francis Thomas
Mario Howe	Ricardo Rafael Thompson
Fenton Alexander James, Sr.	Oscar Orlando Ulloa
Tom Johnston	Elvis Usher
Diana Locke	Faye Usher
George William Lotiff	Allen Whylie
Dalia Manzanilla	Anna Williams
Robert Mariano	Francisco Xiu
Jose Marin	Alicia Young
	Jacqueline Meighan

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## CDB's Basic Needs Trust Fund invests \$19.1 Million for poverty alleviation in Belize

From north to south and east to west of Belize, the Social Investment Fund (S.I.F.) and the Caribbean Development Bank's (C.D.B.) Basic Needs Trust Fund (B.N.T.F) continue to implement projects aimed at addressing the basic needs of poor Belizeans. The Government of Belize also provides counterpart funding for projects implemented under the BNTF.

The BNTF Program is a regional grant program financed by the C.D.B. for poverty reduction infrastructure and livelihood enhancement services. The program has disbursed over \$189 million U.S. dollars throughout the region. Ten countries, including Belize, benefit from the current, sixth cycle of funding known as BNTF6. In Belize, the BNTF6 is expected to be completed by the end of this year with 22 projects valued at \$6.6 million dollars. The program continues to contribute to the national development of Belize through the provision of social infrastructure, including resource centres, schools, health clinics and access to water, sanitation, drainage and roads.

Since January of this year, S.I.F. completed 9 major projects valued at \$4.6 million dollars under the BNTF while many other projects financed under the SIF 2 loan are nearing completion.

In the area of water and sanitation, water systems have been upgraded in Bella Vista in the Toledo District and Young Bank Village in the Cayo District. Under this sector, a new water tank and pump house is under construction in Santa Familia Village in the western part of Belize. Meanwhile water expansion is underway in St Mathews and Franks Eddy and Corozalito in the Cayo District. The water system for Corozalito, a small community in the outskirts of Succotz Village also in the Cayo District, should become operational in the coming weeks. The water supply is also being expanded in Chan Pine Ridge village in the Orange Walk District. The plan is to connect the village to BWSL's main distribution network in Orange Walk Town.



*New Santa Familia Village 20,000 gallon tank under construction.*

In the area of Education, a new building was completed at St Edmund Campanion RC School in Teakettle village the Cayo District. Further south, the school was rehabilitated and expanded in Silk Grass Village in the Stann Creek District. In addition, a new building is currently under construction at All Saints Primary school in Belize City, and a new eight class room building is nearing completion at the Orange Walk Technical High School in the northern part of the country.



*Renovated Silkgrass Methodist School, Stann Creek Dist.*

In the area of Economic Infrastructure, the third phase of a \$3.0 million drainage project in Trial Farm Village was completed. This project has brought an enormous peace of mind to the residents of Trial Farm since prior to the project they had to constantly evacuate their homes as a result of flooding during the rainy season. A similar project drainage project is also underway in the Buttonwood Bay area of Belize City. Buttonwood Bay is a relatively new area



*From top to bottom: Drainage project under construction in Buttonwood Bay. Residents of Golden Haven enjoy the comfort of their new home. BNTF scholarship receipts enrolled at Y.E.S.*

located near the second roundabout in Belize City. The project area has a high demand for proper drainage since it is below sea level and is subject to flooding during the rainy or hurricane season.

In the area of Social Services, new multipurpose centres were completed in San Jose and Guinea Grass villages in the Orange Walk District while the residents of the Golden Haven Home of the Elderly in Hattieville Village now enjoy the comfort of their new home. A new mental health day care centre was also completed in Belize City.

In the area of skills training, 10 students of low income families are completing their education at the Youth Enhancement Services in Ladyville while other students are pursuing a vocational career in various vocational institutions throughout Belize.

As the BNTF 6 project steams full speed ahead towards completion, the BNTF 7 has already been launched. Under this program \$12.5 million dollars will be available for projects in the areas of Education, Water and Sanitation and Road Access and drainage. This figure represents an increase of 74% in CDB funding under BNTF for Belize. This means more funds for the poor areas of the country, with the poorest areas receiving the most attention. Implementation of projects under BNTF7 will start by the end of this year. All these projects represent the Government's and the Social Investment Fund's strong commitment to alleviate poverty in Belize with the assistance of our development partners such as the Caribbean Development Bank.





June Issue

# Ministry of Health

Monthly Publication



## Ministry of Health and European Union launch maternal and neonatal project

The Ministry of Health with the European Union (EU) and the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) was pleased to announce the launch of a maternal and neonatal service project that will benefit all mothers and infants utilizing maternal services in hospitals across the Belize.



The project aims at improving the monitoring and evaluation of established prenatal and neonatal services including the provision of

medical equipment, strengthening of infection control plans and the development of procedure manuals for prenatal care and neonatal care. Training will be provided by PAHO to improve biomedical technicians and emergency response team for at risk or ill neonates.

The Minister of Health, Hon. Pablo Marin welcomes the partnership in this project because it will not only benefit mothers and newborns attending these services but also health professionals that provide care to mother and babies born or admitted to neonatal care units in hospitals.

## Belize and Mexico discuss benefits in health

The Minister of Health, Hon. Pablo Marin and CEO, Dr. Peter Allen met with officials from the Secretario de Salud de Quintana Roo, Mexico last month to negotiate access to oncology services and also to discuss the progress of other service oriented agreements.



Discussions included developing a Memorandum of Understanding to have Belizean Paediatric Cancer patients access medical specialist attention in Chetumal. Belizean women

who require Mammograms would also be able to access services at Chetumal Diagnostic Center at the same price as Mexicans and it was agreed that the present program where pap smear slides are taken to Mexico for processing will continue.

Agreements also included co-operation and training opportunities for biomedical technicians in Belize. Minister Marin and CEO, Dr. Allen visited with the patients admitted at both the Cancer unit and General Admission at Hospital General before returning to Belize.

## Belize hosts regional meeting on Alcohol

Belize was host to the sub-regional meeting on Alcohol Policy for English speaking countries of the Caribbean held from 25<sup>th</sup> -27<sup>th</sup> June, 2013. The meeting was held to support the development of an Alcohol Policy for the Caribbean. Objectives were to present and discuss current progress made, challenges and opportunities for the development of an Alcohol Policy, to discuss ways to develop a policy that can



be culturally adaptable in the Caribbean context, to integrate the policy in the National Non-communicable Disease policy and to discuss how to effectively implement the policy. Esner

Vellos, Director of National Drug Abuse Control Council mentioned that the Belize draft policy will encompass many aspects including the Liquor Licensing Act and the incorporation of the Breathalyzer into regular use. The overall objective, according to Mr. Vellos is to reduce the abuse of Alcohol in Belize. Belize and three other Caribbean countries currently have the framework of a Draft National Alcohol Policy.



## HIV Testing Day

Belize for the second year observed Regional HIV Testing Day on June 28<sup>th</sup>, 2013 across the country. The Ministry of Health collaborated with Scotiabank and the Belize Chamber of Commerce and Industry. Promoting HIV

Testing Day raises awareness about the important issue of knowing ones HIV status. HIV testing and counselling programs provide an opportunity for HIV negative persons to receive support and counselling to stay negative and for the infected person; it is a source to refer them to treatment and care programs.



Statistics show that for the year 2012, there were 249 new HIV infections showing that more men than women are infected. The new situation, according to the HIV Coordinator, Dr. Marvin Manzanero, HIV Coordinator, highlights the need for strategic and targeted interventions to reduce the

transmission of HIV and increase access to care and treatment.

Testing sites included the Scotiabank Parking Lot in Belize City and Belmopan. Orange Walk, San Ignacio and Dangriga also had testing booths in those towns. The total number of tests conducted was 1, 038 HIV Rapid Tests.

**Ministry of Health**  
**Belmopan**  
**822-2325/2363**



# Miley Garcia Softball

## Action in Roaring Creek Last Sunday

### Moves to Belmopan This Coming Weekend



**Francine Salazar**  
*Pitcher, Camalote United*

bourel, while the losing pitcher for Belmopan was Dana Mae King.

Game Two featured an even more for convincing win for the Esperanza Wolverines, who defeated Las Flores Shooting Stars by a score of 14 runs to Nil. The winning Wolverines pitcher was Shareeni Soberanis; the losing pitcher for Las Flores Shooting Stars was Guadeloupe Chicas.

And finally, in Game Three, Camalote United managed a pret-

ty narrow 2 runs to nil victory over the home team, Roaring Creek's Grace Kennedy.

Winning Pitcher for Camalote United was Francine Salazar, while Leandra Guy recorded the loss as Pitcher for Roaring Creek. Narrow though it was, a loss is still a loss.

The Miley Garcia Tournament continues this coming Sunday, July 7 when the action moves to the Capital City of Belmopan at the Mae



**Shadalee Ho of Roaring Creek Grace Kennedy**  
*hits Francine Salazar*

There was triple-header action this past weekend in the Ismael "Miley" Garcia Softball Tournament in the Cayo District.

On Sunday, June 30, the action moved to Roaring Creek on the doorsteps of the Capital City.

In Game One played on the Roaring Creek Softball Pitch, the Rebels of Ontario defeated the Capital City Emeralds of Belmopan by a score of 14 to 4 runs. Picking up the win as pitcher for the Rebels was Jean Ga-



**Nadine Coey of Camalote United**  
*makes a very important catch*



**Camalote United's Nadine Coey**  
*hits Roaring Creek Grace Kennedy's Shadalee Ho*

Gordon Sports Field. Game One will be played at 1:00 PM and will see Ontario Rebels going up against Camalote United. In Game Two, which is scheduled to kick off at 3:00 PM, the home team, Belmopan Capital City Emeralds will clash with the Esperanza Wolverines.

We hope to bring you the results of those matches in our next edition.

**(Information provided by Jerrett Thompson)**

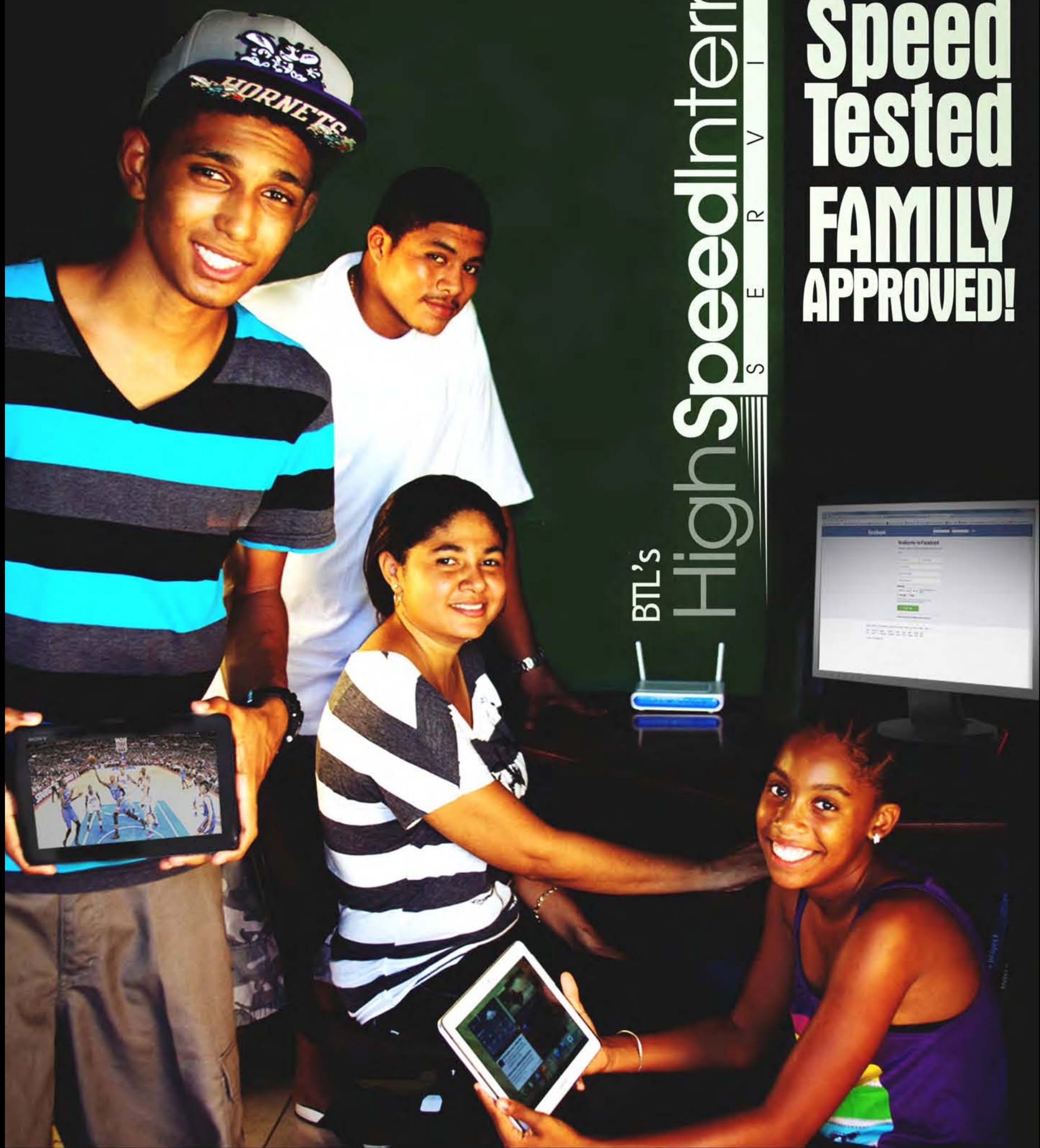


**Myralee Ho of Roaring Creek Grace Kennedy**  
*gets a hit off Nadine Coey, pitcher for Camalote United*



**Shanicka Anderson of Roaring Creek Grace Kennedy**  
*also gets a hit off Nadine Coey of Camalote United, but in a losing affair*





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