

STAR

"The Newspaper That Cares And Dares To Bring Out The Truth"



No. 125

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SHE WAS HIT IN THE HEAD WITH A CROWBAR

SAN IGNACIO TOWN, Cayo District, Friday, 31st August 2007:

Two young men from San Ignacio Town, accused of committing the indictable crime of aggravated burglary, are today on remand at the Hattieville prison.

San Ignacio police reports that it was shortly after 12 noon on Monday, 27th August 2007 when **Veronica Bautista**, 36, domestic of a Santiago Juan Layout area of San Ignacio Town reported that whilst caretaking the mini shop of her Guatemalan friend **Rosalinda Gabriel**, a young man known to her



Emmanuel "Mangar" Willoughby, 17

as **Cecilio Cho** entered the store and asked to credit some items from the

mini shop on his mother's account. Bautista reportedly told him that she had no authority to grant the request and that he would have to wait until the shop owner returned from a short trip to Melchor, Guatemala.

Cho reportedly walked down the steps and as Bautista turned around to re-enter the house she came face to face with another male person in the kitchen, whom she knew as Mangar. He had a crowbar held by both hands which he used to hit her in the head.

Bautista reportedly fell to the floor in an unconscious state and when she



Cecilio Cho, 17

regained consciousness she walked outside the house. She was bleeding from a large cut wound to the head and was immediately assisted by a neighbor who transported her to the San Ignacio hospital. She was issued with a pair of Medico Legal forms on which the medical officer on duty, **Dr. Gonzalez**, certified the injury as wounding.

The incident led to the detention of **Cecilio Cho** and **Emmanuel "Mangar" Willoughby** both 17 year old Belizean students residing in Santiago Juan Layout. They were subsequently arrested and jointly charged for the indictable crime of acting together with a common purpose of committing aggravated burglary.

Both the accused appeared in San Ignacio's Magistrate Court on Thursday, 30th August 2007 where the charge was read against them. **Magistrate Kathlene Lewis** informed them that the matter will be heard on indictment in the Supreme. They were subsequently denied bail and were remanded to the Hattieville prison for the next court hearing on Tuesday, 25th September 2007.

Janine Lopez Is The New Queen Of The West

NOVELOS CONVENTION CENTER, Santa Elena Town, Cayo District, Friday, 24th August 2007:

As the nation prepares to commemorate the 209th anniversary of the Battle of St. Georges Caye Day on September 10th and the 26th Anniversary of Independence on September 21st under the unified team "**Independent, Strong and Free, Belize Fi All Ah We**", the festive mood is expected to move into high gear in the days and weeks ahead.

In the Cayo area, the celebration began this past Friday evening with the Annual Miss Queen of the West Beauty Pageant at the Novelos Convention Center in Santa Elena Town with a large gathering in attendance.

There were six lovely young ladies vying for the coveted title of Miss Queen of the West 2007-08. The evening's program began at 7:30 p.m., with the singing of the National

Anthem by former beauty queen, **Conchita Moreno**.

Mistress and Master of Ceremony for the occasion were the talented **Aidita Arguelles** and the articulate **Gonzalo "Ombudsman" Rosado**. Their first act for the evening was the introduction of the panel of judges which included **Mrs. Isaura Chuc-Williams**, teacher at Bishop Martin RC, Primary School; **Mrs. Dorita Avella-Marin**, Proprietor of Cayo Institute of Cosmetology and **Mr. David Morey**.

The all important task of tabulating the scores fell into the able hands of **Nyana Harrison** and **Emil Pinelo**.

The icebreaker then followed with the grand entrance and introduction



Queen of the West Ms. Janine Lopez

of the six lovely contestants as follows: Miss Camalote Village,

Please Turn To Page 11



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Suicide Suspected In Death Of Guatemalan Woman

SAN IGNACIO TOWN, Cayo District, Wednesday, 29th August 2007:

The body of a 16 year old girl is today inside the morgue at the San Ignacio Town hospital as it awaits transportation to Belize City for the legally required post mortem examination scheduled to be held on Thursday, 30th August 2007.

San Ignacio Police reports that it was shortly after 3:30 p.m. on Tuesday, 28th August when a report was received of an apparently dead body of a woman on a farm located on the outskirts of Esperanza Village in the Cayo District.

A team of local Crime Investigation Branch officers accompanied by a Scenes of Crime technician rushed to

the area where they were directed to a farm house located about a mile off the Western Highway on G.A Roe's San Miguel Citrus Farm.

Upon arrival, police were directed to a back kitchen where they encountered a woman lying face upwards on the ground foaming from the mouth and nose.

The motionless body was rushed to the San Ignacio Town hospital where it was officially pronounced dead by the medical officer on duty **Dra. Helen Loaces**.

The deceased was identified as 16 year old **Reina Madely Villeda Barrientos**, Guatemalan domestic residing on the farm. At the scene, police also encountered **William Tzalam Bah**, 21, Guatemalan

laborer who claimed to be the common law husband of the deceased.

Tzalam Bah informed the police that at around 1:00 p.m. that day he was at the company's Western Highway roadside office when his common law wife rode up on a bicycle with his lunch. He reportedly told her that she was late and since the lunchtime had passed he was no longer hungry. He reportedly told her to return to the house with the lunch. She jumped on the bicycle and reportedly rode back home. It was shortly after 3:00 p.m. when Tzalam left work and returned to the farm house where he reportedly encountered his common law wife in the exact position in which she was found by the police.

Police reportedly found a white plastic gallon containing Round Up herbicide in the kitchen leading them to initially suspect that the deceased

might have taken a dose of the poison. An inspection of the body revealed no visible sign of violence therefore leading investigators to suspect that the deceased might have committed suicide which they say can only be ascertained by way of the post mortem examination.

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Editorial



Let Us Seek To Regain Our Dwindling Independence, Strength And Freedom

“Independent, Strong and Free, Belize Fi All Ah We” that’s the winning theme that will echo across the nation, in the days and weeks ahead, as we commemorate the 209th Anniversary of the Battle of St. Georges Caye and the 26th Anniversary of our political independence.

We congratulate 14 year old Belizean student **Esther Humes** from Edward P. Yorke High School for submitting the winning theme for this year’s September activities. We hope that she uses the 1,000 dollar cash prize wisely.

We would be remiss if we did not acknowledge those responsible for selecting the winning theme especially since they did not, as in previous years, select a theme with the word *“celebrate”* in it because quite frankly, apart from being recently spared the ravages of a category 5 hurricane, for which we must give thanks and praises to the Almighty, there is hardly anything for us as a nation to *“celebrate”*.

We are a nation of less than three hundred thousand people straining under the burden of a **THREE BILLION DOLLAR** foreign debt while we have a government that keeps telling us that we must be thankful to them for *“successfully renegotiating the debt”*. A *“successful renegotiation”* which now finds us saddled with that infamous *“Supa Bond”* for which, in the last few days, a single disbursement of almost 50 million dollars in interest payment alone left our shores never to be seen again.

There is hardly anything to celebrate as all our national assets have been sold with Belizeans now paying the highest rates in the region for electricity, water and telephone services.

More recently we have been hearing about serious discussions geared towards privatizing National Security in the region as outlined and presented by a senior official from the Government of Belize during the mid June 2007 Caricom Heads of State meeting with outgoing **US President George W. Bush Jr.**

We thank little Esther Humes for giving us this year’s theme as a source of true reflection. The time is therefore opportune for us to truly examine ourselves and ask the pertinent questions:

Are we truly independent? Did we not just recently see two of our most Senior Government/Political Officials in the persons of **Prime Minister Rt. Hon. Said Musa** and the nation’s most powerful government minister, **Hon. Ralph Fonseca**, believed by many to be the principal architect of the nation’s devastated economic condition, as they traveled, hat in hand, to Venezuela to beg for

assistance in time to meet the first 50 million dollar interest payment on that infamous *“Supa Bond”*

Can we in all honesty say that we are truly independent while we stood almost motionless as a third party downgraded our established borders with a neighboring nation state that has been claiming our country for centuries?

Can we in all sincerity, lay claim to independence when we see our new found oil resources leaving our shores by land and by sea under un-metered questionable circumstances and with only a pittance of the revenue finding its way into our national treasury?

On the matter of strength, how can we honestly say that we are strong when our reserves stand at less than a month of imports while the threshold for disaster is pegged at three months of imports?

With over 40% of our people living in poverty and the vast majority of us living just one pay cheque away from starvation, can we honestly say that we are strong?

Then on the matter of being free, how can we ever be free when crime and violence is out of control as we are jacked, robbed, raped and killed on an increasing basis?

How can we consider ourselves to be free when our once peaceful streets have become a graveyard for our young black brothers?

How can we consider ourselves to be free when our once bustling town and city streets have now been transformed into deserted areas as we scramble to lock ourselves up behind our burglar barred windows and multi-locked doors?

How can we be Independent, Strong and Free when some elder leaders in our community, with a certain inclination towards the ruling party, were only this week asking us to editorialize on the fact that as the nation is preparing for a full month of extravagant celebrations, many Belizeans in the northern districts, in the wake of the recent hurricane, are living in dire conditions while a few hours of rain almost sunk the old capital city without pity.

These elders are asking to seriously start the discussion about postponing the celebrations until we can truly get our house in order and proudly proclaim that we are truly Independent, Strong and Free.

As we enter the 27th Anniversary of that day when the British Union Jack was lowered for the last time and the new Belizean National Flag was hoisted for the very first time, let us put our shoulders to the wheel as we seek to regain our dwindling **INDEPENDENCE, STRENGTH and FREEDOM** as in doing otherwise, Belize might not be Fi All Ah We fu much longer.

Letters to the Editor

We Want And Need Our Pay

Dear Editor;

We take this opportunity through the medium you provide to inform the Government of Belize; The Ministry of Education in general and the Minister of Education in particular that there is a whole lot of angry teachers out here.

One of the worse forms of abuses that can be perpetuated against any individual is to work that individual and after that individual has worked, that person does not receive promised compensation.

We were told to take a week from our vacation to enter the classroom for a week to train teachers in the use of the new text books. For this work we were promised a \$300.00 stipend.

It is now over three weeks and we are still waiting to get paid. In Cayo, we visited Mr. Chan, he sent us to Mr. Cano, then Cano turned around and sent us back to Chan and the turn around continues.

\$20.00 Is Not What It Used To Be

Dear Editor;

As housewives we are often forced to stretch our dollars and so we shop at those places where we get more value for the money we spend.

We therefore keep a close watch on the price of those items that we regularly buy and so we automatically note those little increases here and there. Whenever we find that the price of an item has been increased at one store we look elsewhere to see if we can get that item cheaper.

We have become accustomed to the regular 10 and 20 cents increases in the shelf prices of consumer goods. However I was totally unprepared for what confronted me this past Monday morning.

I was almost knocked off my feet when I saw the **MASSIVE** increase in the price of soap powder.

The price was \$6.75 for a 2 kgs bag of Roma Soap Powder and when I went to get one off the shelf at my neighborhood grocery store the price was up to a whopping **\$8.25**.

I did further checks and found out that the price for smaller bags of all soap powder has proportionately gone up.

With school opening up very soon, some of us had already budgeted this little extra change to get ready for the new school year.

We are now hearing that with the emergency situation in the north, the money that was promised to us is being diverted to the relief effort in the north.

While we sympathize with our fellow citizens up north and we want their lives to be restored to normal, it is the government that must shoulder the responsibility and not shift the load onto the backs of other equally struggling citizens.

We sincerely trust that the Government of Belize, the Ministry of Education and the Minister himself will make good on the promise to compensate us as we have already labored for the small promised stipend.

While we continue to wait for the promised compensation we ask for our names not to be published.

It is no wonder that our shopping bags are getting smaller and smaller as time goes by. We often hear each other saying that \$20.00 is not what it used to be.

While I am on this topic, I want to encourage all shoppers to carefully check the expiry dates on the goods we buy as I have noticed that some shopkeepers have become innovative and are now mixing expired goods with non-expired ones both on their shelves and in their freezers in an attempt to get one over the unsuspecting customer.

I also want to encourage Public Health Officials to continue monitoring this situation as they have been doing in the past.

s/ **Carmen Aldana**
San Ignacio, Cayo

Rolson

Mexican & Belizean Menu

HAPPY HOUR

Monday thru Friday

5 to 7 P.M

Monday: Draft Beer

\$2.50

Tuesday: Local Rum

\$3.00

Wednesday:

Margaritas \$9.95

Thursday: Piña

Colada \$9.95

Friday: Micheladas

\$4.00

is also featuring a family platter

STAR NEWSPAPER

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“The Newspaper that cares and dares to bring out the truth”

Teacher Professional Development In Belize Canada/Belize - Rotary/Ministry Of Education Teacher Training - PC's - Laptops - Internet Connection - The Works!!!

**SANTA ELENA, Cayo, Monday
27th August 2007:**

Twenty four teachers from Alberta, Canada were recently in Belize to initiate the first phase of a major Rotary project called *“Teacher Professional Development in Belize”*.

The project is to instruct primary school teachers from Belize in new teaching methods and strategies and is slated to span a period of at least 3 years. It is a joint project between the Rotary Clubs of Belize, the Ministry of Education of Belize and 60 Rotary Clubs from Canada.

The 24 Canadian teachers were assigned to 8 centres across Belize for 2 weeks. Each centre had a specialist teacher in Language Arts; Mathematics; and Science. 45 Belizean teachers received instructions at each of the 8 centres for a total of 360 *“master”* teachers all of whom will, in turn, train other teachers in Belize.

This joint education project is, in the words of **Ross Tyson**, District Governor (elect) of Rotary District 5370, Canada, *“A first for Rotary International - no other Rotary District in the world has conducted a major project in an entire country before.”*



**(L-R) Four of the key Rotarian players of the project.
Stephen Lathrop (Canada); Christopher Aird &
Andre Lopez (San Ignacio) and Ross Tyson (Canada).**

Another phase of this project entails the providing of a desktop computer to each of the 360 Belizean *“master”* teachers to allow on-line access to computer educational resources in Canada. This gift, which comes courtesy of the Department of Education of Alberta, Canada is worth many thousands of dollars.

In addition, Canadian Rotarians will be exploring the possibility of establishing a wireless system for Belizean schools to access the internet across the country.

Based on BTL’s commitment to provide free internet access to schools, Belize’s Minister of Education, **Hon. Francis Fonseca**, has pledged his support to facilitate discussions with BTL to begin this component of the project.

Finally, these outstanding Rotarians from Canada are also working with Belize’s Ministry of Education to acquire additional computers by way of MIT’s professor Nicholas Negroponte’s *“One Laptop Per Child”* programme. This aspect of

the project is being organized by the current Governor of 5370 District, **Dave Taylor**, and he hopes to provide 2,000 laptops for students in Belize in the first year.

The future benefits to Belizean teachers and students from the generosity of the Rotarians and government officials in Alberta, Canada is immense and the Rotary Club of San Ignacio, which is hosting the project with the involvement of all Rotary Clubs in Belize, offers thanks on behalf of all Belizeans to these fine people who come here, some year after year, at their own expense, to assist in the development of our country.

Contributed by John Acott, Member of the Rotary Club of San Ignacio & Chairman of the Cayo Crimes Committee.

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September Calendar of Events

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY



September 1st-30th

Made In Belize: Art Exhibitions
from 33 Belizean Artists
- Image Factory

September

African Influence
Exhibition - House of Culture



September 2nd

Visit & Wreath Laying

Ceremony - SGCDs - 3:00 pm / Yarrowborough Cemetery

September 3rd

Launch of Exhibits & September

Herald - SGCDs - 11:00 am / Belize Creole Museum and Gallery

September 4th

Lectures/Conversations from the
pages of Belizean

History - SGCDs - 2:00 pm until / Belize Creole Museum

September

Carnival Mass Camp

September 9th

Municipal Multi Cultural Fair &

Battle of the Bands - Belize City Council
- 11 AM to 9 PM / Belize Technical College Compound

Carnival Mass Camps

September 10th

10th Day of September Official
Ceremony and Citizen Parade

- 9:00am - Memorial Park

Carnival Mass Camps

The 3rd Annual BPS Poetry
Competition and
Special Awards

September

Central American

Football Tournament

8:00pm - MCC Grounds

Lecture Series - MO

Fire Engine Parade

Bring in the 10th Bram

- venue of your choice

8th Annual Lionman Triathlon

- 8:00am / Sandlighters Promenade

Municipal Multi Cultural Fair &

Battle of the Bands - Belize City Council

- 11 AM to 9 PM / Belize Technical College Compound

September 18th

Central American U16

Football Tournament

Tribute to Belizean Patriots

- 7PM Radisson Fort George Hotel

September 16th

Expo Belize Trade Show 2006 - 9 AM

to 5 PM / St. John's College
(SJC) Gymnasium

September 17th

Belikin September Fest - 7:00pm - 12a m

- Memorial Park

National Ecumenical Service - 7:00pm

- Central Assembly of God Church, Freetown Road

Central American U16 Football
Tournament

State of the Nation Address

- 9:00 a.m. Independence Hill, Belmopan

Belikin September Fest - 7:00pm - 12am

- Memorial Park

The Three Kings of Belize - Paul Nabor,

Florencio and Wilfred Peters / Princess Hotel Cinema

The Three Kings of Belize - Paul Nabor,

Florencio and Wilfred Peters / Princess Hotel Cinema

September 23rd

Central American U16

Football Tournament - 3:00 pm &
5:00pm - MCC Grounds



Celebrations, 2007

Events



WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
September 1st-30th Art in Art: An Art Exhibition House of Culture 	September 1st-30th Free Again: A Historical Exhibition Commemorating the 200th Anniversary of the Abolition of Slavery - House of Culture 	August 31st Official Launch of the September Celebrations - 7:00 PM / Bliss parking lot, Regent Street Carnival Motorcade (Belize City Streets) 	September 1st Annual International Food Fiesta - 10 AM to 6 PM / Anglican Cathedral College Campus Carnival King and Queen Competition - 7 PM / Marion Jones Sporting Complex Queen of the Bay Pageant - 7 PM / Belize City Centre Andy Palacio and the Garifuna Collective LIVE in CONCERT - 11am-2pm/ Brodies Northern Highway Parking lot
September 5th U16 Football Tournament - 6:00pm & 8:00pm - MCC Grounds	September 6th Youth Oral History & Patriotic Poetry Fest - SGCDs - 10:00 am/ Belize Creole Museum Francis Reneau Concert - 7PM/Bliss Centre for the Performing Arts Carnival Mass Camp 4th Annual Kriol Festival - Burrell Boom Village	September 7th Military, Police & Fire Tattoo - 5:00p.m. /Marion Jones Sporting Complex Voice of the Bay - SGCDs - 7:00 pm/ Memorial Park	September 8th Carnival J'Ouvert Morning - 4 AM / Principal Streets of Belize City Carnival Road March - 1 PM - Central America Boulevard and Princess Margaret Drive Market Day/BBQ - 11:00am - 5:00 pm / Lion's TRC Hostel Parking Lot (near KHHM) Sound Fest 2007 - 9:00pm - 2:00am - Belize City Center Carrie E. Wong K Scholarship Fundraising Ball - 8:00 p.m. /Princess Hotel & Casino 2nd Miss Belize Fashion & Swim Suit Competition - 7pm Princess Hotel
September 19th U16 Football Tournament - 6:00pm & 8:00pm - MCC Grounds Entertainment - 8:00pm - 11:00 pm - Memorial Park Official Ceremonies - 11:30pm - Memorial Park Flag Raising Ceremony Fire Works Display 	September 13th Grand Premier of "Noh Matta Wat" - Season Three - 8:00 pm - Bliss Institute Shut Up and Dance Competition September 20th Central American U16 Football Tournament - 6:00pm & 8:00pm - MCC Grounds Entertainment - 8:00pm - 11:00 pm - Memorial Park Official Ceremonies - 11:30pm - Memorial Park Flag Raising Ceremony Fire Works Display 	September 14th School Children's Rally - 9 AM / Belize City Centre Lecture Series - MOFA Belikin September Fest - 7:00pm - 12am - Memorial Park "Mr. Belize Body Building & Female Body Figure" Competition - 7:30 PM / Bliss Centre for the Performing Arts Fundraising Catamaran Cruise - 6:00pm - Brown Sugar Dock (Rotaract Club) Grand Tea, Exhibition & Sale - \$10.00 - 4:00pm - 6:30pm - St. Mary's Hall (Mother's Union) The Three Kings of Belize - Paul Nabor, Florencio and Wilfred Peters/ Princess Hotel Cinema September 21st Official Independence Day Ceremony & Uniform Parade - 9:00am - Memorial Park Street Fete - Albert and Regent Streets - immediately following the parade Central American U16 Football Tournament - 3:00 pm & 5:00pm - MCC Grounds (Belize meets Guatemala) 	September 15th Expo Belize Trade Show 2006 - 9 AM to 5 PM / St. John's College (SJC) Gymnasium Belikin September Fest - 7:00pm - 12am - Memorial Park Ms. Belize Pageant - 7:00pm - Belize City Center Californians in Support of the Anglican Cathedral College Fundraising Dance (CASACC) - 8 PM to 2 AM / Best Western Belize Plaza The Three Kings of Belize - Paul Nabor, Florencio and Wilfred Peters/ Princess Hotel Cinema September 22nd Central American U16 Football Tournament - 3:00 pm & 5:00pm - MCC Grounds Acrobatic Troupe - National Taiwan College of Performing Arts/7PM



STAR HUMOR



The Cowboy Midget

There was a midget down in Texas whose testicles hurt and ached almost all the time.

The midget went to the doctor and told him about his problem.

The doctor told him to drop his pants and he would have a look. The midget dropped his pants. The doctor stood him up onto the examining table, and started to examine him.

"I see your problem Sir" said the doctor. **"Please pass me those big scissors nurse"** said the doctor.

The midget started to tremble when he saw the size of the scissors. He was just getting ready to spring off the table when the doctor saw the fear in his eyes and told him to calm down.

The doctor took the scissors and

went snip-snip-snip-snip on the right side, then snip-snip-snip-snip on the left side.

The midget was so scared he was afraid to look, but noted with amazement that the snipping did not hurt.

The doctor then lifted him off the table, placed him on the floor and told him to walk around the examining room to see if it still hurt.

"How does it feel now?" asked the doctor said,

The midget was absolutely delighted as he walked around and discovered that the aching was gone.

"It feels perfect Doc, what did you do?" asked the midget.

The doctor replied, **"I cut two inches off the top of your cowboy boots."**

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US Embassy (Belize) Contributes To Hurricane Relief

BELMOPAN CITY, Belize, Monday, 27th August 2007:

The U.S. Embassy in Belmopan informed that Chargé d'Affaires **Leonard Hill** today officially handed over emergency supplies to Belize Red Cross President **Karen Diaz** in response to the damage caused by Hurricane Dean.

The Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA) coordinated and delivered this shipment of relief supplies (including plastic sheeting, chainsaws, hygiene kits and blankets) by chartered aircraft on August 24.

These supplies were turned over to the Belize Red Cross and delivered to people in the affected areas. The U.S. government will also make a cash contribution of BZ\$100,000 to NEMO for relief supply purchases in response to the Foreign Ministry's appeal to diplomatic missions in Belize.

The government and people of the United States have been following with concern the effects of Hurricane Dean in the Caribbean. **"Our thoughts and prayers are with the people of Belize affected by the hurricane, especially in the northern districts,"** said Ambassador **Robert Dieter**. **"We are thankful that there was no loss of life or serious injury."**

Disaster Risk Management Specialist **Beryl Armbrister** from the U.S. Agency for International

Development, OFDA arrived in Belize the day before the hurricane hit and began working at NEMO headquarters to help coordinate the U.S. response to Hurricane Dean. She worked with Belizean and international experts including from the United Nations to help provide effective relief as soon as possible after the hurricane.

In addition, three U.S. military helicopters based at Soto Cano, Honduras, were dispatched a few hours after Hurricane Dean passed to help with damage assessment and to transport military and civilian personnel of the Government of

Shot In The Butt, Flowers Escapes Serious Injuries

BELIZE CITY, Tuesday, 28th August 2007:

In the wake of Monday night's fatal shooting of **George "Junie Balls" McKenzie**, the former boss of Northside's Majestic Alley Crips, Belize City Police has been on high alert on the southside of the city as they fear the area could become the battleground for retaliation.

This high state of police alert paid off on Tuesday night when it led to the apprehension of a man as he was chased by the echoes of the shots he fired at another man on Mahogany Street on the Southside of Belize City.

Police reports that it was shortly after 8:00 p.m., on Tuesday, 28th August, when a mobile patrol in the area of Mahogany Street responded to the sound of gunshots in the area.

Upon reaching Mopan Street, they saw a man fleeing on a bicycle. The individual was intercepted and a search of his person led to the discovery of a chrome point 38 revolver with five expended shells.

Police also found a black ski mask and a black stocking in his possession. He was immediately taken into custody and transported to the scene of the crime where they came upon a man suffering from a single gunshot wound to the left buttock.

The injured man was identified as



The Victim: Mark Flowers 20. Photograph from police files taken 9 month ago, in November 2006, when he was charged for disorderly conduct

Mark Flowers, 20, of a Belama Phase 1 address in Belize City.

Flowers told the police that he was standing on Mahogany Street when he was approached by a man fitting the description of the detainee. He said that the individual, who was wearing a mask, pulled out a handgun, he attempted the run away as the individual fired several shots at him resulting in one of the shots hitting him in the left buttock.

Flowers was transported to the nearby Karl Heusner Memorial Hospital where he was treated and admitted to ward in a stable condition.

The suspect was escorted to the Police Station where he was identified as **Lucius Myers, 28,** of an Iguana Street address on the Southside of the city.

Being a southside resident, it somewhat scales down the probability that Myers was acting in retaliation of the execution style murder of former Northside's Majestic Alley Crips Boss Junie Balls McKenzie, which occurred less than 24 hours earlier.

Myers has since been charged for the crimes of (1) Attempted murder, (2) Use of deadly means of harm, (3) Grievous harm.

The police informed that more charges are being formulated in relation to the unlicensed firearm found in his possession.



U.S. Embassy Chargé d'Affaires, Leonard Hill handing over emergency supplies to Belize Red Cross President, Karen Diaz flanked by USAID Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance Representatives Beryl Armbrister (L) and Eduardo Gutierrez (R)

Belize to the affected areas. They brought with them medical and engineering personnel to help with damage assessment.

The United States prepares for every hurricane season by stocking a warehouse in Miami with emergency supplies that can be sent on short notice to neighboring countries in the region hit by natural disaster.

In recent years the U.S. military's Humanitarian Assistance Program has funded construction of warehouses for NEMO emergency supplies in strategic locations in Belize, helping to prepare for hurricane disaster assistance.



The Accused: Lucius Myers, 28. Photograph also from police files taken over two years ago, in April 2005, when he was charged for possession of drugs

St. Martin's Credit Union Ltd. - Giving Students Needed Assistance

SAN IGNACIO TOWN, Cayo District, Thursday, 30th August 2007:

Fitting squarely into the role of a good corporate citizen, San Ignacio's St. Martin's Credit Union Ltd. is, this year, entering into its 7th consecutive year of providing financial assistance to deserving children of selected Credit Union members as they venture into higher education at the high school level.

Today we stopped by Zimmerman House, on Eve Street in San Ignacio Town, which is the official headquarters of St. Martin's Credit Union, where we had a brief interview with the Credit Union's **General Manager, Mr. Ronald Hulse.**

Mr. Hulse informed that the Credit Union endeavors to assist deserving students throughout their 4 year high school program provided always that they maintain a grade point average of at least 2.5.

"We insist at all times that these students do well in school. Their overall performance is under constant review by the Credit Union because we are always mindful that it is our members' money that is being expended to provide this assistance."

Our general membership has been very supportive of this educational program and so we must ensure that our members get value for the money they



Mr. Ronald Hulse, General Manager, St. Martin's Credit Union Ltd.

generously spend each year to keep the program alive. Each student is made to fully understand that we maintain rigorous standards and we demand much from them because we do not want to give them the impression that the financial assistance is to be taken lightly.

I also want to take this opportunity to congratulate Ozzelle Chavez and Osmin Morales both of whom made us

proud by successfully graduating this year from Sacred Heart High School.

On behalf of the Board of Directors and the general membership of St. Martin's Credit Union we wish Ozzelle and Osmin every success in their future endeavors," said GM Hulse.

The three new recipients of this year's assistance are **Henry Galvez** and **Kreslynn Banner** both entering 1st form at Sacred Heart High


School and **Mylin Lopez** entering 2nd form at Mopan Technical High School in Benque Viejo Town.

St. Martin's Credit Union has been serving the Cayo District since 1949. The Credit Union held its 58th Annual General Meeting at the Macal River Park in San Ignacio Town on May 25, 2007. It currently boasts a total membership of 4,562 with total assets of \$9,885.00.

The Credit Union's latest financial report informs that of 3,024 loan applications received during fiscal year April 1st, 2006 to March 31st 2007, some 2,730 applications were approved for a total of \$4,971,356.00 of which \$4,634,311.00 or 93% was disbursed.

While General Manager Ronald Hulse is charged with the institution's day-to-day operations, the general direction of the St. Martin's Credit Union Ltd. rests on the shoulders of its five-member board of directors which includes **President, Dr. John Morris; Vice President, Mrs. Irma Sanchez; Treasurer, Mr. Raymond Tzul; Secretary, Mr. Rene Torres** and Education Director **Mr. Ian Segura.**

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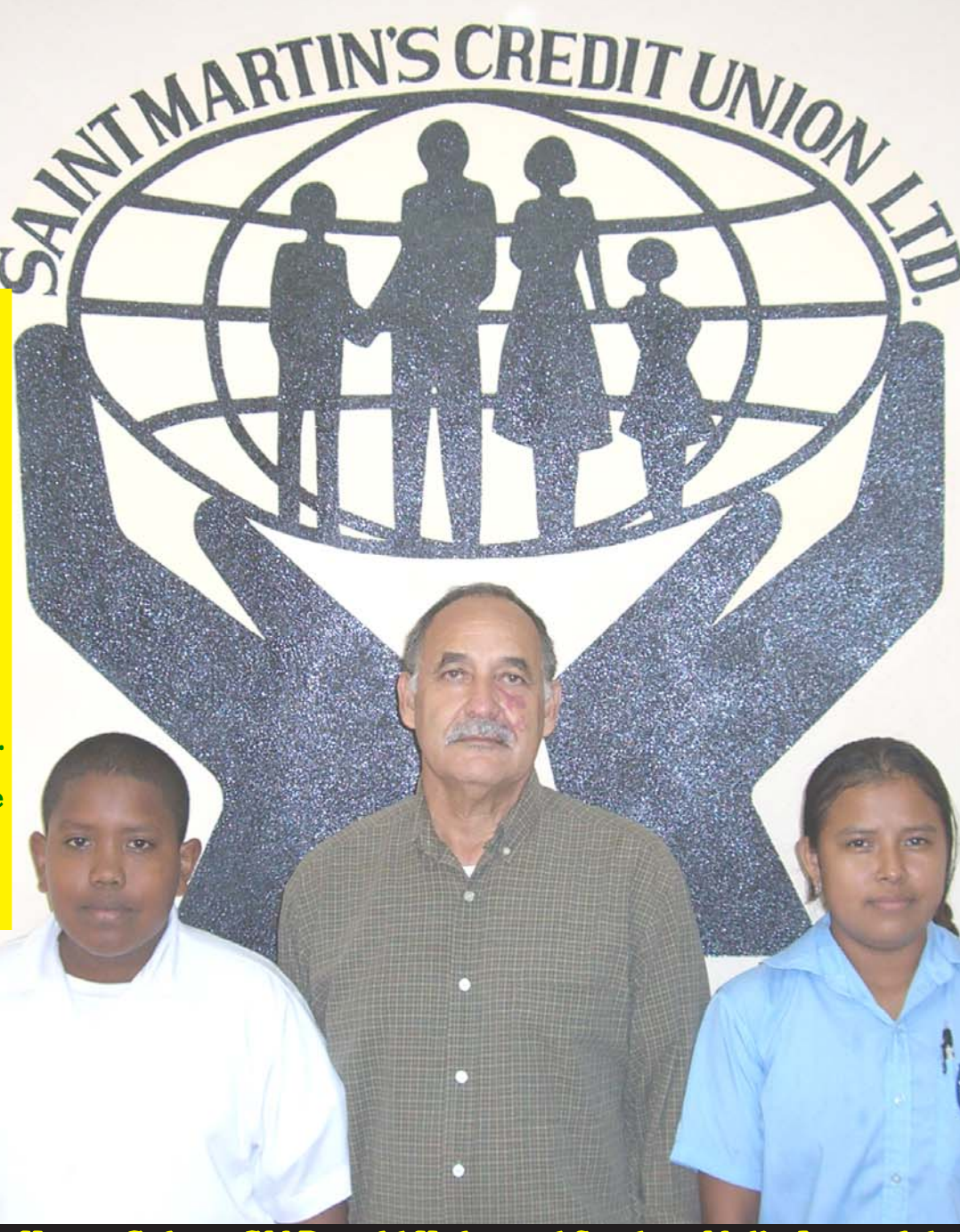


It gives us GREAT pleasure to announce the recipients of this year's Annual High School Financial Assistance package as follows:

Henry Galvez - Who Is Now attending Sacred Heart High School In San Ignacio.

Kreslyanne Banner - Who Is Likewise Attending Sacred Heart High School.

Mylin Lopez - Who Will Be Entering 2nd Form At Mopan Technical High School In Benque Viejo Town.



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Photo: (L-R) Student Henry Galvez, GM Ronald Hulse and Student Mylin Lopez (absent Kreslynn Banner)

Black Belizean Males - Falling Like Flies On The Streets Of The Old Capital

The most recent spate of murders on the streets of Belize City started at around 2:45 a.m. last Friday, 24th August when **Mark Emmanuel Flowers**, 25, of a Periwinkle Street address in Belize City, was stabbed to death in the Newtown Barracks area on north side Belize City.

Flowers was standing outside of Ceasar's Palace when he was approached by three male persons who arrived in a red Camry car. Two of them, armed with knives began firing stabs at Flowers. He attempted to flee but was chased down and fatally stabbed.

The second incident took place less than 25 hours later at around 3:30 a.m. on Saturday 25th August when **Gerald Willard Duhaney**, 18, of an Antelope Street address was shot in the lower abdomen as he was standing at the corner of Gibnut and

Curassow Streets on the south side of Belize City. He was rushed to the Belize City Hospital but died shortly after.

The third incident of the week took place less than 26 hours later when at around 5:00 a.m. on Sunday, 26th August, **Kareem Wright**, 24, was shot in the neck on Sarstoon Street in the Lake Independence area on the south side of Belize City.

He was transported to the Belize City Hospital where he was admitted to ward in a critical condition.

The fourth incident of the week took place 14 hours later at around 7:30 p.m. on Sunday 26th August in which three persons were hospitalized with varying degrees of injuries after being shot as they stood near West Canal and Rocky Road. Those

injured were **Jerry Graham**, 38, **Bernard Bradley**, 60 and **Jermaine Cattouse**, 20. They were hanging out in the area when two male persons of dark complexion appeared and began firing indiscriminately at them.

The fifth reported incident of the week occurred less than 27 hours later at around 10:15 p.m. on Monday August 27th, when shots were fired in the area near the junction of North Front Street and Majestic Alley. The incident led to the instant death of former Crip boss **George "Junie Balls" Mckenzie**, 33, of a Majestic Alley address.

The sixth fatal shooting took place at around 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday 29th August it resulted in the death of **Jerry Smart**, 27, of a Fuller's Alley address. Smart was approached by two male persons on bicycles both of whom produced firearms and fired several

shots seven of which found its target on Smart. He was pronounced dead on arrival at the Belize City Hospital.

The seventh incident took place 24 hours later at around 7:45 p.m. on Thursday, August 30th, on Regent Street West near West Canal resulting in the shooting death of **Jerry Devon Jones**, 33, of Neal's Penn Road, Belize City.

Less than 3 hours later, at around 10:30 p.m. the eighth incident claimed the life of **Tyrone Diego Castillo**, 28, of a Central American Boulevard address.

Castillo was shot as he stood on Mayflower Street in Belize City. He was rushed to the hospital with multiple gunshot wounds to various parts of the body. Castillo died shortly after arrival at the Belize City Hospital.

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Janine Lopez Is The New Queen Of The West

Continued From Front Page

Tarren Belisle, sponsored by Cox Solid Waste Management. Miss Unitedville Village, **Tricia Coye** sponsored by Sol Belize Ltd.; Miss San Ignacio, **Shamira Frutos**, sponsored by Elvin Penner and the new Cost Less Mart; Miss Benque Viejo Town, **Melanie Gonzalez**, sponsored by Ka'ana Resort & Spa; Miss Esperanza Village, **Janine Lopez**, sponsored by the Insurance Corporation of Belize Ltd. and Alexi Trucking Company Ltd. and Miss Santa Elena Town, **Kimberly Stephens** sponsored by Cahal Pech Village and Rene Montero.

After the formal introduction all six contestants left the stage to reappear modeling their swimsuits as they marched across the stage. Intermittent entertainment was provided by the Exile Dance Group, Habanero Dancers and Zone 10 Neighborhood Watch Group while the contestants changed into their different wears for the pageant.

Upon returning to the stage, contestants then performed their various acts of talent which was promptly followed by the entrance of Reigning Queen of the West 2006- 2007, Ms. Audrey Augustine.

Accompanied by a beautiful rendition of the Queen of the Bay song, contestants returned to the stage elegantly dressed in their evening wear. They were then serenaded by DJ Maskal.



**First Runner Up
Ms. Tricia Coye**

Both MC's made small talk with the candidates just before the question and answer segment of the pageant.

While awaiting the official results, DJ Maskal provided additional entertainment and when the scores were tabulated the winner and new Queen of the West was announced as Miss Janine Lopez, hailing from Esperanza Village.

Second place and the 1st Runner Up position went to Miss Unitedville Village, Tricia Coye. Rounding off the first top three winners was Miss San Ignacio, Shamira Frutos

The new Ms. Queen of the West, Miss Janine Lopez, won a 2 year scholarship courtesy Sacred Heart Junior College, an evening gown courtesy Lisa's Boutique, a gold earring courtesy Councilor Bernadette Fernandez, a gift

basket courtesy Cayo's Institute of Cosmetology and dinner for two from the popular Hannah's Restaurant on Burns Avenue.

First runner up, Ms. Tricia Coye, received a cellular telephone courtesy Max Headquarters, a DVD player from Three Flags Superstore, a gift basket courtesy San Cas Ltd. and a pair of gold earrings from Cano's Jewelry.

The third place winner, Ms. Shamira Frutos, who received a gift basket from Delia's Store, an overnight stay for two at Five Sisters Lodge, a wash and hairstyle courtesy Shar's Beauty Salon and Beauty Soap from Rub-A-Dub.

The fourth place winner was Ms. Kimberly Stephens. She received a dinner for two at the Saddle Back Grill, a pair of shoes from Reshma's Store and a \$50.00 cash prize.

Ms. Tarren Belisle came in fifth. Her prizes included a lamp from Mr. Luigi Salazar, a perfume set from Royal Choice Store and a \$50.00 cash prize.

Sixth place went to Melanie Gonzalez who received a lamp courtesy Beto's Shopping Center, a perfume from Royal Choice Store and a \$50.00 cash prize.

Capturing the title of Ms. Amity was Tarren Belisle who was awarded with a \$100.00 gift certificate from Idelmar Store.

Ms. Photogenic went to Melanie Gonzalez; she received a dinner for two courtesy Sanny's Grill.

The award for the Most Talented Contestant went to Shamira Frutos who received a gold earring courtesy Cano's Jewelry.

The Mayor and Members of the San Ignacio/Santa Elena Town Council extends congratulations to the new Queen of the West Miss Janine Lopez and to all the contestants for the great performance and team spirit they each displayed during the weeks leading up to the pageant and especially on the night of the pageant.

The council also extends special thank you to the many sponsors of the pageant and individual contestants as well as to all those business places and individuals who donated prizes and gave generously to make this year's pageant the success it was.

Special thank you also goes out from the council to the judges and



**Second Runner Up
Ms. Shamira Frutos**

tabulators and to all those many persons who took time out to attend the pageant and the dance that followed at Ka'ana Resort in honor of the new Queen of the West and the other lovely and courageous contestants.

Lastly but by no means the least, Mayor John August and Councilors extend a heartfelt thank you to **Mrs. Karen Fernandez, James Moore and Jaime Garcia** as well as to former Queens of the West **Audrey Augustine and Conchita Moreno**, who along with **Councilors Illiana Moreno and Vanessa Neal** worked tirelessly over the weeks to prepare the contestants and organize the entire impressive program.

Let us all continue to keep this annual tradition very much alive in Cayo District. Congratulations once again goes out to Ms. Janine Lopez – Ms. Queen of the West 2007-08 as she goes on to represent the West in this Saturday's Queen of the Bay Pageant to be held at the City Center in Belize City. We wish Miss Lopez all the very best as she takes to the stage to proudly represent the West in this prestigious pageant.

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Francis August Reported Missing

SAN IGNACIO TOWN, Cayo District, Friday, 31st August 2007:

San Ignacio police have sent out an All Points Bulletin (APB) and are seeking the public's assistance in locating Santa Elena resident **Francis August** who has reportedly gone missing for a week, since last Friday, 24th August.

Police reports that on Monday 27th August, **Mirna August**, visited the San Ignacio police station and reported that her brother Francis, 33, Belizean laborer of #32 George Price Avenue in Santa Elena left home three days earlier and that up to the time of making the report had not returned.

Mirna described her younger brother as being of medium build, standing 5 feet 8 inches in height and weighing approximately 180 lbs with low cut black hair.

She told the police that he was last seen wearing an orange T-shirt with long blue jeans pants and a pair of brown leather shoes.



**Missing person -
Francis August, 33**

Francis is the son of **Modesto "Muddy" August** and his wife **Hipolita "Miss Poli" Salazar-August** both long time residents of George Price Avenue, Santa Elena.

Anyone with information that could lead to locating this missing person, is asked to kindly call the nearest police station.

Heightened State Of Police Alertness Pays Off For A Second Time This Week

BELIZE CITY, Saturday, 1st September 2007:

For the second time this week, Police were able to capture a shooter and probably saved a life on the troubled streets of the old capital.

On this occasion, the culprit, a 16 year old minor, was caught still wearing the mask and armed with a 9mm pistol loaded with seven live rounds of ammunition.

Police reports that it was sometime around 10:45 on the night of Friday

August 31st, when an alert team on mobile patrol in the area of St. Ignatius School on Euphrates Avenue heard a single gunshot and saw a male person attempting to flee on a bicycle.

The individual who was later found out to be only 16 years of age, was immediately intercepted while still wearing a black ski mask and holding on to a 9mm pistol.

After taking the minor into custody, Police rushed over to the adjacent Amara Amara Avenue

where they found 19 year old **Jamal Joseph** suffering from a single gunshot wound to the left buttocks.

The injured man told the police that he was standing in front of his house at the corner of Amara Avenue and Basra Street when a lone gunman rode up on a bicycle and opened fire.

Police are of the opinion that their quick response might have obstructed

the gunman from getting off more shots at the target.

The injured person was placed inside the police vehicle and transported to the Belize City hospital.

The detainee was taken to the police station and is expected to be charged for the serious crimes of attempted murder, dangerous harm and use of deadly means of harm.



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We take this opportunity to inform you that we are now accepting applications for enrollment of new students for the new school year which begins on Tuesday, 11th September 2007.

We must likewise remind you that space is limited and so we encourage you to register early in order to allow us adequate time to plan effectively so as to ensure that all students obtain maximum benefits from the training.

If you are seeking a career in the exciting field of Cosmetology then this is your opportunity to obtain professional training from the real experts at Cayo Institute of Cosmetology. We encourage you to register early.

Not Pleased With The Results Of This Year's DJ Competition

This past weekend was the finals here in Belize for the Green Synergy Heineken DJ Competition.

The main reason for this email is to express the sentiments of many attendants the night of Saturday, 25th August. It is clear that either this competition was *'staged'* or it was not clear as to what the Judges were looking for.

Heineken had a video crew recording the entire competition therefore a view of the tape could confirm my concern.

DJ Bush, the reigning champion, won once again. I must say that when the results were announced, even he was *'surprised'*. His amazement on being announced as the winner is based on the fact that DJ Richie, one of the competitors, brought real game to the table, mixing in various formats.

The question remains, what were the Judges looking for?

Were they looking for mixing skills? Were they looking for the ability to please the audience or was their decision made on the basis of the competition being staged on the home turf of the reigning DJ?

I was of the firm opinion that the concept behind this competition was to highlight the **"BEST"** that each country has to offer. Unfortunately we must now just lean back and watch as the *'real winner'* of the Belize Finals 07 returns home puzzled as to what actually transpired that Saturday night. Thumbs up to all the DJ's that made it to the finals and congrats to the winner. All Thumbs down to the voting system.

BEL Nears Completion Of Works In The North

BELIZE CITY, Monday, 27th August 2007:

Belize Electricity Limited (BEL) reports that it is near completion of service restoration works in Northern Belize. The Company has successfully energized all main power lines in Corozal Town and most villages in the district.

BEL expects to energize the nine remaining villages in the Corozal District by the end of today. Although the main lines have been energized, some customers remain without power, due to damages to the

secondary power lines and service entrances.

The Company continues to work on repairs to these secondary lines and is working with the National Emergency Management Organization to ensure that electrical repairs are carried out to homes in order for the premises to receive power.

BEL has also successfully energized all main lines in the Orange Walk District and continues to work on repairs to the secondary power lines. San Pedro Town has been fully energized.

BEL is asking persons in the affected areas to immediately contact the Company at 0-800- BEL-CARE (0-800-235-2273) if power has been restored to their neighborhood and they do not have power at their premises.

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