

**SAN IGNACIO TOWN,  
Cayo, Monday, October 5,  
2009:**

At around 11:00 a.m. on Sunday, October 4, an alert construction worker at St. Andrews Anglican Primary School located at the end of Burns Avenue, near the Santa Rita Cemetery, in San Ignacio Town, observed a hole in one of the aluminum louvered back windows of an Infant 1 classroom.

door unlocked and entered the classroom thereby confirming that it was indeed burglarized.

She contacted the classroom teacher, **Ms. Saïdy Hob** and instructed her to come to the school to make a determination of missing items.

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**BENQUE VIEJO TOWN,  
Cayo, Monday, October 5,  
2009:**

Guatemala.

When police arrived on the scene they found the body of a male Hispanic person in an advanced state of decomposition. The individual was dressed in a white T-shirt and long blue jeans pants. He

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**ORANGE WALK TOWN,  
Wednesday, October 7, 2009:**

October 7 as he made his way north of the border.

The alleged murderer, Carlos Keme, was promptly returned to Belize and handed over the Corozal Town Police. He was immediately transported to

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## The People Deserve Nothing Less

The death of a loved one, regardless of color, creed, race, nationality, religious or political persuasion, economic or social status or any other consideration, is a tragedy.

The loss of a loved one is exacerbated when the deceased is a family's sole breadwinner.

It therefore goes without saying that we express deepest sympathy to the family of the Guatemalan man who, earlier this week, slipped and fell to a tragic death whilst working on the site of the construction of the hydro electric dam at Vaca Falls.

It is unfortunate however that, in the absence of official monitoring or maybe even negligence or downright corruption, this tragedy, jerked us to the realization that foreigners and maybe even illegal and undocumented individuals are gainfully employed on a construction site of this magnitude when the national and local rate of unemployment remains alarmingly high.

While we are in the process of constructing a third hydro electric dam on the Macal River, it somehow seems like we have not learnt a lesson as we continue to turn a blind eye on the potential for employment in the community that these projects present.

The situation was the same with the construction of the first dam at Mollejon. It continued with the large influx of Nepalese laborers, imported from abroad for the construction of the dam at Chalillo who, not by official action, eventually abandoned the worksite on their own accord primarily due to low wages and inhumane treatment.

The presence of the Nepalese workforce on the dam at Chalillo was shamelessly obvious in the community as they flooded the banks on Burns Avenue in San Ignacio Town on paydays while local constituents remained jobless.

This therefore begs the question: What is it that is keeping the powers that be from taking affirmative action to address this obvious deprivation of employment opportunities for local and national constituents while, as rate payers all, we will eventually be required to repay the cost of these capital expenditures?

While standard construction contracts routinely stipulate that contractors must endeavor to give Belizeans first preference in employment opportunities and to incorporate foreign labor only in those instances where local expertise is unavailable and only after exhausting the process of seeking local talent.

We must admit that it is only natural for contractors to gravitate towards the temptation of increasing profits by reducing costs, the first among which is labor costs, we must therefore be able to rely on public institutions to guard us against this natural tendency.

It is therefore in light of this revelation that the opportunity was seized this past Wednesday to bring this concern to the attention of the Minister of Transportation and National Emergency, Hon. Melvin Hulse Jr., as he appeared on Wave Radio's morning radio talk show. It is somewhat comforting to note that Minister Hulse has committed to bringing this concern to the attention of the Ministers with responsibility for labor and immigration matters. It is now left to us to monitor this situation because the people deserve nothing less.

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## John Doe Buried On The Spot

**Continued From Front Page**

was medium built and about 5 feet 7 inches in height.

No personal identification document was found on his person.

In attempting to identify the body, and suspecting that it might be that of a Guatemalan from across the border, Benque Viejo Police contacted their counterpart in the neighbouring Guatemalan community of Melchor De Mencos.

Police Forensic Specialist **Dr.**

Mario Estradabran arrived on the scene on Tuesday, October 6 where the legally required post mortem examination was conducted on the unidentified body.

In his report on the matter, Dr. Estradabran informed that he was unable to conclusively certify the cause of death due to the advanced state of decomposition. It was therefore recorded as **John Doe** and was buried a short distance from the site of the initial discovery.

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 PAN AMERICAN DAY 2009 From  
 all of us at the  
 STAR Newspaper**

## Mexicans Capture Belizean Fugitive

**Continued From Front Page**

Orange Walk Town where the murder was committed.

Orange Walk Town police reports that the accused, **Carlos Keme**, was wanted in the jurisdiction for the death by strangulation of his girlfriend, **Karina Daniels**.

The dead body of the victim was found in the nude in Orange Walk Town. A post mortem concluded the cause of death as strangulation.

The accused was subsequently arrested and charged for murder. He appeared before Orange Walk Town's Magistrate **Tracy**



**Carlos Keme**

**Sosa** on Thursday, October 8 where the single murder charge was read to him.

He was consequently remanded to the central prison in Hattieville to reappear in court on Thursday, November 12, 2009.

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## Letters To The Editor



### High School Students Comment On The Crime Situation

Apart from the police, who are saying otherwise in their recently released statistics on crime, many of us will readily agree to an apparent increase in crime and violence across the nation.

The topic was obviously the subject of recent discussions among students attending Sacred Heart College in San Ignacio Town and hence this week we received quite a large number of group letters to the editor from students on the topic of crime and violence. The letters were submitted on the students' behalf by their new Integrated English Teacher, **Mr. Kenrick Francisco** who is originally from Dangriga Town.

We are therefore proceeding this week with publishing two such letters to the Editor:

#### THERE IS A GREAT LACK OF LOVE WITHIN AND AMONG FAMILIES TODAY

Dear Editor,

There is an increasing number of Belizeans who are becoming fearful of being a victim of criminal acts.

Shouldn't our constitution provide the protection to enable us to have a secure mindset, one free from the fear of crime and violence that stalks us all?

A mindset that allows everyone to bask in a productive, safe and honest lifestyle. What then could be the breach for this phobia in our daily lives?

Well firstly, poverty has lent its hand to cradling crime to its present state.

Desperate times calls for desperate measures, and desperate times are well among us, hence, people resort to stealing and assaulting others for whatever they feel they need.

There are those who live honest, hard-working lives and yet, have to live with the fear of being subjected to the insecurity that the evolving crime rate brings. There is a great lack of love within and among families today.

Families are supposed to nurture a good, positive foundation that is strong enough to withstand the many test of life in today's real world.

Unfortunately, there has been an obvious erosion of the moral fibre of families and by extension society.

Now, if there is no love within family it tend to become divided for trivial reasons. These problems ought to serve as reference points rather than a wall of separation.

There is segregation within our society. As Belizeans, we should face our problems together, and find solutions

together, so that we may all prosper. Where is the unity? Our differences are to make us stronger, not to sever our desire for cooperation.

Crime affects everyone, no one is immune to it. No one

enjoys admitting their flaws, but how can we correct them if we are in denial?

The simplest, most effective way of bring down the crime

#### CRIME IS A PROBLEM THAT MUST BE TACKLED BY THE COMMUNITY AND NOT ONLY BY GOVERNMENT

Dear Editor,

*"He, who does not prevent a crime when he can, encourages it."*

Belize is a country with wealth untold. During the last few years our country has been plagued with crime and violence. This is a concern for many Belizeans.

Crime is a problem that must be tackled by the community and not only by government.

The Police Department recently released mid-year crime statistics for the year of 2008-2009, whereas, the police claim a reduction in the crime

rate in our society is by working together, let's start now.

**Ricardo Galvez, Hector Guerra**  
**Students Sacred Heart College**

rate, there appears to be a significant increase when comparing the statistics of serious crimes for the same period last year.

As of April 12th, 2008, there have been 31 murders in a single district. If this continues to escalate we run the risk of becoming an endangered species.

Where are the values and the respect for human life? What are we as citizens or community as a whole doing in assisting to curb the situation?

As we read through the

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# Tragedy Strikes At The Vaca Falls Dam

**BENQUE VIEJO TOWN, Cayo, Tuesday, October 6, 2009:**

Police do not suspect any foul play in the death of a Guatemalan labourer who accidentally fell from a wall whilst working on the construction site for the dam at Vaca Falls, Cayo.

The deceased was identified as **Emiliano Borrillos**, 49, Guatemalan labourer residing in the neighbouring Guatemalan community of Melchor De Mencos, Peten.

Police reports that on Sunday, October 4, 2009 **Ge Hong Qi**, Chinese supervisor for Sinohydro, the contracting firm engaged in the construction of the dam at Vaca Falls, visited the

San Ignacio police station and reported that on Sunday, October 4, 2009, the deceased Borrillos climbed the dam wall to turn off the engine of a generator and whilst descending he accidentally slipped and fell to the ground.

When fellow workers rushed to assist him, he was found bleeding from the nose, mouth and ears.

He was immediately rushed to the La Loma Luz Hospital but no doctor was available and so he was transported to the San Ignacio Town Hospital where he was officially pronounced dead on arrival.

The post mortem examination conducted by Police Forensic Specialist, Dr. Mario Estradabran concluded that the

cause of Emiliano Borrillos' death was as a result of subarachid ventricular bilateral haemorrhage as a consequence of a head trauma due to a laboral

accident.

The Belize Electric Company Limited (BECOL) was among the first to publicly extend condolences to the family of the deceased.

## Letters To The Editor

### High School Students Comment On The Crime Situation

**Continued From Page 3**  
statistics, it makes us realize that we have lost the unity that we once had.

Our laws need to be revised, this should serve to alleviate the problem.

The sense of lawlessness is visible in some sectors of the community, especially among the wealthy; we get the feeling that corruption is taking over our judicial system. Until this

situation is rectified, the fear of reporting crimes will remain. We are therefore calling on the government to carefully analyze this situation because if the police and the community is unable to work in partnership in the fight against crime then the situation will only get worse instead of improving.

**Sacred Heart College Students:**  
*Naionni Valdez, Zayda Guerra, Agnes Itza, Luvia Pech, Heidi Ayala, Genaro Martinez, Leroy James.*

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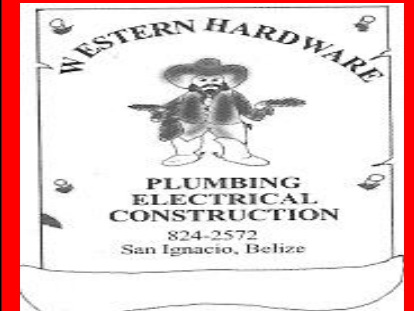
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# Clean Up Carib Courts: Jurists Privy Council Fed Up With Caribbean Cases

## British weary of hearing appeals

*Adapted from the Caribbean Life Newspaper, Published: Wednesday, September 30, 2009 1:34 PM EDT*  
**BY: Bert Wilkinson**

British Law Lords have made their clearest statement yet that they have grown tired of presiding over appeals from the Caribbean and other former colonies, suggesting that the time has come for the region to get its own appeals court system up and running.

The incoming head of the Privy Council which is still the court of last resort for nearly a dozen independent Caribbean nations and others with republican status like Trinidad, says British judges are being forced to spend nearly half of their time listening to arguments from Caribbean lawyers on cases that the Trinidad-based Caribbean Court of Justice (CCJ) can itself do, rather than being sent to London.

They also contend that British people have little interest in the cases. The renewed focus

on the Court's role and links to the region also clearly stems from the current financial crisis.

**Lord Nicholas Phillips** complained to British media including the Financial Times in the past week that British taxpayers are also being forced to carry the load and subsidize court costs for Caribbean people while the CCJ sits in Port of Spain with very little for its high paying judges to do at the criminal appeals level.

Only such appeals from Guyana and Barbados are heard by the CCJ because other bloc member states have not been able to stage referenda or muster the two-thirds parliamentary support to replace the British. *"It's a huge amount of time. I personally would like to see it reduced. It's disproportionate,"* Lord Phillips said of the high caseload from the Caribbean and the time judges must spend to attend and dispose of cases.

His rather timely remarks provided just the opportunity

proponents of the CCJ needed to press home their arguments for more Caribbean countries to abandon the Privy Council as most litigants realistically can't afford to hire a lawyer, pay his air fare, boarding, lodging and fees and send him to England to argue a case that they could very well lose.

Former Jamaican Justice Minister **A. J. Nicholson** was among the first to react and support Lord Phillips, basically calling his remarks a timely insult that should serve to wake up Caribbean people to growing disdain developing among British justices in still being forced to hear cases from the region.

*"It is unflattering for us as a people of an independent country to have placed ourselves in a situation to be told in quite measured but certainly unambiguous terms that surely the time has come for the imperial apron strings to be finally cut,"* said Nicholson whose opposition People's National Party (PNP) failed in its

bid to abandon the Privy Council despite nearly 20 consecutive years in office.

In light of such developments, Nicholson argued, government cannot argue that a referendum is necessary any longer as the Brits want to dump the region.

All this is happening as **Prime Minister Ralph Gonsalves** of St. Vincent is planning his own referendum to change the constitution including replacing the Privy Council. He is the first of the bloc of Eastern Caribbean nations to do so and might well be the lone one for sometime to come if he in fact loses in a matter of months.

The Trinidad Guardian editorialized on the issue at the weekend, basically taking the same line as Nicholson by suggesting that *"those in favor of retention of the Privy Council should also consider, very carefully, the implications of the statement by Lord Phillips that - in an ideal world - Caribbean countries, both those that are independent and those tied to Britain in some arrangement, would stop using the Privy Council and set up their own final courts of appeal instead,"* the paper said.

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# ATLANTIC GROUP OF COMPANIES, Demonstrating Qualities Of A Good Corporate Citizen One New Semi-Furnished Wooden House Handed Over To Needy Family - Promises The Same Annually



(L-R: Marcia Usher, Christine O'Brien, Ricardo Pelayo, Sharon Dominguez, Charles Ellis, Bernard Pantón)

**BELIZE CITY, Tuesday, October 6, 2009:**

Today, the Atlantic Group of Companies which includes Atlantic Bank Ltd., Atlantic International Bank Ltd., Atlantic Insurance Company Ltd., and Atlantic International Corporate Services Ltd. handed over the keys to a new, wooden, semi-furnished house to **Sharon Dominguez** and her family.

This initiative was undertaken through the Hand in Hand Ministries "Build for Change Program" wherein Hand in Hand Ministries awards homes on a needs basis.

Staff members of the Atlantic Group of Companies and Hand in Hand Ministries volunteered to construct the home on

September 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>.

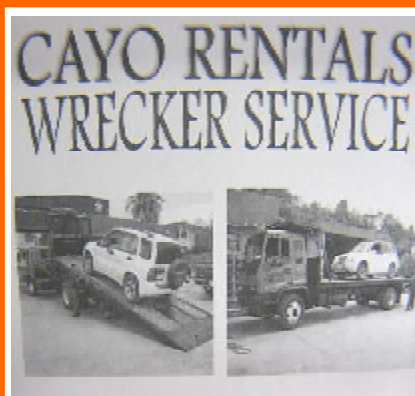
In accepting the keys to her new home, Mrs. Sharon Dominguez said, *"I'm very thankful to the Atlantic Group of Companies and Hand in Hand Ministries for this opportunity. My kids and I are very excited and we are looking forward to enjoying the first night together."*

In addition to donating the new house, the Atlantic Group of Companies also donated a stove, refrigerator, dining table and bunk bed to the family.

Senior Manager – International Department, **Mr. Ricardo Pelayo**, handed over the keys to Ms. Sharon Dominguez during a brief ceremony on October 6, 2009.

The Atlantic Group of Companies has also committed to donating one home yearly to a needy family through Hand in Hand Ministries "Build for Change Program."

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# Fatal Traffic Accident In San Ignacio Town



Front view of the Mitsubishi Mini-Van



The police Izuzu D-Max pickup truck

**SAN IGNACIO TOWN, Cayo, Monday, October 5, 2009:**

**Oran Gonzalez**, 20, Belizean, labourer of a Cahal Pech Area address in San Ignacio Town today appeared in court where a total of one dozen charges were recited to him in connection with a weekend fatal traffic accident in San Ignacio Town.

Reports reaching us indicate that a group of police personnel, attached to the Benque Viejo Police Sub-Formation, including **Woman Police Sergeant #408 Azenette Pook, Sergeant #57 Jimmy Flowers** and **Constable #1037 Allan Woods** were returning in the Izuzu D-Max to their base station in Benque Viejo Town after attending a Saturday morning meeting with **Police Commissioner, Crispin Jefferies**, in Belmopan.

The driver of the police blue Izuzu D-Max, **Special Constable Delfido Monroy**, 23, of a Border Road address in Benque Viejo Town, reported that shortly after crossing the speed bump on the Western Highway in front of the San Ignacio Texaco gas station he was confronted with a driver's worst nightmare: *a speeding vehicle travelling in the opposite direction, on the wrong side of the road and directly in his path.*

Monroy informed that as he saw the mini van heading straight into the vehicle he was driving, he brought the D-Max to a stop and braced himself for the impact. The vehicle, a Mitsubishi Mini- van with Cayo license plates C-26984 collided

head-on into the police D-Max

At the time of the collision, **Oran Gonzalez** was the driver of the maroon Mitsubishi mini-van, heading eastward from the direction of Benque Viejo towards San Ignacio Town.

Upon arrival at the scene police came upon the D-Max, bearing Belize City license plates B-1592 parked on the right side of the Highway facing Benque Viejo Town while the maroon mini-van was found almost 30 feet away pointing in the opposite direction..

In addition to the driver, Oran Gonzalez, other occupants of the maroon mini-van, were identified as **Ireno Magaña**, 23, **Moises Magaña**, 19 and **Jovanni Mena**, also 19, all residing in San Ignacio Town.

Police reports that Ireno Magana later passed away from severe head and body injuries resulting from the impact, additionally W/Sergeant #408 Azenette Pook, Sergeant #57 Jimmy Flowers, PC1037 Allan Woods, Special Constable Delfido Monroy, Jovencio Mena and Moises Magaña emerged from the accident with various wounds.

Oran Gonzalez was subsequently arrested and served with one dozen charges as follows: 1) Manslaughter by negligence, 2) Causing death by careless conduct, 3) Driving a motor vehicle not covered by third party risk insurance, 4) Driving a motor vehicle whilst not being the holder of a valid driving License, 5) Driving a motor vehicle without due care and attention, 6) Without

reasonable excuse, failure to provide specimen when required to do so. 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 & 12) ) six counts of negligent wounding for injuries caused to Azenette Pook, Jimmy Flowers, Allan Woods, Delfido Monroy, Moises Magaña, and

Jovanni Mena.

Gonzalez was offered and met bail in the sum of ten thousand dollars with one surety signing on his behalf.

He is slated to return to court on Thursday, November 26, 2009.

## Back In Court Again

*Submitted by Belize Institute of Environmental Law and Policy (BELPO)*

**SAN IGNACIO TOWN, Cayo, Thursday, October 8, 2009:**

Macal and Belize Rivers Polluted with Silt; Fortis/ BECOL continues to keep residents in the dark

The Belize Institute of Environmental Law and Policy (BELPO) is back in court over the muddy discharges from the Chalillo dam into the Macal and Belize rivers.

More than a year ago, on June 30, 2008, the Supreme Court ordered the Department of the Environment (DOE) to monitor and enforce BECOL's compliance with the Chalillo dam environmental plan. Last week, BELPO filed papers in the Court saying that DOE has still not followed the Court's order.

In early August, photos taken at the Chalillo Dam site showed that the changes in the Macal's water color started at the dam. Monitoring the water quality is just one of the steps that BECOL was supposed to take in order to reduce the damage to public health and the environment that is caused by the dam.

In its June 2008 decision, the Court ordered DOE specifically to enforce sections of the

Environmental Compliance Plan that require a dam break system, an emergency preparedness plan, testing of mercury levels in the fish, a system for public input, and water quality testing. None of these have taken place, according to BELPO's latest filing.

The concerns and cries of the people seem to be falling on deaf ears and blind eyes. It seems that BECOL, and its Canadian parent, Fortis, are being protected and not the Belizean people.

DOE stated in a cabinet brief last month that they began to notice problems with water quality in May; yet they have presented no information on the water tests they claim to have done. Nor has the Public Utilities Commission, Belize Water Services or the Health Department.

At an August 21 press conference, DOE's representative Jeavon Hulse assured the public that *"the results of testing conducted are available to the public."* **Stephen Usher** from BECOL said, in a Channel 5 interview that his company *"has taken water samples and sent them to the Government of Belize – regulatory/ relevant authorities*

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# The United Nations Must Act NOW Or Lose Its Credibility



By: **Wellington C. Ramos**  
**Tuesday, October 6, 2009:**

Several months ago the Honduran military along with Congressman **Roberto Micheletti** the unlawful President of Honduras overthrew the President of Honduras **Manuel Zelaya** who was duly elected by the people in a presidential election.

Since the overthrow of President Zelaya, this unlawful Micheletti government has declared several curfews and marshal laws restricting the free movement of their citizens and denying them of their basic fundamental and constitutional

## Back In Court Again

**Continued From Page 7**

*to analyze and make their decision on how to move forward..."*

Before going back to the Supreme Court, BELPO sought

rights.

In one instance the illegal government had the nerves to close down a hospital that was established by the Garifuna people one of the largest African indigenous people living in Honduras numbering about six hundred thousand people.

The Garifuna people were originally deported from their native homeland of St Vincent on March 11<sup>th</sup>, 1797 as Prisoners of War by the British after losing the long war against them. They were shipped off to Roatan, Honduras.

The Garifuna people landed in Honduras one month later on April the 12<sup>th</sup> of that same year. They have been living in all parts of Honduras and other Central American countries since then.

In the mid 1800's there was an uprising in Honduras resulting in the massacre of a large number of Garinagu causing them to leave Honduras and many of them fled to Nicaragua, Guatemala and Belize.

Today, the Garifuna people live

in all these countries and maintain constant relations and contact with all their relatives in these respective countries. The also continue to practice and maintain their Garinagu culture.

When Manuel Zelaya became President of Honduras, he introduced several policy initiatives to improve the quality of life for the Garifuna people and he was liked by many of them. Since the military and this defacto President Roberto Micheletti came to power, they have revoked and cancelled all those initiatives that is now affecting these people. The United States and many other countries in the world have condemned the overthrow of the President and some countries have severed all diplomatic relations with this country. Yet, this unlawful government continues to act as if the government belongs to them and that they will not bow or listen to the democratic nations of the world.

The Organization of American States (OAS) Caribbean Community (CARICOM) and other regional organizations have also plead to this unlawful regime to restore power back to the lawful President Manuel Zelaya but all those appeals have fell on deaf ears.

Under the United Nations Charter, it is unlawful for other nations to interfere in the internal affairs of another country. However, when a democratically elected President or government is overthrown by the military or any other organized group against the aspirations of the citizens of that country, then it is the responsibility of the United Nations along with the other democratic governments of the world to take action and intervene to restore that government back into power.

Failure for the United Nations to act will set a bad precedent for other countries and could lead to the declining of confidence in the United Nations as a reputable institution.

The whole world is watching how the United Nations is going to deal with this crisis at hand. The United Nations is not moving fast enough to rectify this problem and in my opinion they possess the means to end this crisis immediately.

I am now calling on the United

Nations to convene an urgent meeting of the Security Council and the members of that body, to submit a resolution to this body that a United Nations multinational force be assembled to go to Honduras and restore President Manuel Zelaya back in power.

Why should the United Nations and the Democratic Nations of the world be afraid to act lawfully? When, the defacto regime had no fear to act unlawfully. President Manuel Zelaya has made it much easier for them because he has risked his life to go back to his country and serve his people as the duly elected President of the country. The Honduran government has its military surrounding the Brazilian Embassy trying to await his exit from the embassy to arrest, detain and probably cause harm to him.

This is now the appropriate time for the United Nations to intervene to avoid bloodshed. It is clear that this defacto government has no respect for international laws, national laws and the constitution of their country because they have already violated it and continue to do so everyday by denying and refusing to reinstate their constitutionally elected President Manuel Zelaya.

If the United Nations and the democratic Nations of the world want to regain their credibility in the politics of world opinion, then this is the appropriate action to take and the time is now. To allow this conflict to drag on indefinitely is not to the benefit of the Honduran citizens, the democratic nations of the world or anyone but it will continue to cause further suffering on the people of this country and give rogues in other countries to do the same thing to other existing democracies in the world today.

**Ed Note:**

*Mr. Wellington Ramos is a Belizean Columnist for Caribbean Net News. He was born in Dangriga (formerly Stann Creek Town) in 1955 to Belizean Garifuna Parents. He is a former Corporal of the Belize Police Force and a US Army Veteran. He is currently living in New York where he works as an Adjunct Professor of History and Political Science at Boricua College. His hobbies include sports, politics and community upliftment.*

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**BELIZE WATER SERVICES LTD.**

**PRESS RELEASE**



**BELIZE CITY, Belize. October 02, 2009:**

## **BWS submits Full Tariff Review Proceedings (FTRP) application**

On October 1, 2009, Belize Water Services Limited (BWS) submitted its Full Five-Year Business Plan (FFBP) report for the period April 1, 2010 through to March 31, 2015 to the national regulator, the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) for their review. This submission is in accordance with the provisions of the statutory regulations, which stipulates BWS should submit an FFBP review report to the PUC. This officially commences the proceeding for the company's second Full Tariff Review Proceeding.

Over the last 5½ years, BWS has invested in excess of \$30 Million in expanding and refurbishing assets, especially its eleven water supply and distribution systems country-wide, in order to ensure security and continuity of supply. Investments have also included major improvements to some of our treatment plants, storage tanks, pumping stations and water distribution systems. As a result of these investments, the company has been able to improve pressure and supply in all service areas. BWS supplies water to 45,000 customers or approximately 200,000 consumers country-wide - approximately 70% of the population of Belize.

Along with the Public Utilities Commission, we have implemented a Customer Codes of Practice to ensure transparent and fair treatment to you, our customers. We have invested in computer technology to ensure accurate reading and billing and prompt response to customers' requests. In a recent survey of over 2500 customers, BWS received top ranking, from among all the utilities, in quality, continuity, customer service and affordability.

At the same time, we have controlled operating costs despite accumulated inflation of over 17% and major cost surges due to oil prices. BWS has increased its efficiency in every operational area, included reducing water losses from 43.5% in 2004 to 30% in 2009. This level is far better than those in many water systems in even the most developed countries.

We have put great effort into keeping costs down to ensure that your water bill remains affordable. As most of you are aware, the amount you pay for your full month's water consumption is far lower than the other utilities providers and we intend to keep it that way. It is also far lower than is paid in most countries in the region and even in most parts of the U.S.

However, we have now reached a point where the sustainability of the Company is in jeopardy due to economic factors outside of our control. The company just does not earn enough to continue to provide the level of services to our growing nation without some assistance. In the past, we have managed to perform limited infrastructure investments with contributions from the Government and private developers; the Government has also had to make contributions to help the company meet its loan repayments. Unless remedied, this shortfall in cash will make it extremely difficult to maintain the operations. BWS, out of necessity, has therefore submitted a business plan requesting a tariff increase which averages 25% overall, but averages 14% to residential customers. The new tariffs are to be effective 1st April 2010.

The proposed tariffs have been specifically designed to minimise the impact on lower income and lower consumption residential customers. For the 5,000 households (11% of the customer base) who use 500 gallons or less of water monthly, their bill will actually REDUCE by an average of 20%. For an additional 21,500 customers (52%) who use between 500 and 3000 gallons monthly, the average increase would be around \$3 per month. Also, recognising the cries from San Pedro where the tariffs are higher than on the mainland, the percentage increase in San Pedro has been kept much lower.

For more information regarding this or any other BWS Release, please contact Mr. Haydon Brown at telephone #222-4757 Ext. 234 or via e-mail at [haydon.brown@bws.com.bz](mailto:haydon.brown@bws.com.bz)

**Belize Water Services Ltd. – *Delivering water and more...***



# Your Horoscope & Lucky Numbers

## ARIES: March 22 to April 20



There are certain long term goals that acquire increased importance for you. You will have to be wary of developing conceitedness in the process. It will be good for you to help a needy person and not necessarily in terms of financial help. Do this as selflessly as possible. **Lucky Numbers: 09, 24, 44.**

## TAURUS: April 21 to May 21



There is a very conscious attempt at working on the relationships that you have not been able to do justice to in the recent past. It turns out that it comes pretty effortlessly to you. Your accomplishment gives a boost to your confidence and this further facilitates peace at home. **Lucky Numbers: 06, 18, 42.**

## GEMINI: May 22 to June 21



This week sees you intent on maintaining the focus, clarity and intensity that you seem to have suddenly discovered in life. You should be mindful that your good efforts are not marred by the irritation caused by slack pace of other people or due to certain delays. **Lucky Numbers: 05, 31, 54.**

## CANCER: June 22 to July 23



You have been striving to gain a lot of insight into what works for you towards becoming a better person. There will be adoption of healthy lifestyle, spreading good cheer around, doing things to make people around you happy. Your innate kindness begets you a good name and joy. **Lucky Numbers: 02, 26, 47.**

## LEO: July 24 to August 21



This week can be a good phase for you as you juggle pressures of work and demands of relationships equally well. There will be opportunities for socialising. But you will be looking at networking through meeting people. There will be some very tangible gains. **Lucky Numbers: 01, 23, 56.**

## VIRGO: August 22 to September 21



There will be onus on you to arrange finances for some recreational purpose. Apart from this, you could have to look after a number of relatives and members of extended family. On a more professional note you could be dealing with business deals of a very complicated nature, and you will find the challenges stimulating. **Lucky Numbers: 07, 32, 67.**

## LIBRA: September 22 to October 23



You receive a lot of positive feedback about yourself and this provides a much required boost for your self-esteem. You are also able to see the grace that flows into your life in the form of support of family and the willingness to help offered by a number of people. **Lucky Numbers: 12, 49, 88.**

## SCORPIO: October 24 to November 21



You make significant leaps in your spiritual life. People around you also benefit from your growth and get inspired in positive ways. If you have commitments in the material world, they will continue to be unaffected and you will carry on with your duties in a regular manner. **Lucky Numbers: 15, 36, 78.**

## SAGITTARIUS:

### November 22 to December 21



There will be a resurfacing of certain issues from the past. However, what will also come up will be a lot of mental clarity and focus about what you do want to achieve. If you are engaged in a business, chances are that you will be going ahead to make a significant kill. **Lucky Numbers: 03, 37, 91.**

## CAPRICORN: December 22 to January 20



You are likely to focus most of their attention on the repairs and renovations around the house. A major chunk of money could be spent on adding objects of material comfort to your dwelling place. You may feel a pinch financially with added responsibilities but you will be able to manage. **Lucky Numbers: 11, 60, 97.**

## AQUARIUS: January 21 to February 19



You could have some difficult encounters in everyday life that make you realise how important practical skills are for dealing with mundane affairs. Despite the routine hum-drum, you will intensify your search for mentors/methods that can take you beyond the ordinary. **Lucky Numbers: 14, 35, 69.**

## PISCES: February 20 to March 21



You could be triggering a whole new series of events that lead to increased inflow of money. Remember that you have to play your game well, enough not to make loved ones resentful that you are not giving them time and astute enough to maintain the pace of work that you have created. **Lucky Numbers : 16, 43, 76.**

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hereby informs its customers that our branches countrywide will be closed for business on Saturday, October 10, 2009 and Monday, October 12<sup>th</sup>, 2009.

*For everyday banking transactions, please use our ATM machines available 24hrs a day, 7 days a week.*

The Belize Bank Ltd. takes this opportunity to wish its customers a safe and **Happy Pan American Day.**



# Next Year's Public & Bank Holidays - 2010

For all those early planners, those involved in the calendar making business, and indeed the public in general, please note the list of public and bank holidays 2010 specified in the First and Second Schedules to the Holidays Act, Chapter 289 of the Laws of Belize Revised Edition 2003.

Holidays will be observed on

the following days during the year 2010 in accordance with section 3 of the said Act:-

- 1) Friday, January 1 - New Year's Day.
- 2) Monday, March 8 - National Heroes and Benefactors Day (*in lieu of Tuesday 9 March 9*).
- 3) Friday, April 2 - Good Friday.

4) Saturday, April 3rd Holy Saturday.

5) Monday, April 5 - Easter Monday.

6) Saturday, May 1 - Labour Day.

7) Monday, May 24 - Sovereign's Day.

8) Friday, September 10 - National Day

9) Tuesday, September 21 - Independence Day

10) Monday, October 11 - Pan American Day (*in lieu of Tuesday, October 12*)

11) Friday, November 19 - Garifuna Settlement Day

12) Saturday, December 25 - Christmas Day

13) Monday, December 27 - Boxing Day (*in lieu of Sunday, December 26*)

## The United Democratic Party Comments On The Matter With Belize City Mayor Zenaida Moya-Flowers

**BELIZE CITY, Saturday, October 3, 2009:**

On Saturday, October 3, the National Party Council of the UDP met and unanimously voted to reconfirm the Party's commitment to its platform against corruption and its resolve to promote accountability, transparency, high ethical standards and dedicated and efficient service in public life.

The Party holds dear, as specified in its Constitution, the objective *to promote respect for the courts, ensuring the absolute independence and integrity of the judiciary and the system of justice and in particular to insulate the judiciary from any form of political or economic influence, intimidation or interference*. The decision to charge Mayor Moya-Flowers and others was a decision made by the constitutional, independent, professional office of the DPP after review of the evidence.

The UDP cannot and has no wish to comment on the guilt or innocence of anyone charged. The Party has, from the point of view of proper administration, custody and use of public funds, a responsibility to take a position on the conduct of its elected officials.

Instead of, without prejudice to her presumption of innocence, accepting responsibility and giving proper explanation and justification for her political conduct, the Mayor has sought to divert attention from the central issue by attacking the Party Leader and Prime Minister, fellow councilors, and by extension the United Democratic Party.

The UDP finds this behavior

unacceptable and inconsistent with Mayor Moya-Flower's obligations and duties as a member and official of the United Democratic Party.

The National Party Council

has therefore taken the following positions:

- (a) pursuant to Article 7 Sections 11 and 12(b) of the Party's Constitution, to remove Zenaida Moya-Flowers

from the National Party Council

- (b) refer the issue of her conduct to the Central Executive of the Party for further consideration



### BASIC NEEDS TRUST FUND TENDER NOTICE

#### San Vicente Primary School Extension Project, Toledo District

The Government of Belize has received funding through, the Basic Needs Trust Fund Fifth Programme, towards the cost of Education projects and intends to apply part of the funds to cover eligible payments under the contract for San Vicente Primary School Extension Project, Toledo District.

The Social Investment Fund, a Statutory Corporation, established under the Social Investment Fund Act No. 3 of 1996 and located at Constitution Drive, Belmopan City, Cayo District, hereby invites tenders from suitably qualified contractors for the construction of the following:

#### San Vicente Primary School Extension Project, Toledo District

The works consist of the construction of a new 120'x 25' reinforced concrete structure and completion of an existing building also measuring 120'x 25' both at ground level. Works on the new construction include the provision of male and female bathrooms, office, library and two classrooms measuring 25'x30' each. The new construction is to be of reinforced concrete with masonry blockwalls and a timber frame/galvalum roof. A verandah is to be constructed on the front and back of both the new construction and the existing building. The new construction is an extension to the existing structure. The existing structure requires plastering, painting, and installation of windows, doors and electricity to four classrooms measuring 25'x30' each.

Tender documents can be obtained from the Social Investment Fund at the address below during the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. as of Tuesday September 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2009 for a **NON-REFUNDABLE** fee of **BZE\$100.00 per package**.

Bids must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "Quotation for San Vicente Primary School Extension Project, Toledo District"

ADDRESSED TO:

**The Project Manager  
BASIC NEEDS TRUST FUND  
Constitution Drive  
P.O. Box 459  
Belmopan City, Cayo District**

Tenders will be received at the above address no later than **2:00 p.m. on Friday, October 16, 2009**. A Public Opening will be held at the SIF Office in Belmopan at **2:15 p.m. on Friday, October 16, 2009**.

The Basic Needs Trust Fund will conduct **onsite meetings on the dates and times specified in the bidding documents** with interested eligible bidders to explain the tender documents and address any queries from interested eligible bidders.

The Basic Needs Trust Fund reserves the right to reject any or all tenders.



## ★ STAR HUMOR ★

### ORDERING AUTO FOOD

Henry Jones, the towns top auto mechanic, enters the popular restaurant on Burns Avenue in San Ignacio and placing his order he says *"I want three flat tires, a pair of headlights and a pair of running boards."*

The waitress, not wanting to appear stupid, goes to the kitchen and asks the cook, *"This guy out there just ordered three flat tires, a pair of headlights and pair of running boards. What's going through his mind, does he think that this is an auto parts store?"*

*"No" the cook says, "three flat tires means three pancakes and a pair of headlights is two eggs sunny side up and a pair of running boards is two long slices of crisp bacon."*

*"Oh," says the waitress. She thinks about this for a while, and then she spoons up a bowl of beans and gives it to Jones*

*"What are the beans for?" asked Jones.*

The waitress replies, *"I thought while you were waiting for the flat tires, headlights and running boards, you might want to gas up as well."*

### CLOTHING THE TAYLOR'S CHILDREN

Mr. Garcia wanted a new suit, so he bought a nice piece of cloth and then tried to locate a tailor.

The first tailor he visited looked at the cloth and measured Abraham, then told him the cloth was not enough to make a suit.

Abraham was unhappy with this opinion and sought another tailor. The new tailor measured Abraham, then measured the cloth, and then smiled and said, *"There is enough cloth to*

*make a pair of trousers, a coat and a vest, please come back in a week for your suit."*

After a week Abraham came for his new suit, and saw the tailor's son wearing trousers made of the same cloth.

Perplexed, he asked, *"Just how could you make a full suit for me and trousers for your son, when the other tailor could not make a suit only?"*

*"It's very simple," replied the tailor, "The other tailor has two sons."*

### BEHIND THE CYBER SCREEN

As senior lecturer at Yale University, Professor **Thomas McArthur**, taught during the day and did research at night. He would usually take a break around eight and for relaxation he would play the strategy game Warcraft online with a teammate.

One night he was paired off with a veteran of the game who was a master strategist. With the veteran of the game as the leader, their troops crushed one

opponent after another, and after six whole games they were undefeated. Suddenly, his fearless leader informed the senior professor that his mom wanted him to go to bed.

*"How old are you?" the professor typed.*

*"Twelve," came the reply. "And how old are you?"*

Feeling his face redden the senior University professor, answered, *"Ten."*

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## Is Belize In Crisis?

BY: **Leo A. Obando Ph.D./ Student!**

Is Belize in Crisis ? In a capitalist society like ours , there seems to be a prevalent divorce between the three pillars that sustain the very Belizean society: the Government of Belize , the Business Sector and the Intellectual community.

For a capitalist society like ours to prosper , regardless of hard times , these three pillars need to work together at all times , discovering new areas of consensus to deal with the present crisis.

If for any reason(s), any of these pillars are left out , the risk for underdevelopment , political instability , economic stagnation is much greater.

For one moment compare the Government of Belize to a ship carrying a lot of people; the Business Sector , the machinery needed to move the ship and people forward and the Intellectuals , the vision needed to reach the final destination.

In my opinion, I foresee a sizeable divorce between these three pillars which jeopardizes the socio-economic and political stability of the country. Politicians need to understand their true role within the Equilateral Triangle (*become*

*inclusive*) ...the same will apply to the Business Sector and Intellectual Community. The Government by itself nor the Business Sector or Intellectual Community will not move Belize forward ! The approach must be inclusive , together , One Voice ...otherwise , we'll lose the Jewel ! Part ONE !!! Part Two -coming next week !!!!

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# Your Health This Week

## High Cholesterol

Cholesterol is a waxy, fatlike substance that your body needs to function normally.

Cholesterol is naturally present in cell walls or membranes everywhere in the body, including the brain, nerves, muscles, skin, liver, intestines, and heart.

Your body uses cholesterol to produce many hormones, vitamin D, and the bile acids that help to digest fat. It takes only a small amount of cholesterol in the blood to meet these needs.

If you have too much cholesterol in your bloodstream, the excess may be deposited in arteries, including the coronary (heart) arteries, where it contributes to the narrowing and blockages that cause the signs and symptoms of heart disease.

Coronary heart disease (CHD) is caused by cholesterol and fat being deposited in the walls of the arteries that supply nutrients and oxygen to your heart.

Like any muscle, the heart needs a constant supply of oxygen and nutrients, which are carried to it by the blood in the coronary arteries. Fixed narrowing that is often calcified (hardened) usually cause angina (chest pain). Less severe narrowing may contain unstable blockages called atherosclerotic or fatty plaque. Unstable atherosclerotic plaque can rupture, resulting in clot formation, no blood flow, and a heart attack.

If enough oxygen-carrying blood is blocked from

reaching your heart, you may experience a type of chest pain called angina.

If the blood supply to a portion of the heart is completely cut off by total blockage of a coronary artery, the result is a heart attack. This is usually due to a sudden closure of the artery from a blood clot forming on top of unstable plaque.

A simple blood test checks for high cholesterol. Simply knowing your total cholesterol level is not enough. A complete lipid profile measures your LDL (low-density lipoprotein [the bad cholesterol]), total cholesterol, HDL (high-density lipoprotein [the good cholesterol]), and triglycerides—another fatty substance in the blood. Government guidelines say healthy adults should have this analysis every 5 years.

Updated cholesterol guidelines from the National Institutes of Health (National Cholesterol Education Program) are designed to help people become more aware of their lipoprotein profile (that is your LDL, HDL, triglycerides, and total cholesterol and their relationship to each other) and perhaps to help at-risk people make lifestyle changes to improve their profile.

A desirable total cholesterol level is 200 mg/dL or lower. A desirable LDL is 100 mg/dL (130-159 is borderline high; 160 is high; 190 is very high). HDL, the “good cholesterol,” should be around 40 mg/

dL or greater. With HDL, the higher the number, the better, and 60 mg/dL is protective against heart disease.

Too many people have high levels of total cholesterol and LDL (the bad cholesterol). A diet high in saturated fat (a type of fat found mostly in foods that come from animals and certain oils) raises LDL levels more than anything else in your diet. You also eat cholesterol in your diet, although the effect of saturated fat in the diet is greater than the effect of dietary cholesterol. Trans-fatty acids (seen in processed foods and many “fast foods”) can also increase LDL levels. Dietary cholesterol is found only in foods from animal products. Genetic factors combined with eating too much saturated fat and cholesterol are the main reasons for high levels of cholesterol that lead to heart attacks. Reducing the amount of

saturated fat and cholesterol you eat is an important step in reducing your blood cholesterol levels. The government has reset the standard for LDL levels so that more Americans are included in the risk group.

Research confirms the dangers when your cholesterol levels are too high.

The Framingham Heart Study established that high blood cholesterol is a risk factor for coronary heart disease (CHD). Results of the Framingham study showed that the higher your cholesterol level, the greater your risk.

Several studies have confirmed a direct link between high blood cholesterol and CHD. The Lipid Research Clinics-Coronary Primary Prevention Trial (LRC-CPPT) first showed that lowering total and LDL (bad) cholesterol levels significantly reduces coronary heart disease.

A series of more recent trials of cholesterol-lowering using statin drugs have conclusively demonstrated that lowering

**Please Turn To Page 14**

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Interviews will be conducted in San Ignacio, Belmopan, Belize City and San Pedro on dates to be announced.



# The Maya Green Growers Project Inaugurated

**SAN ANTONIO VILLAGE, Cayo District, October 8, 2009:**

Inauguration ceremonies for the project: *"Efficient Technology to produce Quality Vegetables and Fruits for the Belizean market"* took place today in San Antonio, Cayo District.

The Project was taken up by the Maya Green Growers Association, a group of twenty farmers who decided to come together and grow vegetables for local consumption and export.

They requested technical assistance from the Ministry of Agriculture Extension Service to develop a project proposal to produce quality vegetable seedlings to sell to farmers within the village.

The Taiwanese Agricultural Technical Mission was

instrumental in rendering such assistance and financial support for the project.

The Group's primary focus is on vegetable production utilizing improved technology which will go a long way in alleviating sporadic shortages of vegetables throughout the year.

Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, **Hon. Rene Montero**, said that his Ministry, through the Extension Service Department and the Taiwanese Technical Mission will continue monitoring the project and there are plans to construct a packing shed to help the farmers in the marketing of their fresh produce.

The Ministry will continue working hand in hand with the farmers to encourage the farm-family-participation which has the aim of having every member of the family

gainfully employed throughout the year. This will have the effect of reducing or minimizing the migration of youths to urban areas in search of employment, will alleviate poverty, will encourage rural development and will effectively address the issue of food security.

Minister Montero concluded by pointing out that affordable credit, technological transfer, feeder roads and accessible markets are key elements that need to be held as top priority.

The main objectives of the Maya Green Growers Farmers Group include: the establishment of a commercial seedling nursery to generate income for its members; to produce organic fertilizer for commercial purposes for revenue generation and to construct a covered structure for the production of vegetables all year round.

All three projects were inaugurated today. **For more details please contact:** Mr. Miguel Balan, Extension Officer, Ministry of Agriculture & Fisheries, Belmopan. Tels: 501-822-2241 or 501-822-2242 or e-mail [balan\\_miguel@yahoo.com](mailto:balan_miguel@yahoo.com)

## Your Health This Week High Cholesterol

**Continued From Page 13**

total cholesterol and LDL cholesterol reduces your chance of having a heart attack, needing bypass surgery or angioplasty, and dying of CHD-related causes.

Recent studies have shown that lowering cholesterol in people without heart disease greatly reduces their risk for developing heart disease in the first place. This is true for those with high cholesterol levels and for those with average cholesterol levels.

In 1994, the Scandinavian Simvastatin Survival Study (4S) was the first study to show that people who took the cholesterol-lowering class of drugs called statins (in this case, simvastatin) reduced their risk for major CHD events (such as a heart attack) by 34%, CHD deaths by 42%, and all deaths by 30% in people with known coronary heart disease and high blood cholesterol levels, compared with people who were given a placebo (a dummy pill that looks exactly like the medication being tested). This has been called *"secondary prevention,"* or prevention of a second heart attack, because the study involved people with

known heart disease, many of whom had already had at least one heart attack.

A 1995 study called the West of Scotland Coronary Prevention Study (WOSCOPS) found that lowering cholesterol reduced the number of heart attacks and deaths from cardiovascular causes in men with high blood cholesterol levels who had not had a heart attack. For 5 years, more than 6,500 men with total cholesterol levels of 249-295 mg/dL were given either a cholesterol-lowering drug or a placebo along with a cholesterol-lowering diet. The drug that was given is known as a statin (pravastatin), and it reduced total cholesterol levels by 20% and LDL (bad) cholesterol levels by 26%. The study found that the overall risk of having a nonfatal heart attack or dying from CHD was reduced by 31% in those who received the statin. The need for bypass surgery or angioplasty was reduced by 37%, and deaths from all cardiovascular causes were reduced by 32%. A very important finding was that deaths from causes other than heart disease were not increased, and overall deaths

from all causes were reduced by 22%. This is called primary prevention because the study subjects had not previously had a heart attack.

In 1998, the results of the Air Force/Texas Coronary Atherosclerosis Prevention Study (AFCAPS/TexCAPS) showed that lowering cholesterol in generally healthy men and women (no previous heart disease) with average cholesterol levels reduced their risk for a first-time major coronary event (such as a heart attack) by 37%. Lovastatin was the drug used in this study.

In the 1998 LIPID study, men and women with known CHD and mild-to-moderate elevations of LDL lowered their risk of death by 22%, CHD deaths by 24%, and death by CHD or nonfatal heart attack by 24%. Pravastatin was the drug used in this study.

The Heart Protection Study, published in 2002, examined men and women of all ages at high risk for heart disease irrespective of their cholesterol levels. Simvastatin treatment reduced CHD events by 24%. This study has caused some

experts to suggest that everyone at high risk for CHD would benefit from statin therapy, regardless of their blood cholesterol levels.

The National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey III (NHANES III), carried out from 1988-1991, discovered that 26% of American adults had high blood cholesterol concentrations, and 49% had desirable values.

### Who has high cholesterol?

Throughout the world, cholesterol levels (measured in the blood) vary widely. Generally, people who live in countries where blood cholesterol levels are lower, such as Japan, have lower rates of heart disease. Countries with very high cholesterol levels, such as Finland, have very high rates of coronary heart disease. However, some populations with similar total cholesterol levels have very different heart disease rates, suggesting that other factors also influence risk for coronary heart disease.

High cholesterol is more common in men younger than 55 years and in women older than 55 years.

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# Update On The Commission Of Inquiry At The Karl Huesner Memorial Hospital

**BELMOPAN CITY, Cayo, Thursday, October 8, 2009:**

A release from the Office of the Prime Minister today informs that the Commission of Inquiry into alleged improprieties at the Karl

Heusner Memorial Hospital has not yet commenced because the Auditor General's Report on the operations of the KHMH will not be completed until the end of October.

The release further informs

that the Auditor General's Report will constitute an important part of the material evidence to be examined and further investigated by the Commission of Inquiry, and must therefore be completed in

order for the Inquiry to begin.

The Commission appointed by the Prime Minister is therefore expected to commence its inquiry in early November.

## PRIMARY SCHOOL BURGLAR CAUGHT IN THE ACT

**Continued From Front Page**

*books and pencils. I asked him where he was going with the items and he told me that he was going home, I told him that those are my children's books but he continued walking towards the gate. I told him that I was going to call the police, but he continued walking toward the gate. I handed the phone to my brother and told him to call the police. The man dropped the exercise books and pencils near the gate and walked up the street.*

*The police arrived shortly thereafter and they told me to leave the exercise books and pencils where the accused had thrown them. I boarded the police vehicle and we began searching for the man. After about ten minutes of searching I spotted the man sitting near the cultural center in San Ignacio Town. He was walking towards the Coronation Park when the police got a hold of him. I told them that this was the man and they arrested him. Then Monday evening I was going home from school and I saw the man sitting on a bench in the Coronation Park, the same place where the police picked him up the day before. He was already out! He was looking hard at me."*

The police reports that when he was detained and searched, the accused was found in possession of two pairs of scissors and a plastic bag containing an assortment of candy which were identified by the teacher.

The accused was transported to the police station and the police returned with the teacher to the school. The books and pencils were picked up from the area where they were disposed by the burglar. A porcelain drinking water dispenser was found in the yard near the classroom door. The teacher informed that the dispenser was actually inside the classroom.

Police observed that entry into

the classroom was gained by the removal of two aluminum louvers and the twisting of a third one from a back window of the building.

Having found the water dispenser outside the classroom, the teacher noted that the 5 gallon Crystal water bottle valued at \$25, that was sitting on top of the dispenser, was also missing. The empty water bottle was never found.

The accused was arrested and charged under the name **Manuel Rodriguez**, 45, Belizean, laborer of a Joseph Andrews Drive address in San Ignacio Town.

Our investigation revealed that the name **Manuel Rodriguez** is actually the name of an elder brother who is currently a senior Government official. While the date of birth he gave the police was found to be correct, the accused was actually registered at birth as **Anastacio Rodriguez**. His voters registration card however carries the name **Pedro Anastacio Bermudez**. He is also known as "**Tachin**".

Police are of the opinion that, in the absence of nowhere to hide inside the classroom, the burglar might have first entered the building through the window and exited through the door by the time the principal arrived. They believe that he returned a second time, entered through the door and this was when he was found inside the building by the teacher.

We are tempted to suggest that justice in these instances should be swift because this man was obviously not inside the classroom on a Sunday morning waiting for the children to arrive so that he could begin teaching them.

He was obviously not inside the classroom preparing lesson plans for the week.

He was obviously in the classroom with intention to steal and therefore the teacher's expression of surprise at seeing



**The suspected point of entry into the infant 1 classroom**

him out on the street so quickly somewhat humorous, is after the arrest, although justified.

## PALMS 2000

Esperanza Village, Cayo

### VACANCY

A vacancy exist for a restaurant worker at PALMS 2000 in Esperanza Village, Cayo.

We are seeking a person preferably with experience in restaurant work.

Persons interest in the position are asked to please call 6673141 at anytime.





## **PUBLIC NOTICE**

### **BWSL FULL TARIFF REVIEW PROCEEDING SUBMISSION**



**BELIZE WATER SERVICES LIMITED (BWSL) HEREBY SERVES NOTICE** this day, October 1, 2009 that, in accordance with the Water and Sewerage (Tariffs) Byelaws (Statutory Instrument 67 of 2002) as amended by Statutory Instrument 102 of 2004 and Statutory Instrument 89 of 2008, it has made its submission to the PUC for a Full Tariff Review Proceeding (FTRP) for the determination of Rates and Tariffs and a Business Plan to be approved for the Full Tariff Period (FTP), which runs from April 1, 2010 through March 31, 2015.

#### **Summary of Issues**

The Business Plan submitted by BWSL provides for some \$92.5 million in investments for the provision of water services over the Full Tariff Period (FTP) and for some \$8.6 million in investments for the provision of sewer services in its authorized areas of supply, and some \$14.9 million in other investments, for a total of \$116.1 million. BWSL expects some \$20.8 million of this total to be funded by Developers and some \$44.3 million to be funded by debt.

The Business Plan also projects operational expenditures and other costs related to the provision of services ranging from \$33.6 million for the first Annual Tariff Period (ATP) of the Full Tariff Period (FTP) to \$38.3 million for the last Annual Tariff Period (ATP).

As a consequence of the proposed investments and expected expenditures and costs contained in the Business Plan, BWSL has proposed adjustments to the approved Rates and Tariffs that would result in an overall average increase of 25.0% in order for the company to generate enough revenues to support the proposed Business Plan.

#### **The Process**

- a) The PUC will hold a meeting on Tuesday, October 13 at the Princess Hotel and Casino at 7 pm, at which the Licensee and all interested parties may participate.
- b) Interested parties may submit written comments and information on the Licensee's proposals by November 2, 2009.
- c) The PUC will deliver its Initial Decision no later than November 17, 2009.
- d) The Licensee and interested parties who represent 10% of the annual amount of water supplied may submit written comments on the decision within fifteen days of the delivery of the Initial Decision.
- e) Where there is no objection, the PUC will deliver a Final Decision adopting its Initial Decision.
- f) Where there is objection by the Licensee or interested parties representing 10% of the annual amount of water supplied, the PUC will appoint an Independent Expert within 15 days of such objection, to review the Schedules and Tariffs approved in the Initial Decision.
- g) Where the Licensee objects in writing to the Independent Expert proposed by the PUC, and if the PUC and the Licensee cannot agree on an Independent Expert, the International Chamber of Commerce shall appoint one within 14 days of the receipt of the Licensee's objection.
- h) The Independent Expert will issue a written report within 30 days of his appointment.
- i) The Licensee and interested parties who represent 10% of the annual amount of water supplied have 20 days to submit comments on the report.
- j) Where the comments challenge the conclusions of the report, the PUC shall within 15 days afford the licensee and other interested parties an opportunity to be heard.
- k) The PUC will deliver a Final Decision no later than 50 days after the delivery of the Independent Expert's report.

#### **Comments**

- a) Comments in writing may be sent to the Public Utilities Commission, P.O. Box 300, 41 Gabourel Lane, Belize City; or emailed to [info@puc.bz](mailto:info@puc.bz)
- b) Comments/information filed with the PUC on the Initial Decision shall be accompanied by a sworn affidavit on statements or information purported to be factual.
- c) BWSL and interested parties may request confidential treatment for any commercially sensitive information submitted to the PUC in accordance with the Byelaws.

#### **Delivery of Final Decision**

The PUC is expected to deliver its Final Decision on November 17, 2009, if there are objections to the Initial Decision; on March 10, 2010, if there is agreement between BWSL and the PUC on the appointment of an Independent Expert if required; or on March 23, 2010 if an Independent Expert has to be appointed by the International Chamber of Commerce.

#### **Notes**

- a) Throughout the FTRP, the PUC and BWSL shall maintain an updated Schedule of events which is to be made available to the public.
- b) The Schedules and Tariffs approved by the PUC shall become effective on April 1, 2010, regardless of the date on which the PUC's Final Decision is issued.

#### **Public Access to Information**

Members of the public may obtain up-to-date information on the schedule of the FTRP at the offices of the PUC and BWSL.

The proposed Business Plan is available at BWSL's headquarters, 7 Central American Boulevard, Belize City and at branches countrywide, and may be viewed at the office of the Public Utilities Commission, 41 Gabourel Lane, Belize City.