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STAR

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No. 216

Sunday, February 14, 2010

Price \$1.00

GARRY SEAWELL CAPTURED IN ESPERANZA WITH WEAPONS AND AMMUNITION OF WAR

SAN IGNACIO TOWN, Cayo District, Wednesday, February 10, 2010:

San Ignacio police is this week reporting the largest recovery of arms and ammunition and the apprehension, on a remote farm in Esperanza Village, Cayo, of a fugitive who has been on the run for almost 3 ½ years

While the team of four policemen from San Ignacio's Crimes Investigation and Special Branches were aware that they were going after Belizean Fugitive, **Garry Seawell**, 33, little did they realize the firepower that could have confronted them.

It was shortly after 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, February 9, 2010 when the police team, sneaked up the hill to the makeshift 10X12 wooden structure with corrugated zinc roofing, located about 3 ½ miles south of the Western Highway in Esperanza Village, where they surprised the fugitive in the company of his common law wife, **Tanisha Ayuso**, 27, and their four



Garry Seawell, 33

children, three sons ranging in ages from 5, 3 and 18 months and a 4-month old daughter.

Garry Seawell was immediately detained and handcuffed. The structure was searched in the presence of the two adults. The search led to the discovery of several high power weapons of



Anthony "Baggies" Garnett, 40

war and ammunition in various locations inside the building.

The items found included a bolt action 7.62 rifle with serial number 211359, one M16 A2 Sub Machine Gun with serial number 027907 fitted with a magazine containing 5 live 5.56 bullets; one M4 Carbine with

serial number A0221635 with 2 magazines bound together with duct tape, containing a combined 41 live rounds of ammunition; one point 45 (old version) Auto Rifle with serial number B3014564 along with a magazine containing 20 live rounds

Please Turn To Page 2



Valentine's Weekend February 13th and 14th

3 Course meal with choice of entrée.
Surf and Turf, Seafood Platter
and Pasta Dish



GARRY SEAWELL CAPTURED IN ESPERANZA...

From Front Page

of point 45 ammunition and a dark blue bullet proof vest.

The team also found a brown knap sack and when it was searched it was found to contain an SM 02-3 British made grenade inside the small front pocket along with 21 live rounds of 7.62 ammunition, 35 live 9mm bullets, a single point 32 live round of ammunition and 2 empty magazines along with a transparent zip lock plastic bag containing 2 parcels of suspected marijuana.

Also inside the structure, under a table, the police found a blue plastic container with food items and two other zip lock bags containing suspected marijuana.

Garry Seawell, Tanisha Ayuso and the children were transported to the San Ignacio Town head station where the children were released into the custody of Tanisha's sister, **Tanya** who resides in Belmopan.

When weighed, the three parcels of marijuana amounted to 241.6 grams, 61 grams and 13.5 grams.

About an hour later police returned to the scene where they encountered a third person identified as **Anthony "Baggies" Garnett**, 40, Belizean taxi driver of a New Area, Santa Elena Town address, who, when questioned, told the police that he owns the farm and that upon learning of Seawell's detention, he came to the property to secure the generator. He was nevertheless detained and likewise transported to the San Ignacio Police Station where he was jointly charged with Garry Seawell and Tanisha Ayuso for 11 crimes including: 4 counts of keeping prohibited firearms, 3 counts of keeping prohibited



SM 02-3 British made grenade

ammunition, 2 counts of keeping ammunition without a gun license and 2 counts of keeping prohibited material (**1 grenade and 1 bullet proof vest**).

Seawell and Ayuso are also facing three drug related charges being 2 counts for drug trafficking in connection with the 241.6 and 61 grams of marijuana and one count for possession of controlled drugs for the 13.5 grams.

The trio was arraigned before San Ignacio's magistrate **Anna Rachel Montejo** on Wednesday, February 10, 2010 where they pled not guilty to all charges. They were remanded to the Hattieville Central Prison until Monday, May 11, 2010.

Garry Seawell is no stranger to San Ignacio Police. On August 24, 2006 he was arrested and charged along with two other persons for drug trafficking in connection with the discovery of 3,145 grams (3.1 kilos) of crack cocaine which was found inside the house he occupied in Kontiki Area, San Ignacio Town. He was initially remanded on the charge but was later granted bail and has since failed to reappear in court.

Since last week the case had been proceeding ex-parte (*in his absence*) but in the presence of

Please Turn To Page 15



Three magazines



The 21 live rounds of 7.62 ammunition



The 35 live 9mm bullets



The point 45 (old version) Auto Rifle with serial number B3014564 along with its magazine

Valentine's Day Special Event

LOVE IN THE GARDENS
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MINISTRY OF HEALTH REPORTS

ON MAJOR ACTIVITIES FOR FEBRUARY 2009—JANUARY 2010



The Ministry of Health has been seeking assistance from partner countries and organizations and promoting preventative medicine through good nutrition, exercise and healthy lifestyle choices.

Belize participated in numerous health-related activities both locally and internationally all focusing on creating awareness as well as promoting information sharing on prevention and control of chronic diseases as well as identifying and promoting strategies for the reduction of social and environmental risk factors for chronic ailments like diabetes, obesity, heart disease and cancer.

Partnering in these efforts was Brazil which signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Belize. Signing on behalf of the Ministry of Health Belize was Hon. Pablo Marin and on behalf of the Ministry of Health of Federative Republic of Brazil was Mr. Jose Gomes Temporao, Minister of Health. Belize also participated in the Caribbean Wellness Day, PANCAP, and the World Health Assembly.

In April of 2009, the Ministry of Health and the country of Belize began its battle against the H1N1 Pandemic. After years of preparation in anticipation of an influenza pandemic – Ministry of Health personnel implemented measures to protect the population from H1N1 with an education campaign geared toward persons of all ages from adults to children at the pre-school level.

The Ministry in collaboration with other public and private sector stakeholders including the media, kept the country safe from mass infection, with Belize being one of the last countries in the region to have cases of H1N1. Thousands of dollars had been spent on activities including ads, human resources, training, and collaboration to prevent the spread of H1N1. The Ministry is still in this process as H1N1

has not gone away and another outbreak of this or any other influenza-like illness may emerge at anytime.

In July of 2009, the Ministry of Health's Belize Health Information Surveillance System identified a Dengue Outbreak. Dengue surveillance and prevention activities are daily activities – however, during the course of an outbreak the Ministry increases those activities. Upon the declaration of the outbreak, the Secretary of Health of Quintana Roo sent medical and vector control personnel and a fleet of ULV machines to assist the Ministry in its effort to control the outbreak. The Ministry implemented an increased public information campaign to combat the outbreak.

In August, residents in the San Ignacio area began accessing health services at the newly constructed San Ignacio Community Hospital at its new location on Bullet Tree Road. The 24,279 sq. ft. structure was constructed by Jebco Construction Ltd. at a cost of Five million, three hundred and seventy eight thousand, seven hundred and forty five Belize dollars and twelve cents (BZ\$ 5,378,745.12).

Other Activities and Accomplishments include the following:

- Free seasonal influenza vaccines available to at risk groups
- Food Safety measures with the training of public health personnel and certification of food handlers throughout the country
- Procurement of \$2M worth of medical equipment for use in our hospitals and health centers
- Training of medical officers in the clinical management of Chagas Disease
- Caribbean



Wellness Day activities in collaboration with the Pan American Health Organization HIV/AIDS activities including free HIV Testing and Counseling

- Imaging equipment procured for the Corozal, Orange Walk and Belmopan Hospitals



achievement of a major milestone in the provision of health care for the people of the Toledo District. The facility was constructed under the Belize Health Sector Reform Project, by the Government of Belize through the Ministry of Health, and was funded through loan funds from the Caribbean Development Bank. The final cost of the project was two million, six hundred and ninety thousand,

nine hundred and forty three Belize dollars and sixty four cents (BZ\$2,690,943.64).

Implementation of the FRIENDS pilot programme in Corozal - The Ministry of Health, under the direction of the Minister of Health, Hon. Pablo Marin and in collaboration with the Ministry of Education and the National Sports Council, initiated a pilot programme entitled FRIEND – "Focusing Resources in Education and Nutrition Development" to encourage and promote Healthy Lifestyles in primary schools. The programme is a skill based approach to health and nutrition education which will focus on the development of knowledge, skills, and attitudes needed to make and carry out positive health decisions through nutrition education and physical education. FRIEND's target group is primary school children. Nine Standard 4 classes in Corozal Town are participating in the pilot project.

The Ministry of Health in collaboration with the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO/WHO), the Health Metrics Network (HMN), and the National Health Information Systems Committee held a workshop develop a consensus based national strategic plan for strengthening health information systems in Belize. The goal is to increase the availability of timely and accurate information. In pursuit of this goal, Belize has established a National Health Information Systems Committee to play a steering role in this process which aims to produce a National Health Information System Strategic Plan that incorporates all determinants and outcomes of health, which will provide the framework for strengthening all aspects of national health information in Belize.

The production of the Basic Health Indicator Brochure is to provide a comprehensive statistical overview of Belize's performance related to social issues in order to provide evidence based information in a timely manner and to monitor and evaluate Belize's Health System. It also serves as a guide to our health planners, program managers and other social sector partners as we strive to achieve better health for all Belizeans.

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FOODBORNE DISEASE SURVEILLANCE MANUAL 2009

Purpose:

The main purpose of Foodborne Disease Surveillance Manual is to provide a guide to Food Safety Officers, Public Health Inspectors, Medical Doctors, Laboratory Technicians and Surveillance Officials in Belize on how to monitor, control and prevent foodborne disease morbidity and mortality, and to mitigate any related socioeconomic impact through the collection, analysis and use of data from clinical, laboratory, environmental, agricultural and food sources.

Previous publications include:

Birth and Mortality Reconciliation Manual which provides a guide to collect and manage vital events in all health care facilities. This manual outlines the methods used for recording, compiling, reconciling and disseminating birth and death related data and information. It focuses on steps and standards to ensure high quality data collection and reporting and the timely completeness of periodical information.

Communicable Disease Surveillance Manual which provides a guide to daily collection and reporting of communicable diseases in all health facilities and in the prevention of morbidity and mortality related to these communicable diseases.

Quarterly HIV, TB, and Domestic Violence statistical reports and bulletins.

The public is reminded that the above mentioned publications can be found at either www.health.gov.bz and or the Epidemiology Unit - Ministry of Health, East Block, Belmopan.

MOH Publications Available

The Ministry of Health reminds the general public of its list of publications that are available to the general public. These publications are available on the Ministry of Health website. When available, copies may be obtained from the Epidemiology Unit, Ministry of Health – Belmopan. The publications are as follows:

HEALTH STATISTICS OF BELIZE - 1999-2003, 2000-2004, 2001-2005, 2002-2006, 2003-2007, and 2004-2008.

Purpose:

The Health Statistics of Belize presents statistical tables related to health production and surveillance for a five year period. It includes data on areas including: Major Health Indicators, Population, Health Expenditures, Health Resources, Immunization, Communicable Diseases - (Dengue, HIV/AIDS, Malaria, Tuberculosis), Non-Communicable Diseases - (Cancer, Hypertension, Diabetes), Hospital Production Statistics, Morbidity, Mortality, Transport/Traffic Accidents, and Domestic Violence in Belize. In general, the information presented in this Publication presents data at national aggregates by region, age, sex and reasons for visiting a health facility (diagnosis). Basic ratios and rates are calculated for certain variables.

The Health Statistics of Belize Publication is used by the Public and Private Sectors and other users in order to formulate policies that will help in the prevention and eradication of health problems in Belize. All health care facilities and health care personnel in Belize are encouraged to use this Publication and to look at the health trends in our country at the different administrative levels.

The Ministry of Health is committed to provide support for the prevention and eradication of health epidemics and the provision of quality health services in Belize.

BASIC HEALTH INDICATOR OF BELIZE - 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009. A new publication is printed annually.

"I Am Not A Crackhead," says Vilensky

SANTA ELENA TOWN, Cayo, Wednesday, February 10, 2010:

On page 6 of last weekend's edition of the newspaper we reported the arrest of **Gregori Vilensky**, 20, Israeli national of a Mile 63 Western Highway address, on a possession of pipe charge.

Vilensky visited our office today and informed that, while he was arrested, charged and plead guilty for possession of pipe charge, he does not use the contraption to smoke crack cocaine.

"I am not a crackhead," said Vilensky. "I don't even know what crack looks like."

The pipe is called a "BANG"



Gregori Vilensky, 20

and I use it to smoke marijuana.

There is a big difference between the use of crack cocaine and marijuana. I smoke marijuana for medicinal purposes."

Vilensky informed that the report, which appeared in at least one other newspaper, has created bad publicity for him.

He said that he has been living in Belize for over one year and

that, along with his mother, he manages the Russian Travel Agency Destination Belize located at Mile 63 on the Western Highway about midway between San Ignacio Town and the village of San Jose Succotz.

Tienda Martha, Jacked For The Thrid Time

SANTA ELENA TOWN, Cayo, Wednesday, February 10, 2010:

Santa Elena's Tienda Martha has been robbed for a third time.

Police reports that the latest incident occurred at around 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, February 10, 2010.

Partricia Cordon, 35, Belizean proprietor of Tienda Martha reported that she was inside the shop, located on La Loma Luz Boulevard in Santa Elena, along with her sister, **Sandra Orellano**, when three persons, with black rags covering their face and wearing dark clothes, rushed into the shop.

One of the intruders was in possession of what Patricia Cordon described as a "home-made gun" while the other two were armed with "kitchen knives".

The one with the gun reportedly pointed it at Cordon while a second one grabbed her sister and the third one jumped over the counter and removed all the cash, totaling approximately \$170, from the cash drawer.

Cordon additionally informed that one of the knife men made an unsuccessful attempt to grab the gold chain she was wearing. She additionally informed that upon hearing the commotion coming from inside the shop, her daughter emerged from inside the adjoining living quarters, she reportedly pulled back and called the police.

By the time the police arrived the three robbers had already disappeared into the darkness.

As the investigation continues Police are looking for a prime suspect whom they believe could assist in the investigation

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BELIZE WATER SERVICES



INVITATION FOR THE SUPPLY OF INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR BELIZE WATER SERVICES

Belize Water Services invites interested firms to submit bids for the supply of Insurance Coverage for the period April 1, 2010 to March 31, 2011 with the option to extend to March 31, 2012.

The document detailing the schedule of services can be picked up at the office of Belize Water Services at #7 Central American Boulevard, Belize City between the hours of 8:00am - 5:00pm, Monday through Friday. Details are also available electronically upon request.

For more information please contact Jennifer Schnarr at 222-4757 Ext 233 or email corporateservices@bws.com.bz.

Deadline for application is Tuesday, 02 March, 2010.

The envelope must be addressed to:

Chief Financial Officer
Belize Water Services
Central American Boulevard
Belize City, Belize

Belize Water Services reserves the right to accept any or to reject all applicants.

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Current crisis could ripple citrus,

- Canton warns CGA, Citrus Farmers and Strategic Investors



Dr. Henry Canton,
*Chief Executive Officer/
Managing Director of Citrus
Products of Belize Limited*

In a nationally televised statement aired on Channels Five and Seven, **Dr. Henry Canton**, the embattled Chief Executive Officer/Managing Director of Citrus Products of Belize Limited, warned that the current controversy in the industry could cause the collapse of the citrus industry in Belize.

"The citrus industry is today experiencing high growth, excellent prices, expanded markets and a bright future", Canton said. *"In the fragile economic circumstances of this day and age, prudence and wisdom should dictate that petty differences be set aside for the survival of the one industry that can provide a lifeline to allow Belize to get through these difficult times."*

Canton spoke about earlier controversies among stakeholders of the industry since the turn of the twentieth century.

Instead of crippling the industry, however, the controversies and rivalries of the past made it stronger: *"Perhaps those practical and in some ways philosophical differences of opinion all had a common purpose. The sincerely opinionated who had their way and their say, also saved the industry and paved the way to secure a future for the industry."*

The citrus industry, primarily located in the Stann Creek District encountered new challenges over the past years, Canton stated: *"From a home grown, struggling agricultural enterprise, we have had to face the competing realities of a global economy."* This meant, among other things, *"diversifying the end product – not only producing concentrate,*

but manufacturing juices and other by-products to meet the growing demands of an increasingly thirsty domestic and external market; and attracting investment capital to grow the industry and create a buffer to protect us from the vulnerabilities of uncertain climatic conditions, changing prices, and a fickle market over which we have no control."

To meet these challenges, the Belize Citrus Growers' Association (BCGA) formed an investment company (BCGA/ICL) *"to generate finances for the improvement of the industry, and ultimately to acquire ownership and therefore strategic leverage over the processing facilities"*.

The CGA and its investment arm now hold 51% controlling interest in the processing facilities, Citrus Products of Belize Limited (CPBL). The other strategic investors are Banks Holdings of Barbados and Blue Waters of Trinidad and Tobago.

The CGA, being aware of its own management limitations and entering into unknown corporate waters, had the foresight to retain Dr. Henry Canton as Managing Director of CPBL, who with the support of the Chairman of the Board and their co-Directors, made some bold and dramatic decisions to diversify and consolidate, and within a short period of time *"raised the profile and the operations of the company to international standards"*.

Canton contended that *"our efforts were lauded by the leaders of the CGA and the citrus growers themselves, with antagonists who at the eleventh hour took exception to the share purchase agreement with the*

strategic investors (Banks and Blue Waters). At the time they were both described as 'paper companies' by the few who were opposed to this new capital investment" – an investment, Canton argues, *"which pumped new capital into a revitalized company which was struggling for survival, and heavily debt ridden"*.

Canton reminded all shareholders and citrus farmers that they had inherited accumulated losses of \$33 million dollars, mostly from Belize Food Products, under the management of **Mr. Denzil Jenkins**.

He pointed out that in a few short years, and given the challenges the CGA had assigned to him and his team, *"we created the most modernized processing facilities that Belize had ever seen; practically bailed out CPBL from much of its financial difficulties; attracted equity investments of more than \$27 million dollars from abroad; and injected \$70 million dollars in capital projects"*.

The CGA is now unhappy with Canton and his team, as well as with Banks and Blue Waters. The main contention of CGA is that they want more dividends. But Canton pointed out that the CGA had already received over \$4 million dollars in dividends, *"but that it fails to grasp that finances must also be provided to service debt obligations on loans that were used to pump capital investment in revitalizing CPBL"*, and that

the company also inherited a huge debt when it assumed responsibility for a heavily indebted company left behind with the sudden pullout from Belize of the Commonwealth Development Corporation (CDC).

In the face of calls from the CGA that he should resign as a Director of CPBL, Dr. Canton responds that he and his team are fulfilling the mandate given to them by the CGA and that the strategic investors have confirmed their support for the way he had managed the company. He has invited the CGA to be consistent and honour his legal employment contract that they themselves approved.

Canton believes that the current controversy within the citrus industry, which has spawned no less than six lawsuits filed and counter-filed in the nation's courts, is unlike all the previous ones that have fortunately ended up infusing new life into the industry.

"The grounds for this latest locking of horns," he concludes, *"are not practical and not philosophical; not even political (although there are some political nuances)." He conceded that the government had made a good faith effort to intervene and he applauded them for this action. But he insists that the controversy is purely personal. "It is based on greed, envy, bitterness and control."* It could jeopardize the financial commitment of the strategic investors and reduce the viability of the industry. And these were the ingredients that could ultimately lead to the demise of the citrus industry in Belize.

February 11, 2010

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A FORTIS COMPANY

BEL Responds to Guardian Article

February 11, 2010

Belize Electricity Limited (BEL) provides the below responses to a *Guardian* cover article, dated February 7, 2010 and titled "PUC Charges BEL Criminally".

In the article, the PUC claims that *BEL* owes consumers some 35 million dollars.

BEL'S RESPONSE:

- *In the article, Mr. Avery does not explain that, whether or not BEL owes consumers, depends on the outcome of the challenge that BEL filed in Court against the PUC's 2008 Final Decision.*
- *In the 2008 Final Decision, the PUC retroactively charged BEL with "corrections" amounting to approximately \$36.2 million relating to items that had been approved in previous years by the PUC.*
- *BEL contends that the decision by the PUC is wrong and therefore filed its appeal to the Supreme Court.*

In the article, the PUC claims that *BEL* is using the court case to not submit an application under the Full Tariff Review Proceeding.

BEL'S RESPONSE:

- *This is grossly untrue.*
- *The Court had set October 7-9, 2009, to hear the case. On the scheduled date of the hearing, BEL was ready to proceed. Its "Skeleton Arguments" had already been filed.*
- *The PUC had not filed any arguments and on the morning that the case was to be heard, the PUC suddenly came up with technical arguments [with no prior notice to BEL] which the Court had to address.*
- *These issues caused an adjournment of the case and BEL is now seeking to take steps to have the case put back on track.*
- *In early 2009, the PUC sought to amend the same Final Decision which was being challenged in Court.*
- *BEL's contention was that any amendment to a challenged decision should await the outcome of the challenge and in late February 2009 the Court granted a stay of the PUC's proposed amendment.*

BEL notes further, with deep concern, the following extract from the Channel 7 News of February 4, 2010:

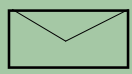
"Yesterday in court, BEL's Manager of Financial Reports and Records, Jason Rivers, appeared for the company, pleaded not guilty and the matter was adjourned for April 8. The bad news for the PUC is that the offence carries a maximum fine of five thousand dollars which for a company that grossed \$185 million last year – is less than a drop in the bucket. In lieu of a fine, the court can also order six months imprisonment". Avery told us he knows that is unlikely, but he would prefer that penalty"

This statement clearly reflects that Mr. Avery would wish to see a prison sentence or sentences imposed in relation to officers of the Company.

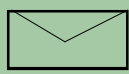
The statement has grave implications, not only for BEL but its CEO Mr. Lynn Young and all its directors, which includes Belizeans as well as representatives of Fortis, who attend Board Meetings in Belize.

Even in these difficult circumstances, BEL continues to focus on improving the reliability of its power supply to customers by upgrading its transmission and distribution systems across the country.

END



Readers Write



I Am Now A Permanent Resident In Belize - Thank You

Dear Editor,

I was recently granted the privilege of permanent residency in Belize and wish to express my appreciation to the nation for accepting me as a member of the community.

I especially want to thank the overworked officials at

the Immigration Headquarters in Belmopan for their professional, courteous and patient assistance in processing the throngs of applicants that crowd into the office every day.

Mis respetos.

Steven Dannucci

San Ignacio

Think Global - Act Local

Dear STAR;

Before I left Canada for our 10th annual vacation in Belize, I sent a letter to the editor of my local newspaper. In it, I congratulated Canadians for their generous support of the Haitian people who are in such dire straights after the cataclysmic earthquake that took so many lives and brought such devastation to their country.

At the same time, I asked my fellow Canadians not to forget the needs of the less fortunate in Canada. Are we doing enough, I asked, to ensure that our aged are living above a subsistence level, that our aboriginal people who still bear the burden of

colonialism are treated with respect and assisted in every way possible, our homeless are sheltered, our un-employed re-trained and supported, and every child fed and properly clothed before setting off for school? Surely, we do not need a cataclysmic event to strike before we direct our generosity toward our own downtrodden?

Now we are here in Belize where my wife and I recently attended a breakfast meeting of the San Ignacio Rotary Club. The club members are a friendly, out-going group of successful men and women who want to give back to the society that enabled them to succeed.

As we watched and listened, we learned that Rotarians have a double-barreled approach to helping others.

One barrel has an international scope and the other barrel a community focus. For example, after the earthquake shook Haiti, Rotarians around the world rallied and donated hundreds of thousands of dollars in aid.

The San Ignacio Rotary itself contributed 5 Shelterboxes at \$1,500 a piece to the Haitian cause. At the same time, we learned that the San Ignacio Rotary club has initiated programs, supported others and

donated tens of thousands of dollars to the local community and is currently working on many more local projects.

International scope. Community focus. This is the template we should all use to guide us.

As the club meeting drew to a close, one of its members challenged her fellow members to step up to the plate in order to help others. It occurred to me that every time a Rotary club steps up to the plate it hits a homerun.

Good to be back in Belize, all the best,

Brian Babineau,

Canadian traveler

In Times Of Need Every Help Counts

Dear Editor,

We collected \$400 from many of our friends and acquaintances, which we have sent to the Haiti Emergency Relief Fund (HERF) a group that was founded in March 2004 by **Harry Belafonte** and **Danny Glover** and headed by Oakland, California lawyer **Walter Riley**, along with our own donation.

Though a few people were able to give a little more than others, the bulk of the funds came from \$5 donations of Belizeans struggling themselves.

The Haiti Emergency Relief Fund has given concrete aid to Haiti's grassroots democratic movement who is fighting to survive since the brutal coup that ended in the kidnapping of **Jean Bertrand Aristide**, the democratically elected president of Haiti, in collaboration with the U.S. HERF has been working not only for this immediate crisis, but in order to support the long-run development of human rights, sustainable agriculture and economic justice in Haiti.

After almost one month, the conditions for the poor of Haiti

have not changed; the US has 20 thousand troops that came with no water, no food, only guns. And now they are living off the aid that is being sent for the people of Haiti.

We ask the United States not to stop President Aristide from returning to his country. He is the leader of Lavalas Party, the people's choice and should be allowed to lead his people through this natural disaster before it becomes another US disaster.

George and Candy Gonzalez
San Ignacio



Sirrom Butane Gas

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A NEW Butane Gas Company has arrived and is now providing service from the Kontiki Gas Station.

"Butane Gas you can rely on - Service you can depend on."

Onsite Service - 7am to 6pm Everyday.
On Holidays, call us for service.

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We AMS To Please

AMS

VACANCY

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IN SAN IGNACIO

Applicant must have good computer and telephone skills and be able to work without supervision.

Call **663-3310**
for interview appointment.

STAR HUMOR

Hearing The Real Thing

Grampa James had serious hearing problems for a number of years.

He went to **Doctor Lopez** who fitted him with a set of state of the art hearing aids that allowed him to hear like he was eighteen years of age.

One month later Grampa James went back to thank Dr. Lopez.

"The hearing aid is perfect" said Grampa James, "thank you so very much Doc."

"Your family must be really pleased you can hear again," responded Dr. Lopez.

"Oh, I haven't told my family yet," said Grampa James. "I just sit around and listen to their conversations. I've changed my will five times!"

A Stupid Answer For A Stupid Question

A truck driver was driving along on the freeway. He passed a sign that said "low bridge ahead."

Before he knew it, the bridge was right ahead of him and he could not avoid getting stuck under the bridge.

Cars were backed up for miles.

Finally, a police car pulled up. The cop got out of his car and walked around to the truck driver, put his hands on his hips and said, "Got stuck, huh?"

The frustrated truck driver looked at him and said, "No officer, I was delivering this bridge but I ran out of gas!"

Ten Tell Tale Signs of Being A Mother

1) Your feet stick to ketchup on the kitchen floor--and you don't care.

2) You can't find your cellular phone, so you ask a friend to call you, and you run around the

house madly, following the sound until you locate the phone downstairs in the laundry basket.

3) Your favorite television show is a cartoon.

4) You're so desperate for adult

conversation that you spill your guts out to the next person that calls and that person hangs up on YOU!

5) You are buying cereal with marshmallows in it.

6) You count the sprinkles on each kid's cupcake to make sure they're equal.

7) You have time to shave

only one leg at a time.

8) You hide in the bathroom to be alone.

9) Your kid throws up and you catch it.

10) You get up at 5:30 a.m. and you have no time to eat, sleep, drink or go to the bathroom, and yet... you still managed to gain 10 pounds.

44 New Justices Of The Peace In Cayo Central

SANTA ELENA TOWN, Cayo, Thursday, February 11, 2010:

The office of the Hon. Minister of Agriculture & Fisheries today informed of the appointment of 44 new Justices of the Peace and the elevation of 4 Justices of the Peace to Senior Justices of the Peace in the Cayo Central Division.

Official ceremonies, which is slated to commence at 10:00 a.m on Friday, February 12, will be held at the Cayo Central Constituency Office in Santa Elena Town.

The appointments will be made on the recommendation

of Cayo Central's Area Representative/Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, **Hon. Rene Montero**, who will be present for the occasion.

The list includes 25 from Santa Elena Town, 6 from San Antonio Village, 5 from the village of Georgeville and 4 each from the villages of Cristo Rey and Buena Vista.

The 4 Justices of the Peace to be elevated to the senior ranks are: **Christine Hyde, Bernabel Salazar** and **Steve Tillet** (Chairman) all from the village of Georgeville and Town Councillor, **Desol Neal** from Santa Elena Town.

BELIZE TOURISM BOARD BTB TOURISM NEWS

OAS and BTB continue Tourism Product Development Partnership

The Organization of American States (OAS) and the Belize Tourism Board (BTB) continue their commitment to the upgrading of the tourism product in Belize. Under the three year OAS/BTB Capacity Building: Tourism Training and Certification Project, 10 Belizeans are now one step closer to becoming the first home-grown professional Chefs. The 10 graduates have successfully completed the course work and exam leading to the designation of Certified Culinarians from the prestigious Culinary Institute of America (CIA).

The program, which is geared towards enhancing the quality of service within the Tourism and Hospitality Industry, has zeroed in on the culinary sector for special attention. The goal is to build the critical link between the agricultural and tourism sectors, while infusing the different elements of Belize's culture into its culinary offerings.

A certification ceremony to present the 10 graduates with their credentials was held on Wednesday February 3rd, 2010 at the Institute for Technical and Vocational Educational Training (ITVET) on Freetown Road in Belize City. As a part of the ceremony, a special lunch was prepared to showcase the talents of the graduates. Guests of honor included the Prime Minister of Belize Hon. Dean Barrow and Mrs. Barrow, as well as the Minister of Tourism Hon. Manuel Heredia Jr.

The graduates are now enrolled in the Certified Chef de Cuisine Program for the next nine months, after which they will travel to the Culinary Institute in New York to seek final certification as Chefs. The certification program is the first of its kind in Belize.



For more information on events taking place in Belize's tourism industry, please contact the Belize Tourism Board at 227-2420, via email: btbb@btl.net or visit our website www.travelbelize.org.

Your Horoscope & Lucky Numbers

ARIES: March 22 to April 20



You will be on a lookout for better investment opportunities and collaborations that will boost your earnings. Your success will be determined by how adept you are in dealing with people. Family's support and understanding will be vital. So, let them know of your work pressures and paucity of leisure time. **Lucky Numbers : 03, 27, 54.**

TAURUS: April 21 to May 21



You will pursue greater knowledge and skill enhancement. You will also focus on interpersonal relationships. It will help you to listen and empathize rather than being impulsive. Prioritize but do not be too clinical in your approach as it will prove counterproductive to your own interests. **Lucky Numbers: 07, 31, 67.**

GEMINI: May 22 to June 21



You feel more grounded to reality in the coming week. There are no unrealistic expectations; no deflated dreams either. You will be content with what you have. Interest in meditation and spirituality is indicated. Don't get into any disagreements with neighbors or colleagues. **Lucky Numbers: 05, 45, 78.**

CANCER: June 22 to July 23



The coming week is likely to usher in a phase where you are more drawn towards the finer things in life. There will be an increased interest in art, music, literature, purchase of objects of aesthetic value. You will also make an effort towards personal grooming. **Lucky Numbers: 02, 16, 82.**



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LEO:

July 24 to August 21



No matter how many resentments and grudges make your heart bitter, you will need to redirect your energies towards positive pursuits. The rewards may not match up to your expectations but the purpose is to keep emotions from running amok. Legal wrangles continuing from last week remain unresolved. **Lucky Numbers: 12, 38, 95.**

VIRGO:

August 22 to September 21



This week is all about charting new heights of personal progress. You are likely to explore better paying avenues which also promise intellectual growth. You may also interact with new people in relation to work. Be careful about trusting any one person. Also, do not intervene if anyone else is having an argument. **Lucky Numbers: 09, 28, 64.**

LIBRA:

September 22 to October 23



Individuals born under this sign of the zodiac are likely to have a good time socially. This week will bring lots of relief from ongoing problems. You might take a small break to unwind. Communicating in the right way should be your focus to avoid any misunderstanding with others. **Lucky Numbers: 08, 33, 76.**

SCORPIO: October 24 to November 21



'Gaining through giving' could well be your mantra this week. You will reach out to people and help them. At work, do not keep expectations too high from subordinates. If you feel dissatisfied, try your best to identify the cause and refrain from venting anger on dependents. **Lucky Numbers: 15, 48, 86.**

SAGITTARIUS:

November 22 to December 21



You do exceptionally well at work and your past efforts pay off handsomely. Involve some bright minds for contributing ideas at work as it will definitely bring out better results. However, you may experience unhappiness in personal equations. **Lucky Numbers: 24, 62, 84.**

CAPRICORN:

December 22 to January 20



There is increased participation in community work and your professional work might take a backseat. However, be careful about expressing your views or being judgmental, especially if someone confides in you. You may have to deal with a temperamental individual. **Lucky Numbers: 18, 35, 90.**

AQUARIUS: January 21 to February 19



Now is the time to distinguish between hard work and smart work. You have certain objectives in mind and there are people you want to keep happy. It only makes sense that you choose carefully. There will be increased clarity around an ambiguous financial quandary towards mid-week. **Lucky Numbers: 10, 26, 65.**

PISCES: February 20 to March 21



You will have to take many investment or budget related decisions. Also, you might have to arrange some money at short notice. There will be inner issues to be dealt with. Adopt a positive approach to deal with them. Even if you withdraw, it will not lead to a resolution of problems. So don't shy away. **Lucky Numbers: 14, 36, 72.**



STATEMENT BY DR. HENRY CANTON, CEO/MANAGING DIRECTOR CITRUS PRODUCTS OF BELIZE LTD

February 2, 2010

The citrus industry in Belize is no stranger to controversy, strife and bitter rivalries.

Throughout its short history, since the turn of the twentieth century, citrus has held the promise to become one of Belize's most reliable employment pool, foreign exchange earner and agricultural innovator.

During this time, the industry has faced downturns, such as plant diseases, low yields, climatic challenges and fluctuating prices.... downturns that would daunt the stoutest hearts, and send them packing in search of alternative means to make a living.

We have also seen upturns, such as expanded groves, higher yields, higher prices, the introduction of innovative technology, and the injection of foreign capital, which breathed new life into what could have been a moribund industry.

Instead of crippling the industry, however, the controversies and rivalries of yesteryear made it stronger. It may be that our old rivalries stemmed from competing ideas on practical matters - how to grow the crop, what land to use, should we diversify to create value to the product, how to fix prices ... and to attract new markets.

Perhaps those practical and in some ways philosophical differences of opinion, all had a common purpose - opinions proposed and propagated by seemingly antagonistic proponents - loudly, - perhaps they served to strengthen the resolve of the brave men and women who saw their future and the future of their children, inextricably linked to citrus. And in doing this, the sincerely opinionated who had their way and their say, also saved the industry and paved the way to secure a future for the industry.

Over the past few years, the citrus industry, primarily located in the Stann Creek District has encountered new levels of challenges. From a home grown struggling agricultural enterprise, we have had to face the competing realities of a global economy. That meant putting our own house in order, growing higher quality, greater quantity and more competitive produce; diversifying our end product - not only producing concentrate, but manufacturing juices and other by-products to meet the growing demands of an increasingly thirsty domestic and external market; and attracting investment capital to grow the industry and create a buffer to protect us from the vulnerabilities of uncertain climatic conditions, changing prices and a fickle market over which we have no control.

The growing of citrus has not changed over the years, except that production has improved and become more sophisticated; some small farms have merged to form larger more productive units; but to a large extent the groves are still owned and operated by the rugged individuals who have embraced quality control as the most efficient method to improve the quality of their fruit. And to a large extent they are Belizeans.

The most dramatic innovation is in the processing of the fruit, its marketing and the branding of its product. We have seen unprecedented modernization in the processing sector; state of the art equipment has been installed to meet the most stringent requirements. All this was made possible through a massive infusion of capital investment from abroad.

Enter the dragon

The vision to improve and modernize the citrus industry and to give it a competitive edge in the global marketplace undoubtedly came from the owners of the industry. These owners, large and small, banded together to form the Belize Citrus Growers Association (CGA), which over the years has aggressively pursued the best interests of all citrus growers. They owned the means of production; but they did not own the method - the processing plants. So they were limited in their ability to move to the next level - that is to assure the vertical and horizontal integration of all citrus operations.

This was achieved through an unprecedented boldness of vision when the CGA decided to establish its own investment company in early two thousand to generate finances for the improvement of the industry and ultimately to acquire ownership and therefore strategic leverage over the processing facilities. The CGA and its investment arm, BCGAICL, now have controlling interest in the Citrus Products of Belize Limited.

The CGA, being aware of their own management limitations, and entering into unknown managerial and corporate waters, had the foresight to retain me as its Managing Director of CPBL. With all the bullishness and aplomb of a seasoned corporate Manager, and with the support of the Chairman of the Board and our co-Directors, we made some bold and dramatic decisions to diversify and consolidate. We raised the profile and the operations of the company to international standards.

Our efforts were lauded by the leaders of the CGA and the citrus growers themselves, with antagonists, who at the eleventh hour took exception to the share purchase agreement with the strategic investors, Banks Holdings of Barbados and Blue Waters of Trinidad. At the time they were both described as "paper companies" by the few who were opposed to this new capital investment. It was an investment which pumped new capital into a revitalized company which was struggling for survival, and heavily debt ridden.

The unprecedented success of our team did not sit well with some members of the CGA board, as well as with a few disgruntled former leaders and managers of the industry. It did not matter that in a few short years, and given the challenges the CGA had assigned to me and my team, we had created the most modernized processing facilities that Belize has ever seen; that we had practically

bailed out CPBL from much of its financial difficulties; that we had attracted equity investments of more than \$27 million dollars from abroad, and injected \$70 million dollars in capital projects.

I must also remind all shareholders and citrus farmers that they also inherited accumulated losses of \$33 million dollars, mostly from Belize Food Products, under the management of Mr. Denzil Jenkins.

The citrus industry was generating a significant contribution to the national economy, employing better than ten thousand persons, directly and indirectly; and its products were reaching markets hitherto undreamed of.

The welcome accorded to Banks Holdings and Blue Waters, which invested \$25 million dollars into CPBL, is now wearing thin. A function of good management is to invest wisely, retire debts and accumulate capital to be used for expansion, as well as for the payment of dividends. CGA has been paid over \$4 million dollars in dividends, but at the same time, it fails to grasp, as a fundamental principle, that finances must also be provided to service debt obligations on loans that were used to pump capital investment in revitalizing CPBL.

I must also remind all shareholders and citrus growers, that the company also inherited a huge debt when it assumed responsibility for a heavily indebted company left behind with the sudden pull-out from Belize, of the Commonwealth Development Corporation.

At that time the industry was on the verge of collapse. The disgruntled in their rumblings provided absolutely no vision to salvage the industry and to take it out of the doldrums. Their strategy to assert some power was to incite and feed the discontent of some farmers.

My team was most instrumental in negotiating the Banks Holdings and Blue Waters investment. We were the key players in attracting these beverage companies which opened up the Caribbean and Central American markets for Belize's citrus products. Our Board of Directors and I as Managing Director are still doing all that. This was our mandate from our Principals, the CGA and all other shareholders.

Banks is not in the least flustered, despite the fact that it is they who did the most in restoring the company, and indeed, in salvaging the industry with more than their share capital investment.

The CGA is now demanding additional dividends outside of the Company's approved dividend policy, and has become increasingly unhappy with the strategic investors and myself as the company's Managing Director. They have fed a frenzy of accusations to the local media and the farmers themselves with a view to oust me and some of CPBL Board of Directors. Heaven forbid - even the strategic investors themselves. (After all, how can they now accept that a foreign company owns and controls 47 per cent of our citrus industry; even while the CGA owns fifty-one percent?)

I have faithfully fulfilled the mandate of the local and foreign shareholders. It is money from the strategic foreign investor that was used to salvage and restore the company. Oh, how quickly do we forget?

The newest controversy in the citrus industry is again before our courts. No less than six lawsuits have been filed and counter-filed in the nation's courts. This latest law suit has been taken out by the same dissenters in the CGA who, again, through our Supreme Court, tried and failed to block the sale of shares in the CPBL to the foreign investors, notwithstanding, that this was approved by the vast majority of the members of the CGA.

The government has made a good faith effort to intervene, and we applaud them for this action.

But the CGA is adamant. The CGA needs additional finances to shore up their floundering management and bankrupt association. The CGA is now insisting that the team best positioned to provide those finances and who were selected by them to inject new vigor into the industry, must resign.

In 2002, the CGA appointed me as Managing Director of CPBL. The CGA's position now is that I, must resign as a Director of CPBL, along with some key Board members. The CGA is invited to be consistent and honour my legal employment contract they themselves approved. Bank's holdings have confirmed their support for the way I have managed the company, and the success in fulfilling the mandate of ALL the shareholders in turning the company around and in moving it forward. Banks also recognizes that there is a limited pool of this type of human resource in Belize; but who would be prepared to take on this kind of task in such a persistently hostile environment?

The Belize Citrus industry is today experiencing high growth, excellent prices, expanded markets and a bright future. In the fragile economic circumstances of this day and age, prudence and wisdom should dictate that petty differences be set aside for the survival of the one industry that can provide a lifeline to allow Belize to get through these difficult times.

The current controversy in the citrus industry is unlike all the previous ones that have fortunately ended up infusing new life and new energy into the industry. The grounds for this latest locking- of- horns are not practical; it is not philosophical; it is not even political (although there are some political nuances there). This controversy is purely personal. It is based on greed, envy, bitterness and control.

Should this be the basis for the demise of the citrus industry of Belize?

And the subsequent suffering of many Belizeans?

I think not!

- A PAID AD -

Mexican President Visits Deadliest Mexican City

By Tracy Wilkinson, Reporting from Mexico City for the Los Angeles Times:

Friday, February 12, 2010:

Facing intense political pressure and demands that he resign, **President Felipe Calderon** traveled Thursday to Mexico’s deadliest city to defend his troubled fight against drug cartels, which critics charge has only intensified the violence.

Angry crowds greeted Calderon as he arrived in a heavily guarded Ciudad Juarez. The president said it was time to launch a much-discussed expansion of the drug war to include efforts aimed at tackling social issues, such as unemployment and addiction.

“I am convinced we have to review what we are doing,” Calderon said. *“We need a much more integrated approach . . . wider actions . . . of a social nature. Police and military action alone is not enough.”*

To underscore the point, Calderon took with him an unusually large contingent of Cabinet members, including the



Police in Ciudad Juarez carry off a man demonstrating against President Felipe Calderon, who was visiting the border city heavily afflicted by drug violence.
(Alexandre Meneghini / Associated Press)

ministers of health, education and public security. However, he was short on details and, in initial remarks, did not earmark money for new programs.

Calderon’s visit to Ciudad Juarez was prompted by the Jan. 31 massacre of at least 15 people, many of them youths, at a high school party, the latest in a spiral of increasingly gruesome bloodshed that has

made the city across the border from El Paso a living hell.

Calderon met with relatives of the victims, but many family members refused to see him. They joined large groups of protesters who lined streets and waved signs saying *“Apologize, then resign!”* Police broke up some of the demonstrations, witnesses said.

In his remarks, Calderon did apologize to families for statements he made in Japan, shortly after the killings, that suggested some of the victims could have been involved in drug gangs.

Later in the president’s speech, a woman rose and shouted that she had lost two children in the killings and that he was not welcome in Ciudad Juarez. *“Enough with your war!”* she cried.

The expanded program promising jobs and education represented an admission that a guns-only approach has not stopped drug gangs nor reduced killings, especially in Ciudad Juarez. But Calderon has also said he does not plan to withdraw the nearly 10,000 army troops and federal police officers that have been dispatched to the city.

The Calderon administration

has long grappled with what to do about Juarez and proposed a new strategy last summer, when government officials acknowledged they were being forced to review procedures that weren’t working.

But they’ve groped for a solution. Even as more troops were poured into the city, the death rate soared, as did accusations of human rights abuses by soldiers.

An experimental deployment putting troops into less-visible positions did not improve security markedly.

The new plan was devised in July of last year, Juarez Mayor **Jose Reyes Ferriz** said, and takes many cues from the strategy used to pacify the once-deadly Colombian city of Medellin.

Juarez is a long-neglected city plagued by poverty, corruption and an influx of unskilled workers desperate for jobs. Always saddled with a high homicide rate, especially so for women, the city has seen an exponential increase in killings as drug gangs have battled for turf and innocents have been drawn into the conflict.

Citizens trapped by daily gun battles in the streets and rampant extortion and kidnappings have become so desperate that they recently demanded United Nations peacekeepers, an unheard of thing in nationalistic Mexico, and there have been reports of vigilantism.

Leftist federal senators said this week that they would ask Calderon to consider instituting a curfew in Ciudad Juarez and suspending civil liberties as a way to restore order *“in the face of such an extraordinary situation.”*

In an editorial titled *“Real solutions, Mr. President,”* Juarez newspaper El Diario questioned whether the visit was motivated by the looming election season and said blame for the city’s plight rested not only with the presidency but also with state and local officials.

Card Of Thanks



Desol, Cecilio & the Neal Family extends a heartfelt thank you to everyone who supported us during the time of our recent bereavement.

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San Ignacio Cop Beaten In Santa Familia

SAN IGNACIO TOWN, Cayo, Wednesday, February 10, 2010:

Two men from the village of Santa Familia were sent to the central prison in Hattieville after being unable to meet bail on a series of charges stemming from an incident in which a policeman was allegedly beaten by two of his “home boys”.

Police Constable #1035 Lionel Waight, currently attached to the San Ignacio head station, reported that he was off duty in his home village, Santa Familia, when shortly after 12:30 a.m. on Sunday, February 7, he was riding his bicycle on the way home after socializing at Guadalupe Bar in the village. The policeman alleges that upon passing in front of a bus stop, he was approached by two men whom he identified as **Windell Humes** and **Abib Landero**.

PC Waight informed that Humes and Landero began shouting a series of indecent words to him. He reportedly advised them to “cool it down”.

He informed that while speaking with Humes, Landero reportedly came from behind and knocked him with a stone in the back of the head, the policemen reportedly fell to the pavement on the street whereby the two men began to punch and kick him. He said that in the hail of kicks and punches he managed to get to his feet and began to run from the attackers as they stoned him with empty beer pints and rocks.

They reportedly pursued and eventually caught up with him and continued the beating.

PC Waight additionally informed that he was eventually rescued by two villagers who reportedly asked Humes and Landero to discontinue disrespecting the policeman.

He was issued with a pair of medico-legal forms on which the injuries he sustained were noted as 3 cut wounds behind the head, injuries to the left side of the head, nose, forehead and left knee.

The incident led to the arrest



Abib Landero, 28

of **Abib Landero**, 28, and **Windell Humes**, 18, both Belizean labourers residing in Santa Familia village. They were jointly charged for:

- a) Aggravated Assault,
- b) Assaulting a Policeman,
- c) Throwing missile and
- d) Indecent words.

They both pleaded not guilty to all four charges.

Humes and Landero were offered bail in the sums of \$5,000 and \$1,000 respectively and ordered to return to court on

Monday, February 22, 2010.

They were unable to meet bail and were transported to the central prison in Hattieville.

The injured policeman is currently off duty on sick leave recuperating from the injuries.

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC SESSIONS

In accordance with Section 8.24 of the Environmental Compliance Plan (ECP) of April 5, 2002, the Belize Electric Company Limited (BECOL) advises that it will host Public Information Sessions on the Macal River Upstream Storage Facility, also known as the Chalillo Hydro Project.

The first session will take place on February 25, 2010 in Cristo Rey Village at the Village Community Center, at 7:00 p.m. On February 26, 2010, the session will take place in San Ignacio Town at the Cultural Center at 7:00 p.m.

The sessions will focus on the project description; the critical issues identified in the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), the assessment of their impacts and the mitigation measures outlined in the Environmental Compliance Plan (ECP).

For more information please contact BECOL at 824-3016.

Giving Back To Belize, 3 Popular Restaurants, Blue Water Grill, Caliente and Red Ginger

SAN PEDRO TOWN, Belize, February 10, 2010:

Three of San Pedro’s most popular restaurants, Blue Water Grill, Caliente and Red Ginger, are now giving back to Belize in an innovative way. The restaurants recently partnered with Liberty Children’s Home, a shelter and school for abandoned and abused children in Ladyville, to help raise money and awareness for the non-profit organization.

At the end of their meals customers are offered information about Liberty Children’s Home and if they’d like to make a donation they can do so at the restaurants. In addition the three restaurants will match every dollar donated. If a customer donates 5 dollars, Liberty will get an additional 5 dollars from the restaurants. If he or she donates one hundred dollars, Liberty will get an additional one hundred dollars from the restaurants.

Restaurant owners **Kelly McDermott Kanabar** and **Mukul Kanabar** thought this approach would be a good way to support Liberty while also encouraging other people to give.

“The opportunity to help Liberty Children’s Home is something we’re extremely excited about, and we’d like to encourage other businesses and individuals to get involved,” said **McDermott Kanabar**. *“Belize’s future depends on the*

health and education of its children, and Liberty Children’s Home is a great organization that we believe can help make a difference in the lives of children who need help the most.”

Donations are accepted from anyone or any business interested in helping Liberty Children’s Home, regardless of whether people dine at one of the restaurants. The money raised will help pay for medical care for the children, maintenance of the shelter, as well as employee salaries.

Liberty Children’s Home depends almost entirely on donations and relies on the generosity of the community and local businesses to keep the shelter and its school open.

“With the support of the community, the money these businesses can raise for Liberty Children’s Home can make a real difference in the lives of these children,” said **Delfena Mitchell**, Director of Liberty Children’s Home. *“No donation is too small and we greatly appreciate any donation that is made.”*

Liberty Children’s Home was established in 2004 as a sanctuary for children in need, providing a natural environment with love, nurturing, and a high standard of education. The home’s philosophy has been influenced by the Pikler method of childcare, a well-researched

approach to prevent damaging effects of institutionalization on children. Liberty Children’s Home also draws from the Reggio Emilia and Montessori methods that aim for the fullest possible development of the whole child.

For more information about

Liberty Children’s Home please visit their website: <http://libertychildrenbelize.org>
To make a donation to Liberty Children’s Home that will be matched by the three restaurants please visit Blue Water Grill, Caliente, or Red Ginger in San Pedro, or contact **Kelly McDermott Kanabar** via Blue Water Grill’s website: www.bluewatergrillbelize.com

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Rotary Club's Two Newest Members

BY: John Acott
SAN IGNACIO TOWN, Cayo District, Friday, February 12, 2010:

The Rotary Club of San Ignacio announces the induction of two new members, **Mr. Richard Zul** and **Mrs. Carrie Jennings**. They become the club's 24th and 25th members.

Richard, is a Belizean. He is married with two children, lives in San Ignacio and is a welder/building contractor.

Richard and his wife, **Lucille**, have many years of charity and volunteer work behind them and this experience will be put to good use within the club.

Carrie, is a British, living in Floral Park. She is married to **Paul Jennings**. She is an experienced fundraiser and her talents will certainly be put to



Club President, Daniel Habet (R) welcoming Richard Zul (L)

the test as Rotary continues its work in supporting worthwhile projects, both locally and on a global scale.

Most people living in the Twin-Towns area are familiar

with the work that Rotary does in making this a better place to live and its recent support for the Haiti victims but few are aware that each Rotarian here is also actively involved in

supporting Rotary International's main project of eradicating the crippling disease called polio from the world.

Thanks, in the main, to Rotary's efforts, there are only three countries left in the world that still have a handful of polio cases and this very expensive and time-consuming project will continue for as long as it takes to rid the world completely of this terrible disease that cripples children.

Some of the older inhabitants of Belize will remember polio and its effects although Belize has been polio-free for a long time now – thanks in part to Rotary and its members' dedication.

The Rotary family warmly welcomes Richard and Lucille and Carrie and Paul into their midst.

GARRY SEAWELL CAPTURED IN ESPERANZA...

From Page 2
 his defense attorney. The case is slated to conclude on Tuesday, February 23.

Seawell is also wanted by US Law Enforcement, for the alleged smuggling of 163 pounds of cocaine from Belize, through Chetumal Mexico, and onto Cleveland, Ohio, USA.

His brother Duane was intercepted, at an airport in Jamaica, by US Marshals and transported to the United States,

in February 2007 as he was attempting to return to Belize from Jamaica. He subsequently pled guilty to drug trafficking charges in Ohio and is currently serving a 17 year jail sentence.

The other Seawell brother, Mark is currently at the central prison in Hattievile where he is awaiting extradition proceedings as he faces the prospect of extradition to Cleveland, Ohio where he is likewise wanted on drug trafficking charges.



Tanisha Ayuso, 27 of #638 Oleander Street, Belize City



The M16 A2 Sub Machine Gun with serial number 027907



Club President, Daniel Habet (R) welcoming Carrie Jennings (L)

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