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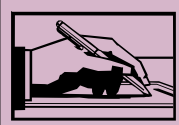
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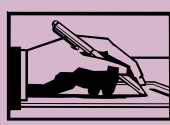
STAR

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

There Is A Beast In Our Midst



Editorial



A GRAVE INJUSTICE TO ALL OF US

We have often heard the expressions “*We are what you eat*” and “*Prevention is better than cure*”.

We have been hearing of an increasing number of Belizeans either ailing or dying from cancer. Very, very, few if any are those among us who have either lost a loved one or know of someone who has lost a loved one to this dreaded disease.

We have also heard of the **Ministry of Health’s** implementation of an expensive **National Health Information Management System**.

How many more Belizeans will have to die from cancer before those managing the system begin to make it work for us? While the input of information into the system continues, we ask, when will the output begin? The output that is needed to start the process of education with the objective to assist us to make crucial lifestyle changes geared towards teaching us to eat right for a longer life.

It is said that there is a person in Belmopan who, by the use of herbs and a vegetarian diet, is providing some level of relief if not effective treatment for persons diagnosed with cancer.

This editorial was influenced by a weekend trip to Belize City where, amidst the usual rush for food outside a Chinese fast food establishment on Freetown Road, I walked away after securing my purchase. I ate some of the food that night and when I retrieved the balance the following day it was something that, by its very appearance, I could not stomach and then the thought of the health implications came to mind.

While there are many of us who, either because of convenience or the lack of information, innocently consume these foods and in the process putting at risk our health and that of our children; those charged with the professional responsibility of educating us are either willfully turning a blind eye or simply sleeping at the wheel.

Since they often eat in their restaurants, we know that those selling us these foods do not themselves consume the foods they sell. We know that their country people, the ones controlling the supermarket business in Belize, do not consume the food their country folk sell us. We know this because we regularly see them having their meals inside their supermarkets.

The loss of life, especially at the end of the battle with cancer, is much too serious a matter to be flippantly treated. If the local medical authorities lack the expertise, or do not have the equipment to do the necessary tests for cancer causing foods then that expertise or the necessary tools should be immediately acquired from wherever on planet earth they exist.

Then again the increasing number of cancer cases in Belize might not be attributed to the food we consume but rather other lifestyle choices we adapt. Whatever the case may be this situation calls for immediate competent medical investigation. To do nothing while we continue to suffer and die from this dreaded disease is a grave injustice to all of us.

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From The Basketball Court,
To Magistrate's Court, To Jail

Continued From Front Page

Ignacio's magistrate court to answer to the charge.

We have, from time immemorial, heard the statement “*I will slap you and pay for you in court*”. Enriquez might have been one of those persons who did not get the memo about the presence of a different breed of magistrate in this town. He instantly pled guilty to the grievous harm charge and, as is customary, when asked if he had anything to say before the passing of the sentence, he told **Magistrate Narda Morgan** that the referee is the pastor of a church and so he should not have called the foul against him.

The bomb shell came crashing down when, instead of imposing a fine, as has always been the norm, Magistrate Morgan sentenced him to 5 months in jail. This was when Enriquez, figuratively hit the roof. He walked over to the complainant and yelled “*See what you have done to me*”. He hopped on a chair in the court while attempting to attack the complainant.

Two policemen, performing court orderly duties, intervened and the convict began struggling with them. The disturbance lasted for about five minutes in court until the convict was eventually subdued but not before biting **PC 692 Jose Pinelo** on the wrist of his right hand.

Enriquez was handcuffed and escorted to the police station downstairs where he was rearrested and formally charged for: 1) Aggravated assault 2) Harm and 3) Disturbing the proceeding of the court.

Well - after his first experience in Magistrate Morgan's courtroom the previous day, Enriquez obviously got the memo. He immediately pleaded not guilty for all three new charges. When Magistrate Morgan informed him if he had forgotten that he committed to offence right before her

eyes, the accused, in a rather arrogant manner, shouted “*not guilty*”.

He was remanded to prison on these three new charges. The order was issued for him to be brought back on Monday, September 3, 2012 being the maximum 90 days remand period.

Editor Note:

We are, once again, **FOR THE VERY LAST TIME**, renewing the issuance of the memo: “**THERE IS A DIFFERENT BREED OF MAGISTRATE IN THIS TOWN**”. In front of **Magistrate Narda Morgan** is hardly the place where anyone would want to find themselves. With these kinds of sentencing, as sure as day follows night, the restoration of discipline is finally on the horizon in this community. Gone, it seems, are the days of, beating someone and paying the “*lee*” money for them in court. We see prison walls as the future home of the indiscipline among us.

In a rather interesting turn of events, the prison run with Enriquez on board left San Ignacio on Monday evening on its way to the prison however the instruction was reportedly issued not to deposit Enriquez in the care of Kolbe Foundation as directed by the court order but that he should rather be returned to San Ignacio where he will either send the five months or probably be released on further instructions whichever comes first.

In concluding we ask, is there someone out there tampering with the “*Independence*” of the nation's justice system?

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Escobar Remanded For Drug Trafficking

BENQUE VIEJO TOWN, Cayo, Wednesday, May 30 2012:

A high speed police pursuit in western Belize resulted in a weed haul and an abandoned car on a feeder road off the Western Highway between San Ignacio and Benque Viejo Town.

The always vigilant Benque Viejo Police reports that on Wednesday, May 30, 2012, while on patrol on Jose Marti Street in that western town, their attention was drawn to a small silver car racing towards George Price Boulevard. They set chase behind the car as it turned right onto the western highway heading in the direction of San Ignacio Town.

Police followed behind until the vehicle made another right turn, this time off the highway and into the road leading to the lodge at Chaa Creek. Following close behind, the police observed the disposing of three objects from the car. The police stopped to pick up the parcels which turned out to be two red and a black plastic bag, all containing suspected marijuana. After falling victims of the decoy, the police resumed the pursuit and sure enough a few miles away, on the



Abner Francisco Escobar, 26

Negroman Road they came upon the abandoned car with all

occupants long gone.

The car and the weed were transported to the police station in Benque Viejo Town where the weight was rounded off at 55 kilos with an estimated street value of sixteen and a half thousand dollars.

A thorough search of the car was conducted at the police station in Benque resulting in the discovery of a voter's registration card, an ATM bank card and a registration certificate for the car in the name of **Abner Escobar** of a Chaa Creek Road address.

Police visited Escobar's house but he was not at home and so began search for him.

The following day, Thursday, May 31, an individual identifying himself as **Abner Francisco Escobar**, 26, taxi driver, handed himself in to Benque Police where he was formally arrested and charged for drug trafficking. Later that same Thursday, he was arraigned by **Magistrate Narda Morgan** in San Ignacio's magistrate court where the singular drug trafficking charge was read to him.

He pled not guilty to the charge and was remanded to prison with orders to be returned on Thursday, July 5, 2012.

Escobar's car remains impounded at the police station compound in Benque.

STAR Newspaper

"The Newspaper that cares and dares to bring out the truth"

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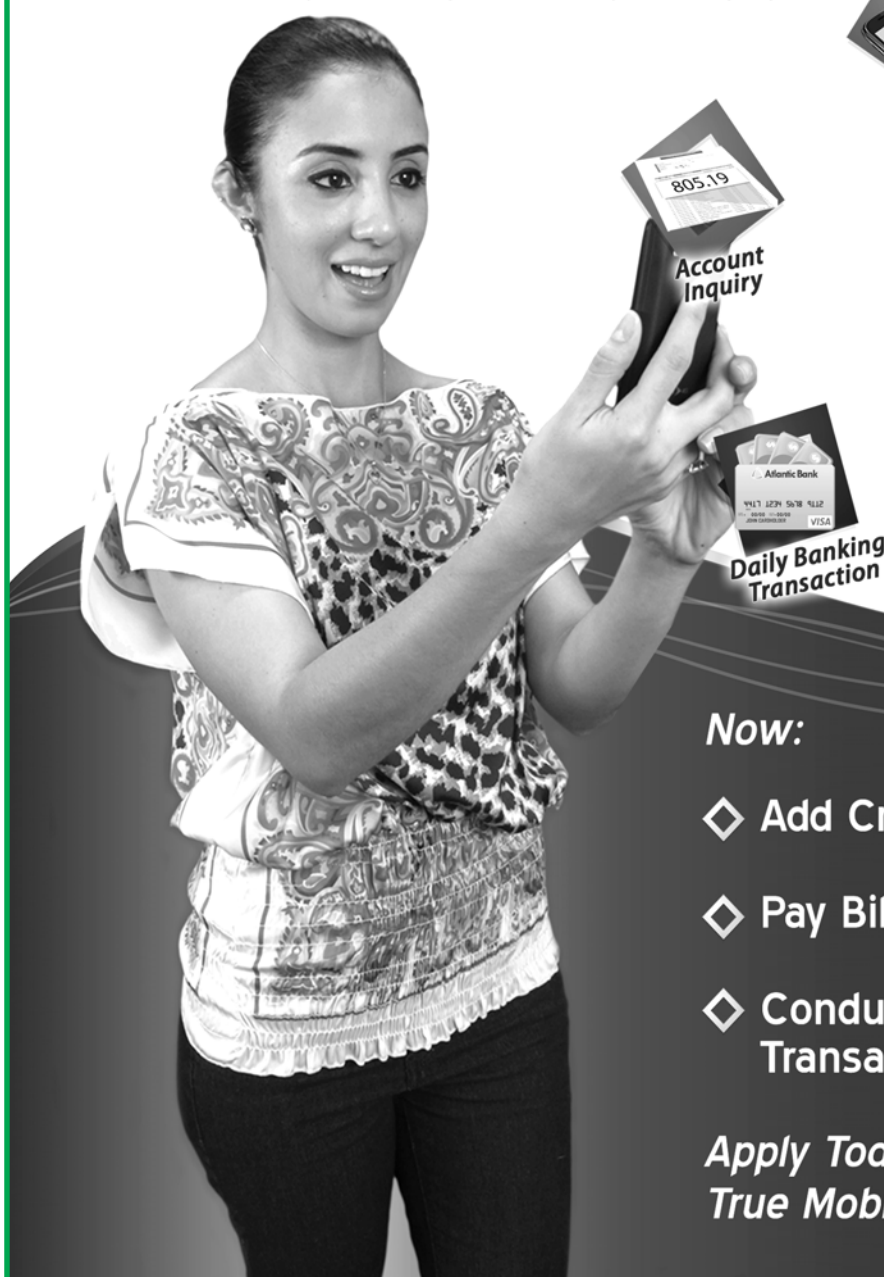
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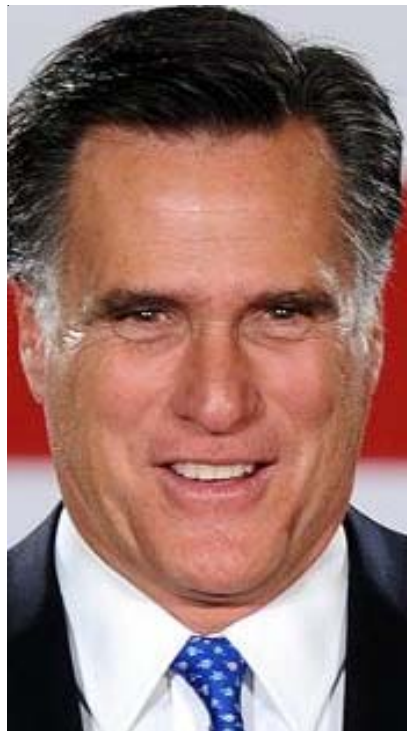
Wellington C. Ramos

Unemployment is the issue that will decide who will be the next President of the United States. However, nobody in their right senses can place all the blame on President Barack Obama for the unemployment situation in this country. When he took office our country was in war with Iraq and Afghanistan, the financial market had collapsed, we were facing a recession close to a depression, our trade imbalance with China was huge, many of our companies are moving their businesses out of the United States to go abroad and seek cheap labor and the Republican House of Representatives blocked and continue to block every job initiative he sent to them.

Romney cannot be President of the United States without winning all of these three states and that is difficult to do. In the last election President Obama won all three of these states when the unemployment situation was worst than what it is today. For Romney to win these states, he will have to talk about other issues and not just unemployment. The only issue he can use in Florida against Obama is same sex marriage. His record on immigration is terrible and there are a lot of Hispanics in this state. On social issues he has already agreed to surrender to the Tea Party which will help him go downhill. In the state of Michigan where he was born President Obama bailed out General Motors and they have bounced back like most of the other auto industries in Michigan. Now these companies are re-hiring some of their laid off employees plus new ones.

Romney was against the bail out like most of the Republicans and some of them in congress were also against the bail out of the financial industries on Wall Street. Virginia is the next state

that he is thinking about winning but the employment situation is getting better there as well. Most American citizens do not know much about Mitt Romney but by the time this campaign is over the Obama campaign will let you



Republican Presidential Candidate, Mitt Romney

know who is the real Mitt Romney. During the campaign for the Republican nomination, his rivals exposed many things about him and I am sure they will come back in the presidential campaign to haunt him. From what the members of the Republican party saw, they were reluctant to support him for the nomination. When I heard that he decided to shelter his money in a bank in the Cayman Islands at a time when our country need people with wealth to invest in our economy I was deeply troubled. I cannot point to any business that Romney owns in the United States that is creating jobs for our people. If he is concerned about the citizens of this country, he should take his money and invest it in this country so that our people can get employment not take it outside of our country so that he could avoid paying taxes so that our government can collect revenues to support the programs for the needy people at home.

The Republicans are convinced that unemployment is the issue that they will be able to use to make President Obama a one term President. However, for that to work most Americans must be convinced that the unemployment situation is due to him and him alone. So far, I have not seen any polling that indicate Obama alone is responsible for the unemployment situation we are

in because the American people are not stupid. Our debt is about fifteen trillion dollars and according to the last report, most of this debt was accumulated when George Bush Jr. was president. The Wall Street bailout, the war in Afghanistan and



President Of The United States of America, Barack Obama (D)

Iraq which Obama inherited from Bush, increased the national debt and now it is close to sixteen trillion dollars. If we can reduce the trade imbalance and create jobs by encouraging our businesses to stay home and invest in our country's future through providing jobs to our citizens, we will be able to decrease our national debt.

Romney is the presumptive Republican nominee for president of the United States because he has already secured the amount of required delegates needed. He is continuing his campaign for president. Yet, I have not heard him outline any plan to create jobs in this country. All he is doing so far, is to blame President Obama for the current unemployment situation over and over again. Without explaining to the American people why Obama should be blamed for this current unemployment situation and presenting a plan to create jobs, he will not be elected as president of this country. If his Republican Party members of congress care about the unemployed citizens in this country, then why is it that when it is time to extend unemployment benefits they are reluctant to vote for an extension of benefits? If they vote for the extension, they try to take the money away from other needed

programs that was already approved for the needy. The Republicans care about the rich only because all they talk about is tax cuts for the wealthy while cutting spending on programs for the working class and the poor.



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LIQUOR LICENSE NOTICES

Notice is hereby be given that under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Chapter 150 of the Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2000, that **YUEHONG FENG** is applying for a **RESTAURANT LIQUOR LICENSE** for the year 2012 to operate **Sunny Restaurant** located on the Western Highway, Santa Elena Town, in the Cayo District.

Notice is hereby be given that under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Chapter 150 of the Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2000, that **LOSADIA VELASQUEZ** is applying for a **Malt & Cider Liquor License** for the year 2012 to operate **Louradia's Shop** located in Central Farm in the Cayo District.



Ministry Of Health

Monthly Report

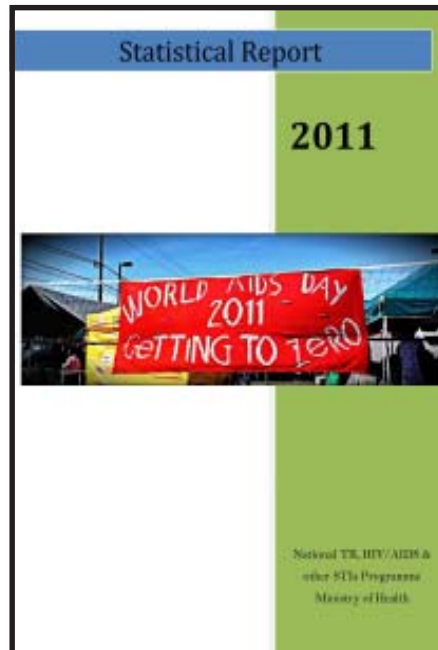


Ministry Releases Latest HIV Statistics

The 2011 statistical report by the National TB, HIV/AIDS and other Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs) programme of the Ministry of Health was released last month to the public.

According to the report, there was a further documented decrease in the number of new HIV infections for the year 2011. There are a total of 226 new infections for this year which represents a further 7.4% decrease when compared to 2010 data.

The Ministry is proud to acknowledge that through its efforts, this is now the third year in a row that a documented decrease is



confirmed in HIV cases in Belize. This also represents close to a 100% reduction in cases from the peak number in 2004.

New HIV infections continue to affect all age groups, although, the majority of the new cases continue to be in the younger age groups, particularly those between 20 to 34 years. The positive samples reported for HIV infection reflected in the statistical report are those reported by the Central Medical Laboratory in Belize City.

In reference to the geographic distribution and disease burden, the majority of the cases are still concentrated in the Belize District, accounting for almost 65%. The Cayo and the Stann Creek Districts respectively follow closely behind in total numbers.

The Programme has done many educational campaigns and Information booths across the country where the public is encouraged to get tested on their HIV status on site.

For the treatment of HIV, anti-retrovirals remain the only proven scientific means of



keeping the viral replication at a minimum. At the end of 2011, more than 1300 persons were accessing this medication, free of cost, from public health facilities countrywide.

The Minister of Health, **Hon. Pablo Marin** and partners of the Ministry of Health encourage persons who are HIV positive to access the free medication at the public centers. Belize has one of the lowest prices for anti-retroviral medications in the Americas.

World No Tobacco Day 2012



The Ministry of Health and the **National Drug Abuse Control Council** (NDACC) in partnership with the **World Health Organization** (WHO) celebrated World No Tobacco Day last week.

The NDACC had information booths at various health centers across the country including Punta Gorda, Dangriga, Orange Walk Town and Corozal Town. In addition, Caye Caulker village had a short ceremony and health fair at the Central Park.

In San Pedro, the NDACC in collaboration with the San Pedro Town Council, held its first ever “**World No Tobacco**

Day Awareness Walk” with a brief ceremony at Central Park before participants took a walk around the main streets of San Pedro. Teenagers from the community involved in the cause marched with positive placards on hand to deliver the message to their peers.

Tobacco use is one of the leading preventable causes of death. WHO estimates that the global tobacco epidemic kills nearly 6 million people each year, of which more than 600,000 are persons exposed to second-hand smoke.

This year the theme was “**Tobacco Industry Interference.**”

Ministry in Partnership at Cancer Symposium

The Ministry of Health was delighted to be in partnership with the Belize Cancer Society, the Belize Cancer Center and the Belize Medical and Dental Association in holding the symposium for Healthcare Professionals during Cancer Month.

The symposium served as a platform for the study and treatment of cancers of the body. Although in Belize, the focus is

only on chemotherapy, the Minister of Health, **Hon. Pablo Marin** supports and continues to advocate for improved detection and treatment and referral for persons battling the disease.

We emphasize the need for regular check-ups in order to determine early detection and treatment which increases the chances of full recovery.

Caribbean Nutrition Day

The Ministry of Health joins all countries of the Caribbean in the celebration of Caribbean Nutrition Day 2012. This year the theme is, “**Healthy Eating and Active Living: Create an Enabling School/Work/Community Environment.**”

The Ministry encourages all organizations to take steps to establish and promote a healthy workplace.

We believes that with

continuous collaborated efforts, the high cases of chronic diseases can be reduced. Since 2005, Caribbean Nutrition Day has been designated on June 1 by the Caribbean Food and Nutrition Institute to highlight the benefits of healthy eating and an active lifestyle.

Ministry of Health
Belmopan
822-2325/2363

STAR HUMOR

Meeting at the Pearly Gates

Two men waiting at the Pearly Gates strike up a conversation.

"How'd you die?" the first man asks the second.

"I froze to death," says the second.

"That's awful," says the first man. "How does it feel to freeze to death?"

"It's very uncomfortable at first," says the second man. "You get the shakes, and you get pains in all your fingers and toes. But eventually, it's a very calm way to go. You get numb and you kind of drift off, as if you're sleeping. How about you, how did you die?"

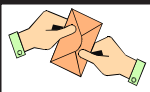
"I had a heart attack," says the first man. "You see, I knew my wife was cheating on me, so one day I

showed up at home unexpectedly. I ran up to the bedroom on the third floor, and found her alone, knitting, in bed. I checked in the kitchen and no one was there, I rushed down to the basement, but no one was hiding there. I ran as fast as I could to the attic, and just as I got there, I had a massive heart attack and died."

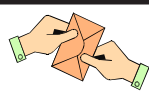
The second man shakes his head. "That's so ironic," he says.

"What do you mean?" asks the first man.

"The kitchen was the first place you looked. If you had only stopped to look in the freezer, at the very least one of us would still be alive and you wife would not be so lonely."



Readers Write



Dear Editor,

As a parent of 3 girls one of which is 12 years old, I am saddened and **OUTRAGED** about what happened to Jasmine. Enough is Enough. We all know Jasmine is not the first and will not be the last so I say its left up to the parents to teach their kids about the dangers that are lurking out there. Times have changed from when I was a 10 year old growing up in Cayo. That was 30 years ago when I was able to walk to school by myself without a care in the world. **THOSE DAYS ARE OVER.** Us parents have to talk to our kids, teach them not to trust or talk to strangers, make them aware of the dangers of staying out late at night, or walking alone day or night. **PARENTS** just take a few minutes of your time and explain

to them the consequences. Just a few words can save your/our children lives.

The community also has a vital role to play, they have to be more vigilant. Reporting unusual activities to the police right away can assist them tremendously in solving crimes. And to our government, give the police department the resources to mount cameras on light poles or wherever necessary to capture footage of vehicles entering or exiting our community. Perhaps knowing the cameras are there will deter these criminals from coming into our community to commit these heinous crimes.

Bottom line everybody has a role to play.

Thanks for reading.
Elga S.



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In loving memory of Jasmine Lowe

By: Mariel Munoz



Blooming brighter than the sun,
Taken from us far too young.
My radiance, my love,
Smiles like a flower,
Heart of purity, you never got the chance to reach maturity.
Blocking your rays of light,
Torture, anger, misery, it's all a nightmare!
Between the horizon and the heavens
Justice will someday prevail!
Playing hide and seek, never thought it would become reality!
We reached the top of Victoria Peak,
But someday I'll climb the gates of heaven just to see your lovely face!
We'll walk and talk, you'll laugh and I'll be happy!
Only then will I ever get out of this tragic misery life has brought us in!



An Accident Just Waiting To Happen

Dear Editor;

In doing my part to make our town safer, I bring to the attention of the relevant authorities a hazardous condition which could result in serious property damage, personal injury or even death.

I am referring to that condition when entering San Ignacio by way of the wooden bridge and turning left into San Ignacio town. A flood light, just one set of two, coming out of the Broaster

Stadium is blinding as it hits drivers right in the face making it almost impossible to see traffic coming from either left or right.

In bringing challenges to the attention of the relevant authorities, we should also suggest ways in which such conditions could be corrected. In order to rectify this hazardous condition, I am suggesting two possible alternatives as follows: 1) the specific set of two lights can either be

Despicable Unsportsmanlike Behavior

Dear Editor;

I attended a basketball game last Friday night at the Falcon Field in San Ignacio and I witnessed one of the most despicable display of unsportsmanlike behavior of my life.

It was nearing the midnight hour. The game was between Galen University and another team.

We were really enjoying the event when, towards the end of the game, certainly after the first half, the referee blew a foul against a Galen University player. The boy rushed up to the referee and gave him a hard slap in the face. I could not believe what I witnessed. I see this kind of behavior only on television.

I thank the people from BECOL for organizing these games which gives us something to look forward to on Friday nights.

I want to tell the managers at BECOL to please not be discouraged from sponsoring future games because of this one despicable isolated incident.

The majority of us will never behave in this anti-social manner.

Governments, and the private sector, are encouraged to construct sporting facilities and organize sporting events to keep the young people out of crime and violence, by his action this boy had violated all the positive things that we have been trying to promote in our community. Yes we have had hard talks on the court but never before has there been such violence.

They tell me that this boy is from Belmopan and that he attends Galen University. I am saying that the closest he should come to our area is as far as Galen University.

I am told that he was criminally charged for assaulting the game official. This is a serious sporting offence and so I am advising the referee, in protecting follow referees and other game officials, to lodge a formal written complain to the Belize Basketball Federation copied to the Hon. Minister as well as to the Minister of State with specific responsibility for sports. Furthermore, if he so desires he can cut out, and attach this letter to the editor to the complaint he sends to the relevant authorities.

I am aware that the Belize Basketball Federation does not take lightly these kinds of unsportsmanlike behavior.

This individual has brought shame on his family; he has brought same on basketball; he has brought shame on the other members of the team and most of all, he has brought shame on Galen University as his behavior makes us ask: **Is this the kind of discipline being imparted at Galen University?**

R. Rodriguez,
San Ignacio Town

ED Note:

Latest information indicate that, upon learning of this incident, the management of Galen University has moved swiftly in the taking of action against this student going to the extend of the cancellation of his scholarship and expulsion from the school. The Management has likewise called an emergency meeting with the team to inform them of the action taken against this individual and to advise them that this kind of behavior will not be tolerated. A spokesperson for the university informed that a media release will be issued this week.

The Set Of Offending Lights Inside San Ignacio's Norman Broster Stadium



lowered or 2) a portion of the eastern cement wall should be raised to block the glare of the

offensive lights.

C. Garcia
Santa Elena

A Prayer For Belize

Submitted by: **Karen Fernandez**
Dear Lord,

I pray for a special blessing for all family and friends who are grieving the lost of a loved one who has died as a result of violence in Belize. I pray that you will bring them comfort and healing in their time of bereavement. I pray for a special blessing for the Ministers of Government, Church leaders, Members of the Judiciary, the Police Department, Members of the NGOs and all our citizens. I pray that together, with **YOUR GUIDANCE**, we will seek to find a way to minimize the crime



rate in our country. Bless the youths who are weak in mind and who are easily led astray, guide them in the paths of righteousness. I pray that **PEACE, LOVE** and **JUSTICE** will reign in our country.



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Your Weekly Horoscope & Lucky Numbers

ARIES:

March 22 to April 20

Unexpected developments might interfere with your home life or with plans to spend a quiet evening with your family. This could have you feeling a little down at first, but don't let it get to you. Whatever you do today might open doors that will benefit both you and those close to you. Gird your loins and do whatever needs to be done. Later you will be glad you did. **Lucky numbers: 34, 50, 71.**

TAURUS:

April 21 to May 21

You may be looking forward to talking on the phone with someone dear who lives far away, but circumstances beyond your control could get in the way. Perhaps you keep missing each other, or problems with computers or phones throw a monkey wrench into the works. Don't let this dim your enthusiasm. Once you reach your friend, expect to have an exciting and emotionally gratifying conversation. **Lucky numbers:15, 63, 98.**

GEMINI:

May 22 to June 21

Although business and money matters continue to go well, some rather unsettling news regarding either your finances or the economy in general could reach you today. However, don't accept as truth anything you hear until you check the facts. The planetary energies now lend themselves to the spread of rumor, gossip, and misinformation. This is definitely the day to hang on to your objectivity. **Lucky numbers:09, 27, 83.**

CANCER:

June 22 to July 23

You may have been looking forward to a social event, group activity, or perhaps a get-together with a lover today, but

circumstances beyond your control throw some unexpected obstacles in your way. Don't panic. If you are focused and objective, you can find a way to get around the obstacles and do what you want to do. If you're involved in creative projects, you might seem blocked today. This should pass by tomorrow. **Lucky numbers: 03, 45, 80.**

LEO:

July 24 to August 21

Although you've been feeling especially strong physically over the past few days, today you might feel a little under the weather. You could even experience some giddiness. This is nothing to worry about, but you should try to take it easy. Don't exercise if you don't feel up to it. Get some rest. Even if you have to postpone some chores, you'll be better off in the long run. **Lucky numbers:21, 57, 91.**

VIRGO:

August 22 to September 21

Emotional matters could hit the fan today at a social event or group meeting of some kind. Those around you are apt to be feeling especially stressed and volatile, so be prepared for anything. Try to stay out of passionate confrontations, and don't try to put oil on troubled waters. At times like this, such attempts only cause unwanted attention to focus on you. Stay centered. **Lucky numbers:07, 39, 76.**

LIBRA:

September 22 to October 23

Stress might be getting the better of a household member today. This person feels emotionally volatile. The least irritation could set off a temper tantrum. Try to ease the pressure by staying out of the way. Don't offer advice, however well intentioned it may be. This person needs to come to terms

with whatever is bothering him or her. Distance yourself and do your own thing. **Lucky numbers:25, 42, 89.**

SCORPIO:

October 24 to November 21

Friends, neighbors, and relatives could be feeling especially stressed out and explosive today. This isn't a good day to initiate intense communications with them. Keep your talk light and inconsequential. This is a great day to stay home and read, especially since your mind is particularly receptive to unusual ideas. The Internet, videos, and TV documentaries could be most informative. **Lucky numbers:12, 32, 54.**

SAGITTARIUS:

November 22 to December 21

The economy could well take a small dip and you might hear from people expressing concerns about financial matters. Don't take them to heart, and certainly don't worry about your own financial condition. The trend will probably reverse itself soon, and this time in the right direction. Take no drastic action just yet. Wait and see what happens. You'll probably breathe a sigh of relief. **Lucky numbers: 65, 87, 93.**

CAPRICORN:

December 22 to January 20

Oppressive stress on you or those close to you could cause disconcerting upsets within your

relationships today. Try to be objective and work things out rationally instead of going to pieces. Avoid being sucked into quarrels where you might say things you'll regret. Don't let this temporary situation get the best of you. Make the effort to stay focused and relaxed. Tomorrow all should be back to normal. **Lucky numbers:10, 36, 69.**

AQUARIUS:

January 21 to February 19

Stress could take a toll on you today. You might temporarily lose your ambition and be left wondering if it is all really worth it. This isn't a good week to start projects or engage in important discussions. Stay home and get some rest if you can. You might skip a few chores, but you will be better off in the long run. Treat yourself to a good book and some ice cream. **Lucky numbers:14, 41, 77.**

PISCES:

February 20 to March 21

Surprising new developments in close friendships or love relationships could come your way today. Someone might move away or perhaps move closer to you. This could prove a little unsettling at first, but you will be happy once you get used to the idea. Social events and group activities could also bring unexpected events your way. Be prepared for some bombshells. On the downside, expect some trouble with machines. **Lucky numbers:19, 24, 73.**



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Recepies By:Debbie Baldwin

Do Mek I See Recipes fi we

Chicken stir Fry with Pasta

1 pack noodles (spaghetti, linguini, rotelle (you can even use 2 packs of ramen)

1 pound chicken (recommend boneless breast)

1 onion

2 carrots

1 sweet pepper

3 cloves garlic

Cilantro

Pumpkin, chaya, or any other fresh vegetables

1 pack consume

1/2 cup water

This is a quick meal that will take you only about 30 minutes. If you don't want to make the noodles, you can make white rice and serve the stir fry over the rice. Just as delicious.

Put on a big pot of water to boil with a pinch of salt. Remember the noodles need space to boil and swell in the water don't use a pot that will bunch them all up.

While you are waiting for the water to boil, dice carrots and other vegetables into bite sized pieces, set aside. Chop up onions and garlic, set aside. Mix one pack of chicken consume with 1/2 cup water, set aside.

Remove all of the bones and skin from the chicken and cut it into small pieces about 1/2 inch square, place in a bowl and sprinkle with small amount of salt and black pepper, if desired add a splash of soy sauce. Set the chicken aside.

Check your big pot of water to see if it is boiling, if it is add your noodles and stir them up and then leave them to cook until they are soft all through. Do not over cook the noodles. When they are done

strain and rinse them.

Heat a large frying pan and add 2 tablespoons of oil. Olive oil is best, but 123 oil, shortening or any type of oil will work. Heat oil until just before it starts to smoke. Add your vegetables and fry them stirring continuously until the carrots are nearly soft, then add the onions and garlic and continue to "stir-fry" until the onions are clear. Remove vegetables from the frying pan but keep the pan on the stove and try to keep as much as the oil in the pan as possible.

Add chicken to the pan, the pan should be hot and should sizzle when you add the chicken. Let chicken get brown before you stir it. Do not overcook this will only take a few minutes.

Once chicken is cooked all return the vegetable mixture to the pan. Add the consume mixture and cilantro. Cook until bubbling then remove from the stove (1 minute or so). Now here is where you can choose, you can serve the noodles on a plate with the stir fry mix on top, or mix it all together in the pan and serve. I prefer the stir fry on top of the noodles, with soy sauce on the side.

As an added treat make some garlic toast to serve along side. Use any type of bread, pack bread, hot dog bread, Johnny cake Mix 1 packet of garlic salt (sal de ajo) with one stick of blue bonnet, spread on one side of your bread, fry buttered side down on your hot comal until browned.

Enjoy with the ones you love.

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BELIZE MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT



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FOR TIDE ENHANCEMENT OF TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT AND SAFELY

AND THE IMPLEMENATATION OF PUBLIC EDUCATION AND

AWARENESS CAMPAIGN FOR TOWN AND CITY COUNCILS OF BELIZE

Loan No: 795 8-BZ

Sub-Project ID No: 7958-BZ/C14

Expressions of Interest

The Government of Belize (GOB) has received a loan from the *International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD)* and intends to apply part of the proceeds of this loan to payments under the contract for TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR THE ENHANCEMENT OF TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT AND SAFETY AND THE IMPLEMENTATION OF PUBLIC EDUCATION AND AWARENESS CAMPAIGN FOR TOWN AND CITY COUNCILS OF BELIZE.

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

The consulting services for this assignment under the Quality Cost Based Selection shall provide technical assistance to all nine town and city councils (TCC5) in the area of capacity building for traffic managers, vehicle inspectors and traffic wardens. Additionally, the technical assistance will also address aspects of public education and awareness that is aimed at improving traffic safety and proper road usage by pedestrians and motorists alike. The indicative implementation period for the eonsultaney is August, 2012 — May, 2014. BSIF hereby invites eligible consultants to indicate their interest in providing the services. Interested consultants must provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the services (brochures, description of similar assignments completed, experience in similar conditions, availability of appropriate skills among staff, current involvement in relevant projects, etc.)

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

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

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

Interested consulting firms may obtain further information at the email address below:

One (1) original and two (2) hard copies of the Expression of Interest must be delivered by 4:00 p.m., 18th June, 2012 to:

Procurement Officer
Belize Social Investment Fund
Belize Municipal Development Project
3rd Floor, PAPI's Building
Constitution Drive
Belmopan, Belize, C.A
lemuel.palacio(dsifbelize.org)

The sealed envelope containing the Expression of Interest must include the name and address of the applicant and should be clearly marked:

"Expressions of Interest: Consultancy Services — Technical Assistance for the Enhancement of Traffic Management and Safety and the Implementation of Public Education and Awareness Campahrn for Town and City Councils of Belize.

Queen Elizabeth Celebrates 60 Years Of Reign

BY: Angelique Patnett
London Correspondent



On 2 June 1953 Elizabeth Alexandra Mary of York's life would forever be changed when she was crowned Queen at the age of 26 one year after her father, King George VI's death on 6 February 1952.

Last weekend saw Queen Elizabeth II celebrate 60 years of reign, her Diamond Jubilee. She is the oldest Monarch to celebrate a Diamond Jubilee at 85 years of age, Queen Victoria was 77 at her's and if she is still reigning in 2015 she will be the longest reigning monarch in history surpassing Victoria who holds the record at an eye watering 63 years on the throne.

But what exactly is a jubilee celebration and where did they start? The oldest records of jubilee celebrations can be found in the bible when every 50th year the Jews celebrated a whole year of Jubilee where they were to have rest and be released from their debts.

While I'm not sure the Queen has any debts to speak of she has definitely earned her rest after 60 years of service to both her country and the Commonwealth.

But why all this fuss over her you might ask. After all some in the United Kingdom known as Republics who long for an end of the monarchy say there is nothing to celebrate if you are given a guaranteed job for life. But I challenge this view and ask this small group of upstarts if they can match the following work record.

During her time of continued faithful and dutiful service Her Majesty has counselled 12 British Prime Ministers the first being Winston Churchill. She has also outlasted 6 Popes, 6 Arch Bishops and has attended every

opening of Parliament except two, one in 1959 and one in 1963 when expecting her 2 sons Prince Andrew and Prince Edward. She is Patron to 600 charities 400 of these since 1952 which include the Commonwealth Youth Exchange Council.

She has made 261 overseas visits including 96 state visits to 116 countries including 2 trips to Belize one in 1985 and one in 1994 of which I know many of my fellow Belizeans will have good memories and even better royal tales. Queen Elizabeth II has even answered 3.5 million correspondence and sat for 129 portraits.

Not to be out done or left behind by modern technology the Queen sent her first e-mail in 1976. Since then she has launched her official website in 1997, her own Royal twitter site in 2009 and her own facebook page in 2010. All while raising 4 children and staying married for over 64 years. Women of Belize take note.

So forgive me if I selfishly say **"LONG LIVE THE QUEEN"** for she surely deserves every bit of fuss her home town of London made of her this past weekend.

Festivities started with the Queen's favourite pastime horse racing at the Epsom Derby on Saturday which was a fitting start as this was also her first official engagement after being crown Queen in 1953. Dressed in a stunning cornflower blue suit and hat, the Jubilee Celebrations almost had a Hollywood beginning as her horse Aureole was beaten to the finish line by a young colt named Pinza.

Sunday saw a magical boat pageant not seen on the Thames River since King Charles II, 350 years ago. The Thames Flotilla made up of 1,000 ships of every size and description from across the world sail down the Thames. Preceding the Queen's royal barge, the Spirit of Chartwell, were a fleet of small boats each one sailing a huge flag representing each Commonwealth Nation. Even in the pouring rain, wind and freezing temperatures, the Queen dressed in white with her husband, the Duke of Edinburgh by her side stood for 4 hours without a break



and waved until every ship passed had passed.

Monday evening the front of Buckingham Palace was turned into a huge outdoor stage as the Jubilee concert got underway. Twenty Thousand guest packed the stands in front of the palace while hundreds of thousands more lined the streets of the Mall to watch international superstar like Will I Am and Stevie Wonder sing Isn't she lovely to the Queen. The only note of sadness was the absence of the Duke of Edinburgh who was taken to hospital the night before with an infection. Still the Queen dressed in gold put on a smile and sat to watch the concert. Prince Charles in his speech beginning with **"Your**

Majesty...Mummy" thanked her for **"making us proud to be British"** as the crowd chanted Phillip, Phillip wishing the Duke a speedy recovery.

Tuesday brought the festivities in London to a close with a service at St. Paul's Cathedral where the Queen decked in aqua marine took time out to give thanks to God and rededicate herself to service. Afterwards a royal carriage procession from Westminster was met by one million people cheering and waving flags as the Queen returned to Buckingham Palace. An open Landau carriage carried the Queen, Prince Charles and the Duchess of Cornwall Camilla followed by Prince William and his wife the Duchess of Cambridge and Prince Harry. The final royal wave from the balcony at 3pm showed the public that the monarchy was alive and well as the next three successors to the throne and their spouses joined the Queen who was met with cheers **"God Save The Queen"** from the crowd.



The Queen (L) and Camila Parker Bowles (R), Duchess of Cornwall in the open Landau carriage



The Queen and the next three successors to the throne and their spouses: Charles, William and Harry

Julie Gets Two Months In Prison For Stealing A Cell Phone

SANTA ELENA TOWN, Cayo, Friday, June 1, 2012:

One moment of indiscretion lands a young woman from Santa Elena in jail for two months.

San Ignacio police reports receiving the 911 emergency call at around 6 o'clock on the evening of Friday, June 1, 2012. The caller reportedly informed of the theft of her cellular telephone and the recording of the incident on camera as it unfolded.

A team of policemen visited Era Plaza Store on the Western Highway in Santa Elena where a female store clerk reported that, about two hours earlier, she was stocking a shelf inside the store and that she placed her cellular telephone inside a nearby carton box as she worked. She reportedly left the location and the telephone for about ten minutes as she went over to assist a customer. The complainant informed that upon returning she observed that her red and black, Blu Brand cellular telephone, valued at \$200 was missing from inside the box where she left it. She had a co-worker call her number but there was no response. With assistance from the store owner, the footage from one of the over 20 video cameras inside the store was reviewed and sure enough it captured the clear image of a customer delving into the box, retrieving the phone, checking it and although it lit up (*an indication that it was in working condition*) she placed it



Julie Andrews, 23

back inside the box. The customer walked away only to return shortly thereafter to take possession of the telephone

and quickly putting it inside the back pocket of the jeans short pants she was wearing. The complainant informed that while she does not know the name of the suspect, she could direct the police to her residence.

The police visited a house on Bishop Martin Street in Santa Elena where an older woman reportedly gave them her daughter's name and telephone number. She told the police that her daughter was not at home at the time. The police called the number and the female who answered informed them that she was at the police station with the telephone to hand over to the police.

Police returned to the station where they met the suspect,

identified as **Julie Andrews**, 23, unemployed Belizean of a Bishop Martin street, Santa Elena, address. The telephone was positively identified by the complainant to be hers. Notwithstanding the suspect's attempt to hand in the telephone, she was first detained and later formally arrested and charged for theft. She was taken to court on Monday, June 4, where the single theft charge was read to her to by Magistrate Narda Morgan. She pled guilty to the charges and, taking into consideration, her attempting to return the telephone along with the absence of any previous conviction and the fact that she pled guilty, Magistrate Morgan proceeded to sentence her to 2 months in jail.

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Seven Years For School Burglar

SAN IGNACIO, Cayo, Friday, June 8, 2012:

Today marks the first anniversary of the school burglar, **Pedro Bermudez**, caught *infraganti delecto* (*in the act of committing the crime*) when he was found stuck inside a window with his rear end sticking out and his head inside a class room at St. Andrews Anglican School in San Ignacio.

Despite being caught *infraganti delecto*, Bermudez pled not guilty to the charge in the courtroom of presiding magistrate **Dale Cayetano** who remanded him to prison. The case went through several adjournments and Bermudez was eventually released on bail.

Well, this week the school burglar was back at it again. Seems like a seasonal thing, as he was found walking down West Street, San Ignacio, not far from the school, in possession of several items stolen from the same school.

Police received the report on Sunday morning, June 3. It was reported that the school was broken into and that among the stolen items were; a \$95 standing fan, a \$20 red basket with first aid supplies, a \$12 yellow wall clock, \$8 worth of toilet paper, \$5 worth of Flash detergent and a \$2.75 bottle of liquid soap. These were precisely the items found on Bermudez when he was detained all of which were identified by the



Pedro Bermudez

complainant as being the property of St. Andrews Anglican School.

Bermudez was detained and transported to the police station where he was charged with burglary and handling stolen goods. He appeared in the courtroom of magistrate Narda Morgan on Monday, June 4 where he pled not guilty to burglary but guilty to handling goods. After expressing agreement with the facts on the handling stolen goods charge as presented by prosecutor George Gomez, he maintained the guilty plea. He was consequently ordered to pay a \$600 fine forthwith in default three months in jail.

Since he was already before the magistrate, Bermudez requested for last year's case to be heard as, he told the court, he intended to plea guilty to the burglary charge. In concurring with

Bermudez's request, the court's attention was refreshed with the facts of that case. Bermudez offered no objection to the facts as read. He was consequently sentenced to spend the next 7 years in jail.

If his *modus operandi* is any

indication, and unless another school burglar surfaces, St. Andrews School should be sailing through the next seven years without having to replace stolen items or repair broken windows resulting from incidents of burglary.

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BELIZE CITY, Thursday, June 7, 2012:

It's no secret that Belize has some of the most sought after lobster in the world, and this June, as Belize's Lobster Festival Season kicks off, lobster lovers will find their favorite crustacean served just about any way they like.

The lobster feasting will take place in San Pedro starting June 15th – 24th. The 7th Annual San Pedro Lobster Festival is the first of three major events taking place during the summer. The San Pedro Lobster Festival will be a ten-day, blissful, lobster-themed festival of activities which is being sponsored/hosted by different restaurants and hotels.

The three day 15th Annual Placencia Lobster Festival begins June 22nd - 24th. Lobster dishes will include barbecued lobster, lobster kebobs, stew lobster, lobster pies, lobster

It's Lobster Time In Belize

fritters, lobster ceviche, lobster fajitas and lobster pizza, will be among the many amazing lobster dishes available. Besides the consumption aspect of the festival, entertainment will be by Taprick and Concego along with the New Rebels sound, and Kenny Gladden and the New Creations.

All of the lobster festivals are geared toward captivating and intriguing your senses. With a variety of fun-filled activities such as the *"Miss Lobster Fest Pageant"*, live music performances, open bars, the drawing of the Lobster fest raffle and a wide array of lobster dishes. *"We'll also be having games and competitions for the whole family; as well as a dance on Saturday and Sunday for those who want to stay up and party,"* said Jolie Pollard of CTIA Placencia. This year's event coincides with the 50th Anniversary of the Placencia Fishermen's Cooperative and special recognition will be paid to that organization at the opening. The 17th Annual Caye

Caulker Lobster Festival is the last of the three festivals to be held, starting on June 29th to July 1st. Historically, Caye Caulker

was the first to celebrate this now cultural event, and with all their gained expertise, you won't want to miss what's in store for 2012.

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Tourism Management Programs

The Belize Tourism Board is offering scholarship opportunities to interested applicants for Tourism Management Programs commencing August 2012 for Full-time Students for the following degrees:

1. **Associate Degree in Tourism Management (Two Year Tuition Scholarship) —4 Scholarships will be granted.**
Requirements: Applicants must submit a certified copy of their High School Diploma, an official transcript, two BTB recommendation forms, a page which describes your career goals and aspirations, proof of Belizean Citizenship and a copy of the acceptance letter into the Tourism Program for 2012 at one of the Junior Colleges offering the Tourism Program.
2. **Jean Shaw Tourism Scholarship (Two Year Full Scholarship) —1 Scholarship will be granted.**
Requirements: Applicants must be female Belizean citizens with a minimum of an Associate's Degree wishing to pursue a Bachelor Degree in Tourism Management. Interested applicants must submit a certified copy of their Associates' Degree, an official transcript, two BTB recommendation forms, a page which describes your career goals and aspirations, proof of Belizean Citizenship and a copy of the acceptance letter into the Tourism Management Program at the University of Belize (UB) commencing August 2012.

The Jean Shim Tourism Scholarship has been established in nwnzoiy of the late Jean Ursilla Shan a yen owned fentaie tourism pioneer who played an integral pan in the development of Belize's tourism industry in her lifrthne. The Fund was established by the BTB, in collaboration nith its private sector countenjans, to supp ofl the development of qualified Belizeans pursuing a caner in tourisuk

*Application forms may be picked up at the BTB main office at #64 Regent Street, Belize City, Belize.

Application deadline: Friday, June 29th, 2012

For more information and application forms, please contact: Ms. Xanierre Velasquez/ Mr. Perry Bodden Jr. .

Telephone: 227-2420 E-mail: xvelasquez@travelbelize.org or pbodden@travelbelize.org

Policeman Oswald Young - Arrested Again



Policeman - Oswald Young, 31



Policeman - Zachario Cus, 26



Soldier - Romel Eljio, 31

DANGRIGA, Stann Creek District, Tuesday, June 5, 2012:

Two policemen and a soldier are today behind bars at the central prison on remand as they

stand accused of pulling off an early morning robbery at the Bella Vista Branch Office of Punta Gorda's Toledo Teachers Credit Union.

Policemen from Independence Village's Intermediate Southern Formation of the Belize Police Department informed that it was around 8:30 am on Monday, June 4, the credit union was just open for the new business week when three armed men, one of whom was not wearing a mask stormed into the building and held up everyone at gun point. The manager of the credit union was reportedly escorted to the vault and ordered to open it. The robbers then produced a bag and proceeded to load it with cash.

It is reported that, before rushing out of the building, they also stole cellular telephones and other valuables from the staff as well as from the customers. They then took possession of the credit union's Toyota Hilux pickup truck and sped off towards Independence village.

An immediate investigation was launched whereby the police came upon an Isuzu Trooper with taxi plates as it was approaching the high school in Independence village. The vehicle was stopped and searched resulting in the discovery of a green military type bag containing a large amount of cash.

At the police station in Independence village, the driver was identified as **Nelson Bardalez**, 42, taxi driver from Independence village along with passengers, **Oswald Young** 31, **Zachario Cus**, 26 both police constables attached to Belize

City's Eastern Division Patrol Branch, as well as **Romel Eljio**, 31, Belize Defense Force soldier wearing the rank of corporal on assignment with the elite Belize Special Assignment Group (BSAG). When counted, the cash, comprising US and Belize currency notes, amounted to over 34 thousand dollars which, according to credit union officials, represent the total haul.

Police later found the Toyota Hilux on a feeder road off the Savannah Road near the Southern Highway junction.

PC#510 Oswald Young, is no stranger to controversy, as he was criminally charged for theft and attempt extortion in connection with an October 2, 2010 incident in which a Honduran housewife from Ranchito village in the Corozal District, who was in the country illegally, implicated him and two constables in the theft of her \$350 Samsung cellular telephone and also demanding the payment of \$400 in exchange for her release.

The telephone, she said was left in the care of the policemen, who were holding on to it pending her return with the \$400 pay off. Instead of returning with the cash, the complainant returned to lodge the complaint against Young and the others. While the telephone was never recovered, the charger identified as her property by the complainant, was found inside a drawer attached to the front desk police work station.

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There Is A Beast In Our Midst

Continued From Front Page

wagon taxi heading in the opposite direction of vehicular traffic into San Ignacio by way of the wooden bridge.

What transpired between the time she boarded the taxi and the time, almost 48 hours later, when her dead body was found, only the beast among us can say.

Upon receiving the report of the gruesome discovery, a high level team of policemen from the San Ignacio detachment rushed to the area where they were directed to the scene. The team included the District Commanding Officer, Sr. Supt. **Chester Williams**, the station's Deputy Commander, Inspector **Reymundo Reyes** (*himself a senior investigator*), the staff from the local Crimes Investigation Branch and a full



The Father, Chris Lowe, being interviewed at the scene where his daughter's body was found

complement of Scenes Of Crime personnel. Also arriving later on the scene was the Police Forensic Specialist **Dr. Mario Estradabran**, who was reportedly unable to determine the cause of the child's death because of the advanced state of decomposition.

In a hasty press briefing called, a few hours after the gruesome discovery, by Sr. Supt. **Chester Williams**, at the conference room inside the police station in San Ignacio, Williams informed that no stones will be left unturned as police seek to get to the very bottom of this latest homicide. He told the media that, as per his experience, he suspects that the child was killed elsewhere and that the body was dumped at the location where it was found. In the absence of medical evidence, Williams told the gathered press, that he suspects the child was killed sometime during the course of Monday night.



Family and Friends at the burial site in Barton Creek
(Photo Courtesy Art Wager - AMS)

After Estradabran's inspection later that Wednesday evening, the body of little Jasmine Lowe was handed over to the family. A proper burial followed at the father's farm in the Barton Creek Community, located just off the Mountain Pine Ridge road near the village of Georgeville.

The entire community including the Scouting Association joins Chris and the wife Marisol as well as the immediate and extended family in their pain at the sudden and tragic passing of Jasmine, such a darling girl, with a trusting personality and a promising future, a future shattered by that beast in our midst.

In the process of the investigation several persons, mostly taxi drivers, were detained, questioned and released.

The latest information reaching us indicates that police are holding on to a 57 year old taxi driver from San Ignacio who remains in custody while the car he drives is currently undergoing microscopic forensic inspection as the equipment donated by the US Embassy and handed over to the police a few days ago is being pressed into use.

As the community continues, with firm conviction, to condemn this beastly incident and in an effort to demonstrate its support for the police's search for this beast, the Scouts Association along with Cornerstone Foundation will be holding a candlelight vigil this Saturday, June 9 in front of the police

station in San Ignacio. The event begins at 7:00 pm sharp. The community is encouraged to come out in numbers, in white shirts and armed with candles.

Editor's Note: *While it is generally considered a violation of journalism principles to editorialize on news items, we will throw that one through the window as drastic times deserve equally drastic measures. Furthermore, we do not consider ourselves to be your hard core mainstream media people so here we go: By all indications there is a beast out there parading as a taxi driver. As they await the next customer, taxi drivers generally mill around and the exchange of information between them is tremendous. It is said that if you want to know what is happening in town, just chat with a taxi driver. In fact, many are the criminal intelligence officers who tap into this valuable resource. If anyone,*

apart from the police, who should be working overtime to bring this beast to justice, it is taxi drivers, as this one has effectively and seriously tarnished the image of the taxi business. While the Scouts Association and Cornerstone Foundation is requesting the public's support for Saturday night's candlelight vigil, we will take it a step further and, as a show of peaceful protest, as long as this cruel crime remains unsolved, we are issuing a call on the community to curtail your use of taxi service. Furthermore, our children, neither male nor female, especially our young daughters, should NEVER EVER again ride a taxi cab unaccompanied. Let us take this action in memory of little Jasmine Lowe, this child did not deserve to have departed this earth in this manner. Drastic time deserve drastic measures.

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