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No. 346
 Sunday, February 10, 2013
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Father And Son Facing Joint Burglary Charge

BELMOPAN, Cayo, Monday, February 4, 2013:

A father and son, caught in the act of burglary, are today out on a three thousand dollar bail each after appearing in the Belmopan Court room of magistrate **Linsbert Willis**.

The information reaching us indicated that at around 3:00 pm on Thursday, January 31, 2013, Georgeville police reportedly received an emergency call from **Leopold Mai**, Belizean caretaker at Maya Ranch Farm located in the village.

Mai reported that two male persons, of Hispanic descent, arrived at the farm in a white pickup truck, broke the lock attached to the farm



The Father
 Marcus Santos Sr., 44



The Son
 Marcus Santos Jr. 21

storeroom and were in the process of removing items from the building when he found them in the act.

The policeman rushed to the scene where he came upon two male persons exiting the storeroom with a bundle of steel rods. The policeman also found the white pickup truck, parked in front of the building, loaded with two AC units, a red water pump, a black Motorola battery charger, winch clamp, strap belt clamp and a variety of steel rods.

Both men were instantly detained, handcuffed and transported to the main station in San Ignacio where they were identified as father and son with

Please Turn To Page 2



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Burglary in Buena Vista

BELMOPAN, Cayo, Monday, February 4, 2013:

Police are this week reporting the solving of another burglary this one in the village of Buena Vista on the outskirts of the Mennonite community of Spanish Lookout.

At around 2:00 pm on Saturday, February 2, 2013, the policeman stationed in Spanish Lookout received information of a burglary in progress in Buena Vista Village.

The policeman rushed to the scene where he met the complainant **Ramon Coronado** who told the police that his house was burglarized and that he knew who committed the crime. Armed with this information, police visited the Buena Vista home of **Victor Alfonso Limas**.

The suspect was reportedly found in bed where he was informed of the report made against him. He was detained and transported to the sub-station in Spanish Lookout.

Police believe that entry was gained through an opening above the front door, created by the removal of several pieces the wooden siding. The subsequent investigation led to

the arrest and the formal lodging of a burglary charge against **Victor Alfonso Limas**, 28, Belizean Farmer of Buena Vista Village.

The accused was arraigned on Monday, February 4, 2013 inside the Belmopan courtroom of magistrate **Linsbert Willis** where he pled not guilty to the charge. He was offered bail in the sum of three thousand dollars.

Lima was unable, at the time, to meet bail and as a result he was transported to the central prison in Hattieville. He is scheduled to return to court on Wednesday, April 10, 2013.

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Sacred Heart College Auditorium Finally Becoming A Reality



The Completed Auditorium Will Cost Almost Two Million Dollars When Completed In June Of This Year

SACRED HEART COLLEGE, San Ignacio, Cayo, Thursday, February 7, 2013:

After fundraising for many years Sacred Heart College has officially commenced construction of a 100X200 feet, state of the art multi-purpose facility which is expected to be completed in time for graduation in June.

President of Sacred Heart College, Dr. **Eve Aird**, informed that reaching the ground breaking stage has been slow and painstaking.

Dr. Aird informed that it took over six years to gather enough funds to start the project that is to become a major facility for sports and other social activities at Sacred Heart College.

The auditorium which is estimated to cost over 2 million dollars was

designed by Mr. Lennox Bradley, Chief Engineer in the Ministry of Works, himself a former student of the college. The facility will be constructed to withstand a category 4 hurricane. It will be pressed into service as a hurricane shelter.

Upon completion the facility will house a grand stage for the performing arts, kitchen area and offices.

President Dr. **Eve Aird** joins with the Board of Trustees, Faculty, Staff and Students of Sacred Heart College in the expression of heartfelt THANK YOU to the business community, parents, students past and present and the public at large for assisting in making this long held dream a reality. **"We could not have done it without the community's support"** concluded Dr. Aird.



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, 2013 to March 31, 2014, with the option to extend to March 31, 2015.

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 receipt of bids is Wednesday, February 27, 2012 at 5:00 PM.

The envelope must be addressed to:

**Chief Financial Officer
Belize Water Services
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Belize Water Services reserves the right to accept any or to reject all applicants.



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Father And Son Facing Burglary Charge

From Front Page

the same name being **Marcus Santos Sr.**, 44 and **Marcus Santos Jr.**, 21, both Belizean laborers of a Santa Elena Town address in the Cayo District.

The father and son were, on Friday, February 1, arrested and jointly charge for burglary. In the absence of San Ignacio's magistrate

Narda Morgan, they were taken to the magistrate's court in Belmopan, on Monday, February 4, where the charge was read to them by senior magistrate **Linsbert Willis**. They both pled not guilty to the charge and were offered bail in the sum of three thousand dollars each. They were ordered to return to court on Tuesday, April 2, 2013.



Jose Orellano

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Theft Of Haitian Relief Funds By The Red Cross On Third Earthquake Anniversary

Submitted By: Candy & George Gonzalez

Three years ago, an international expression of caring went out to Haiti in the aftermath of the earthquake that devastated the nation. Belizeans responded with open hearts, giving what they could.

The major focal point in Belize for collection of donations was the Belize Red Cross despite information surfacing that the Red Cross money did not always get to where it was supposed to go. We wrote the media and called the talk shows about the The Red Cross and offering an alternative way to donate, the Haiti Emergency Relief Fund (HERF). It was founded in March 2004 by **Harry Belafonte** and **Danny Glover** and worked to address the crisis of the earthquake as well as giving concrete aid to Haiti's grassroots democratic movement supporting the long-run development of human rights, sustainable agriculture and economic justice in Haiti.

Most of the media ignored our information about the Red Cross funds and HERF. One media house went so far as to ridicule and belittle us and brought on **Lily Bowman**, Director General, Belize Red Cross without giving us an opportunity to present the facts we had.

A notable exception was Wil Maheia and the People's National Party (PNP) who organized a Kayak



Aftermath Of The Destructive Earthquake Which Struck Haiti In January Of 2010

for Haiti Kayak-a-thon to raise funds, sent through HERF, for the victims of the quake. We collected money in Cayo from a number of people which we sent to Haiti through HERF. All of the money sent to HERF got to where it was needed - the relief effort on the ground in Haiti.

Now, three years later, we are hearing how hundreds of thousands of people are still struggling to survive in Haiti without clean water or food security or income. The majority of the funds collected did not go to help alleviate the suffering in

Haiti or to help people rebuild their lives.

What happened to the billions of dollars donated by generous people from around the world, including Belize?

The Belize Red Cross said it raised over 1/2 million dollars (Channel 5 interview with Lily Bowman, April 8, 2010) that they sent to the U.S. Red Cross

earmarked for Haiti, according to their spokespeople. The U.S. Red Cross received at least \$479 million. Not much of that money reached the Haitian survivors.

We are concerned about what happened to the funds designated for Haiti from honest and caring people who donated to the Red Cross. We hope, in the future, that the media will present more than just one side.

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Readers Write



Dear Editor:

It seems that many things that have come into and are trying to come into Belize are the result of this country not serving Almighty YAH (GOD) in full obedience to His WORD -- the Bible.

Deuteronomy 28 in the Bible lists the blessings and curses which result from either full obedience to the Almighty and His WORD or disobedience to Almighty YAH and His WORD. Included in the curses are the below verses:

42 -- All thy trees and fruit of thy land shall the locust consume.

43 -- The stranger that is within thee shall get up above thee very high; and thou shalt come down very low.

44 -- He shall lend to thee, and thou shalt not lend to him: he shall be the head, and thou shalt be the tail.

The GMO (genetically modified organisms) foods involve man experimenting with the genetic makeup of plants and animals. What Almighty YAH has created through His Son Jesus Christ is so perfectly created that no person could ever know how to do what the Almighty has done. This is verified in Ecclesiastes 3:11 -- He hath made everything beautiful in His time: also He hath set the world in their heart, so that no man can find out the work

that God maketh from the beginning to the end.

However, man's wanting to experiment with living matter has and will bring devastating results because he is interfering with what the Almighty has perfectly designed. Researching various studies made concerning GMO foods, the results of some of these studies made by the Institute for Responsible Technology, Your Consumer Safety Partner -- May 20, 2009 are:

1 -- Serious health risks including infertility, immune problems, accelerated aging; insulin regulation, changes in major organs and the gastrointestinal system.

2 -- World renowned biologist Pushpa M. Bhargava has reviewed over 600 scientific journals, and concludes that GMOs are a major contributor to the sharply deteriorating health of Americans.

3 -- **David Schubert** of the Salk Institute warns that children can be adversely affected by toxins and dietary problems.

4 -- GM soy fed to female rats caused the babies to die within 3 weeks.

5 -- Male rats fed GM soy resulted in their testicles changing from pink to dark blue.

6 -- Mice fed GM corn had altered sperm, embryos had significant changes in their DNA (deoxyribonucleic acid) which is a component of chromosomes in cell nucleus which encodes genetic data.

7 -- In Haryana, India most buffalo that had eaten GMO cottonseed had premature deliveries, abortions, infertility, uterus that fell out of place, and many calves died.

8 -- In the U. S. -- 2 dozen farmers reported thousands of pigs became sterile after eating certain GM corn varieties.

9 -- Bt toxin (a pesticide) produced from soil bacteria *Bacillus thuringiensis* has a safe use. But, genetic engineers insert Bt genes into corn and cotton, so the plants do the killing. The problem is that the Bt-toxin produced in plants is thousands of times more toxic. **IT CANNOT BE WASHED OFF THE PLANT.** In India, animals feed on cotton plants after harvest, and thousands died after eating Bt plants. Autopsies showed severe irritation and black patches in the intestines and liver, and enlarged bile ducts.

10 -- Immune dysregulation occurs, causing asthma, allergy, and inflammation. Dr. **Arpad Pusztai** said that ALL studies showed changes in the immune status of GM animals.

11 -- The gene inserted into GM soy transfers into the DNA of bacteria living inside human intestines and continues to function. This means harmful GM proteins are produced continuously inside of humans and are living pesticide factories inside of

humans.

12 -- GM foods have not been properly tested and pose a serious health risk. Canadian geneticist **David Suzuki** says, "The experiments simply haven't been done and we now have become the guinea pigs. Anyone that says, 'Oh, we know that this is perfectly safe,' I say is either unbelievably stupid or deliberately lying."

Other studies from other sources have stated that Monsanto is responsible for the Roundup Ready seed. When using these seeds, one needs to spray crops with Monsanto's pesticide so one will not need to till the soil to control weeds. This has resulted in herbicide resistant superweeds. To cure this problem, Monsanto suggests using more herbicide which will result in more toxic residues of herbicides in our food supply.

This Roundup is linked to a worldwide decimation of frogs which control pests without chemicals. It also causes tadpoles to change shape.

Monsanto has been slowly buying up the world's supply of seeds for corn, potatoes, and soybeans. Then Monsanto patents the seeds and sues the farmers for piracy if they save them to replant. This pushes out the **SMALL FARMER** who can't afford to keep up with huge industrial farming operations.

Belize ----- wake up! WHO-EVER CONTROLS THE FOOD CONTROLS THE PEOPLE.

Sincerely,
Elaine J. Pinkerton

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Happy Valentine's Day

STAR Newspaper

Publisher:
Nyani K. August
Editor:
Albert Nigel August

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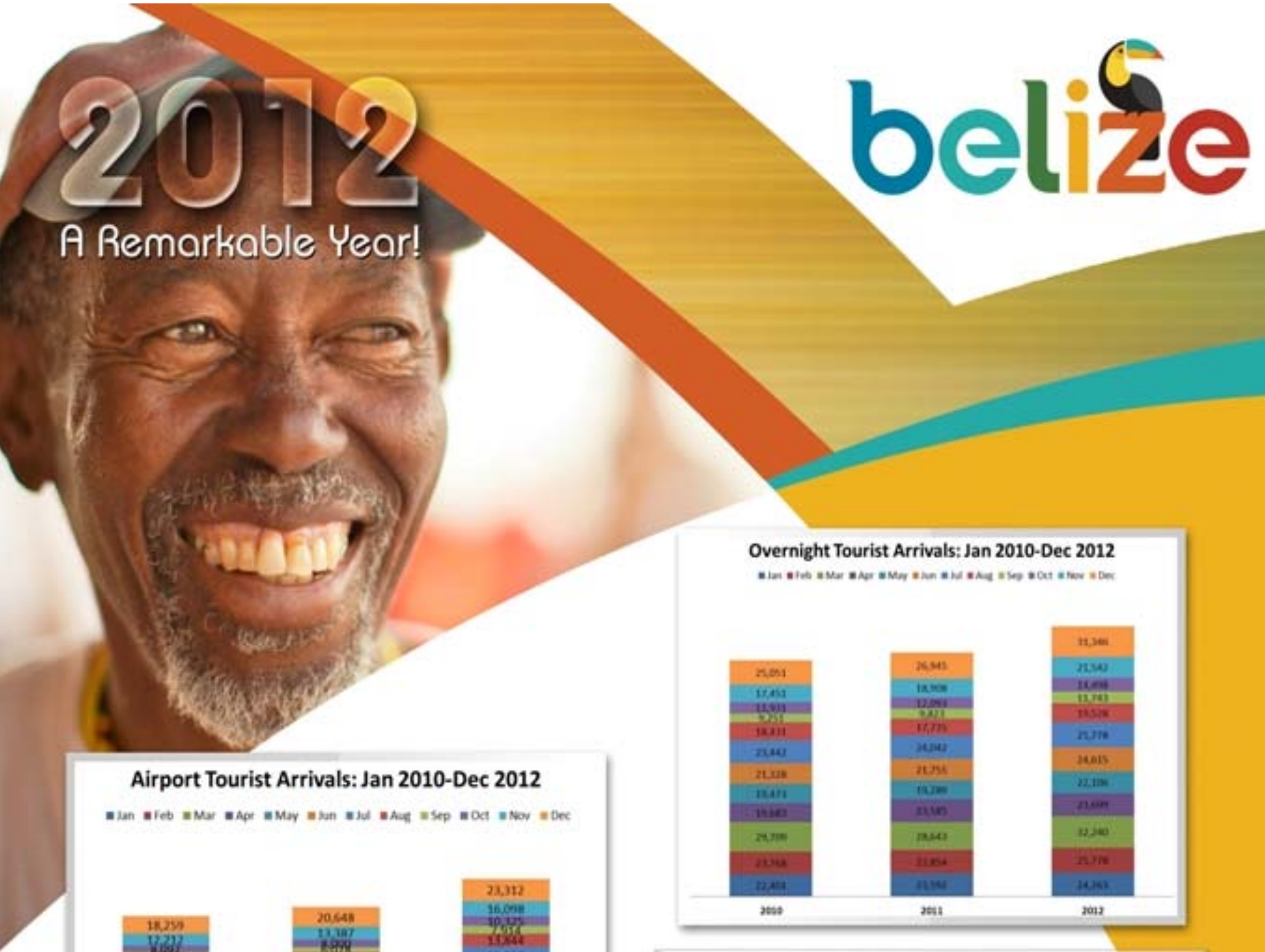
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Airport arrivals saw a 16.3% increase in 2012, having 211,747 tourists arriving at the Philip Goldson International Airport; therefore, making up 76.4% of the total overnight arrivals. Reflecting the overnight arrivals, airport arrivals were at its highest in March, with 25,982 visitors, and December followed with 23,312 visitors.

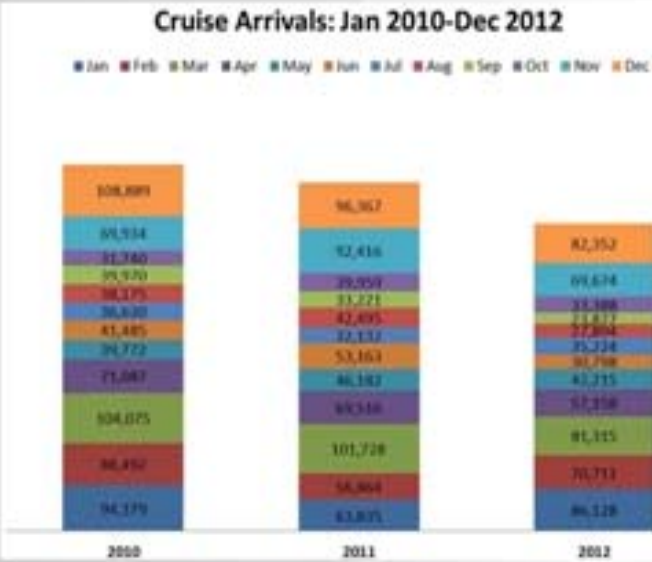
2012 was a remarkable year for Belize's Tourism Industry, particularly for overnight tourism. Overnight arrivals saw an overall 10.7% increase, in comparison to 2011 arrivals. In 2012, there were 26,872 more visitors than in 2011, recording 277,135 visitors for the entire year. The American market made up 63.7% of this total, while Canadians made up 8.7%.

Antigua & Barbuda	246,926	2.3% ↑
Barbados	536,303	-5.5% ↓
Belize	277,135	10.7% ↑
Cayman Islands	321,650	4.1% ↑
Grenada	112,307	-5.1% ↓

In comparison to several of our competitors in the Caribbean, Belize is doing extremely well, particularly for overnight tourism. From the table above, the final overnight tourism figures released for some of our competitors show change percentages as based on comparisons to the 2011 tourism year.

Antigua & Barbuda	551,161	-9.1% ↓
Barbados	517,436	-15.2% ↓
Belize	640,734	-12% ↓
Cayman Islands	1,507,370	7.6% ↑
Grenada	242,454	-21.7% ↓

While Belize didn't perform as impressively in the cruise tourism sector, the table above shows that cruise arrivals in the Caribbean have been a concern for many of our regional competitors.



Although cruise arrivals have decreased by 12%, it still contributed an impressive 640,734 visitors to Belize for 2012. The year began with a 34.9% increase, compared to January 2011. February also saw a 24.4% increase, as well as July with a 9.6% increase. While the numbers were down for 2012, and ten ships have been cancelled, BTB has gotten assurances from cruise partners that Belize's cruise industry will grow for 2013.

The Belize Tourism Board wishes to extend hearty congratulations to all Belizeans, our partners and stakeholders. It is through continuous hard work, collaboration and dedication that we are able to achieve such impressive results. We look forward to an even great year in 2013!

Michael Flowers - Taking Complaints For The Ombudsman Office

Dear Editor;

I would like to take this opportunity to inform readers that over the past two years I, Michael Flowers of #16 Carmen Street, Santa Elena, Cayo, has been authorized by the Office of the Ombudsman to record and forward complaints to that office.

The Ombudsman at that time, Ms. Cynthia Pitts, has since retired and a new Ombudsman in the person of Mr. Lionel Arzu was recently appointed to fill the vacant post.

This letter serves to inform under the auspices of the new Ombudsman, I have been re-appointed to continue providing this service to the people in all of the three office locations where my business is operated. I consider it a great privilege to be able to assist



Michael Flowers

those persons with complaints that they believe could be handled by the office of the Ombudsman.

It is worthwhile for the public to know that I hold a certificate in legal methods and writing and a certificate in advance level law from the University of the West Indies School of continuing studies, Belize.

Anyone wishing to utilize the services we provide can do so by visiting us Monday to Friday between

the hours of 8:00am to 5:00pm. Our offices are located at #16 Carmen Street, Santa Elena, Cayo another on Baron Bliss Street, Benque Vejo Town, Cayo and the third office is located on Pescador Drive, San Pedro Town, Belize District.

I can be reached anytime at: 626-4063 or by email at: flowersagency.courtprocessserver@yahoo.com.

Regards, Michael Flowers



SAINT MARTIN'S CREDIT UNION LTD.

Eve Street, San Ignacio

Cayo District, Belize CA.

January 23, 2013 Manager 824-3231

By Order of the Chargee Notice of Intention to Sell

Saint Martin's Credit Union Ltd having its registered office at No.3 Eve Street, San Ignacio Town, Cayo, hereby gives notice of intention to exercise its power of sale as Chargee between those hereinafter named and the said Saint Martin's Credit Union Ltd which said charge is registered at the Land Registry in Belmopan.

Saint Martin's Credit Union Ltd will at the expiration of two (2) months from the date of first publication of this notice sell the property describe in the schedule hereto.

All offers to purchase the said property must be made in writing to the said Credit Union.

Schedule:

Parcel 122 Block 23 San Ignacio North Registration Section, being a Freehold property of Christine Cryer located on Ford Young Street, Cahal Pech, San Ignacio

Third Publication: February 10, 2013



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Notice is hereby given that under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Chapter 150 of the Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2000, that MIDAS RESORT is applying for the renewal of a RESTAURANT & BAR LIQUOR LICENSE for the year 2013 to operate Midas Resort located on Branch Mouth Road, San Ignacio Town in the Cayo District.

Your Weekly Horoscope and Lucky Numbers

ARIES:

March 22 to April 20

Computers and other equipment could go haywire this week, limiting your abilities to work at maximum efficiency. Even though you are usually calm and laid back this week the ogre in you may be tempted to emerge. Don't let it. It will only cause tension between you and those around you. Stay calm and focused, call in a technician, and enjoy the break from your routine. **Lucky numbers: 00, 12, 59.**

TAURUS:

April 21 to May 21

Don't try to sign up for a class over the phone or online this week, as it probably won't work. This also isn't a good week to travel - delays are likely whether you fly or drive. If you've been planning a trip, don't finalize the arrangements now. Wait a few days, as computers and other equipment used in such arrangements are likely to malfunction, and you could end up frustrated. **Lucky numbers: 21, 45, 83.**

GEMINI:

May 22 to June 21

No matter what friends tell you, this isn't the week to make an investment of any kind, from buying a house to starting a savings account. And this isn't a good day to invest online. The planetary energies don't favor computers or other forms of modern technology used in such transactions, so wait a week or two. Discussions about possibilities are OK. Just don't do it yet. **Lucky numbers: 08, 23, 79.**

CANCER:

June 22 to July 23

More than one problem with modern equipment could rear its head this week. Computers could malfunction, crash, or be maddeningly slow. You might also have a hard time reaching people you need to talk to. Don't be tempted to blow your top. That won't accomplish anything. Just call the technicians and get it handled. Tomorrow everything should be back to normal. **Lucky numbers: 37, 65, 86.**

LEO:

July 24 to August 21

A trip of some kind might have to be postponed, as computers and other technology involved in your arrangements might be temporarily out of operation. This can prove frustrating, Leo, but it's beyond your control. The best thing to do is make new arrangements and move on. For the most part, everything is going very well for you, so don't give in to panic. Hang in there. **Lucky numbers: 10, 32, 61.**

VIRGO:

August 22 to September 21

Some upsetting dreams might haunt you this week. They might evoke some uncomfortable emotional issues. You might be a bit edgy emotionally and more likely to overreact when other people quarrel or machines break down. It might be a good idea to analyze your dreams first thing in the morning so you can learn from and release them. That way you will be more balanced throughout your week. **Lucky numbers: 33, 52, 90.**

LIBRA:

September 22 to October 23

Machines are likely to pose a few problems this week, particularly where work and money are concerned. An unforeseen problem might interfere with your social life, perhaps forcing you to cancel a get-together you have been anticipating. If the person you were supposed to meet protests, avoid taking out your frustrations on him or her. Make new arrangements. It is only a temporary situation. **Lucky numbers: 09, 22, 43.**

SCORPIO:

October 24 to November 21

Obstacles may arise in the course of your chores when machines break down and interfere with your efficiency. Your frustrations may cause you to want to yell and throw things. If you must blow your top, do it in such a way as to avoid causing upset

to others. Go for a workout or jog. The machines will be fixed and the situation will pass. Hang in there. **Lucky numbers: 03, 29, 60.**

SAGITTARIUS:

November 22 to December 21

Payment for work you have performed may not come when expected, particularly if direct deposit is involved. The planetary energies this week don't favor the smooth functioning of computers or other machines. This is a temporary setback and not worth stressing over. Don't give in to the temptation to lose your temper. All will be straightened out and your funds will be in their proper place. **Lucky numbers: 01, 47, 91.**

CAPRICORN:

December 22 to January 20

Family members might not be in the best of moods this week. Frustration with machines or friends could have tempers on edge, so try to avoid the temptation to get into arguments. The problems will be resolved and the bad moods will pass. You don't want any residual bad feelings between you and them. This is a good day to get out and spend the day in the library by yourself. **Lucky numbers: 47, 89, 97.**

AQUARIUS:

January 21 to February 19

Problems in your community may result from malfunctioning machines. Be prepared. Have flashlights handy in case of a power outage, and walk instead of drive in case signals cause major traffic jams. Neighbors may be going crazy, but try to stay calm. This

is a temporary situation, and not worth getting all stressed over. A good piece of advice is to spend sometime reading. **Lucky numbers: 04, 27, 39.**

PISCES:

February 20 to March 21

Temporary upsets regarding money might result from a computer failure of some sort. Take care not to lose your temper over it. Instead, remain calm, focused, and polite until everything is worked out. Your financial condition itself still looks very promising. It is just that the planetary energies don't favor machines this week, so they may all go out of whack. Hang in there. **Lucky numbers: 46, 71, 90.**

LIQUOR LICENSE NOTICES

Notice is hereby given that under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Chapter 150 of the Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2000, that **JOSE ANTONIO GUERRA** is applying for the renewal of his **MALT & CIDER LIQUOR LICENSE** for the year 2013 to operate **Dibos Pool Hall** located at #8 George Street, Benque Veijo Town in the Cayo District.

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Mexico Hunts Acapulco Spanish Tourist Rape Gang

Mexican authorities say they are determined to capture those responsible for the rape of six Spanish women near the holiday resort of Acapulco.

Masked gunmen burst into a rented beach house on Monday, tied up and held at gunpoint six Spanish men as they attacked the women for several hours.

A seventh woman escaped after telling the attackers she was a Mexican.

Acapulco is one of Mexico's most famous beach resorts, but it has recently suffered from drug-related violence.

"The attack will not go



Mexican Troops Are Helping Police Hunt For The Attackers

unpunished, as we are committed to catching those responsible," said a statement from the government of Guerrero state which includes Acapulco.

"The government is in constant communication with the victims and the Spanish consular authorities to offer help," the statement added.

'Strong evidence'

Most of the Spanish women are reported to be residents of Mexico who had travelled to Acapulco - on the Pacific coast - for a weekend break.

No-one has been arrested in connection with the attack on Playa Bonfil, but officials said they had leads to pursue.

"Fortunately we have strong evidence that will lead us to those responsible for this reprehensible act," Guerrero state Attorney-General **Marta Garzon** told Mexican radio.

Acapulco Mayor **Luis Walton** has apologised for causing offence after he said the attack could have happened "anywhere in the world".

The rapes are being seen as a blow to Mexico's attempts to boost its reputation as a tourist destination.

In recent years Guerrero state has been the scene of a bloody feud between rival drug trafficking gangs, but BBC Mexico correspondent Will Grant says Acapulco and its beaches have been considered relatively safe.

In the 1950s and 1960s Acapulco was a world-famous resort that attracted celebrities such as **Frank Sinatra**, **Elvis Presley** and US President **John F Kennedy**, who spent his honeymoon there.

These days it mainly attracts Mexican holiday makers

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{Land tax (partial remission of arrears) act, 2013

THE GENERAL PUBLIC IS HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT THE LANDS AND SURVEYS DEPARTMENT IS CURRENTLY IMPLEMENTING A PARTIAL REMISSION OF LAND TAX ARREARS PROGRAMME, ALSO REFERRED TO AS "LAND TAX AMNESTY PROGRAMME" DESIGNED TO AFFORD LAND OWNERS THE OPPORTUNITY TO SETTLE THEIR OUTSTANDING LAND TAX AND SPECULATION TAX ARREARS OVER A SIX MONTH PERIOD.

THE PROGRAMME PROVIDES FOR THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS:

- Twenty five percent (25%) remission of tax up to fiscal year 2012/13
- Waiver of interest accrued inclusive of any penalties for non-payment up to fiscal year 2012/13
- Enter into a written contractual arrangements expressing interest to participate in the "Land Tax Programme".
- Participants shall pay the balance of outstanding taxes, after partial remission, shall be paid in full before the expiration of the Land Tax Amnesty period
- Failure to comply with the contractual agreement nullifies the participant to benefit of the remission granted under this programme and the entire tax due before such remission shall become immediately due and payable and may be recovered in the manner provided in the Land Tax Act.

Further clarification and information relating to the Land Tax Partial Remission of Arrears Programme can be obtained at the Lands and Surveys Department in the City of Belmopan, District Towns and Belize City.

COMMISSIONER OF LANDS AND SURVEYS

30th January 2013

From Your Valentine

Every year, the fourteenth day of the month of February has millions across the world presenting their loved ones with candy, flowers, chocolates and other lovely gifts. In many countries, restaurants and eateries are seen to be filled with couples who are eager to celebrate their relationship and the joy of their togetherness through delicious cuisines. There hardly seems to be a young man or woman who is not keen to make the most of the day.

The reason behind all of this is a kindly cleric named **Valentine** who died more than a thousand years ago.

It is not exactly known why the 14th of February is known as Valentine's Day or if the noble Valentine really had any relation to this day. The history of Valentine's Day is impossible to be obtained from any archive and the veil of centuries gone by has made the origin behind this day more difficult to trace. It is only some legends that are our source for the history of Valentine's Day.

The modern St. Valentine's Day celebrations are said to have been derived from both ancient Christian and Roman tradition. As per one legend, the holiday has originated from the ancient Roman festival of Lupercalis/Lupercalia, a fertility celebration that used to observed

annually on February 15. But the rise of Christianity in Europe saw many pagan holidays being renamed for and dedicated to the early Christian martyrs. Lupercalia was no exception. In 496 AD, Pope Gelasius turned Lupercalia into a Christian feast day and set its observance a day earlier, on February 14. He proclaimed February 14 to be the feast day in honor of **Saint Valentine**, a Roman martyr who lived in the 3rd century. It is this St. Valentine whom the modern Valentine's Day honors.

According to the Catholic Encyclopedia, there were at least three early Christian saints by the name of Valentine. While one was a priest in Rome, another was a bishop in Terni. Nothing is known about the third St. Valentine except that he met his end in Africa. Surprisingly, all three of them were said to have been martyred on 14th February.

It is clear that Pope Gelasius intended to honor the first of these three aforementioned men. Most scholars believe that this St. Valentine was a priest who lived around 270 AD in Rome and attracted the disfavor of Roman emperor Claudius II who ruled during this time.

The story of St. Valentine has two different versions - the Protestant and

the Catholic one. Both versions agree upon Saint Valentine being a bishop who held secret marriage ceremonies of soldiers in opposition to Claudius II who had prohibited marriage for young men and was executed by the latter. During the lifetime of Valentine, the golden era of Roman empire had almost come to an end. Lack of quality administrators led to frequent civil strife. Education declined, taxation increased and trade witnessed a very bad time. The Roman empire faced crisis from all sides, from the Gauls, Slavs, Huns, Turks and Mongolians from Northern Europe and Asia. The empire had grown too large to be shielded from external aggression and internal chaos with existing forces. Naturally, more and more capable men were required to be recruited as soldiers and officers to protect the nation from takeover. When Claudius became the emperor, he felt that married men were more emotionally attached to their families, and thus, will not make good soldiers. He believed that marriage made the men weak. So he issued an edict forbidding marriage to assure quality soldiers.

The ban on marriage was a great shock for the Romans. But they dared not voice their protest against the mighty emperor. The kindly bishop Valentine also realized the injustice of the decree. He saw the trauma of

young lovers who gave up all hopes of being united in marriage. He planned to counter the monarch's orders in secrecy. Whenever lovers thought of marrying, they went to Valentine who met them afterwards in a secret place, and joined them in the sacrament of matrimony. And thus he secretly performed many marriages for young lovers. But such things cannot remain hidden for long. It was only a matter of time before Claudius came to know of this "**friend of lovers**," and had him arrested.

While awaiting his sentence in prison, Valentine was approached by his jailor, Asterius. It was said that Valentine had some saintly abilities and one of them granted him the power to heal people. Asterius had a blind daughter and knowing of the miraculous powers of Valentine he requested the latter to restore the sight of his blind daughter. The Catholic legend has it that Valentine did this through the vehicle of his strong faith, a phenomenon refuted by the Protestant version which agrees otherwise with the Catholic one. Whatever the fact, it appears that Valentine in some way did succeed to help Asterius' blind daughter.

When Claudius II met Valentine, he was said to have been impressed by the dignity and conviction of the

Please Turn To Page 10






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STAR HUMOR

A Deep Rooted Delusion

Perhaps you've heard of the man who thought he was dead? In reality he was very much alive. His delusion became such a problem that his family finally paid for him to see a psychiatrist.

The psychiatrist spent many laborious sessions trying to convince the man he was still alive.

Nothing seemed to work.

Finally the doctor tried one last approach. He took out his medical books and proceeded to show the patient that dead men don't bleed. After hours of tedious study, the patient seemed convinced that dead

men don't bleed.

"Do you now agree that dead men don't bleed?" the doctor asked.

"Yes, I do," the patient replied.

"Very well, then," the doctor said.

He took out a pin and pricked the patient's finger. Out came a trickle of blood.

The doctor asked, "What does that tell you?"

"Oh my goodness!" the patient exclaimed as he stared incredulously at his finger ... "Dead men do bleed!!"

Hemispheres: "Three Perfect Days In Belize"

BELIZE CITY, Tuesday, January 29, 2013:

Belize has received the prestigious honor of being featured in the February 2013 issue of the United Airlines in-flight magazine, Hemispheres. Belize was chosen for the "Three Perfect Days" article, and is also featured on the cover of the magazine.

To capture the hill authentic Belizean experience, the twelve page spread features a myriad of adventures and gives readers a peek at just what sets Belize apart; the people, culture, food, and landscapes are just a snapshot of what makes Belize the ideal tourist destination. Joe Keohane and Al Argueta take readers on a journey into the heart of Central America, Belize.

"Day One," the adventure begins

at the Blancaneaux Lodge in the Cayo District, and later takes readers into Rio Frio Cave and then on to discover the mysteries of Caracol. "Day Two" journeys along the scenic George Price and Hummingbird Highways to Placencia and is complemented with a stop at the Cockscomb Basin Wildlife Sanctuary. The perfect drive is capped off with dinner at popular local eatery, Wendy's Restaurant. And, what better way to get some r and r than to retire for the night at The Inn at Robert's Grove! "Day Three" goes underwater for a snorkeling excursion in warm, pristine Belizean waters where marine life dances in an unspoiled habitat. The final night winds down with dinner at renowned RumFish Y Vino, topped off with drinks, music, and a game at Yoli's.

Hemispheres is an award winning,

From Your Valentine

From Front Page

latter. However, Valentine refused to agree with the emperor regarding the ban on marriage. It is also said that the emperor tried to convert Valentine to the Roman gods but was unsuccessful in his efforts. Valentine refused to recognize Roman Gods and even attempted to convert the emperor, knowing the consequences fully. This angered Claudius II who gave the order of execution of Valentine.

Meanwhile, a deep friendship had been formed between Valentine and Asterius' daughter. It caused great grief to the young girl to hear of his friend's imminent death. It is said that just before his execution, Valentine asked for a pen and paper from his jailor, and signed a farewell message to her "From Your Valentine," a phrase that lived ever after. As per another legend, Valentine fell in love with the daughter of his jailor during his imprisonment. However, this legend is not given much importance by historians. The most plausible story surrounding St. Valentine is one not

centered on Eros (passionate love) but on agape (Christian love): he was martyred for refusing to renounce his religion. Valentine is believed to have been executed on February 14, 270 AD.


Thus 14th February became a day for all lovers and Valentine became its Patron Saint. It began to be annually observed by young Romans who offered handwritten greetings of affection, known as Valentines, on this day to the women they admired. With the coming of Christianity, the day came to be known as St. Valentine's Day.

But it was only during the 14th century that St. Valentine's Day became definitively associated with love. UCLA medieval scholar Henry Ansgar Kelly, author of "Chaucer and the Cult of Saint Valentine", credits Chaucer as the one who first linked St. Valentine's Day with romance. In medieval France and England it was believed that birds mated on February 14. Hence, Chaucer used the image of birds as the symbol of lovers in poems

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monthly magazine which highlights numerous topics, including travel, technology, business, fashion, luxury goods, food and drink, sports, luxury cars, and global culture. The magazine reaches over twelve million passengers monthly, as it is available in all United flights to over 378 destinations worldwide. The magazine is also accessible via United's website, social media sites, and mobile app available for iPads.

The February issue will be

available on United Airlines' Hemispheres website at www.hemispheresmagazine.com starting in February.

About the Belize Tourism Board The Belize Tourism Board (BTB) is a statutory body within the Belize Ministry of Tourism and Culture, and it is governed by a Board of Directors appointed by the Minister of Tourism and Culture. The BTB works in conjunction with members of the private sector - including the



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dedicated to the day. In Chaucer's "The Parliament of Fowls," the royal engagement, the mating season of birds, and St. Valentine's Day are related:

"For this was on St. Valentine's Day, When every fowl cometh there to choose his mate."

By the Middle Ages, Valentine became as popular as to become one of the most popular saints in England and France. Despite attempts by the Christian church to sanctify the holiday, the association of Valentine's Day with romance and courtship continued through the Middle Ages. The holiday evolved over the centuries. By the 18th century, gift-giving and exchanging hand-made cards on Valentine's Day had become common in England. Hand-made valentine cards made of lace, ribbons, and featuring cupids and hearts began to be created on this day and handed over to the man or woman one loved. This tradition eventually spread to the American colonies. It was not until the 1840s that Valentine's Day greeting cards began to be commercially produced in the U.S. The first American Valentine's Day greeting cards were created by Esther A. Howland Mount Holyoke, a

graduate and native of Worcester, Mass. Howland, known as the Mother of the Valentine, made elaborate creations with real lace, ribbons and colorful pictures known as "scrap". It was when Howland began Valentine's cards in a large scale that the tradition really caught on in the United States.

Today, Valentine's Day is one of the major holidays in the U.S. and has become a booming commercial success. According to the Greeting Card Association, 25% of all cards sent each year are "valentine's". The "valentines", as Valentine's Day cards are better known as, are often designed with hearts to symbolize love. The Valentine's Day card spread with Christianity, and is now celebrated all over the world. One of the earliest valentines was sent in 1415 AD by Charles, Duke of Orleans, to his wife during his imprisonment in the Tower of London. The card is now preserved in the British Museum.

There may be doubts regarding the actual identity of Valentine, but we know that he really existed because archaeologists have recently unearthed a Roman catacomb and an ancient church dedicated to a Saint Valentine.

LIQUOR LICENSE
NOTICES

Notice is hereby given that under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Chapter 150 of the Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2000, that **MELVIN MENDOZA** is applying for the renewal of a **PUBLICAN SPECIAL LIQUOR LICENSE** for the year 2013 to operate **Apollo Once** located at #1 16th Street, San Ignacio Town in the Cayo District.



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PUBLIC AUCTION

BY ORDER OF THE MORTGAGEES DEVELOPMENT FINANCE CORPORATION CERTIFIED
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On Wednesday 20th February, 2013 At 10:30 am At The DFC Office In Belmopan

Borrower	Description	Development	Picture
DIRK JASON LAINFIESTA	Parcel No. 8009, containing 708.614 square meters, Block 20, Belmopan Registration Section, Cayo District, held by Land Certificate dated September 16, 2010, being the freehold property of CAMESHA BORLAND surety for DIRK JASON LAINFIESTA.	Empty parcel of land. Size: 708.614 s.m. (BDF Subdivision, City of Belmopan)	
ANTONIO TZIB	All that lot piece or parcel of land being Lot No. 341, situate in Bullet Tree Falls Village Expansion, Cayo District, together with all developments and erections standing and being thereon, held under Minister's Fiat Lease dated the 7th day of November, 2000, being the leasehold property of ANTONIO TZIB.	1 3-bedroom bungalow house containing 1- dining, 1- living room, 1-kitchen with 1 bathroom. Size: 555.556 S.Y.	
ELVINA ROSANA GARCIA	All that piece or parcel of land being Parcel No. 1934, Block No. 23 in the San Ignacio South Registration Section, together with all buildings and erections standing and being thereon, held under Land Certificate, being the Freehold property of ELVINA ROSANA GARCIA.	One concrete bungalow measuring 65 x 90 in dimension. Area Size: 722.52 sq.yds.	
CARLOS ARTHUR RUSSELL VERNON AND ROSANNA ELIZABETH VERNON	Parcel No. 3696, Block 20, Belmopan Registration Section held under Land Certificate being the freehold property of CARLOS ARTHUR RUSSELL VERNON AND ROSANNA ELIZABETH VERNON.	A 4-bedroom concrete bungalow house containing 2-bathrooms, 1- Living, 1- Dining, 1- Kitchen, and 1 porch and 1 deck. Size of land: 812.79 SY. Site Dimensions: approx 70' X 100' approximately on Valencia Street, Cohune Walk, City of Belmopan.	
TANYA FELICIA HULSE	All that piece or parcel of land being Block No. 9 containing 5.008 acres of lands situate in the Little Vaqueros Enclave, Mountain Pine Ridge Area, Cayo District bounded and described as shown by Plan No. 1292 of 2003, together with all buildings and erections standing and being thereon, held under Minister's Fiat Grant No. 1292 of 2003, being the Freehold property of TANYA FELICIA HULSE.	Empty parcel of land containing 5.008 acres. located along a feeder road off the main Mountain Pine Ridge Road. It is relatively close proximity to Blancaneux Lodge Resort's Airstrip.	
LETICIA ANTONETTE JONES	Parcel 1165/1, Block No. 23, San Ignacio North Registration Section containing 464.698 square meters situate in Santiago Juan Layout, San Ignacio Town, Cayo District held by Certificate of Lease being the leasehold property of LETICIA ANTONETTE JONES.	1 INCOMPLETE 2-bedroom concrete bungalow house containing 1-bathroom, 1- Living, 1- Dining, 1- Kitchen, and 1-porch. Size: 464.698 Square Meters. Dimensions: 50' X 100' approximately.	

Auctioneer Miguel A. Ellis
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Nine-year-old Girl In Mexico Gives Birth To Baby Girl

GUADALAJARA, Mexico:

A 9-year-old girl in Mexico has given birth to a baby girl, Agence France-Presse reported Wednesday.

Authorities are now hunting for the 17-year-old father in what they believe is a case of rape or sexual abuse, Mexican newspaper Milenio reported.

"We are looking for the young man to get his story because she does not understand what has happened. This is a rape or child sex abuse case," Jorge Villasenor with the state prosecutors' office was quoted by Terra Noticias as saying. The girl, who has been identified as Dafne, was just over 8 when she got pregnant, the mother of the girl told local officials in the western state of Jalisco, AFP reported.

The mother didn't report the case to state authorities because she didn't think it was a crime, Aristegui Noticias reported.

When the mother and her daughter arrived at the hospital for the birth, doctors informed the woman that her daughter may have been a victim of sexual assault. It was only then that state authorities were notified.

More from GlobalPost: Saving girls from senseless deaths

The girl is one of 11 children living



A 9-year-old Mexican girl is now a mother.
(Sean Gallup/AFP/Getty Images)

in the poverty stricken municipality of Ixtlahuacan de los Membrillos, 25 miles south of Guadalajara, El Universal and the Associated Press reported.

Lino Ginzalez Corona, a spokesperson at the state prosecutors' office, told the AP that the girl claims she and the teenage boy were in a loving relationship and she didn't realize she was pregnant until the seventh month.

The boy ran away after the girl refused to move in with him.

Milenio said the baby girl was born on Jan. 27 in Zoquipan Hospital,

weighing 5.7 pounds. The mother was given a C-section due to her age, Dr **Enrique Rabago**, director of the hospital, told a news conference on Wednesday.

Both girls were released from the hospital over the weekend and are in good health, Rabago said. The young mother received psychological counseling before and after the birth and both girls will continue to be monitored, Spanish news agency EFE reported.

The girl received a "subdermal implant" to avoid further pregnancies, the AFP said.

Dafne doesn't appear to be the youngest mother in the world, but according to compiled reports she's among them.

Young mothers face a host of physical and emotional risks. Girls who have babies before reaching full sexual development can encounter serious physical problems — for example, fistulas caused by obstructed labor — due to the inability of their bodies to bear the weight and size of an infant.

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University of Belize appoints Internal Auditor

UNIVERSITY OF BELIZE, Belmopan Campus February 7, 2013:

The Office of the President of the University of Belize, Dr. Cary Fraser is pleased to announce the appointment of Mr. **Dudley Heredia**, MBA, as Internal Auditor of the University of Belize. Mr. Heredia's appointment will serve to strengthen the management structure within the University and his role will focus upon



ensuring that there is a continuous process of evaluation of institutional

performance.

Mr. Dudley Heredia obtained his Bachelor Degree in Accounting and a Master Degree in Business Administration with a concentration in Internal auditing both from Louisiana State University, United States of America.

Mr. Heredia served as the Internal Auditor and as Treasurer at the Belize Electricity Limited, Chief Internal Auditor at COCESNA, and has held

senior positions as Finance Officer at CARICOM Regional Fisheries Mechanism, and the Belize Audubon Society. His work experience spans in excess of 17 years both nationally and regionally.

Among other diplomas and certificates he has also received the title of Certified Internal Auditor (CIA) issued by the Institute of Internal Auditors.

The University of Belize...Education Empowers A Nation!

BTL OFFICIALLY LAUNCHES **DigiCell 4G** with service now available in the **WEST!**

BTL is excited to announce February 01, 2013 as the official commercial launch date of our highly anticipated **DigiCell 4G** service. Originally, the availability of **DigiCell 4G** service to customers in Belize City, Ladyville and Belmopan was announced via a soft launch ceremony held on December 14. Since then, rollout has continued all the way into the Cayo District with extensive testing to ensure its reliability. To date, a total of 30 cell sites have been installed and activated with this cutting edge technology. All mainland sites are expected to be ready in February, and cays to be announced shortly thereafter. This has catapulted BTL services in a quantum leap from the regular **DigiCell** service.

To sign up for this service, Postpaid **DigiCell** customers can visit their nearest BTL Customer Service Center and Prepaid customers may activate through our online portal at www.digicell4g.bz. Customers traveling to or living in between Belmopan and San Ignacio, Spanish Lookout, Cristo Rey and all the way to Benque Viejo del Carmen now have access to the fastest mobile broadband service in the country. This is in addition to service availability in Belize City, Ladyville, Bermudian Landing and Belmopan areas.

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Launching Of Belize Cancer Society San Ignacio Branch

The Belize cancer Society is pleased to announce the official launching of the Belize Cancer Society -San Ignacio Branch under the dynamic leadership of Mrs. Flora Usher and a team of dedicated committee members. The launch of the San Ignacio Branch is an important activity for the Cancer Society.

The inauguration of the San Ignacio Branch signals to the community that the Belize Cancer Society is working to fulfill its mandate to advocate, educate, provide evidence based guidance, and promote the awareness,prevention and treatment of Cancer for the benefit of those affected and their families. The San Ignacio Branch of the Belize Cancer Society will provide opportunities to share information on lifestyle changes and services that support cancer prevention and control in Belize..



President Of The Belize Cancer Society,
Mrs Laura Longworth

To mark this momentous occasion Mrs **Laura Longworth** - President will deliver the keynote address. Other distinguished guest will include Dr. **Peter Allen** CEO in the Ministry, Dr **Hugh Sanchez**- Pathologist, Dr **Alba Mendoza -Sosa**, Mrs **Pearl Ellis** - Regional Manger Western Regional hospital, Dr. **Marjorie Parks**- Deputy Director of Health Service/ CNO and the executive members of the committee.

The official ceremonies which will be held at the San Ignacio Resort Hotel at 4:00 pm on Tuesday, February 12, 2013. There will be symbolic tying of ribbons which will demonstrate the intention of the San Ignacio Branch to work with other Branches and stakeholder to address issues related to cancer prevention and control.

DigiCell 4G in Association with M³ Promotions present

BUBBLIN' Valentine

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FEB. 16, 2013

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