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STAR

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No. 398 Sunday, May 25, 2014 Price \$1.00

Aaron Juan Remanded On Another Sex Related Charge

SAN IGNACIO TOWN, Cayo, Tuesday, May 20, 2014:
 Having been on the run for over five months, a businessman from San Ignacio Town accompanied by an attorney, today turned himself in to the police to be charged.

San Ignacio police reports that around midmorning on Tuesday, May 20, Aaron Elijah

Juan, 33, Belizean businessman of a Burns Avenue address in San Ignacio Town, accompanied by Belize City based attorney, **Richard "Dickie" Bradley**, walked into the police station in effect turning in himself to face a carnal knowledge charge.

Police say that the latest report against Juan stems from a December 18, 2013 report in



Aaron Elijah Juan

which Juan is accused of engaging in sexual intercourse with a 15 year old female minor.

Please Turn To Page 2



PRINCESS CASINO SAN IGNACIO PRESENTS

CELEBRATION SATURDAY
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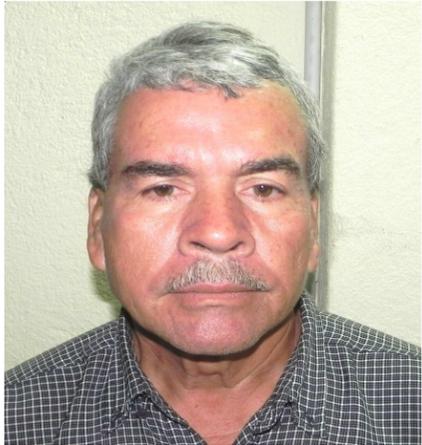
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Five Guatemalans On A Drug Trafficking Charge

SAN IGNACIO TOWN, Cayo, Tuesday, May 20, 2014:
 Five Guatemalans, one of which is a naturalized Belizean, were found in a car on the George Price Highway with 18 pounds of marijuana suspected to be of Guatemalan origin.

San Ignacio police reports that the Guatemalans were moving the sack of weed during the wee hours of the morning on Tuesday, May 20. The report indicated that



Jose Roca

Please Turn To Page 15

Editorial

Drastic Times Calls For Drastic Measures

There was a time, in the not so distant past, when gun related murders were spiraling out of control especially on the south side of the old capital, Belize City.

After careful study, analysis and consultation, the government of the day, charged with the responsibility for citizens' security, stepped up to the challenge resulting in the imposition of stiff, some might say draconian, amendments to the firearms act.

Coupled with other measures, the nation began recording a decrease in gun related murders, resulting last year in the recording of a drastic reduction in, what many termed as, the senseless loss of life *"on the mean streets of the city"*.

In the wake of last year's reduction in the national murder rate, a small pocket of citizens began advocating for a slackening of the stringent gun laws. Government heeded the expression of concern with the appointment of a committee to recommend amendments to the

law with a view of addressing the concerns while being ever mindful that citizens' security remain paramount at all times.

The latest information reaching us is that the committee will soon be handing over recommended amendments to cabinet for revision prior to being submitted to the legislature for passage into law.

In the San Ignacio theatre of operations, last week we reported on the detention of a taxi driver from San Jose Succotz resulting from the discovery *"based on information received"* of five shiny point 38 bullets in the center console of the car he was driving with three passengers from Benque Viejo Town to San Ignacio Town. After investigating the matter, San Ignacio police, came to the determination of the strong possibility that the bullets might have been planted in the car with intent to land an innocent, hardworking Belizean in jail on mandatory remand. The taxi driver was consequently released without charge.

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Aaron Juan Remanded On Another Sex Related Charge

Continued From Front Page

The charge was read to the accused, in the presence of the attorney, by magistrate **Narda Morgan**. Given that the matter is of an indictable nature, for hearing at the Supreme Court level, no plea was entertained. The accused was consequently remanded to prison and the

matter was adjourned to Thursday, August 14, 2014.

The accused had thus far been able to walk free from at least two previous sex related charges one of which stirred international attention involving an encounter with some British tourists one of who might have been connected to British royalty.

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Belize City Man Guilty Of San Ignacio Theft

SANIGNACIO TOWN, Cayo, Tuesday, May 20, 2014:

A man who told the police that the lives on Antelope Street in Belize City today pled guilty of a theft charge after he was caught by an alert off duty policemen a few minutes after snatching a lady's sling bag.

The incident occurred at around 6:00 am on Sunday May 18 when a hardworking vegetable vendor from Santa Familia village, Cayo was sitting under the Falcon Field bus stop waiting for the bus to travel on business to Belize City. The lady told the police that after sitting under the bus stop for about 15 minutes a tall male person of fair complexion, wearing a black ¾ Jeans pant, a black "Los Angeles" baseball cap and a black T-Shirt, arrived at the bus stop. She heard when the man said that he had lost his telephone. He walked to the back of the shed as if searching for something and this was when he grabbed the lady's black sling bag she had on her lap and ran off.

The lady began shouting for

help. An off duty policeman in civilian clothes heard her cry and set chase after the fleeing man. The policeman was soon joined by another policeman. They succeeded in capturing the man who was still in possession of the lady's sling bag. He was brought back to the bus stop where he was positively identified by the lady. The bag was returned to the lady who told the police that its content was intact being four hundred dollars in cash, a white Samsung brand digicell cellular telephone and other personal belongings.

The man was escorted to the police station in San Ignacio where he was identified as **Deon Bennett**, 18, Belizean laborer of an Antelope Street address in Belize City. He was held for the remainder of the weekend until Monday when he was formally arrested and issued with a single theft charge. He was taken to court on Tuesday, May 20 where the charge was read to him by magistrate **Narda Morgan**. The accused pled

guilty to the charge and was ordered to forthwith pay a one thousand dollar fine in default of payment six months in jail. He was unable to pay the fine and was, later that day, transported

to the central prison in Hattieville.

Interestingly, San Ignacio police, was unable to provide a photograph of the convict, Deon Bennett.

Liquor License Notice

Notice is hereby be given that under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Chapter 150 of the Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2000, **YAN FANG YU** is applying for a **CONVENIENCE STORE** liquor license for the year 2014 to operate **61 Supermarket** located in the Santiago Juan Layout, San Ignacio Town, Cayo District.

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Application forms can be obtained from any Belize Bank Branch countrywide. For more information, please visit the Bank's website at www.belizebank.com.

Deadline for submission is Friday, June 13th, 2013.

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Guatemalan Ex-President Alfonso Portillo Jailed In US

A court in New York has sentenced former Guatemalan President Alfonso Portillo to five years and 10 months in jail for taking bribes from Taiwan.

Portillo, who was extradited to the United States last year, has also been ordered to pay a \$2.5m fine.

He pleaded guilty in March to attempting to launder the illegal money through American banks.

The judge has not decided whether he will serve the remainder of his sentence in the US or Guatemala.

Portillo has already spent a substantial amount of time in jail and has only another 18 months of his sentence to serve.

The time in jail was *"a big learning experience for me but also great pain for my family"*, Portillo said in court.

District judge Robert Patterson said that the case *"will have an impact on how we will treat the violation of laws against corruption in this*



Supporters of the former president took part in a demonstration in Guatemala City

country".

Portillo had pleaded guilty to one count of conspiracy to launder money and agreed not to appeal against any prison sentence between four and six years.

Addressing the court in Spanish, Portillo said he could not justify his crimes, but asked

for another opportunity

He admitted taking \$2.5m (£1.6m) in bribes and promised to return the money.

The US court had jurisdiction over the case because the bribes came from an account at a bank in New York City.

Portillo said he had taken the money in exchange for a

promise that his country would continue to recognise Taiwan diplomatically while he was in office, between 2000 and 2004.

Taiwan has significant financial ties to a number of Central American and Caribbean countries that reject China's claims to sovereignty of the island.



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Readers Write

Secret Passages-An Art Show Opening At The Soul Project

May 30, 2014

This new exhibit features works of collage by people from all over the world visiting Belize. Collage is a very interesting medium. In collage, the artist assembles existing print material into a new format, a new picture. The artist creates a new context for the text or images selected, as they appear in the collage in relationship to one another. The seeming randomness of the selection and reassembly leaves a lot of room for subconscious free association by the artist, but also by the viewer. Collage invites us to link images together in an instantaneous impression, the first look. Our minds scan for patterns and similarities and differences, in an instant we form an idea about what we see. See Secret Passages for yourself, and let your mind expand...showing until etc date at Soul Project in San Ignacio.

“collage is a visual remix”

This type of composite image is commonly seen in popular media, but these slick images that we are used to seeing are computer designed. By contrast, there is a wonderful tactility to this collection. The reality of textures, cutting, tearing and glueing is all present. We can believe the work in the art. Some of the pieces even use the

hardcover as a starting medium on which to work. The discarded and torn up books that we found had been sentenced to the dump, but by chance and creativity, they have been given a new life, as art.

The show is courtesy of San Ignacio Library, which is where it all began.

One evening last December as we drove by the closed San Ignacio Library, something caught my husband's eye. We pulled into the library parking and went to have a closer look. Evan began to pull material out of the bin by the corner of the building with a look of incredulity on his face. He picked up the whole sack from the bin and threw it in the back of the truck.

When we arrived back at the yoga ashram, we were amazed to realize what we had. Torn up books on the most interesting but weird subjects, from Mushrooms of North America to The Psychic Power of Pyramids, to books on blacksmithing techniques and a color plate book of Persian rugs. Not to mention Japanese Wooden Joinery and an antique book of pre-tech games and entertainment for children and families.

We immediately threw a collage party, our first of many over the next several months. We now have over thirty works by many students and friends of

Chaya Garden Ashram. These works can also be viewed online www.chayagardenashram.com/secret-passages

Please come and join us at the Soul Project for interesting art, great music and more at the opening of Secret Passages, the evening of Friday, May 30, 7pm, with dj Check My Move at 8pm, sponsored by Soul Project,

Chaya Garden Ashram, and San Ignacio Library. Bring your dancing shoes.

Chaya Garden Ashram on the Cristo Rey road is a place for yoga, healing, art, music and dance. All are welcome.

Laine Hoogstraten
Director, Chaya Garden Ashram

Atlantic Bank

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The public is advised that all Atlantic Bank offices will be closed for business on
Saturday, May 24th, 2014.

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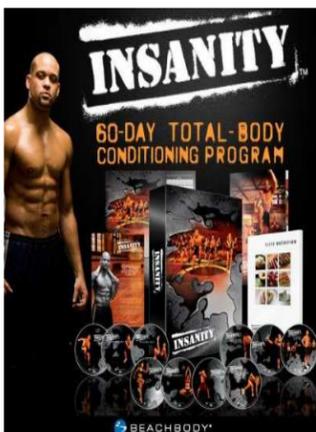
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STAR HUMOR

The Rastaman

A Rastaman went to visit an old family friend. Rastaman knock pon di door and smaddy inside seh: "A who dat"

Rastaman--- " I and I, Jah Rastafariah, king of kings,

Lord of Lords, Conquering lion of the tribe of Judah, son of Hailselassie I"

The person inside replied: "A me one de yah, an mi nah open the door fi so much ah oonu".

The Woman Is On Fire

A lady was filling her tank at a gas station, smoking a cigarette, even though all the signs say not to. The fumes that came out of the gas tank ignited, severely burning her hands.

But it also lit up her arm, too!

Instead of rolling on the ground to put it out, she panicked. She took off running down the street. A police car was at the intersection where it happened and he tried to stop her to put out her

arm, but she just kept running and screaming. All the officer could think of doing was to shoot her. This took everyone by surprise. The officer ran over to her and put the fire out, then called for an ambulance.

When questioned about his course of action to stop her, the officer said, "My only thought was to stop her. After all, she was waving a fire-arm."

Clever News Reporter

A car was involved in an accident on Albert street. As expected a large crowd gathered. A newspaper reporter, anxious to get his story could not get near the car.

Being a clever sort, he

started shouting loudly, "Let me through! Let me through! I am the son of the victim."

The crowd made way for him.

Lying in front of the car was a female dog.

Paying in advance

A motorist, driving by a ranch in Central Farm, hit and killed a calf that was crossing the road. The driver went to the owner of the calf and explained what had happened. He then asked what the animal was worth.

"Oh, about \$200 today," said the rancher. "But in six years it

would have been worth \$900. So \$900 is what I'll loose."

The motorist sat down and wrote out a check and handed it to the farmer.

"Here," he said, "is the check for \$900. It's postdated six years from now."

Remember a Child

A young man was walking through a supermarket to pick up a few things when he noticed an old lady following him around. Thinking nothing of it, he ignored her and continued on. Finally he went to the checkout line, but she got in front of him.

"Pardon me," she said, "I'm sorry if my staring at you has made you feel uncomfortable. It's just that you look just like my son, who just died recently."

"I'm very sorry," replied the young man, "is there anything I can do for you?"

"Yes," she said, "As I'm leav-

ing, can you say 'Good bye, Mother!' ? It would make me feel so much better."

"Sure," answered the young man.

As the old woman was leaving, he called out, "Goodbye, Mother!"

As he stepped up to the checkout counter, he saw that his total was \$127.50.

"How can that be?" he asked, "I only purchased a few things!"

"Your mother said that you would pay for her," said the clerk.

The Crowded Store

It was the day of the big sale. Rumors of the sale (and some advertising in the local paper) were the main reason for the long line that formed by 8:30, the store's opening time, in front of the store.

A small man pushed his way to the front of the line, only to be pushed back, amid loud and colorful curses. On the

man's second attempt, he was punched square in the jaw, and knocked around a bit, and then thrown to the end of the line again. As he got up the second time, he said to the person at the end of the line...

"That does it! If they hit me one more time, I won't open the store!"



What does DigiCell's Separation of Primary & Bonus Balances mean for DigiCell PrePaid Customers...

With the upgrade of our DigiCell PrePaid Intelligent Network platform, DigiCell PrePaid customers will now be introduced to two new credit balances being PRIMARY BALANCE and BONUS BALANCE. "Primary Balance" is the actual dollar value purchased and "Bonus Balance" is the free credit received from a recharge on a Double/Triple Day.

When does Bonus Separation become effective?
Starting January 15, 2014
All the existing credit balance for a DigiCell PrePaid customer will go to the Primary Balance with their Bonus Balance remaining at \$0.00.

Expiration dates for Primary and Bonus Balances:
Primary Balance: Expiration date is extended whenever you recharge.
Bonus Balance: Expiration date is extended on DOUBLE/TRIPLE DAYS ONLY.
*The expiration date for your Primary Balance may differ from the expiration date for your Bonus Balance

Which calls and services are deducted from Bonus Balance and which are deducted from Primary Balance?

CALLS AND SERVICES FROM BONUS BALANCE FIRST (then from Primary Balance when Bonus is \$0.00)	CALLS AND SERVICES FROM PRIMARY BALANCE ONLY
Local & National Calls (BTL/DigiCell)	International Calls & SMS
SMS Bundles	Calls & SMS to Speednet (Smart)
DigiCell SMS	Premium Services (DigiCell Messages, DigiCell 911)
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PRESS RELEASE

The Belize Electric Company Limited (BECOL) in collaboration with the National Emergency Management Organization (NEMO), and the Department of Environment (DOE) hosted a public discussion for the twin towns of San Ignacio and Santa Elena on Friday, May 16 2014 at 6:00 p.m. at the Cayo Welcome Center in San Ignacio Town to discuss matters relating to the dam break early warning system. Announcements via local radio and television were sent out for public notice on May 6 2014 informing the public of the venue and time of the event. The original venue was Hode's Place San Ignacio Town. A change of venue from Hode's Place to the Cayo Welcome Center was agreed after discussion with BECOL, DOE and NEMO. Announcements with the revised venue were sent to the local radio and television stations on May 8 and 9, 2014. Flyers were distributed on May 12 2014 to the various businesses in San Ignacio Town and Santa Elena Town. The announcements were publicized until May 16, 2014.

This annual event is to educate the public on what to do in the event of a dam break. The Early Warning System (EWS) is part of the Emergency Preparedness Plan (EPP) and is designed to alert the public of a possible dam break. The public education session educates the public on where the safe zones are located. Signs are also installed to guide the public to the safe zones. The education process is conducted with the assistance of audio visuals and maps to sensitize the audience of the areas that would be inundated.

This exercise targets the stakeholders along the Macal and Mopan Rivers and is executed by visiting the schools and conducting public education sessions in the villages, towns and resorts. It is an ongoing process in which BECOL, NEMO, DOE and the communities interact to educate stakeholders as well as to discuss ideas on how to better communicate with stakeholders to make sure everyone is aware of the various safety and emergency plans that are in place.

Due to the feedback that some stakeholders missed the last event because of the change of venue, BECOL, NEMO and the DOE are planning a second session to be held at the Cayo Welcome Center on Saturday May 31, 2014 from 8:00 a.m. to 12.00 noon. This will be an open house event where the public can learn about the Emergency Preparedness Plan and the Early Warning System as well as interact with the various presenters. All residents in San Ignacio and Santa Elena Towns are encouraged to attend.

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Cholesterol

What Is Cholesterol?

To understand high blood cholesterol (*ko-LES-ter-ol*), it helps to learn about cholesterol. Cholesterol is a waxy, fat-like substance that's found in all cells of the body.

Your body needs some cholesterol to make hormones, vitamin D, and substances that help you digest foods. Your body makes all the cholesterol it needs. However, cholesterol also is found in some of the foods you eat.

Cholesterol travels through your bloodstream in small packages called lipoproteins (*lip-o-PRO-teens*). These packages are made of fat (*lipid*) on the inside and proteins on the outside.

Two kinds of lipoproteins carry cholesterol through-out your body: low-density lipoproteins (*LDL*) and high-density lipoproteins (*HDL*).

Having healthy levels of both types of lipoproteins is important.

LDL cholesterol sometimes is called "*bad*" cholesterol. A high LDL level leads to a buildup of cholesterol in your arteries. (*Arteries are blood vessels that carry blood from your heart to your body.*)

HDL cholesterol sometimes is called "*good*" cholesterol. This is because it carries cholesterol from other parts of your body back to your liver. Your liver removes the cholesterol from your body.

What Is High Blood Cholesterol?

High blood cholesterol is a condition in which you have too much cholesterol in your blood. By itself, the condition usually has no signs or symptoms. Thus,

many people don't know that their cholesterol levels are too high.

People who have high blood cholesterol have a greater chance of getting coronary heart disease, also called coronary artery disease. (*In this article, the term "heart disease" refers to coronary heart disease.*)

The higher the level of **LDL** cholesterol in your blood, the **GREATER** your chance is of getting heart disease. The higher the level of **HDL** cholesterol in your blood, the **LOWER** your chance is of getting heart disease.

Coronary heart disease is a condition in which plaque (*plak*) builds up inside the coronary (*heart*) arteries. Plaque is made up of cholesterol, fat, calcium, and other substances found in the blood. When plaque builds up in the arteries, the condition is called atherosclerosis (*ATH-er-o-skler-O-sis*).

Atherosclerosis

Figure A shows the location of the heart in the body. Figure B shows a normal coronary artery with normal blood flow. The inset image shows a cross-section of a normal coronary artery. Figure C shows a coronary

blood through the artery. The inset image shows a cross-section of the plaque-narrowed artery.

Over time, plaque hardens and narrows your coronary arteries. This limits the flow of oxygen-rich blood to the heart.

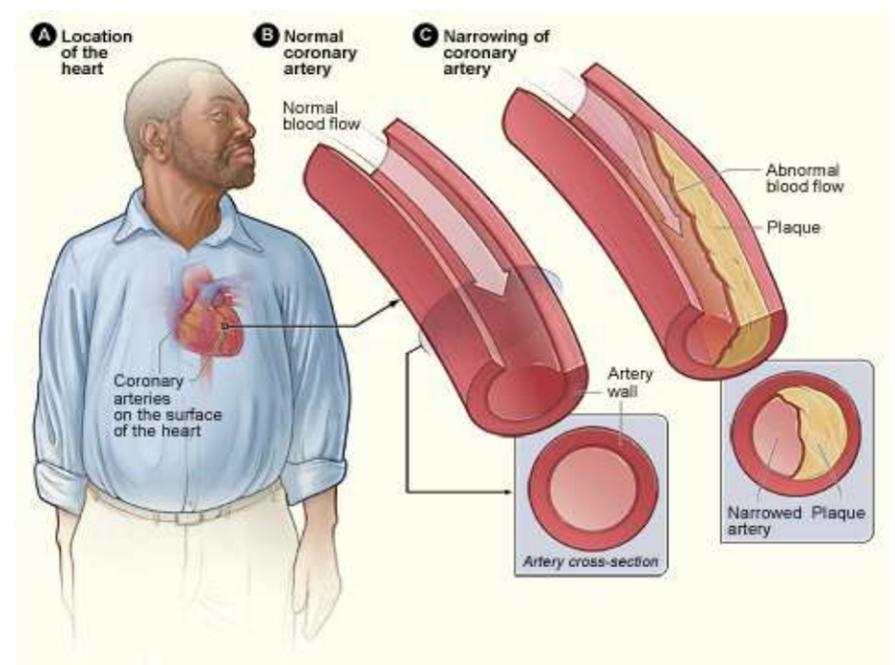
Eventually, an area of plaque can rupture (*break open*). This causes a blood clot to form on the surface of the plaque. If the clot becomes large enough, it can mostly or completely block blood flow through a coronary artery.

If the flow of oxygen-rich blood to your heart muscle is reduced or blocked, angina (*an-JI-nuh or AN-juh-nuh*) or a heart attack may occur.

Angina is chest pain or discomfort. It may feel like pressure or squeezing in your chest. The pain also may occur in your shoulders, arms, neck, jaw, or back. Angina pain may even feel like indigestion.

A heart attack occurs if the flow of oxygen-rich blood to a section of heart muscle is cut off. If blood flow isn't restored quickly, the section of heart muscle begins to die. Without quick treatment, a heart attack can lead to serious problems or death.

Plaque also can build up in



artery narrowed by plaque. The buildup of plaque limits the flow of oxygen-rich blood through the artery. The inset image shows a cross-section of the plaque-narrowed artery.

Figure A shows the location of the heart in the body. Figure B shows a normal coronary artery with normal blood flow. The inset image shows a cross-section of a normal coronary artery. Figure C shows a coronary artery narrowed by plaque. The buildup of plaque limits the flow of oxygen-rich

other arteries in your body, such as the arteries that bring oxygen-rich blood to your brain and limbs. This can lead to problems such as carotid artery disease, stroke, and peripheral arterial disease (*P.A.D.*).

Outlook

Lowering your cholesterol may slow, reduce, or even stop the buildup of plaque in your arteries. It also may reduce the risk of plaque rupturing and causing dangerous blood clots.



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A Happy and Safe Sovereign's Day!

What Is Commonwealth Or Sovereign's Day?



Commonwealth or Sovereign's Day, as it is known to us today, is the annual celebration of the Commonwealth of Nations an inter-governmental organization of 54 independent or sovereign states. The origin of this day came about in 1884 when Lord Rosebery, while visiting Australia (*then under British governance*), observed the changes in the British Empire. His observation was that some of its colonies were becoming increasingly independent. He was the first to address this issue and the first to refer to the states as the "*Commonwealth of Nations*" while still under the British rule. His observation lead to the first consultation between Britain and its colonies to address this emerging need for independence.

It was not until 1931, however, that the first 5 colonies became recognized as the "*British Commonwealth of Nations*". These nations included Canada, the United Kingdom, Irish Free State, Newfoundland, and the Union of South Africa. In 1946, the '*British*' was dropped from the name and the member states became known officially as the Commonwealth of Nations or simply The Commonwealth. Over the years, members joined, withdrew from, and even rejoined the Commonwealth; but it wasn't until 1949 that the international organization became the modern

Commonwealth we know today. In 1952, **Queen Elizabeth** took her place as the Head of the Commonwealth of Nations after the death of her father **King George IV**.

Today, biennial meetings are held with the Commonwealth Heads of Government, namely the President or Prime Minister of each state. Although the Queen does not attend these meetings, the purpose of the meetings remain the same. The Heads meet for free association, to promote common values of democracy, human rights, good governance, the rule of law, free trade and even world peace.

Belize joined the Commonwealth of Nations in the year of its independence, 1981. Belize is known as a constitutional monarch within the Commonwealth. This means that the Queen is no longer involved in the country's daily governance but still continues to play a significant role in its ceremonial and symbolic events.

In the UK, Commonwealth Day is observed on the 2nd Monday in March which is complimented by the Queen's speech. In Belize, Commonwealth Day is also known as Sovereign's Day and is observed on May 24th. This date was chosen in honor of Queen Victoria's birthday. Hence the official name Sovereign's Day which many Belizeans commonly call the Queen's Birthday.

The day is recognized as an official Public & Bank holiday and is celebrated nation wide.

Although Commonwealth Day/Sovereign's Day in Belize is mainly considered a

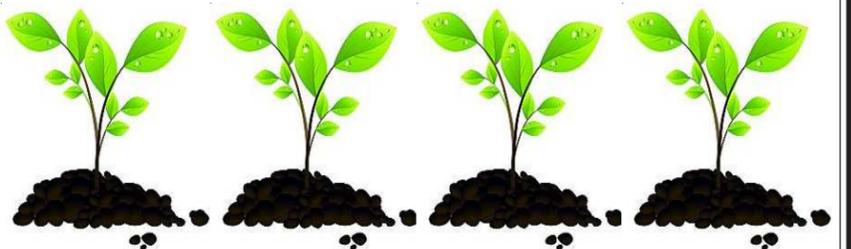
recreational holiday to many Belizeans, it is important to recognize and remember that Belize has come a long way in its development as an integral member of the Commonwealth of Nations.

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We take this opportunity to Wish Everyone A Happy and Enjoyable Sovereign's Day!!!

Your Weekly Horoscope and Lucky Numbers

ARIES:

March 22 to April 20

Good news as Mars forges ahead in Libra! If life has been a series of delays or frustrating interactions lately, things will start to look up. The Sun glides into Gemini, enhancing communication and encouraging you to reach out, express yourself, and let everyone know about your skills, services, and abilities. The weekend sees a powerful transit showing up that might help you achieve a long-term goal or project. This isn't something you can rush. With baby steps and patience, however, you can go far. **Lucky numbers: 04, 25, 66.**

TAURUS:

April 21 to May 21

Activities that include affection and friendship should have a successful outcome. Business or romantic relationships can flourish under positive transits that encourage perseverance despite obstacles. If you're collaborating with someone on one idea or simply trying to make a relationship work, you will have the extra grit you need to forge ahead. Money matters are also in focus, enhancing your ability to improve your cash flow and generally get your finances sorted. Regarding health, you might find your energy increase as Mars pushes ahead. **Lucky numbers: 15, 36, 89.**

GEMINI:

May 22 to June 21

This week has interesting potential, particularly after the Sun enters your sign on Tuesday. It's time to show off your versatility and vigilance, as people will take note. Your social life flourishes, with plenty of opportunities to reach out and mingle. Later, a positive and dynamic transit can help you develop a sound work plan or prepare to take on a new job or complicated project. If something seems worthwhile despite any challenges, going for it could greatly improve your street cred. **Lucky numbers: 08, 22, 57.**

CANCER

June 21 to July 21

If you've been busy on the home front

clearing out and generally removing clutter, this week represents a turning point when you might want to proceed with decorating or DIY plans. After Tuesday you'll enter a natural phase in which it helps to relax and recharge your batteries. Make a point of reflecting on your priorities and meditating on your goals. Doing so can help put you in the right frame of mind for success. Also, a romantic liaison could strengthen. **Lucky numbers: 19, 47, 83.**

LEO:

July 24 to August 21

The week gets off to a socially pleasant start, as friends are apt to be in touch. Enjoy the company of a special partner or host a party at your place. As Mars forges ahead, you might feel motivated to write letters, contact family members, and generally get in touch with folks you haven't seen or heard from in a while. Later, listen to your sweetheart's suggestion for trying something a bit out of the ordinary. It might help rekindle the flame of passion. **Lucky numbers: 18, 43, 97.**

VIRGO:

August 22 to September 21

It's an important time for work and progress, with opportunities for you to advance on the job with little effort. Liaising with the right people can certainly get you places. Mars turns direct in your personal financial sector on Monday, helping to end any delays you may have experienced. Meanwhile, an enduring transit suggests that a romantic or other relationship could make for a positive collaboration. Whatever your plans, a team effort could be a resounding success. **Lucky numbers: 28, 63, 94.**

LIBRA:

September 22 to October 23

You'll be in your element as Mars pushes ahead starting Monday and puts an end to delays or frustration. You can now proceed with plans that may have been relegated to the backburner. Thoughts of travel, higher education, or expanding your horizons could be on your mind as of Tuesday. You'll be looking to broaden your field of interest by exploring new ideas, places, or proposals. There's also a

chance that an improvement in your job situation could coincide with a chance to earn more money. **Lucky numbers: 12, 33, 78.**

SCORPIO:

October 24 to November 21

Developing a closer relationship with your body might help you come to grips with any health and wellness issues you've been experiencing lately. Along with this, Mars forges ahead from Monday, which might help perk up your energy. Meanwhile, a focus on shared finances, intimacy, and transformation might help improve your love life and money situation. Good conversation might help enhance both areas. Finally, a desire to explore new horizons could result in a long-term relationship with fringe benefits. **Lucky numbers: 05, 39, 53.**

SAGITTARIUS:

November 22 to December 21

Your love life seems to have positive potential, with plenty of opportunities for happy and exciting times with the one you love. Your social life may speed up from Monday, bringing more options for fun and friendly interaction. As the Sun eases into Gemini and your relationship zone, your connections with others may come more sharply into focus. Working as part of a team or with a partner could be more productive than working solo now. Later, a long-held dream could begin to come true. **Lucky numbers: 17, 46, 99.**

CAPRICORN:

December 22 to January 20

If you've been hoping your career would get back on track, things might start to improve when Mars forges

ahead once again on Monday. Though it won't happen overnight, you'll find that you can start to make progress. Also, life on the job shows promise, as your articulate way of handling daily affairs is bound to get you noticed. Regarding wellness issues, a decision to revamp your routines might help improve your energy. Finally, a friendship might have romantic potential. **Lucky numbers: 01, 60, 87.**

AQUARIUS:

January 20 to February 18

If you've experienced travel delays or frustration with a lawsuit or other legal matter, things should improve as Mars again turns direct on Monday. You may also be pursuing pure pleasure, along with a healthy dose of adventure. Things look positively sunny as the Sun eases into Gemini and your romance sector. Whether you're in a long-term relationship or hoping for a new companion, things are looking up. Later, you may seek advice on a deep-seated issue. A friend could help ease a burden. **Lucky numbers: 55, 74, 92.**

PISCES:

February 20 to March 21

Although finances may have been dicey recently, they could improve as Mars jogs forward out of its retrograde phase. This is your opportunity to get things in order, consolidate debt, and work on a budget that lets you stay ahead and enjoy a few luxuries, too. Opportunities for entertaining at your place may be more plentiful at this time. Finally, someone who seems aloof might actually be fantastic relationship material. Perhaps it's time to give him or her the benefit of the doubt. **Lucky numbers: 20, 72, 90.**

NOTICE

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Closing Days Of The Embassy of Mexico

Belmopan, 22 May 2014.

The Mexican Embassy's offices in Belmopan, Belize City and Corozal will suspend activities on Monday, 26 May 2014.

In case of emergency, Mexican nationals can request consular assistance or protection at the telephone number: + (501) 602-

8677

Belizeans are reminded that they do not require visa to visit Mexico. They only need to present a valid Belizean passport and fill out the immigration form called "*Forma Migratoria Múltiple*" (FMM). It can be obtained at any Mexican border or at any airport.

Belizeans can also enter Mexico using a border card called "*regional visitor's card*" (TVR), which entitles its holder to visit up to three (3) consecutive days the Mexican state of Quintana Roo, which includes cities such as Chetumal, Bacalar, Mahahual, Tulum, Playa del Carmen and Cancun, as well

as the Mexican states of Campeche, Tabasco and Chiapas.

Nationals of other countries should contact the Mexican Embassy to inquire if a visa is required to visit Mexico.

For more information, please contact the Mexican Embassy's Consular Section at 223-0193 or 223-0194, Monday to Friday from 8:30 am to 5:00 pm or write to consular@embamex.bz

VA Hospital Officials Shredded Documents To Hide Existence Of Secret Waiting Lists That Killed U.S. Veterans

Tuesday, May 20, 2014

By: J. D. Heyes

Contributed By: Goerge Gonzalez

(NaturalNews) The horrific Veterans Administration scandal, in which scores of patients on a "secret list" reportedly died after spending as long as a year without treatment, has widened. CNN correspondent **Jake Tapper** recently grilled White House Chief of Staff **Denis McDonough** over **President Obama's** usual scandal posture: indifference, holding no one accountable and calculated outrage without any real action being taken.

As noted by **Breitbart News**, **Obama** is currently standing by his secretary of Veterans Affairs, former Army Gen. **Eric Shinseki**. This is in spite of the fact that, in 2013, **Rep. Jeff Miller, R-Fla.**, the chairman of the House Veterans Affairs Committee, sent the president a letter that, Tapper reported, warned "of dramatic problems at the VA, 'a perfect illustration of the management failures, deception, lack of accountability permeating VA's health care system [and] an alarming pattern of serious and significant patient care issues.'"

'But you are not. This letter was sent a year ago.'

Breitbart News described the exchange:

McDonough responded with platitudes and prepared talking points about the President standing by our veterans and increased funding. Tapper wasn't having any of it. "*How many dead veterans do you need before somebody asks the question within the White House, maybe this guy isn't the best steward of these veterans?*"

A transcript published by Real Clear Politics read:

McDONOUGH: The question, **Jake**, is, are we doing everything we can every day to get the veterans the care and the opportunities that they deserve?

TAPPER: But you are not. This letter was sent a year ago. And you guys ignored it.

McDONOUGH: And we have been working aggressively to ensure that not only is health care expanded, opportunities made more ready to our vets, but that people are held to account, as **Ric** is doing in this case. We will continue to do that.

In addition to **Tapper**, **Jon Karl** of ABC News was also aggressive with the **White House** in the briefing room May 16, as the scandal continued to unfold. After White House spokesman **Jay Carney** belched his talking points, Karl appeared a bit dazed and a little disgusted by the White House's dissembling and "*happy talk*."

"*Tapper and Karl are also two of only a handful of mainstream media reporters interested in getting to the truth about Benghazi -- as opposed to undermining the search for the truth, which is something of which almost all of their colleagues are guilty,*" **Breitbart News** reported.

CNN was the first to report that at least 40 veterans had died waiting for appointments and treatment at the **VA Medical Center** in Phoenix. They had been placed on a "secret" waiting list that was different than the published, open-record list that the hospital actually utilized:

The secret list was part of an elaborate scheme designed by Veterans Affairs managers in Phoenix who were trying to hide that 1,400 to 1,600 sick veterans were forced to wait months to see a doctor, according to a recently retired top VA doctor and several

high-level sources.

'A sham list'

Prior, the network had been reporting for at least six months that there were extended delays in healthcare appointments that veterans all across the country were experiencing. Some of them had died while waiting for an appointment and care, suggesting that the problem within the VA system might be more widespread or even systemic.

That said, revelations about the Phoenix VA were the most serious and compelling, and have led to the most press coverage since the report first broke.

The doctor, **Sam Foote**, who retired after spending 24 years with the VA system, told CNN that the Phoenix medical center operated off of two lists for patient appointments:

There's an "official" list that's shared with officials in Washington and shows the VA has been providing timely

appointments, which **Foote** calls a sham list. And then there's the real list that's hidden from outsiders, where wait times can last more than a year.

In addition, **Foote** said that officials at the **Phoenix VA** shredded documents in a bid to hide evidence of long waiting lists for veterans. He added that officials at the institution instructed physicians not to use the hospital computer system to make appointments, so they could not be tracked.

Foote said that, when a veteran comes in seeking an appointment, "*they enter information into the computer and do a screen capture hard copy printout. They then do not save what was put into the computer so there's no record that you were ever here.*"

Sources:

<http://www.breitbart.com>

<http://www.ft.com>

<http://edition.cnn.com>

<http://www.realclearpolitics.com>

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Improved Water Services



BELIZE WATER SERVICES LIMITED, Santa Elena Branch Office, Santa Elena Town, Cayo, Friday, May 23, 2014:

The Belize Water Service Limited is proud to announce the upgrading of water services to customers in the lower section of Santa Elena Town and the entire Esperanza Village.

The upgraded service includes the recent replacement of the three inch water line upgraded to a ten inch main which will serve

to increase water pressure to customers in the area.

The project, implemented over the past three weeks, with a crew under the direction of **William Stevens** and Operations Supervisor, **Ron Cunningham**, worked long hours to install, sanitize, pressure test and energize the new 10 inch water main.

The works was completed on Tuesday evening and when it was turned on, a major glitch

was immediately detected resulting in customers on one side the Highway leading into Esperanza Village being left without water. Realizing that the situation had to be immediately rectified, the crew was instantly mobilized and with a single spotlight under the rain, the team worked well into the night on Tuesday until the glitch was effectively rectified resulting in improved water service now reaching intended

customers in the area.

The company extends thank you to Area Representative/Minister of Works **Hon. Rene Montero** for understanding Tuesday night's emergency situation which involved disrupting a small section of the recently asphalted carriage way in the area. The company extended its assurances to Minister Montero and his team that the carriage way **WILL BE** restored to its original form.



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Mary Open Doors (MOD) a non-profit, non-governmental organization located in San Ignacio Town invites qualified persons to apply for the voluntary position of Chief Executive Officer (CEO).

Key Administrative Responsibilities

- ❖ Management of the overall daily operations of MOD
 - ❖ Supervision of MOD staff, local, and visiting volunteers
 - ❖ Overseeing the organization financials, developing and implementing budgets and other financial related tasks
 - ❖ Reporting and advising stakeholders including the Board, Donors, and other key stakeholders
- Cultivating and nurturing national and international relationships

Desired Skills

- ❖ Good knowledge of Domestic Violence Situation in Belize
- ❖ Strong leadership skills to effectively perform the daily operations of the organization
- ❖ Excellent communication skills both verbal and written
- ❖ Good knowledge of the Spanish Language both verbal and written is desired
- ❖ Strong Computer Skills with competency in Word, Excel, PowerPoint, etc.
- ❖ Ability to create and implement a 5 year strategic plan

Desired Character

Given the nature of MOD's work, it is imperative that those considering the CEO's position possess the following interpersonal skills.

- ❖ Empathy
- ❖ Stellar respect for confidentiality
- ❖ Self-motivated and the ability to make sound judgment

Interested persons are invited to submit their CV along with a job letter and two references by mail addressed to **MOD Board of Directors, P.O. Box 93, San Ignacio Town, Cayo Dist. Belize**. Electronic submissions are accepted. Email: maryopendoors@gmail.com to submit your CV and supporting docs.

Deadline to apply is Friday May 30, 2014.

Five Guatemalans On A Drug Trafficking Charge

Continued From Front Page

at around 3:00 am, a joint operation mounted by elements of the police Anti Drug Unit (ADU), police Mobile Interdiction Unit (MIT), police K-9 Unit and Customs personnel were manning a checkpoint on the George Price Highway between the western towns of San Ignacio and Benque Viejo, at mile 68, near Rumors Resort, when a green Geo Prism car with San Ignacio/Satna Elena license plates C-01281, pulled up to the check point. The car, with five occupants including the driver, was stopped and searched. Inside the trunk of the car police came upon a white sack and when opened, it was found to contain two black plastic bags with 11 parcels of marijuana.

The driver, identified as **Jose Roca**, 63, naturalized Belizean/Guatemalan from Arenal Village, Cayo, was instantly detained along with the other four occupants of the car, two female and two male persons. They were identified as **Anna Galvez**, 23, Guatemalan domestic from Cotton Tree village, the suspected ringleader, along with **Maria Trinidad**, 61, Guatemalan domestic from Arenal Village; **Vicente Rosales**, 23, Guatemalan laborer, also from Arenal Village and **Francisco Martinez**, 35, Guatemalan laborer residing in Melchor de Mencos, Guatemala.

All five persons were transported to the police station in San Ignacio where they were processed in time for court later that morning. When measured, the marijuana recorded 8,184.7 grams (*18 pounds*) on the police



Anna Galvez



Maria Trinidad



Vicente Rosales

scale.

On a joint drug trafficking charge all five defendants appeared in the San Ignacio Town courtroom of magistrate **Narda Morgan** where the single charge was read to them. First to take a plea was the suspected ringleader, Anna Galvez, who wasted no time in

pleading guilty to the charge. The other four defendants all pled not guilty.

In accordance with court procedure, magistrate Morgan asked Galvez if she had anything to say before the passing of sentence. Galvez told the court that a man paid her \$500 to deliver the weed to hotel in



Green Geo Prism Car With San Ignacio/Satna Elena License Plates C-01281



Francisco Martinez

Cotton Tree Village. She was sentenced to three years imprisonment.

Despite the prosecution's strong objection to the granting of bail to the other four defendants given the flight risk involved, especially in the case of Francisco Martinez who resides across the border in Melchor, Magistrate Morgan proceeded to offer them bail in the sum of \$3,000 each.

The case was adjourned until Thursday, July 10, 2014.



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