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STAR

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No. 413 Sunday, September 7, 2014 Price \$1.00

Mob Facing Robbery Charge

SAN IGNACIO TOWN, Cayo, Tuesday, September 2, 2014:

San Ignacio police is this week reporting the arrest of a female on a robbery charge.

Kean Reyes, 18, Belizean student of Blackman Eddy village, told the police that at around 8:00 pm on Friday, August 29, he was socializing with at a friend, **Israel Gilharry**, at a pizzeria on Burns Avenue in San Ignacio, when they were approached by a female known to Gilharry. Reyes informed that at around 8:30 pm they

left the bar and were walking in a dark area on Far West Street when Reyes was reportedly attacked.

Reyes told the police that he was grabbed from behind and placed in a choke hold. With a pair of breasts pressed against his back, Reyes realized that he was being held by a female. The complainant said that he felt a sharp object pressed to his rib cage and the gold chain he was wearing was yanked from around his neck.

After snatching the chain the

robber ran off. Reyes reportedly turned around and saw the fleeing attacker whom he recognized as wearing the same clothes as the female they met earlier at the pizzeria.

Swift police investigation led to the apprehension of **Shanira “Mob” Perez** and the recovery of the stolen chain. The accused was consequently arrested and charged for robbery.



Shanira “Mob” Perez

Neighborhood Bar Burglarized

SANTA ELENA TOWN, Cayo, Monday, September 1, 2014:

A man and two boys from Santa Elena are on bail on a burglary charge while a second man is facing a

handling stolen goods charge.

Former BDF Colonel, **Javier Orlando Castellanos** who operates D Colonel’s Corner at the corner of the Western Highway and Andrews

Street in Santa Elena reported that his business place was burglarized.

In a report to the police

Castellanos informed that at around 9:00 pm on Wednesday, August 27, he secured place and retired for the day. The complainant informed that at around 6:30 the following morning he was visited and awakened by a person who lives in the neighborhood of his business place with the news that his place was burglarized.

Castellanos reportedly headed to the location where he observed that a double door was opened and a shutter was pried open. He reportedly found the place in a ransacked state and records among the missing items a black 42” Toshiba brand flat screen TV valued at \$2,000.00, a grey Awia brand stereo system with two grey speakers valued at \$1,000.00, a black touch screen digicell brand cell phone, not yet activated, valued at \$1500.00, a bottle of Johnnie Walker black label whiskey valued at \$123.00, a bottle of Jack Daniels valued at \$69.00, a bottle of Caribbean Gold rum valued at \$15.00, three bottles of Caribbean white rum valued at \$36.00, four

cases of Belikin beer and stout valued at \$200.00, a case of Mackeson stout valued at \$70.00, two black phone charges valued at \$30.00, one digital camouflage military back pack valued at \$150.00, a blue and white school bag containing utility bills valued at \$60.00 and a military sword valued at \$1500.00 all for a total of \$6,753.00.

Swift police work led to the arrest of neighborhood suspects: **Akeem Guzman**, 18, Belizean laborer of a Carillo Puerto Avenue, Santa Elena address, along with two minors all of whom were issued with a joint burglary charge.

The investigation further led to the recovery of the flat screen TV, the cell phone and the stereo system resulting in the arrest, on a handling stolen good charge, of one **Reymundo Vasquez**, 28, Belizean laborer of a Mabel Pitts street address.

All four persons appeared in court on Monday, September 1. They pled not guilty to individual charges and were released on bail.



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SUB UMBRA FLOREO



September FEVER

shot's edition

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Editorial



Sub Umbra Floreo

In 1984 a tree was planted. There was a change in Government for the very first time in the history of Belize. The United Democratic Party (UDP) was elected to government. The People's United Party (PUP) chain in Government was broken. A mere three years after the attainment of political independence, in 1981, the new UDP government found the nation's finances in shambles. The first task of the new UDP government was to get the nation's finances in order. Unpopular, but necessary, political actions had to be taken. After five years of sacrifice, the nation's economic position was brought back on track.

Just as the tree, planted in 1984, was about to bear fruits it was cut down. The PUP was reelected to government in 1989. Without missing a beat the raping of the rescued finances of the nation resumed. The mismanagement of the nation's finances was such that within three and a half year of its five year term in office, the PUP called general elections, a full 16 months before it was constitutionally due. In calling early elections, the Prime Minister of the day, **George Price**, declared that **"JOB DONE"**. Knowing that the task of building a nation is never done, Belizeans realized that what Price meant was that **"MONEY DONE"**.

The tree was replanted. The UDP was reelected to office by a landslide majority in 1993. The reelected UDP government, fully aware of what it was getting into, found the national economy in even worse state than it

was when it was first elected to office in 1984. The country's financial position was in a total mess. The nation was on standby arrangements with the International Monetary Fund. The foreign reserves stood at a critical two weeks of import with the statutory requirements being three months. Government was on the verge of being unable to meet the public service payroll. Even harder and much more politically unpopular actions had to be taken to avert the inevitable total economic collapse of the nation. Among the necessary actions that had to be taken was the introduction of a 15% Valued Added Tax (VAT) and a reduction in the size of the public service (**retrenchment**). After five years of taking necessary actions the national economy was coming back to life. The tree was beginning to blossom. VAT and retrenchment however became the hallmark of the PUP campaign leading up to the next general election. George Price was forced to resign in 1996 and **Said Musa** was elected as the leader of the PUP in opposition.

The blooming tree, on the verge of bearing fruits, was again cut down. The PUP, this time with Said Musa as its leader, was reelected into office in 1998. Nothing changed with the new PUP, the raping of the nation started almost immediately. The nation began spiraling into economic difficulties shortly after the Musa Government was elected to office. Intent on holding on to power however, the bucket sale of Belizean

passports, mostly to Asians, became the order of the day. The sale of Belizean passports was exacerbated with the uncertainty looming over Hong Kong post 1999. The Hong Kong situation was eventually stabilized thereby reducing the demand for an alternative passports.

In urgent need of finances to remain in power, the attention of the PUP government was turned to the sale of the nation's assets. They sugar coated this bitter pill by calling it privatization. The nation's electricity, telecommunications and water companies were sold off. The nation's only airport and only seaport were sold. This injection of quick funds created a false sense of national prosperity. The dalla beer and the caliente dancers ushered the PUP into election victory in 2003.

After the reelection hype, reality stepped in. The nation's financial position was grim. The demand for Belizean passports had drastically diminished except for a few here and there which was mostly used for personal enrichment not being enough to shore up the failing economy. There were no more national assets to privatize/sell. The next available alternative was to resort to borrowing. Thus began the reckless borrowing giving birth to the infamous \$2 billion **SUPERBOND** all of which was used for recurrent expenditure just to keep the government floating with nothing invested in capital expenditure to address the nation's deteriorating infrastructure. The reckless borrowing was unsustainable. The PUP Musa maladministration fell in 2008.

The tree was replanted for a third time. Then entered a new Prime Minister, the **Hon. Dean Barrow**, an imminent attorney, a no-nonsense politician, the man who was to

become the nation's saving grace. The new Prime Minister was intent on not repeating the 1984 and 2003 political errors of his party. His mantra was no new taxes, no retrenchment. Prime Minister Barrow met the nation's finances in **TOTAL SHAMBLES**. The International Monetary Fund came knocking on the doors of the new Dean Barrow Administration. Cut the public service, raise taxes, impose new taxes was the IMF's prescription for economic restoration. Prime Minister Barrow's response to the IMF was **"GO FLY A KITE. NOT ON MY PEOPLE"**.

The new Prime Minister immediately set out to renationalize the nation's assets sold off by the previous administration. First to be renationalized was the telecommunications company in 2009 and the electricity company the following year. The private owners of the water company were not satisfied with the rate of return and, on their own, resorted to returning the company to government control. The Dean Barrow administration ushered in the restoration of Belizean national pride.

The conscience of Belizean voters was awoken. The blossoming tree was saved. It was not cut down. The UDP, for the first time, was reelected in 2012 for a second consecutive term. The Belizean people began to enjoy the fruits of the tree. The nation is undergoing unprecedented development. The building of the nation is taking place in the north, south, east, west and central.

The tree will never again be cut. It grew in the first term, bore fruits in the second term. In a third term, Belize will flourish under the political tree of the United Democratic Party Government. Sub Umbra Floreo.

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From: The San Ignacio/
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Editor:
Sherlene Dawson

Office Tel:
804-4900
Cell: 626-8822
starnewspaper@gmail.com

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Booth 3, San Ignacio Welcome Center



Neighborhood Trespasser Found With Weed

SAN IGNACIO TOWN, Cayo, Tuesday, September 2, 2014:
A man found trespassing on private property was allegedly found with weed and charged.
It was shortly before noon on Tuesday, September 2, when San Ignacio Police was summoned to Saturn Street in the Hillview Area of Santa Elena Town to take custody of a man who was being detained by the owner of the

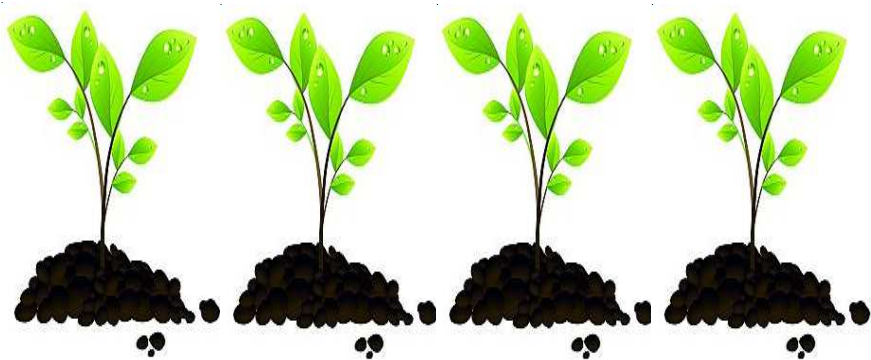
property.
Upon arrival the police took charge of the detainee identified as **Jose August Jr., 22** who lives nearby on Jupiter Street.
The situation changed for August when a search of his person led to the discovery of 81.8 grams of suspected marijuana.
The detainee was transported to the police station in San Ignacio where he was swiftly issued with a drug trafficking charges. He was whisked up to magistrate court where he pled not guilty to the charge. He was offered and met a three thousand dollar bail.

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World Suicide Prevention Day 2014: Suicide Prevention: One World Connected

Suicide is a complex problem which catches the attention of everyone. As a public health problem it requires attention, but its control and prevention is not easy. Research have shown that it will take a whole series of activites to address, from the provision of the best possible condition for bringing up our children and young people, through the effective treatment of mental disorders, to controlling environmental risk factors and effective dissemination of information and awareness. All these factors are key to suicide prevention.

What is suicide? It is a deliberate act of self harm, often done with the aim of summoning help.

Attemt suicide is: A none fatal act of self harm, often done with the aim of summoning help.

Suicide rates are increasing all over the world and it is no different in Belize. In developed countries it is among the top ten leading cause of death in the 15 to 35 years age group. The World Health Organization has estimated that a person die of suicide every minute and one suicide attempt occurs every 3 seconds.

Efforts to prevent suicide have been celebrated on World Suicide Prevention Day - September 10th - Each year since 2003. In 2014, the theme of World Suicide Prevention Day is *'Suicide Prevention: One World Connected.'* The theme reflects the fact that connections are important at several levels if we are to combat suicide.

Connectedness is crucial to individuals who may be vulnerable to suicide. Studies shown that social isolation can increase the risk of suicide and, conversely, that having strong human bonds can be protective against it. Reaching out to those who have strong human bonds can be protective against it. Reaching out to those who have become disconnected from others and offering them support and friendship may be a life-saving act.

World Suicide Prevention Day has proved to be bery successful in encouraging organizations to coordinate their efforts and learn from each other. It has also assisted those who have been bereaved by suicide in making themselves heard in discissions about suicide prevention. This has sharpened the focus on

activities that are effective in preventing suicide.

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO SUPPORT WORLD SUICIDE PREVENTION DAY????

* Lighting a candle near a window at 8pm in support of: World Suicide Prevention Day, suicide prevention and awareness, survivors of suicide and for the memory of loved lost ones.

Warning Signs of Suicide

These signs may mean someone is at risk for suicide. Risk is greater if a behavior is new or has increased and if it seems related to a painful event, loss or change.

- * Talking about wanting to die or kill oneself.
- * Looking for a way to kill oneself, such as searching online or buying a gun.
- * Talking about feeling hopeless or having no reason to live.
- * Talking about feeling trapped or in unbearable pain.
- * Talking about being a burden to others.
- * Increasing the use of alcohol or drugs
- * Acting anxious or agitated; behaving recklessly.
- * Sleeping too little or too much.

- * Withdrawn or feeling isolated.
- * Showing rage or talking about seeking revenge.
- * Displaying extreme mood swings.

Ways to prevent suicide

Suicide never only affects the person that committed it. It affects everyone and the person too. But many suicidal thoughts can be prevented if the warning signs are recognized and proper action is taken. The steps below are for someone who is already having what is called *"Suicidal Ideation"*. This means that they have already considered actions to harm themselves some way in order to feel something different than what is causing them distress.

3 Steps to Prevent Suicide

1) ASK

If you think someone maigh be suicidal, ask them directly **"Are you thinking about suicide?"** Don't be afraid to do this, it shows you care and will actually decrease their risk because it shows someone is willing to talk about it. Make sure you ask directly and unambiguously.

2) LISTEN AND STAY WITH THEM

If they say 'yes', they are suicidal, listen to them and allow them to express how they are feeling. Don't leave them alone. Sta with them or get someone else reliable to stay with them.

3) GET HELP.



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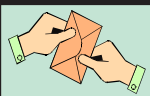
on this

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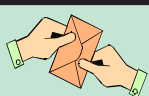
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Readers Write



No Solution in Sight

Contributed By: Janice Swift

Heb 11:9 - *"He went out, not knowing whither he went"*

It is faith without sight. When we can see, it is not faith, but reasoning. In crossing the Atlantic we observed this very principle of faith. We saw no path upon the sea, nor sign of the shore. And yet day by day we were marking our path upon the chart as exactly as if there had followed us a great chalk line upon the sea. And when we came within twenty miles of land, we knew where we were as exactly as if we had seen it all three thousand miles ahead.

How had we measured and marked our course? Day by day our captain had taken his instruments and, looking up to the sky, had fixed his course by the sun. He was sailing by the heavenly, not the earthly lights.

So faith looks up and sails on, by God's great Sun, not seeing one shore line or earthly lighthouse or path upon the way. Often its steps seem to lead into utter uncertainty, and even

darkness and disaster; but He opens the way, and often makes such midnight hours the very gates of day. Let us go forth this day, not knowing, but trusting.—Days of Heaven upon Earth

"Too many of us want to see our way through before starting new enterprises. If we could and did, from whence would come the development of our Christian graces? Faith, hope and love cannot be plucked from trees, like ripe apples. After the words 'In the beginning' comes the word 'God'! The first step turns the key into God's power-house, and it is not only true that God helps those who help themselves, but He also helps those who cannot help themselves. You can depend upon Him every time."

"Waiting on God brings us to our journey's end quicker than our feet."

The opportunity is often lost by deliberation.



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\$60 Million From The World Bank

BELMOPAN, Thursday, September 4, 2014:



Contact: **Selwyn King**
Public Relations Officer, Belize Social Investment Fund
A press release issued today by the Government Press Office informs that of a \$60 million Climate Resilience Project from the World Bank to improve road infrastructure and disaster risk management.
The release informs that the Belize

Climate Resilient Infrastructure Project (BCRIP) will support the efforts of the Government of Belize to improve the resilience of critical road infrastructure against flood risk and to strengthen the capacity of relevant ministries to incorporate climate resilience and disaster risk management in their investment planning and implementation. They include the Ministries of Works and Transport and Natural Resources and Agriculture.
“The Government of Belize is conscious of the social, economic and environmental implications of Climate Change and takes this opportunity to first, welcome the strategic partnership with the World Bank through this loan for the Climate Resilient Infrastructure Project,” said **Yvonne Hyde**, Chief Executive Officer, Ministry of Finance and Economic Development.
“This project will enable Belize to implement mitigation and adaptation strategies in the war

against this global threat as it relates to the negative effects on Belize’s economic growth and welfare of its present and future generations.”
CEO Hyde added that the project is designed at increasing the resilience of the Belizean people to climate change and its impact on the environment and economy of Belize.
The project will rehabilitate 30 kilometers of roads, improve the Ministry of Works’ capacity in road maintenance and training of road maintenance personnel, operationalize the National Land Use Policy, as well as improve government’s personnel capacity in flood mitigation systems.
The World Bank noted that

the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change has identified Belize as one of the most vulnerable countries to the adverse impacts of climate change.
In 2000, Hurricane Keith caused damaged exceeding 45% of Gross Domestic Product (GDP). In May 2008, Tropical Storm Arthur caused extensive damages to critical infrastructure and the agriculture sector. Another notable hurricane is Hattie that destroyed half of Belize City in 1961.
Hurricanes and tropical storms affecting Belize in recent years have been of catastrophic proportions and adversely resulted in the loss of lives. These hurricanes and storms have also severely disrupted social and economic growth and development.



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Everything Dances.
Maya Angelou

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★ STAR HUMOR

Confessional Troubles

A drunken man staggers in to a Catholic church and sits down in a confession box and says nothing.

The bewildered priest coughs to attract his attention, but still the man says nothing.

The priest then knocks on the wall three times in a final attempt to get the man to speak.

Finally, the drunk replies: *"No use knockin' mate, there's no paper in this one either."*

Out Of Gas

A nun who works for a local home health care agency was out making her rounds when she ran out of gas. As luck would have it there was a station just down the street. She walked to the station to borrow a can with enough gas to start the car and drive to the station for a fill up.

The attendant regretfully told her that the only can he owned had just been loaned out, but if she would care to wait he was sure it would be back shortly.

Since the nun was on the way to

see a patient she decided not to wait and walked back to her car. After looking through her car for something to carry to the station to fill with gas, she spotted a bedpan she was taking to the patient. Always resourceful, she carried it to the station, filled it with gasoline, and carried it back to her car.

As she was pouring the gas into the tank of her car two men walked by. One of them turned to the other and said: *"Now that is what I call faith!"*

Mumbo Jumbo

Two women are on a transcontinental balloon voyage. Their craft is engulfed in fog, their compass gone away. Afraid of landing in the ocean, they drift for days. Suddenly, the clouds part to show a sunlit meadow below. As they descend, they see a man walking his dog.

One of the flyers yells to the figure far below, *"Where are we?"*

The man yells back, *"About a half*

mile from town."

Once again, the balloonists are engulfed in the mist. One flyer says to the other, *"He must have been a lawyer."*

The other says, *"A lawyer! How do you know that?"*

The first says, *"That's easy. The information he gave us was accurate, concise, and entirely irrelevant."*

Making People Happy

Due to a mixup on Grammy night, Madonna, Britney Spears and Christina Aguilera are forced to share a private jet in order to arrive in time for the ceremony. Once up in the air, Madonna pulls out a \$1000 bill and says, *"I'm going to throw this \$1000 bill out the window and make someone down below very happy."*

Not to be outdone, Britney rips a \$1000 bill in half and throws it out the window, saying, *"Look, I*

just made two people really happy."

Not even noticing Britney's stupid move, Christina brags, *"Look, I'm going to throw 1000 \$1 bills and make a lot more people a little happier."*

At this point the pilot, who has overheard all this bragging and can't stand it anymore, comes out and says, *"I think I'll throw all three of you out of this plane and make 250 million people happy."*

Mumbo Jumbo

A Senator is in a restaurant and the waiter brings over the rolls, but no butter. *"May I have some butter, please?"* The waiter gives a slight nod and wanders off. Ten minutes later, still no butter. The senator catches his eye.

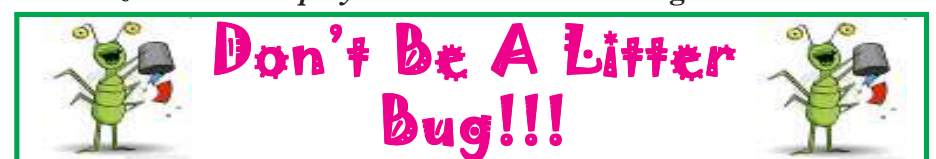
"May I have some butter, Please?"

Still the same responses, and after ten more minutes, still no butter.

"Maybe you don't know who I am," says the senator. *"I'm a Galen University graduate, a scholar, an All-Belizan Football player who*

played with the Belize National team in the pros, and I'm currently a Belizean senator, chairman of the International Debt Subcommittee of the Senate Finance Committee, chairman of the Water and Power Subcommittee of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, and a member of the Senate Select Intelligence Committee."

"Maybe you don't know who I am," said the waiter. *"I'm the guy who's in charge of the butter".*



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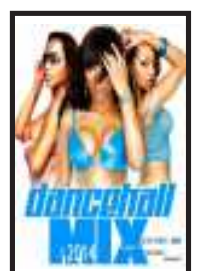
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Leptospirosis

Leptospirosis (also known as field fever, rat catcher's yellows, and pretibial fever among others names) is an infection caused by bacteria of the Leptospira type. Symptoms can range from none to mild such as headaches, muscle pains,

and fevers; to severe with bleeding from the lungs or meningitis. If the infection causes the person to turn yellow, have kidney failure and bleeding it is then known as Weil's disease. If it causes lots of bleeding from the lungs it is known as severe pulmonary haemorrhage syndrome.

There are ten different types of Leptospira that cause disease in

humans. It is transmitted by both wild and domestic animals. The most common animals that spread the disease are rodents. It is often transmitted by animal urine or water containing animal urine coming into contact with breaks in the skin, the eyes, mouth, nose or vagina. In the developing world the disease most commonly occurs in farmers and poor people who live in cities. In the

developed world it most commonly occurs in those involved in outdoor activities in warm and wet areas of the world. Diagnosis is by growing the bacteria from a blood sample, finding its DNA in the blood, or looking for antibodies against the infection.

Efforts to prevent the disease include protective equipment to prevent contact when working with

Continued From Page 14



VACANCY

The **BELIZE ELECTRIC COMPANY LIMITED (BECOL)** is accepting applications for the post of **ENVIRONMENTAL/HEALTH/SAFETY OFFICER**

BECOL is the owner and operator of the Chalillo, Mollejon, and Vaca Hydroelectric Power Station Projects. The main function of the company is to provide clean and reliable energy to BEL. The company's foremost concern is the safety of its employees and the running of an environmentally sound operation by following the guidelines of the International Standards Organization, category ISO14001.

JOB DESCRIPTION:

Responsible for the adherence of the health and Safety program and manage the Environmental Management System (EMS) for all three facilities. Ensure that all legal requirements are adhered to.

JOB DUTIES:

- *Preparing and producing educational resources aimed at different groups, including schools, youth groups, community groups and business
- * Giving talks and presentations
- * Responding to enquiries and complaints from the general public;
- * Writing press releases
- * Organizing and facilitating environmental awareness events such as presentations and workshops
- * Developing local school and public grounds in co-operation with schools or businesses, for example, creating and maintaining a wildlife garden
- *Maintains liaison with local government, environmental groups and stakeholders
- * Conduct water quality monitoring as per requirements of the company's ECP
- * Conduct wildlife study and scarlet macaw study in conformance with the ECP
- * Manage ISO14001 Management System
- * Responsible for the Health, Safety, & Environment (HSE) matters relating to the implementation of the work requirement of the projects.
- * Planning, co-ordinate and conducted HSE activities, training and program
- * To carry out site inspections and audit with the project management team, in ensuring that only safe methods of working are in operation and all regulations are being observed
- * Ensure site safety compliance among all level of employees, keep and maintain all safety equipment, PPE, signage etc.
- * Ensure that records or checklist are completed and filed for all inspections, audits or exercises.
- * Lead investigation for any accident
- * To undertake any and all other duties and responsibilities as so instructed by the Management

QUALIFICATIONS:

- * Minimum of Associate Degree in Environmental Science, Biology, or equivalent program
- * Be computer literate with working knowledge of word-processing and spreadsheet applications
- * Good command of English; an added proficiency in Spanish would also be an asset

REQUIRMENTS:

- * Possess good verbal and written communication
- * Possess good time management and organizational skills
- * Be assertive and be a people person
- * Demonstrate initiative
- * Must reside or relocate to San Ignacio/Santa Elena or Benque Viejo Town

SALARY:

The remuneration package is commensurate with qualifications and experience

Interested persons should send a letter of applicaiton along with their curriculum vitae and letters of reference by September 12, 2014 to:

**Administrative Assistant
Belize Electric Company Limited
P.O. Box 87
San Ignacio Town, Cayo District**



Hon. Rene Montero

Minister of Works & Transport

Area Representative for

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Your Weekly Horoscope and Lucky Numbers

ARIES:

March 22 to April 20

Relationships and romantic opportunities show up this week as Mercury eases into Libra, making it easier to talk about tricky issues and find the best solution for all. Plus, the continued presence of Jupiter in Leo puts you in the mood for fun and fresh adventures, especially of the amorous kind. However, there's work to do, too, and the move of Venus into Virgo could be a reminder to keep things sweet with co-workers. Regarding health, you might want to amp up the attractor factor by getting yourself in shape. **Lucky numbers: 06, 37, 49.**

TAURUS:

April 21 to May 21

Getting the right balance between work and play or diet and exercise could be easier starting this week. You'll be motivated to pay attention to what works best for you and what doesn't in terms of lifestyle issues. It's time to review your habits and chuck any that don't support your ultimate goals. Romantic opportunities brighten over this week, too, with Venus enhancing dating options and enticing you out for more fun. Home-based projects fare well, too, especially if you have something ambitious in mind. **Lucky numbers: 19, 27, 45.**

GEMINI:

May 22 to June 21

Romantic opportunities show up as Mercury eases into Libra, enhancing seductive and flirtatious conversation. You might also be drawn to cultural activities, such as exhibitions, music, and the arts in general. You'll also be busy on the home front and eager to clear out clutter and create some space around you. The move of Venus into Virgo hints that you may be doing more entertaining at home for business or pleasure. You're also in a phase when researching and sharing important information could be quite lucrative. **Lucky numbers: 54, 69, 77.**

CANCER

June 21 to July 21

Concerning money, you may feel more relaxed and optimistic about your situation. The presence of Jupiter can incline you to splurge, though it also pushes you to seek opportunities to earn extra cash. In addition, a new focus on family matters encourages conversation as a way to increase harmony at home. Constructive discussion might also push you to start a project that's so far been in the planning stages. Meanwhile, the move of Venus into Virgo might entice you to explore fitness opportunities and so enhance your looks. **Lucky numbers: 10, 33, 59.**

LEO:

July 24 to August 21

Though you're upbeat and positive,

you might find that the situation at home taxes your strength. Thankfully, a tricky issue seems to be easing, which may reassure you that things really can improve. When it comes to getting your message out to the world, try to do so in as balanced a way as possible. Consider everybody's needs and target your words in a way that people can understand and resonate with. Financially, you may be motivated to splurge on small luxuries, but you deserve it! **Lucky numbers: 73, 88, 96.**

VIRGO:

August 22 to September 21

The spiritual and mystical side of life continues to be in focus as Jupiter enhances your intuitive awareness and encourages you to pay attention to dreams or unusual synchronicities. Ardent desires may find release as a budding romance develops its more passionate side. Either way, things are looking up. As Venus edges into your sign, this is an opportunity to think about your image and consider your style signature. Tweaking your everyday wear just a little could enhance your confidence and the opportunities that come your way. **Lucky numbers: 15, 23, 40.**

LIBRA:

September 22 to October 23

You'll find it easier to put words to your feelings and express yourself in general as Mercury bops into your sign early this week. You'll be more inclined to chat if you have plans to share or something to get off your chest. Your social life continues to be a positive experience that you should nurture as much as possible. Make a point of networking regularly and you'll greatly benefit in the romantic as well as business sense. **Lucky numbers: 03, 36, 51.**

SCORPIO:

October 24 to November 21

Even though things may have been tough lately, you seem to have come through with flying colors. While you're not completely out of the woods, the current alignment adds strength and support that you'll greatly appreciate. You may be in the spotlight or in a position of importance, but a part of you may feel like keeping a low profile, or at least keeping your cards close to your chest as a way to ensure your privacy. Encouragement from pals may be all you need to stay strong and succeed. **Lucky numbers: 09, 13, 29.**

SAGITTARIUS:

November 22 to December 21

The idea of cutting ties and sailing into the wild blue yonder may appeal to you, particularly with Jupiter urging you on. Mercury's presence in Libra, starting Monday, hints that romance can happen when you're

willing to socialize and move in new circles. Career ambitions also beckon this week, and it helps to have a plan or strategy that can move you along the path to success. As Venus dances into Virgo, you'll also find that mingling with the right folks can help you achieve your goals. **Lucky numbers: 64, 79, 84.**

CAPRICORN:

December 22 to January 20

You're in the mood to profit from any business ventures and explore entrepreneurial ideas for investment and pure fun. There's also a focus on learning and discovery, suggesting that this is a good time to upgrade your skill set or explore subjects that pique your interest. A career matter or personal goal might benefit from liaising with the right people. Advice from someone in the know could be the missing ingredient that helps you make great progress this week. **Lucky numbers: 67, 89, 94.**

AQUARIUS:

January 20 to February 18

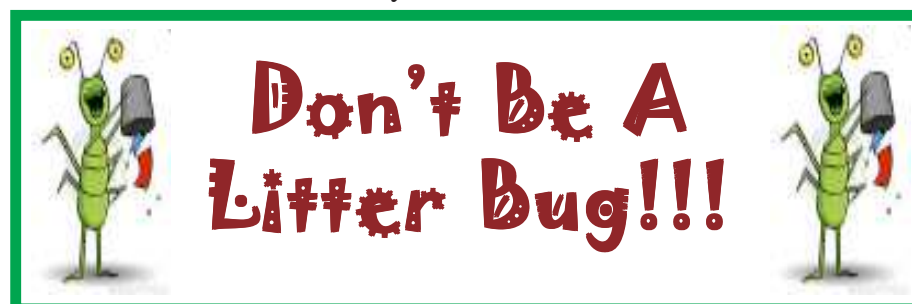
Romantic, business, friendly, or

other relationships continue to flourish. But Mercury's move into Libra hints that it's time to move in new circles and connect with people who can pique your imagination and enthusiasm for new ideas. Finances benefit from a sound budget and strong plan. This is a good time to start repaying debt and so ease any attendant anxiety. Make time to meditate, too. You'll find that it helps to bring peace of mind no matter what challenges come your way. **Lucky numbers: 01, 20, 43.**

PISCES:

February 20 to March 21

Positive experiences on the work front may be giving you more confidence, encouraging you to showcase your skills and abilities, and helping you to feel good about the future. This is a great time to look for work that might be more challenging and lucrative. Relationships also come into focus, enticing you to see key connections in a new light or from a fresh perspective. Plus, Mercury's move into Libra is all about balancing your financial situation and feeling more harmonious as result. **Lucky numbers: 61, 82, 99.**



Vacancy

Vacancy exists at Era Plaza in Santa Elena on the George Price Highway

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Leptospirosis

Continued From Page 9

potentially infected animals, washing after this contact, and reducing rodents in areas people live and work. The antibiotic doxycycline, when used in an effort to prevent infection among travellers, is of unclear benefit. Vaccines for animals exist for certain type of *Leptospira* which may decrease the risk of spread to humans. Treatment if infected is with antibiotics such as: doxycycline, penicillin, or ceftriaxone. Weil's disease and severe pulmonary haemorrhage syndrome result in death rates greater than 10% and 50%, respectively, even with treatment.

Signs and Symptoms

Leptospiral infection in humans causes a range of symptoms, and some infected persons may have no symptoms at all. Leptospirosis is a biphasic disease that begins with

flu-like symptoms (**fever, chills, myalgias, intense headache**). The first phase (**mild leptospirosis**) resolves, and the patient is briefly asymptomatic until the second phase (**severe leptospirosis**) begins. 90 percent of cases of the disease are mild leptospirosis and without any specific treatment and the rest develop to severe leptospirosis. This is characterized by liver damage (**causing jaundice**), renal failure with same signs and symptoms; the heart and brain can be affected, meningitis of the outer layer of the brain, encephalitis of brain tissue with same signs and symptoms; and lung affected as the most serious and life-threatening of all leptospirosis complications. The infection is often incorrectly diagnosed due to the nonspecific symptoms.

Signs and symptoms of leptospirosis include high fever, severe headache, chills, muscle aches, and vomiting, and may include jaundice,

red eyes, abdominal pain, diarrhea, and rash. Initial presentation may resemble pneumonia. The symptoms in humans appear after a 4–14 day incubation period. More severe manifestations include meningitis, extreme fatigue, hearing loss, respiratory distress, azotemia, and renal interstitial tubular necrosis, which results in renal failure and occasionally liver failure (**the severe form of this disease is known as Weil's disease, though it is sometimes named Weil Syndrome**). Cardiovascular problems are also possible.

Incubation (**time of exposure to first symptoms**) in animals is anywhere from 2 to 20 days. In dogs, leptospirosis most often damages the liver and kidney. In addition, recent reports describe a pulmonary form of canine leptospirosis associated with severe hemorrhage in the lungs—similar to human pulmonary hemorrhagic syndrome. Vasculitis may occur, causing edema and potentially disseminated intravascular coagulation (**DIC**). Myocarditis, pericarditis, meningitis, and uveitis are also possible sequelae.

Eye finding may include conjunctival suffusion

Cause

Leptospirosis is caused by a spirochaete bacterium called *Leptospira* spp. At least five important serotypes exist in the United States and Canada, all of which cause disease in dogs:

- * Icterohaemorrhagiae
- * Canicola
- * Pomona
- * Grippityphosa
- * Bratislava

Other (**more common**) lethal infectious strains exist. Genetically different *leptospira* organisms may be identical serologically and vice versa. Hence, some argue about strain identification. The traditional serologic

system currently seems more useful from a diagnostic and epidemiologic standpoint—but this may change with further development and spread of technologies like polymerase chain reaction (**PCR**).

Leptospirosis is transmitted by the urine of an infected animal, and is contagious as long as the urine is still moist. Rats, mice, and moles are important primary hosts—but a wide range of other mammals including dogs, deer, rabbits, hedgehogs, cows, sheep, raccoons, opossums, skunks, and certain marine mammals carry and transmit the disease as secondary hosts. In Africa, the banded mongoose has been identified as a carrier of the pathogen, likely in addition to other African wildlife hosts. Dogs may lick the urine of an infected animal off the grass or soil, or drink from an infected puddle.

House-bound domestic dogs have contracted leptospirosis, apparently from licking the urine of infected mice in the house. The type of habitats most likely to carry infective bacteria are muddy riverbanks, ditches, gullies, and muddy livestock rearing areas where there is regular passage of wild or farm mammals. The incidence of leptospirosis correlates directly with the amount of rainfall, making it seasonal in temperate climates and year-round in tropical climates. Leptospirosis also transmits via the semen of infected animals.

Humans become infected through contact with water, food, or soil that contains urine from these infected animals. This may happen by swallowing contaminated food or water or through skin contact. The disease is not known to spread between humans, and bacterial dissemination in convalescence is extremely rare in humans. Leptospirosis is common among water-sport enthusiasts in specific areas, as prolonged immersion in water promotes the entry of the bacteria. Surfers and whitewater paddlers are at especially high risk in areas that have been shown to contain the bacteria, and can contract the disease by swallowing contaminated water, splashing contaminated water into their eyes or nose, or exposing open wounds to infected water.

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Police News:

BY: Raphael Martinez
Police Press Officer

Reference a drowning incident in the Malacate Area, Independence Village in the Stann Creek District which occurred on Friday, August 29, **Dr. Mario Estradabran**, on Wednesday, September 3 at 1:30 pm, conducted a post mortem examination on the body of **Michael Reyes**, 22, Belizean laborer of Hopkins Village, Stann Creek District, where at the conclusion Dr. Estradabran certified the cause of death as a result of **“Asphyxiation by drowning”**

Orange Walk:

At about 11:20 pm on Tuesday, September 2, police on patrol in Orange Walk Town, at the corner of San Antonio Road and Staines Alley, Orange Walk Town conducted a search at the

residence of **Alex Tobar**, 18.

In the back yard police found 246.9grams of suspected marijuana in a black plastic bag and another 485.5 grams of suspected marijuana in a black bag Everest brand.

The discovery resulted in the arrest, on a drug trafficking charge, of Alex Tobar, Belizean construction worker residing at the corner of San Antonio Road and Staines Alley, Orange Walk Town.

Belize District

On Thursday, September 4 at around 2:30 a.m. police visited a hotel on the Phillip Goldson Highway in the Belize Districe where a male person of dark complexion from San Ignacio Cayo was detained. Inside his room police found 5 grams of suspected marijuana along with two pieces of suspected crack cocaine weighing 0.11 grams

The accused was detained pending charge of Possession of Controlled Drugs.

Then on Wednesday, September 3, at about 8:30 p.m. Belize City police conducted a search on a male person on St Thomas Street, Belize City. In his possession, the police found a black plastic bag containing suspected

marijuana amounting to 88.2 grams. The accused was later identified as **Sherloca Herrera**, 28, of # 20 Nargusta Street. He was formally arrested and charged for drug trafficking charge.

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Prime Minister of Belize





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VACANCY

The **BELIZE ELECTRIC COMPANY LIMITED (BECOL)** is accepting applications for the post of **POWER PLANT OPERATOR**.

BECOL is the owner and operator of the Chalillo, Mollejon, and Vaca Hydroelectric Power Station Projects. The main function of the company is to provide clean and reliable energy to BEL. The company’s foremost concern is the safety of its employees and the running of an environmentally sound operation by the following the guidelines of the International Standards Organization, category ISO14001.

JOB DESCRIPTION:
Operates and controls all plant equipment from centralized and remote control panel boards.

JOB DUTIES:

- * Monitors and operates all plant generation equipment from cntralized and remote control panels according to plant operating procedures
- *Assres compliance with all operating and safety procedures including issue of protective tagging ad maintaining operational records and logs
- *Participates in approved training program and study operating manuals to assure increased knowledge and competency in work performance
- * Performs minor maintenance during normal shift and assists in maintenance effort during unit and/or equipment outage.
- *Performs other related duties as required

SALARY:

- * Dependent on Qualifications and experience

QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS:

- * Associates degree in Mechanical and Electrical Engineering or High School Diploma with five years related experience
- * Knowledge of power plant or large industrial equipment and operating procedures preferred
- * Ability to comprehend complex operating manuals, blueprints and flow diagrams
- * Have a clean police record and good inter-personal skills

The successful applicant must relocate and reside in the San Ignacio/Santa Elena Town area or Benque Viejo del Carmen Town.

Application letter, accompanied by two (2) letters of reference, must be submitted by September 12, 2014 to:

Administrative Assistant
Belize Electric Company Limited
P.O. Box 87
San Ignacio Town, Cayo District

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