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No. 440

Sunday, December 6, 2015

Price \$1.00

INVESTIGATION LAUNCHED INTO HOSTEL FIRE - CAYO LOST ONE OF ITS OWN - ANNA CARLOS

Former Magistrate and Director of the Belize Family Court, **Margaret Nicholas**, is in the early stages of what is expected to be a thorough and independent investigation into a weekend fire that resulted in the deaths of three teenage girls at the Princess Royal Youth Hostel. It is expected that her investigation will reveal if there was any breach in protocol as it relates to disciplinary procedures, lock down policy, dealing with runaways as individual and groups, supervision of residents and safety of residents among



Margaret Nicholas



Anna Carlos

others. It is expected that the investigation will provide answers to the many questions from relatives of the victims and members of the public.

There will also be recommendations put forward to improve a system that all agree has been long due for reform.

What we know thus far from reports is that four girls ran away from the Youth Hostel facility at mile 21 on the George Price Highway on Friday night, November 27. The girls were tracked down and returned by Hattieville police.

After they were taken back to the hostel, they were ordered to be confined to the dorm for a mandatory 24 hour period, during which all privileges were taken away. Therefore, while the other residents were on the compound engaging in sport and other recreational activities, the girls on discipline were still on lock down. Special measures were taken to lock down **Elizabeth McKoy**, 14, **Shadisha Arnold**, 16, and **Anna Carlos**, 16, because supervisors of the facility were concerned that they were planning to escape again. They were placed in a specific room, that is most difficult to escape from, and a



Elizabeth McKoy

padlock was placed on the door. There were two guards to supervise 30 girls on Saturday when tragedy struck.

Just before 2:20 p.m., guards were alerted by one of the girls on lock down that a pillow was lit on fire in the room and it was getting out of



Shadisha Arnold

control.

Starla Bradley, Director of the Community Rehabilitation Department, gave an account of what followed: *"The officer then proceeded to try to open the padlock which was on the door, but had difficulty opening the lock. The girls inside started to panic and in an effort to try to out the fire, the girl who it is said had started the fire, threw a blanket*

Please Turn To Page 15

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Western Bus Blaze On Western Highway

Commuters are concerned over an image that has gone viral on Facebook of a Westline bus completely engulfed in flame. The image comes at a very sensitive time in the country, just after a tragic fire at the Belize Youth Hostel. Fortunately, this case did not result in any fatalities.

According to reports, the Westline bus operated as chartered transportation for employees of Santander. It runs from Benque to Santander's compound in Valley of Peace. The bus left from Benque at 5 a.m. on Tuesday, December 1, enroute to the facility. By the time it had reached mile 60 on the George Price Highway, there were 45 passengers on board.

According to representatives from Westline, the bus driver started to smell smoke around mile 60. Passengers on board back this story of a distinct burning scent. The driver stopped the bus to check what was wrong. During this time many of the passengers also came off the bus. Outside they saw dark smoke coming from under the engine of the bus and it was clear that the situation was escalating. The driver and passengers who had already gotten off the bus proceeded to warn those that remained seated. In a very short time the bus was completely empty. As expected, the smoke was warning for a much larger fire that erupted shortly after the bus was



cleared.

Despite attempts by the bus driver and a couple assistants to out the fire, it developed into an uncontrollable blaze. The only thing they could all do was watch, and some took pictures.

Westline representatives say that the bus had been out of commission recently and was only released from the garage on Monday night, November 30. During this time a new transmission was installed, the bus was taken for a test drive and deemed to be road worthy. The 40 men and 5 women on board the bus on Tuesday would disagree with that assessment. Investigations into this incident continues.

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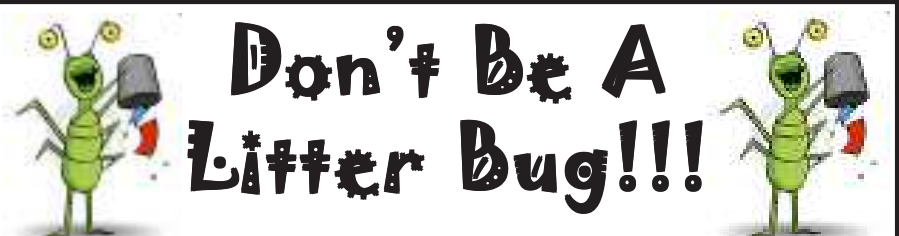
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Cayo Central Get Ready - The Best Is Yet To Come!

After being re-elected for a third consecutive term in Cayo Central, **Hon. Rene Montero** pledged to *“continue the transformation”* and assured residents that *“the best is yet to come”*. So far he has honoured those commitments as infrastructure works has not only continued at the pre-election pace, but it seem to have even escalated. There are several projects going on simultaneously in Cayo Central: street upgrades, drainage development, public and sporting facility upgrades and of course, that majestic new bridge.

Immediately following the recent rains, heavy machinery was deployed from the Ministry of Works to clear and expand drainage in the Santa Elena area. Several drains were cleared and new ones dug. One of the most recent to be completed was St. Andrews Street. One resident says, *“I really appreciate how quick the graders came. They really serious bout helping.”* That resident is one of several who expressed their appreciation for the quick response by Hon. Rene Montero. This is the same on many other streets in the area. Some also pledged to do their part in cleaning the drain immediately in front of their own property to prevent clogging.

Speaking of preventing clogging, the San Ignacio-Santa Elena Bridge continues to progress. This bridge will significantly reduce traffic congestion in the municipalities and open the area to new opportunities. This project is funded by the Government of Belize and the Caribbean Development Bank at a total cost of \$19,961,575.16.

In his thank you message to Cayo Central residents, Hon. Montero said, *“Our beautiful constituency will continue to be transformed during the next five years that you have entrusted me with. I look forward to continuing to work for you as your Area Representative to continue providing jobs and prosperity to Cayo Central and to making it once again a place where people of all ages can count on a future.”*

NOTICE

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and Humor

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for further information



St. Andrews Street, Santa Elena



Drainage In San Elena



New Bridge From Bradley’s Bank Area to San Ignacio

Suspected Drug Plane Lands And Burns In Spanish Lookout

Police and Civil Aviation Authorities are trying to determine the origins and cargo of a torched mystery plane that was found in the Spanish Lookout area early Tuesday morning, December 1, in an area known as Green Hills.

Police have confirmed that the plane, believed to be a Cessna 210 single engine landed on an abandoned road about two miles from the Guatemalan border. Investigators do not believe that the plane crashed or that anyone was hurt during the landing. Instead, it is believed that the plane made a successful landing and was intentionally set on fire to obstruct any investigation that would take place.

Authorities have little to work with.



Crashed Plane In Spanish Lookout

There is no evidence of human or illicit cargo. All that remains is a torched aircraft. Only speculation can start the investigation. People in the surrounding area reported that they heard the aircraft flying overhead but it operated without lights. Because of the fact that it was attempting to land in the pre-dawn hours, it is believed to have landed on the abandon road and whatever passenger and cargo onboard was transported across the Guatemalan border not too far away. The Civil Aviation Department has deployed a team to investigate. They are responsible to salvage as much information as they can from the torched aircraft and turn the investigation over to police.

This incident strikes investigators as

a case of déjà vu. On March 25, 2014 a similar modeled plane landed about a mile from where this one was found torched. Investigators believed that plane crash landed and was set on fire to destroy evidence. That was never proven and they may rethink that now that this plane is believed to have had a successful landing and later similarly burnt. The common belief in both incidents is that the planes were carrying illicit cargo, not people, because of the size.

Investigations into this incident continues.

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(No. 2)



Belize Botanic Gardens



April Calendar

As of April 13 – All Inclusive Tours

Shuttle NOW available, twice daily on **Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays** or reserve your group in advance. Shuttle leaves BBG Garden Shop at **7:00 a.m. and again at 11:00 a.m.** Do Breakfast and a Walk in the Garden or the Lunch Tour, \$50. per person, includes tour, shuttle and “Garden Tour” meal with juice, coffee or tea

RESERVE - Maya Traditional Tours & Tamales

Let Mr. William Mesh, a knowledgeable guide, take you on an educational visit back in time as he tells and shows a little about traditional healing with common medicinal plants that we have in our backyards. Observe how a traditional meal of tamales is prepared and then savour that meal along with juice, for lunch **\$50. Per person, includes shuttle, tour and tamales making; 8 person minimum, begins at 9a.m. ends at 2p.m.** Shuttle leaves BBG Garden Shop at 8:30 a.m.

APRIL 18 – Saturday, “Flower Shop”

It’s April and flowers are a bloomin’ at BBG! Join us for the “Flower Shop” at the BBG garden shop on 37 West Street. Open House begins at 9:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. Prices vary between \$10 and \$20. Pots are extra. Simple refreshments provided! Come in and make arrangements or make orders ahead of time at: Tel: **671-3322/ shayla@belizebotanic.org**

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May 16; 23	Landscape Maintenance		
May 30	Composting		

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Russell Hyde Jr. Out on Bail

Eighteen-year-old **Russell Hyde Jr.** of Roaring Creek Village is out on Supreme Court bail for the offense of possession of unlicensed ammunition.

Allegations are that on November 14, police busted Hyde and **Justin Banner**, 18, at Sunview Hotel in Belmopan City with two live rounds of Aguila brand 9 mm ammunition and one GLF brand 9 mm round. They were both arrested and charged for possession of ammunition without a gun license.

Both men were ordered to be remanded at the Belize Central Prison by Chief Magistrate Anne Marie Smith. They later applied to the Supreme Court of Belize for bail.

Hyde's bail application was heard by Supreme Court Judge **Denis S. Hanomansingh** on Friday, November 27. He was represented



by Senior **Counsel Ellis Arnold**.

His attorney was successful in getting him bail in the sum of \$5,000 plus one surety of the same amount with conditions. Hyde was ordered

to report to the Belmopan Police Station every Friday between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. until the case is completed. He must surrender all his travelling documents and not miss a single arraignment date. His next appearance is scheduled for December 18.

Justin Banner, who was charged jointly with Hyde for the ammunition offense, was successful in getting Supreme Court bail a week earlier, November 20. However, after he was able to post bail he was rearrested and charged for the murder of Ivan Choc.

Choc was at home eating fried chicken with his family when they heard noise coming from the yard. Two masked men with firearms, one carrying a 9 millimeter pistol and the other held a 16 gauge shotgun, then

charged onto the verandah where Ivan Choc was.

As soon as Ivan saw the men he attempted to hide under the table where he was having his meal but was unable to elude a gunshot which one of the masked men fired at him with the shotgun.

The first shot hit him on the right hand. Even while being injured Ivan continued to beg for his life but the man bearing the shotgun, cranked it and fired a second shot, hitting him to the right side of the head. He died within minutes.

Russel Hyde Jr. has not been charged with murder.

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PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY



The Public Utilities Commission (PUC) invites expressions of interest from suitably qualified and motivated candidates in respect of the following employment opportunity:

Director – Electricity Sector

Duties and Responsibilities:
The **Director – Electricity Sector** is responsible for assisting the PUC in the regulation of the electricity sector in respect of the services provided by licensees and public utility providers. Specific duties and responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- a) Direct supervision of assigned staff
- b) Assist in the development and implementation of Byelaws, Regulations and Orders in respect of service quality and reliability standards
- c) Assist in the development and implementation of Byelaws, Regulations and Orders in respect of electrical installation construction standards
- d) Assist in the development, review and implementation of relevant codes of practice of licensees in respect of the services they are authorized to provide
- e) Assist in the processing of applications for licenses, consents and authorizations
- f) Monitoring of licensees for compliance to licence conditions and relevant Acts, Byelaws, Regulations, Orders, Decisions, codes of practice, and standards
- g) Supervise or conduct relevant studies in relation to current and forecast trends in demand and supply of electricity
- h) Supervise the invitation, evaluation and award of competitive bids for the provision of electricity services where appropriate
- i) Assist in the conducting of rate review proceedings and filings
- j) Assist in the Preparation of annual budgets and reports
- k) Represent the PUC in international organizations, forums, conferences, workshops and working groups from time to time
- l) Other relevant duties and responsibilities that may be assigned from time to time

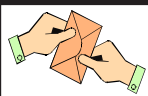
Qualifications:
The successful candidate shall possess:

- a) Minimum of a Bachelor of Science Degree in Electrical Engineering or related field
- b) At least five (5) years' experience in a relevant position
- c) Outstanding interpersonal, planning, motivational and organizational skills
- d) Unwavering interest and commitment to the purpose, duties and responsibilities of the PUC

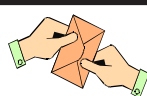
Benefits
The base salary for this positions will be based on personal qualifications and experience, within the salary scale of BZ\$50,000.00 to BZ\$100,000.00 per annum.
Successful candidates will be entitled to an annual gratuity of 20% of base salary and to twenty (20) working days vacation annually.
Successful candidates will also be entitled to participate in all benefit plans, if any, provided by the PUC to its employees generally, including its ongoing training program.

Applications
The deadline for applications is 5:00 PM on December 11, 2015. Completed applications along with two letters of reference should be sent to:

**Employment Opportunity
Director – Electricity Sector
Public Utilities Commission
41 Gabourel Lane
Belize City, Belize**



Readers Write



Fix Falcon Field Folly

Dear Editor;

As much as I applaud the Government of Belize for the huge investment they have made in sporting facilities and infrastructure in the country, via Belize Infrastructure Limited (BIL), I am disheartened by the quality of basketball facilities that are being constructed. I am writing as a basketball enthusiast, who has been involved with basketball at all levels in the country of Belize. Given that I live in San Ignacio, I will speak solely about the basketball court that was built at Falcon Field. I cannot question the aesthetics of the structure, but can surely question the purpose of the building. Any basketball court that has an overhead covering should be built as a weather proof facility that is accessible when it rains. At Falcon Field, everyone refers to our building as a "dry-weather court", because just a small drizzle gets the playing court wet, not to mention a rain. It is frustrating that the engineering and architectural designers could not factor in that very elementary component. We are presently having our annual BECOL tournament, and every time it rains we need to sweep and dry the court, if not, postpone the games.

I am disappointed that no one was consulted from the basketball community, and when informal consultations were made, none of the suggestions were implemented. The facility only has 2 rows of bleachers,

only 5 lights and no electrical outlets. The direction of the court was placed East-West instead of North-South, not factoring the rising and setting of the sun, and its effects on the players when shooting. The basketball rims are not flexible rims and the backboards are poorly mounted. Our biggest frustration is that the structure we had before had better lighting, better bleachers, better rims, better team benches, better backboards and it had two basketball courts. After investing almost \$1 million in this structure, I am sure that we could have received a more suitable and equipped facility to serve our basketball community.

With all that being said, the basketball community in San Ignacio Town is still hopeful that the short comings of the basketball facility at Falcon Field can be rectified. We humbly ask that awnings be placed on the four sides of the structure to keep the court dry when it rains. We humbly ask that additional bleachers be installed for basketball fans, and that better lighting be available. We are also requesting that the backboards and the rims be replaced with fiber-glass, transparent backboards, with a pair of flexible basketball rims. After so much money has been invested at Falcon Field, it is prudent that BIL rectifies the short comings of the facility to better serve our basketball community.

Karim Juan

Pickup Truck Stolen In Santa Elena

Police are asking the public's assistance in locating a green 2005 Four Door Nissan Frontier pickup truck that was stolen from the garage of **Philip Emilio Sosa** on Friday, November 20.

Sosa reported to police that he left home for work at 5:30 a.m. Friday morning and left his pickup truck with license plate **BMP C=04811** parked under the garage in his yard on Eve

Street, Santa Elena Town.

Sosa says he returned home at 8:00 p.m. later that day and noticed immediately that his vehicle was missing.

Police are asking anyone with information on this latest vehicular theft in the Cayo District to call or visit the nearest police station.

The Vin Number for the pickup truck is **1N6ADO7W15C436037**.



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What Did Prime Minister Barrow And Guatemalan President-Elect Talk About?

The visit of President-elect of the Republic of Guatemala, **His Excellency Jimmy Morales**, to Belize was overshadowed by the actions of five protesters on Saturday, November 28.

According to Government Press Office, President-elect Jimmy Morales had indicated from as early as November 6, 2015 to Belize's Ambassador, **H.E. Alexis Rosado** to Guatemala, that he intended to pay a courtesy call on the Prime Minister as part of a visit he is making to all Heads of State and Government of SICA member countries and Mexico.

The protest and police's response diverted attention from one of the most important meetings in the countries' history. The Government leaders with the most real chance to solve the Guatemalan Claim. Therefore, it is important to know what was discussed at this first encounter.

The Press Office reports that it was more of a cordial visit than a bilateral meeting. *"They both congratulated each other for their respective recent victories at the polls,"* a



Belize and Guatemala, including a way forward in respect of resolving our historical differences. They agreed to continue along the path set out in the Framework Agreement and Confidence Building Measures of 2005 for expanding functional cooperation between the two countries, and each committed to strengthen the processes that already exist for good neighbourly relations so that the two countries may continue to live in peace and as friends pending a legal resolution of the territorial dispute.

release reads. The release continues: *"Prime Minister Barrow and President-elect Morales discussed the bilateral relations between*

Both sides agreed to make a greater effort to enhance cooperation and understanding at various levels, especially in areas

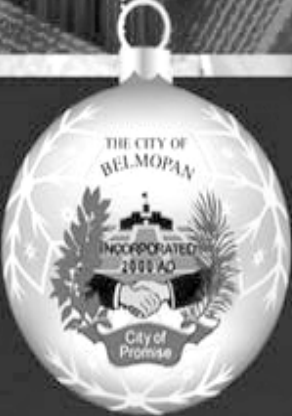
of security, business, trade and investment."

President-elect Morales extended a special and personal invitation to Prime Minister Barrow to the presidential inauguration in January 2016 and Prime Minister Barrow expressed that he has every intention of attending.


When Prime Minister Barrow was asked about Morales's pre-election tough talk on Belize, he said, *"He already walked back from those comments. He walked back from those comments before arriving in Belize and this morning I was quite clear as was he, that we are talking about proceeding on the basis of mutual respect - two sovereign countries operating a set of mechanisms because there is a dispute. But operating both on the basis on individual sovereignty and commitment based on that sovereignty."*

Morales's toning down of the rhetoric is what Prime Minister Barrow predicted at the end of October.

Barrow said to the Belizean press, *"He will learn that type of talk is unacceptable and Belize will not be bullied."*



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STAR HUMOR

When The Fight Started

Me and the wife were sitting at a table at her high school reunion, when she kept staring at a drunken man swigging a beer as he sat at a nearby table.

I asked her “do you know him?” “yes” she sighed, “he’s my old boyfriend, i understand he took to

drinking right after we split up those many years ago and i hear he hasn’t been sober since”

“wow” i said “who would think a person could go on celebrating for so long!” and that was when the fight started.

Fat Cow

Teacher: “Kids, what does the chicken give you?”

Students: “Meat!”

Teacher: “Very good! Now what does the pig give you?”

Students: “Bacon!”

Teacher: “Great! And what does the fat cow give you?”

Students: “Homework! Homework! Homework!”

Angry Bird

Wife checks Husband’s phone and find all girls numbers saved like “New Bird, Neighbour Bird, Old Bird, Upstairs Bird, Downstairs Bird,

College Bird and Supermarket Bird.”

Finally she checks her name and it was saved as “Angry Bird”.

Bleachers For Cayo North

The Belize Natural Energy Charitable Trust has partnered with the Bullet Tree Village Council and the Cayo North Sports Committee to fund the construction of two bleachers and two canopies. In May 2015, the Trust approved grant funding in the amount of \$49,000 for this project. Construction started in June 2015 and took four months for completion. Inauguration of the facility was held on Friday morning at the football field in the village of Bullet Tree. Hon. Dr. Omar Figueroa, Area Representative for Cayo North, delivered the keynote address on Friday, November 27, 2015. In his speech, he stressed the importance of sports in the development of youths

and the wider community. Hon. Dr. Figueroa also said that this new partnership will only provide employment and development opportunities for the residents of Cayo North. In addition, it will also provide an opportunity for visitors to the area to come, enjoy, and imbibe in the sporting events staged at the upgraded facility. He is hopeful that other initiatives in the pipeline will also be considered under the partnership with the BNE Charitable Trust.

It is expected that the facilities will provide sporting options for the youths and children of Bullet Tree Village. This initiative will directly address the need for minimizing crimes within the community by

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providing positive activities to young people. It will also provide an economic opportunity for vendors through increasing sporting activities and other related activities that will benefit from an improved infrastructure that will comfortably host approximately 400 people. Entrepreneurship is being promoted in the overall development of the sporting complex where booths are expected to be constructed for sales during sporting events and activities.

The management and staff of Louisiana Government School, as part

of this initiative, showed their dedication and commitment in working for the welfare of the students entrusted in their care as well as to improving the social environment at their school and facilitating the development of our youth. The Trust says that it is committed to continue working closely with our partners to unlock the potential of the Belizean people and is proud to engage in meaningful partnerships such as this that seeks to advance the development of our Country.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The business of
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Saturday, 5th December

5th & 6th

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Celebrating Andy Palacio!

Andy Vivian Palacio (2 December 1960 – 19 January 2008) was a Belizean Punta musician and government official. He was also a leading activist for the Garifuna people and their culture.

Biography

Palacio was born and raised in the coastal village of Barranco and worked briefly as a teacher before turning to music. He received the award for *"Best New Artist"* at the Caribbean Music Awards in 1991, and was posthumously awarded the BBC3 Awards for World Music award in the Americas Category, in 2008.

Contributions to Belizean music and media

In addition to the traditional Garifuna music that he played, Palacio absorbed the diverse sounds disseminated by radio from neighboring Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, Cuba, Jamaica and the United States. Palacio pursued his musical ambitions in a series of high school bands, covering a diversity of popular music from abroad. Attracted by the ideals of the Nicaraguan revolution, he joined the literacy campaign in that nation's African-Amerindian Caribbean coast region, and developed a deeper appreciation for his own threatened cultural and linguistic traditions. Those insights made their way into his own creativity, influencing him to delve more deeply into the roots of Garifuna music.

Palacio returned from Nicaragua to discover the emergence of new Garifuna pride in their culture and identity, a development dramatically expressed in the sudden popularity of punta rock, a fusion of traditional Garifuna music with electric guitar and the influences of R&B, jazz and rock and roll. The Original Turtle Shell Band, led by Belizean Garifuna musician and painter Delvin "Pen" Cayetano, burst into national consciousness in the early 1980s just as Belize gained independence. The Turtle Shell Band's invitation to perform with their mentor Isabel Flores (*a legendary Garifuna percussionist and singer, now deceased*) at the 1983 New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival encouraged Andy Palacio to pursue a musical career.

In 1987, after Pen Cayetano turned down an invitation to work in England with Cultural Partnerships Limited, a community arts organization, Palacio stepped in. He returned to Belize six months later with professional experience, a broadened perspective, and connections that led to his involvement with the short-lived Sunrise recording project, the first effort to record, document, preserve

and distribute Belizean roots music. The following year Palacio's career took off, buoyed by widely circulated cassette recordings released by Sunrise, and a string of invitations to represent Belize musically at the Festival Internacional de Cultura del Caribe (*Cancun*), Carifesta VI (*Trinidad and Tobago*), Carifesta VII (*St. Kitts-Nevis*), the Rainforest World Music Festival (*Malaysia*), the Antillanse Feesten (*Belgium*), the World Traditional Performing Arts Festival (Japan) and countless performances in the United States, Canada, Colombia, France, Germany and Great Britain.

Two critically acclaimed recordings on the Stonetree label, Belize's only record company, cemented Palacio's fame at home, while reinforcing his stature as the country's foremost overseas cultural ambassador. Recorded in Havana and Belize, *Keimoun* (1995) showcased Palacio's vocal and composition talents, enlisting first-rate Cuban and Belizean studio artists. The first CD to be produced in Belize, *Keimoun* put the country on the world music map, and is listed by *The Rough Guide* as one of 100 essential recordings from Latin America and the Caribbean. Two years later Palacio returned with *Til Da Mawnin*, an energetic mix of dance tunes backed by Belize's top instrumentalists and singers.

Appointed Belizean Cultural Ambassador and Deputy Administrator of the National Institute of Culture and History in 2004, Palacio devoted himself to the preservation of Garifuna music and culture. In 2007, Palacio's years of work with the Stonetree's Garifuna All-Stars project came to fruition with the release of the acclaimed *Wátina* album. *Wátina* featured a multigenerational crew of Garifuna musicians from Belize, Guatemala, and Honduras (*including octegenarian singer Paul Nabor*) that delved deeply into traditional Garifuna rhythms and songs. The album was a critical success that garnered worldwide attention for the Garifuna people, culture and language. Thanks to *Wátina*, Palacio was named a *UNESCO Artist for Peace* and won the prestigious WOMEX Award in 2007.

Palacio later served as a head of the National Institute of Culture and History and was named a cultural ambassador. He released over five original albums beginning with *Nabi* in 1990. He also traveled widely promoting and performing his music.

Palacio briefly hosted a television program on Channel 5 named after him and featuring works from Belizeans. He also wrote the theme



music for Channel 5's newscast.

On 14 March 2007, Palacio released his last studio album, *Wátina*, which he considered his masterpiece. The album features guest appearances from other prominent Garifuna artists including **Paul Nabor** and was produced by **Ivan Duran** at Stonetree Records.

Critical illness and death

On 16 January 2008, Palacio suddenly fell ill with two apparent *"stroke-like seizures"* at his home in San Ignacio and hospitalized in

Belmopan and later Belize City. In Belize City Palacio was referred to go to Chicago for more specialized

medical treatment via air ambulance, but his condition steadily deteriorated en route. While stopped to clear United States customs in Mobile, Alabama, Palacio was found unconscious and rushed to a local hospital, where his prognosis was deemed bleak. His family requested he return so he could die in his home country. According to a press release from his record label,

Cumbancha, Palacio died in Belize City at 21:00 local time on 19 January of *"a massive and extensive stroke to the brain, a heart attack and respiratory failure."*

Fellow Belizean musician **Oral Fuentes**, a friend was reported as saying in response to his death: *"I am indeed very sad to hear the news of Andy passing. I've known Andy for years ... as a fellow Belizean I feel the pain. Belize has indeed lost a hero."*

HOUSING
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Andy Palacio

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Liquor License Notices

Notice is hereby be given that under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Chapter 150 of the Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2000, **YONG QUAN JIANG** is applying for a **CONVENIENCE STORE** liquor license for the year 2016 to operate **Quan Ji Shop** located on Santa Maria Street, Santa Elena Town, Cayo District.

Notice is hereby be given that under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Chapter 150 of the Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2000, **JUN WEN LI** is applying for a **CONVENIENCE STORE** liquor license for the year 2016 to operate **City Corner** located on Joseph Andrews Drive, San Ignacio Town, Cayo District

Notice is hereby be given that under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Chapter 150 of the Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2000, **RUIMEN ZHEN** is applying for a **CONVENIENCE STORE** liquor license for the year 2016 to operate **Chen’s Store** located on Joseph Andrew’s Drive, San Ignacio Town, Cayo District

Notice is hereby be given that under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Chapter 150 of the Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2000, **LI QIN CHEN** is applying for a **PUBLICANSPECIAL** liquor license for the year 2016 to operate **Pin Mei Restaurant** located on Joseph Andrews Drive, San IgnacioTown, Cayo District

Notice is hereby be given that under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Chapter 150 of the Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2000, **XI MAO SUE** is applying for a **CONVENIENCE STORE** liquor license for the year 2016 to operate **Sue Supermarket** located on 17th Street, San Ignacio Town, Cayo District

Notice is hereby be given that under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Chapter 150 of the Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2000, **SHAO BIAO LI** is applying for a **PUBLICANSPECIAL** liquor license for the year 2016 to operate **Jacky’s Restaurant** located on Benque Viejo Road, San Ignacio Town, Cayo District

Notice is hereby be given that under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Chapter 150 of the Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2000, **DE PEI ZHANG** is applying for a **CONVENIENCE STORE** liquor license for the year 2016 to operate **New PK Shop** located on Benque Viejo Road, San Ignacio Town, Cayo District

Notice is hereby be given that under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Chapter 150 of the Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2000, **RUIE ZHEN** is applying for a **RESTAURANT** liquor license for the year 2016 to operate **PK Restaurant** located on Benque Viejo Road, San Ignacio Town, Cayo District

Notice is hereby be given that under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Chapter 150 of the Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2000, **WEN HUA LIN** is applying for a **PUBLICANSPECIAL** liquor license for the year 2016 to operate **Roses Chinese Restaurant** located on Benque Viejo Road, San Ignacio Town, Cayo District

Notice is hereby be given that under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Chapter 150 of the Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2000, **WEN HUA LIN** is applying for a **CONVENIENCE STORE** liquor license for the year 2016 to operate **Roses Chinese Shop** located on Benque Viejo Road, San IgnacioTown, Cayo District

Notice is hereby be given that under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Chapter 150 of the Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2000, **JIAN CHIANG LI** is applying for a **CONVENIENCE STORE** liquor license for the year 2016 to operate **Wing Sing Supermarket** located on Buena Vista Street, San Ignacio Town, Cayo District

Notice is hereby be given that under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Chapter 150 of the Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2000, **YUAN HAI ZHEN** is applying for a **PUBLICANSPECIAL** liquor license for the year 2016 to operate **Summer’s Restaurant** located on Benque Viejo Road, San Ignacio Town, Cayo District

Notice is hereby be given that under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Chapter 150 of the Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2000, **Can Shao Wu** is applying for a **PUBLICANSPECIAL** liquor license for the year 2016 to operate **David’s Restaurant** located on Benque Viejo Road, San Ignacio Town, Cayo District

Notice is hereby be given that under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Chapter 150 of the Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2000, **CAN HUAN WU** is applying for a **CONVENIENCE STORE** liquor license for the year 2016 to operate **David’s Super Store** located on Benque Viejo Road, San Ignacio Town, Cayo District

Notice is hereby be given that under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Chapter 150 of the Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2000, **WEN QUAN ZHEN** is applying for a **CONVENIENCE STORE** liquor license for the year 2016 to operate **Lily’s Supermarket** located on Thornley Street, San Ignacio Town, Cayo District

Notice is hereby be given that under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Chapter 150 of the Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2000, **HONG JUN LIANG** is applying for a **SHOP** liquor license for the year 2016 to operate **Tai Kong Store** located on Joseph Andrews Drive, San IgnacioTown, Cayo District

Notice is hereby be given that under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Chapter 150 of the Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2000, **WAN CHENG ZHENG** is applying for a **PUBLICANSPECIAL** liquor license for the year 2016 to operate **Fei Wang Restaurant** located on Bullet Tree Road, San Ignacio Town, Cayo District

Notice is hereby be given that under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Chapter 150 of the Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2000, **XIN YAN TAN** is applying for a **PUBLICANSPECIAL** liquor license for the year 2016 to operate **Delicious Seafood Chinese Restaurant** located on Burns Avenue, San Ignacio Town, Cayo District

Notice is hereby be given that under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Chapter 150 of the Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2000, **HUINA LIANG** is applying for a **CONVENIENCE STORE** liquor license for the year 2016 to operate **Tai San Shop** located on Burns Avenue, San Ignacio Town, Cayo District

Notice is hereby be given that under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Chapter 150 of the Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2000, **RUI BIN CHEN** is applying for a **CONVENIENCE STORE** liquor license for the year 2016 to operate **Maxims Store** located on Bullet Tree Road, San Ignacio Town, Cayo District

Notice is hereby be given that under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Chapter 150 of the Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2000, **BING HAO LIU** is applying for a **RESTAURANT** liquor license for the year 2016 to operate **Maxims Restaurant** located on Far West Street, San Ignacio Town, Cayo District

Notice is hereby be given that under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Chapter 150 of the Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2000, **XIN GE TAN** is applying for a **PUBLICANSPECIAL** liquor license for the year 2016 to operate **Alex Restaurant** located on Hudson Street, San Ignacio Town, Cayo District

Notice is hereby be given that under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Chapter 150 of the Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2000, **SHAO XIA CHEN** is applying for a **CONVENIENCE STORE** liquor license for the year 2016 to operate **Sun Shop** located on Bullet Tree Road, San IgnacioTown, Cayo District

Notice is hereby be given that under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Chapter 150 of the Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2000, **LE WING HUANG** is applying for a **CONVENIENCE STORE** liquor license for the year 2016 to operate **ABC Superstore** located on Bullet Tree Road, San IgnacioTown, Cayo District

Notice is hereby be given that under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Chapter 150 of the Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2000, **WEI FAN CHEN** is applying for a **CONVENIENCE STORE** liquor license for the year 2016 to operate **B2 Store** located on Bullet Tree Road, San IgnacioTown, Cayo District

Notice is hereby be given that under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Chapter 150 of the Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2000, **YANNA LIANG** is applying for a **CONVENIENCE STORE** liquor license for the year 2016 to operate **Tam’s Supermarket** located on Bullet Tree Road, San IgnacioTown, Cayo District

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 2016 to operate **61 Super Market** located on Flamboyant, San IgnacioTown, Cayo District

Notice is hereby be given that under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Chapter 150 of the Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2000, **XU DONG DENG** is applying for a **CONVENIENCE STORE** liquor license for the year 2016 to operate **Kenny’s Store** located on Flamingo Avenue, San IgnacioTown, Cayo District

The More You Read The More You Learn!

Your Weekly Horoscope and Lucky Numbers

ARIES:

March 22 to April 20

Right now, three planets make you want to run away and join the circus. Yes, you need a change of scenery and you want to blow town. Obviously, if you can travel - perfect! But at least, you can be a tourist in your own city. Believe me, after saying this for years I have tried it and I am shocked at how delightful it can be. But it does take concentration. Forget you live there. Truly be a tourist. Meanwhile, this month fair Venus will stimulate your sexual nature making romantic relationships intense. New love that begins now will be worthy diary fodder, indeed! The good news is, this placement of Venus will also attract money and goodies to you via your spouse, partner or a friend. **Lucky numbers: 38, 42, 55.**

TAURUS:

April 21 to May 21

Yes, life is intense because the Sun, Mercury and Saturn now force you to focus on shared property, inheritances and insurance issues. Basically, you have to face the fact that someone close to you does not share your values! Grrr. And yet, somehow, you have to agree. Or at least, agreed to disagree. Fortunately, until the end of December, fair Venus will be opposite your sign, which is the best position for all relationships. No, this has nothing to do with the Kama Sutra, although it could. Relations with coworkers, friends, partners, spouses, and even your enemies, will improve. Naturally, if you are in conflict with anyone, the next several weeks are the perfect time to make peace with your enemy. **Lucky numbers: 05, 11, 28.**

GEMINI:

May 22 to June 21

Remember to get more sleep because the Sun is now as far away from you as it gets all year and the Sun is your source of energy. Mercury is opposite your sign as well, which will help you to clarify and explain issues with others. Plus it will stimulate intellectual conversation and spirited debate. However, until the end of December, fair Venus will help you at work. It will promote relations with coworkers and help you to resolve difficulties with others. In all your relationships with others, you will focus on the practical aspects of the relationship. You might get a raise, or at least, praise at work. That's something. In addition, your health will improve. **Lucky numbers: 14, 33, 46.**

CANCER

June 21 to July 21

Because you're so keen to get better

organized now - you're busy! Mercury will help you do all kinds of mental work because it helps you to be attentive to details. It will also help you to develop the best technique for whatever you choose to do. You might discuss health issues more than usual, even if your health is fine. Meanwhile, until the end of December, fair Venus is sitting in the part of your chart that symbolizes romance, romance, rrrromaaance! This means December will be full of fun, entertaining times. Many of you will seek out amusing diversions, including love affairs as well as playful activities with children and sports events. In fact, relations with children will improve! It's a happy time for you because you are completely comfortable in your own skin. **Lucky numbers: 61, 78, 84.**

LEO:

July 24 to August 21

December will be a lovely, exciting, fun-filled time for Leos! You will enjoy time spent with children because you feel free to be a kid yourself again. In fact, your theme for December is to be free to express yourself and just be who you are. Naturally, you want to have a good time! Meanwhile, fair Venus will move into the part of your chart that symbolizes home and family, which means that December will also offer you time to enjoy peaceful, quiet hours at home. Relations with family members, especially parents, will be warm. In anticipation of the holidays, you will tweak your digs and redecorate with zeal. **Lucky numbers: 29, 36, 44.**

VIRGO:

August 22 to September 21

Good fortune will continue to come your way for months ahead because lucky Jupiter is in your sign; and in December, home, family and your private world will be your top priority. In fact, many of you will have family gatherings and tackle home repairs. The movement of fair Venus this week brings grace, tolerance and ease to your speech and dealings with others. It will make your social life busier. It will also make you more fun to be with! And at a subtle level, you will begin to discover just how much love there is all around you; plus you will encounter and appreciate beauty in your daily surroundings. Yes, Venus does put a new spin on things! **Lucky numbers: 73, 87, 96.**

LIBRA:

September 22 to October 23

Like Leo, you have a social December to look forward to. The pace will be accelerated because you will be busy juggling short trips, errands, discussions with everyone, shopping and appointments. However, this energy will promote your communication skills and your eagerness to talk to everyone. Meanwhile, fair Venus will sit in the

part of your chart for the month of December that helps your finances. Well, that is a qualified "help" because Venus will also tempt you to spend money on beautiful things! Nevertheless, investments made at this time will prove profitable. **Lucky numbers: 65, 71, 92.**

SCORPIO:

October 24 to November 21

Well, hello! Fair Venus enters your sign this week to stay until the end of December. This is a lovely benefit to you because Venus is everything to do with beauty, balance, charm and money. For starters, it will make you charming and diplomatic with everyone. Oh yes. Not only that, you will be perceived by others as more beautiful, more handsome and more attractive. Oh yes. You will easily create a favourable impression on everyone. Oh yes. And because Venus ranks pleasure above work, you make every effort to enjoy fun times with others. **Lucky numbers: 02, 19, 30.**

SAGITTARIUS:

November 22 to December 21

You are still front and centre in the limelight with the Sun, Mercury and Saturn all in your sign, which makes this an empowering month for you. Expect a miracle because all kinds of favourable situations and important people will be attracted to you in December. In turn, you will hold forth and convince others to agree with you on various topics while Mercury is in your sign. This will be a busy time, especially mentally, because your mind will be jumping from subject to subject. Meanwhile, Venus will hide in your chart promising secret love affairs and clandestine interests, hopefully in distant lands with shimmering turquoise waters, white sands and a good hotel rate. **Lucky numbers: 23, 41, 69.**

CAPRICORN:

December 22 to January 20

It will be a month before the Sun enters your sign (December 21), which means you have all this time to think about what you want your New Year to be about. By nature, you like to plan because all Capricorns want to "be" something in this world; furthermore, they want to have what might be termed a well-planned ending. This is why security is important to you. Knowing this, you also know that clearly-defined goals with deadlines are a marvellous method for achieving accomplishments versus living willy-nilly, trial by error, management by crisis. In the next few weeks, someone who is creative and artistic will come into your life. In fact all your activities with friends, especially groups, will bring

good times. A lover will become a friend and a friend might become a lover. **Lucky numbers: 57, 75, 89.**

AQUARIUS:

January 20 to February 18

Until the end of December, fair Venus will be at the top of your chart creating all kinds of pleasant circumstances for your career and your professional life. Venus has a quality of attracting good things, which means you will easily attract favours to you and important people, especially people who will help you do things. Even bosses and authority figures will favour you more, perhaps to the extent that a romantic relationship might develop. In fact, this is the classic time to fall in love with your boss. Meanwhile, others will ask for your artistic, creative input on anything - office layout, redecorating, public relations and design. Enjoy! **Lucky numbers: 17, 22, 37.**

PISCES:

February 20 to March 21

Because the Sun is at the top of your chart until late December, you're getting great press. The light that the Sun shines down on you is flattering, which is why everyone thinks you're the cat's meow. Meanwhile, your thoughts will be about travel and wonderful, foreign places for the month of December because that's exactly what Venus wants you to do - travel for pleasure! You will also have an increased appreciation of the arts and all things beautiful. Your relationship with a loved one might expand your world by showing you new things. Conversely, you might meet someone who is strange and different and fall in love. **Lucky numbers: 08, 66, 91.**

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Eduardo Juan Street,
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Publisher:
Nyani Azueta-August

Editor:
Shane Williams

Distribution:
Melvin Dawson

For further information
please call 626-8822
Or Email:
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Liquor License Notices

Notice is hereby be given that under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Chapter 150 of the Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2000, **HUI MING TING** is applying for a **CONVENIENCE STORE** liquor license for the year 2016 to operate **Hui Ming's Store** located on Benque Viejo Road, San Ignacio Town, Cayo District

Notice is hereby be given that under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Chapter 150 of the Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2000, **JIAN JIU LIN** is applying for a **CONVENIENCE STORE** liquor license for the year 2016 to operate **J and J Super Store** located on George Price Avenue, Santa Elena Town, Cayo District

Notice is hereby be given that under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Chapter 150 of the Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2000, **JINGYI LIU** is applying for a **CONVENIENCE STORE** liquor license for the year 2016 to operate **Wal Yi Restaurant** located on Liberty Street, Santa Elena Town, Cayo District

Notice is hereby be given that under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Chapter 150 of the Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2000, **DA HUAN CHEN** is applying for a **CONVENIENCE STORE** liquor license for the year 2016 to operate **Highway Supermarket** located on George Price Highway, Santa Elena Town, Cayo District

Notice is hereby be given that under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Chapter 150 of the Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2000, **XU SHANG LIANG** is applying for a **RESTAURANT** liquor license for the year 2016 to operate **Huada Restaurant** located on George Price Highway, Santa Elena Town, Cayo District

Notice is hereby be given that under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Chapter 150 of the Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2000, **CAN LIN SU** is applying for a **RESTAURANT** liquor license for the year 2016 to operate **Yummy Chinese Restaurant** located on George Price Highway, Santa Elena Town, Cayo District

Notice is hereby be given that under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Chapter 150 of the Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2000, **WEI QIANG** is applying for a **CONVENIENCE STORE** liquor license for the year 2016 to operate **Alwin's Supermarket** located on George Price Highway, Santa Elena Town, Cayo District

Notice is hereby be given that under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Chapter 150 of the Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2000, **JIN FU LIANG** is applying for a **CONVENIENCE STORE** liquor license for the year 2016 to operate **Liang's Welcome Superstore** located on George Price Highway, Santa Elena Town, Cayo District

Notice is hereby be given that under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Chapter 150 of the Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2000, **GUO XIN WU** is applying for a **CONVENIENCE STORE** liquor license for the year 2016 to operate **China Town Store** located on George Price Highway, Santa Elena Town, Cayo District

Notice is hereby be given that under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Chapter 150 of the Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2000, **AZUCENAGALVEZ** is applying for a **RESTAURANT & BAR** liquor license for the year 2016 to operate **Clarissa Falls Resort** located at Mile 70, George Price Highway, Cayo District

Notice is hereby be given that under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Chapter 150 of the Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2000, **GILBERTO RAPHAEL GUERRA** is applying for a **PUBLICAN SPECIAL** liquor license for the year 2016 to operate **Piccadilly Lounge and Bar** located on Churchill Street, Benque Viejo Town, Cayo District

Notice is hereby be given that under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Chapter 150 of the Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2000, **LI JIA RONG** is applying for a **MALT & CIDER** liquor license for the year 2016 to operate **Wing Lee Restaurant** located on Mabel Pitts Street, Santa Elena Town, Cayo District

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Works To Begin On Belize City Center

Work is moving ahead with the nation's largest sporting facility, the Belize City Center. Known as the Civic Center in Belize City, the upgraded facility will be able to house major sporting and entertainment events as it did in glory days. Belize Infrastructure Limited (*BIL*), a public sector agency of the Government of Belize (*GOB*), has undertaken the design, construction and management of The Belize City Center Arena and Cultural Complex. The contract has been awarded to the local *JVCA* of *Medina's Construction Ltd. / International Environments Ltd.* at a cost of \$32.9 million. This will include the civil works of the grounds and all *FIBA* certified equipment. Construction period is twenty-four (*24*) months.

BIL's General Manager Christy Mastry said that the facility, when completed will be used for everyday use for various sporting disciplines. Mastry also explained that the facility

will be properly managed to allow for the equipment to be maintained for a long period time. She also emphasized that, *"The exterior and the aesthetics on the outside is only one additional feature. We have spent a lot of time and bulk of the budget to really retrofitting the interior."* Mastry also said that a *FIBA (The International Basketball Federation) Consultant has outlined Government with a checklist of 15 things, which includes seats that will be molded and numbered. When a person buys a ticket for an event at the facility, it guarantees them a seat, and not just bleacher space. "The comfort of the viewer is absolutely critical if you're going to ask them to say a certain price point. The line of sight, the angle of the bleachers, the court area, the offset, and the media boxes which are absolutely important to place platforms for camera angles.*

So all of these features are what you're finding out we'll be spending this money o.", said Mastry. The new Belize City Center Arena and Cultural Complex design will qualify for world championship women's U-21 and U-19 world championship men and women events. There will be three (*3*) interior practice basketball courts, and one (*1*) professional center court. The design allows for designated seating for up to 4000 for games and 5000 for indoor entertainment events such as conventions, concerts and other sporting events such as boxing and volleyball. Seats are individual and are numbered by rows. The design also includes post game rooms, media rooms, administration room and more concessions space. The

new Belize City Center will be fully air conditioned and fully handicapped accessible. The facility will be equipped with stage and event performance space and back of house facilities. The size and careful design of the building footprint and structural placement allows for a broader range of vehicles that will now be able to park under the building. The interior function of the building was completed in accordance with *FIBA* standards and in conjunction with approved consultancy input. Exterior design allows for multiple plazas to accommodate recreational sports and parks, including two (*2*) outdoor basketball courts, one (*1*) 5 on 5 soccer field, skateboard parks just to name a few. It caters to hosting outdoor entertainments with Security features, Police and Ambulance Zones.

Brazil Rousseff: Impeachment Process Opens Against President

The speaker of Brazil's lower house of Congress has opened impeachment proceedings against President **Dilma Rousseff**.

The process is based on allegations Ms Rousseff broke the law in managing last year's budget, **Eduardo Cunha** said.

Despite re-election last year, her popularity has slumped amid a corruption scandal involving the state-owned oil giant, Petrobras.

"I was outraged by the decision," said Ms Rousseff in a televised speech.

"I haven't committed any wrongful act," she added.

Ms Rousseff, who earlier called an emergency cabinet meeting, said she was confident that the impeachment motion would be rejected.

Two-thirds of the lower house must approve the process for it to proceed.

The governing coalition has a majority in the lower house of Congress.

The defeated opposition candidate in last year's presidential election, Senator Aécio Neves, has tweeted that he supports the impeachment request.

"Everyone in the country must obey the law, especially the president," he wrote.

Mr Cunha is himself facing corruption allegations, which he denies.

He has been accused of lying about a secret bank account in Switzerland.

An ethics committee is voting on whether to authorise action to eject him from his post of speaker.

Mr Cunha had been threatening to



Dilma Rousseff

open impeachment proceedings if the governing party did not offer him backing, says the BBC's Julia Carneiro in Rio de Janeiro.

His decision was *"purely technical"*, he said.

"It was a difficult decision. I did not become speaker of the Chamber of Deputies aiming to approve impeachment proceedings against the president," said Mr Cunha.

The impeachment request had been filed by a distinguished jurist, Helio Bicudo, and some opposition members.

The document blames the government for the corruption scandal at Petrobras and says Ms Rousseff violated Brazil's fiscal responsibility laws.

In October an audit court ruled that Ms Rousseff had borrowed money illegally from state banks to make up for budget shortfalls.

On Tuesday, the economy minister announced that Brazil's

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economy shrank by 1.7% in the third second quarter, deepening the quarter of the year compared with the country's worst recession in 25 years.

NOTICE

Deadline for the submission of all ads, articels and humor will now be on

Thursdays at 12 noon.

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INVESTIGATION LAUNCHED INTO HOSTEL FIRE - CAYO LOST ONE OF ITS OWN - ANNA CARLOS

Continued From Front Page
on top of the flames and this fed the fire. All accounts are that the fire spread very quickly and since the room is small, the smoke soon engulfed the entire room making it difficult to see. The second officer was called from the basketball court, took the keys from the other officer and also attempted to open the door. She stated that she could not because the smoke was too heavy. The fire department was called meanwhile the staff and male residents used buckets of water and the fire extinguishers on hand to try to

calm the blaze. Some persons attempted to break through the wooden wall at the back of the building. By the time they had broken through, the fire had already engulfed the building and children could not be saved."
 There are unofficial reports from eyewitnesses who claim the guards could not find the keys to the padlock. This differs from the official account and is one of the inconsistencies that must be ironed out in Nicholas's investigation.
 Based on police investigation thus far, we know that Hattieville police

received notice of a fire in progress at the youth hostel at 2:29 p.m. They reportedly got there at 2:39 p.m. and the wooden structure was already engulfed in flames. Firefighters did not arrive until 3 p.m. since they traveled all the way from Belize City.
 During the wait for fire trucks, guards and residents tried desperately to break into the building to provide an exit for the girls whose screams could be heard from the road side. The girls could not be saved. Too many things had already gone wrong, terribly wrong.
 Police investigations continue, separately from the independent

investigation of Margaret Nicholas. Three officials from the institution have been placed on administrative leave, pending the outcome of the investigation.
(Ed Note: We've known Anna Carlos for a couple years, a very sweet natured and very quite child.
We met her while she was attending St. Andrew's Anglican School in San Ignacio, where she went about her business very rarely saying more than was necessary.
It is with a heavy heart that we write this article and we take this opportunity to pass on condolences to her family and friends. May Anna rest in eternal peace.)



PUBLIC NOTICE Public Utilities Commission (PUC)



In exercise of the powers conferred upon it by the Public Utilities Commission Act, Chapter 223 of the Laws of Belize, the Electricity Act, Chapter 221 of the Laws of Belize, and all other powers thereunto enabling, the Public Utilities Commission (hereinafter referred to as "the Commission") hereby notifies the general public that it intends to issue an **Electricity License to Generate, Transmit and Supply Electricity** (hereinafter referred to as "*the Electricity Licence*") to **Santander Sugar Energy Limited**.

Purpose of the proposed Electricity Licence:

- a) To generate, transmit and supply electricity for a total capacity of 16 Megawatts and associated energy for the purpose of supplying electricity to its premises containing the sugar production operations of Santander Sugar Limited located in the Cayo District at Mile 42 on the George Price Highway.
- b) To generate, transmit and supply electricity for a total capacity of 16 Megawatts and associated energy for the purpose of enabling the Belize Electricity Limited (BEL) to provide electricity services to the public, subject to any Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) approved by the Commission.

Reasons for Proposal to Grant the Electricity Licence:

- a) The Commission proposes to grant the Electricity Licence for the purpose stated in a) above as the sugar production operations of Santander Sugar Limited shall produce such waste by-products in quantities that will enable it to generate renewable electricity sufficient to satisfy its own demands in a sustainable and environmentally acceptable manner, while providing a solution for the disposal of such waste by-products without creating any undue economic burden on the Government or people of Belize.
- b) The Commission proposes to grant the Electricity Licence for the purpose stated in b) above as the sugar production operations of Santander Sugar Limited shall produce such waste by-products in quantities that will enable it to generate renewable electricity sufficient to satisfy its own demands and to additionally provide capacity and associated energy to BEL in a sustainable and environmentally acceptable manner during the period of the year when local capacity and associated energy available to BEL typically do not satisfy public demand for electricity services, while providing a solution for the disposal of such waste by-products. Additionally, **Santander Sugar Energy Limited** was identified as a bidder whose project is to be negotiated with **BEL** under the **Request for Proposals for Electricity Generation Belize 2013 (RFPEG Belize 2013)** that was conducted by the Commission, BEL and the Ministry responsible for Public Utilities.

Representations and Objections:

Members of the public and all other interested parties may submit written representations and/or objections to the proposal to grant the Electricity Licence by email to info@puc.bz or at its offices at 41 Gabourel Lane, Belize City, until 5:00PM on Monday, December 28, 2015.

Public Hearing:

Where any member of the public or any other interested person request a public hearing, and in the opinion of the Commission the request does not appear to be frivolous and vexatious, such public hearing will be held on Wednesday, December 30, 2015.

Viewing of Application for the Electricity Licence:

Members of the public and all other interested parties may view the application along with associated information at the offices of the Public Utilities Commission or at the offices of Santander Sugar Energy Limited at 21 St. Vincent Street, Belmopan City.

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