

# Former butane importers win claim against GOB

**A lawsuit filed by 4 former importers of LPG in Belize has concluded with the granting of a judgment award of close to 11 million dollars to the claimants. The National Gas Company, however, will remain the primary importer of butane to Belize.**



National Gas Company compound

BELIZE CITY, Thurs. Sept. 29, 2022  
The Government of Belize will have to once again determine whether it will appeal a multi-million-dollar judgment award handed down against it, this week following a ruling issued in the Supreme Court in response to a lawsuit

filed by four former importers of butane to Belize. The presiding judge, Justice Michelle Arana, has ruled that a BZD \$10,896,619.25 judgment award is to be paid to Gas Tomza Ltd., Western

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## Hurricane Ian devastates Cuba and southwest Florida



AP Photo/Wilfredo Lee

**Damaged homes and debris are shown in the aftermath of Hurricane Ian, Thursday, Sept. 29, 2022, in Fort Myers Beach, Fla.**

by Khaila Gentle

TAMPA, Florida, Thurs. Sept. 29, 2022  
After striking the Cayman Islands and western Cuba, Hurricane Ian made

landfall as a Category 4 storm along Florida's southwest coast at 2:00 p.m. local time on Wednesday, bringing

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## Czl taxi man/ex-cop robbed and killed

**A grey Toyota Corolla belonging to the victim, Norris Flowers, 57, was stolen along with other possessions of his.**



Norris Flowers, deceased

COROZAL. Thurs. Sept. 29, 2022

A robbery-turned-murder reportedly took place in the Corozal District late yesterday evening. The victim, a well-

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## Crooked Tree chairman and two others die in RTA

**Joel Disus, 21, driver of Guinea Grass Village has been charged with 3 counts of manslaughter by negligence**



(l-r) Eustace Dawson Jr., James Dawson and Brandon Gillett - deceased

by Charles Gladden

SANDHILL, Belize District, Thurs. Sept. 29, 2022

Early on Tuesday morning, three Crooked Tree residents—including the

chairman of the village—set off in an Isuzu D-Max pickup en route to Belmopan, where they were to meet with Belize Rural North area

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# Older Persons Week 2022 is observed

by Khaila Gentle

BELIZE CITY, Thurs. Sept. 29, 2022

The Executive Director of HelpAge Belize, Ms. Ivorine Bulwer, told us on Thursday that Older Persons Week 2022 is being celebrated across the length and breadth of the country in a multitude of engaging ways. Those celebrations will culminate on Saturday, October 1, when nations across the globe will be observing International Day for Older Persons—a day dedicated to celebrating the lives of senior citizens and challenging the negative stereotypes that exist around ageing.

This year specifically, the focus of Older Persons Week is on resilience, especially that of older women, in a changing world. Here at home, it is being observed under the theme “The Resilience and Contributions of Older Women”, and, according to Ms. Bulwer, the contributions of older women to the development of this nation have been plenty.

“Our women have always been behind our political leaders,” she said.

She then went on to highlight the fact that our women have been pioneers and forces of change in a number of areas, including social services, health, and education. We were reminded of women like Sybil Reyes, Hazel Hutchinson, and Bernice

York—all outstanding educators who showed a great deal of care and concern for the older population.

Ms. Bulwer also brought attention to the many former nurses, such as Audrey Courtenay, who played a pivotal role in advancing healthcare in Belize. Those exemplary nurse leaders, as Bulwer called them, helped to nurture and train upcoming nurses at home and abroad, going so far as to assist them in securing scholarships. As a result, Belize saw great progress in critical care nursing, public care nursing, anesthetics, and more.

But while this year’s theme focuses



on older women, Ms. Bulwer told *Amandala* that the men have not been forgotten.

“We are also inclusive of our older men,” she said, as she spoke fondly of legendary male educators such as the recently departed Owen Morrison. Morrison was the former principal of the Belize Technical College, and a man who left a lasting impression on hundreds of lives.

“These persons have passed on, but we have had great educators across the length and breadth of the country,” she added.

In addition to recognizing the contributions of older persons to society, Older Persons Week 2022 has also included nationwide activities and celebrations. Those activities include picnics, tea parties, and



## SIB reports 13.5% GDP growth, tripling of rum production

by Khaila Gentle

BELIZE CITY, Wed. Sept. 28, 2022

Today at the Radisson Fort George Hotel, the Statistical Institute of Belize (SIB) reported on Belize’s Gross Domestic Product (GDP) for the months of April to June 2022, the second quarter of the year. According to SIB’s Statistician II, Christopher Hulse, the country saw economic growth of 13.5% this past quarter, as compared to the same period in 2021.

The total value of goods and services produced for the second quarter was \$1.315 billion, owed in no small part to increased production in the secondary and tertiary sectors. The secondary sector, which accounts for processing, manufacturing, and construction, saw what the SIB calls “modest growth” of 1.5%, with the production of beverages and flour seeing increases of 27% and 29.2%, respectively.

In the beverage category, the SIB reported that rum production was up by 191%. This was mainly due to the fact that the lifting of all COVID-19 restrictions led to an increase in social activities and events, thus leading to an increase in demand. For similar reasons, the tertiary sector, which includes the “Transport” and “Hotels and Restaurants” industry, saw growth of 17.3%.

In the primary sector, there was a 7.9% decrease in production, particularly due to decreases in the production of sugar cane and bananas.

**The Statistical Institute of Belize reported that for the second quarter of 2022, the economy grew by 13.5%, due to increases in beverage production, fruit deliveries, and electricity generation.**



SIB statisticians report on second quarter GDP

In the case of the latter industry, a decrease in harvesting was attributed mainly to labor shortages, while unfavorable weather contributed to reduced sugar cane crop. The increase in citrus production occurred, not only because of an increase in the number of citrus harvesters, but because trees planted over the last few years to offset losses due to Citrus Greening have finally started to produce fruit.

The Statistical Institute of Belize also reported on the country’s external trade numbers for January to August 2022. Imports rose by 34.8%, while domestic

exports increased by 11.3% respectively.

For the month of August alone, however, imports increased by 20.8%, while exports decreased by 44.5% from what was seen in August 2021. The main reason for the fall in exports was the decrease in sales of sugar and bananas. Revenues from sugar, specifically, fell by a drastic \$31.1 million.

Despite this, there were also reports of increased sugar exports to CARICOM due to greater quantities of sugar being purchased by the region.

games like Bingo and Chalupa. There was even a small party held at Kiki Witz Resort in Belmopan.

“They were eating in style, they had access to the pool. They were dancing ... Quite a number were going down to the ground and coming up back,” Bulwer said.

On Wednesday, Belize City Mayor Bernard Wagner was the keynote speaker at an event held at the HelpAge Belize City location on Wilson Street. There, he spoke with guests about the role that women like Jane Usher and Gwen Lizarraga have played in the development of Belize over time.

HelpAge Belize has been providing services to older persons across the country since 1984, when it was first established as an NGO. Today, there are a total of eleven HelpAge sites across the country, including the Sister Cecilia Home for the Elderly in Belize City and the Octavia Waight Center in San Ignacio. According to the Executive Director, the NGO’s mantra is “aging with dignity.”

Their services include looking after the basic fundamental needs of elderly persons, including their health and social needs, in addition to providing support in the event of disaster. But while Belize has a population of approximately 37,000 elderly persons, HelpAge currently only serves a total of 1,200, which is why the organization is committed to working with the community and other organizations, such as the National Council on Ageing, to do what it can to reach the wider elderly population.

“We cannot do this alone,” noted Ms. Bulwer.



# Gilbert “Bertie” Ellis celebrates his 106<sup>th</sup> birthday



by Charles Gladden

BELIZE CITY, Wed. Sept. 28, 2022  
On Tuesday, September 27, former cricket star and Hall of Famer, Gilbert “Bertie” Ellis, received a special visit from the Mayor of Belize City, Bernard Wagner, in celebration of his 106<sup>th</sup>

birthday on Saturday, September 24. The Belizean sports icon was born on September 24, 1916, to Maud Ferrill and Scot Ellis and is predeceased by his wife, Daisy, with whom he had three daughters. In total, Ellis fathered 19 children, most of whom live abroad in the USA.

Ellis gained fame in the Belizean community as a batter and bowler in cricket. Ellis became the captain of the Rovers cricket team in 1938, and he played for that team for four years before going on to play for the Sussex team. During his time as an active sportsman, he also became the first president of the Amateur Boxing Association and the captain of a domino team, and was later inducted into the Cricket Hall of Fame.

Even after his days as an athlete had reached an end, he remained active in sports at the management and administrative levels.

He recalled that his first job involved helping a man by the name of Mr. Franklin freeze ice cream after school, through which he earned 50 cents a week, which he referred to as “big money” at that time. In 1936, he began working for the Santiago Castillo enterprise and retired in 1981, after a period of 45 years at the company, during which he advanced from being an entry-level laborer to a chief warehouse keeper.

In 1967, Ellis was made Justice of the Peace, and he also chaired the Social Welfare Board for four years. He also



Mayor Bernard Wagner hands over gift basket to Gilbert “Bertie” Ellis

served as chairman of the Rent Assessment Board.

Another of Ellis’s life achievements was serving as the first president of the Harmony Housing Association, formed with 15 members in the 1950s. Jeff O’Brien and Sir Colville Young were among the members of the association who were successful in obtaining houses and lots along West Collet Canal

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## August inflation rate was 7.4%—SIB

Orange Walk Town is once again the municipality with the highest inflation rate in the country: 9.1%. The lowest inflation rate—5.7%—was seen in Belmopan.



by Khaila Gentle

BELIZE CITY, Wed. Sept. 28, 2022  
The Statistical Institute of Belize (SIB) report on Belize’s consumer price index for the month of August is indicating a national inflation rate of 7.4%—a 0.7% increase from last month. Unsurprisingly, the main drivers of the inflation rate were increases in the cost of fuel, transportation services, and food.

According to the SIB, price changes in the “Transport” category remained the single greatest contributor to the overall national inflation rate, as half of the increase in consumer prices in August was seen in that category of goods and services. The cost of premium gasoline alone was more than fifty percent higher than premium gas prices last year, having registered an increase of \$5.91. The prices of diesel and regular gas rose by \$2.76 and \$2.32, respectively.

The prices of items in the “food and non-alcoholic beverages” category have also been steadily increasing since January 2022. Wednesday’s report revealed that in August there was the highest recorded rate of increase in

prices of items in that category since the start of the year—an inflation rate of 8.2% when compared to August 2021. The cost of basic food items, such as cereal products, dairy, meats and fresh produce all saw notable increases for the month. Lower prices were recorded, however, for items such as oranges, beans, and cabbages.

Higher prices at restaurants and cafes contributed to an inflation rate of 5.8% in the category of “Restaurants and Accommodation Services” and an increase in cinema entrance fees and pet food prices contributed to the “Recreation, Sport, and Culture” inflation rate of 7.6%.

Over the past few months, the town of Orange Walk has had the highest inflation rate of all municipalities in the country, and the month of August was no different. This time, the town’s inflation rate of 9.1% was considerably higher than the national average. Consumers in the northern town saw increases in taxi fares, construction materials for household use, restaurant services, food items, and more.

Belmopan, on the other hand, recorded the lowest inflation rate of all the municipalities, at 5.7%.

## Job-seeking teen killed by group of men

BELIZE CITY, Wed. Sept. 28, 2022

Carl Lamb, 18, passed away on Monday night after being ambushed and mauled by a group of men while in the Antelope Street Extension area, where he lived with his mother. Police have released no details on the incident yet, but it has been reported that Lamb received death threats some months ago. Lamb was reportedly walking on an unnamed street in the area when about 4 or 5 men pounced on him, and during the attack he received a fatal stab wound to the chest. It is believed that an older man, said to be 41-years old, was also involved in the attack that claimed Lamb’s life.

Shanna Allen, Lamb’s mother, reportedly found her son in a pool of muddy water and his own blood. He was pronounced dead shortly after reaching the Karl Heusner Memorial Hospital (KMH) sometime after 7:00 on Monday night.

What could have led to the brutal murder is still uncertain, but there have been unconfirmed claims that he might have been the object of some animosity because of a female who expressed interest in him but had a jealous ex-boyfriend. His grieving mother has said that he was a helpful and loving son



Carl Lamb, deceased

and was trying his best to get a job so that he could assist her financially. He was scheduled to attend a job interview on Tuesday this week, one day before his life was taken, and according to his mother, he had been hopeful that he would get a job.

Allen told local reporters that she became concerned when she started to observe that lights in the area were off when Lamb would walk past a certain section of the London bridges in the community at night.

Police have made no arrests in connection with this most recent murder in the Antelope Street area of Belize City.



# Crooked Tree chairman and two others die in RTA

Continued from Page 1

representative, Hon. Marconi Leal, Sr., and officials of the Lands Department in an effort to get more land for Crooked Tree villagers. But they would never attend that meeting. At about 8:30 a.m., while journeying along the Philip Goldson Highway, all three men sustained injuries that would cause their deaths in a collision that occurred near Sandhill Village. The Isuzu D-Max reportedly ran head-on into a passenger bus belonging to Silva's Bus Line which was heading in the opposite direction toward Corozal and which veered into its lane to avoid hitting persons on the road after a taxi abruptly stopped on the highway. Two of the three men in the Isuzu D-Max—chairman of Crooked Tree Village, Brandon Gillett, 32; and the driver of the vehicle, James Dawson, 59—died instantly, while the driver's nephew, Eustace Dawson, Jr., 31, died before noon at a private hospital while receiving treatment.

According to reports, the accident occurred on a curve near Mile 17 on the Philip Goldson Highway in Sandhill Village. The Silva's passenger bus crossed onto the left lane of the highway and placed itself in the direct path of the incoming D-Max, which, according to some reports, was traveling at high speed—resulting in a deadly collision that caused extensive damage to the Isuzu pickup. So extensive was the damage that first responders had to use the Jaws of Life to extract James Dawson and Brandon Gillett from the vehicle, in which they were trapped.

The conductor of the Silva's passenger bus, Jonathan Estrada, told local reporters that the accident was caused by a taxi that stopped in the middle of the road.

"It was a taxi's fault. They stopped in the middle of the road, and to not crash into the taxi or kill the people that were standing there, we came off the road, but look like the Hilux, he got shocked and he come off the road and, head on. But we weren't going fast. It was the pickup that was going fast, and they crashed into us and thing, and all of this happened. So when we did, we come off the road completely because you can see what happened. The Dmax looked like he got frightened and come off of the road and came into [us] head-on. And dah what killed them is mostly their speed, cause they were going fast," he said.

It has been reported that the same taxi left the scene after the accident, without any aid being offered by its occupants.

Following the accident, Minister Leal, with whom the men were scheduled to meet, told local reporters, "It's a sad day, not only for Crooked Tree, but these guys are well known all over Rural North, so it's a crushing blow for all of us. I was heading to Belmopan. We were supposed to have a meeting with them along with myself and Lands [Department], because we're trying to get more land in Crooked Tree for residents of Crooked Tree. These guys are working for the people. They're on the job. When I got



Silva's Bus and Isuzu Dmax collided on Philip Goldson highway

the message, I had to hurry call and cancel the meeting and try to get back here to support the family."

Leal noted Gillett's unrelenting efforts to pursue the interests of residents of his village, and said that he had in fact been at Gillett's home over the weekend and they had discussd Gillett's plans to improve Crooked Tree. "I was at his house Saturday night, me and my wife and my son, the CEO, just socializing, just talking about what we can do for Crooked Tree, and for this to happen just a few days after, it's really sad, knowing that he's so aggressive, want to get things done for Crooked Tree, and a young man. I think about his wife and his son. I love his son, little Warren. When I heard it's three of them, I started to wonder if it's the chairman and his son, the son in there. That's why we had to ask, and no, it's not Warren, because I love Warren so much," he said.

The families of Gillett and Dawson are both grieving this tremendous loss. The Gillett family, in particular, has experienced a tragedy of this nature before. In 2003, the father of Gillett, Warren Tillett, was killed in an accident on the Western Highway.

In reference to James Dawson and his nephew, Eustace Dawson, Jr., Minister Leal said, "I don't know Eustace that well. I knew his dad more than I knew the son, but I was at a workshop like a month ago with cattle, so I know he's into the cattle business, and he was there asking a whole lot of question, and that was when I really got to know the young man. But James, I know him for years, many, many years, and I know he's a worker for his community ..." Notably, the men were also scheduled to meet with representatives of the Livestock Department on the morning that the accident occurred.

A candlelight vigil was held in Crooked Tree Village at its multi-purpose building to honor the lives of



The extensively damage Isuzu Dmax



Candle light vigil held in Crooked Tree

the three beloved residents of the village on Wednesday, September 28, 2022.

The family of Gillett is pleading with the public for financial assistance to cover funeral expenses and has opened a GoFundMe account under the name "Brandon Gillett's Funeral Expenses", with the goal of raising 10,000 USD.

The driver of the Silva's passenger bus, 21-year-old Joel Disus of Guinea Grass Village, was served with a Notice of Intended Prosecution (NIP), and tonight, police reported that he has since been charged.

"Reference fatal RTA that took place at Sandhill Village on 27/09/22, on Thursday 29/09/22, Police formally arrested and charged Joel Omar Disus, 21 years, driver of Guinea Grass Village for (1) Drove Motor vehicle without due care and attention; (1) Count of Fail to keep to the extreme right hand of the road;(3) Counts of Manslaughter by Negligence; (3) Counts of Causing death by Careless Conduct to James Glenford Dawson, Eustace Dawson Jr. and Brandon Gillett." A late evening police report stated.

## CLASSIFIED ADS

### VACANCY

**VACANCY:** 2 Indian Cuisine cook. Please send your resume at [orkayimports@hotmail.com](mailto:orkayimports@hotmail.com)

**VACANCY:** Cleaning lady wanted for part time. Most know how to use bike. Call 661-2729

### NOTICE

**NOTICE:** I, Joshua Marin, have lost my boat registration for the boat namely "ghetto girl" registration number SPR 00005

### LIQUOR LICENSE NOTICE

**LIQUOR LICENCE NOTICE:** Notice is hereby given that **MMBI Belize LTD (Metropolitan Mortgage and Business Investment Belize, LTD)** is applying for a Publican Special Liquor License to be operated at Ohm-Land Vapor Lounge, Mile 59 Western Highway, Unitedville, Cayo, under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 2000.

**LIQUOR LICENCE NOTICE:** Notice is hereby given that Orlando Castellanos and Sonia Castellanos are applying for a Publican & Special Liquor Licence to be operated at Rolson Restaurant Hotel, 24 Crenshaw Street, San Ignacio Town, under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 2000.



Jeanette Joyce Williams nee Pitts



Sunrise: 18<sup>th</sup> April, 1949  
Sunset: 3<sup>rd</sup> October, 2019

A Psalm of David.  
The Lord is my shepherd;  
I shall not want.  
He makes me lie down in green pastures.  
He leads me beside still waters.  
He restores my soul.  
He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.  
Psalm 23:1-6  
Sadly missed by her children, grandchildren, family and friends





# At UN, PM Briceño talks global finance, climate colonialism, and injustice to some nations

Just two days prior to the 77<sup>th</sup> Session of the United Nations General Assembly in New York, on September 23, our country celebrated its independence, which we got in 1981 after the United Nations (UN) declared in 1975 that we had an inalienable right to self-determination and independence, with our territory intact, but our Prime Minister, Hon. John Briceño, was in far from a festive mood when he spoke to the world body.

PM Briceño condemned the Russian invasion of Ukraine, he demanded Taiwan’s inclusion in the community of nations, and he called for “an independent Palestinian state within its 1967 borders, with all attendant rights, including the recognition of East Jerusalem as its capital.”

The Russian invasion, especially coming on the heels of the Covid-19 pandemic, has added stress to recovering economies across the globe, apart from threatening to unleash a deadly nuclear war. Taiwan, which has not only existed but thrived apart from Mainland China, is blocked from its rightful place as an independent nation/member of the UN because of Mainland China’s threat of an invasion if it attains such status. Palestine, which was carved up by the world’s powers in 1967 to give an independent state to displaced Jews, has seen its territory overrun by the said Jews who have, with the support of the US, acquired and developed a massive military arsenal.

The dramatic increase in the cost of goods, the disruption of the supply chain and skyrocketing inflation, are realities that are having a severe impact on the social situation in the less developed world. PM Briceño said poverty in Belize has risen by 10% since 2018, and in this world of heightened climatic risk we are a “hurricane away from catastrophe.”

The PM said there must be a major change in the global financial infrastructure, instead of “tinkering at the edges.” He said financial flows to vulnerable countries have declined, when they need debt relief, concessionary financing.

PM Briceño spoke about growing poverty in the poorer countries because of “climate colonialism”. He said the great expectations emerging from COP 26 in Glasgow in 2021 were but a “paper promise”, that our countries continue to suffer for something we did not cause, that the victims are being punished while the victimizers are being spared. The PM said that countries like Belize, which experienced losses in the trillions of dollars during the colonial period, are being ravaged by climate change-induced weather disasters. He said “reparations are overdue.”

In 1492 Christopher Columbus was shipwrecked in the Caribbean, off the coast of Haiti, and there began the worst genocide, the worst slavery, and the largest transfer of wealth the world has ever seen. Columbus and the peoples of Europe brought diseases that wiped out millions in the Americas, and through their superior weaponry they subjugated the peoples of the so-called New World. The Europeans bought/

captured over 12 million Africans, and transported them in ships to the Americas, where they forced them and their children to labor on sugar and cotton plantations for more than 200 years. Through genocide and the enslavement of Africans, and then colonialism, the Europeans transported the wealth of Africa and the Americas to their countries, wealth which they used to advance the lives of their own citizens, while the peoples of Africa and the Americas were deprived.

PM Briceño called for the harsh US embargo on Cuba to be lifted. In 1959, Cuban dictator Fulgencio Batista was forced to flee Cuba, and in 1962, “in response to certain actions taken by the [new] Cuban Government” (US Dept. of State), the US, under President John Kennedy, proclaimed an embargo on trade between the two countries.

*UN Affairs*, at the website <https://news.un.org>, said that in June, 2021, for the 29<sup>th</sup> consecutive year the UN General Assembly overwhelmingly called on the US to lift the embargo. *UN Affairs* said a total of 184 countries “voted in favor of a resolution to demand the end of the US economic blockade on Cuba ... with the United States and Israel voting against.” There were also three abstentions – Colombia, Ukraine, and Brazil.

PM Briceño expressed grave concern over the deteriorating situation in Haiti, and called on the UN to introduce a robust and comprehensive program to support the island nation.

After Haiti took its independence from France in 1804, the country became a safe haven for escaped slaves. Haiti provided a refuge for the South American hero, Simón Bolívar, and helped him militarily when he returned to South America in 1816 to liberate it from Spanish rule.

But the Europeans ganged up on the island to prevent its people from achieving economic success. To avoid war with France, in 1825 a Haitian government was forced to commit to paying the French government the incredible sum of 150 million francs. The US invaded and occupied Haiti from 1915 to 1934.

The destabilized Haiti has been led by a series of dictators, some democratically elected; the island has been battered by earthquakes and hurricanes; her people are mistreated wherever they go. Human rights activists say that Haitians who are in the Dominican Republic, some illegally and many who have lived in that country for years, are being hounded and chased across the border which the nations share.

In 2021 the president of Haiti was assassinated, and much of the country has fallen into the grip of violent gangs. Last year a bus carrying our national football team, which was in Haiti for a World Cup qualifier, was held up by an armed gang.

Haiti, the poorest country in our hemisphere, is in turmoil. Will the UN heed the PM’s call? If it doesn’t, then Haiti might have to find its answer in the “pink tide” that is sweeping across our region. In Honduras, El Salvador, Mexico, Bolivia, Colombia, and Peru, socialist governments, not communist, not Russian satellites, have been voted into power by people who have become tired of waiting for the imposed US economic system to address the needs of the masses. Those of us who love our brothers and sisters in Haiti must pray for that country to be caught in that tide, so their people can enjoy the prosperity only a properly administered “mixed economy” can bring.

PM Briceño also spoke about our case before the ICJ, re: the Guatemalan claim to our territory. He called on the international community for its support, especially in helping us manage our daily challenges along the borders. The FCD (Friends for Conservation and Development) is in a constant battle to keep Guatemalans from crossing over and violating our land, and recently there was an incident where Guatemalan soldiers entered our territorial waters and removed our flags from Sarstoon Island.

The PM’s calls were heard around the world, but how the world’s more and most powerful nations will respond is to be seen. Hopefully, they respond appropriately, but we all know it’s up to us, for *only the people can save the people*. It’s up to us to double our efforts to curb violence, protect our territory and environment, and end poverty in our nation.



(estb. 1969)

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# BTB and Carnival Cruise Line hold recruitment exercise

*Approximately 100 Belizeans were at the Belize Best Western Biltmore Plaza getting information about possible employment with Carnival Cruise Line. Hundreds of jobs are available, says BTB’s Director of Quality Management and Capacity Development.*

BELIZE CITY, Tues. Sept. 27, 2022

Today, Carnival Cruise Line, with the assistance of the Belize Tourism Board, held its first information session in Belize to provide Belizeans with information about opportunities for possible employment on a cruise ship. This is the first recruitment event in Belize of this nature, according to the BTB’s Director of Quality Management and Capacity Development.

“BTB collaborated with the Carnival Cruise Line, one of our legacy partners for cruise tourism here in Belize, and basically it’s an event to build awareness about the employment opportunities that exist in Carnival Cruise Line and their various brands for Belizeans to take advantage of. Today we had a team from Carnival coming down and explaining what it is to live to work and to be on a cruise line for around 100 Belizeans that attended today,” Castaneda said.

He said that they are planning to hold additional events of this nature with other cruise lines, such as Norwegian Cruise Line, MSC Cruises, and Royal Caribbean, in order to possibly open the door for career opportunities for skilled Belizean workers.

“There may be a career opportunity and a career path that a Belizean that is working in a bar right now may be able to take on in a cruise line, housekeeping. We are very skilled in areas like tourism and hospitality services and all of that, so we believe the Belizean labor force is able to provide satisfactory services within the travel and trade industries and including cruise,” he explained.

The cruise lines themselves are seeking more employees from their call destinations to provide services on their vessels, Castenada went on to say.

“After Covid-19, the cruise lines have said, ‘you know, we want to hire



Abel Castaneda, Director of Cruise

people from the region, because we believe that would be the best services and experience that we can provide to our guests.’ So that’s why, like many other countries in the region, we are also providing this platform for people to see what the opportunities are,” he said.

Belizeans who have received training in hospitality in Belize thus have an opportunity to take advantage of the jobs available on the various cruise lines as the rebound of the tourism industry continues.

“You would find that in destinations like Belize that are very heavily dependent on tourism, we have a lot of people that have been trained in hospitality services, and that’s why we are focusing on that today. So, people that have worked in hotels, restaurants, in different areas of the service industry, we believe that we are as competitive, because we have been competitive for decades now,” he said. Castaneda believes that competitive edge will give Belize the opportunity to provide great ambassadorship on the cruise lines which make calls in Belize.

Ruth Dolan, Hotel Talent Attraction Manager for the Carnival Cruise Line, agreed, telling local media, “Our guests really like to talk to local people about getting recommendations for places to go—and who better than people who live in the country?”

# BDF and GAF meet following BTV Sarstoon incident

BELIZE CITY, Wed. Sept. 28, 2022

According to the Belize Defence Force (BDF) Chief of Staff, Lt. Col. Jermaine Burns, members of the BDF will be meeting their Guatemalan counterparts at a session that is routinely held under the auspices of the Organization of American States (OAS). At the top of the list of topics to be discussed will be the recent incursion into Belizean territory by the Guatemala Navy, which seized two Belizean flags planted on Sarstoon Island by the Belize Territorial Volunteers (BTV), who placed the flags on the island during an annual ceremony carried out by the BTV to celebrate Belize’s independence. According to Wil Maheia, who had led the BTV group to the island, the Guatemalan soldiers, who had tried to block the passage of their boats, had asserted that the island is the property of Guatemala. Burns said, however, that this incident is out of the ordinary, since the GAF has for the most part maintained a neutral presence in the last few years.

“We have Cadenas there at the very end of the Sarstoon and that our most southern conservation post on top of that hill, and so every other week we must patrol the Sarstoon to change over manpower there. We’ve never had any issues with the GAF, so it’s surprising. It’s almost like they had something against Wil, you know, for them to have accosted him and his crew,” Burns commented. Notably, it is Lt. Col. Burns who will be heading the BDF delegation to Guatemala, and he has already stated his intention to mention the incident to the GAF (Guatemalan Armed Forces).

“We’ll see where the discussion will go in respect to what they have to say about it, because [we] haven’t had a flare-up like this in as much as two, three years, so it is a concern and we didn’t expect this out of them,” Burns said.

It has been suggested that the absence of Belizean soldiers at the Forward Operating Base (FOB) on Sarstoon Island, due to coastal erosion that prompted the relocation of soldiers who were stationed there to a base in Barranco, has emboldened the GAF to assert military force over the area. Lt. Col. Burns, noted, however, that although BDF soldiers do not sleep at the FOB at night, the soldiers do go to the base on the island every day. As mentioned, the current arrangement became necessary due to erosion of the ground on which the foundation posts of the front of the FOB building are located, which has compromised the structural stability of the building—thus placing the soldiers’ well-being at risk. According to Burns, however, the government has assessed the area and is in the process of selecting a contractor to carry out rehabilitation works.

“I can assure you, as we speak, there are men in the Sarstoon and at the FOB, they leave from Barranco at first light and they leave from the FOB at last light, and I know the plans for the rehabilitation of the FOB are well on the way. I think it is at the point where



Lt. Col. Jermaine Burns, Chief of Staff, BDF

they are sourcing a contractor now and get out there and finish up. So that is what to hasten on, to get our men back out there, patrolling the Sarstoon as we have been. I don’t know if that gave the Guatemala Armed Forces a false sense of our security there, that in fact, they thought that we pulled out, so we are no longer interested in the Sarstoon. I hope that is not the case,” Burns said.

Burns went on to commend the calm demeanor of the BTV group, and said that he hopes that the actions of the GAF were not an attempt to provoke acts of aggression by the group.

“It’s strange, something ... I don’t know if it was provoking, if they were trying to provoke our civilians or what the case was, but they know from the military standpoint our approach won’t be aggressive. I don’t know if they thought they could have aggressed the civilians to try and get them to a level of aggression where they would have done something, and then provoked the GAF to react, almost like they were baiting the civilians. And I hope that is not the case,” Burns noted.

The meeting with the GAF, which takes place tomorrow, will hopefully shed some light on the state of mind of the group of Guatemalan soldiers who confronted the BTV group that day, and who can be seen in cellphone video footage (captured by the BTV) insisting that Sarstoon Island belongs to Guatemala.

“I saw those videos, and, just like you, I am equally alarmed, and I am eager to hear the answers from the practitioners tomorrow in Guatemala, the guys that are actually the bosses of those that are on the ground. Because

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# Wayne Alyson Sampson (1960-2022)

BELIZE CITY, Tues. Sept. 27, 2022

Funeral services were held this morning at St. Martin De Porres Church here for Wayne Sampson, Sr., who passed suddenly on San Pedro, Ambergris Caye, last week.

Mr. Sampson was born on March 14, 1960, and died on September 18, 2022.

The Eulogy was read by Wayne Sampson, Jr., and Nyla Sampson.

Honorable Pallbearers were Carlson Sampson, Sr.; Wayne Sampson, Jr.; Kristoff Usher; Glen Sampson; Kendrick Sampson; and Errol Ashton Gibson, Jr.

The management and staff of AMANDALA extend deepest condolences to the family and friends of Wayne Alyson Sampson. May he rest in peace.



# Corrigendum

In our article on page 7 of last Friday’s issue of AMANDALA, we covered Mr. Lawrence Vernon’s very important new biography of the late, great, Philip Goldson, national hero.

In our article we said that Mr. Goldson was the only Belizean politician ever to be jailed. In fact, both Mr. Goldson and the late Leigh Richardson, officials of the People’s United Party (PUP), were sentenced to a year in Her Majesty’s Prison in 1951 after the colonial government convicted them of sedition. The charge arose out of a newspaper article by Messrs. Goldson and Richardson in THE BELIZE BILLBOARD.



# When there is competition, the people benefit, says Mayor Wagner



**Belize City Mayor Bernard Wagner**

*by Khaila Gentle*

BELIZE CITY, Wed. Sept. 29, 2022

When it comes to Belize's transport

***The Mayor of Belize City says that the City Council is in no way looking to put anyone out of business when it comes to the new electric bus pilot program and is merely giving residents the option to choose.***

system, there is a lot to be desired. Those were the sentiments expressed by Belize City Mayor, Bernard Wagner in an interview with KREM News this week—sentiments shared by a large portion of the Belizean populace.

According to the Mayor, contrary to the belief expressed by the Belize Bus Association that the “Driving Electric Mobility” pilot project by the current operators, the project, once implemented in the City with the support of the UNDP and the EU, is aimed

at giving the transport system a much needed facelift after decades of stagnation.

Through the program, Belize City will be receiving a total of three electric buses which the Mayor says will be fully equipped with the latest technology.

“Our endgame is really to serve our people. Our residents deserve the best. That is how I look at it. That is how my council looks at it. We have been experiencing situations where residents have been getting wet on buses. We have to, as the leaders, be able to give the best to our residents. They deserve the best, and these operators have had years and years to improve their buses, and they have done nothing to improve their companies.”

said Mayor Wagner.

The new buses will not prevent current bus owners from operating on their usual routes. What they will do, says the Mayor, is grant the residents of Belize City a choice.

"The existing buses will continue to do their route. The people will have the choice—do I want to support BBOC or do I want to get on a modern A/C bus that is efficient, that is reliable, and that is contributing to the lowering of CO2 in our city that contributes overall to the climate change impacts that are taking place around the world," he said.

In addition to providing buses that are powered by electricity and equipped with WIFI, the pilot project will also allow for the development of a bus tracking app. This will allow passengers to keep track of the arrival times of buses.

"It will be very, very affordable, cost-wise. It will be so affordable for the residents of this city. And so I hear the nonsense that is being spoken by some of the bus owners—they want to keep progress down, and that is where we go our separate ways," added the Mayor.

The Council, said Mayor Wagner, in no way desires a monopoly over the city's buses.

"Competition is very important, because you know when competition happens the people benefit, and that is what we're trying to do here as well," he stated.

Earlier this week, it was reported that the Belize Bus Association (BBA) and Belize City Shuttle had sent a letter to the resident representative of the United Nations Development Program to object to the manner in which the pilot project was being implemented—without the involvement of the current bus operators, whose revenue streams might be disrupted.

“We propose that the pilot be executed with the existing stakeholders,” the letter stated.

The Tuesday issue of the AMANDALA referred to remarks made by the owner of Belize City Shuttle, Philip Jones, who said that the existing bus operators are the most appropriate entities to implement the pilot project in partnership with the government and UNDP, and it mentioned the BBA's assertion in the letter that the bus operators have "extensive real-life experience with managing bus fleets and years of commitment to the development of the industry."

“Why are we excluded from sitting with the UNDP along with the members that are getting this grant? We should be a part of this; we shouldn’t be excluded. If you say you want to improve the transportation industry, who is the fittest one? We have real-time experience, knowledge. We have been doing this from we jumped out of pampers, most of us. So why is it that we are not included?” Jones questioned.

The Tuesday issue of the AMANDALA noted that Jones questioned how a pilot project could be done with no inclusion of members of the bus association and quoted him as saying, "You can't put us at a disadvantage. You cannot do that; that's unfair for the association; that's unfair for the bus industry."

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COUNCIL

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# En la ONU, PM Briceño habla de finanzas globales, colonialismo climático e injusticia hacia algunas naciones

Apenas dos días antes de la 77 Sesión de la Asamblea General de las Naciones Unidas en Nueva York el 23 de septiembre, nuestro país celebró su independencia, la cual conseguimos en 1981 luego de que la Organización de las Naciones Unidas (ONU) declarara en 1975 que teníamos un derecho inalienable a autodeterminación e independencia, con nuestro territorio intacto, pero nuestro Primer Ministro, el Honorable John Briceño, estaba lejos de un ambiente festivo cuando se dirigió al organismo mundial.

El primer ministro Briceño condenó la invasión rusa de Ucrania, exigió la inclusión de Taiwán en la comunidad de naciones y pidió “un estado palestino independiente dentro de sus fronteras de 1967, con todos los derechos correspondientes, incluido el reconocimiento de Jerusalén Este como su capital”.

La invasión rusa, especialmente después de la pandemia de Covid-19, ha agregado estrés a las economías en recuperación en todo el mundo, además de amenazar con desatar una mortal guerra nuclear. Taiwán, que no solo ha existido sino que ha prosperado aparte de China continental, está bloqueado en el lugar que le corresponde como nación independiente/ miembro de la ONU debido a la amenaza de invasión de China continental si alcanza tal estatus. Palestina, que fue dividida por las potencias mundiales en 1967 para dar un estado independiente a los judíos desplazados, ha visto su territorio invadido por dichos judíos que, con el apoyo de los EE. UU., adquirieron y desarrollaron un enorme arsenal militar.

El aumento dramático en el costo de los bienes, la interrupción de la cadena de suministro y la inflación disparada, son realidades que están teniendo un impacto severo en la situación social en el mundo menos desarrollado. El primer ministro Briceño dijo que la pobreza en Belize ha aumentado un 10 % desde 2018, y en este mundo de mayor riesgo climático estamos a un “huracán de distancia de la catástrofe”. El primer ministro dijo que debe haber un cambio importante en la infraestructura financiera mundial, en lugar de “hacer pequeños ajustes”. Dijo que los flujos financieros a los países vulnerables han disminuido, cuando necesitan alivio de la deuda, financiación concesionaria.

El PM Briceño habló sobre el aumento de la pobreza en los países más pobres debido al “colonialismo climático”. Dijo que las grandes expectativas que surgieron de la COP 26 en Glasgow en 2021 no eran más que una “promesa de papel”, que nuestros países siguen sufriendo por algo que nosotros no causamos, que las víctimas están siendo castigadas mientras que los victimarios son perdonados. El primer ministro dijo que países como Belize, que experimentó pérdidas de billones de dólares durante el período colonial, están siendo devastados por desastres meteorológicos inducidos por el cambio climático. Dijo que “las reparaciones están atrasadas”.

En 1492 Cristóbal Colón naufragó en el Caribe, frente a las costas de Haití, y allí comenzó el peor genocidio, la peor esclavitud y la transferencia de riqueza más grande que el mundo jamás haya visto. Colón y los pueblos de Europa trajeron enfermedades que acabaron con millones en las Américas, y con su superior armamento subyugaron a los pueblos del llamado Nuevo Mundo. Los europeos compraron/capturaron a más de 12 millones de africanos y los transportaron en barcos a las Américas, donde los obligaron a ellos y a sus hijos a trabajar en las plantaciones de azúcar y algodón durante más de 200 años. Mediante el genocidio y la esclavitud de los africanos, y luego el colonialismo, los europeos transportaron la riqueza de África y las Américas a sus países, riqueza que utilizaron para mejorar la vida de sus propios ciudadanos, mientras que los pueblos de África y las Américas se vieron privados.

El primer ministro Briceño pidió que se levante el duro embargo de Estados Unidos contra Cuba. En 1959, el dictador cubano Fulgencio Batista se vio obligado a huir de Cuba, y en 1962, “en respuesta a ciertas acciones tomadas por el [nuevo] Gobierno cubano” (Departamento de Estado de EE. UU.), EE. UU., bajo la presidencia de John Kennedy, proclamó un embargo sobre el comercio entre los dos países.

*UN Affairs*, en el sitio web <https://news.un.org>, dijo que en junio de 2021, por vigésimo noveno año consecutivo, la Asamblea General de la ONU pidió abrumadoramente a los Estados Unidos que levantara el embargo. *UN Affairs* dijo que un total de 184 países “votó a favor de una resolución para exigir el fin del bloqueo económico de Estados Unidos

contra Cuba... con Estados Unidos e Israel votando en contra”. También hubo tres abstenciones: Colombia, Ucrania y Brasil.

El primer ministro Briceño expresó su grave preocupación por el deterioro de la situación en Haití y pidió a la ONU que introduzca un programa sólido e integral para apoyar a la nación isleña.

Después de que Haití se independizó de Francia en 1804, el país se convirtió en un refugio seguro para los esclavos fugitivos. Haití proporcionó un refugio para el héroe sudamericano, Simón Bolívar, y lo ayudó militarmente cuando regresó a Sur América en 1816 para liberarla del dominio español.

Pero los europeos se unieron en la isla para evitar que su gente lograra el éxito económico. Para evitar la guerra con Francia, en 1825 un gobierno haitiano se vio obligado a comprometerse a pagar al gobierno francés la increíble suma de 150 millones de francos. Estados Unidos invadió y ocupó Haití desde 1915 hasta 1934.

El Haití desestabilizado ha sido dirigido por una serie de dictadores, algunos elegidos democráticamente; la isla ha sido azotada por terremotos y huracanes; su pueblo es maltratado dondequiera que va. Los activistas de derechos humanos dicen que los haitianos que están en la República Dominicana, algunos ilegalmente y muchos que han vivido en ese país durante años, están siendo acosados y perseguidos a través de la frontera que comparten las naciones.

En 2021, el presidente de Haití fue asesinado y gran parte del país ha caído en manos de pandillas violentas. El año pasado, un autobús que transportaba a nuestro equipo nacional de fútbol, que estaba en Haití para un partido de clasificación para la Copa del Mundo, fue asaltado por una banda armada.

Haití, el país más pobre de nuestro hemisferio, está en crisis. ¿Atenderá la ONU al llamado del primer ministro? Si no es el caso, es posible que Haití tenga que encontrar su respuesta en la “marea rosa” que se extiende por nuestra región. En Honduras, El Salvador, México, Bolivia, Colombia y Perú, gobiernos socialistas, no comunistas, no satélites rusos, han sido elegidos al poder por personas que se han cansado de esperar que el sistema económico impuesto por los EE. UU. aborde las necesidades de las masas. Aquellos de nosotros que amamos a nuestros hermanos y hermanas en Haití debemos orar para que ese país sea atrapado en esa marea, para que su gente pueda disfrutar de la prosperidad que solo puede traer una “economía mixta” adecuadamente administrada.

El PM Briceño también se refirió a nuestro caso ante la CIJ, sobre el reclamo guatemalteco a nuestro territorio. Pidió a la comunidad internacional su apoyo, especialmente para ayudarnos a manejar nuestros desafíos diarios a lo largo de las fronteras. Los Amigos para la Conservación y el Desarrollo (Friends for Conservation and Development, FCD) está en una batalla constante para evitar que los guatemaltecos crucen y violen nuestra tierra, y recientemente hubo un incidente en el que soldados guatemaltecos ingresaron a nuestras aguas territoriales y quitaron nuestras banderas de la isla Sarstún.

Los llamados del primer ministro se escucharon en todo el mundo, pero está por verse cómo responderán las naciones más poderosas del mundo. Con suerte, responderán apropiadamente, pero todos sabemos que depende de nosotros, porque *solo el pueblo puede salvar al pueblo*. Depende de nosotros redoblar nuestros esfuerzos para frenar la violencia, proteger nuestro territorio y medio ambiente y terminar con la pobreza en nuestra nación.

## Sunday Review News Review Talk Show

On Krem TV & Krem Radio

Live-streaming on Krem Television Face Book Page

**Host:** YaYa Marin Coleman  
**Date:** Sunday, October 2, 2022 **Time:** 10:30 a.m. to noon  
**Guest:** Arinc Onat Kilic. He is a PhD researcher at Antwerp University, Belgium. His research focuses on the legal structures of blue bonds and examines their suitability in delivering marine conservation goals

Sunday Review will be repeated at 5:30 p.m. on Sunday, October 2, 2022



# Orange Walk woman beaten by landlord with metal pipe

by Charles Gladden

ORANGE WALK, Thurs. Sept. 29, 2022

Jennifer Reneau, 36, a mother of two who was residing on Sapodilla Street in Orange Walk Town, underwent surgery on Thursday, September 29, on her fractured arm, which is one of several injuries she reportedly received when she was allegedly attacked with a metal pipe by her landlord, Eddy Tillett.

According to reports, Reneau had just arrived at her residence after an extended shift at the Northern Regional Hospital, where she works, when she encountered Tillett on the veranda of the residence with a metal pipe, with which he proceeded to attack her.

Reneau, who apparently had told Tillett that she would be moving out of the residence, told 7News that, in addition to her fractured arm, Tillett hit her on every part of her body while she was trying to prevent him from hitting her in the face.

“The babysitter hurried [to] grab my baby and put the baby in the house. Right by the door, everything started



Jennifer Reneau, assault victim

when he hit me and I drop. My hand got fractured, and I will need surgery to use my hand. Then I tried to fight him. I kicked him, and then he drop. He came and hit me and then I kicked him and he came in the house. He came and ask me, ‘Will you stay in the house?’ and I told him ‘No, I will not stay in the house’. He says, ‘I need you to come out [of] my house as soon as possible’. I tell him, ‘Yes, I will come out, but you can’t just tell me like that. I need to find a house before I have to pay you the rent. I am coming out [of] the house.’ But he never understands that,” Reneau told 7News.

It is unclear what type of tenancy arrangement had existed between Tillett and Reneau, and whether there had been any violation of the terms of that agreement.

Tillett has been charged with three offenses: burglary, wounding, and damage to property, and is expected to appear in the Magistrate Court in Orange Walk on Thursday.

Reneau is searching for a new place to reside and until then she will be staying with a relative at their home.

# GOB moves forward in implementing National Cybersecurity Strategy



Hon. Kareem Musa, Minister of Home Affairs

BELIZE CITY, Thurs. Sept. 29, 2022

On Thursday, stakeholders gathered at the Belize Biltmore Plaza to discuss the development of an action plan for the implementation of the National Cybersecurity Strategy over the course of the next six months. The strategy, which was first launched in November 2020, is aimed at addressing cybersecurity threats and challenges faced by Belize in order to increase preparedness for, and responsiveness to, these threats.

Since the National Cybersecurity Strategy 2020 – 2023 was launched two years ago, there has been some progress in securing cyberspace within the country. The passing of a

Cybercrime Act and the establishment of a digital forensic laboratory are two examples of that progress. As 2023 fast approaches, however, there is still much work to be done.

During the forum, stakeholders discussed the potential areas of priority within the strategy as well as the actionable steps that can be taken to tackle those priority areas.

During his opening remarks, Minister of Home Affairs and New Growth Industries, Hon. Kareem Musa, noted that Belize’s connectivity and dependence on internet-based platforms has grown exponentially over the past ten years, and even more so as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

“As you would notice over the past few years, cybercrime is becoming more and more of a priority, not just for Belize but across the world. We see cyber-attacks happening all over, especially in our region; some countries [and] some parliaments have been breached and it takes so many different forms, because we are living now in a new digitalized era – the Metaverse, so to speak. And with all the opportunities that come with being a part of this new revolution, there are also vulnerabilities, also a risk, [and] breaches that can take place, and so this is very important for us as a

Please turn to ➡ Page 10

## “Tour-isms” Relationships & Recovery

The Minister of Tourism understands that rebuilding the industry is about rebuilding its relationships. Strengthened relationships will help to ensure a stronger future for everyone in the sector. Belizean industries have slowly been maneuvering their way from total economic shut down in 2020 to the budding days of financial recovery. They are still coming out of it. No matter the sector and size of business, most are aware that external uncertainties remain a constant threat. Much has changed in the way business is conducted but what has not wavered throughout the pandemic is the willingness of the Belizean citizenry to support local businesses and local tourism. Rebuilding will include realigning those relationships. Leading the recovery process is the Honorable Minister of Tourism and Diaspora Relations, Mr. Anthony Mahler.

“...it starts with civic pride”. These words were a part of Minister Mahler’s message on World Tourism Day as he and his team at the BTB honored PC Rolando Tino Oh for his service. Civic pride is not abstract. It is action. This year the Honorable Minister paddled a leg of the La Ruta Maya River Challenge helping his team from the stern of his canoe. The primary responsibility of a sternman is to steer. In many ways his leadership as Minister has been the same. He may not get a chance to be at each leg of every event, but he always lends his presence for support and anchoring.

The minister has taken this same sentiment in his approach to helping the industry recover and revive. Civic pride is a culture of giving back. Through the BTB’s Frontline Hero initiative, the BTB has awarded dedicated professionals for their service during the pandemic. The Minister has been at the groundbreaking ceremonies for the Placencia Polyclinic, the Teakettle Facilitation Center, and the Berger Field Development in Belize City. He has stopped in to watch students at Belize Elementary School demonstrate their robotics skills, he was there to kick off the Mundialito Tournament at the MCC Grounds, he sat in meetings to develop tourism in Dangriga and made it for other meetings with the Diaspora in Los Angeles, New York, and Washington. The Minister has personally been there to hand over lap tops, vehicles, and monetary donations to worthy Belizeans and Belizean organizations. With so much attention placed at home Minister Mahler has still managed to travel in support of the BTB’s marketing and branding efforts in the United States, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean. No race, or leg of a race to recovery has been too small or too far for the Minister to lend his friendship and guidance.


The Industry’s journey to recovery will have many more legs. The Minister will continue to anchor for his team and for the sector. Stronger friendships are the best assets in securing a more durable economic recovery for the tourism sector. During the pandemic Belizeans decided to travel at home when they could have remained locked up. New friendships were formed. Hotel owners and local businesses became aware of new potentials within the local tourism market. The Belizean citizenry kept the industry afloat then and they will help to guide our recovery now.

The “ism” this week is *positivism* for the state of all our efforts to remain positive as we recover. Building trust, strategy, direction, and cohesion in the local industry is a major aspect of the recovery plan. Minister Mahler and the BTB will continue to honor its relationships at home and simultaneously building stronger relationships with organizations outside our borders to ensure a more robust recovery.



See you next week.  
Belize Tourism Board





## Magistracy Department Attorney General's Ministry

# 1 Treasury Lane, Belize City • Telephone: (501) 227-4587 or 227-6262

### VACANCY NOTICE

Suitably qualified persons are invited to submit applications to fill the position of:

#### CHIEF MAGISTRATE

The Chief Magistrate is responsible for the lower judiciary, both administratively and legally, throughout the country of Belize.

**Applicants must:**

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- be in possession of Continuing Legal Education (CLE)

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**Age Limit:** 21-50

**Experience:** 5 Years in Supervisory/Management level  
10 Years in the Legal field

**Analysis of the position:**

- Adjudicate criminal, civil, family, and preliminary inquiries.
- Serves as Coroner and Revising officer.
- Financial Manager for all positions that fall under the Magistracy Department countrywide
- Manage the Vote/Financial Matters of the Magistracy Department.
- Prepare Memorandum of Reasons for Decisions in a timely manner.
- Attends conferences, workshops, and training in relation to capacity building of the Magistracy.
- Assists with the training needs of the department as required.
- Prepares appeals as required.
- Perform duties as the Accounting Officer for the Magistracy Department.
- Prepares statistics and reports as required.
- Must be computer literate with word processing proficiency.
- Is accountable to the Chief Justice, Solicitor General and the Judicial and Legal Services Commission.

Interested persons are asked to apply in writing to:

**The Secretary, Judicial and Legal Services Commission**  
**Ground Floor, Sir. Edney Cain Building**  
**Thru' the Office of the Solicitor General**  
**Attorney General's Ministry**  
**Belmopan City, Cayo District Belize, Central America**  
**Telephone number: 822-2504 or 822-0519**  
**email address: agsecretary@agm.gov.bz**

Deadline for receipt of applications: February 24, 2023

**Please Note: Only suitable qualified applicants will be acknowledged. The Commission is not bound to make an appointment from among those persons who apply.**

# Library

This was last Saturday night, as I wandered around my neighborhood, getting in my steps, which I try to do every evening. The little red house you see in the picture is not a birdhouse, it is a library. As you wander about the different neighborhoods, you will see these little libraries scattered all over. They hold about 20 books inside, and you can either take a book/books or replace or add your own contribution! You take a book and you keep it, or return it to one of those little libraries at a different location! I always thought that it was a brilliant idea. We all have books we've bought and read, then they just get thrown out, or gather dust in some corner of a room. What a great way to give those with lesser choices a reason to pick up one of those books and expand their minds, maybe?

For years I've taken those little pockets of information and knowledge for granted, with a smug curiosity, because I have so many books of my own. But that evening I stopped and read some of the titles, which were varied, and the books were all in good condition. It is such a wonderful way to share something with others, anonymously, and just because.

I remember when a library card was a requirement for every student, because that is where all research and information was stored, and shared. Where you could borrow your favorite novel for a few days, where you could sit and do your homework, or flirt with your current center of attention, soon to be forgotten. Too many, to waste your impatient youth on just one. It was a quiet place, an escape from the din of the town or village you lived in. It had its own special smell, of books and paper and age and ink and stale perfume. A wonderful place indeed!

These days our phones or laptops or iPads are our libraries! Anything you need to know is at the tip of your fingers. You don't have to leave your house or your room, and you don't have to go to a library! All the research, all the information is right there; just Google it! So simple, so easy, effortless, so smooth. I believe that nowadays mostly only the financially disadvantaged, by that I mean people who don't own a phone or can't afford Wi-Fi, really use public libraries! There are fewer and fewer libraries these days, no thanks to technology. Like photo studios and movie rental stores, they're vanishing relics, gone, and forgotten!

Those same technologies also prevent us from being more social creatures. We become isolated and withdrawn, with fewer friends and companions. Children don't go out and play with others in their neighborhoods; they're glued to TikTok, or some other program on their devices. Friends? Who needs friends? That's one of the downsides of current technology: you live in a bubble instead of a community, in my opinion. Just for the experience of it all, visit a library. You might find some unexpected pleasure, a discovery of something different from what you are accustomed to! It could make a difference in your life!



Glen

## PUBLIC AUCTION SALES: PROPERTIES

### Lord's Bank Village, Belize District; Punta Gorda Town, Toledo District


BY ORDER of the Mortgagees Messrs. The Belize Bank Limited, Licensed Auctioneers Kevin A. Castillo and Christiana R. Castillo are selling ONLINE via [belizepropertyauctions.com](http://belizepropertyauctions.com) the following properties. **Sales currently running until 8th November 2022. Public Auction Sales will expire fortnightly on the dates and times listed on the website until these properties are sold.**

1. Lot No. 52 Lords Bank Village, Belize District:



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
Ladyville/Lord's Bank	16	3246
The freehold property of Mr. Mark Tillett.		

2. Parcel No. 1609/1 Punta Gorda Town, Toledo District:



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
Punta Gorda	42	1609/1
The leasehold property of Mr. Mark Tillett.		

**"FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION & PHOTOGRAPHS PLEASE VISIT WEBSITE"**

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## GOB moves forward in implementing...

**Continued from** **Page 9**

government and as a ministry to engage with all the relevant stakeholders; the private sector, the NGOs, the DPP's office, because what it means is that we have to have a collective strategy and approach to fight cybercrime wherever it occurs," said Minister Musa.

The National Cybersecurity Strategy is the Government's response to growing incidences of cybercrimes and increased threats to cybersecurity throughout the region. The development of the strategy, said Minister Musa, was not only timely but necessary.



# Leadership calls for toughness

by Colin Hyde

In a US college football game last week, Notre Dame versus University of North Carolina (UNC), late in the fourth quarter, one of the UNC players was called for unsportsmanlike conduct, for twirling the ball, and one of the announcers berated the referee for calling the penalty. Indeed, twirling the ball is not overly boastful, and the player didn't really make a show of it, but as the announcer's companion noted, the referee didn't have a choice; he had to apply the rule. Disappointingly, the announcer who took exception insisted that it was a stupid call.

Thankfully, the announcer who was sober stood his ground. It was not the referee's prerogative. Like the foot soldiers in the poem "*The Charge of the Light Brigade*", by Alfred Lord Tennyson, the referee's place was not to reason why, not to question the wisdom of the rule.

Some people like to talk, but in simulated life, sports, referees just follow the rules. It's a little different in the real thing. Leaders have rules to guide them, but sometimes they do have to make decisions that are outside of the script. Sometimes, they just have to be tough.

I know that the engineers muffed the design when they "improved" Bolton Bridge, near where I lived in Belize City when I was a child, or the contractor blew it. The end of that story is that after they finished the work, the best truck drivers couldn't make the turn off Bolton Bridge into West Canal. My paternal grampa, seeing their dilemma, pulled in his fence over three feet. They did break his fence a few times before my grampa hailed my granny's godson, Simeon Ebanks, to help him pull back the fence. I don't know if my grampa got tired of waiting for the authorities to step up. They didn't. He did.

The engineers or contractors absolutely messed up the north side of the George Price Highway when they

improved it, and it is beginning to look like forever and ever that the people in my village will pay, if the GOB doesn't make a tough decision. Two things went miserably wrong with the job. There are too many culverts. A simple inner road would have taken out the need for 80% of them along the stretch of highway. The second story is that on that side of the highway some people encroached, pushed their property line into the buffer zone. The end story is that on the east side of the village school children and everyone who wants to get from here to there have to walk/ride on the highway.

I have much personal bias in this one. Sometimes I need a tool or nails, and there's a store that sells hardware a little over a mile east from where I live. But half the distance there I have to walk on the highway. I bex bad about what happened here. Bah, I hate driving. I love walking, nayli as much as George Price and Micky Craig.

Leaders have to make tough decisions sometimes. I don't know how Julius and his team are going to do it, but this wrong has to be put right fu all a wi who live in the village, especially the children.

### Assad's insults

It being accepted that you can't teach an old dog new tricks and a leopard can't change his spots, I'm not after converting Assad Shoman, nor his legion fans who drool over his every word. I'm just about putting some things right, for Belizeans who haven't explored other sides of the story, and for foreigners who come here and haven't had the time to get under the surface to the other threads in our national story.

In his most recent piece, "Why Belize Needs A People's Constitution", the gentleman couldn't resist throwing some blows at our association with the British – what's new? I guess he was about encouraging his crowd. Why —

are those suspects in need of reassurance? I'm not aware of anybody bothering them and their disappointing interpretation of our history.

Assad's achievements aside, and he did quite a bit in support of the peaceful, constructive Belizean Revolution, he has the common guilt of many, which is carrying their baggage wherever they go. He's a mature man now, but no matter that, he couldn't get through his essay without throwing some slander at September 10.

His first mischievous salvo was directed at members of our society who receive titles from the UK. "And so," he says, "every year we witness the sorry spectacle of peoples in their former colonies dribbling over their 'honours' like MBE, which means member of the British EMPIRE!" Hmm, I'll never get one; I haven't even been offered a JP. Bah, there's this constant attack on Dame Froyla by some of his friends, for her accepting the GG's position, when, they say, the British did so much wrong to the Maya here.

Whenever you listen to a man or read his message, keep in mind the source, where he comes from. Assad is a Palestinian Belizean. Palestinians are very unhappy with the British. I don't suggest Mr. Shoman doesn't have tons for his beef there. I suggest that the Maya of Toledo didn't have the same experience with the British that the Palestinians did.

According to BBC News, "The State of Israel was proclaimed on 14 May 1948, the culmination of nearly 2,000 years of hopes by Jewish people... The Balfour Declaration by the British government in 1917, enshrined in a League of Nations mandate in 1920, had said that a 'national home for the Jewish people' would be founded in Palestine, while preserving the 'civil and religious' rights of non-Jewish communities there. The British could not reconcile the conflicting principles... On 29 November 1947, the United Nations

General Assembly voted (resolution 181) to partition Palestine between a Jewish and an Arab state, with Jerusalem under an international regime. The Jews agreed but the Arabs did not. They called the declaration of the State of Israel 'al-Nakba', the catastrophe."

Speaking of the daam British at work here, he said, "they were especially good at confounding people in Belize, as we were taught that slavery was 'not as bad' here, and that slaves fought shoulder to shoulder alongside their masters, preferring slavery under the British" and that he knew "of no other former slave society (and Belize began life as a slave society) that actually celebrates a day when the slave masters won the right to continue enslaving the people for forty more years."

Assad has a lot of facts, but I don't see him as a fair fighter. Hmm, allow me a little pause to *segweh* briefly to O. Nigel Bolland. I owe him an apology, for putting him in the same boat with Assad. I believe that occurred because whenever I'm reading Assad I think of that gentleman, maybe because of their joint effort in a book, maybe because Assad references his work so often. I've read far more Assad than Bolland.

Returning to Mr. Shoman, if life was a straight line, if the world was black and white, he wouldn't be so off-base. But in a world as complicated as the one that we live in, really, it is low sophistry for one to ignore the many variables in the soup.

We've heard the story that the 10<sup>th</sup> was a made-up thing, a hundred years after a skirmish, that the white Creoles here threw a parade to fool the people. For starters, I think we should find out who the people were who were fooled. We're talking 1898 here. I say, sure, the government was colonial, and BEC owned thousands and thousands of acres, but the records show that many Kriols had a little piece, some quite a bit of the Jewel. Braa, the folk here had something to celebrate.



**Year:** 2018  
**Make:** Volkswagon Saviero  
**Bodystyle:** Pickup  
**VIN:** 9BWJB45U1JP097547  
**Mileage:** 19259 km

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96.5FM in Belize City, Punta Gorda Town, Santa Elena, Cayo and Carmelita Village

91.1FM in Ladyville and Independence

101.1FM in Dangriga Town, Camalote Village and Caye Caulker



PRESS PREDICTIONS

The sports psychic speaks

BOLEDO

“Press” Predictions, 48-17-58  
Boledo stats thru 30<sup>th</sup> Sept. to 7<sup>th</sup> Oct. 2022

In boledo news, 55 will complete 2 years in 2 week’s time. These are my lucky numbers for this week: 48-04-17-26-58-94. These are my jackpot numbers: 0282-5934-7600. These are my lucky PICK-3 numbers: 498-102-367-585-056. There are 9 numbers left for the year: 00-18-26-30-34-35-47-55 and 94. 8 of those 9 numbers will be out before the year is all over. You all must form some beautiful jackpot numbers out of those 9 hard numbers. 55 is still out for over 1 year 11 months and 2 weeks exact, 26 is still out for over 1 year 8 months 1 week and 1 day now. 47 is still out for over 1 year 5 months 1

week and 1 day now. 35 is still out for over 1 year 1 month 1 week and 3 days now, 34 just joined the crowd out 1 year and 2 weeks now. 30 will complete 1 year in 10 days’ time. Last year 94 played some 6 times. This year 94 refuses to play now. The ending 2 ball has played some 35 times already. The seventies series plays the most on Sundays, 12 times already. Remember to read your Psalms: 72-91-23 and 62. Good luck to all buyers. Next week more lucky numbers.

LOCAL FOOTBALL

Verdes FC still unbeaten after 44 games  
Local Football Results and Predictions  
In local football action, Verdes FC still

unbeaten after 44 games. They drew with Progresso of OW 1 to 1 in Cayo. Luis Ibarra scored again, they lead with 19 points. Altitude FC and the San Pedro Pirates postpone in Mango Creek Independence. The game was not entertaining and very exciting. Andres Orozco scored again. He leads with 7 goals, the goal scoring race is very hot. The Belmopan Bandits upset the Wagiya FC Boys of Dangriga 4-2, then the Police Benque Untied Team Rallied from a 1-nil deficit to beat Port Layola FC 3 goals to 1. The game was very exciting but not well attended. The



Andrés Orozco



by Gilroy “Press” Cadogan

race for the championship will be decided in Cayo when Verdes FC and Altitude FC clash in 2 weeks’ time, both teams will have the same among of points when they meet. Next week more results and predictions.

CYCLING

Team BTB Valvordine 501’s Oscar Quiros won the race solo  
The September Classic Cycling Criterium Results

In cycling action, BTB sponsored the September Cycling Criterium Classic. There were all different age races. The kids, the females, the juniors, the Weekend Warriors, the Masters and the Elites. Team BTB Valvordine 501’s Oscar Quiros won the 35-lap criterium in a time of 1 hour 25 minutes, Wasani Castro was second. In the female, Alicia Thompson won easily over 2 younger females. The Chavarria family has the most cyclists



Oscar Quiroz



Alicia Thompson

as a family right now. In the Weekend Warriors Results, Kenroy “Smokes” Gladden lapped the entire field at the end of the race, he also rode the Elite. There were a lot of fans on Albert Street. Enuff respect to my cyclist Mr. Fitzgerald “Palas” Joseph aka “The Black Rocket”, big up Darwin Lodge my cousin who won his first career race some 3 weeks ago. Big up the president Mr. Orson Butler, enuff respect to Minister Anthony Mahler, Minister of Tourism. Next week more stats.

INTERNATIONAL BASEBALL

The Cleveland Guardians was the Indians  
Baseball Results and Predictions  
In baseball action, the Los Angeles Dodgers will win at least 112 games and will only lose 50 games. Mookie Betts is

MINISTRY OF INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT  
AND  
HOUSING

INVITATION TO BID

RENOVATION OF THE CHARLES BARTLET HYDE BUILDING,  
BELIZE CITY, BELIZE DISTRICT

The Government of Belize via the Ministry of Infrastructure Development and Housing (MIDH) intends to renovate the Charles Bartlett Hyde Building in Belize City, Belize District.

The Ministry of Infrastructure Development and Housing now invites sealed bids from suitably qualified and experienced contractors to renovate the above-mentioned Building in Belize City, Belize District.

The scope of works will involve the retrofit of office spaces totaling more than 30,000 sq. ft. which includes the following:

- 1 Creation of two main entrances to the building.
- 2 Demolishing and retrofitting spaces for office and multipurpose spaces.
- 3 Renovation and remedial work on walls, ceiling, and floors.
- 4 Upgrade of electrical, lighting, and plumbing in new and existing spaces.

Interested bidders must have the financial capacity, necessary equipment, technical expertise, and experience to complete the works following the Bidding Documents.

Bidding will be conducted through the national competitive bidding procedures and interested bidders may obtain further information and a copy of the bidding documents at the MIDH offices at the address below as of Tuesday, October 11, 2022, during normal office hours Monday through Fridays from 8.00 A.M – 12.00 Noon and from 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM.

Bidding documents are free of charge and may be picked up by interested bidders on the submission of a written application to the address below.

All bids must be delivered to the address below by 10:00 AM local time on Tuesday, November 1, 2022, and they will be opened on the same day at 10:15 A.M, at the address below. Late bids will be rejected. Bid security of \$20,000 must be submitted and delivered to the address below at the same time as the bid submission.

1. Victor Espat  
Chief Executive Officer  
Ministry of Infrastructure Development & Housing  
#1 Power Lane  
Belmopan, Belize  
Tel: 501-822-2136/39  
Fax: 501-822-3282  
E-mail: [ceo.secretary@mow.gov.bz](mailto:ceo.secretary@mow.gov.bz)

2. Lennox Bradley  
Chief Engineer  
Ministry of Infrastructure Development & Housing  
#1 Power Lane  
Belmopan, Belize  
Tel: 501-822-2136/39  
Fax: 501-822-3282  
E-mail: [BradleyLE@midh.gov.bz](mailto:BradleyLE@midh.gov.bz)



# Belize participates in 41<sup>st</sup> ICAO General Assembly

MONTREAL, Canada, Tues. Sept. 27, 2022

A delegation from the Ministry of Blue Economy and Civil Aviation is in attendance at the 41st General Assembly of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) that is currently ongoing in Montreal, Canada. More than 2,500 delegates from 193 member states have convened at the General Assembly, which is called once every three years by the ICAO as part of an effort to secure the highest possible standard of global aviation.

The delegation from Belize, which includes Minister of Civil Aviation, Hon. Andre Perez, and CEO of the Ministry, Kennedy Carrillo, among other Civil Aviation officials, will focus on promoting policies “regarding unruly passengers aboard aircraft, cybersecurity, gender equality, economic development, and environmental protection,” a release from the Civil Aviation Ministry states.

Also on Belize’s agenda is a call for the inclusion of Taiwan in ICAO decision-making processes, in light of the country’s crucial role in global air traffic.

“Belize notes that Taiwan plays a crucial role in international aviation activities as in 2019, prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, its airspace managed 1.85 million flights which moved a total of 72 million travelers. In 2021, Taiwan saw the movement of 2.92 million tons of cargo through its airspace, much of which was vital to the COVID-19 recovery process,” the release from the Ministry states.

Belize also plans to discuss its proposal recently approved by Cabinet for Belize City to become an airport hub city as well as other undertakings that will “continue to formalize its home-

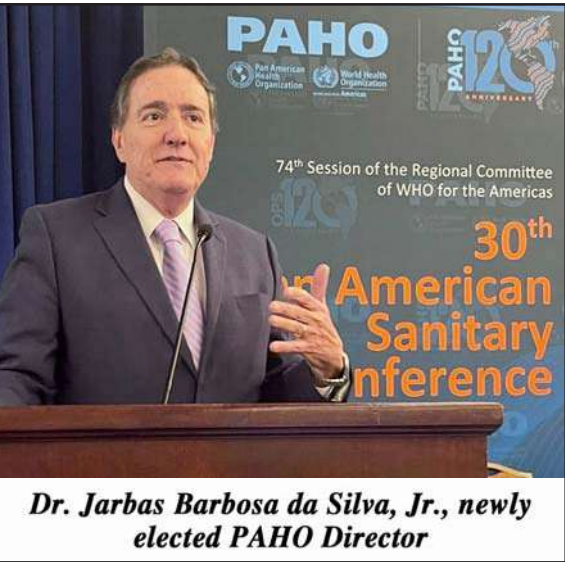
grown initiatives set out in its strategic plan,” the release states.

Along with Minister Perez and CEO Carillo, the delegation will also include Mr. Nigel Carter, Director of Civil Aviation; Mr. Ellis Gideon, Deputy

Minister of Civil Aviation; Ms. Ronise Caliz, Chief Operations Officer, Belize Department of Civil Aviation; and Col. (Ret’d) Andrew Kelly, Head of Aviation Security, Belize Department of Civil Aviation.



Minister of Civil Aviation takes a photo with the Taiwanese Ambassador



## Brazilian national elected as new PAHO Director

WASHINGTON, Wed. Sept. 28, 2022

Today, member states of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) elected Dr. Jarbas Barbosa da Silva, Jr., to be the organization’s new Director. He takes office on February 1, 2023, succeeding Dr. Carissa F. Etienne of Dominica, who has led the organization since 2012.

“I want to thank not only the countries that voted for me, that supported me, but all the countries in this region. We work together with you. It’s not easy to follow Dr. Etienne’s leadership, but I do believe that with the same commitment that we have to strengthen health, to strengthen the quality of life, and in our vision we work together,” Dr. Barbosa da Silva said.

Da Silva has been serving as the Assistant Director of PAHO, and while he held this post he led the organization’s effort to increase equitable access to Covid-19 vaccines and enhance regional capacities to produce medicines.

“Dr. Jarbas Barbosa da Silva, Jr. received his medical degree from the

Please turn to Page 23



## National MSME Roadshow Dates & Locations:

The Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) through the Belize Trade and Investment Development Service, is coordinating a national initiative to support Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) across Belize.

The overall objective of the NMR is to provide technical and financial support MSMEs and includes the following activities:

A Boot Camp that will deliver business development trainings in Business Models, Marketing, Customer Service, Goal Setting, and Money Management.

A Formalization Clinic that will provide a space for key government agencies and financial institutions, to offer services and relevant information to MSMEs inclusive of live registration,

A Town Hall session on government’s policies and incentives and

A Showcase/Pop Up Shop that will provide MSMEs an opportunity to promote and sell their products, while facilitating supply chain linkages with the Tourism Industry.

<b>COROZAL   AUG 24 - 26</b> BOOT CAMP & FORMALIZATION CLINIC ST. FRANCIS XAVIER SCHOOL AUDITORIUM POP-UP SHOP HOUSE OF CULTURE - BASKETBALL COURT	<b>BELMOPAN   SEPT 28 - 30</b> BOOT CAMP & FORMALIZATION CLINIC BELMOPAN CIVIC CENTER POP-UP SHOP CIVIC CENTER PARKING LOT
<b>ORANGE WALK   AUG 31 - SEPT 02</b> BOOT CAMP & FORMALIZATION CLINIC BANQUITAS HOUSE OF CULTURE POP-UP SHOP CENTRAL PARK	<b>SAN IGNACIO/SANTA ELENA   OCT 05 - 07</b> BOOT CAMP & FORMALIZATION CLINIC SI/SE TOWN HALL POP-UP SHOP WELCOME CENTER
<b>BELIZE CITY   SEPT 07 - 09</b> BOOT CAMP & FORMALIZATION CLINIC ITVET DINING ROOM POP-UP SHOP ITVET	<b>DANGRIGA   OCT 12 - 14</b> BOOT CAMP & FORMALIZATION CLINIC SPORTS COMPLEX POP-UP SHOP ALEJO BENI PARK
<b>PUNTA GORDA   SEPT 14 - 16</b> BOOT CAMP & FORMALIZATION CLINIC SOCIAL SECURITY CONFERENCE ROOM POP-UP SHOP CENTRAL PARK / WELCOME CENTER	<b>PLACENCIA VILLAGE   OCT 19 - 21</b> BOOT CAMP & FORMALIZATION CLINIC VILLAGE COUNCIL CENTER POP-UP SHOP FOOTBALL FIELD
<b>CAYE CAULKER   SEPT 22 - 23</b> BOOT CAMP & FORMALIZATION CLINIC CAYE CAULKER VILLAGE COMMUNITY CENTER POP-UP SHOP MARKET PLACE AREA	<b>SAN PEDRO   OCT 26 - 28</b> BOOT CAMP & FORMALIZATION CLINIC LIONS DEN POP-UP SHOP CENTRAL PARK AREA





# Leon Perez to be tried in Supreme Court for Coast Guard officer's death



(l-r) Leon Perez, to stand trial and Elston Morter, deceased

by Charles Gladden

BELIZE CITY, Wed. Sept. 28, 2022  
On Monday, September 26, Senior Magistrate Aretha Ford ruled in a

preliminary enquiry that Leon Perez, 39, who is accused of fatally stabbing a Belize Coast Guard officer, Elston Morter, 28, on Independence Day (September 21) last year, will be tried

**Leon Perez, 39, is to stand trial in the Supreme Court for the murder of Belize Coast Guard officer, 28-year-old Elston Morter, on Independence Day in 2021**

in the Supreme Court during its January 2023 session.  
Perez, who is being represented by attorney Ian Gray, opted to reserve the right to submit his alibi in writing within seven days, which will have elapsed on Monday, October 3.  
Morter and a friend of his, Marcel Adrian Gill, a 28-year-old security guard, had been socializing at Gill's home in Hattieville when the two men decided to go to Perez's home, which was nearby, but while they were there, an argument flared up between the three men, and during the dispute, Perez allegedly pulled out a knife and proceeded to fatally stab Morter and injure Gill.  
Morter and Gill were transported to

the Karl Heusner Memorial Hospital, where Morter passed away due to his injuries. Gill, however, survived the attack. Perez was arrested and charged with murder days after the incident.

## Armed robbers raid Lin's Super Store



by Charles Gladden

SANTA ELENA TOWN, Cayo District, Thurs. Sept. 29, 2022  
On Wednesday, September 28, Lin's Super Store, which is located beside the La Loma Luz Adventist Hospital on the George Price Highway in Santa Elena, Cayo District, was robbed by three men who stole cash as well as the 9mm pistol of the security guard at the establishment.  
When police arrived at the scene, the owner of the store, Chinese businessman Peter Chen, told the authorities that at around 4:40 p.m. that day, three men arrived on two motorcycles.  
Chen recounted to police that the men, who were wearing long jeans pants, and long dark-colored shirts with green traffic vests, held his security guard who was standing at the front door at gunpoint and stripped him of his firearm. The men then proceeded to enter the store and searched the two cash registers, both situated at the entrance of the establishment.  
They took approximately \$1,500.00 from each cash register, then grabbed Chen and stole his wallet, which contained his personal identification cards and \$300 in cash.  
Police are investigating.

## Drunk man sets brother's Stann Creek home on fire

by Charles Gladden

STANN CREEK VALLEY, Stann Creek District, Wed. Sept. 28, 2022  
On Monday night, the home of Liston O'Brian Hernandez, 30, a Belizean construction worker living at Mile 20 on the Stann Creek Valley Road, in the Stann Creek District, was set on fire by his own brother.  
Hernandez reported to police that about 9:15 that night, his brother, Alvin Hernandez, who was in an intoxicated state, went to his home and proceeded to set the 15 feet by 10 feet house on fire.  
Police are investigating.



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### LEGAL OFFICER

Location: BELMOPAN CITY

**Job Summary:**  
The Legal Officer (LO) will provide support to the Legal and Enforcement Department (ED) of the Financial Services Commission (the "Commission") in the execution of duties for which the Department has direct charge. The LO must display the attributes and values of the Commission and provide support to the ED, Director General, and all other departments in the preparation of legal advice, and legal opinions, as necessary. The LO will assist in preparing legal actions as necessary for the Commission and must be familiar with company and corporate law. In addition to liaising and engaging all stakeholders pertinent to the execution of his/her functions,

**Education & Experience:**

- Bachelor of Laws Degree (L.L.B) and Legal Education Certificate (L.E.C).
- At least 2—3 years' experience as a practicing attorney with experience in legal drafting (preferred);
- Knowledge and experience in company and corporate law.

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Applications must be submitted electronically by visiting our webpage at [www.belizefsc.org.bz/career/](http://www.belizefsc.org.bz/career/)

**Application must include:**

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|---|---|
| 1. Letter of Application referencing the post | 5. Three (3) letters of reference (no older than six months) - two (2) must be professional references. |
| 2. Curriculum Vitae                           |   |
| 3. Copy of most recent qualification          | 6. Police Record (no older than six months)   |
| 4. Copy of Social Security Card               |   |

**\*Only applicants who submit all required documents will be considered.**

### APPLICATION DEADLINE: 7th October 2022

For a copy of the full **Job Description of Vacant Post—Legal Officer**, visit our webpage at [www.belizefsc.org.bz/career/](http://www.belizefsc.org.bz/career/) or contact us at (501) 822-3800/2974





Fortis Belize Limited (FBL)  
P.O. Box 87  
Mile 71.5 George Price Highway,  
Cayo District, Belize  
501-824-3016/824-2085  
corporate@fortisbelize.com  
www.fortisbelize.com

## Fortis Belize Limited Formerly BECOL Holds Opening Ceremony for New Corporate Offices in Cayo District

**Cayo District, Belize (Thursday, September 22, 2022)** – Belize Electric Company Limited (BECOL) has officially rebranded to Fortis Belize Limited (FBL) and introduced its new corporate offices in a ribbon-cutting ceremony on Wednesday, September 14. The event was attended by country leaders, visiting Fortis executives, BEL leaders and special guests from the nearby business community. Following formal remarks, the company also made a special presentation of \$50,000 to the Belize Red Cross for their charitable works, and attendees toured the new offices and visited the new Remote Control Center, from which FBL’s operations are monitored.

A dedication by Gary Murray, President and CEO of Newfoundland Power, explained the reason for the official name of the new office location – the John Evans Headquarters. The late John Evans was a former long-time Fortis employee and the lead engineer in the development of the Chalillo and Vaca hydroelectric plants that helped transform Belize’s electricity services. In his dedication speech, Gary said, “John embodied the Fortis qualities and was committed to service. He also played a vital role in helping to develop and advance local Belizean engineers so that they would one day take the lead in major projects as he had.”

President and CEO Kay Menzies said in her welcoming remarks, “This new building represents Fortis’ continued commitment to Belize and its confidence in what the country offers. It is an investment not marked solely by the infrastructure, but also one intended to grow our people and nation.” She also spoke about the company’s people-focused approach and keeping business local, saying, “Fortis runs a modern utility that upholds the highest standards led entirely by talented Belizeans.”

Keynote addresses were delivered by Belize Prime Minister Hon. John Briceño and Fortis Belize Chairman Gary Smith, Executive Vice President of Operations and Innovation at Fortis Inc. The Belize Ambassador to the United States of America and former President and CEO of BECOL Hon. Lynn Young was also in attendance.

Fortis Inc. entered the Belize energy market in January 2001 when it took over BECOL, the owner and operator of the 25-megawatt Mollejon Dam. Today the company also owns and operates the 7.3-megawatt Chalillo and the 19-megawatt Vaca hydroelectric facilities located on the Macal River, generating as much as 40% of Belize energy needs in the form of renewable energy sold to Belize Electricity Limited, Belize’s electricity utility.



**Caption:** (Left image l to r) Prime Minister of Belize Hon. John Briceño alongside Fortis Belize President and CEO Kay Menzies and Fortis Inc. Executive Vice President, Operations and Innovation Gary Smith at the Fortis Belize Ribbon Cutting Ceremony of the John Evans Headquarters on Wednesday, September 14. (Right image) Fortis Inc. Executive Vice President, Operations and Innovation Gary Smith presents a \$50k check to Nigel Ebanks President of the Belize Red Cross Society, a donation toward their charitable works supporting communities across the country.



**Caption:** (Left image) Prime Minister of Belize Hon. John Briceño delivers remarks at the Fortis Belize Ribbon Cutting Ceremony of the John Evans Headquarters on Wednesday, September 14. (Right image) Members of the Fortis Belize Government and Fortis Executive teams tour the Control Room and hear about the company’s operations at the newly instituted John Evans Headquarters in Cayo District.

**Notes to Editors:**

**About Fortis Belize:**

Fortis Belize Limited (“FBL” or “the Company”) owns and operates the 25-megawatt Mollejon hydroelectric facility, the 7.3-megawatt Chalillo hydroelectric facility, and the 19-megawatt Vaca hydroelectric facility, each located on the Macal River. The Company generates hydroelectric power delivered to Belize Electricity Limited (BEL), adding as much as 40% of the country’s annual energy needs to the nation’s electric grid in clean, renewable form. FBL operates pursuant to agreements with the Government of Belize. Fortis Belize is a subsidiary of Fortis Inc., a leader in the North American regulated electric and gas utility industry. For further information, visit [www.fortisinc.com](http://www.fortisinc.com).

**For further information contact:**

**Shantel Leslie (Mrs.)**  
Fortis Belize Limited  
Telephone: 501 824 3016/2085 Ext. 204  
Email: [Shantel.leslie@fortisbelize.com](mailto:Shantel.leslie@fortisbelize.com)





**Belize Water Services Limited**  
Corporate Communication Office  
7 Central American Boulevard, PO Box 150,  
Belize City, Belize. Tel: +501-222-4757  
Website: [www.bws.bz](http://www.bws.bz) Email: [pr@bws1.com.bz](mailto:pr@bws1.com.bz)

**PRESS RELEASE**

*September 26, 2022 For Immediate Release*

**BWS and Cuban Entities Collaborates to strengthen cooperation**



On September 16, 2022, BWS signed an official Memorandum of Understanding with the National Institute of Hydraulic Resources of Cuba (NIHR), that will strengthen the exchange and co-operation between Belize and Cuba on issues related to water and sanitation. Belize’s Ambassador to Cuba Mrs. Annie-Lou Burns Martinez was very instrumental in coordinating the visit of our contingent who were able to visit some water facilities and to discuss a way forward. After a series of meetings with key stakeholders, the following actions were agreed between BWS and Cuba:

- Provide technical advice and support on the use of groundwater as an alternative solution during periods of drought, this may include from research stage.
- Provide short and long-term training (at all levels) on topics of interest, including educational opportunities
- Cross training of technical and non-technical staff
- Sharing new Concepts and ideas for supply of water to tourist areas, especially for the Cayes in Belize.
- Scheduling of visits to Belize for the Cuban Delegates based on needs and agreements made during the mission, as well as the exploration of the hydraulic systems in Belize.
- To identify suppliers in the water and sanitation sector, evaluating the possible integration into the projects for both countries.
- Realization of laboratory analysis of water quality and characterization of residuals including advice for the accreditation of tests and laboratories.
- Assisting with the accreditation of the water and sanitation lab in Belize.
- To explore business relationships for the procurement of pipes, accessories, and other resources.
- Create alliances to work in other countries of the region with the possibility of obtaining financing and other benefits in the water sector of both countries.

BWS extends our gratitude to: our Prime Minister Hon. John Briceno for creating this collaboration and relationship between BWS and the relevant Cuban experts; to Belize’ Ambassador to Cuba, H.E Ambassador Mrs. Annie-Lou Burns Martinez , who was key in the primary discussions leading to the visit and the formulation of the Memorandum of Understanding; to Ambassador of Cuba to Belize, Ms. Maria Caridad Balaguer Labrada; to Mr Alexander Argilagos Moreira, President of Gestion de Las Aguas Terrestres; to Mr. Ruben Ramos Arrieta, the Vice President of the Cuban Chamber of Commerce and also to the Management of Cubahidraulica, International Economic Association of Hydro Systems and Automation and Aguas de La Habana for taking time to meet with the BWS team. BWS also extends a special thanks to Ms. Mariana Verde who assisted tremendously with the preparation and execution of the visit. We look forward to building this meaningful relationship between BWS and Cuba to ensure mutual benefit and to aid in the growth and development for Belize.





# Speech of President Gustavo Petro at the UN

Permit me, our dear readers of this column, to present to you the following speech, which I find to be of utmost importance. I would like to highlight how the president of Colombia, Gustavo Petro Urrego, delivered his speech. He did not read it from a written script, which means that he didn't prepare any; instead he spoke every word straight from his mind and heart. The following is the speech President Petro gave at the 77<sup>th</sup> Session of the United Nations General Assembly, dated September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2022. It is as follows:

"I come from one of the three most beautiful countries on Earth. There is an explosion of life there. Thousands of multicolored species in the seas, in the skies, on the land... I come from

the land of yellow butterflies and magic. There in the mountains and valleys of all greens, not only the abundant waters flow down, but also the torrents of blood. I come from a country of bloody beauty. My country is not only beautiful, it is also violent. How can beauty be combined with death? How can the biodiversity of life erupt with the dances of death and horror? Who is to blame for breaking the spell with terror? Who or what is responsible for drowning life in the routine decisions of wealth and interest? Who leads us to destruction as a nation and as a people? My country is beautiful because it has the Amazon Jungle, the Chocó Jungle, the waters, the Andes Mountain ranges, and the oceans. There in those jungles,

planetary oxygen is released and atmospheric CO2 is absorbed. One of those plants that absorbs CO2, among millions of species, is one of the most persecuted on earth. At any cost, its destruction is sought: it is an Amazonian plant, it is the coca plant, the sacred plant of the Incas.

As in a paradoxical crossroads, the jungle that is trying to be saved is at the same time destroyed. To destroy the coca plant, they throw poisons, glyphosate, en masse that runs through the waters; they arrest their growers and imprison them. For destroying or possessing the coca leaf, a million Latin Americans are murdered and two million Afro-Americans are imprisoned



by Clinton Canul Luna

in North America. Destroy the plant that kills, they cry from the north, but the plant is just one more plant among the millions that perish when they unleash fire on the jungle. Destroying the jungle, the Amazon, has become the slogan followed by states and businessmen. The cry of scientists baptizing the Jungle as one of the great climatic pillars does not matter. For the power relations of the world, the jungle and its inhabitants are to blame for the plague that plagues them. The power relations are plagued by the addiction to money, to perpetuate oneself, to oil, to cocaine and to the hardest drugs in order to be able to anesthetize more. Nothing more hypocritical than the speech to save the Jungle. The jungle is burning, gentlemen, while you wage war and play with it. The jungle, the climatic pillar of the world, disappears with all its life. The great sponge that absorbs the planetary CO2 evaporates. The saving jungle is seen in my country as the enemy to defeat, as the undergrowth to be extinguished. The space of coca and of the peasants who cultivate it, because they have nothing else to cultivate, is demonized.

For you, my country is of no interest to you except to throw poisons into your jungles, take your men to jail and throw your women into exclusion. They are not interested in the child's education, but rather in killing his jungle and extracting the coal and oil from his entrails. The sponge that absorbs the poisons is useless, they prefer to throw more poisons into the atmosphere. We serve them to excuse the emptiness and loneliness of their own society that lead them to live in the midst of drug bubbles. We hide from them their problems that they refuse to reform. It is better to declare war on the jungle, its plants, its people. While they let the forests burn, while hypocrites persecute the plants with poisons to hide the disasters of their own society, they ask us for more and more coal, more and more oil, to calm the other addiction: that of consumption, that of power, that of money. What is more poisonous for humanity: cocaine, coal or oil? The opinion of the power has ordered that cocaine is the poison and must be persecuted, so it only causes minimal deaths by overdose, and more by the mixtures that its ruled clandestine causes, but, instead, coal and oil must be protected, so that its use can extinguish all mankind. These are the things of world power, things of injustice, things of irrationality, because world power has become irrational. They see in the exuberance of the jungle, in its vitality, the lustful, the sinful; the guilty origin of the sadness of their societies, imbued with the



## REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

The US Government-funded Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC) has selected Belize as one of only two countries in the world for a five-year government to government grant to fund a program aimed at reducing poverty and stimulating economic growth.

The Government of Belize (GOB) through the Ministry of Finance, Economic Development, and Investment, have contracted a team of individual consultants to form a Compact Development Team in Belize that will work together with a U.S.-based MCC Team to conduct a diagnosis of the constraints to economic growth, prepare concept notes, develop project proposals, and plan for project implementation.

The Belize Compact Development Team will be led by a National Coordinator who will manage the team, engage key stakeholders across all sectors, and bear responsibility for the overall performance and work quality of the team. The Public Outreach and Stakeholder Engagement Specialist will be a member of this team and will be working closely with the MCC GSI team lead assigned to the Belize country team.

### Vacant Post

#### 1. Public Outreach and Stakeholder Engagement Specialist

**Remuneration:** Competitive salary and benefits are offered, commensurate with academic level, work experience and other relevant strengths of the winning candidate. Kindly follow the below link for further details.

<https://med.gov.bz/>

Interested candidates are requested to submit ONE PDF File that shall include: **a)** Letter of Interest indicating the post being applied for; **b)** the curriculum vitae, **c)** copies of university degrees, and **d)** the names of 3 references.

Subsequently the top 3 applicants for the post will be interviewed.

Deadline for application is **7 October 2022 at 4:00pm**. Application can be sent via email to: [econdev@med.gov.bz](mailto:econdev@med.gov.bz) or hand delivered to the address indicated below:

Chief Executive Officer  
Ministry of Economic Development  
Sir Edney Cain Building  
Ground Floor, Right Wing  
Belmopan City, Belize C.A.

Any request for clarification should be sent via email no later than 4 October 2022. Responses will be provided within three days.



# Speech of President Gustavo Petro at the UN

Continued from Page 17

unlimited compulsion to have and consume. How to hide the loneliness of the heart, its dryness in the midst of societies without affection, competitive to the point of imprisoning the soul in solitude, if not by blaming the plant, the man who cultivates it, the libertarian secrets of the jungle.

According to the irrational power of the world, it is not the fault of the market that cuts down on existence, the fault lies with the jungle and those who inhabit it. Bank accounts have become unlimited, the money saved by the most powerful on earth can no longer even be spent in the time of centuries. The sadness of existence produced by this artificial summons to competition fills it with noise and drugs. Addiction to money and having has another face: drug addiction in people who lose the competition, in the losers of the artificial race they have transformed humanity into. The disease of loneliness will not be cured by glyphosate on the jungles. The jungle is not to blame. The culprit is their society educated in endless consumption, in the stupid confusion between consumption and happiness that allows, yes, that the pockets of power are filled with money. The culprit of drug addiction is not the jungle, it is the irrationality of its world power. Give a blow of reason to his power. Turn on the lights of the century again.

The war on drugs has lasted 40 years. If we do not correct the course and it continues for another 40 years, the United States will see 2,800,000 young people die of overdose due to fentanyl, which is not produced in our Latin America. You will see millions of Afro-Americans being imprisoned in their private prisons. The imprisoned Afro will become the business of prison companies, a million more Latin Americans will be murdered, our waters and our green fields will be filled with blood, they will see the dream of democracy die both in my America and in Anglo-Saxon America. Democracy will die where it was born, in the great Western European Athens. By hiding the truth, they will see the jungle and democracies die. The war on drugs has failed. The fight against the climate crisis has failed. Mortal consumption has increased, from soft drugs to harder ones. There has been a genocide on my continent and in my country; millions of people have been sentenced to prison. To hide their own social guilt they have blamed the Jungle and its plants. They have filled speeches and policies with no reason. I demand from here, from my wounded Latin America, to put an end to the irrational war on drugs. Reducing drug use does not need wars, it needs us all to build a better society: a more supportive, more affectionate society, where the intensity of life saves us from addictions and the new slaveries.

Do you want less drugs? Think of less profit and more love. Think of a rational exercise of power. Do not touch the beauty of my country with your poisons. Help us without hypocrisy to save the Amazon Rainforest to save the life of humanity on the planet. You gathered the scientists, and they spoke with reason.

With mathematics and climatological models, they said that the end of the human species was near, that its time is no longer millennia, not even centuries. Science set off the alarm, and we stopped listening to it. The war served as an excuse for us not to take the necessary measures. When actions were most needed, when speeches no longer served, when it was essential to deposit money in the funds to save humanity, when it was necessary to get away from coal and oil as soon as possible, one war and another and another were invented. They invaded Ukraine, but also Iraq, and Libya and Syria. They invaded in the name of oil and gas. They discovered in the 21st century the worst of their addictions: addiction to money and oil. Wars have served as an excuse for not acting against the climate crisis. The wars have shown them how dependent they are on what will end the human species. If you observe that the peoples are filled with hunger and thirst and migrate by millions to the north, towards where the water is; so you lock them up, build walls, deploy machine guns, shoot at them. They expel them as if they were not human beings; they quintuple the mentality of those who politically created the gas chambers and the concentration camps, they reproduce 1933 on a planetary scale.

The great triumph of the assault on reason. Do they not see that the solution to the great exodus unleashed on their countries is to return to the water to fill the rivers and the fields to be filled with nutrients? The climatic disaster fills us with viruses that swarm us, but you do business with medicines and turn vaccines into merchandise. They propose that the market will save us from what the market itself has created. The Frankenstein of humanity is in letting the market and greed act without planning, giving up the brain and reason. Kneeling human rationality to greed. Why war if what we need is to save the human species? What is NATO and empires for, if what is coming is the end of intelligence? The climatic disaster will kill hundreds of millions of people and listen well: it is not produced by the planet, it is produced by capital. The cause of climate disaster is capital. The logic of relating to each other to consume more and more, produce more and more, and so that some earn more and more produces climate disaster. They articulated the logic of expanded accumulation, the energy engines of coal and oil and unleashed the hurricane: the chemical change of the atmosphere that is deeper and more deadly. Now in a parallel world, the expanded accumulation of capital is an expanded accumulation of death. From the jungle lands and beauty. There where they decided to make an enemy of an Amazon jungle plant, extradite and imprison its growers.

I invite you to stop the war, and to stop the climatic disaster. Here, in this Amazon Jungle, there is a failure of humanity. Behind the bonfires that burn her, after her poisoning, there is an integral, civilizational failure of humanity. Behind the addiction to cocaine and drugs, behind the addiction to oil and coal, is the true addiction of this phase of human history: the addiction to irrational power, profit and money. Here is the huge deadly

## NOTICE

BELIZE CITY, BELIZE

### Estate of WAYNE THOMAS CASTLEBERRY, Deceased STATUTORY NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Pursuant to Section 36 of the Administration of Estates Act, Chapter 197 of the Laws of Belize, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that all creditors and other persons having any claims or demands upon or against the Estate of **WAYNE THOMAS CASTLEBERRY**, late of No.5140 Kirk Drive, Amarillo, Texas, 79110, U.S.A are required to send particulars in writing of their claims or demands to **GEORGE EDWARD ALAMILLA**, the Administrator of the said estate, c/o Courtenay Coye LLP, Attorneys-at-Law, 15 A Street, Belize City, Belize, and to send such particulars no later than the 20<sup>th</sup> day of December 2022, AND NOTICE IS HEREBY ALSO GIVEN that, at the expiration of the last mentioned date, the Administrator will proceed to distribute the assets of the said Wayne Thomas Castleberry, deceased, amongst the parties entitled thereto, having regard only to the claims or demands of which particulars have been delivered, and the Administrator will not be liable for the assets or any part thereof so distributed to any person or persons of whose claims or demands it shall not then have had notice.

DATED the 20<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2022

  
**COURTENAY COYE LLP**  
Attorneys-at-Law



## ATTORNEY GENERAL'S MINISTRY VACANCY NOTICE

Suitably qualified applicants are invited to fill the position of:

### DIRECTOR OF LEGAL ADVICE AND SERVICES CENTER

Applicants for the position of Director – Legal Advice and Services Center must be:

- a) an Attorney-at-Law qualified to practice law in Belize
- b) versed in preparing, vetting and drafting legal documents
- c) rendering legal advice to members of the public on legal issues
- d) in good health.
- e) a person who conducts himself at all times, both in his professional and in his personal life, in a manner that will maintain public confidence.

Experience and training required:

- a) Minimum of eight (8) years' experience as an Attorney at Law;
- b) Bachelor of Laws Degree from a recognized institution;
- c) Legal Education Certificate or its equivalent; and
- d) Minimum of three (3) years' experience in management.

Salary: pay scale 25 of \$47,624 x 1,644 - \$78,860 per annum

Interested persons may download an application package from the Attorney General's Ministry Website – [www.agm.gov.bz](http://www.agm.gov.bz) or submit in writing to:

**The Secretary, Judicial and Legal Services Commission**  
**Ground Floor, Sir. Edney Cain Building**  
**Thru' the Office of the Solicitor General**  
**Attorney General's Ministry**  
**Belmopan City, Cayo District Belize, Central America**  
**Telephone number: 822-2504 or 822-0519**  
**email address: [agsecretary@agm.gov.bz](mailto:agsecretary@agm.gov.bz)**

Deadline for receipt of applications: **September 30, 2022**

Applicants must submit proof of qualifications and two reference contacts along with application.

Note: Only suitably qualified applicants will be acknowledged. The Commission is not bound to make an appointment from among those persons who apply.

machinery that can extinguish humanity. As president of one of the most beautiful countries on earth, and one of the most bloodstained and violent, I propose to end the war on drugs and allow our people to live in peace. I summon all of Latin America for this purpose. I summon the voice of Latin America to unite, to defeat the irrational that tortures our body. I call on you to save the Amazon Rainforest in its entirety with the resources that can be allocated to life worldwide. If you do not have the capacity to finance the fund for the revitalization of the forests, if it weighs more to allocate the money to weapons than to life, then reduce the external debt to free up our own budget spaces and with them carry out the task of saving the humanity and life on the planet. We can do it ourselves if you don't want to. Just trade debt for life, by nature. I

propose and summon you to Latin America to do so, to dialogue to end the war. Do not pressure us to align ourselves in the fields of war. It is the hour of PEACE. Let the Slavic peoples talk to each other, let the peoples of the world do it. War is just a trap that brings the end of time closer in the great orgy of irrationality. From Latin America, we call on Ukraine and Russia to make peace. Only in peace can we save life in this land of ours. There is no total peace, without social, economic and environmental justice. We are at war, too, with the planet. Without peace with the planet, there will be no peace among nations. Without social justice, there is no social peace.

[fincasolan@gmail.com](mailto:fincasolan@gmail.com)  
September 23, 2022  
Finca Solana  
Corozal Town





VACANCY:JOB OPPORTUNITY

Applications are invited from suitably qualified persons to fill the following post in the Accounts Department. In the Port's continued effort to promote diversity both males/females are encouraged to apply for the available post.

Procurement Clerk

Reports to: Chief Accountant

**Summary of Responsibilities:** The Procurement Clerk He/She is responsible for all local and international purchases for the Port. Accurately prepare payment for payables and post accounts payable invoices, assist in the tendering process. File all payment vouchers, receipts and arrange to pick up orders when delivered. He/she works under the direct of the Chief Accountant with the supervision of the Accountant.

Job Responsibilities:

1. Responsible for International Purchasing Process
2. Process and monitor quotations on a timely manner
3. Process and issue all Purchase Orders including change orders
4. Prepare job costing for all International Purchases
5. Responsible to liaise with Vendors for timely delivery of shipments to freight forwarder
6. Follow up with vendors to honor commitments
7. Responsible to liaise with Broker for clearing of shipments from customs and delivery to stores
8. Responsible for all local purchases
10. Process and monitor quotations on a timely manner
11. Process and issue all Purchase Orders including change orders
12. Drive tendering processes
15. Comparison of quotes and preparation of total cost of ownership analysis
16. Deliver tangible cost savings through alternate vendor sourcing
17. Participate in vendor selection strategy
19. Responsible for posting Accounts Payable Invoices
20. Reconcile Supplier monthly Statement
22. Prepare payment for payables
24. Post daily issue of inventory into QBs Accounting system
25. Responsible for market and product research and cost analysis
26. Provide weekly order status report
28. Responsible for Filing of Purchases Records

Job Qualifications/Requirements:

- Minimum of Associate's Degree in Accounting
- 2 yrs. of Procurement experience

Skills/Competencies

- Strong command of accounting principles
- Able to work under pressure
- Maintain Confidentiality
- High level of integrity

**Compensation Package:** Will be commensurate (in accordance with the Company's Salary Structure).

**To apply:** Provide updated resume, cover letter (addressed to Human Resource Officer), copy of valid social security card, valid police report, vaccination card, name and phone number of two (2) previous employers.

Applications should be emailed to: [jobapplication@portofbelize.com](mailto:jobapplication@portofbelize.com)  
Closing date for receipt of applications is Friday, September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2022



ATTORNEY GENERAL'S MINISTRY  
VACANCY NOTICE

Suitably qualified applicants are invited to fill the position of:

DEPUTY REGISTRAR

Applicants for the position of Deputy Registrar – Belize Intellectual Property Office (BELIPO) must be:

- a) an Attorney-at-Law qualified to practice law in Belize or the Commonwealth
- b) versed and trained in Intellectual Property laws.
- c) in good health.
- d) a person who conducts himself at all times, both in his professional and in his personal life, in a manner that will maintain public confidence.

Experience and training required:

- a) Minimum of five (5) years' experience in intellectual property;
- b) Bachelor of Laws Degree from a recognized institution; and
- c) Minimum of five (5) years' experience in management

Salary: Based on qualifications and experience.

Interested persons may download an application package from the Attorney General's Ministry Website – [www.agm.gov.bz](http://www.agm.gov.bz) or submit in writing to:

**The Secretary, Judicial and Legal Services Commission**  
**Ground Floor, Sir. Edney Cain Building**  
**Thru' the Office of the Solicitor General**  
**Attorney General's Ministry**  
**Belmopan City, Cayo District Belize, Central America**  
**Telephone number: 822-2504 or 822-0519**  
**email address: [agsecretary@agm.gov.bz](mailto:agsecretary@agm.gov.bz)**

Deadline for receipt of applications: **September 30, 2022**

Applicants must submit proof of qualifications and two reference contacts along with application.

Note: Only suitably qualified applicants will be acknowledged. Commission is not bound to make an appointment from among those persons who apply.



Government of Belize

Basic Needs Trust Fund Tenth Project (BNTF10)

Consultancy Services for the Design and Supervision of Infrastructure Works for the Proposed Crique Jute ITVET Rehabilitation Sub-project, Crique Jute Village, Toledo District, Belize

Request for Expressions of Interest

The Government of Belize (GOBZ) has received financing from the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) in an amount equivalent to US\$5,031,000.00 towards implementing the BNTF10 Country Project and intends to apply a portion of the proceeds to eligible payments under a contract for which this invitation is issued. Payments by CDB will be made only at the request of GOB and upon approval by CDB, and will be subject in all respects to the terms and conditions of the Financing Agreement. The Financing Agreement prohibits withdrawal from the financing account for the purpose of any payment to persons or entities, or for any import of goods, if such payment or import, to the knowledge of CDB, is prohibited by a decision of the United Nations Security Council taken under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations. No party other than GOBZ shall derive any rights from the Financing Agreement or have any claim to the proceeds of the Financing.

The Belize Social Investment Fund (BSIF), the Executing Agency (EA), now wishes to procure consultancy services for the design and supervision of infrastructure works for the proposed ITVET Crique Jute Rehabilitation Sub-project, Crique Jute Village, Toledo District, Belize (*Large Sub-project*).

The objective of the consultancy is to provide technical support to the EA during the implementation of the BNTF10 Country Project. Consulting firms will be required to review existing designs and estimates (where available); advise on scope and adequacy of sub-project intervention; and provide detailed designs, summary estimates, and priced activity schedules. The work must consider thematic areas such as gender and environmental assessments, and shall seek to integrate disaster mitigation measures into designs. Consulting firms will also be required to provide technical inspection of construction works. The duration of the assignment is expected to be for a period of approximately twenty-four (24) months.

The BSIF now invites interested eligible consulting firms to submit Expressions of Interest (EOI) indicating qualifications and experience required to provide these Consultancy Services.

Consultants shall be eligible to participate if:

- (a) in the case of the body corporate, it is legally incorporated or otherwise organized in an eligible country, has its principal place of business in an eligible country and is more than 50% beneficially owned by a citizen(s) and/or bona fide resident(s) of an eligible country(ies) or by a body(ies) corporate meeting these requirements;
- (b) in the case of unincorporated firms, the persons are citizens or bona fide residents of an eligible country; and
- (c) in all cases, the consultant has no arrangement and undertakes not to make any arrangements, whereby any substantial part of the net profits or other tangible benefits of the contract will accrue or be paid to a person not a citizen or bona fide resident of an eligible country.

Eligible countries are member countries of CDB. Consultants are advised to review the detailed eligibility criteria detailed in Section 4 and conflict of interest provisions in Section 5 of the Procurement Procedures for Projects Financed by CDB (January, 2021), as published on CDB's website ([caribank.org](http://caribank.org)).

In the assessment of submissions, consideration will be given to consulting firms' technical competence, qualifications and experience in relation to providing detailed design and supervision services on education infrastructure projects, as well as local and regional experience, financial capability (liquidity ratio) and existing commitments. Key Experts will not be evaluated at the shortlisting stage.

All information must be submitted in English. Further information may be obtained from the first address below between the hours of 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Monday to Friday (Belize Time), except on Public Holidays.

The Expression of Interest must be received electronically at the first (BSIF) and second (CDB) address below no later than **2:00 p.m. (Belize time) on Monday, October 17, 2022**. The subject line of the email containing each submission shall be clearly marked **"BNTF10 - Expressions of Interest – Consultancy Services for the Design and Supervision of Infrastructure Works for the Proposed Crique Jute Rehabilitation Sub-project, Crique Jute Village, Toledo District, Belize"**.

Following the assessment of submissions, a short-list of not less than three (3) and not more than six (6) applicants will be provided with full terms of reference and invited to submit technical and financial proposals to undertake the assignment. Following the submission of proposals, a Consultant shall be selected by utilizing the Least Cost Selection (LCS) method. GOB reserves the right to accept or reject late applications or to cancel the present invitation partially or in its entirety. It will not be bound to assign any reason for not short-listing any applicant and will not defray any costs incurred by any applicant in the preparation and submission of Expressions of Interest.

Addresses:

1. Procurement Unit  
Belize Social Investment Fund  
3rd Floor  
#1902 Constitution Drive  
Belmopan  
BELIZE  
Tel. (501) 822-0239; Fax. (501) 822-0279  
Email: [submissions@sifbelize.org](mailto:submissions@sifbelize.org)
2. Procurement Officer  
Caribbean Development Bank  
P.O. Box 408  
Wilkey  
St. Michael  
BARBADOS, W.I.  
Tel. (246) 539-1600  
Email: [procurement@caribank.org](mailto:procurement@caribank.org)  
cc: [omar.bispat@caribank.org](mailto:omar.bispat@caribank.org)





**Government of Belize**  
**Basic Needs Trust Fund Tenth Project (BNTF10)**  
**Consultancy Services for the Design and Supervision of Infrastructure Works for the Proposed Hope Creek ITVET Refurbishment Sub-project, Hope Creek Village, Stann Creek District, Belize**  
**Request for Expressions of Interest**

The Government of Belize (GOBZ) has received financing from the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) in an amount equivalent to US\$5,031,000.00 towards implementing the BNTF10 Country Project and intends to apply a portion of the proceeds to eligible payments under a contract for which this invitation is issued. Payments by CDB will be made only at the request of GOB and upon approval by CDB, and will be subject in all respects to the terms and conditions of the Financing Agreement. The Financing Agreement prohibits withdrawal from the financing account for the purpose of any payment to persons or entities, or for any import of goods, if such payment or import, to the knowledge of CDB, is prohibited by a decision of the United Nations Security Council taken under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations. No party other than GOBZ shall derive any rights from the Financing Agreement or have any claim to the proceeds of the Financing.

The Belize Social Investment Fund (BSIF), the Executing Agency (EA), now wishes to procure consultancy services for the design and supervision of infrastructure works for the proposed ITVET Hope Creek Refurbishment Sub-project, Hope Creek Village, Stann Creek District, Belize (*Large Sub-project*).

The objective of the consultancy is to provide technical support to the EA during the implementation of the BNTF10 Country Project. Consulting firms will be required to produce designs and estimates (where available); advise on scope and adequacy of sub-project intervention; and provide detailed designs, summary estimates, and priced activity schedules. The work must consider thematic areas such as gender and environmental assessments, and shall seek to integrate disaster mitigation measures into designs. Consulting firms will also be required to provide technical inspection of construction works. The duration of the assignment is expected to be for a period of approximately twenty-four (24) months.

The BSIF now invites interested eligible consulting firms to submit Expressions of Interest (EOI) indicating qualifications and experience required to provide these Consultancy Services.

Consultants shall be eligible to participate if:

- (a) in the case of the body corporate, it is legally incorporated or otherwise organized in an eligible country, has its principal place of business in an eligible country and is more than 50% beneficially owned by a citizen(s) and/or bona fide resident(s) of an eligible country(ies) or by a body(ies) corporate meeting these requirements;
- (b) in the case of unincorporated firms, the persons are citizens or bona fide residents of an eligible country; and
- (c) in all cases, the consultant has no arrangement and undertakes not to make any arrangements, whereby any substantial part of the net profits or other tangible benefits of the contract will accrue or be paid to a person not a citizen or bona fide resident of an eligible country.

Eligible countries are member countries of CDB. Consultants are advised to review the detailed eligibility criteria detailed in Section 4 and conflict of interest provisions in Section 5 of the Procurement Procedures for Projects Financed by CDB (January, 2021), as published on CDB’s website (caribank.org).

In the assessment of submissions, consideration will be given to consulting firms’ technical competence, qualifications and experience in relation to providing detailed design and supervision services on education infrastructure projects, as well as local and regional experience, financial capability (liquidity ratio) and existing commitments. Key Experts will not be evaluated at the shortlisting stage.

All information must be submitted in English. Further information may be obtained from the first address below between the hours of 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Monday to Friday (Belize Time), except on Public Holidays.

The Expression of Interest must be received electronically at the first (BSIF) and second (CDB) address below no later than **2:00 p.m. (Belize time) on Monday, October 17, 2022**. The subject line of the email containing each submission shall be clearly marked **“BNTF10 - Expressions of Interest – Consultancy Services for the Design and Supervision of Infrastructure Works for the Proposed Hope Creek Refurbishment Sub-project, Hope Creek Village, Stann Creek District, Belize”**.

Following the assessment of submissions, a short-list of not less than three (3) and not more than six (6) applicants will be provided with full terms of reference and invited to submit technical and financial proposals to undertake the assignment. Following the submission of proposals, a Consultant shall be selected by utilizing the Least Cost Selection (LCS) method. GOB reserves the right to accept or reject late applications or to cancel the present invitation partially or in its entirety. It will not be bound to assign any reason for not short-listing any applicant and will not defray any costs incurred by any applicant in the preparation and submission of Expressions of Interest.

**Addresses:**

- 1. Procurement Unit**  
**Belize Social Investment Fund**  
**3rd Floor**  
**#1902 Constitution Drive**  
**Belmopan**  
**BELIZE**  
**Tel. (501) 822-0239; Fax. (501) 822-0279**  
**Email: [submissions@sifbelize.org](mailto:submissions@sifbelize.org)**
- 2. Procurement Officer**  
**Caribbean Development Bank**  
**P.O. Box 408**  
**Wilkey**  
**St. Michael**  
**BARBADOS, W.I.**  
**Tel. (246) 539-1600;**  
**Email: [procurement@caribank.org](mailto:procurement@caribank.org)**  
**cc: [omar.bispat@caribank.org](mailto:omar.bispat@caribank.org)**

**ATLANTIC INSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED**

Applications are invited from suitably qualified persons to fill the position of  
**ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE OFFICER**

- PURPOSE OF THE JOB:**
- **Manage Fractional Agreement Facilities.**
  - **Monitor/Manage Monthly Production Process for assigned Offices.**

- Key Responsibilities:**
- Ensure compliance with regulations and procedures.
  - Approve Fractional Agreements.
  - Call customer about their Fractional Agreements.
  - Prepare customer statements.
  - Review Production Review Checklist.
  - Update Refund Tracking System.
  - Daily Production Review for Assigned areas.
  - Preparation of various reports for submission to Accountant.
  - Liaise with Branch Managers and Sales Executive Team to ensure that all Fractional Agreement Facilities are current.

- QUALIFICATIONS**
- Minimum - Associate Degree in Business Administration or Accounting with at least one year working experience in accounting.

- SKILLS**
- Good customer service skills
  - Strong work ethic
  - Ability to work independently and as part of a team
  - Excellent communication and interpersonal skills
  - Excellent time management skills and self-motivation
  - Proficient in Microsoft Excel and Microsoft Word
- Additional Skills that would be an asset but not required*
- Bilingual in English and Spanish
  - Valid driver’s license

**DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF ONLINE APPLICATIONS ONLY IS**  
**FRIDAY 30 SEPTEMBER 2022**  
ALL APPLICATIONS MUST INCLUDE:  
TWO RECENT LETTERS OF REFERENCE ONE FROM PAST EMPLOYER  
AND A VALID POLICE RECORD AND PASSPORT SIZE PICTURE  
SEND APPLICATIONS AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS TO:  
**our website at: <https://aichelize.com/employment-application>**  
**Note: Incomplete applications will not be considered. Only short-listed applicants will be contacted for interviews.**  
**We thank you for your application**

**BY ORDER OF THE**  
**MORTGAGEES**

**Pursuant to The Belize Bank Limited Undertaking (Belize Bank Corporation Limited Operations) Vesting Act, 2021 and The Belize Bank Limited Undertaking (Belize Bank Corporation Limited Operations) Vesting Act (Appointed Day) Order, 2021, THE BELIZE BANK LIMITED,** a company duly formed and incorporated under the Laws of Belize with registered office situate at Second Floor, Matalon Business Center, Coney Drive, Belize City Belize (the “Bank”) acquired the undertaking of Belize Bank Corporation Limited (formerly Scotiabank (Belize) Ltd.).

The Bank thus hereby gives notice of its intention to exercise its power of sale under a Deed & Tansfer of Mortgage between Scotia Bank (Belize) Ltd of the one part and Miguel Arevalo (hereinafter called “the Mortgagor”) of the second part which was filed at the Land Titles Unit in Belmopan City on the 10<sup>th</sup> Day of July 2013 Instrument: LTU-201301304. The Bank will at the expiration of two months from the date of the first publication of this notice sell the property of the Mortgagors described in the SCHEDULES hereto.

**ALL** offers to purchase the said property must be made in writing to the Bank or to the undersigned from either of whom full particulars and conditions of sale may be obtained.

**THE SCHEDULE ABOVE**  
**REFERRED TO AS**

All that lot piece or parcel of land being Lot No. 61 containing 1223.609 square yards situate in St. Margaret’s Village, Cayo District, Belize, and bounded and described as shown by the plan attached to Minister’s Fiat (Grant) No. 303 of 2004 TOGETHER with all buildings and erections standing and being thereon.

Dated the 13<sup>th</sup> September 2022

**The Belize Bank Limited**  
**Second Floor**  
**Matalon Business Center**  
**Coney Drive,**  
**Belize City**





**Belize Water Services Limited  
and  
The Belize Water Services Workers  
Union**



## **Press Release**

***September 22, 2022-For Immediate Release:***

### **Memorandum of Understanding signed between BWS and BWSWU**

On Tuesday, September 20, 2022, Belize Water Services Limited (BWS) and Belize Water Services Workers Union (BWSWU) signed a Memorandum of



Understanding (MOU) to implement the newly revised Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA). The signing ceremony took place at BWS' Corporate Headquarters in Belize City.

Both parties, having recognized the expiration of the CBA dated November 1, 2018, embarked on the renegotiation of this agreement.

BWS and the Union have mutually and voluntarily agreed to the terms of the new CBA but recognize that it needs validation by the Labour Department before final signing. Once this is completed, the official signing of the new CBA will take place between BWS and BWSWU.

The terms of this new CBA will benefit over 250 employees for the next three years. This agreement aims to maintain and increase the good relations between BWS, Union and staff.


**BWS – Delivering Water and More ...**

*For more information regarding this or any other BWS Release, please contact:*

*Public Relations Department at Tel: 222-4757 Ext. 1405*

*Or via e-mail at [pr@bwsf.com.bz](mailto:pr@bwsf.com.bz)*





# KREM Television

## Program Guide

*Shoa Wiself, Si Wiself, Bee Wiself!!!*

Questions or comments may be forwarded via email to  
**Phone: 202-5848**      [kremtelevision@yahoo.com](mailto:kremtelevision@yahoo.com)

**Friday, September 30 to Thursday, October 6, 2022**

**FRIDAY**

6:30 a.m. **Wake Up Belize Morning Vibes (LIVE)**  
9:00 a.m. **Morning Stew (LIVE)**  
12:00 p.m. **Krem TV Evening News (repeat)**  
1:00 p.m. News Broadcast: Democracy Now  
2:00 p.m. Movie: Race  
3:30 p.m. **Wake Up Belize Morning Vibes (repeat)**  
6:00 p.m. **Krem TV Evening News (LIVE)**  
7:00 p.m. Ted Talks: The biology of gender, from DNA to the brain  
7:30 p.m. **Navel String Connections (repeat)**  
9:00 p.m. **Krem TV Evening News (repeat)**

**SATURDAY**

9:00 a.m. Documentary: Post Traumatic Slave Syndrome  
10:42 a.m. Movie: Emma  
12:47 p.m. Documentary: The Greatest Apex Predators on Earth  
1:24 p.m. Movie: Mandela's Long Walk to Freedom  
3:46 p.m. Documentary: Ted Talks: Faster Than a Calculator  
4:01 p.m. Movie: The Book of Revelation  
7:00 p.m. Documentary: Freedom Summer  
8:06 p.m. Music Videos

**SUNDAY**

10:30 a.m. **Sunday Review (LIVE)**  
12:00 p.m. Movie: Harriet Tubman  
12:55 p.m. Documentary: Deep Sea Creatures  
1:49 p.m. Movie: Selfie Dad  
3:26 p.m. Documentary: My Mysterious Places on Earth  
4:07 p.m. Documentary: Lost Civilization - Africa  
4:58 p.m. Documentary: How it's made - Butter, Silk, Soft Drinks, Toilet Paper, Sugar, Pringles  
5:30 p.m. **Sunday Review (repeat)**  
7:00 p.m. Sunday Jazz  
8:00 p.m. Music Videos

**MONDAY**

6:30 a.m. **Wake Up Belize Morning Vibes (LIVE)**  
9:00 a.m. **Morning Stew (LIVE)**  
12:00 p.m. **Krem TV Evening News (repeat)**  
1:00 p.m. News Broadcast: Democracy Now  
2:00 p.m. Movie: The Hate You Give  
3:30 p.m. **Wake Up Belize Morning Vibes (repeat)**  
6:00 p.m. **Krem TV Evening News (LIVE)**  
7:00 p.m. News Broadcast: Democracy Now  
8:00 p.m. Documentary: Internet Hackers  
9:00 p.m. **Krem TV Evening News (repeat)**

**TUESDAY**


6:30 a.m. **Wake Up Belize Morning Vibes (LIVE)**  
9:00 a.m. **Morning Stew (LIVE)**  
12:00 p.m. **Krem TV Evening News (repeat)**  
1:00 p.m. News Broadcast: Democracy Now  
2:00 p.m. Documentary: Our Disappointment  
3:30 p.m. **Wake Up Belize Morning Vibes (repeat)**  
6:00 p.m. **Krem TV Evening News (LIVE)**  
7:00 p.m. News Broadcast: Democracy Now  
8:00 p.m. Belizean Legend: Leonides Sanchez  
9:00 p.m. **Krem TV Evening News (repeat)**

**WEDNESDAY**

6:30 a.m. **Wake Up Belize Morning Vibes (LIVE)**  
9:00 a.m. **Morning Stew (LIVE)**  
12:00 p.m. **Krem TV Evening News (repeat)**  
1:00 p.m. News Broadcast: Democracy Now  
2:00 p.m. Movie: Harriet  
3:30 p.m. **Wake Up Belize Morning Vibes (repeat)**  
6:00 p.m. **Krem TV Evening News (LIVE)**  
7:00 p.m. Documentary: Metamorphosis\_ Amphibian  
7:30 p.m. **Navel String Connections (LIVE)**  
9:00 p.m. **Krem TV Evening News (repeat)**

**THURSDAY**

6:30 a.m. **Wake Up Belize Morning Vibes (LIVE)**  
9:00 a.m. **Morning Stew (LIVE)**  
12:00 p.m. **Krem TV Evening News (repeat)**  
1:00 p.m. News Broadcast: Democracy Now  
2:00 p.m. Documentary: The Killing of A Revolution  
3:30 p.m. **Wake Up Belize Morning Vibes (repeat)**  
6:00 p.m. **Krem TV Evening News (LIVE)**  
7:00 p.m. News Broadcast: Democracy Now  
8:00 p.m. Belizean Legend: Talita Long  
9:00 p.m. **Krem TV Evening News (repeat)**



# CROSSWORD

## PUZZLE

NEW PUZZLE

**Daily Printable Puzzle - 09-28-2022**

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
14							15			16			
17							18						
19						20	21			22			
23			24		25			26			27	28	
			29	30			31				32		
33	34	35				36					37		
38				39		40			41		42		
43					44			45		46			
47				48			49						
50		51	52				53			54	55	56	57
		58				59					60		
61	62				63			64	65	66	67		
68								69					
70													
				71				72					

**Across**

1. Sink the cue ball  
8. Marsh  
11. Half a dance  
14. Loire valley attraction  
15. Loud  
17. Study again  
18. Validate  
19. Afflicted  
20. London hrs.  
22. Exhaust, as strength  
23. Siva's consort  
25. Anhydrous  
26. Beijing belief  
29. Not even one  
31. Corvine sound  
32. Letter before rho  
33. Eye screen  
36. Arrest  
37. Afflict  
38. Historic time  
39. Friendly  
42. Kind  
43. Certainly may  
44. Bind  
45. Adjective with optimistic  
47. You and I  
48. Animal home  
49. Dignified manner  
50. Prof protection  
53. Beauty pack stuff  
54. Foolish  
58. Angry state  
59. Brewery sight  
60. Love, in a sense  
61. Hypothetical continent  
64. Dream up  
68. Articles  
69. Writes symbolically  
70. Black-eyed item  
71. Beaver or boater  
72. Talks and talks

**Down**

1. Theater drop  
2. Lobster claw  
3. Car race  
4. Breakfasted  
5. 1773 jetsam  
6. Cable chaser  
7. Feeling a need to eat  
8. Naughty child  
9. Clumsy clod  
10. Hearty laugh  
11. Welsh dog breed  
12. Buzz  
13. Ninny  
16. Breezy greeting  
21. Goodness gracious  
24. Cuckoo  
25. Conscripted one  
26. Half-size newspaper  
27. Equestrian's mishap  
28. Like some opals  
30. Cultural collection  
31. Airport sight  
33. Divide the deck again  
34. Banish blunders  
35. Author Amy  
36. Denial in Glasgow  
37. Affected manner  
40. 50's car feature  
41. A memorable Arden  
46. Author's last word  
48. Deliver a sermon  
49. Rebellion at sea  
51. Oriental assassin  
52. Advance an argument  
53. Univ. degree  
55. Band together  
56. Clementine's father  
57. Smile upon  
59. Far reaching  
61. Balloon sound  
62. Actor Vigoda  
63. Airport info  
65. 12-foot bird  
66. \$\$\$ dispenser  
67. Actress Rita

**Crossword answers for last edition**

The answers below are for the puzzle appearing in the last edition of the Amandala. The answers for the above puzzle will appear in next issue of this newspaper.

Daily Printable Crossword Puzzle - 09-20-2022 - Answers

E	R	E		S	I	A	N		H	A	M	L	E	T	
L	E	A		E	R	G	O		O	B	E	Y	E	R	
A	P	R		R	E	A	R		L	O	N	E	L	Y	
P	U	N	I	E	S	T			L	E	U				
S	L	E	D			E	G	O		T	O	U	R	S	
E	S	S	E	S			A	G	E		F	R	E	E	
S	E	T	A	E			A	D	J	E	C	T	I	V	E
				A	I	R			A	K	A				
M	A	E	L	S	T	R	O	M		V	O	T	E	D	
P	I	K	E		S	O	N			E	V	A	D	E	
G	L	E	E	S		Y	O	U			E	X	I	T	
				T	W	O		N	A	R	R	A	T	E	
H	U	R	R	A	H			F	I	N	E		B	I	N
U	S	A	N	C	E			L	O	T	S		L	O	T
B	E	T	A	K	E			U	N	I	T		E	N	S



# Dead fish vendor found on Chan Pine Ridge Road

CHAN PINE RIDGE, Orange Walk District, Mon. Sept. 26, 2022

A post-mortem examination was done on the body of 59-year-old Sergio Giovanni Valdez, a fish vendor whose body was found at about 6:00 a.m. on Thursday, September 22 on the Chan Pine Ridge Road. The postmortem results confirmed that Valdez, who was shirtless and had several facial injuries when he was found, died as a result of chop wounds.

According to ASP Fitzroy Yearwood, Communications Director of the Belize Police Department, Valdez’s death was caused by a spinal injury that resulted from chop wounds. ASP Yearwood also highlighted that investigators are canvassing the area and are pleading with the residents of the area to come forward with any information regarding Valdez’s death.



ASP Fitzroy Yearwood, Communications Director of the Belize Police Department

ASP Yearwood was asked by several reporters whether there are any surveillance cameras in the area which might have recorded the events which led to Valdez’s death. ASP Yearwood said that he is unsure whether cameras or proper lighting are in the area.

# BDF soldiers injured in crash were headed to military meeting

by Khaila Gentle

BELIZE CITY, Tues. Sept. 27, 2022

According to Belize Defence Force (BDF) Chief of Staff, Lieutenant Colonel Jermaine Burns, the BDF soldiers involved in a road traffic accident on Monday were headed to the northern border when the incident occurred. Burns said, in an interview with KREM News, that the soldiers were to be picked up by their Mexican counterparts at the border and taken into a meeting. But that never occurred, because, as we



reported in the Tuesday edition of *Amandala* this week, the vehicle that they were travelling in careened off the road somewhere near Mile 22 on the Philip Goldson Highway.

Burns said that other members of the BDF were participating in the conference when they learned that the vehicle overturned near the Maskall junction. The driver, reportedly, had lost control. The occupants of the vehicle, three soldiers, received multiple injuries, including to the head. They were, however, expected to be released from the hospital by Tuesday morning.

Whether or not the accident was caused by a vehicular malfunction is still being assessed. Lt. Col. Burns does not believe that speeding played a role in the accident, since the vehicle, considered a small class vehicle in the Belize Defence Force, was “an old vehicle”.



## MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND WELLNESS INVITATION TO BID FOR THE SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF COLD CHAIN EQUIPMENT

Institution: Ministry of Health and Wellness  
Country: Belize  
Project: Program to Support the Health Sector to Contain & Control Coronavirus and to Mitigate its Effect on Service Provision  
Loan No.: 5233/OC-BL  
RFB Tile: Supply and Delivery of Cold Chain Equipment  
RFB Number: BZ/MOHW/1036/22/CCE

1. The Government of Belize has received financing from the Inter-American Development Bank toward the cost of the Program to Support the Health Sector to Contain and Control Coronavirus and to Mitigate its Effect on Service Provision, and it intends to apply part of the proceeds of this financing to payments under the Contract for the Supply and Delivery of Cold Chain Equipment.
2. The Ministry of Health and Wellness now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for the Supply and Delivery of Cold Chain Equipment to be delivered to the Ministry of Health Headquarters in Belmopan City within 30 days from signing of contract.
3. The Request for Bids will be conducted through the International Competitive Bidding (ICB) procedures specified in the Inter-American Development Bank’s Policies for the Procurement of Works and Goods financed by the Inter-American Development Bank, and is open to all bidders from Eligible Source Countries as defined in the Policies.
4. Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from the Policy Planning and Project Management Unit, Ministry of Health at [pmu@health.gov.bz](mailto:pmu@health.gov.bz) copy: [ricardo.gongora@health.gov.bz](mailto:ricardo.gongora@health.gov.bz) and inspect the bidding document at the address given below from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Mondays through Fridays.
5. Qualifications requirements are listed below. A margin of preference for certain goods manufactured domestically shall not be applied. Additional details are provided in the Bidding Documents.  
If a Bidder is not a manufacturer, but is offering the Goods on behalf of the Manufacturer under Manufacturer’s Authorization Form, the Manufacturer shall demonstrate the below qualifications:
  - (i) The Bidder shall furnish Audited Financial Accounts for the last three years to demonstrate that it meets the financial requirement: of an Average annual turnover of not less than 1.5 times the bid price over the three years.
  - (ii) A minimum of two (2) contracts of similar scope, nature, type and of value to the offered goods executed in the last five (5) years supported by copies of delivery notes and Certificates of Acceptance and Good performance from previous clients. The Bidder shall include in its bid documentary evidence of contract performance in form of:
    - a. Copies of signed contracts/purchase orders,
    - b. Copies of signed delivery Notes / Goods received Notes
    - c. Copies of certificates of acceptance of the goods
  - (iii) Availability of adequate spare parts and after sales services for the equipment offered in the bid.
  - (iv) and the Bidder shall demonstrate that it has successfully completed at least two (2) contracts of similar goods in the past six (6) years.
6. A complete set of Bidding Documents in English may be purchased by interested bidders on the submission of a written Application to the address below and upon payment of a nonrefundable fee of BZ\$150.00. Payment of fees should be made to the **Government Treasury utilizing Fees for Bidding Documents - 18017/11617/130/24**. The receipt must be presented to the Office of the Policy Planning and Project Management Unit, Ministry of Health and Wellness Headquarters at the point of collecting the Bidding Document.
7. Bids must be delivered to the address below, at or before **11:00am on November 14, 2022**.
8. Electronic bidding will not be permitted. Late bids will be rejected.
9. All bids must be accompanied by a Bid Security of BZ\$9,000.00 or an equivalent amount in a freely convertible currency.
10. Bids will be opened in the presence of the bidders’ representatives who choose to attend in person or on-line at the address below at **11:00am on November 14, 2022**.
11. The address referred to above is:

Chief Executive Officer  
Ministry of Health and Wellness  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, East Block Building  
City of Belmopan, Belize  
Tel: 501-822-0992  
Email: [pmu@health.gov.bz](mailto:pmu@health.gov.bz)

# Brazilian national elected as new PAHO Director

Continued from Page 13

Federal University of Pernambuco, Brazil, and specialized in public health and epidemiology at the National School of Public Health, Oswaldo Cruz Foundation (FIOCRUZ) in Rio de Janeiro. He holds a Master’s degree in medical sciences and a Ph.D. in public health from the University of Campinas in São Paulo. Earlier in his career, he was Municipal Secretary of Health of Olinda, State Secretary of Health in Pernambuco, and Director of the National Center for Epidemiology (CENEPI) in Brasília,” a release from PAHO states.

He joined PAHO in 2007 and has served in various capacities before becoming Assistant Director.

This year, PAHO celebrates 120 years of service. Former directors include Dr. Mirta Roses Periago (2003-2013), Sir George Alleyne (1995-2003), Dr. Carlyle Guerra de Macedo (1983-1995), Dr. Héctor Acuña (1975-1983), Dr. Abraham Horwitz (1959-1975), Dr. Fred Soper (1947-1959), Dr. Hugh Cumming (1920-1947), Dr. Rupert Blue (1912-1920), and Dr. Walter Wyman (1902-1911).



# Former butane importers win claim against GOB

Continued from Page 1

Gas Co. Ltd., Southern Choice Butane Ltd., and Belize Western Energy Ltd. to compensate them for losses suffered when the government passed legislation that essentially designated one official importer of butane to the country: the National Gas Company. The companies, seeking to regain their place in the local butane industry, had also requested that the legislation, the National Liquefied Petroleum Gas Project (NLPGP) Act, be struck down, along with four other constitutional claims, but were only granted relief to compensate them for their losses claimed before the 2021 amendment of the 2019 legislation.

In her judgment, Justice Arana, who will soon ascend to the Court of Appeal, reasoned that the passing of the NLPGP Act amounted to an expropriation of the property once held by those companies which had dominated the industry for a considerable number of years, since they had engaged in importation of butane for countless years (three decades) prior to the passing of the legislation by the Barrow administration in 2019.

Those companies, which are Central American enterprises, thus lost their place in the industry after being supplanted by a single entity that is partially owned by government (25%), while private shareholders own 75%. According to remarks made by attorney Audrey Matura in 2020, the private entities with partial ownership include M and M Limited of Sittee Street; GA Roe and Sons, of Coney Drive; BELCO of Mile 63 of the George Price Highway; Gilbert Canton and Bowen and Bowen Limited. But she noted that the largest number of shares was held by an American-registered company by the name of B.W.T. Holdings LLP, whose address is listed as 164 Industrial Parkway, Jackson, Minnesota, U.S.A.

That new monopoly entity, the NGC, was given a 15-year tax break. A Belize Chamber of Commerce and Industry Policy Tracker stated in 2020, “In terms of exemptions, the Bill proposes to exempt the National Gas Company (Belize) Ltd. (the ‘Developer’) from duties, taxes and imposts levied or imposed under the likes of the Income and Business Tax Act, the General Sales Tax (GST) Act, Customs and Excise Duties Act, and the Exchange Control Regulation Act.”

“The direct effect of the exercise of legislative power in this at the bar is that, in one fell swoop, customers in Belize who formerly relied on the Claimants to provide their LPG needs for the past 30 years became customers of NGC, the sole importer licensed under both Acts to date,” Justice Arana’s written judgment states.

Last October, the Government of Belize moved to adjust the NLPGP Act, thus opening the door for importation by private entities under an amendment that allows a tendering process for butane importation.

This amendment involved the removal of section 5 of the original legislation which referenced the

exclusivity of the right to import that was granted to the NGC, which, in the view of the claimants, who were already in the industry, was a breach of their constitutional rights. The amendment was geared at instituting a tendering process to allow other companies to import butane, but the claims are that the standards set in the amendment are too high for the former importers to meet. Notably, under the amendment, LPG can only be imported through supervised tendering.

Today, when interviewed by reporters, attorney Audrey Matura, who was representing the former butane importers, outlined how difficult it would be for a company other than the NGC to meet those standards.

“So the law is saying now, okay, you could import. But you could import if you one of two things — the first one is you can build you own terminal that NGC has. The terminal has to be 1.5 million US gal. capacity and the terminal have to meet all the requirements that we say and we’ll give you a license. However, the reason it is unattainable is because, 1. NGC already has the leg up, 2. The market is not big enough for two terminals, 3. NGC got concession and tax exemptions, and so many investments from within the government.....and even after, if my clients go and invest in a facility, nothing in the law says that they will be given the license.” Matura said today.

In an interview today, Matura pointed out that a portion of Justice Arana’s judgement notes that had the law not been amended in October 2021 by the PUP administration, all claims made by her clients would have been successful.

“In my respectful view, if the original Act had remained unamended, the Claimants would have succeeded on all the issues raised in this claim, because the monopoly created by that original Act clearly violated all the Claimants’ constitutional rights as they have averred,” the judgement states.

During the interview, Matura noted, “What I notice has happened, it was a trend of the Barrow administration, that any time they are losing in court, they hurry change the law to win, and I was very disappointed that the Briceno administration would stoop so low to that kind of strategy as well, and so that amendment and they made that they believed cured everything could not have cured everything, because the main thing is, can these people really import?”

In November 2021, following the introduction of the amendments to the legislation, Matura had lamented, “It is at the point where we were making final legal submissions in writing and then we were to have oral submissions in December and the judge would give her decision in writing. But when we saw that this new legislation came out, of course we were shocked, because here we have a case that touches and concerns the very issue that this legislation is seeking to amend. And we were never consulted, our clients were never approached or anything. And so, we believe that it’s unfortunate that in Belize that the government is able to take the power of the legislature to try and undermine the actual process of

# 15 more migrants caught crossing Mopan River

BELIZE CITY, Wed. Sept. 28, 2022

The Police Department’s Mobile Interdiction Team (MIT) reportedly intercepted 15 Central American migrants attempting a pre-dawn crossing of the Mopan River yesterday morning. The group—consisting of 6 adult males, 5 adult females and 4 minors—was found near Paslow Falls in the Cayo District. They were trying to evade the checkpoint in Bullet Tree Falls when the MIT encountered them. The migrants, who are from Honduras, El Salvador, and Nicaragua, are currently in the custody of the Immigration Department and may face charges for illegal entry.

This week we reported on the detention of 27 Cuban migrants near the Belizean western border. Earlier this month, a group of 16 Cubans were in a boat that drifted toward the shore of Ambergris Caye after malfunctioning out at sea, and various other instances of the detention of Cuban and Central American migrants have been reported since the start of this year.

In April, the Government of Belize, through its Ministry of Foreign Affairs, noted an upsurge in the number of Cuban migrants since the reopening of the land border. There has been some friction between the Human Rights Commission in Belize and the government due to their differing approaches to managing this upsurge—with the government making claims that some Cuban nationals have utilized refugee programs in order to avoid



Some of the migrants detained; names and faces concealed (Photo: Courtesy 7News)

repatriation back to their home country. They reported in April that 13 Cuban nationals released to the Human Rights Commission following a court ruling in March fled from the shelter. Those persons never returned, and likely crossed the border.

Reports are that the current wave of Cuban migrants exceeds the number of migrants involved in the two largest waves, the Mariel Boat Lift in 1980 and the Balsero Crisis in 1994, combined.

The nation of Cuba has been hard-pressed by the unilateral US embargo in place since 1961, which was exacerbated by additional sanctions imposed by the U.S. at the height of the Covid-19 pandemic. Those additional sanctions, which include blockages on the procurement of life-saving medicines and medical supplies, have placed great strain on the country’s healthcare system.

The US embargo also resulted in a shortage of food across the island nation during that time, triggering in 2021 the largest anti-government protest since 1994.

# Armed robbers point gun at child at Fantasia Restaurant

by Charles Gladden

BELIZE CITY, Wed. Sept. 28, 2022

Police are currently carrying out an investigation into an armed robbery that took place on Monday afternoon, September 26, in the Yarborough area of Belize City at Fantasia Restaurant, whose owners saw the robbers point a gun at the forehead of their young son while they stole money and electronic items from the establishment.

The restaurant owner, Zhong Qian, 47, told police that at around 1:45 that afternoon, three men came to the window of his establishment and ordered a case of soft drinks, but to be able to pass the crate to them, he had to open the gate which secured the compound, and when he did



so, the men charged into the premises, where they proceeded to pull out a handgun.

One of the men then placed the firearm on the forehead of Qian’s son, and held it there while his accomplices proceeded to take an undisclosed amount of cash and several electronic items from the store.

So far, none of the three robbers have been apprehended.

the court.”

She had further remarked, “.... And the funny thing is that it is a propaganda that the government went on to say, ‘oh,

there will no longer be any monopoly’. That is a lie. There is a monopoly now





# Belize District claims National U13 Boys Elite Championship 2022

BELIZE CITY, Thurs. Sept. 29, 2022

After concluding home-and-away semifinals a week earlier, the Football Federation of Belize's (FFB) National U13 Boys Elite Championship was decided on Saturday afternoon, September 24, at the FFB Stadium in Belmopan where both the 3rd place game and the championship final were held as one-smash affairs.

Thankfully, though many fans were not aware in time, both games were televised by TNC10, and proved to be as exciting as anticipated by fans following the well contested semifinals. Indeed, there are some bright young stars in the making, and it bodes well for Belize's future in international competition.

### Semifinals re-cap

For a quick re-cap of the semifinals: Belize (District) U13 had prevailed, 3-1, over Stann Creek U13 in Dangriga; but the return match in Belize City was an exciting 2-2 draw, with Belize U13 gaining the aggregate 5-3 series victory. In the other semifinal series, San Pedro U13 had defeated Cayo U13 by a 3-2 score out at Ambergris Stadium; but in the return match at the Norman Broaster, Cayo U13 shelled San Pedro U13, 5-1, with 2 goals coming from Cayo star striker Marlon Meza, Jr. Cayo thus gained the 7-4 aggregate win and a spot in the championship final against Belize U13.

### 3rd Place game

The 3rd Place game was scheduled for a 1:00 p.m. kickoff on Saturday, September 24, at the FFB Stadium, and fans in attendance or viewing on TV were treated to a thrilling 2-2 draw in regulation time, after which San Pedro U13 were victorious in the penalty shootout by a 4-2 margin. Daniel Caliz (14' & 33') twice put his San Pedro team in front, but Stann Creek rebounded each time, through Jayan Avila (24') and Jayden Martinez (58'). Converting penalties for San Pedro were Daniel Caliz, Michael Richards, Ricky Fuentes and Kelvin Almendarez; while Elijah Flores and Jaren Fernandez converted for Stann Creek.

### Championship match

The big championship final which followed was a fitting climax to a well-organized competition that saw an impressive display of young football talents.

There was no live commentary in the TV telecast, so some fans might not have been aware that the games were being played in 3 periods of 20 minutes each, and a player could only appear in two of the three periods, so the coaches strategize with their rosters in periods one and two, and try to have all their best players on the field for the third and final period. The purpose of the rule is to emphasize participation by all players on the different team rosters, a priority at this young age; but the competitive nature of the players cannot be suppressed as the kids take the games very seriously, a few even brought to tears on their loss.



Belize U13 Elite – 2022 National U13 Boys Elite Champions



Photo by William Ysaguirre

Daniel Caliz of San Pedro U13 scored 3 goals in 3rd place match



Photo by William Ysaguirre

Cayo U13 Elite – 2022 National U13 Boys Elite Sub-Champions



Photo by William Ysaguirre

Gillygion Nunez of Belize U3 scored 3 goals in Finals



Photo by William Ysaguirre

Belize U13 stars, (l to r) Barrack Morey (MVP & Best Midfielder), Shane Vernon (Best Goalkeeper), Jacob Joseph, Gillygion Nunez (Finals hat trick) and Deon Meighan (Best Defense)

Despite the heroics of ball wizard/star striker Marlon Meza, Jr. (18' & 51'), who scored both goals for his Cayo U13 team

in the final, the Belize U13 overpowered



# PLB teams in mad scramble to reach playoffs

## Bandits still hopeful; strikers getting hot

BELIZE CITY, Thurs. Sept. 29, 2022

Only the top 4 teams in the regular season final standings will advance to the PLB Opening Season playoffs, and with 5 weeks of games remaining, along with a back match between Altitude FC and San Pedro Pirates FC, it is beginning to look like it will be a mad scramble to the finish line. (See current standings below.) Only defending champions Verdes FC remain undefeated at Week 9 of the Premier League of Belize (PLB) 2022-2023 Opening Season.

After going the first 8 weeks of competition without a victory, including 5 straight weeks without scoring a goal, cellar dwelling Bandits SC has suddenly sprung to life as the window slowly closes on their playoff dreams. Under head coach Shane Moody Orio, the young rebuilding Bandits team has been slowly developing their game, and in the past two weeks they have racked up a total of 6 goals as well as recording their first victory of the season, a 4-2 beating of Wagiya SC on Saturday night that included a hat trick from their new “big striker”, Jaren Lambey, a former Rookie of the Year who has been absent from PLB action for a few years. Always a formidable attacking force, Jaren’s game has apparently matured somewhat, adding a discernible measure of finesse to his powerful physical game. There are not many players of Jaren’s size and strength that also include in the package the skill, patience and wits of a top quality striker, which is what the Bandits squad has added to their arsenal at a critical juncture of this PLB tournament. With 5 more games remaining in their regular season, anything is possible; but they will face a huge hurdle on Saturday night when they visit Altitude FC and their league leading striker, Paraguayan Andres Orozco.

Another very interesting match-up this weekend will be Benque FC hosting undefeated Verdes FC. The picture has brightened lately for Benque FC, who are coming off an impressive come-from-behind 3-1 win over Port Layola FC at the MCC Grounds. Benque’s hopes will be riding high on their newly acquired Colombian striker Ayrtón Sisa who registered his first and the league’s second hat trick of the season, as he netted all 3 goals in Benque’s victory.

Meanwhile, the rookie Progresso squad have drawn their last 3 outings, against San Pedro, Bandits and Verdes, and will be looking to strengthen their grip on fourth place in the standings when they visit a struggling Wagiya team who will try to rebound from their shocking 4-2 beat-down by last place Bandits.

Elsewhere, San Pedro Pirates are not expecting big problems from Port Layola on the island, but they could be surprised by the talented new city team that is still searching for the elusive ingredient that might see their game machine start firing on all cylinders. Upcoming Week 10 PLB schedule:

Saturday, October 1

7:30 p.m. – San Pedro Pirates FC vs Port Layola FC – Ambergris Stadium

7:30 p.m. – Benque FC vs Verdes FC – Marshalleck Stadium

7:30 p.m. – Altitude FC vs Bandits SC – M.A. Stadium in Independence

Sunday, October 2

4:00 p.m. – Wagiya SC vs Progresso FC – Carl Ramos Stadium

(NOTE: The Altitude FC vs San Pedro Pirates FC back match was scheduled for last night Wednesday, but it rained out again and will have to be played at a later date.)



Photo by William Ysaguirre  
**Former PLB Rookie of the Year, Jaren Lambey blasted 3 goals in Bandits’ 4-2 win over Wagiya**



Photo by William Ysaguirre  
**Colombian import had a hat trick for Benque against Port Layola**

Premier League of Belize 2022-2023 Opening Season Standings at Week 9, Sunday, September 25, 2022									
TEAMS	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Diff	Pts	
Verdes FC	9	5	4	0	15	4	11	19	
Altitude FC	8	6	0	2	15	7	8	18	
San Pedro Pirates FC	8	4	2	2	9	5	4	14	
Progresso FC	9	3	3	3	9	9	0	12	
Wagiya SC	9	3	2	4	12	14	-2	11	
Port Layola FC	9	3	1	5	8	14	-6	10	
Benque Viejo FC	9	2	2	5	7	13	-6	8	
Bandits SC	9	1	2	6	7	16	-9	5	

# Belize District claims National ...

Continued from Page 25

them by a 5-2 score in regulation, including 3 spectacular goals from long range by Jacob Joseph (40’), Gillygion Nunez (40+1’) and Barrack Morey (43’). Gillygion had also scored the first goal for Belize U13 from a scramble at the 25th minute to equalize the score after Meza had given Cayo the lead in the first period; and Gillygion added their last goal from a header in injury time (60+’) to complete his hat trick in the final. In retrospect, the outcome might have been different, had a Cayo forward capitalized on perfect settings from Marlon Meza, Jr. who had twice evaded all the Belize U13 defenses and made a centering ground pass for a teammate who miss-kicked in front of an open goal. But such is football, and the Belize U13 squad are very deserving winners.

## Trophies and awards

FFB President, Sergio Chuc; Vice-President, Cruz Gamez; and Technical Director, Philip Marin were all on hand at the post-game ceremony to deliver 1st, 2nd and 3rd place team trophies as well as individual player awards.

Team trophy recipients: Champion – Belize (District) U13 Elite; Sub-Champion – Cayo U13 Elite; and 3rd Place – San Pedro U13 Elite.



Photo by William Ysaguirre  
**Best Forward & Most Goals – Marlon Meza, Jr. (Cayo U13)**  
**Best Midfielder & MVP – Barrack Morey (Belize U13)**

Individual awards were: Best Goalkeeper – Shane Vernon (Belize U13); Best Defense – Deon Meighan (Belize U13); Most Goals – Marlon Meza (Cayo U13); MVP – Barrack Morey (Belize U13); Best Forward – Marlon Meza Jr. (Cayo U13); Best Midfielder – Barrack Morey (Belize U13).

P.S. Head coach of the victorious Belize U13 squad was Eulalio Coc (at far left in team picture above) and his assistant was Shaunessy Briceño (at far right in picture).

Reliable sources informed us that Most Goals and Best Forward recipient Marlon Meza, Jr. is the son of former Belize semipro star Marlon “El Matador” Meza who won the Golden Boot (12 goals) at the FIFA Beach Soccer World Cup qualifiers in Nassau, Bahamas in 2017.

# Hurricane Ian devastates...

After early reports of substantial loss of life and widespread damage, President Biden has declared a major disaster in Florida. Officials are calling Ian one of the most powerful storms to hit the US in decades.

Continued from Page 1

along with it devastating storm surges and winds of up to 155 miles per hour (mph).

US President Joe Biden has said that Ian could possibly be the deadliest storm in Florida’s history. This comes after some early reports of substantial loss of life, reports ABC News.

By Thursday morning, Ian had weakened to a tropical storm, but it is expected to return to hurricane strength late Thursday night. As a result, there is currently a hurricane warning in effect for the entire state of South Carolina.

Moving at a relatively slow pace, Ian brought heavy rainfall to most parts of Florida with some areas, like Tampa and Orlando, receiving anywhere between 12 and 24 inches of rain. And according to the NOAA, areas along the southwest coast saw storm surges of up to 20 feet above ground level, accompanied by destructive waves.

“I think we’ve never seen a flood event like this. We’ve never seen storm surge of this magnitude, and it hit an area where there’s a lot of people in a lot of those low-lying areas, and it’s going to end up doing extensive damage to a lot of people’s homes,” said Florida’s governor, Ron DeSantis, in response to the widespread destruction caused by

flooding.

Ian has also left more than two million persons without power.

“You’re looking at a storm that’s changed the character of a significant part of our state. And this is going to require not just emergency response now, in the days or weeks ahead. I mean, this is going to require years of effort to be able to rebuild and to come back,” added DeSantis.

Just as Ian had made landfall near the island of Cayo Costa, DeSantis warned state residents of the catastrophic flooding that was to come, the *Washington Post* reports. He had also advised residents to treat Ian the way one would treat a tornado approaching their home.

Since the early hours of Thursday morning, emergency first responders have been hard at work carrying out search and rescue missions. President Biden has declared a major disaster in the state due to the destruction caused and has offered federal aid for local and statewide recovery.

On Tuesday, Ian struck Western Cuba. There, it left two persons dead and damaged buildings nationwide, BBC reports. The storm had also caused an island-wide power outage that affected some 11 million people. Two days later, power is finally, albeit slowly, being restored across the country.



# Gilbert “Bertie” Ellis celebrates his 106<sup>th</sup> birthday

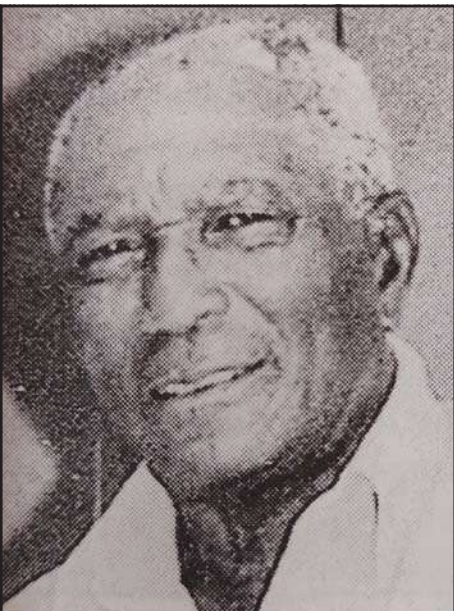
Continued from Page 3

under the banner of the association.

In a sit-down with AMANDALA in 2010, Ellis said that he enjoyed being a sports ambassador for Belize, and he reminisced on a visit to Mexico in the 1970s with his half-brother, Hubert Bradley. At the time, he said, the two brothers were part of a sports club in that country, and he recalled with pride that when they were playing in Vera Cruz, Mexico, the then president, Luis Echeverria, invited them to extend their stay.

When he was interviewed by AMANDALA in 2010, he had highlighted the fact that he was in good health – with no hypertension, no diabetes, [and] no arthritis – a blessing for which he expressed gratitude to the Creator.

On Tuesday, the Belize City Council posted birthday wishes for Ellis on their social media page, and Mayor Wagner personally delivered a birthday package to Ellis’ home.



A younger Gilbert “Bertie” Ellis

“We extend a big thank you to Mr. Bertie for welcoming us into his home and sharing such rich stories with us. We wish you nothing but love and happy days ahead,” said Mayor Wagner.

# Former butane importers win claim against GOB

Continued from Page 24

even more cemented in the new amendments that are being proposed. When I read the provision, it was as if they took our legal submission and for every point, they made an amendment. That’s how I see it. That is my personal view; It is to defeat something that’s already before the court. And I will say that with a bit of fear, because now I understand the level of power...”

At this time the National Gas Company stores all the butane it imports into the country at its marine bulk terminal at the Big Creek Port in Independence, Belize, and at two distribution depots, one in Belmopan and another in Orange Walk.

Lead attorney for the Government, Andrew Marshalleck, has told local media that only a fraction of what was being claimed by the companies was granted in the judgment. He further reasoned that while the approximately 11-million-dollar judgment may seem to be a staggering amount to the average Belizean citizen, on an industry level such an amount is just a drop in the bucket.

Marshalleck, after stating that “the compensation is the court’s estimate of the value of the goodwill that was taken and passed over to NGC when the law was passed,” pointed out the following to a 7News reporter: “... You also have to balance it against what was gained. If it were, for instance, that you were dealing with the compulsory taking of your national telecommunications company, and the challenge resulted in a 10-million-dollar award, you have to look at it in the overall context of the overall value of what was being dealt with. So, while you’re stunned by the 10-million-dollar figure - and that’s a lot of money for you and me, in terms of the industry, that might not be the case.”

A September submission outlined some new claims by the companies, but

those were not upheld by the court, since they were not substantiated, according to the presiding judge. The written submission of claims made in March 2021 was, however, upheld and is as follows:

Gas Tomza and Western Gas claimed \$1,963,441.28 for loss of wholesale clients. Gas Tomza also claimed \$2,120,698.00 for loss of sales from retail customers, and another 1,405,123.00 for loss of sales from distribution and its concession plant. Western Gas claimed \$574,105.00 for loss of sales from non-retail customers and \$572,402.00 from losses at bulk and wholesale and distribution and concession plant sales. Zeta Gas recorded a total loss of \$2,488,937.12. In addition to this, \$1,772,074.85 was paid to Belize Western Energy as damages for loss of goodwill.

No vindictory damages were awarded. The attorneys representing the claimants were Douglas Mendez, Senior Counsel; Audrey Matura and Jose Alpuche.

The government or claimants will have the option to appeal this judgment within the next 28 days—a possibility that Marshalleck said would be looked at closely. One of the attorneys for the former butane importers, Audrey Matura, said that they will follow the instructions handed down by the clients in regards to a possible appeal, but pointed out that the precedent set in this case should be of concern to all Belizeans.

“In terms of commerce, every business person doing business in Belize should be worried, because right now in the tourism industry the government could say, ‘okay, I don’t think everybody should just own their own hotel. I think there should be one government establishment for all hotel, and if you want to feed into our system, then we will allow you.’ You all have to see the implication,” Matura said.

“Literally you [the Belizean people]

# Czl taxi man/ex-cop robbed...

Continued from Page 1

area of the Corozal District a little before 7:00 p.m. last night. Residents of the area have reported hearing gunshots, and when police arrived they found the victim in an unconscious state with three apparent gunshot wounds.

His grey Toyota Corolla was missing — presumably stolen by the perpetrators. (It was later reported that the abandoned car was found in a cane field.) Also missing were a silver bracelet, ring, and chain that belonged to Flowers, and his wallet and black Alcatel cell phone were also not found.

Flowers, who was a police officer prior to becoming a taxi driver, was identified by his common-law wife, Barbara Acosta, shortly after the

discovery of his body. He was last seen alive at the Corozal Venus Bus line taxi union parking lot, where the person who requested his services approached him. Of note, the person was reportedly riding a bike when he arrived, and Flowers reportedly placed the bike in the trunk of his car, and drove off to the purported destination with the victim.

One of Flowers’ daughters told local reporters that her father typically stopped providing taxi services at 6:00 p.m. daily, and would only have given a ride to someone he knew. She thus believes that the person who approached her father was someone with whom he was acquainted.

No one has yet been arrested in connection with this recent murder. Police are investigating.

# BDF and GAF meet ...

Continued from Page 6

there will be representatives from the maritime element at this meeting tomorrow. Now, what is being said at the diplomatic level, I’m not sure. I haven’t been privy to that,” Burns said, adding that he is sure that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has been engaging its counterpart in Guatemala.

This week, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Hon. Eamon Courtenay, told 7News that they have verbally protested the illegal incursion into Belizean waters by the Guatemala military, and that they have also “lodged a strongly worded written protest.” He also said that the flags that were taken by the GAF would be placed back in Belizean custody today and that Prime Minister Briceño briefed the OAS Secretary General personally on the matter yesterday. Hon. Courtenay further indicated that he has invited the foreign minister of Guatemala to meet in Lima, Peru, next week to discuss the incident and other

matters.

Those matters are to include the incursion on Belizean land by residents of an adjacent village on the Guatemala side of the border, Barrio El Juda. For some years now, Guatemala nationals from the village have been crossing over into Belizean territory, which is located about 20 miles from the Xunantunich archeological site. Some buildings erected by the villagers on Belizean land have been dismantled with the permission of the OAS, but more structures are being placed in the area, and clearings are being seen.

At this time, no illegal cattle ranching is taking place in the area, but other parts of land near the border are used as pastures illegally. Recently, the Friends for Conservation and Development (FCD) and BDF met to devise a strategy to address this issue of illegal cattle ranching in Belizean territory, which has been carried out to a large extent in protected areas for a number of years.

# PRESS PREDICTIONS

The sports psychic speaks



Continued from Page 12

on top of his game right now. They will have home field advantage throughout the post season. Albert Pujols has hit 700 homeruns. He came out with the St. Louis Cardinals and will finish his



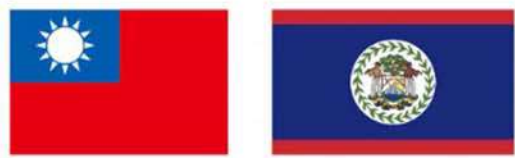
Albert Pujols

career with them, he becomes the fourth player in Baseball History to hit 700 homeruns. The other 3 players are Hank Aaron, Babe Ruth and Barry Bonds. A lot of players hit over 600 homeruns. The Cardinals will win their division over the Milwaukee Brewers, then the New York Mets will edge out the Atlanta Braves for the East Division. In the American League, the Houston Astros will have the best record, the New York Yankees will win the East. Aaron Judge hit 60 homeruns already. He also has over 130 RBIs. The Cleveland Guardians was the Indians. They have not won a World Series from 1948. They will beat out the Minnesota Twins and the Chicago White Sox. Next week more stats and post season predictions.

are the big losers here. You’re the big losers because, at the end of the day, one government started a monopoly and the second government continued it because nobody will be able to come and invest that 60 million that NCG said they paid for that facility,” she said.

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## Taiwan Brings New Trade Opportunities to Belize

The Embassy of Taiwan in Belize and the Taiwan External Trade Development Council (TAITRA) are pleased to announce the participation of 30 Taiwanese enterprises in the Taiwan Expo 2022 in Belize, held from 7-9 October at Caribbean Motors in Belize City. (7 Oct by invitation, 8-9 October is open for the public)

2022 marks the 33rd anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic ties between Taiwan and Belize. The Taiwan Pavilion will offer the latest products with useful items for Belize's industry, including the solar power system EPC, bending machines, stainless steel parts, optical transceiver modules, casters, auto parts, multi-purpose tricycles, wiper blades, headlamps, a cloud video monitoring solution, NVR security systems, tablets, LED lighting, furniture, knife sharpeners, the vision plus cool & warm water-propelled eye massager, health foods, planetary food and cake mixers, teas, bubble teas, skin series, jewelry, bags, electric fans, fitness equipment, and so on.

TAITRA will showcase the Taiwan Excellence Award winners, whose high-quality innovative products are imported from Taiwan, including laptops, smart watches, HD handheld wireless projectors, wireless teaching cameras, curved gaming screens, massage chairs, and much more. All products are manufactured by world-renowned Taiwanese brands such as Asus, MSI, and TATUNG.

Throughout the three-day event, TAITRA will facilitate opportunities for mutual exchange and collaboration between Taiwanese and Belizean enterprises. This event not only provides local enterprises the unique opportunity to meet Taiwanese delegates and discuss possible business cooperation but also facilitates closer trade ties between Taiwan and Belize, along with other countries in the Caribbean and Central America.

According to Bureau of Foreign Trade, Republic of China statistics, Taiwan's bilateral trade with Belize was US\$11.92 million in 2021, representing 76.279% growth from 2020. Taiwanese exports to Belize include ships, boats and floating structures, nuclear reactors, boilers, machinery and mechanical appliances, electrical machinery, machinery equipment, and parts thereof. There are tremendous opportunities for trade between Belize and Taiwan.

The Embassy of Taiwan and TAITRA warmly welcome enterprises interested in Taiwanese products to visit the Taiwan Expo 2022 in Belize and to leverage this fantastic opportunity to meet Taiwanese enterprises. For more information about the Taiwanese delegation, please contact us at:

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