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**BELIZE CITY, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2022** 

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# BBA operators call out Transport Department

BBA members want secured bus run permits for their fleets after reports that the new bus line, Floralia Bus Company, has been allowed to engage in cherry-picking of runs.



(l-r) Thomas Shaw, president, BBA and Ewart Metzgen, secretary of the BBA

BELIZE CITY, Thurs. Sept. 15, 2022
This afternoon the Belize Bus
Association (BBA) held a press
conference to inform the public of
developments in the transport industry
that are a source of major concern –
foremost of which is purported
approval of more bus run permits for a
recently formed bus company, Floralia,
which many operators believe is
receiving preferential treatment from the
Transport Department. The company,

which had initially been authorized to do runs in the southern part of the country, has reportedly now received permits to carry out runs in the north and west of the country, but longstanding operators have pointed out that Floralia has been in essence "jumping in line" and taking passengers that would otherwise be transported by the bus lines that have worked for years

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# Bird Flu confirmed in Blue Creek

Officials have stressed that poultry and eggs are still safe for human consumption. To tackle the outbreak, BAHA has been controlling the movement of poultry and poultry products from affected farms.

by Khaila Gentle

BELIZE CITY, Thurs. Sept. 15, 2022

For the first time in almost seven years, an outbreak of Avian Influenza has been identified in the country—this time in the poultry population of a farm in the Blue Creek community. According to Dr. Miguel

Depaz, Director of the Animal Health Department at the Belize Agricultural Health Authority (BAHA), that farm has been placed under quarantine, and



further testing is being done at other farms in northwest Belize, with results

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# Bevans to get \$770,000 for "wrongful termination"

The Belize Tourism Board will have to pay close to 1 million dollars in damages following the Supreme Court's ruling in favor of Karen Bevans' wrongful termination lawsuit; counter and ancillary claims filed by the BTB were dismissed.

by Marco Lopez

BELIZE CITY, Wed. Sept. 14, 2022 The former Director of Tourism, Karen Bevans, will be collecting close to eight hundred thousand dollars from

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Karen Bevans, former Director of Tourism

# Illegal cattle ranching plaguing the Chiquibul

by Khaila Gentle

BELIZE CITY, Tues. Sept. 13, 2022 Chief of Staff for the Belize Defense Force (BDF), Lt. Col. Jermaine Burns, says that illegal cattle ranching has been plaguing the Chiquibul area out west for three years now. In an effort to address the ongoing issue, the BDF and the organization Friends for

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

# KHMH celebrates 27 years

See story on page 3

# **September Celebrations Abound!**



by Khaila Gentle

BELIZE CITY, Tues. Sept. 13, 2022

The month of September is halfway over, and the festivities are in full swing. The past two weeks of events make up only a fraction of the National Celebrations Commission's extensive September Celebrations Calendar, but all can be said to be true embodiments of the chosen theme for this year.

### **Giving Our Heroes Their Flowers**

The Living Legend Concert held on September 9th saw Belize's King of Calypso, Lord Rhaburn, honored for his invaluable contribution to Belizean culture and heritage. The National Celebrations Commission, along with the Belize City Council, inaugurated the Lord Rhaburn Plaza beside the Memorial Park in honor of the beloved musician.

Gerald "Lord" Rhaburn, 86 years old, is a pioneer in calypso, brukdown, and



King of Calypso, Lord Rhaburn

St. Martin's Community Fest, a tribute to calypso legend Lord Rhaburn, and the return of the fire engine parade are among the highlights for this year's September Celebration events so far.

soca in Belize, with many of his hit songs having solidified themselves as a staple in the country's September celebrations. The tribute to him is one of the many ways in which the Ministry of Culture has been making an effort to honor local legends or "give them their flowers"—while they are alive.

### A Martin's Fest to Remember

The Saint Martin's Community Fest has quickly become a much-anticipated annual event for persons living in Belize City, and this year, the festival's post-pandemic return saw its largest turnout yet.

The festival, held on Sunday, was a day of clean fun for all ages and featured performances from a wide range of

> Belizean artists, many of whom have roots in the Saint Martin de Porres area. Entertainers included Supa G, Ernestine Carballo, King Rome, TR Shine, Britney Starr, and Cocono Bwai.

> According to KREM Radio DJ and host of the event, Brick City, Martin's Fest was previously set to occur in June, but after being postponed due to circumstances out of his control, the event ended up taking place in September.

"It originated in June. And then we pushed it back and we were going to do it in July as well when there was a state of emergency—which felt bad for me, because, as the organizer, and the brain behind it, I didn't see why that should have affected us in any way ... but again we have to follow all protocols, so we did that and we're back again," he said.

Now, the DJ is hoping that the festival can find a permanent home on the September calendar, alongside all the other celebrations.

"It's good. They say good things come to those who wait, because I wish and I pray now that they put it eena the September calendar fi the celebrations," he added.

### **Concerts Galore**

September 20th, 2022 will see the longawaited return of the Belize Soca and Culture Festival, with famed musicians Kes the Band, Nadia Batson, and Baby Cham headlining the Independence Day Eve event. The days leading up to Belize's Independence Day, however, have also seen their fair share of concerts, including on September 9th when local artist Lova Boy graced the stage along with Jamaican singers Tanya Stephens and Christopher Martin.

This past Saturday, the Belize City Council hosted its 10th of September Bram 2022, which featured an array of local entertainers and musicians, including singer Brithney Starr, steel pannist Alexander Evans, and the Cumbia Boys Band.

# Bird Flu confirmed in Blue Creek

Continued from Page 1

expected to return anytime this week. There are already preliminary indications that the virus had been detected on one other farm—in Shipyard. When asked by 7News' Jules Vasquez about the sense of urgency in ensuring containment of the virus at one farm, Depaz said, "It's actually two farms. We have detected another farm. We sample another farm that was having some problems in Shipyard and that farm came out positive also."

Depaz said on Wednesday that samples had been taken from the Blue Creek farm after it was observed that a number of chickens were dying. The samples were then sent to the University of Georgia in the United States, after which BAHA enacted its emergency response plan.

"As you know, Avian Influenza is the most serious poultry disease. And despite having said 'poultry', there is a potential for zoonosis, meaning that it also has the potential to be transmitted to humans," he stated.

BAHA received confirmation that the samples had tested positive for Bird Flu on September 9. The strain of the disease identified was subtype H5.

Avian Influenza viruses can be categorized into two groups—highly pathogenic and low pathogenic. According to the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), most H5 viruses are low pathogenic viruses. Occasionally, however, some highly pathogenic H5 viruses—which have the potential to severely impact poultry industries—have been detected.

"All H5 and all H7 are of concern [to BAHA] and more so to the poultry industry because it is known that it is those subtypes that really affect poultry," said DePaz.

At the moment, the pathogenicity of the strain identified in Blue Creek has not yet been confirmed by BAHA. Further pending studies will reveal the virus's exact genetic makeup. Depaz did note, however, that so far 1,000 birds have died. "From 25,500 birds they are down to about 24,000, so [they] have lost over one thousand birds. The pathogenicity we don't know what it is, despite the mortality only being 4% maybe. That is already alarming, regardless of what anybody says. You don't want to lose a thousand birds."

The source of the outbreak is believed to be a batch of imported hatching eggs, from which farms in both Blue Creek and Shipyard received stock. This, however, will also be confirmed with further testing. "Now we can suspect that the origin might be the US, but when we do the genetic sequence of the virus we will know," Depaz said.

BAHA has already begun to implement its mitigation strategies. A Cabinet brief released on Thursday noted that the government had approved the measures

recommended by the organization for controlling and eradicating the disease. Those measures include the depopulation of birds from affected farms, checkpoints to control the movement of poultry and poultry products from affected farms, and increased surveillance in communities where there is a presence of the disease.

Depopulation at the Blue Creek farm which houses just under 25,000 birds—is expected to take place this week, if it is found that the outbreak is severe, and, according to DePaz, it will be done humanely.

In Thursday's brief, Cabinet also noted that the Minister of Agriculture, Hon. Jose Abelardo Mai, had reassured them that there is no shortage of poultry products in Belize at this time. Hon. Mai, however, did state on Wednesday that there will be no movement of live birds and eggs until adequate testing of farms has been completed.

"We cannot slaughter animals for human consumption if they are not tested," he said.

While depopulation will have an impact on the poultry industry, it may be the most effective measure for mitigating the spread of the disease. And, according to Armando Cowo, the President of the Belize Poultry Association, there would be no immediate impact on consumers.

Cowo and DePaz have stressed that poultry meat is still safe for consumption. Under BAHA's emergency response plan,

all birds entering the slaughterhouse must test negative and layer birds must test negative before their eggs can be commercialized. As a result, processed poultry is still being allowed to move out of the country. The movement of live birds out of farms, however, is being controlled.

Cowo, while commending BAHA for its immediate response to the suspected virus, has said that he believes the health authority may be acting too quickly in wanting to begin depopulation. He added that, following scientific protocol, BAHA should wait until it receives the final confirmation from its reference labs in the US. The Poultry Association, however, remains cognizant of the fact that Avian Influenza demands quick action.

BAHA is hoping to avoid a complete lockdown of the communities that produce the majority of the country's poultry, as that would prove devastating.

"You need to allow activities but without compromising the situation—in other words, if I will allow birds to move out of Blue Creek, I need to test them. I need to ensure that they are negative. So, that is what we need to do. A total lockdown would kill the industry up north," DePaz said.

In December 2015, an outbreak of Avian Influenza originating in Spanish Lookout village led to the culling of some 60,000 birds and approximately \$6 million in losses for the poultry industry after a total of seven months.

# One-time holiday for the Queen's burial

BELIZE CITY, Wed. Sept. 14, 2022

Buckingham Palace has announced a Public and Bank holiday on September 19, 2020, for the State Funeral of Queen Elizabeth II. Commonwealth member nations have followed suit, with Belize issuing an announcement yesterday, Tuesday, September 13, confirming that it too in the United Kingdom on that day.

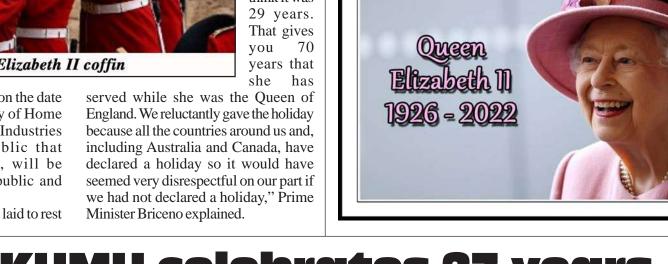
During an interview this morning, Prime Minister John Briceno stated that the government is aware that some members of the business community will object to the additional halt in their business activity, but that the administration, though reluctant, made the decision to declare Monday a holiday

> as a gesture of respect. " W e reluctantly gave you

holiday because the Queen has served Belize as its Queen for 41 years, and as a colony I think it was 29 years. That gives 70 years that

will be observing a holiday on the date of the funeral. The Ministry of Home Affairs and New Growth Industries advised the general public that Monday, September 19, will be observed as a "one-time public and bank holiday." Queen Elizabeth II will be laid to rest







# <u>Notice</u>

Our advertisers, sellers and readers are advised that due to the holiday on Monday, September 19, in honor of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, there will be no online Tuesday issue of the newspaper next week.

The Friday issue will hit the streets on Friday, September 23, 2022



# KHMH celebrates 27 years



BELIZE CITY, Thurs. Sept. 15, 2022

The Karl Heusner Memorial Hospital (KHMH) celebrated its 27th anniversary of service to the country today. The hospital has been providing medical care to the Belizean population since 1995

when its doors were first opened. Since then, it has become the national referral hospital, and the apex tertiary care institution countrywide. The hospital's administration hosted a ceremony of appreciation today to thank the staff for

"Today, we have a lot to boast about, and with the dedication of our staff, and their awesome ability to rise to the occasion despite the greatest of challenges, and the support of the board and the Ministry of Health and Wellness, we will have a lot more achievements. Our people need us, and we must answer the call," CEO of the KHMH, Chandra Cansino said.

their invaluable work over the years at the hospital.

Minister of Health and Wellness, Hon. Kevin Bernard, and Prime Minister Hon. John Briceño were both in attendance.

"I still remember vividly when this institution was inaugurated—Karl Heusner Memorial Hospital. I was two years in politics at that time. I think it's the late Reuben Campos was the Minister of Health, and I was in such awe to be here in this brand new hospital at that time, state of the art, and feeling that somehow this institution is going to play a very important role in the development of our country," PM Briceño remarked.

With around 700 KHMH employees catering to the population of 400,000, and in light of the increased demand for services that has stretched thin the hospital's resources and staff, the PM agrees that supporting the institution is more important than ever.

"The KHMH continues to be our flagship hospital in this country, and after 27 years we can see that the wear and tear that this hospital has been going through, and the equipment, and even with the staff that has been working so hard, and if we don't give back the love, if we

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VALIANT AND BOLD, PROUD AND STRONG!
BELIZE REBOUNDS @41!

# **BBA operators call out Transport...**

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to establish the runs in those areas of the country.

In December 2021, Floralia commenced its busing operation after having received approval to carry out three runs in the south of the country which had prompted a loud outcry from bus operators in southern Belize. President of the Belize Bus Association, Thomas Shaw, told local media that during conversations he had had with the purported principals of Floralia, they had indicated that they would not seek any additional runs. But letters from the bus lines to the Minister of Transport and the Transport Department have indicated that the operators know otherwise –and are pointing to a state of affairs that could result in a financial/operational death blow for those operators already struggling to upgrade their fleets.

"The Northern route is saturated at this time, and the application of Floralia from San Ignacio to Corozal, and making it stop in Belize City will affect my 4:45 p.m. workers run. Morales Transport is asking the Transport Board to re-consider Floralia's application, since it will strongly affect an established run," stated a letter from Elma Morales, owner of Morales Transport.

A letter from Westline's general manager, Usbaldo Castillo states, "As mentioned in meetings held on Monday, August 29th in Belmopan and September 2nd, 2022 in Belize City between the Belize Bus Association (BBA) members and the Belize Department of Transport senior officials, we, all the bus operators in attendance, verbally disagreed with the consideration for approval of Floralia's application submitted to the Belize Department of Transport."

"By allowing Floralia Bus Co. to run on the intended time as per the application submitted, that would be financially detrimental to the current bus operators," Westline's letter continued.

And while the president of the BBA says they are not opposed in principle to competition, nor to the added comfort offered to Belizean travelers/commuters by the new bus line, they are concerned about the financial security of longtime operators who have worked for years to establish their routes. Most of those five major operators are currently in the process of upgrading their fleet of buses, in compliance with the demands of the Ministry of Transport. Shaw says the approval of additional Floralia runs will make the possibility of doing so even more difficult.

"We as an association will not stand up to see no newcomer come into the industry and infringe on the well-being of our existing operators, and as I said, we are here today to object," Shaw said.

"Whenever a person apply for a run, it has to be gazetted three consecutive times. Well, this one has been gazetted, but from before it was even gazetted we have been objecting to it, and we are still – because the permit has been deferred until next month - so we are here to make a stand and to say, 'Minister, please reconsider bringing in a newcomer," Shaw went on to state.

He noted that there are a number of runs that are not being serviced, and pointed out that those are the ones toward which Floralia should be directing its focus instead of "cherrypicking" runs that already exist.

"Remember, the first bus will be leaving out of Benque Viejo at 4 o'clock. Now, Silva's run commences at 2:30 in the morning, all the way to 4:45, so you are inserting this operator right in front of Silva's bus. Then, whenever it gets to Belmopan, remember we have buses coming from the south — whenever you get into Belize City, you have the Tillett, you have other bus company, you have BBOC that is going to the north. On the return, it's the same thing, you are inserting an operator into a slot where there is no space, and you are trying to make space for them, but all you are doing, you are compounding the problems. "Shaw said.

Ultimately, the Department of Transport would be responsible for any disruption or reallocation of runs, and Secretary of the Belize Bus Association, Ewart Metzgen, noted that their objections to the proposed Floralia runs are linked directly to the department's request for an upgrade in buses.

runs is because, in order for us to get existing runs that we have, the monies that we make off those runs, we have to show those; we have to show our figures to the bank. Now, if Floralia da wa newcomer now, and di time weh they di get wan deh 15 minutes ahead of you, in particular bus run weh you mi done have for showing them, 'Okay, I mek \$800 offa this one run, fi show this da how come I could pay for my loan', now you put Floralia 15, 20 minutes front ah me, nuh care weh they wa say, ih nuh wa affect deh da wa different service, you wa di affect da man. So da revenue wah cut from 800 dollars to four, five hundred dollars. Now this is the basis why we are objecting, because they want we to improve, but they do strangle we inna wa way." Metzgen said.

He went on to mention that the operational manager from the Department of Transport gave Floralia approval to allow standees on the bus coming out of Dangriga.

Metzgen then stated that for it to be feasible for bus operators to carry out an upgrade of their fleet, they would need to get 10-year permits for the fleet of their buses. As for Floralia, they would have to take the runs that are not currently being serviced by the established operators, since the system, according to the operators, is already saturated.

Metzgen accused the Department of Transport of creating this problem in the industry.

"Before they gone and put dey foot inna deh mouth, now they di consult with we after all this happens, they should ami come to we inna the first place before weh we deh part we deh, and maybe the thing mi wa different, but we di try fix something, and the problem we di try fix da wa problem weh they create," Metzgen said.

For now, the BBA is calling on the Department of Transport to cease the issuance of new permits until a study is conducted of the runs currently approved across the country.

"Why we truly the object to the Floralia these new buses that they want, the front of you, and before they come, that your paper sent out fi ker inna the bank

### **Ashanti Thompson** is applying for a Restaurant Bar Liquor License to be operated at Trasha's Grill, Airport Road Ladyville, Belize, under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 2000.

**VACANCY** 

VACANCY: I, Geane Gordon, have a

vacancy for babysitting. Phone: 622-

**LIQUOR LICENSE** 

**NOTICE** 

**LIQUOR LICENSE NOTICE:** 

Notice is hereby given that Shamra

3058

a Dear Wife, Mother, Grandmother, Aunt and Friend

### MILLICENT PRICILLA TIMMINS MICHAEL

Who departed this earthly life 35 sad years ago.



Sunrise: 24th January, 1936 Sunset: 21stSeptember, 1987

When we remember your smile It brightens our day, and Thoughts of your warmth and Love seem to smooth the way. Your gentle spirit is still with us though you are gone. Our hearts still ache with sadness,

And many tears still flow. What it meant to lose you, No one will ever know, We hold you close within our hearts, And there you will remain.

To walk with us throughout our lives, Until we meet again. Your life was a blessing,

Your memory a treasure. You are loved beyond words And missed beyond measure. We have a beautiful Angel in Heaven

watching over us and she is our Mother. Sleep on Dearest Mother, Until we meet again.

Deeply missed by her husband Reginald, Children: Gilbert, Yvonne, Esther, Milton, Martin, Joy, Ronald, Frederick, Stephen, Karen, and Inez, grand and great grandchildren, nieces, nephews and a host of other relatives and friends.





# The state of our economy and its engines, 2022

Today, just a few days before Independence Day 2022, we are much better off than we were two years ago when we were in the full grip of the Covid-19 pandemic. A popular independence song says "we've come a long way", and we certainly have since that day when the head of the World Health Organization, Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, declared that the world had to shut down to stop the spread of the SARS-CoV-2 virus.

The present government, under the leadership of Hon. John Briceño, has won considerable relief for the country with the conversion of the Super Bond, an albatross, into the Blue Bond, a conservation agreement that has won acclaim across the globe. The previous government claims that they did all the groundwork, that the new government only had to sign on the dotted line, but the people don't care a whit about that. We remember that a PUP government got us into the mess, and a UDP government chose to kick it down the road, a decision which cost us hundreds of millions of dollars. We are thankful that where our foreign debt is concerned, we can breathe a little easier.

All indicators say our economy, which was not in a good place prior to the pandemic, is yet to get back to where it was in March 2020. Our country had experienced three successive quarters of diminished growth in 2019, and by the year of the pandemic, a single engine, tourism, was supplying 50% of the power to our economy. The citrus trees were bare, farmed shrimp were dying, and the oil wells in Spanish Lookout were down to a trickle. Banana, sugar, and marine production were steady, and unspectacular. Only tourism continued to grow.

Throughout 2022 the tourism industry has been rebounding, while most of our other main industries remained stable, and oil production continued to dwindle. The proposed new growth industry, marijuana, has been put

on pause, but livestock production is on the increase, and so is the savior of our educated young people, BPOs.

There are several initiatives that are positively impacting our standard of living. Looking at the most important ones, the GOB has increased support for small entrepreneurs in the urban and farming sectors, starter houses are being built at heavily subsidized prices for financially deprived Belizeans, and the government is working hard to provide house lots and small plots for landless Belizeans.

On the eve of Independence Day #41, our economy isn't firing on all cylinders, and no one blames the present government, when all the factors are considered. The PUP was elected to make all of us win, and effectively the party has three years to deliver on that promise, the first two having been spent on getting us to where we were pre-pandemic. With 60% poverty in the country, the people desperately need their government to deliver.

A better path to satisfy our immediate needs

Forty-one years after independence, Belize still can't meet the basic needs for good food

and shelter for the majority of its people, and that many years of failure should have told us that our economic model doesn't work. Incredibly, many near to or in the power structure of our country insist that we need to attract more foreign investors to Belize, when all the main engines of our economy are already either largely or wholly owned/controlled by foreigners.

We have been severely burnt by foreign investment at times, our worst case of foreign investment regret being the BTL case, where foreigners came in and took over a company we had built, and then trampled us. We have done much better with public borrowing from abroad, to build roads and bridges and other necessary infrastructure.

Many of our farmers wish we had developed our agro-industries in a way similar to how the fishing industry was developed, with Belizean money. Our leaders argue that growing from the ground up is slow, and the needs of our country's more deprived citizens must be addressed quickly. For our immediacy, they say we can't do without private foreign investment, and we have seen our leaders embarrass themselves chasing after foreigners for their money for the quick fix.

It behooves our leaders to get a better understanding of foreign investors. Their business is to make money for their shareholders. Their business is to gobble up the lion's share, while we scramble for the crumbs that they can't prevent from falling off the table. The end is always the same. They take the wealth, a few local elite enjoy the sweets, and the masses get stuck in hand-to-mouth jobs.

Foreign investment does have a role to play in our country, but this independence is about us, and we had better get it in our heads that the present formula isn't serving Belize. In this present economic system, we sell our raw goods and prized environment to earn foreign dollars, and then we turn around and waste the little we get on imported food and luxuries, instead of investing it in the tools of production. In this present economic system, our government has difficulty enacting a \$5 minimum wage law.

We need to change course, find a better way to address our urgent needs. The GOB needs to establish/invest in farms, get directly involved in the production of food, and sell it at heavily subsidized prices to lower-income families. That would ensure that our people are eating wholesome food, food that our country doesn't have to expend US dollars to buy. We shouldn't worry about cutting out our Mennonite group. They can take care of themselves. We shouldn't worry about our small farmers either. Lower-income families aren't buying their products anyway. Lower-income families are buying Ramen, and chicken sausage.

The GOB needs to start building homes for lower-income families out of local materials. We must establish hemp farms and explore the utilization of unpopular woods, and our abundant clays. We shouldn't worry about our business people who import cement and steel. Lowerincome families can't buy their materials anyway. We shouldn't worry about sales of readymade Mennonite houses. Lower- income families can't afford to buy those anyway. We must expand the beautiful starter homes program.

We can do it. There are Belizeans who have the know-how, and we can find the labor. One source is the Kolbe Foundation. While continuing the present programs at the institution for our men and women who have run afoul of the law, we can also put them to work on these projects, to pay for their keep AND make restitution to those persons they have wronged.

Police constables, messengers and lower-tier clerks in the public service, trainee teachers, laborers, domestic workers, shop employees, and the unemployed are the groups that would qualify for the heavily subsidized food. These initiatives will have direct, positive impact on our standard of living without upsetting our economy where it works for some. Sufficient wholesome food and good housing will translate to better health, and healthier people will do better in school and at work.

The answers to our problems are within, not without. Happy Independence Day, Belize!



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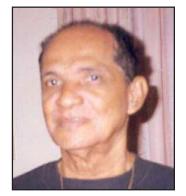
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Lewis George "Buck" Belisle

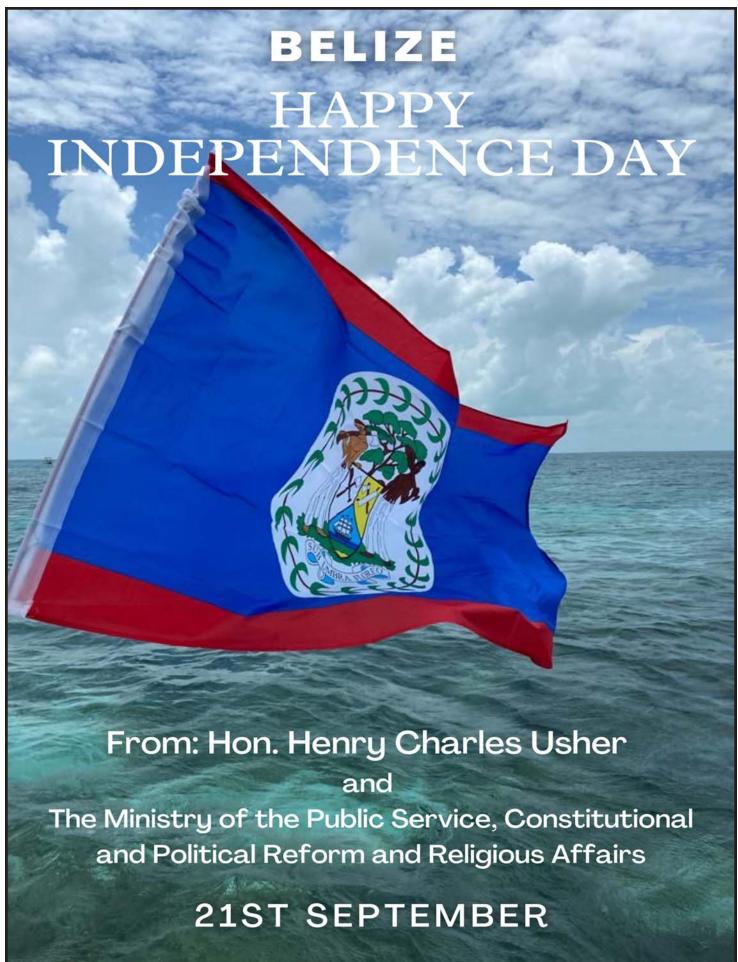


Born: June 17, 1922 Died: September 17, 2008

I'd like the memory of me
To be a happy one.
I'd like to leave an afterglow of smiles when life is done.
I'd like to leave an echo
That's heard along the way,
Of happy times and laughing times,
And bright and sunny days.
I'd like the tears of those who grieve,
To dry before they fall.
For I am happy with Lord,
And it was worth it all.

Fourteen years later, still sadly missed by children, grandchildren, and a host of other relatives and friends.





### **PUBLIC AUCTION SALES: PROPERTIES**

Placencia, Stann Creek District & San Lorenzo Road Area; San Jose Palmar, Orange Walk 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 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. Parcel No. 1164 Maya Beach Area, Placencia, Stann Creek District:



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
Placencia North	36	1164

2. Parcel No. 3128 of San Lorenzo Road, Orange Walk District:



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
Ann Gabourel	4	3128

3. Parcel No. 1228 Orange Walk Bypass Road, San Jose Palmar, Orange Walk District:



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
San Jose Palmar	4	1228
The freehold property of Mr. Juan	Montano	

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# El estado de nuestra economía y sus motores, 2022

Hoy, solo unos días antes del Día de la Independencia de 2022, estamos mucho mejor que hace dos años cuando estábamos bajo pleno control de la pandemia de Covid-19. Una popular canción de la independencia dice "hemos recorrido un largo camino", y ciertamente lo hemos hecho desde aquel día en que el jefe de la Organización Mundial de la Salud, Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, declaró que el mundo tenía que cerrarse para detener la propagación del virus SARS-CoV-2.

El actual gobierno, bajo la dirección del Honorable John Briceño, ha ganado un alivio considerable para el país con la conversión del súper bono, un albatros, en el Bono Azul, un acuerdo de conservación que ha sido aclamado en todo el mundo. El gobierno anterior dice que hizo todo el trabajo preliminar, que el nuevo gobierno solo tuvo que firmar en la línea punteada, pero a la gente eso no le importa un comino. Recordamos que un gobierno PUP nos metió en el lío, y un gobierno UDP optó por patear la pelota hacia adelante, una decisión que nos costó cientos de millones de dólares. Estamos agradecidos de que en lo que respecta a nuestra deuda externa, podamos respirar un poco más tranquilos.

Todos los indicadores dicen que nuestra economía, que no estaba en un buen lugar antes de la pandemia, aún no ha vuelto a donde estaba en marzo de 2020. Nuestro país había experimentado tres trimestres consecutivos de crecimiento disminuido en 2019, y para el año de la pandemia, un solo motor, el turismo, estaba suministrando el 50% de la energía a nuestra economía. Los árboles de cítricos estaban pelados, los camarones de cultivo se estaban muriendo y los pozos de petróleo en Spanish Lookout se habían reducido a un goteo. La producción bananera, azucarera y marina era constante y poco espectacular. Sólo el turismo siguió creciendo.

A lo largo de 2022, la industria del turismo se ha estado recuperando, mientras que la mayoría de nuestras otras industrias principales se mantuvieron estables y la producción de petróleo continuó disminuyendo. La nueva industria de crecimiento propuesta, la marihuana, se ha puesto en pausa, pero la producción ganadera va en aumento, al igual que el salvador de nuestros jóvenes educados, los EPN.

Hay varias iniciativas que están impactando positivamente nuestro nivel de vida. En cuanto a los más importantes, el Gobierno de Belize ha aumentado el apoyo a los pequeños empresarios en los sectores urbano y agrícola, se están construyendo viviendas de arranque a precios fuertemente subsidiados para los beliceños económicamente desfavorecidos, y el gobierno está trabajando arduamente para proporcionar terrenos de casas estándar y pequeñas parcelas para beliceños sin tierra.

En la víspera del Día de la Independencia # 41, nuestra economía no está funcionando a toda máquina, y nadie culpa al gobierno actual, cuando se consideran todos los factores. El PUP fue elegido para que todos ganaramos, y efectivamente el partido tiene tres años para cumplir esa promesa, los dos primeros se gastaron en llevarnos a donde estábamos antes de la pandemia. Con un 60% de pobreza en el país, la gente necesita desesperadamente que su gobierno cumpla.

# Un mejor camino para satisfacer nuestras necesidades inmediatas

Cuarenta y un años después de la independencia, Belize aún no puede satisfacer las necesidades básicas de buena alimentación y vivienda para la mayoría de su gente, y esos muchos años de fracaso deberían habernos dicho que nuestro modelo económico no funciona. Increíblemente, muchos cerca de o en la estructura de poder de nuestro país insisten en que necesitamos atraer más inversionistas extranjeros a Belize, cuando todos los principales motores de nuestra economía ya están en gran parte o en su totalidad controlados por o son de propiedad de extranjeros.

En ocasiones, la inversión extranjera nos ha quemado gravemente, nuestro peor caso de arrepentimiento de la inversión extranjera es el caso BTL, donde los extranjeros entraron y se apoderaron de una empresa que nosotros habíamos construido, y luego nos pisotearon. Nos ha ido

mucho mejor con los préstamos públicos del extranjero, para construir carreteras y puentes y otras infraestructuras necesarias.

Muchos de nuestros agricultores desearían haber desarrollado nuestras agroindustrias de una manera similar a como se desarrolló la industria pesquera, con dinero beliceño. Nuestros líderes argumentan que crecer desde cero es lento y que se deben abordar rápidamente las necesidades de los ciudadanos más desfavorecidos de nuestro país. Para nuestra inmediatez, dicen que no podemos prescindir de la inversión extranjera privada, y hemos visto a nuestros líderes avergonzarse persiguiendo a extranjeros por su dinero para la solución rápida.

Corresponde a nuestros líderes obtener una mejor comprensión de los inversores extranjeros. Su negocio es ganar dinero para sus accionistas. Su negocio es engullir la parte del león, mientras nosotros nos peleamos por las migajas que ellos no pueden evitar que se caigan de la mesa. El final es siempre el mismo. Ellos toman la riqueza, una pequeña élite local disfruta de los dulces, y las masas se quedan atrapadas en trabajos básicos.

La inversión extranjera tiene un papel que desempeñar en nuestro país, pero esta independencia se trata de nosotros, y es mejor que nos metamos en la cabeza que la fórmula actual no está sirviendo a Belize. En este sistema económico actual, vendemos nuestras materias primas y nuestro preciado medio ambiente para ganar dólares extranjeros, y luego damos la vuelta y desperdiciamos lo poco que recibimos en alimentos y lujos importados, en lugar de invertirlo en las herramientas de producción. En este sistema económico actual, nuestro gobierno tiene dificultades para promulgar una ley de salario mínimo de \$5.

Necesitamos cambiar de rumbo, encontrar una mejor manera de abordar nuestras necesidades urgentes. El Gobierno de Belize necesita establecer/invertir en granjas, involucrarse directamente en la producción de alimentos y venderlos a precios fuertemente subsidiados a familias de bajos ingresos. Eso garantizaría que nuestra gente coma alimentos saludables, alimentos que nuestro país no tenga que gastar dólares estadounidenses para comprar. No debemos preocuparnos por eliminar nuestro grupo menonita. Pueden cuidarse solos. Tampoco debemos preocuparnos por nuestros pequeños agricultores. Las familias de bajos ingresos no están comprando sus productos de todos modos. Las familias de bajos ingresos están comprando ramen y salchichas de pollo.

El Gobierno de Belize necesita comenzar a construir viviendas para familias de bajos ingresos con materiales locales. Debemos establecer granjas de cáñamo y explorar la utilización de maderas impopulares y nuestras abundantes arcillas. No debemos preocuparnos por nuestros empresarios que importan cemento y acero. Las familias de bajos ingresos no pueden comprar sus materiales de todos modos. No debemos preocuparnos por las ventas de casas menonitas prefabricadas. Las familias de bajos ingresos no pueden permitirse comprarlas de todos modos. Debemos expandir el hermoso programa de viviendas de arranque.

Podemos hacerlo. Hay beliceños que tienen el conocimiento y podemos encontrar la mano de obra. Una fuente es la Fundación Kolbe. Mientras continuamos con los programas actuales en la institución para nuestros hombres y mujeres que han infringido la ley, también podemos ponerlos a trabajar en estos proyectos, para pagar su manutención Y hacer restitución a aquellas personas a las que les hayan hecho mal.

Agentes de policía, mensajeros y empleados de nivel menor en el servicio público, profesores aprendiz, obreros, trabajadores domésticos, empleados de tiendas y desempleados son los grupos que calificarían para los alimentos fuertemente subsidiados. Estas iniciativas tendrán un impacto directo y positivo en nuestro estándar de vida sin trastornar nuestra economía donde funciona para algunos. Suficientes alimentos sanos y una buena vivienda se traducirán en una mejor salud, y las personas más sanas tendrán mejores resultados en la escuela y en el trabajo.

Las respuestas a nuestros problemas están dentro, no fuera. ¡Feliz Día de la Independencia, Belize!

# **Belize Police Department holds** award ceremony



Some of the Police officers that was awarded

by Charles Gladden

BELMOPAN, Wed. Sept. 14, 2022

On Tuesday, September 13, a total of 296 police officers received awards of recognition at a ceremony held by the Belize Police Department at the National Police Training Academy in Belmopan.

There were several award categories,

including a medal that was given to officers who have served over 18 years in the department without committing any serious disciplinary infraction. A total of 175 officers received that medal. Additionally, 72 officers received first clasp medals and 24 received second clasp medals for completing 25 and 30 years of service, respectively, and 19 officers were honored with the

meritorious service award and 6 with distinguished service

award for carrying out their duties in an outstanding way within the society.

In addition to the police officers who received awards, over 50 civilians were

Commissioner of Police, Chester Williams at the award ceremony

Governor General of Belize, Dame Froyla Tzalam, awarding

also awarded for training and assisting the police within the community.

A moment of silence was also observed for those officers who would have been award recipients but had passed away. An officer who would have been awarded at Tuesday's ceremony is Superintendent Henry Jemmott, who would have served 25 years in the department. (Jemmott was fatally shot while sitting on a pier with Jasmine Hartin, ex-partner of Andrew Ashcroft, in May 2021.)

"It's a time for us to also recognize and give thanks to those fallen officers. Certainly, their service did count prior to their passing. And it was only fitting that we took a moment of silence in their honor as well as in honor of the Queen who passed away last week. I would like to take the opportunity to thank the family of those fallen officers for having loaned them to us during the time that they were with us for the exemplary work that they did. And certainly yes, Mister Jemmott, had he been alive, he would have been one of the awardees as well today," said the Commissioner of Police, Chester

Commissioner of Police, Chester Williams noted at the ceremony that such awards serve as a morale-booster. "... We made sure that we did the due diligence, that we awarded those who are entitled. Again, there is a lot that needs to be done to ensure that the officers meet the requirements of the award," he said.

"We live in a society where the negative is always given credence over the positive. I've always said to my officers that to every bad a policeman would normally do, there are hundreds of good that other police officers are doing. But the good that we do is never highlighted, only the bad that we do, and it was with that spirit that I said to the PR office that there is a need for us to be more aggressive in selling the good that police do. And I would wish that the media would help in that respect, the same way you are always quick to highlight the bad, which we have no issue with, we'd also be happy if you can also highlight the good that we do," Williams further said.

### **PUBLIC AUCTION SALE: USED OFFICE** EQUIPMENT, TOOLS & VEHICLES

Zeta Gas Depot Miles 13 Ladyville Phillip Goldson Hwy

BY ORDER of the Supreme Court, Licensed Auctioneer Robert Cadle J.P. will sell the following on site, used office equipment, tools and vehicles on Saturday, 17th September 2022 at 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm Zeta Gas Depo Mile 13 Ladyville, Phillip Goldson Hwy.

**NOTICE:** All used **OFFICE EQUIPMENT** below will be sold together as follows:

- 1 COMPUTER DESK W/BURGANDYOFFICE CHAIR
- 2 WOODEN OFFICE DESK W/2 BLACK OFFICE CHAIR
- 3 COMPRESS WOOD & METAL COMPUTER DESK W/3 OFFICE CHAIRS
- 1 ACER MONITOR & DELL CPU COMPUTER W/AOC BATTERY BACKUP
- 1 AVANTI WATER COOLER
- 2 SAMSUUNG COMPUTER SET W/HP DESKJET INKADVANTAGE PRINTER
- 1 DELL LAPTOP W/ HP LASERJET 1300N PRINTER
- 1 AOC BATTERY BACKUP

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- 1 GALS SPRAY PUMP FUMIGATION
- 2 B450 SHINDAIWA WEED EATER
- 1 CHAINSAW
- 2 TOOLCRAFT ALUMINIUM LADDER
- 1 METAL SQAURE STORAGE BOX W/LAMTOP, VECHICLE 1 METAL PRESS STANDING W 2TON JACK SCANNER, DEWALT STONE GRINDER, & 20# **EXTINGUISHER**
- 1 BLUE METAL TABLE
- 1 TOOLCRAFT VACUUM CLEANER
- 1 BRIGGS & STRATION 950 PRESSURE WASHER
- 1 BLACK TROLLEY JACK
- 1 BLUE CHAIN PULLEY (CHAIN INCLUDED)
- 1 2 STEP ALLUMINIUM LADDER
- 1 SM FUMIGATION PUMP
- 1 2TON PITTSBURGH JACK/ HEIST
- 1 SCHUMACHER BATTERY CHARGER & MAKITA METAL **CUT OFF SAW**

- 1 STONE GRINDER & YELLOW TROLLEY JACK
- 1 METAL PIPE PRESS & GENERATOR
- 1 ACETYLINE KIT W/TANK LPG TANK, HOSE & CART W/3 AIRHOSES
- 1 MILLER THUNDERBOLT XL WELDING MACHINE
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- 1 BZ A 4008 1996 INTERNATIONAL TRUCK
- 1 BZ A 4009 1996 INTERNATIONAL TRUCK
- 1 BZ A 4066 1999 CHEVROLET SILVERADO PICKUP
- 1 BZTO271TRAILOR
- 1 BZ A 4213 2013 PEGASUS TRUCK
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- 1 BZ A 4634 2019 CHANGAN MINI TRUCK
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(SEPTEMBER 21, 2022)



Rt. Hon. George Cadle Price The Born: January 15, 1919 - Died: September 19, 2011

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# Things to bat about, things fixed in stone

by Colin Hyde

If having the crown as head of state means nothing, we have to ask our leaders why less than 2% of our national product is spent on our military yearly. It is true that swearing allegiance to the Queen, King is not a defense guarantee; however, certain people will think twice, thrice, four times before they insult the Crown. True, when they were in their worst days they defiantly rattled sabers, but we don't need to go into all the explanations for their bully behavior. What we have to look at is investing 20% of our resources on our military.

We are not Barbados and Jamaica and Antigua. Bully for countries that have no enemies in this world. Belize has a lot to talk about. People like me at any age would have no problem with 20% of our budget going to defense. People like me have no problem living off tortilla and beans. Our problem is that we'll direct 20% of our budget to defense, and our fat cats will still want to drive SUVs and holiday in Miami.

Here's something else to talk about. All these countries talking about removing the Crown, they must know that's the first step in dismantling the Commonwealth. Who makes up the Commonwealth? They are countries that were abused by the British. Yes, a big part of the common in Commonwealth is that Winston Churchill lorded over all of us. Good

and bad, we were all British-ized. We all speak English, and we all have the laws and the political system of the British. Oh, and everyone got football.

Please, the above are bullet points, things to bat about. Aha, here's where I'm glued in my position. Madaz, look how these preventers of the 11<sup>th</sup> amendment gave the PUP an excuse for not implementing the reform section of their Blu Plan. These intellectuals who backed us into this Constitution Commission have delayed the urgent changes we need to make, will delay the entire reform section of the Plan for 10, 20 years.

And the one they saved has absolutely no gratitude. How has he repaid his saviors? Thus far, we've heard insults for Cuba and Venezuela, we've heard turning a blind eye on Israel's transgressions, and we've seen a big rolling over for Waterloo and Vulcan.

### Don't trust men with selfish ambitions, and don't go soft on innocents

Could someone please tell me what Mike Pehreh is doing between Shyne Barrow and John Saldivar? We're familiar with the saying "birds of a feather flock together", but we all accept that more apt in party business is the saying "politics makes strange bedfellows." So, Mike Pehreh being so

unlike that pair doesn't make him out of place. However, one can't bed down with just anybody. There must be some circumspection to our choices; because we don't want fleas we won't share a blanket with a dog, and because we don't want anyone complaining about our boozing, we'll not drink with pigs.

No, no, no, I'm not equating any political leader with common animals, I'm just being illustrative. There, I'm sure you got my point. Bah, if Pehreh doesn't recognize the nature of the two gentlemen he is hanging with, then, with apologies to Mr. Jinnah and the saying's originator, I must inform him that he is an innocent between two thorns.

More than the leadership ambition, Pehreh is in it for the theater. In a country with a vibrant movie industry, that brother would be a shoe-in for roles in the kitchen, at the dining table, or as a bad, rich guy with tons of swagger. In a Krismos role, nobody could play a better Santa. Aha, this brother loves to have the lights shining his way.

Sure he has his share of wikidnis, all of us do, and quién sabe if he isn't more wikid than most, but all we have to go on are our public experiences, and what we have from that is that under this brother's brash there's a warmblooded human. The two thorns aren't. Those two thorns are cold, calculating fish who have set their greedy eyes on our prize, and they're using Pehreh to get it.

I thought it was hubris that damned Pehreh in Freetown. Remember, Francis and the PUP were on the ropes in 2008. One of these days a political party will deservedly get whitewashed at the polls. If Pehreh was any relation to Derek Aikman, Freetown would have been his, signed, sealed and delivered. It was only his humanness, a kind of childish zeal to play macho that sunk

The people of this country deserve, need a functional opposition party. And Mike P is operating with a badly malfunctioning calculator. The UDP probably can use those two guys he is propping up, but for now they are bench material, not stars. Have you noticed that no credible third party leader has come within a 10-foot pole of linking up with the party in its present

Is it true that Ms. Audrey is

forming a people's movement? Audrey is from deep in the belly of that red beast. A former senator for the Reds, and editor of the party's newspaper, this would be the moment for her to steal Sam Waight's line and "come home to the UDP." You'll never catch me betting on dice or pitti pat; there's nothing sure about those games, but I'd put up everything I have that datideh present configuration cannot bring Audrey back into the fold.

I think Pehreh is not taking this matter seriously enough. Trust me, it's no laughing matter. What's happening here is the reason we must beware of innocent men as much as selfish ones. Ouch, you know what innocent men will say after they have been used and the deed is done, after disaster has overtaken us. Sorry. That's a good word at a tea party, maybe, but when we are talking about the people's bread and their political affairs, sorry, I'm sorry but that ain't good enough.

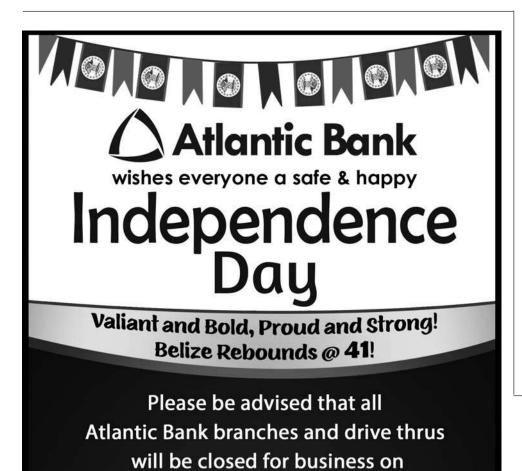
### Then we must give up rum, wine, and beer

We should face and fight ignorance everywhere it shows its innocent face; we should never give up the battle against it. I believe it's ignorance, not the ugly sin of hypocrisy, that makes some Belizeans hold the incredible position that weed must be stomped down. This ignorance started where ignorance usually starts, with terrible, ugly propaganda.

Now, before I continue, I have to let you in on something that is upsetting me: people who refuse to give devils their due. Disappointing as it is, we know that lawyers are licensed to argue a single side of a matter. Therein is the reason why many people can't be lawyers. Mahatma Ghandi said a lot against arguing for people who all the evidence says are guilty. Ms. Carolyn Trench-Sandiford got to the door, but couldn't enter.

I don't think that in little developing Belize we can afford to squander our energies. We understand that the red and blue argue to win. Indeed, George Price infamously and truthfully said political parties exist to win elections. It is terrible for Belize when the rest of

Please turn to Page 35



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### PUBLIC AUCTION SALE: USED OFFICE **EQUIPMENT& TOOLS**

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BY ORDER of the Supreme Court, Licensed Auctioneer Robert Cadle J.P. will sell the following on site used office equipment and tools on Saturday 17th September 2022 at 8:30 am to 10:00 am Zeta Gas Depot, Mile 4 Belama Ph 4, Phillip Goldson Hwy.

**NOTICE:** All used **OFFICE EQUIPMENT** below will be sold together as follows:

- 1 COMPRESS WOOD & METAL DESK W/ CHAIR AOC MONITOR/ACER CPU COMPUTER SET W/BATTERY **BACKUP**
- BLACK WOODEN TABLE, WHITE BOARD, BLACK FIRST ALERT SAFETY BOX
- SUNBEAM MICROWAVE, LASKO
- STANDING FAN
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### Friday, September 16, 2022

## PRESS PREDICTIONS

### The sports psychic speaks



"Press" Prediction; 47-08-09
Boledo stats thru 16<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> Sept.
2022

In boledo news, there are only 10 numbers left to play for the year. These are my lucky numbers for this week: 47-08-09-10-82-18. These are my lucky jackpot numbers: 9134-7626-8240. These are my PICK-3 numbers:945-636-210-787-080. Get ready Belize, some dinero will be coming our way this week. The 0 ball has not lead for over 2 months 2 weeks and 5 days now. 55 is still out over 1 year 11 months and 1 day now, 14th of October will complete 2 years. 26 is still out over 1 year 6 months and 3 weeks exact, 47 is out for 1 year 4 months and 3 week exact, 35 just joined the crowd, out 1

year 3 weeks and 3 days now, 34 also joined the crowd, out 1 year and 1 week now, 30 will join the crowd end of the month. These are the 9 numbers that are left: 00-18-26-30-34-35-47-55-94. You all can form some beautiful jackpots out of those numbers. 3 series are completed already, the sixties, the seventies and the eighties series. Remember to read your Psalms: 91-72 and 63, Good luck to all buyers, next week more stats.



Verdes FC, 2 times champion takes back the lead

Local Football Results Predictions
In local Football action, Port Layola
FC shocked Altitude FC, the leaders of
the Tournament, 3 goals to 2. Sean Young

scored the first 2 goals of the game in an 8-minute span, then Altitude FC responded with 2 goals from their Colombian Import, but their best player Andres Orocso was out with 3



yellow cards. Their Imported Colombian goalkeeper, Palimino was not impressive in the goal, 3 of the goals was on inexperience says one the best ever goalkeepers, Rodney Brown, commenting on those goals. The game was well attended, the fans enjoyed the action. Verdes FC the 2 times defending



by Gilroy "Press" Cadogan

champion will be in Belize this Sunday at the MCC Grounds. Verdes are leaders with 15 points with Altitude FC, but they have a plus 6 goal margin. They crushed the Belmopan Bandits 5-nil in Cayo. Then Progresso FC drew with San Pedro Pirates 1 goal apiece, Wagiya FC also drew with the Police Benque United 1 goal apiece. The tournament has parity. Next week more stats.

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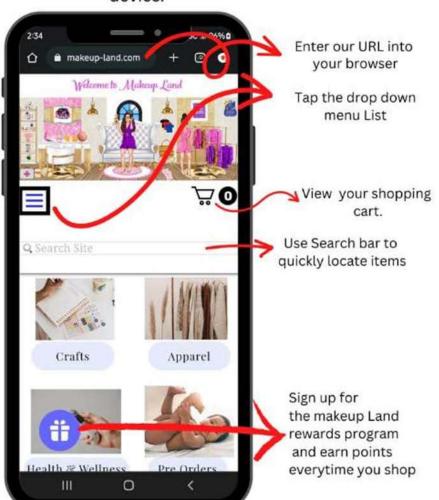
We have a State-of-the- art website, with updated features for easy navigation to provide you with the ultimate browsing experience. We have added a search bar, a wish list, and our rewards program, which allows you to earn points on every purchase and redeem later as added discount. How cool is that?

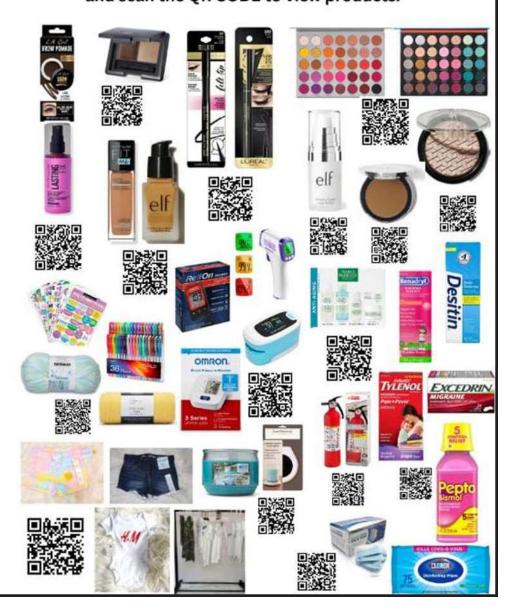
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### Vacancy at Julian Cho Technical High School



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- (b) Teaching experience at the secondary level would be an asset.
- (c) Good communication skills and a willingness to uphold the mission of Julian Cho Technical High School.

### Application package must include:

- A letter of application and resume
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- · Sealed transcript from all post-secondary institutions attended
- Birth certificate or Passport
- · Certified copy of Social Security Card
- · Recent Medical Certificate
- · Recent Police Record
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- Two recent letters of recommendation

\*ALL COPIED DOCUMENTS MUST BE CERTIFIED BY A JUSTICE OF THE PEACE.

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Salary will be in accordance with the government pay scale based on qualification.

Application packages must be addressed to:

Secretary Board of Governors Julian Cho Technical High School P.O Box 171 Toledo District

Belize, Central America

**ELECTRONIC PACKAGES CAN ALSO BE EMAILED TO:** 

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PLEASE NOTE THAT A HARD COPY OF APPLICATION PACKAGE MUST BE PRESENTED ON DAY OF INTERVIEW IF SHORTLISTED.

Deadline for applications is Monday, September 26, 2022.



www.centralbank.org.bz

### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

### The Bank of England to Withdraw

### Legal Tender Status of £20 and £50 Paper Banknotes

Belize City, 16 August 2022: The Central Bank of Belize hereby informs the public that the Bank of England has notified that it will withdraw the legal tender status of £20 and £50 paper banknotes on 30 September 2022. After this date, only polymer banknotes will be legal tender. The Bank of England is encouraging both individual and institutional noteholders such as financial institutions to use, deposit, or exchange these banknotes by 30 September 2022.

Members of the Belizean public holding these paper banknotes are advised to submit them for exchange at their domestic bank. Institutional noteholders in Belize should continue to return these sterling banknotes to the Central Bank for repatriation to the Bank of England.

Note that after the 30 September 2022 deadline, holders of paper sterling banknotes will no longer be able to use them in transactions.

More information can be found on the Bank of England's website at:

https://www.bankofengland.co.uk/banknotes/paper-20-paper-50-withdrawal

https://www.bankofengland.co.uk/-/media/boe/files/banknotes/paper/20-50-paper-notes.pdf

- ENDS -

ISSUED BY:
THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
CENTRAL BANK OF BELIZE

1 GABOUREL LANE.
BELIZE CITY, BELIZE
T: +501 223 6194
E: communications@centralbank.org.bz



### LA INMACULADA CREDIT UNION LIMITED

### **EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY**

La Inmaculada Credit Union Ltd. is currently accepting applications for:

• 1 Teller/PR for the Belmopan Branch

### **EDUCATIONAL & EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENTS:**

### I. Teller/PR

- An Associate's Degree in Accounting, Business Administration or related field.
- Work experience in related field will be an asset

# All Prospective applicants must meet the following requirements:

- 1. Proficient in Microsoft Office Applications MS Word, MS Excel etc.
- 2. Must have strong initiative, assertiveness, be resultsoriented, analytical and self-motivated
- 3. Ability to maintain high ethical and professional standards
- 4. Ability to maintain a high level of confidentiality and integrity
- 5. Excellent interpersonal and communication skills
- 6. Excellent planning and organizational skills
- 7. Excellent Time Management Skills8. Ability to work well under pressure
- 9. Be team oriented, proactive and possess a positive attitude
- 10. Be willing to work flexible hours
- 11. Be fluent in English and Spanish, both written and oral
- 12. Knowledge in Anti-Money Laundering & Combating the Financing of Terrorism Laws will be an asset.
- 13. Knowledge of the banking industry in Belize and general regulatory procedures mandated by the Central Bank of Belize. (Knowledge of the Credit Union Act will be an Asset).
- 14. Be willing to travel as required andpossess a valid Driver's License Class A.

All Applicants must provide along with their application letter, two (2) recent letters of reference, Curriculum Vitae, Recent Police Record, Junior College and/or University transcripts with copies of diploma.

Applications that are emailed must be sent in *one single PDF file*. A receipt of payment for a recent police record will be accepted. Only complete applications will be considered.

Applications must be sent by **September 23, 2022** addressed to:

General Manager
La Inmaculada CreditUnion Ltd.
5 Park Street
Orange Walk Town
Email: licu@btl.net

Only shortlisted applicants will be contacted for an interview.

FORTIS BELIZE LTD Mile 68 George Price Hywy San Ignacio Town Cayo District Belize, Central America Telephone: 501-824-3016

### **FORTIS BELIZE**

### PRESS RELEASE

FORTIS BELIZE LTD, in collaboration with the National Emergency Management Organization (NEMO), the Department of Environment (DOE), and the Ministry of Health (MOH) will host a virtual public discussion for communities downstream of the FORTIS BELIZE hydroelectric facilities and the general public on Thursday, September 29th, 2022. The virtual public meeting will take place from 2pm to 4:30pm and will be live-streamed on the Government of Belize Press Office Facebook page, the Love FM Facebook page, and on Love TV. This interactive discussion is aimed at educating and informing residents and stakeholders on issues such as the Early Warning System (EWS) and related emergency procedures, mercury-in-fish data, water quality of the Macal, and other topics that may be of concern to stakeholders.

This exercise is an ongoing effort by FORTIS BELIZE LTD/NEMO/DOE/MOH to inform and educate the public and to safeguard the wellbeing of the communities along the Macal River. All stakeholders and the general public are encouraged to tune in to the live broadcast.

**END** 

# Father accused of injuring baby returns to court

by Charles Gladden

BELMOPAN, Thurs. Sept. 15, 2022

Troy Banner, 31, a resident of Camalote, Cayo District, returned on Tuesday, September 13, to the Magistrate Court in Belmopan, where he is facing charges for grievous harm, cruelty to a child and wounding in connection with injuries he allegedly inflicted on his 15-day-old baby, who was rushed to the Western Regional Hospital in August of this year with a fractured arm, as well as bruises in the child's face, chest and back.

Banner had claimed that the baby had fallen off the bed, and was injured as a result, but according to the Police Department's ASPAlfonso Aban, who is the Officer Commanding the Criminal Investigations Branch, charges were brought against Banner following a statement by the mother of the newborn child.

At the time that ASP Aban made that announcement, he had also noted what has seemingly been a pattern of abusive behavior by Banner against his own children, which he said the Police Department would be investigating. Of note is that in June 2019, Banner had been arrested and charged with manslaughter for the death of his two month-old child, Thevane Banner. He had claimed that the child had choked while being fed. After an autopsy was conducted on the child, however, it was discovered that baby Thevane's death was the result of multiple



skull fractures and head trauma consistent with Battered Child Syndrome.

Before being charged, he had tried to blame the nurses at the Karl Heusner Memorial Hospital for the 2-month-old baby's death—claiming that they gave the child too much adrenaline and that they were trying to make it appear as if the child had been abused.

In June of that same year, Banner's excommon-law wife, who is the mother of his eldest child, also made abuse allegations against him. She said that seven years before, her child had suffered a fractured skull as well as bruises after being in Banner's care, but had survived the abuse.

Banner must return to court on October 27.

# PUBLIC AUCTION SALE CONCEPCION VILLAGE, COROZAL DISTRICT

BY ORDER of the Mortgagees, Messrs. National Bank of Belize Limited (NBB), Licensed Auctioneer Jonathan Mulligan, will be selling by way of Public Auction, the following properties ON SITE on Saturday September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at 1:00pm.

REGISTRATION SECTION BLOCK PARCEL Concepcion, Aventura/Corozal District 1 200/1 & 202/1



Totaling 20.96 acres, these properties provide an excellent opportunity for those looking to purchase extremely fertile, commercial size farmland in the sugar rich fields of Concepcion Village. **Freehold Property of Faustino Moh.** 

TERMS: STRICTLY CASH
JONATHAN MULLIGAN
TELEPHONE: 615-1133
Email: Bz.auctions.realty@gmail.com

# PUBLIC AUCTION SALE SANTA RITA HILL, COROZAL DISTRICT

BY ORDER of the Mortgagees, Messrs. National Bank of Belize Limited (NBB), Licensed Auctioneer Jonathan Mulligan, will be selling by way of Public Auction, the following property ON SITE on Saturday September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at 11:00am.

REGISTRATION SECTION
Santa Rita Hill/Corozal North

BLOCK 1 PARCEL 3499





This concrete bungalow house measures an impressive 1,740 square feet in space, and boast three bedrooms, 1 bathroom, 2 living rooms, dining room, and a spacious kitchen. The house is complimented by a front porch, and a huge, enclosed back porch. The yard measures in at 50 feet by 100 feet with an area of 555.4 square yards. Property is located in Santa Rita Hills at the "Chactemal Estates", which is a modern, well planned, private housing community that comprises of medium to high income homes. Financial Institutions such as banks, grocery stores and a wider range of goods and services are available in Corozal Town, which is approximately ½ mile away. Property is also but a 10-minute drive away from the Belize/Mexico Border. Freehold Property of Lyndon Russell Gillett and Rhyma Ann Gillett.

TERMS: STRICTLY CASH
JONATHAN MULLIGAN
TELEPHONE: 615-1133
Email: Bz.auctions.realty@gmail.com

### **PUBLICAUCTIONSALES: PROPERTIES & VEHICLES**

### Countrywide

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 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.

Lot No. 186 North side Lord's Bank Road, Lord's Bank Village, Belize District;

100		-	-
local I	THE	110	7
	Section 2		3
MAD .			28

REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
Ladyville/Lord's Bank	16	3357

Parcel No. 3433 Lord's Bank Village, Belize District:

1	In.	311	-3
No. of			
100			2000

REGISTRATION SECTION BLOCK PARC	EL
Ladyville/Lord's Bank 16 343.	3

Parcel No. 8603 C. Las Americas Street, Belmopan, Cayo District:

-	1
10000	

BLOCK	PARCEL
20	8603

Parcel No. 1965 Eduardo Juan Street, Santa Elena, Cayo District:



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
Santa Elena/Cayo	23	1965
The freehold property of Mr. Allan	Kelly Jr.	300000



ALL THAT piece or parcel of land containing 802.713 S.M. being Lot No. 184 situate in Pomona Village Extension, Stann Creek District TOGETHER with all buildings and erections standing and being thereon. The freehold property of Mr. Patricio Cho)

Parcel No. 258 MiDugee Street, Esperanza, Cayo District:



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
Esperanza	23	258
he freehold property of Mr. Alfre	d Serano.	

Parcel No. 292 Corner Nurse Cerafina Gamboa Street and a Street, Dangriga, Stann Creek District;



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL	
Dangriga South	31	292	
The freehold property of Mr. Jos	seph Roches.		

. 242 Toucan Street, Independence Village, Stann Creek District:



All that piece or parcel of land being Lot No. 242 (812.607 S.M.) situate in Independence Village, Stann Creek District and described as shown by Plan no. 91 of 1996 TOGETHER with all buildings and erections standing thereon. The freehold property of Mr. Juan Coc, Ms. Jeanne Longsworth and Mr. Armin Arana.



All that piece or parcel of land being Lot No. 592 (692.710 S.M.) situate in Independence Village, Stann Creek District and described as shown by Plan no. 355 of 2006 TOGETHER with all buildings and erections standing thereon. The freehold property of Ms. Denise Foreman.

Steadfast Village, Stann Creek District:



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL	
Valley Community/Alta Vista	31	635	
The freehold property of Mr. Fra	ns Faux.		

state, Burrell Boom Road, Belize District:

1.	Bacab	Eco	Park.	Ridge	Lagoon	Residential	Est
•					1		

REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
Ladyville/Lord's Bank	16	64

4278 & 4279 Teakettle Village, Cayo District:



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL	
Ladyville/Lord's Bank	16	6969	
The freehold property of Ms. St	ella Marie Rud	lon	

13. Parcel No. 2891 1st subdivision south of Airstrip, west side, Placencia Road, Placencia Village, Stann Creek District:



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
Placencia North	36	2871
The freehold property of Ms. Da	wn Anderson	& Mr. Hector Tut

14. Parcel No. 2911 Cedar Street, Santiago Juan Layout, San Ignacio, Cayo District:



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
San Ignacio North	23	2911
The freehold property of Ms. Ac	lelita Zaiden.	

15, Lot No. 400 Savannah Road, Independence Village, Stann Creek District:



ALL THAT piece or parcel of land being Lot No. 400 situate along Savannah Road, Independence Village, Stann Creek District TOGETHER with all buildings and erections standing and being thereon. The freehold property of Ms. Maria J. Rodriguez)

ge Walk District:



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL	
San Estevan	1	315	
The freehold property of Mr. At	ugusto Angel B	lanco.	



	REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
N. MARTIN AND ADDRESS OF THE PARTY.	San Jose Palmar	4	1142

Parcel No. 2492 Oak Street, Halls Layout, Corozal Town, Corozal District:



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
Corozal North	1	2492
The freehold property of Mr. Ya	sin Shoman &	Ms. Ruth Shoman

19. Parcel No. 158 Sunset Park, 8 1/2 Miles George Price Hwy, Western Paradise, Belize District:



ALL THAT piece or parcel of land being Lot No. 158 containing 1,013.39 S.M. situate at Mile 8.5 Northern Side of Hector Creek Road, Western Highway, Belize District of Belize, the freehold property of Mr. Lawrence Ellis and Mrs. Kimberly Ellis)

		No. of Concession, Name of Street, or other Designation, Name of Street, or other Designation, Name of Street,
and the last of	DAMES	1000
		-

REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCELS
San Estevan	1	639 & 640
The freehold property of Mr. Ma	muel Jesus Bla	inco and Mr. Agusto Blanco)

21. Parcel No. 16/1 San Estevan Village, Orange Walk District:



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
San Estevan	4	16/1
The leasehold property of Ms. 1	rma Olivera	

22. Parcel No. 244 Caledonia Village, Corozal District:

-	200	The second second
NAME OF TAXABLE PARTY.		
	THE REAL PROPERTY.	1.00.00
	NO 100	
	No.	1

REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
Caledonia Village	1	244
The freehold property of Messi	s. Chico's Com	pany Limited

23. Parcels 1682, 1683 and 1684 Linda Vista Estate, off George Price Highway, Belize City, Belize:

REGISTRATION SECTION

Ladyville/Lords Bank



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCELS		
St. Martin de Porres West	45	1682, 1683 & 1684		

BLOCK

PARCEL

3806



	The freehold property of Mr. Kevin Enriquez & Mrs. Andrea Enriquez.	
olden !	Stream Area, Toledo District:	

Parcel No. 430/1 Big Falls/G



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
Big Falls/Golden Stream	42	430/1

Lot No. 92 St. Margaret Village, Hummingbird Highway, Cayo District;



Lot No. 92 St. Margaret Village, Hummingbird Highway, Cayo District, the freehold property of Mr. Reuben Parham and Ms. Maria Parham)

Village, Stann Creek District:



Lot No. 55 Pomona Village, Stann Creek District, the freehold property of Mr. evan Borland)

Street, Belize City, District District: REGISTRATION SECTION



Fort George/Pickstock	45	1010	
The freehold property of Mr. Der	ek Cervantes.		
dex Avenue, Belize City, District	District:		

REGISTRATION SECTION



The freehold property of Mr. Marvin Cardona.	
The freehold property of Mr. Marvin Cardona.	

3981 Yvonne Hyde Street, Orchid Garden Extension, Belmopan, Cayo District:



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL	
Belmopan	20	3981	

o. 2125 Breadout Street, Belama Phase 2, Belize City, Belize District:



31.

REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
Caribbean Shores	16	2125

Mr. Curtis Godoy

Parcel No. 2454 Juventus Street, Orange Walk Town, Orange Walk District:



EGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
Orange Walk Town	4	2454

33. Lot No. 21 Independence Village Extension, Stann Creek District:



34. Parcels Nos. 90 & 91 Hope Creek Village, Stann Creek District: Parcels Nos. 90 & 91 Hope Creek Village, Stann Creek District, the leasehold properties of Ms. Myrna Murillo & Mr. Carlos Murillo)

Lot No. 21 Independence Village Extension, Stann Creek District, the freehold



Lot No. 33 Independence Village, Stann Creek District, the freehold property of Mr. Venerio Salam)



"FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION & PHOTOGRAPHS PLEASE VISIT WEBSITE"

TERMS: STRICTLYCASH KEVIN A. CASTILLO TELEPHONE 223-4488 Website: belizepropertyauctions.com E-mail: kevinacas@yahoo.com Facebook: Belize Auctions

# John has big dreams! (Part 13)

Upon returning home from the reunion with the alcoholics, John went straight into the bathroom to take a nice cold bath to cool down his heated body from walking under the sun. He quickly finished and went to his bedroom to put on some clothes; thereafter, he went to the kitchen to gather something to eat. After satisfying his stomach, he lay in his hammock on the veranda, where he recalled that a work companion by the name of Charles had given him a December 22, 2014 edition of the country's most widely read newspaper of Belize, the *Amandala*, so he got up and obtained it. He lay back down and began to read page by page until he stumbled upon an article which was recommended to him by Charles,

entitled "The Satanic Philosophy of Neo-Liberalism." John was intrigued by such a title and decided to continue reading. It stated:

After two hundred years of the introduction of Christianity in Belize, it is to be assumed that the majority of its inhabitants would have embraced the socialist spirit, since the basis of the teachings of Jesus Christ is a form of socialism. For this reason, the behavior of those who have taken the reins to direct the destiny of this nation is inexplicable. The name "social member" (social partner) has been given to each organization that participates in favor of the interests of those who manage the finances of the governments in turn, since each one has its own

enrichment interests. As for the public treasury, benefits or gifts from other countries for the eradication of extreme poverty in which the weakest live, this sector of the population has remained in the same historical conditions. This practice by some who believe they are Christians have fallen into the satanic philosophy of neo-liberalism, a system that has benefited a few and not the majority of society, which still lacks the most essential: Social Justice.

But unfortunately, it seems that the two political parties with the greatest presence in Belize have not yet realized their mistakes, which have caused the continuation of discrimination, repression for not belonging to the same



### by Clinton Canul Luna

organization, oppression by not allowing an environment to live in The leaders have harmony. implemented the corrupt policy to follow with those recommendations that they think will be used to eradicate "bullying" in the educational sector and other bureaucratic dependencies. It does nothing to benefit a society that lacks justice against political parties that share the same neo-liberal philosophy. Saying that one is going to be better than the other is a fallacy and an insult to intelligent minds. For the leaders of the UDP and PUP, they believe that the neo-liberal system is perfect, and this also includes the small political parties, who cannot or do not want to see the injustice that the majority of society goes

At the moment the one in power is the "United Democratic Party" (UDP), which has nothing of Socialism, but with a blind belief that everyone has achieved social welfare. Unfortunately, the executive politicians of the "People's United Party" (PUP), who are responsible for the political leadership of that organization, are of the same philosophical belief as the one in power. For this reason, the people have become skeptical, and the culture of buying votes has become unimportant, because the citizens have already learned that after the government is formed, be it from either of the two political parties, they will not be seen again, proselytizing face until after five years. It is necessary for the "People's United Party" (PUP) to change their strategy and political philosophy from neo-liberal to "Democratic Socialism", which is a humanist system, since we have the right. Otherwise, they will have to wait until 2022, moreover, to see if the majority of citizens are encouraged. We can see how the propagandist political machinery works, trying to make believe that everything is going great, when in reality a real transformation is needed in national life in favor of the majority classes and social sectors of the country... For a better future.

fincasolan@gmail.com

September 11, 2022 Finca Solana Corozal Town

Our email
address
for business and
advertising is
amandalapress
@yahoo.com

## ATLANTIC INSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED

Applications are invited from suitably qualified persons to fill the position of Punta Gorda Branch Manager Key Responsibilities:

- 1) Full time supervision of the Staff at the Punta Gorda Branch Office
- 2) Ensure that employees are fully complying with Company policies and procedures.
- 3) Closely monitoring Branch Office Sales Production and ensuring that Sales quotas are being met.
- 4) On a weekly basis meet with Branch Office Staff to review current week activity and develop plan of action for the following week.
- 5) Service accounts throughout the year for the purpose of delivering and explaining policies, handling policy renewals and suggesting additions.
- 6) Ensure the retention of existing customers. Initial contact with customers is to be at least Sixty days prior to renewal. Visit customers if unable to contact via telephone to ensure renewal.
- 7) Canvass for new accounts.
- 8) Ensure the accuracy of Daily Remission Report and Daily Collections Report evidenced by signature and date of review.
- 9) Ensure the safe keeping of Cash Float in cash pan and assist in ensuring that it is always in small denominations.
- 10) Ensure that collection is deposited as per Company's policies.
- 11) Attending to walk-in-customers/prospects and customer/prospects via telephone on insurance matter when the need arises

Qualifications and Experience:

This post requires an individual who holds him/herself to the highest standard's and has a strong desire for personal growth and professional success. The individual should display good listening skills; good written and oral communication. Analytical skills, self-motivated, displays initiative, and outgoing personality.

- Bachelor's Degree in Business and related fields.
- Can demonstrate familiarity with basic principles in the area of Sales and Customer Service
- At least two (2) years' experience in Sales and /or Customer Service-related field.
- Strong work ethic
- Ability to work independently and as part of a team
- Ability to communicate, both orally and in writing
- Professional demeanor both on the phone and in person
- Proficiency is required in Microsoft Excel and Microsoft Word
- Bilingual in English and Spanishwould be an asset
- ➤ Have a 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://aicbelize.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



# 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 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

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.



# 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 inintellectual 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 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

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.



# BELIZE SOCIAL INVESTMENT FUND TENDER NOTICE

Country: Belize Project: CARICOM Development Fund Grant No: BZE/G00011 Project ID: CDF/00011/WS2 Contract Number: W/CDF-08/2022 National Competitive Bidding (NCB) Deadline: **October 3**<sup>rd</sup>, **2022** 

- 1. The Government of Belize has received funding through the CARICOM Development Fund (CDF) towards implementation of a project that focuses on improving water supply systems for four (4) communities and intends to apply part of the funds to cover eligible payments under the contract for Installation of Water Meters for the Mahogany Heights Village Water Supply System, Mahogany Heights Village, Belize District, Belize.
- 2. The Social Investment Fund, a Statutory Corporation, established under the Social Investment Fund Act No. 3 of 1996 and located at Constitution Drive, Belmopan, Cayo District, hereby invites tenders from suitably qualified contractors for the construction of the following:

### The contract proposes to:

The contract proposes the upgrading of the rudimentary water supply system throughout the installation of approximately 340 water measuring and control devices in Mahogany Heights Village, Belize District, Belize.

- 3. **Final (Project Site) Destination as specified in BDS:** Mahogany Heights Village, Belize District, Belize.
- 4. Belize Social Investment Fund now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for the construction works in the aforementioned areas.
- 5. Bidding will be conducted through the National Competitive Bidding (NCB) procedures specified in the CARICOM Development Fund's Guidelines for Procurement (May 2010), and are open to all countries of the world are eligible to tender for this contract.
- Qualification requirements include (a) The bidder shall furnish unaudited or audited financial statements (balance sheets with corresponding notes, income statement, and statements of cash flow) of the firm for years 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020 and 2021 to demonstrate the current soundness of the bidder's financial position (b) Bidders should have general experience under contracts in the role of contractor, JV member, subcontractor, or management contractor for the years 2019, 2020 and 2021 with activity of at least five (5) months in each year starting 1st January, 2019 (c) Bidders should have specific experience as a prime contractor, joint venture member, management contractor, or subcontractor, between 1st January 2011 and the bid submission deadline and should have less than or equal to three (3) contracts, each of a minimum value of BZ\$17,675.00, but with a total value of all contracts equal or more than BZ\$53,025.00 (d) demonstrate cash flow requirement: capacity to have a cash flow amount of BZ\$6,650.00 of which not more than BZ\$3,325.00 can be credit for materials (e) an average annual turnover of BZ\$159,075.00 which shall be calculated as total certified payments received for contracts completed within the best two (2) years of the years 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020 and 2021 (e) other provided in the respective Bid Documents.
- 7. A secured "sample" electronic Bid document can be shared with interested Bidders at the address below, starting **September 5<sup>th</sup>**, **2022**, on week days between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. for viewing purpose only (has a time restriction for viewing). A complete set of Bidding documents (electronic version) can be purchased by interested bidder upon payment of a non-refundable fee of **BZ\$150.00**. Requests may be made by personal application or in writing to the address below. Written applications must be clearly marked: "Installation of Water Meters for the Mahogany Heights Village Water Supply System, Mahogany Heights Village, Belize District, Belize". The method of payment will be by cash deposited to, or Bank transfer to BSIF's Bank Account only. Banking details can be requested at the address below. Cash payment will not be accepted at the BSIF Office.
- 8. **Deadline** for bids is **at or before 10:00 a.m., October 3**<sup>rd</sup>, **2022** at the address below. **Bids will be opened at 10:45 a.m., October 3**<sup>rd</sup>, **2022** at the Social Investment Fund, 3rd Floor, #1902 Constitution Drive, Belmopan, Cayo District in the presence of the bidders' representatives who choose to participate. Electronic bidding will not be permitted. Late bids **will be** rejected. All bids must be accompanied by a "Bid Security" of BZ\$550.00 or an equivalent amount in a freely convertible currency or Bank Guarantee. The bid validity period is 90 days.
- 9. A Pre-bid meeting with interested eligible bidders will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at Mahogany Heights Village, Belize District, Belize. Bidders can participate in the meeting to address any queries about the bidding document or the scope of works. Persons who purchase packages are urged to attend.
- 10. The address referred to above is:

Contact: Ms. Ruby Pascascio Senior Procurement Officer Social Investment Fund 3rd Floor, #1902 Constitution Drive Belmopan, Cayo District Tel: 822-0239/822-0508

E-mail: <a href="mailto:ruby.pascascio@sifbelize.org">ruby.pascascio@sifbelize.org</a>
cc: <a href="mailto:carlos:

# Meshach Emmanuel McKoy completes Electrical Power **Production training in the United States Airforce**

Meshach Emmanuel McKoy was born in Belize City November of 2001 to Audrey Smith McKoy and Jamie McKoy of the Albert and Lake Independence divisions of Belize City, who had moved to Vista Del Mar, Ladyville, along with his brother, Uhuru Soweto McKoy in September of 2000. Meshach attended Ms. Ebanks Preschool, **Grace Primary School** and then the first year at Edward P. Yorke High School. The family migrated to Las

Vegas, Nevada, USA to join his eldest brother, Elton Graham, in 2015, where



Meshach later graduated from Canyon Springs High School in 2019 with a

major in Military Leadership Studies. In 2017 Meshach enrolled in and completed a twelve-week program with the Southern Nevada Devil Pups, a military cadet program which afforded him a ten-day encampment experience at Camp Pendleton, United States Marine Corps base in San Diego, California.

Meshach worked as a life guard and flow rider (water board) instructor at Planet Hollywood Resorts of Las Vegas before returning to Belize in 2020, where he then took up a position as merchandiser at Bowen and Bowen Limited. Meshach returned to Las Vegas in late 2021, after which he enlisted into the United States Airforce in early 2022. After basic training in San Antonio, Texas, he

was off to Wichita Falls, Texas, for further training in Electrical Power

Production. Meshach graduated from this training at the end of August 2022, and was recognized for his achievements. After serving a few weeks in the recruiters office back in Las Vegas, Nevada, Meshach will be off to his first assignment in the state

Meshach's ambition is that through continued hard work and dedication, he can be a professional and advance in rank in his military career. His advice to the youths of Belize is that they must strive to take charge of their future, and live to have that future become their past. Meshach thanks everyone who played a role in his upbringing, which has enabled his successes and achievements so far, including during the Covid-19 pandemic crisis on his return home.

# CENTRAL BANK of BELIZE

### CAREER OPPORTUNITY

### ASSISTANT MANAGER, ACCOUNTS AND BUDGET

The Central Bank invites qualified individuals to join its Accounts and Budget Department.

The Assistant Manager, Accounts and Budget, provides support to the Manager, Accounts and Budget, in the general administration of the Accounts and Budget Department. The incumbent assists in supervising the department's staff, administering vault custodian functions, providing advice on the Central Bank's performance, producing Central Bank's financial statements, ensuring compliance with the relevant requirements of the applicable laws, and ensuring conformity with the department's policies and procedures to mitigate operational and financial risks.

### **ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:**

- Assist in the development and implementation of goals, priorities, procedures, and internal controls necessary for auditing, budget, financial analysis, and property management in accordance with the general accepted accounting principles, policies, procedures, and other applicable Bank rules and guidelines;
- Perform vault operations as the principal vault custodian;
- Prepare and disseminate monthly reports of the Bank's financial performance to the governing body;
- Assist in the preparation of the Central Bank's audited financial statement in collaboration with external auditors and in compliance with Central Bank of Belize Act, International Financial Reporting Standards, and other relevant legislations;
- Assist in the preparation of the Central Bank's annual and revised budget and manage the processing of all revenue and expenditures of the Bank;
- Manage and ensure the effectiveness and efficiency of the Central Bank's payment and procurement operations within the framework of established systems, procedures, and internal controls;
- Ensure effective time management in preparation of all reports and reconciliations prepared by staff within the
- Perform any other related duties that may be assigned.

The applicants should possess the following:

### **EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE**

- A Master's Degree in Accounting, Finance, Banking, Business Administration, or other related field from a recognized university with three (3) years of progressively related administrative duties and training, and three (3) years managerial experience. Experience in strategic management and project management methodologies would be an asset; OR
- A Bachelor's Degree in Accounting, Finance, Banking, Business Administration, or other related field from a recognized university with six (6) years of progressively related administrative duties and training, and six (6) years managerial experience. Experience in strategic management and project management methodologies would be an asset.

### TECHNICAL KNOWLEDGE

In depth knowledge of the Central Bank of Belize Act, relevant sections of the Domestic Banks and Financial Institutions Act, accounting concepts and principles, IFRS standards and internal control processes; Sound knowledge of budget management and planning strategies, procurement management theories and practices; Knowledge of banking principles, business and management principles and strategic management approach; Proficient in software applications, including accounting software and Microsoft Office Suite.

### COMPETENCIES

Personal Credibility, Flexibility, Personal Accountability, Fostering Teamwork, Managing Performance, Attention to Communication, Results Orientation, Managing Change, Diagnostic Information Gathering, Thoroughness, Initiative, Analytical Thinking.

### Submit the following documents by Monday, 19 September 2022:

- CBB Employment Application Form (Available online)
- Curriculum Vitae
- Three (3) current references (one must be from a previous employer)
- Certified copies of university transcripts, degrees, and any other personal certificates

Manager, Human Resources Department Central Bank of Belize P O Box 852 or Gabourel Lane Belize City, BELIZE

Ref: Assistant Manager, Accounts and Budget-Accounts and Budget Department

Email: hr@centralbank.org.bz or online at www.centralbank.org.bz (All applications will be held in strict confidence.

# Waitress found dead on top of tomb in Independence **Village**



by Charles Gladden

INDEPENDENCE, Stann Creek District, Tues. Sept. 13, 2022

More information is emerging about circumstances surrounding the brutal murder of Marcelina Makin, 37, a bar waitress, and mother of 3, from Aguacate Village, Toledo District, whose body was found on top of a tomb in a cemetery in Independence village, Stann Creek District, by a resident in the village.

At about 6:30 in the morning on Monday, September 12, a resident of the village who was on their way to lay flowers at the tomb of a loved one, discovered Makin's motionless body in a face-down position on top of a white tile with visible cut injuries to her head and throat. Reports are that the corpse was already in an early state of decomposition.

Makin was last seen on Friday, September 9, at her workplace, Blue Angels Bar Malt & Cider, approximately

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### **Department of the Environment**

Ministry of Sustainable Development, Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management

### REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST: CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR A MOBILE APPLICATION DEVELOPER

**Title of the Project:** The Hydrochlorofluorocarbon (HCFC) Phase-out Management Plan (HPMP) monitors the consumption of ozone depleting substances (ODS) mainly used in the Refrigeration & Air Conditioning (RAC) Sector as refrigerants.

### **Background**

Belize became signatory to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer on January 9<sup>th</sup>, 1998 and has thus far sought to implement all national obligations under the Protocol. The Government of Belize has successfully phased out Chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) in the Refrigeration and Air Conditioning (RAC) sector and is currently implementing the Hydrochlorofluorocarbon Phase-out Management Plan (HPMP) for the gradual phaseout of hydro-chlorofluorocarbon (HCFCs) in the Belize RAC sector. The National Ozone Unit (NOU) in the Department of the Environment (DOE), Ministry of Sustainable Development, Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management, is the focal point for the Montreal Protocol in Belize.

At the 19<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol held in Montreal, Canada, in 2007, the Parties agreed on the "Adjustment to the Montreal Protocol regarding HCFCs and to "accelerate the phase-out of production and consumption of HCFCs", thus calling for urgent action towards the phase-out of this ozone depleting substances (ODS).

The Decision recognized the needs of developing countries such as Belize with regards to the agreed accelerated HCFC schedule and directed the Multilateral Fund's Executive Committee to provide technical and financial assistance, paying particular attention to Article 5 Parties with low volume and very low volume consumption of HCFCs. The HPMP for Belize was approved on the 62<sup>nd</sup> ExCom Meeting of the parties. The HPMP provides funding for the Government of Belize to support the implementation of activities to phase-out remaining HCFC consumption under the Montreal Protocol.

HCFC Phase-Out Management Plan has a combination of interventions such as technology conversions, technical assistance, awareness and monitoring of selected HCFC consumption. Refrigerant consumption in the Refrigeration Servicing Sector (RSS) not only depends on the installation of the RAC equipment but also on the quality of the product and its servicing. The Mobile App aims to provide information, for technicians to work efficiently, safely and will allow the technicians to be more productive and give them an easy access to the information they need to perform their jobs.

### **Consultancy Description:**

The Department of Environment through the Ministry of Sustainable Development, Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management is seeking to engage a suitably qualified Belizean candidate/Firmrequest the submission of Expression of Interest for the Mobile/Application Developer.

### **Objective of the Drafting**

The task of the provider will be to develop, design and assist in the launch of a mobile application focused on Heating, Ventilation, Air-Conditioning (HVAC). It will feature data specifically designed for Refrigeration Technicians.

### **Core Competency Requirements:**

- The applicants should be a technology company with proven record of innovation in the mobile platform and application field. The company should have a proven record of applications on the market in both Android and Apple OS.
- The company should have a team of experts that include technology experts and coders, social media experts and mobile platform innovation experts
- The team leader should have at least 5 years of relevant technology and innovations experience.

The full Terms of Reference is available at <a href="www.doe.gov.bz">www.doe.gov.bz</a>. The selection of the consultant will be based on Consultant Qualification Selection (CQS) procurement method. Packages must be submitted electronically and must include a signed letter of interest, a Concept Proposal, Financial Proposal and Estimated Timelines no later than <a href="Friday September 23rd">Friday September 23rd</a>, 2022, at 5:00 pm. Only complete packages will be processed. Packages should be addressed to and emailed to:

Mr. Anthony Mai
Chief Environmental Officer
Re: Expression of Interest- Mobile App Developer
ozone@environment.gov.bz with copy to projects@environment.gov.bz





### **Department of the Environment**

Ministry of Sustainable Development, Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management

### REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST: CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR A LEGISLATIVE DRAFTER

**Title of the Project:** The Hydrochlorofluorocarbon (HCFC) Phase-out Management Plan (HPMP) monitors the consumption of ozone depleting substances (ODS) mainly used in the Refrigeration & Air Conditioning (RAC) Sector as refrigerants.

### **Background**

Belize became signatory to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer on January 9<sup>th</sup>, 1998 and has thus far sought to implement all national obligations under the Protocol. The Government of Belize has successfully phased out Chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) in the Refrigeration and Air Conditioning (RAC) sector and is currently implementing the Hydrochlorofluorocarbon Phase-out Management Plan (HPMP) for the gradual phaseout of hydro-chlorofluorocarbon (HCFCs) in the Belize RAC sector. The National Ozone Unit (NOU) in the Department of the Environment (DOE), Ministry of Sustainable Development, Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management, is the focal point for the Montreal Protocol in Belize.

At the 19<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol held in Montreal, Canada, in 2007, the Parties agreed on the "Adjustment to the Montreal Protocol regarding HCFCs and to "accelerate the phase-out of production and consumption of HCFCs", thus calling for urgent action towards the phase-out of this ozone depleting substances (ODS).

The Decision recognized the needs of developing countries such as Belize with regards to the agreed accelerated HCFC schedule and directed the Multilateral Fund's Executive Committee to provide technical and financial assistance, paying particular attention to Article 5 Parties with low volume and very low volume consumption of HCFCs. The HPMP for Belize was approved on the 62<sup>nd</sup> ExCom Meeting of the parties. The HPMP provides funding for the Government of Belize to support the implementation of activities to phase-out remaining HCFC consumption under the Montreal Protocol.

### **Consultancy Description:**

The Department of Environment through the Ministry of Sustainable Development, Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management is seeking to engage a suitably qualified Belizean candidate request the submission of Expression of Interest from independent legal drafters to draft regulations under the Environmental Protection Act and the Refrigeration Technicians (Licensing) Act 2010.

### Objective of the Drafting

The objective is to provide legislative drafting service to draft new regulations to reflect the commitments related to the Montreal Protocol.

### **Core Competency Requirements:**

- Minimum Bachelor of Laws (LLB)
- Minimum 5 years of relevant experience required for carrying out the TOR's tasks. Experience must include (i) a legal background, (ii) experience in drafting laws and
- Excellent writing skills in English
- Ability to engage with a cross-section of stakeholders in the public and private sectors
- Experience in drafting concept documents
- Experience in drafting legislation will be an advantage
- Excellent communication skills as well as the ability to communicate fluently in English (spoken and written)

The full Terms of Reference is available at <a href="www.doe.gov.bz">www.doe.gov.bz</a>. The selection of the consultant will be based on Consultant Qualification Selection (CQS) procurement method. Packages must be submitted electronically and must include a letter of interest, a curriculum vitae, and Financial Proposal and Technical Proposal no later than <a href="Friday September 23rd">Friday September 23rd</a>, 2022, at 5:00 pm. Only complete packages will be processed. Packages should be addressed to and emailed to:

Mr. Anthony Mai
Chief Environmental Officer
Re: Expression of Interest- Legislative Drafter
ozone@environment.gov.bz with copy to projects@environment.gov.bz

### **BELIZEPROPERTYAUCTIONS.COM**

### **COUNTRYWIDE PUBLIC AUCTION SALES: PROPERTY**

San Pedro, Ambergris Caye, Belize District JOHN'S ESCAPE BAR & GRILL

BY ORDER of the Mortgagees Messrs. Alpha Gamma Financial Services Limited, Licensed Auctioneers Kevin A. Castillo and Christiana R. Castillo are selling ONLINE via belizepropertyauctions.com the following property. Sale currently running until 31st October 2022. Public Auction Sales will expire fortnightly on the dates and times listed on the website until this property is sold.



REGISTRATION SECTION
San Pedro

BLOCK 7

PARCEL 9782

(Being a **HOTEL**, **RESTAURANT AND BAR** consisting: **Apartment Building:** Ground Floor 1,225 sq. ft. + First Floor 2,500 sq. ft. + Second Floor 2,500 sq. ft. [ Total 6,225 sq. ft.] + **Villa 1:** 619 + **Villa 2:** -637 sq. ft. + **Villa 3:** -1,257 sq. ft. + **Villa 4:** -619 sq. ft. + **Restaurant & Bar:** 2,300 sq. ft. + **Swimming Pool:** 374 sq. ft. + **Pool Deck:** 502 sq. ft. TOGETHER with **BEACHFRONT** [240.42 ft.] property (1800.144 S.M [2,152.95 S.Y.]) situate 4 ½ miles north of San Pedro Town, Ambergris Caye, the freehold property of Messrs. Turtle Vacations Limited)

"FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION & PHOTOGRAPHS PLEASE VISIT WEBSITE"

TERMS: STRICTLYCASH
KEVIN A. CASTILLO
TELEPHONE 223-4488

Website: belizepropertyauctions.com
E-mail: kevinacas@yahoo.com
Facebook: Belize Auctions

# Gales Point village chairman denies LOO's **Vulcan claims**

After visiting the village of Gales Point Manatee, The Leader of the Opposition, Hon. Moses "Shyne" Barrow, this week claimed that residents support the employment opportunities that come from investment.

by Khaila Gentle

GALES POINT MANATEE, Stann Creek District, Tues. Sept. 13, 2022

The responses of villagers in Gales Point Manatee to efforts by Vulcan Materials Company to establish a mining operation in the area have been reported by local media on numerous occasions over the past few weeks. And after August 20, when a meeting was held in the village, it was found that a vast majority of the residents are not in support of the company's proposed mining project. According to the Leader of the Opposition, Hon. Moses "Shyne" Barrow, however, there are still many residents who are hoping for employment and other opportunities that come from

investments like Vulcan's.

Opposition Leader, accompanied by former Belmopan area rep John Saldivar and Senator Beverly Williams, visited the village this week and spoke with residents about their views on the American mining company.

"The UDP Shadow Cabinet believes strongly in the policy of balancing the need for economic development with the need to protect the environment," wrote the Opposition Leader on his official Facebook page on Monday.

In that post, Hon. Barrow also suggested that the villagers of Gales Point might be divided on whether or not they support the mining company,

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Shyne Barrow and John Saldivar in discussion with Gales Point residence

## Ministry of Sustainable Development, Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management.

### POSITION DESCRIPTION

Results Based Management and Budgeting Specialist **Position Title: Duty Station:** 

Ministry of Sustainable Development Climate Change and

Disaster Risk Management

**Posting Period:** One year **Direct Supervisor:** To Be Determined

Consultancy Objective: The Ministry of Sustainable Development, Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management has sought the financial assistance from the Biodiversity Finance Initiative (BIOFIN) to identify an RBM Specialist to support the MSDCC&DRM and the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development in the development of frameworks and systems to improve and operationalize results-based planning, implementation, monitoring, and reporting across the Government of Belize.

- Documentation of recommended workflow for mainstreaming and piloting
- User and management friendly matrix for enabling a transition to RBM across

\*All products, final work and information shall be generated in hard and soft format described in this section.

Execution of this Terms of Reference requires an expert having one or more of the following qualifications:

<u>Technical Qualifications</u> – Academic/Training:

LEVEL:

Area of Study: Finance, Economics, Results Master's Degree: \_\_X\_

Based Management, Investment Management, or a closely related field

Doctorate Degree: \_ Area of Study: \_

### **Analysis of position:**

Overall Responsibilities:

- 1. Develop a work program to fulfil the deliverables of this ToR.
- Conduct a review of the Medium-Term Development Strategy (MTDS) and other relevant national development strategies.
- Conduct a review of the current budgeting processes and systems (institutional framework, legal and administrative/operational processes, as well as stakeholders)
- Conduct a review of reforms and efforts made to introduce elements of resultsbased budgeting (including previous pilots, success and lessons learned). 5. Conduct a review of the Government's Public Sector Investment Programme, review capital investment planning and budgeting processes with a view to improving coordination between Finance and Economic Development.
- Lead the development of a Results Based Framework, inclusive of a Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) framework.
- Identify additional Ministries for the piloting of RBM and the implementation of a monitoring and evaluation framework aligned with the MTDS and their relevant national and strategic plans (target four to five).
- Identify and document recommended workflow for mainstreaming and piloting of RBM within the broader Government Service including the development of procedural manuals and administrative guidelines and any other institutional mechanisms needed for effective implementation.
- Assist in the preparation of annual monitoring and evaluation plans consistent with M&E Framework within the pilot Ministries.
- 10. Conduct a capacity assessment among Policy, Planning, Project, Finance Unit
- 11. Organize capacity building training.
- 12. Develop plans to enhance knowledge networking, sharing best practices and technical expertise to the pilot ministries to foster an integrated approach.
- 13. Prepare periodic updates/briefings/presentations to the agencies involved to continuously inform of progress as required by the supervisor.

### **Expected Outputs:**

The consultant is expected to work in close collaboration with counterparts in achieving the following expected outputs for this consultancy:

- Workplan and methodology for achieving task.
- Results Based framework aligned to the strategic focus areas of the Plan Belize and other guiding national strategies and plans.
- Monitoring and evaluation framework aligned with the Plan Belize and other guiding national strategies and plans.

### Skills, Experience and Qualifications Required:

- 1. First Degree in Finance, Economics, or a closely related field, preferably with an environment/biodiversity focus with a minimum of five (5) years relevant work experience.
- 2. At least five (5) years of experience in monitoring and evaluation, results-based management.
- Knowledge and experience in designing M&E systems and conducting evaluations.
- Excellent writing and analytical skill in drafting concept notes and reports. 5. Strategic vision and strong technical and analytical capabilities.
- Proficiency in both written and oral English.
- Strong leadership capability
- Strong interpersonal and communication skills
- Knowledge of national governance framework is strongly desired
- 10. Ability to prepare publications, reports, and presentations
- 11. Ability to work with a multidisciplinary and multicultural team
- 12. Computer literacy particularly in Microsoft excel and access, word and ppt 13. Flexible and ability to prioritize a variety of complex evolving tasks

### **Application Requirements**

- Interested persons should submit a letter of expression of interest
- The Letter of expression of interest should state monthly expected remuneration that indicates the all-inclusive fixed total contract price.
- Personal CV, indicating all experience from similar projects, as well as the contact details (email and telephone number) of the candidate and at least two (2) professional references.

Qualified candidates should submit their application and financial proposals no later than September 30th, 2022, to:

Ministry of Sustainable Development, Climate Change & Disaster Risk Management Attn: National Biodiversity Office-Director Ground Floor Green Complex Building #2557 Hummingbird Highway Belmopan City, Belize

Telephone number 828-9055

Email address: biofin-belize@environment.gov.bz



# **PUBLIC NOTICE**



## Public Utilities Commission (PUC)

### REQUEST FOR WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS - PROPOSED BELIZE AMATEUR RADIO FRAMEWORK

The Public is hereby informed that the Public Utilities Commission (hereinafter referred to as "the Commission"), in the exercise of the powers vested in it by Sections 3, 6(1), 6(2)(j), 6(2)(n), 6(2)(p), 7(2)(a) and 12(1) of the Belize Telecommunications Act, Chapter 229 of the Laws of Belize, the Public Utilities Act, Chapter 223 of the Laws of Belize and all other powers thereunto the Commission enabling, intents to by Order to promulgate the Belize Amateur Radio Framework – 2022 ("the Proposed Framework") for use in Belize.

The Proposed Framework provides a clear and comprehensive outline for amateur radio operations in Belize. It describes, among other things, the licenses, rules, standards, important procedures and technical operating limits for amateur radio operations in Belize.

The PUC intends to make the responses to this consultation available to the public. If your response contains any information that is confidential in nature, a clearly marked "Non-Confidential Version", redacted to delete the confidential information, is to be provided together with a complete version that is clearly marked as the "Confidential Version." The "Confidential Version" should highlight the information that has been redacted. Any request for confidentiality in respect of the information submitted is to be accompanied with full justification for the claim.

The Proposed Framework is available for viewing at the Office of the Commission located at Marina Towers 2nd Floor, 4 Princess Margaret Drive, Belize City, Belize between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. or online at

Written submissions and comments should be submitted to the PUC before 4:30 PM, Friday, October 14, 2022 either:

\* By hand to: Public Utilities Commission, 2nd Floor Marina Towers, Princess Margaret Drive, Belize City, Belize.

Re: Responses to Consultation Belize Amateur Radio Framework - 2022;

\*By email to: telecom@puc.bz

https://www.puc.bz.

Issued by the Public Utilities Commission on 12 September, 2022

## FOR SALE BY ORDER OF THE MORTGAGEE

The Development Finance Corporation of Bliss Parade, City of Belmopan, Cayo District hereby gives notice of its intention to exercise its power of sale as mortgagee under Deed of Mortgages or Charges between those hereinafter named and the said Corporation which mortgages or charges are recorded at the Land Titles Unit or the Lands Registry, respectively and that the said Development Finance Corporation will, at the expiration of two (2) months from the date of the first publication of this notice, sell the properties described in the Schedule hereto.

All offers to purchase the said properties must be made in writing to the said Corporation at its Headquarters Office or District Offices.

### **SCHEDULE**

Parcel No. 3544, Block No. 7, San Pedro Registration Section containing 549.72 S.Y. held under a Land Certificate being the freehold interest of DAVID AUGUSTO GONZALES.

DATED THIS 5th DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2022.

# Gales Point village chairman denies LOO's...

Continued from Page 22

noting that many residents agree with the aforementioned policy of balance. Just last week, there were reports of a pro-Vulcan protest taking place in the village, with those residents expressing the view that the company's project would provide much-needed jobs. Still, added Hon. Barrow in his post, there were those who during his visit opposed the project for various reasons, including its potential for causing environmental damage.

Despite the Leader of the Opposition's suggestion that the village may be more divided than has been reported, however, the chairman of the Gales Point village council, Jason Altschaft, says otherwise.

"We've been working on this for over three years now. We've had plenty of meetings on this situation, and we definitely know that the village is not for this kind of economic activity," stated Altschaft in an interview with KREM News' Marisol Amaya.

Altschaft, in speaking about the visit, said that it almost felt as if the three UDP members had come to promote Vulcan's mining project—possibly for political reasons.

The company, following their mostly unsuccessful meeting with villagers on August 20, issued a letter to the people of Gales Point, stating that it would begin providing jobs to the villagers that would pay "a minimum of double the current minimum wage."

"Most of the people that are working for Vulcan now just happen to be UDP. And those are the same people that have been getting the jobs all along, so we understand why they don't want to lose those potential jobs," Altschaft said.

According to the village council chairman, the visiting UDP members were asking a lot of questions about Vulcan—particularly whether more people were in support of the project than what has been reported in the news.

The visit took place just one week after Cabinet affirmed its policy decision that no mining activity would be undertaken in the Gales Point area, "having regard to the surrounding communities' concerns."

According to the Opposition Leader, the UDP believes, however, that the Government of Belize should not close its doors on investors, even though it should not ignore the concerns of environmentalists.

"But most importantly, we must always put the socioeconomic wellbeing of our Belizean people first and foremost," he added.

But while the people of Gales Point do look forward to job opportunities, the village chairman says that their focus is on eco-tourism.

"We are an untouched jewel. This is really what we're focusing on," Altschaft said.

The UDP has stated that it looks forward to meeting with Vulcan to get their perspective as well.

## **NOTICE**

### GOVERNMENT OF BELIZE TREASURY BILLS ISSUE NUMBER 10/2022

Tenders are invited for an issue of Government of Belize Treasury Bills. The amount of the issue will be \$83,200,000.00.

The Bills will be issued in electronic form only evidenced by an electronic book entry in the Central Securities Depository of the Central Bank of Belize in multiples of \$200 and will be repayable at par 91 days after issue. They will be issued on Wednesday, 5 October 2022 and will be redeemed on Wednesday, 4 January 2023.

Each tender must be for \$200 or a multiple of \$200 and must specify to five decimal places the amount, which is offered for each one hundred dollars face value of the Bills sought.

Members of the public who wish to participate in the auction must submit their bid to the Central Bank of Belize electronically or at the designated drop off box no later than 12:00 noon on Friday, 30 September 2022.

The Auction in the Central Securities Depository System (CSD) will be opened from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm on Wednesday, 5 October 2022.

Successful bidders should arrange to settle via the Automated Payment & Securities Settlement System of Belize (APSSS).

Bank: Central Bank of Belize Account: GL1CORP0402627

The Government of Belize reserves the right to accept or reject any and/ or all tenders in whole or in part.

CENTRAL BANK OF BELIZE

Notices are placed on Central Bank of Belize Website (www.centralbank.org.bz)

17 August 2022

# 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) Ltdof 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 13th September 2022

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

# Elderly man perishes in Placencia RTA



ASP Fitzroy Yearwood, Communications Director for the Belize Police Department

by Charles Gladden

PLACENCIA, Stann Creek District, Tues. Sept. 13, 2022

On Sunday, September 11, a 76-yearold man, Amado Vega Galindo, lost his life when the motorcycle he had been riding between Miles 6 and 7 on the Placencia Road, collided with a grey Mazda Tribute being driven by Estouardo Samoyo, 39.

During Monday's weekly press briefing, ASP Fitzroy Yearwood, communications director for the Belize Police Department, said that the incident took place at about 6:00 that morning when Galindo made an attempt to overtake Samoyo's Mazda Tribute; however, his path wasn't cleared, which caused the vehicle to hit him, resulting in the head and body injuries he suffered. Galindo died instantly.

When police arrived at the scene, they saw Galindo's motionless body not too far from Samoyo's vehicle. His body was transported to the Placencia Polyclinic, where he was pronounced dead.

# EULOGY FOR MR. KEITH TERRENCE BURLEIGH BALDERAMOS

Good afternoon.

The poet Khalil Gibran teaches that "life and death are one, even as the river and the sea are one."

On the morning of September 10, 2022, the life of Keith Terrence Burleigh Balderamos flowed peacefully into the sea of eternity.

Life and death as one.

Uncle Keith, or simply "Bala" as he was

widely known, confronted these last weeks of his life, and his grave illness, with his trademark humor, with an enviable equanimity and with a graciousness that shall leave a lasting impression upon family, friends and caregivers.

Uncle Keith entered his 74<sup>th</sup> year of life just a few weeks ago, on August 7.

He was the son of Pamela Morris Balderamos and Burleigh Balderamos, and brother to Carmelita Balderamos Robateau, Marlita Balderamos Espat, Harcourt Balderamos, Alberto Balderamos, Jacqueline Balderamos and Lyndon Balderamos.

Though without children of his own, Uncle Keith enjoyed the company and the care of his many nieces and nephews through the years.

And looking back now upon Uncle Keith's odyssey, we see how anchored he was to the heartland of the Jewel:

- primary school at Holy Redeemer,
- football and swimming at the Barracks and Yarborough,
- employment at The Angelus Press, The Royal Bank of Canada, The Belize Distributors Ltd. and BTL,
- residency at Regent Street, Rhaburn's Alley, Alexandria Street and finally, Racecourse Street,
- and Church services for the lifelong Catholic at Holy Redeemer Cathedral.

To live, work and socialize in this heartland, Uncle Keith's legs and bicycle sufficed. He never drove a



motor vehicle.

If friends and family be the judges, Uncle Keith's foremost virtue was the ease at which he put those in his company, whether those in his close circle of friends or the total stranger. His great gift as a human being was to treat all others as equal human beings, each worthy of his attention and his respect.

Beyond the

affections of his immediate family, Keith was blessed with friendships that withstood the test of time. Ms. Dilma Alamilla, Mr. Anthony Fuller, Mr. Phillip and Dorothy Renea are outsized examples.

And in his final weeks, he was further blessed with attentive care from an extraordinary team including Dr. Mark Musa, Sister Yvette Mossiah, Mr. Marvin Espinosa, Mr. Ian Adolphus and Nurses Mercy Hammond, Charlotte Palacio, Andrea Flowers, Trecia Mena, and caregiver Hadie Young.

On his behalf, we express our lasting gratitude.

Uncle Keith loved music, and his all-time favorite artist was the King of Rock and Roll, Elvis Presley. Even in his final days, with Elvis playing on his Alexa, and when he could summon the strength, he would impersonate various classics from Elvis.

Uncle Keith left us far too early and left far too quickly.

But then, as Elvis himself jested when it came to longevity: "what good is 90 if you wasted 89?"

Uncle Keith made us believe he did not waste a day.

We thus shall cherish and celebrate his time with us.

Thank you all for being here today. Uncle Keith is in a better place now. He lives on in all of us.

Life and death as one.

# 79 students receive scholarships from the OAS

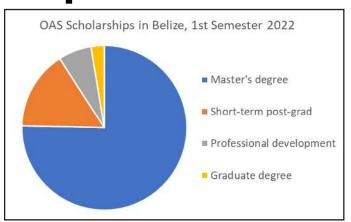
by Khaila Gentle

BELIZE CITY, Sat. Sept. 10, 2022

The Organization of American States (OAS) General Secretariat has awarded 79 Belizean students with scholarships in the first semester of 2022. The recipients

will be studying in a wide range of academic fields, including Business Administration, Project Management, Environmental Studies, Digital Technologies, and Energy Conservation.

The scholarships were awarded as a part of the OAS's two Academic Scholarship Programs: the Regular Academic Scholarship Program



(Regular Program) which was established in 1958, and the Special Caribbean Scholarships Program (SPECAF), which was established in

Scholarships awarded included 58 for Master's degrees, 12 short-term post-graduate scholarships, 5 professional development scholarships, and 2 for graduate studies.

# **COMPOL on police officers'** health condition

Due to long working hours, unhealthy eating habits, irregular eating routines, and lack of exercise, the health of police officers is deteriorating, says the COMPOL

by Charles Gladden

BELMOPAN, Tues. Sept. 13, 2022

Within the span of just a few weeks, the Belize Police Department has been mourning the premature deaths of at least three of its officers between the ages of twenty-five and fifty-two who passed away in the middle of their sleep and were found dead by their spouses,



possibly due to poor health conditions.

One of the premature deaths that caught the attention of the media was that of PC Kinsley Duncan from the Cayo District, who was found lifeless by his spouse on Thursday, September 8, at around 5:00 a.m. Duncan's wife said that he had complained of lower back pain earlier that night, and had taken two 400mg Ibuprofen tablets before going to sleep but that when she went to check on him the following morning, he was unresponsive. Before Duncan's unforeseen death, on September 1, another police officer passed away in his sleep and was also found by his spouse.

While commenting on the premature deaths during a police press briefing on Monday, Police Commissioner Chester Williams noted that a number of police officers are considered overweight and unhealthy, and he pointed to irregular eating routines, long work hours, and unhealthy eating habits as factors that have contributed to the officers' poor health.

"Certainly, the health of everybody should concern us. What many people don't understand or appreciate is that as police officers, due to work hours, we have bad eating habits. Either, we don't eat on time or we end up eating unhealthy. If it is that, we are not engaged in working out, doing some physical activity to keep our body at a certain level then certainly your health can deteriorate, and very quickly. I myself take it upon myself to ensure I work out every day. At times it is very difficult, but if not in the evening time I work out in the morning time [because] I do recognize that sometime I am here all day, the work is so much when I do realize I forgot to eat. When I do realize it is after five in the evening. It is that difficult at times. The policeman out on the streets, it is the same thing for them, many of them are working areas they don't live [in] so they would have to resort to buying food and many times the food you are buying from the street corner or Asian restaurant are not healthy food. So, it is concerning," he

According to the COMPOL, he intends to let several nutritionists speak to the officers at the different police stations about healthy eating.



## CAREER OPPORTUNITY

### STRATEGY and ENTERPRISE RISK ANALYST

The Central Bank invites qualified individuals to join its Office of Strategy Management.

The Strategy and Enterprise Risk Analyst will assist the Manager, Office of Strategy Management (OSM), in coordinating strategy management and enterprise risk management (ERM) activities. The Strategy and Enterprise Risk Analyst will support the annual strategy re-fresh exercise, monitor, assess, and report on the execution of Central Bank's approved strategic programme, and support the planning, organizing, and executing of the ERM framework.

Essential Duties and Responsibilities

- 1. To support the Manager, OSM, in the annual review of Central Bank's strategy
  - Collects and analyses the historical performance-against-targets data
  - Documents the proceeding and outcomes of the strategy review exercise
  - Assists in designing and implementing the required measurement and reporting systems
- 2. To monitor and assess the timely execution of Central Bank's strategy and strategic programmes
  - Reviews action/project plans for Central Bank's strategic programmes
  - Liaises with management to determine causes and corrective actions for operational and programme performance variances
  - Reports on progress of strategic programme execution and overall strategy execution
  - To assist the Manager, OSM, in managing ERM activities
    - Assists in maintaining and operating Central Bank's ERM framework in accordance with leading practices
    - Prepares materials to communicate ERM requirements to all divisions and departments
  - Assists in prioritizing and integrating functional plans into overall ERM plan for the Central Bank
  - Assesses and reports on the adequacy of ERM Plans, including Business Continuity Plans and Disaster
  - Periodically assesses and reports on enterprise-wide compliance with ERM framework, including Business Continuity Plans and Disaster Preparedness Plans

The applicants should possess the following:

### Education and Experience

- A Master's Degree in Business Administration, Management, or a related field from a recognized university with three (3) years relevant experience, or
- A minimum of a bachelor's degree in Business Administration, Management, or a related field from a recognized university with at least six (6) years' relevant experience.

Knowledge of the Central Bank of Belize Act and other banking legislation; Knowledge of strategy management and the balance scorecard; Ability to engage with stakeholders to gather various types of performance measures and targets: Knowledge of ISO 31000:2018 and ability to define and apply risk prioritization and develop, implement, and maintain benchmark standards or scoring; Proficient in Microsoft Office Suite

### Competencies

Strong Communication Skills; Results Orientation; Initiative; Thoroughness; Analytical and Critical Thinking; Managing Change; Performance Management; Building Collaborative Relationships; Strategic Thinking; Personal Credibility/Integrity

### Submit the following documents by Thursday, 28 September 2022:

- CBB Employment Application Form (available online)
- Curriculum Vitae
- Three (3) current references (one must be from a previous employer)
- Certified copies of university transcripts, degrees, and any other personal certificates

Ref: Strategy & Risk Enterprise Analyst - Office of Strategy Management Email: hr@centralbank.org.bz or online at www.centralbank.org.bz





Manager, Human Resources Department Central Bank of Belize P O Box 852 or Gabourel Lane Belize City, BELIZE

(All applications will be held in strict confidence.)



## **KREM Television Program Guide**

### Shoa Wiself, Si Wiself, Bee Wiself!!!

Questions or comments may be forwarded via email to kremtelevision@yahoo.com Phone: 202-5848

### Friday, September 16 to Thursday, September 22, 2022

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: 12 Years a Slave

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: 43 years later Grenada 9:00 p.m. Krem TV Evening News (repeat)

### **SATURDAY**

9:00 a.m. Documentary: Is Genesis History?

10:44 a.m. Movie: Deadly Voyage 12:15 p.m. Documentary: Eleven Days 1:31 p.m. Movie: Homeless to Harvard

2:58 p.m. Movie: Homicide — Life On The Street

4:26 p.m. Movie: Undercover Angel

5:58 p.m. Documentary: Ivan Van Sertima — They came before

Columbus

8:06 p.m. Music Videos

### **SUNDAY**

### 10:00 a.m. EXPO BELIZE MARKET PLACE 2022 (LIVE)

### **MONDAY**

9:00 a.m. Documentary: Larger Than Life

10:33 a.m. Documentary: Jose Marti - The Canaries Eye Film

12:41 p.m. Documentary: Safari Africa 2:08 p.m. Movie: A Question of Faith

4:00 p.m. Documentary: Life on Us: A Microscopic Safari

5:41 p.m. Movie: Harriet 8:00 p.m. Music Videos

### **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. Belizean Legend: Harry Shaw

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: 15 Things Poor People Do That Rich Don't

9:00 p.m. Krem TV Evening News (repeat)

### **WEDNESDAY**

9:00 a.m. Official Independence Day Ceremony (LIVE)

12:00 p.m. Movie: Big Momma's House

1:39 p.m. Documentary: Post Traumatic Slave Syndrome (PTSS)

3:22 p.m. Movie: First Kid

5:00 p.m. Documentary: How To Become a Memory Master 5:57 p.m. Documentary: Vibrations Interview With Shahrazad Ali

7:00 p.m. Movie: Something To Think About

8:00 p.m. Music Videos

### **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. Movie: The Blind Side

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: The Secrets of Sugar - The Fifth Estate

9:00 p.m. Krem TV Evening News (repeat)

### Daily Printable Puzzle - 09-15-2022

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

### Across

1. Roosevelt follower

5. Do slaloms

8. Cavort in the pool 14. Black-and-white cookie

15. Blazed a trail

16. Muse of comedy

**17.** A tide

18. Appreciation for beauty

19. A sail rope 20. Rich elaborate cake

22. Explosion cause

24. Be forceful 25. Big flap

26. Band aid 29. Flightless birds

32. Composer Erik

34. Khaki material

38. PC monitor part

39. Capital of Peru 40. Avoid expiration

41. Break up clods

42. Pediatrician's diagnosis

43. Sea monsters

44. Cassowary kin

**45.** Involuntary spasm 46. Raccoon like carnivore

48. Corpulent

50. Country lodging 51. A rel.

53. A handsome young man

**58.** A player, perhaps

60. Reflexive pronoun 61. White waters

64. Animal abode

66. Covering 67. Farthest point of an orbit

68. Alley cat's scrap

Actress Bancroft

70. Light benders

71. Bit of light

72. Ad sign

### Down

Country near Fiji

2. Geometric measures

3. Achievements 4. Safari headgear

5. Detective

6. C major or F minor

Caesar's bad time 8. Home finisher

9. Lighthouse

10. Bit of frolic

11. Aladdin prince 12. Bara film

13. Broom Hilda, e.g.

21. Cupid's missile

23. Famed microbiologist

26. Inclined

27. Unoriginal thinker

28. Cobbler fruit 30. Level of responsibility

31. Bakery bonus

33. Balm ingredient

34. Early spring bloomers

35. Egret's cousin

Cuzco dwellers

37. Avian retreat

42. Subterranean vault

47. In the same place, Lat.

49. Overly fastidious **52.** Tears down to the ground

54. Ancient Italian

55. Director Sergio

Argentine plain

57. Frequently

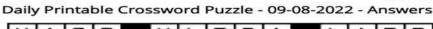
58. Pen pals

59. Common scent 61. Break-dance music

62. Aries mo. 63. Polynesian staple 65. Historic time

### 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 newsapaper.





# PRESS PREDICTIONS

### The sports psychic speaks

Punta Gorda has the challengers, Horace

Arnold, Devin Parham and Martin "Bala" Bahadur. This Tourament will have at

least 7 players that won the national MVP

already. The Belmopan Team will give a

lot of trouble. The 2 weakest teams will

be Mango Creek Big Mangoes and the

San Pedro team; may the best team

INTERNATIONAL

Gennady Golovkin will beat Saul

**International Boxing Predictions** 

Saturday night in Las Vegas, Mexican

Saul Canelo Alvarez 58-2-2-40 ko's will

face off against Gennady Golovkin 42-

1-1-36 ko's aka "Triple G." The fight

will go all the way to the 12th round,

Gennady will get a split decision win.

They fought twice before, Alvarez win

the first, the second time they drew. The

heavyweight division has a lot of nice

and competitive fights on the horizon,

Devin Haney wants Gervonta Davis,

both fighters are still undefeated in the

140-pound Junior Welterweight class.

Terence Crawford and Errol Spence, Jr.

are still in negotiations, that will be a big

PPV Fight when it take place. Mexican

Ryan Garcia wants the winner of Haney

and Davis, he also is still undefeated.

Those divisions have the most fireworks

right now. Tyson Fury wants Anthony

Joshua; Andy Ruiz beat King Kong 2

weeks ago, Ruiz is fighting pretty well

right now. Next week the results.

In international boxing action, this

prevail. Next week some results.

"Canelo" Alvarez by decision

Continued from Page 12



Belize City and Corozal will be the 2 strongest billiards teams

Belikin 8-Ball Billiards National **Predictions** 

In billiards action, the Belikin 8-Ball Billiards Nationals Tournament will be 2 days in Independence, Mango Creek this

Saturday and Sunday. These will be teams from all the Districts. Long Island has Naim Rosado, Larry Lisbey - who won the most national MVPs in 3 times, Manuel Ramos aka 'Policeman" alongside Dennis Zuniga, Mr. Nelson Meija is the owner.

They also

have Evan

Williams and





Luiggy Villanueva. They will be the favorites with the Corozal Team - Luis Valdez and Joshua Kuylen alongside 5

players that went to Guatemala in an 20 under tournament, they are really good. The Orange Walk Team will be e competitive, Cayo also has some very good players.



# Waitress found dead...

Continued from Page 19



two blocks away from where she was found and wasn't seen again until early Monday morning, when news broke of her death. A co-worker of Makin mentioned to a local reporter that Makin had told her that about two weeks ago, she was robbed of her possessions in an area close to where her body would later be found, but that Makin couldn't identify the person.

Manuel Cal, the brother-in-law of Makin, told local reporters that Makin relocated to Independence Village approximately 5 to 6 years ago as a means to provide for her three children in Toledo, and would often return on her days off to leave money for them and travel back to Independence.

And while a post-mortem examination of Makin's body is yet to be conducted, there is speculation that

Makin had been sexually assaulted and left for dead at the cemetery. Commissioner of Police, Chester Williams has neither confirmed nor denied that claim, and when he met with local media on Tuesday. September 13, he noted that the investigation is still ongoing.

"Investigators are still out trying to gather as much as they can. We need to start off [with] when she was last seen, [whom] she was seen with, where if anything she went, with [whom] she went. So these are things that we are trying to get the answers to for now, and hopefully, that will be able to give us some lead in respect to the matter. We also need to look at her. If she had a boyfriend, if there is some possibility that it could have been him. So there are things that we looking at to try and get to the bottom of that," he said.





### COMMONWEALTH MASTER SCHOLARSHIP TENABLE IN THE UNITED KINGDOM - 2023/2024

The Commonwealth Scholarship Commission in the UK (CSC) provides the UK government's Commonwealth scholarship scheme led by international development objectives. Since 1960, the CSC has funded over 30,000 individuals to study in the UK and gain skills, acquire knowledge and build networks to tackle global development challenges.

Nominations are invited from suitable qualified candidates from Belize wishing to pursue Master Degree programmes in the United Kingdom commencing in September 2023. The award is being offered in either of the following six (6) categories:

- Science and technology for development
- Strengthening health systems and capacity
- Strengthening global peace, security and governance
- Strengthening resilience and response to crises
- Access, inclusion and opportunity
- 6. Promoting global prosperity

### **CANDIDATE ELIGIBILITY:**

- Candidates must be Citizens of Belize or have refugee status in Belize.
- Candidates must be a permanent resident of Belize.
- Candidates should hold or expect to hold, by September 2023, a first degree of upper second-class honors level or a second-class degree and a relevant postgraduate qualification.
- Candidate must be unable to afford to study in the UK without this scholarship.
- Candidate must provide all supporting documentation in the required format.
- Candidates should be able to take up their awards by the start of the UK academic year in September 2023.

Awards are tenable at any UK institution of higher education which has part funding agreement with the Commonwealth Scholarship Commission (CSC). For a list of universities that have agreed to part-fund Commonwealth Scholarships, visit: http:// /cscuk.dfid.gov.uk/apply/uk-universities/part-funding/.

Candidates are strongly encouraged to submit independent applications to their chosen institutions in the UK prior to, or at the time of their submission, without waiting for the results of the selection procedures.

### **HOW TO APPLY**

All nominated candidates **must** first apply using the CSC's Online Application System. Information on how to use the online application system is available at: https://cscuk.fcdo.gov.uk/scholarships/commonwealth-masters-scholarships/.

In addition, you are required to submit duly completed applications with supporting documents to the Chief Executive Officer, Ministry of the Public Service, Constitutional and Political Reform and Religious Affairs, Ground Floor, Sir Edney Building (Nominating Agency), Belmopan or toceo.secretary@mps.gov.bz.

### **SELECTION CRITERIA**

- Academic merit of the candidate.
- Quality of the candidate plan of study.
- Potential impact of the work on the development of the candidate's home country.

### **CLOSING DATE**

The CSC's Online Application System will open on Tuesday 6th September, 2022 – 18th October, 2022 Greenwich Meridian Time (GMT). All completed applications must be submitted online no later than 4:00 p.m. on 18th October, 2022. However, the deadline to upload all supporting documentation is 4:00 p.m. Greenwich Meridian Time (GMT) on 8th November, 2022.

A copy of the duly completed application package must be submitted to: Chief Executive Officer, Ministry of the Public Service, Constitutional and Political Reform and Religious Affairs, Ground Floor, Sir Edney Cain Building, City of Belmopanoremailed to: ceo.secretary@mps.gov.bzno later than 5:00p.m. on Monday, 31st October, 2022.

### **CONTACT US:**

Visit our website at https://www.publicservice.gov.bz

Follow us on The Ministry of the Public Service, Constitutional and Political Reform and Religious Affairs Facebook Page.

Ministry of Public Service, Constitutional and Political Reform and Religious Affairs Training Unit at 501-828-9128/828-4231 or Email: ceo.secretary@mps.gov.bz/ sandra.cadle@mps.gov.bz

Please note that all applicants are recruited in line with the CSC's anti-fraud policy and procedure which can be viewed at CSC anti-fraud policy and procedure GOV.UK (www.gov.uk).

You must make sure you read all general conditions, information and guidelines for the Scholarships before starting an application; these can be found on the CSC Website Homepage - Commonwealth Scholarship Commission in the UK



# 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).

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  $\operatorname{six}(6)$  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

2. Procurement Officer
Caribbean Development Bank
P.O. Box 408
Wildey
St. Michael
BARBADOS, W.I.
Tel. (246) 539-1600
Email: procurement@caribank.org

cc: 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 subproject 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  $\sin(6)$  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

2. Procurement Officer
Caribbean Development Bank
P.O. Box 408
Wildey
St. Michael
BARBADOS, W.I.
Tel. (246) 539-1600;
Email: procurement@caribank.org
cc: omar.bispat@caribank.org

# IDB approves \$15M for tourism and agriculture

Approximately 200 MSMEs in the area of sustainable tourism and 1,500 small farmers from low-income families are expected to benefit from the loan and additional grant funding.

by Khaila Gentle

BELIZE CITY, Thurs. Sept. 15, 2022

The sustainable farming and sustainable tourism sectors in Belize will soon be receiving a large financial boost following the Inter-American Development Bank's approval of a \$15 million loan and \$800,000 in grant funding that will both be channeled to the Sustainable and Inclusive Belize Project—an initiative aimed at

increasing revenue from Belize's two largest economic contributors, tourism and agriculture.

Both industries deploy techniques aimed at preserving the country's natural resources—in line with one of the project's main areas of focus: sustainability and good environmental practices.

According to the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), the project—and the accompanying funding—will help micro, small, and

medium-sized enterprises in both sectors to boost their competitiveness, climate resilience, and environmental sustainability. It will target approximately 200 businesses in sustainable tourism (with a focus on those working to reduce the impact of tourism on the environment) as well as 1,500 small farmers from low-income families and over a hundred cooperatives, associations, and small businesses in the farming industry.

Most notably, the funding will also put focus on women, indigenous peoples, persons of African descent and migrants—all groups of persons that are often marginalized.

The project falls under the IDB's Vision 2025—a plan by the bank to increase recovery and inclusive growth in Latin America and the Caribbean. Its priorities include fighting climate change, supporting MSME's, promoting gender equality, and regional integration.

### Request for Expression of Interest

# Gender Equality and Social Inclusion Strengthening for 30 Targeted Producers' Organizations

**Institution:** Ministry of Economic Development

**Country:** Belize

**Project:** Resilient Rural Belize Programme

**Loan No.:** 2000002301

**Deadline for Submission of Proposals:** October 18, 2022 at 3:00 PM.

### **Background of programme:**

The Government of Belize (GOB), through a financing agreement with the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and Green Climate Fund (GCF), has embarked on a six-year Programme, Resilient Rural Belize (RRB), which aims to minimize the impacts of climatic and economic events on smallholder farmers while supporting sustainable market access for their produce. The programme will help farmers employ climate resilient agricultural practices and technologies; integrate profitable smallholder participation into the development of select vegetables, fruits, and honey value chains; and support smallholder production capacity through investments in public and private climate resilient infrastructure and in the strengthening of smallholder farmer Producers' Organizations (POs) and relevant GOB Departments.

### **Background on the assignment:**

The Resilient Rural Belize Programme is committed to mainstreaming gender equality and social inclusion (GESI), to ensure that young people, women and men have equal access to, and control over, resources for development, benefits, and decision-making at all stages of development processes, projects, programs, and policies within the agriculture sector.

### Objectives of the assignment:

The Programme is seeking to procure the services of a consultant to develop and implement a comprehensive GESI capacity building programme, differentiated for three groups, namely:

- i. the PMU staff and the Climate Smart Agriculture Extension Officers (CSAEOs),
- ii. the POs members, and
- iii.staff of the Department of Co-operatives (DOC) and of the Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security, and Enterprise (MOA), including the Gender Focal Point of the Ministry.

The main objective of the assignment is to ensure the participation of 40% women and 20% youth (ages 15 to 24) in at least 30 targeted POs by the end of the Programme and guaranteeing GESI is fully integrated in the POs, by promoting equitable management of benefits by women and young people and their participation in capacity building and investments throughout all project interventions i.e. Organization Development Plans (ODP) and Business Plans (BP) design and implementation, Matching Grant Fund Agreement (MGFA) implementation.

The specific objective is to implement an integral GESI capacity building programme, aligned with the RRB GAP, aiming at supporting at least 30 POs to move towards gender equality, women empowerment and social inclusion (how to do it and expected benefits), ensure an equal participation, decision making and benefits of women and young people in POs.

### **Deliverables:**

The Individual Consultant shall provide the following deliverables:

a) An Inception report to be submitted within three (3) weeks of contract

- signature. The report shall include as a minimum, the consultancy approach, training methodology and workplan, the draft of the proposed GESI capacity building programme for the different groups (PMU staff and CSAEO, POs and DOC/MOA staff, including the Gender Focal Point and IPs) and an outline of the training sessions.
- b) A training completion report for each group, which shall include the presentations and training methodologies used, attendance register, photographs, issues identified during training and the commitments made by the different groups trained, as well as recommendations for future training (electronic and one original).
- c) Develop a small booklet or handout (not a training manual) to share with the POs and Implementing partners on gender equality, women empowerment and social inclusion. This could be developed from the information used to conduct the trainings (electronic and one original).
- d) Consultancy Completion Report (electronic and one original), which shall include results, issues faced during the assignment, lessons learnt, commitments achieved, as well as recommendations & affirmative actions for the inclusion of youth and women in the whole project and of how to assure women and youth are benefited from project services.
- e) The report will also include recommendations relevant for the Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) System.

### Consultant's qualifications and experience:

The Gender Consultant must possess a minimum of a Bachelor's Degree in Gender Studies, Anthropology, Social Psychology, Socialogy, Social Work, Art, Public Policy, Development Studies and/or Agriculture.

### **Specific** Experience:

- Minimum five (5) years of experience in conducting GESI investigations, analysis of gender gaps in rural areas, facilitation of training processes with the government as well as community actors, and/or socio-economic surveys with a gender and social inclusion approach.
- Minimum three (3) years of experience with the use of participatory methodologies for trainings as well as women and young people empowerment.
- A minimum of three (3) years' experience conducting training sessions on topics related to Youth, Gender Equality and Social Inclusion.
- Consultant must be fluent in English language and at least fair in Spanish language.

Individual Consultants interested in receiving the **Request for Expression of Interest (REOI)** document for this consultancy should register their interest by sending an e-mail (with subject: **Request for REOI – Gender Consultant** to the Procurement Officer at nvernon.rrb@med.gov.bz giving full contact details of the Consultant. This will ensure that the Consultants receive updates regarding this consultancy.

The REOI must be submitted via email only to the following address on or before October 18, 2022, at 3:00 PM (Local time).

Attn: Geraldo Flowers
Resilient Rural Belize Programme
National Agriculture Showgrounds
Belmopan City, Cayo, Belize
Email: geraldo.flowers@med.gov.bz
CC: nvernon.rrb@med.gov.bz

















# THANKYOU

YOU MADE THE THIRD MARTINS FEST A HUGE SUCCESS!!









# **Belizean wealth**

The other day, a friend of mine whom I've always admired, someone I'd call a mentor, it would embarrass him that I hold him in such high esteem, made a comment that made me step back and think. He said that most Belizeans don't realize how rich Belize is, and that most of the wealth is in the hands of a few Belizeans, and of course, the foreigners who have seen the potential, have taken advantage of our naïveté, to enrich themselves at our expense. He mentioned the ports, as an example, and we could run through a list of so much of our wealth that has been legally, in most cases, appropriated and expanded upon. One of the most blatant abusers of our innocence and generosity is the lord, small L! Not only has he taken advantage of the Belizean people, but in so many ways, he holds us hostage to his insatiable appetite for more wealth. Whenever we try to curb his enthusiasm, he goes to court to get a favorable ruling in his favor, and usually succeeds! This, from a man who claims his love for this country, yet does everything in his power to stymie our efforts to be masters of our own destiny!

I blame the government of both parties for this lopsided, unequal distribution of our wealth, our natural resources, the Central Americanization of Belize, where usually 10 to 12 families own 75% of a country's wealth, and the rest is in the hands of foreigners, mostly carpetbaggers! This redistribution began in earnest in the early 1980s, with the new UDP government encouraging investments, both foreign and domestic, and has continued with a vengeance from government! I'm sure that their intentions were honorable at the time, that they wanted prosperity for their people, and the economic and social development of our newborn,

independent state. But it quickly went off tracks, all those plans for a better Belize! It went off tracks because of poor planning, greed and corruption, and because we, the people, were not prepared for barbarians at the gate!

Our educational system failed us because it was a colonial system, teaching us colonial truths! We had more pride in the British Empire than we had for little Belize! We didn't know our history, our heritage, so we squandered it all away, for pennies. Now we look back and see that our properties that we gave away for a few thousand dollars are being resold for millions, by the marauders that we let in, willingly! We were not taught in our schools to know our value, where we came from, how rich we were, how lucky we were to live in this Jewel of ours. If we had been, we would've treated it like our own secret garden, cherished and nourished it, and fed ourselves off our lands. Instead, we are importers of most of what we eat! Such a shame!

Looking back, we needed visionaries who could've slowed us down. Who could've made sure that we were prepared for independence, by allowing our institutions to teach and mold us into proud citizens, to understand our history, our genesis as a people, brown and black! The few who spoke out were drowned out by false promises of wealth and prosperity, from governments that were already dreaming of sugarplums and fairies, and which for most of us, were, and still are, just pipe dreams! There is a little sliver of hope right now, with some in this new government trying to reclaim our country, to hold on to our treasures, and the natural beauty, that is Belize!

Glen

# National Cruise Policy still in the works

BELIZE CITY, Tues. Sept. 13, 2022

An updated National Cruise Tourism Policy and National Ports Policy has been in the works for some time now, and just two weeks ago, a group of twelve NGOs pointed to that still unfinished process and the critical role of those policies when it sent a letter to the Prime Minister requesting that all Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs) be paused until these policies are finalized. The policies, however, may be far from finished, since, according to the Prime Minister, the final draft has not yet been submitted for approval.

On October 19, 2021, Cabinet released a statement informing the public that an updated National Ports Policy would soon be finalized. At the end of August—ten months after that announcement—the Minister of Sustainable Development, Climate Change, and Disaster Risk Management, Hon. Orlando Habet, said that the updated port policy had still

not been completed. This week, Prime Minister Hon. John Briceño said something similar. In speaking with reporters from *7News*, he noted that the policy is important, especially in outlining Belize City's capacity for cruise ports. At present, there are at least three developers seeking to establish cruise tourism ports in the city (with two already receiving initial approval)—something which many within and outside the community have deemed outright unsustainable.

In regard to the NGO community's suggestion that all EIAs should be paused until the port policy is finalized, the Prime Minister said that the Government, prioritizing national development, does not agree. He did not mention the impact that any illadvised cruise ship initiative could have on industries such as eco-tourism, fishing and Barrier-reef related initiatives that continue to contribute to national development and create jobs.



Call us at: 202-4477



Ministry of Education, Culture, Science & Technology
Examinations Office — National and International
University Drive, West Landivar, Belize City
Tel: (501) 203-4977 Fax: (501) 223-0673 Email: localregistrar@moe.gov.bz

The Local Registrar advises all interested persons of registration dates for the following examinations:

### JANUARY 2023 CSEC EXAMINATIONS

	EXAMINATION		EXAM DATE	REGISTRATION DATES
	ibbean Examinations ibbean Secondary Ed Certificate (CSEC	ucation		
	Biology	General		
	Chemistry	General		
D	English A	General	January 04th - 31st,	12 September – 26 October
П	English B	General	sundary or 51,	12 September 20 October
	Human and Social Biology			
	Information Technology	General	2023	2022
П	Mathematics	General		
	Office Administration	General		
П	Physics	General		
П	Principles of Accounts	General		
	Principles of Business	General		
П	Social Studies	General		
	Spanish	General		

Registration of candidates for CSEC will be done via appointment only at the Examinations Office, Belize City. A valid photo ID is required during registration. (Social Security Card or Passport).

The link to indicate the need for an appointment may be accessed via the Online Services section of the Ministry of Education, Culture, Science and Technology's website, <a href="https://www.moecst.gov.bz">www.moecst.gov.bz</a>, as well as the Ministry's Facebook page.

If you are a recent graduate (2022) and are interested in sitting the January 2023 examinations, you should register with your recent institution.

The following case sensitive URL below may also be used to indicate the need for an appointment:

https://forms.gle/jmUuRRoZqAYEEvm69

### REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST CONSTRUCTION SERVICES FOR THE PLACENCIA AND INDEPENDENCE VILLAGE FIRE STATION BUILDINGS

Institution: BELIZE NATIONAL FIRE SERVICE

Country: BELIZE

Project: TRIAL FARM, PLACENCIA AND INDEPENDENCE

VILLAGE FIRE STATION BUILDINGS PROJECT

ProjectIDNo.: NFS-2022/PL01 NFS-2022/IND02 NFS-2022/OW03 Deadline: October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2022

The Government of Belize has committed funding to contract an experienced and qualified contractor **FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A FIRE STATION BUILDING** to be located in Placencia and Independence Villages or in Trial Farm, Orange Walk District.

General requirements of the Bidders:

- 1) Bidder's Company must be incorporated in the country of Belize a minimum of five years;
- 2) Bidders must have experience in works of a similar size, scope and nature;
- 3) Bidders must present two references from projects recently completed in the last two years
- 4) Bidders mustconfirm access to minimum resources (technical, financial, human resources)
- Bidders are required to present Certificates of Good standing from the Companies Registry, the Belize Tax Service and the Belize Social Security Board.

Interested contractors please note that above requirements are mandatory, and this information must be included within any final submitted bid. The deadline for submission of **Expression of Interest is Monday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2022.** 

Interested contractors may obtain bidding documents scope of works electronically at the email address below from Monday to Fridays starting **Thursday September 15<sup>th</sup> 2022** between the hours of 9:00 am and 3:00 pm. Printing of documents is at the intended Bidder's expense.

Belize National Fire Service Attn: Mr. Colin Gillett Fire Chief #3578 Sunrise Avenue, Belize

Tel: 501-223-1183

E-mail: chief@fire.gov.bz/seniorsec@fire.gov.bz

## <u>"Tour-isms"</u> The Pageantry of Service

Serving Belize's national development is a service tothe Belize Tourism Product. That service is possible for Belizeans living near and far. The number of Belizeans living overseas is estimated atseveral hundred thousand. Together they make up the Belize diaspora. Many in the diaspora want to do more for home. To better expand, merge, and sustain a connection with Belizeans living abroad, the Diaspora Relations Unit (DRU) was established on April 1st, 2021. This Unit falls under the Ministry of Tourism and Diaspora Relations (MTDR). The Unit's mission is to help raise Belize's profile on the international stage, grow the economy,



support trade, provide information and support for Belizeans abroad, encourage expertise exchange, and identify opportunities for philanthropy. Remittanceswere estimated at US\$133 million in 2021; however, the contribution from the diasporic has long since expanded beyond just the monetary. Their continued interest and donations are no inconsequential show of pageantry. Love of home and country is a service in of itself. We are especially reminded of this during the month of September.

Every September, Belizeans come home to reconnect. The Queen of the Bay pageant is prelude to the Battle of St. George's Caye Day celebrations and September activities. It hasbeen a coronation of Belizean identity since 1946. This September, the white gloves and puffy dresses made their comeback. Two yearshave passed since any of us watched the prestigious Queen of the Bay pageant in person. Mini pageants took place all over the country with young women vying for the title of "Queen" in their communities. The pageant is deeply woven into our history, culture, and identity. It encourages us to return to civic reflection, socialization, and reconnection. Belizeans living abroadhosts their own Queen of the Bay pageants and September activities. The diasporic may be scattered but the pageant isone of the many symbols of their love and service to the homeland.

The diaspora's service goes beyond pageantry and beyond September. Just this past August, the MTDR worked with Ms. Erica Antoinette Castillo Slaton, of Atlanta, to secure 4500 gallons of recycled paint that will be used to paint Belizean schools, government buildings, and homes. In June, the Belize American Chamber of Commerce (BACC) hosted the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Belize Investment and Finance Forum in Washington DC. In May, with the help of the MTDR, approximately 200 Belizeansgathered for a Fun Day activity in Houston Texas to hear more about the diaspora's plans. In January, medical supplies donated by several international organizations and members of the diaspora, valued at over BZ\$50k, was donated to the Ministry of Health and Wellness. The diasporiccontinues to participate in Belizean tradition as much as they continue to be a part of Belize's national development.

The Belize diasporic is a part of our service industry. They serve from afar, but the benefits are felt at home. **Symbolism** is the "ism" that we highlight this week. The Queen of the Bay pageant is a symbol of the love of country that all Belizeans share no matter where they live. The Belize Tourism Product is result of all our service. To learn more about the Diaspora Relations Unit visit the MTDR website at <a href="https://tourism.gov.bz">https://tourism.gov.bz</a>.

See you next week. The Belize Tourism Board



## 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.

### COROZAL | AUG 24 - 26





### BELMOPAN | SEPT 28 - 30





### BOOT CAMP 8 FORMALIZATION CLINIC





### BELIZE CITY | SEPT 07 - 09





### PUNTA GORDA | SEPT 14 - 16



BOOT CAMP 8 FORMALIZATION CLINIC



### CAYE CAULKER | SEPT 22 - 23



BOOT CAMP 6 FORMALIZATION CLINIC



### ORANGE WALK | AUG 31 - SEPT 02 SAN IGNACIO/SANTA ELENA | OCT 05 - 07





### DANGRIGA | OCT 12 - 14





### PLACENCIA VILLAGE | OCT 19 - 21



BOOT CAMP 8 FORMALIZATION CLINIC



### SAN PEDRO | OCT 26 - 28



BOOT CAMP 8 FORMALIZATION CLINIC











# Illegal cattle ranching plaguing the Chiquibul

Continued from Page 1

Conservation and Development Belize (FCD Belize) held a meeting this month to discuss more effective strategies for curbing the clearing of Belizean forests by Guatemalans for ranching purposes.

FCD Belize has reported that cattle ranching by Guatemalans inside protected areas such as Vaca, Caracol, Columbia River, and Chiquibul has become an increasing threat.

Before the rise in illegal cattle ranching, the main issues encountered by the BDF along Belize's Western border with Guatemala were deforestation for marijuana plantations, gold panning, and illegal hunting. Now, according to Lt. Col. Burns, Guatemalan ranchers have been continuously clearing land to raise cattle on this side of the border. He told the media this week that the initial response by the BDF was to take a diplomatic approach and speak with their Guatemalan counterparts through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Additionally, soldiers have also attempted to push back the ranchers and remove their constructed fences.

"You would see where...we would be cutting down fence lines that would be apparent on our side of the border. We would be cutting down their poles as soon as they are putting them up to try and make these fences—elaborate sized fences, you would imagine, because it's a lot of cows that are grazing on that end," he said.

Those strategies, however, have been mostly futile—as have the many special operations conducted by the BDF and FCD, which usually result in only a temporary decrease of cattle ranching in the area.

"While it reduces the threat for a while, you see where other areas are being cleared for these ranches to come

about," Lt. Col. Burns added.

At present, FCD Belize has park rangers posted at strategic areas along the western border. Both the rangers and BDF soldiers, says Burns, report seeing cows grazing weekly.

"Every time you approach a cow, if you know anything about ranching, these cows would just scatter, and it's very hard to say you're going to catch a cow—detain the cow, and bring them in because you have all kinds of health risks that you could bring into the country," he stated.

Please turn to Page 35













Think Ahead

### IFRS Annual Virtual Training -UPDATE 20-21 September 2022

ACCA in partnership with BDO Eastern Caribbean, the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Barbados (ICAB), The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Belize (ICABe), the Institute of Chartered Accountants of the Caribbean (ICAC), the Institute of Chartered Accountants of the Eastern Caribbean (ICAEC - all branches), the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Guyana (ICAG) and Suriname Chartered Accountants Institute (SCAI) will be hosting its annual virtual IFRS training 2022.

Tuesday 20 September 2022 at 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. AST Wednesday 21 September 2022 at 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. AST

### **TOPICS:**

DAY 1 - IFRS 9 and 17; and Updates on upcoming standards

DAY 2 - IAS 20, 36 and 38

**REGISTER NOW!!!** 

### **Presenters:**



IAS 36 Chay Gomez Associate Director at KPMG



IAS 20 and 38
Steve Collings
FMAAT FCCA is a partner at a firm of
Chartered Certified Accountants in the
UK, Leavitt Walmsley Associates Ltd

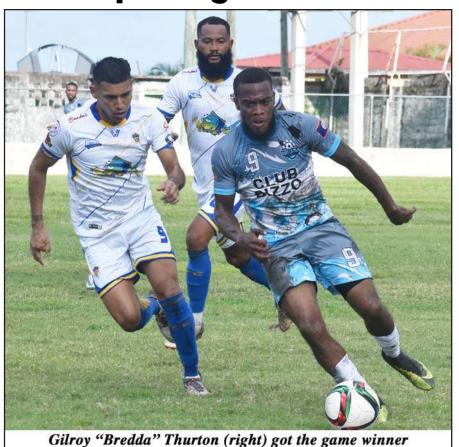


IFRS 9 and 17 Upcoming Standards
Kyle Rudden
Consulting Actuary & Managing Director KR Services

Call 223-2455 or email: <a href="mailto:secretariat@icab.bz">secretariat@icab.bz</a> for Registration Form



# Altitude loses; Verdes wins, retakes lead at Week 7 of PLB **Opening Season**



BELIZE CITY, Thurs. Sept. 15, 2022

The first round of the double round-robin Premier League of Belize (PLB) 2022-2023 Opening Season was completed with Week 7 games this past weekend. Defending champions, Verdes FC remain undefeated, while cellar dwelling Bandits SC are still winless. Two games each were played on Saturday, the Tenth, and Sunday, September

for Port Layola FC

We still have not received official scoring details from the PLB, only the game scores. And our sincere regrets about last Sunday's disappointment for MCC fans whom we had led to expect Altitude FC's goal scoring leader Andres Orozco in their line-up. We found out later that he was serving a game suspension due to accumulated yellow cards, something the league has not seen as important to share with us in advance of games. Come on, PLB!

### Saturday, Tenth results

Out at the Ambergris Stadium young Progresso FC from Orange Walk held home standing San Pedro Pirates FC to a 1-1 draw. Meanwhile, out west at the Marshalleck Stadium it was also a 1-1 stalemate between Benque FC and visiting Wagiya SC from Dangriga.

Sunday, September 11 results

Here at the MCC Grounds, Shawn Young struck twice early in first half, and Gilroy "Bredda" Thurton got what proved to be the 3-2 game winner for Port Layola FC over Altitude FC, after Altitude had bounced back to level the score at 2-2. Meanwhile, at the Norman Broaster Stadium in San Ignacio, defending champs Verdes FC cruised to a 5-0 win over the rebuilding Bandits SC who remain winless at Week 7. (See standings below.)

Having taken down then league leading Altitude FC, the spotlight will be on Port Layola FC this Sunday when they host undefeated defending champion, Verdes FC at the MCC. Altitude was without their star striker Andres Orozco last Sunday, but indications are that Verdes will be

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

"fully loaded" and taking no chances with the upstart newcomers from Port Layola.

Upcoming Week 7 schedule:

Saturday, September 17

7:30 p.m. – Benque Viejo FC vs Altitude FC – Marshalleck Stadium Sunday, September 18

4:00 p.m. – Progresso FC vs Bandits SC – Louisiana Football Field

4:00 p.m. – Port Layola FC vs Verdes FC – MCC Grounds

4:00 p.m. – Wagiya SC vs San Pedro Pirates FC – Carl Ramos Stadium

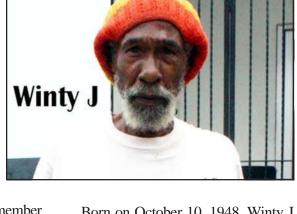
# Winty J laid to rest in Belize City

BELIZE CITY, Thurs. Sept. 14,

Funeral services for football, music and cultural icon, Vincent "Winty J" Johnson were held this afternoon on the outskirts of Belize City at the Coye Funeral Home at Mile 5 and 1/4 on the George Price Highway, followed by interment at Lord Ridge Cemetery.

A member of the original Messengers Combo in the

1960s, a "Twelve Tribes" Rasta member and a man with an undying passion for football and music, Winty J was a real people person with an infectious enthusiasm and love for his community, especially the youths, whom he always tried to reach out to through the sport of football and music. He was a steadfast member of the Yabra football club/ community ever since his last return from the USA to permanently reside in Belize, and was a fixture at every football/cultural event commemorating and celebrating past football legends, especially that of his lifetime idol, Louis "Di Mugger" Garbutt.



Born on October 10, 1948, Winty J was almost 66 years old when he participated in the veterans game (see picture above) on the occasion of the 2nd Mugger Day, promoted by another now late legend Nelson "Di Roo" Robinson, the goalkeeper lying down in the above picture. Two other outstanding personalities who have left us in that picture are Bert Cattouse of 1960s Brodie's champions and recent COLA fame who is second from the left squatting, and coach Lloyd "Panades" Flowers of the legendary St. Martin's primary school football champions, who is second from the left standing with arms

> extended. Winty J is second from the right standing.

Once again, our sincere condolences to all his relatives, and as well to his many football and music family members and friends. Rest in peace, brother Vincent "Winty J" Johnson! To Jah be the glory! Peace and love always!



## **KHMH celebrates**

Continued from Page 3

don't give back the necessary resources for you to be able to continue to operate - just like us human beings, if we don't take care of ourselves, we are going to fall apart," PM Briceño said.

One aspect of the institution that has been steadily deteriorating is the hospital's physical structure, and the PM, during his remarks, made a commitment to addressing the situation.

"I want to tell you that as a government we understand that, and we have been working, and we will continue to work with the Minister, with the Chairman and his board and the CEO to see how we can uplift this hospital, how we can make this environment better for you all so that you can feel proud that you are working here at the Karl Heusner Memorial Hospital, that you believe that your work is being recognized by not only the government but even by our people," the PM remarked.

The Prime Minister also acknowledged the frontline workers at the national referral hospital who were the first responders to the COVID-19 pandemic, many sacrificing weeks without seeing their own family at the height of the pandemic.

"We salute the staff of this institution for all they have given, and continue to give of themselves and even of their families. We can never thank you all

enough," he said.

CEO of the hospital, Chandra Cansino, noted during her presentation that it seems we are nearing the end of the COVID-19

"While the tunnel may be long and dark, we are many, and we will walk together, we'll support those who need a little help and we will persuade those who may need a little push, but as our village little upon itself, we will always be here for each other. None of us can do it alone, but together we can move mountains. Each and every member of the KHMH staff is important, and each person is a link in the chain of change that this institution needs to transform into a center of excellence," CEO Cansino expressed.

Notably, a Cabinet brief released today notified the public that the Cabinet had approved the removal of restrictions on overtime pay for healthcare workers - one of the commitments made by the Ministry of Health and Wellness to nurses following the nationwide walkout at the end of August. PM Briceño in his presentation commended that initiative by the nurses.

"I must commend you that you were able to stand up but quickly sit down and discuss and negotiate and find common ground with the government. I say this to tell you that I know we still have a number of outstanding issues," PM Briceño said,

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# Bevans to get \$770,000...

Continued from Page 1

the Belize Tourism Board (BTB) after the issuance this week of a Supreme Court ruling in favor of her wrongful termination claim, which she brought against the board following her dismissal from the BTB in March 2021, just a few months after the current PUP administration entered office. Justice Geneviéve Chabot, who handed down the judgment, awarded Bevans \$769,869.00 dollars – what was to be her remaining salary under her second contract of employment, which was signed 1 year and 8 months before the new administration came into power in November 2020.

The BTB argued in court that this contract was invalid, since, according to them, it was signed without the resolution of the board of directors and the authorization of the Minister of Tourism being executed instead under the former Chairman and Vice Chairman of the BTB. (Bevans' attorney, Senior Counsel Dean Barrow, in fact told a local television station, "What the BTB was arguing was that this contract was not properly given ... the Prime Minister had said the same thing, that Mrs. Bevans gave herself this contract, the board did not act properly as it were sanctioning the contract, the contract was therefore illegal ..."). The BTB also contended that clause 7.1.1 in the agreement, which stipulated that Bevans would have been entitled to payment if she was subjected to a wrongful termination, was an unenforceable penalty, and it brought ancillary claims against former Tourism Minister, Manuel Heredia; the former chairman of the Board of the BTB, Einer Gomez; and former BTB vice-chairman, Glenford Eiley.

The claim which was brought against those persons was dismissed by Justice Chabot. At the time of Bevans' dismissal, the BTB had opted to give her an exgratia payment of one year's salary as a settlement to end any and all future claims for loss of wages under the agreement. This proposal was not accepted by Bevans, who through her attorney, Senior Counsel Dean Barrow, sent a written rejection of the offer to the board, but Barrow noted that the money, about \$180,000, was still sent to the claimant's account.

"The BTB, in fact, filed a counterclaim against her; that arose because when they wrote her to tell her that she was being terminated, they said 'we will pay you a year'," Barrow explained. "They said this is in full pay and final settlement, you are being terminated, we will give you a year's salary, and that's it. She came to me; I wrote back to say, 'we do not accept that'; when they sent her the letter talking about the year's salary that they will give, it said we do this by way of ex-gratia payment," Barrow said.

That payment, however, was conditional—requiring, specifically, that she agree to not pursue legal action to recover the remainder of the salary to which she would have been entitled if she had served the full term of the contract.

"We wrote back to say that's nonsense. They still deposited that year's salary in her account," Barrow explained. The counterclaim to recover that one year of salary was thus dismissed.

The court, in addition to ruling in favor of Bevans and awarding damages and legal costs, which, according to her attorney amount to about \$81,000, also dismissed the ancillary claim brought by the BTB against the former Tourism Minister, Manual Heredia; former Chairman of the Board of the BTB, Einer Gomez; and former BTB Vice-Chair, Glenford Eiley.

The BTB had claimed that Minister Heredia breached his statutory duty by failing to approve the contract for Bevans' second term as Director of the BTB. The court found, however, that the agreement had been approved by Heredia by phone. The judgment noted, "It is Mr. Heredia's understanding that there was no requirement for his approval to be in writing. He instructed the Chairman of the Board to execute the Agreement, and once those instructions were issued, the Board had to follow those instructions, which it did."

The court also rejected the BTB's claim that clause 7.1.1 of the contract agreement was unenforceable, that it was "irrationally generous", and that "no reasonable and rational contracting authority would have considered it". "The Court rejects the notion that Clause 7.1.1 was either unjustified, disproportionate, not in the best interest of the BTB, excessively generous to the Claimant, or... unreasonable based on the fact that Clause 7.1.1 is a standard clause in BTB's employment contracts, that the Agreement was negotiated at arm's length, and that there is evidence that Clause 7.1.1 is justified on a commercial basis," stated Chabot's ruling.

When interviewed after the issuance of the ruling. Senior Counsel Dean Barrow, who was prime minister of the country when Bevans served as BTB Director, said that both current and past directors of the BTB have benefited from the inclusion in their employment contracts of such a clause guaranteeing payment in cases of wrongful termination. Barrow even made reference to a specific instance of this: "As you know at the time when the UDP was in office, Mr. Mahler [Hon. Anthony Mahler—current Tourism Minister who was the BTB's Director of Finance at the time] was terminated early and he sued and the then BTB settled, because they accepted that the contract said what it did."

Prime Minister Hon. John Briceño and RSV Ltd. were both earlier sued successfully in a defamation claim that was brought by Bevans in response to the Prime Minister's description of her employment agreement as a "crony contract" during comments he made on Love FM and other national media in December 2020. Hon. Briceño had claimed that there was a plethora of compiled evidence that never made it to the courtroom. When he first learned of a possible lawsuit against him. Prime Minister Briceño had stated, "I don't think she wants to go to court, because when we set up all the evidence of what has happened during her time, it's not going to be a pretty picture." Notably, neither Hon. Briceño nor RSV Limited had apologized as was requested by Bevans in a letter sent by her lawyer—which was noted by Justice Westmin James, who, in an August 2021 ruling, awarded Bevans \$30,000 in aggravated damages and \$60,000 in compensatory damages.

"The Claimant contends that she is not a political appointee," stated the judgment handed down today. Bevans' contract was renewed in April 2019 and was to run

# KHMH celebrates...

Continued from Page 34

referring to a letter he has received from the KHMHAU regarding those workers' pension scheme.

He said that he has asked the Minister of Health and Wellness, Hon. Kevin Bernard, to begin the conversation on that matter.

CEO Cansino remarked, "As you may know, the KHMH was established 27 years ago on September 15, 2022, 1995, and was named in the honor of Dr. Karl Huesner, who gave over 6 decades of his life to the service of Belize; and I know I'm not the only person here who remembers that transition... Five years later, the KHMH

became the Karl Heusner Memorial Hospital Authority under chapter 38 of the Laws of Belize. Back in '95, we served a population of approximately 210,000 people, which today has almost doubled to approximately 400,000. Gradually, over the years the demand for care and services increased, forcing us to expand and deliver. Today, we have a lot to boast about, and with the dedication of our staff, and their awesome ability to rise to the occasion despite the greatest of challenges, and the support of the board and the Ministry of Health and Wellness, we will have a lot more achievements. Our people need us, and we must answer the call."

# Illegal cattle ranching...

Continued from Page 33

At the recent meeting between the BDF and FCD, both parties sought to discern what could be a more effective strategy to enhance their efforts. They have proposed, as one option, establishing a more permanent military presence in problem areas.

"We spoke about how we can go and target these particular areas through special operations and double, or in some cases triple, the numbers of soldiers we put on the ground for a longer period of time, so that we can actually put a dent in the efforts of the illegal ranching," said Burns.

Rafael Manzanero, Executive Director of the FCD, said this week that the illegal cattle ranching issue is certainly one that demands a multifaceted solution—and one that involves cooperation from both sides of the border.

"In our approach we believe that there has to be a lot of that bi-national component, which basically means that our counterparts and the agencies, the Government, in Guatelama would also be required to get involved," he said.

Here in Belize, Friends for Conservation and Development has been making an effort to work and communicate more closely with both the Government and the Organization of American States (OAS).

The BDF and FCD will be sending their proposal, once it is finalized, to the government and will await approval of their new strategies. It remains to be seen, however, how well these strategies will deter the cattle ranchers, who Lt. Col. Burns says are simply trying to make a living.

"From what we've gathered, FCD along with the soldiers that are out in the west spoke to a lot of these caretakers—and I call them caretakers because they are not the ones that actually own these cattle; they are not the ones that are responsible, I would say, for the action. Maybe they are getting it done, but they are the ones just trying to earn a way of life. While they understand that it's illegal, it's almost like they're willing to take the risk, because they have nothing else to do. It's almost survival. We spoke about this in the meeting as well. The target needs to be the person that owns the ranch," he said.

According to Friends for Conservation and Development, cattle ranching in the tropics is the main human activity that is destroying a wide expanse of broadleaf forests. The BDF and FCD, as well as the OAS and the Guatemalan armed forces on the other side of the border, have been issuing flyers in an effort to discourage the illegal activity.

# Things to bat about...

Continued from Page 11

us engage in such games.

Please, you can't sip wine, beer, or rum, and condemn someone who smokes weed. If you met Jack Sprat and his wife, you would know that people have different wiring. Ah, and some like it hot, some like it cold, and some like in the pot, nine days old.

In the world of nation-building, we are to grow what we eat/drink. Give

it up for sugarcane, which gives us rum; give it up for berries, which give us wine; give it up for marijuana, which would give us weed if we weren't living in prohibition. Bah, beer is a luxury; we don't grow hops. Say absolutely no to cocaine, we don't grow coca; say absolutely no to heroin, we don't grow the opium poppy.

Hey, Happy Independence Day, Belize!

until April 2024, before she was terminated in March 2021. In February of that year, while Bevans was still at the helm of the BTB, an investigation was launched to determine if pension funds were misappropriated. Minister Mahler had stated at the time that he believed that trustees used those funds to pay themselves at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Notably, the BTB, also while Bevans

was BTB Director, parted ways with 50% percent of its staff during the first few months of the pandemic.

There has been no indication that the BTB will appeal the ruling, but the board's attorney, Andrew Marshalleck, told local media this week that they are still considering what options are available to them and that he would be reviewing the court's judgment before making a determination.

### **NOTICE TO MARINERS | Area south of Belize City**





This Notice To Mariners is provided accordance with the 'approval to conduct scientific investigation core sampling for Port of Magical Belize', issued by the Belize Port Authority on the 31st of August 2022 (BPA MS-25-12/2022 01).

Portico Enterprises Ltd., in cooperation with Supervisiones Technicas Y Control de Calidad S.A. de C.V. (STCC) and Boskalis will be executing marine soil investigation with the jack-up barge 'MV Nautilus" ca 8 nautical miles south of Belize city, West of the Southern Grennels Channel. Vessels are requested to keep a safe distance of at least 100 meters from the operations and inform the CEO or barge master via VHF channel 16 (or below numbers) in case of any emergencies or abnormalities.



**Timeline**: September 8<sup>th</sup> – October 20th



Equipment: Jack-Up barge MV Nautilus



### **Governance & Permits:**

Port Authority: BPA(MS)-25-12/2022 (01)

**DoE**: PRO/INFR/200520(86) **Fisheries**: GEN/FIS/1702022 (77)

**MONR**: MIN/75/02/22 (35)



**CEO Portico:** + 501 671 3200 **Barge Master:** + 52 314 119 0280



