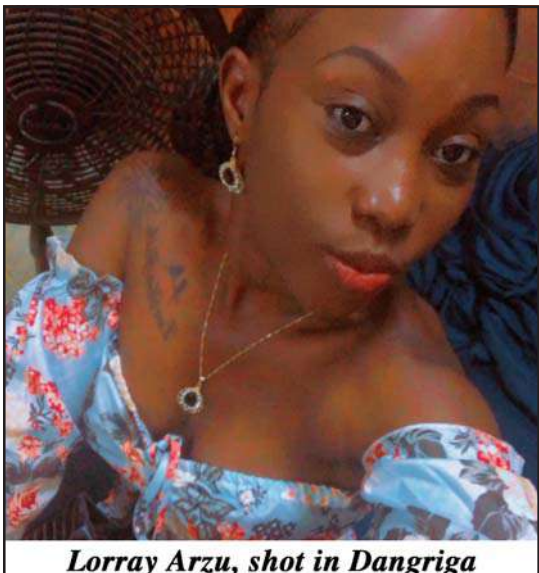


# WPC shot; fighting for her life

DANGRIGA, Thurs. Oct. 13, 2022

A woman police officer (WPC) attached to the Dangriga Police Station was shot - in the head - in the New Site area of Dangriga around 6:00 last night following an argument between two men. WPC Lorry Arzu, 27, has since been transported to the Karl Heusner Memorial Hospital (KMH), where she reportedly underwent brain surgery and is currently, according to police, in a critical condition.



*Lorry Arzu, shot in Dangriga*

Another person, 44 -year-old  
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## \$3.1 million found during "Mine Beer" factory raid



*by Marco Lopez*  
ORANGE WALK, Thurs. Oct. 13, 2022  
Last week, police found BZ\$3.1 million in undeclared cash during a two-day, tri-agency raid carried out at the

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## Ambulance's collision with busito causes student's death



**See story on page 2**

## New passports may cost up to \$200—unconfirmed reports

*by Khaila Gentle*  
BELIZE CITY, Thurs. Oct. 13, 2022  
There has been some public outcry at what some unconfirmed reports are indicating is a proposed hike in the prices for new passports, which, according to initial reports, may range anywhere from \$200 for a 10-year adult passport to \$400 for replacing lost or

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## Oil spill in Benque caused by Westline Bus Co., says DOE



**Clean-up crew working in drain affected by oil spill**

BENQUE VIEJO DEL CARMEN, Cayo District, Thurs. Oct. 13, 2022

A team from the Department of the Environment (DOE) is on the ground in the Cayo District at this time supervising clean-up activities after a 1,100-gallon container of waste oil owned by Westline Bus Company ruptured. There is no indication how long the oil has been seeping out, nor has there been a confirmation of how much oil has escaped from the compromised tanker located on the company's compound on the George Price Highway, in Benque Viejo. The DOE release states that the site where

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## Julia causes flooding and damage across Belize



**See story on page 34**

**Flooding in Cayo District (Photo: AerialBelize)**

# Public officers suffering without a PSC Chair – PSU

**After the withdrawal of Moises Cal for consideration for the post, and the nomination and subsequent withdrawal of Cresencio Sosa from consideration for the post, the PSU has recommended Mr. Alfredo Cruz for the PSC Chairman position.**

by *Khaila Gentle*

BELIZE CITY, Thurs. Oct. 13, 2022

The Public Service Union (PSU) has issued a statement condemning the Office of the Prime Minister's failure to appoint a new Public Services Commission (PSC) chairman as well as to fill other key vacancies on the PSC in a timely manner, and has also accused the Government of wanting to politicize the Commission.

The PSU president, Dean Flowers, in outlining the reasons for the union's reference to a possibly partisan agenda on the part of GoB, cited the current government's decision to call for the resignation of the former PSC chairman and other commissioners who had been appointed under the past administration. Since then, however, the current administration has failed to replace the commissioners whose terms of service officially ended in June 2022.



**(l-r) Moises Cal and Cresencio Sosa, have both been previously nominated for the post.**

## Ambulance's collision with busito causes student's death

**A road traffic accident on the Philip Goldson Highway claimed the life of Jorge Vargas, 21, a sixth-form student of Centro Escolar Mexico Junior College, and as many as six persons were severely injured when an ambulance crashed into the mini-bus in which they were traveling back home to Corozal.**

by *Charles Gladden*

RANCHITO, Corozal District, Thurs. Oct. 13, 2022

A collision between an ambulance and a mini-bus between Miles 82 and 83 of the Philip Goldson Highway in Ranchito Village, Corozal, caused injuries to a number of students and a sick minor, and claimed the life of a sixth-form student of Centro Escolar Mexico Junior College, Jorge Vargas, 21. Vargas and four other students had been traveling in a mini-bus en route to Corozal Town, where his mother was waiting to pick him up, when an ambulance which was carrying a sick minor and was heading in the opposite direction, crashed into the vehicle.

The collision occurred when the ambulance, which was transporting the sick minor and her mother from the Corozal Community Hospital to the Karl Heusner Memorial Hospital in Belize City, attempted to overtake a truck and collided head-on with the mini-bus, which was being driven by Carmelo Kau, 49, and was taking the students to Corozal Town after a day of classes.

(Notably, while reports have mentioned that the ambulance was overtaking a truck, it is known that incoming traffic must pull over to the side of the road, thus allowing a vehicle being used by first responders, such as an ambulance, to pass through. On Thursday, October 13, Commissioner of Police, Chester Williams, noted at a police press briefing that many Belizean drivers have shown a reluctance to do so. "That's one of the issues we have here in Belize. Only in Belize do certain things happen. We know already that once you hear the ambulance, the police, or the fire siren, it means that you must clear the way for an emergency, and certain drivers just have no regard [for] that and would want to race with the ambulance or with the police or the fire truck, which is wrong," Williams said.

It has been reported that a total of twelve persons were injured—including



**Jorge Vargas, deceased**

the driver of the ambulance, Louis Canelo, 33, and the nurses who were accompanying him.

One of the first persons to arrive at the scene was the Dean of Centro Escolar Mexico Junior College, Hugo Gonzalez, who told members of the local media that he was alerted by a teacher of the school about the accident.

"When I got there, some of the students had already been transported to the Corozal Community Hospital, then I saw the body of Jorge Vargas was still on the scene of the accident," he said.

While Vargas died at the scene, three other students of Centro Escolar Mexico Junior College, as well as a student at another institution, sustained serious injuries.

According to Gonzalez, the condition of one of those students, Anthony Tzib, who is from Patchakan Village, seems promising, since Tzib, who was taken to the Corozal Community Hospital, recognized Gonzalez when he went to the hospital and "called [him] by name". According to Gonzalez, another injured student, Armando Patt, was transported yesterday morning from the Corozal

In its statement, the PSU notes that public officers have been faced with a number of challenges and unresolved issues as a result of this, and that, over the past two months, the union has received countless calls from officers waiting to be appointed, those who have pending disciplinary matters before the Commission, and "desperate" retired public officers whose salary advances have been exhausted and as a result are both without an income and unable to receive retirement benefits.

Flowers said that, given that the government had called for the resignation of those former commissioners, it would only be reasonable to expect that suitable replacements would have already been identified.

"But now we know that the call for their resignation had little to do perhaps with the manner in which they were functioning and more to do with politics, because here we are two years after and this current administration is struggling to identify a Belizean citizen that is in high standing and that has the integrity and the knowledge and the experience about the public service to be able to do a good job and carry out the roles and the functions of the Public Service Commission," he added.

The PSU believes that there are a number of persons in the country who are competent enough to sit on the Commission. One such individual is Mr. Alfredo Cruz, whom the PSU has recommended for the position of PSC Chairman.

According to Flowers, however, it would seem that none of those competent Belizeans are to the liking of the Office of the Prime Minister.

In an *Amandala* article dated Thursday September 22, 2022, we reported that Mr. Cresencio Sosa had been nominated by the Prime Minister to be the new Chairman of the PSC. This took place shortly after the withdrawal of controversial former diplomat Moises Cal from consideration for the post following objections from the public. That article further noted that the government was awaiting an affirmative response from the Opposition so that Sosa's appointment could have been finalized. Since then, however, Sosa has withdrawn from consideration for the role, leaving the government once again without a nominee to serve as PSC Chair.

Flowers says that the individual whom the PSC has recommended for

the post, Mr. Cruz, is not only knowledgeable and experienced in the inner workings of the Commission but also is a man of "high integrity and high moral standing."

While the government continues to drag its feet in appointing new members to the Public Services Commission (PSC), the PSU president says that public officers, especially retirees, continue to suffer.

Among those suffering public officers, said Flowers, are "the retirees that have given so much of themselves to the people and the government of Belize, and who have already been inconvenienced by poor administration within the public service ... whose files might have went to the Treasury Department incomplete and had to be returned, and who have been waiting for well over a year—and in some cases over two years—to get their super annuity benefits."

Some of those retirees, he added, have been unable to pay even their basic recurring bills, including mortgage payments, utilities and medicine purchases, and the PSU is thus of the view that the long outstanding gratuities should be paid with interest.

"When the government owes its political financiers, whether it is via a court judgment or otherwise, they pay them with interest. And in business, when you owe somebody, you pay them with interest. When taxpayers such as public officers and the business community owe the government tax, they must pay them with interest. The government has a duty and a responsibility, therefore, to pay these individuals what is due to them with interest," said the PSU president.

Flowers went so far as to suggest that the retirees seek legal advice and take the government to court if their gratuities are not paid to them with interest.

In its press release, the Public Service Union has also called on the Office of the Prime Minister to task the Auditor General with assembling a "competent team of Public Officers" to address the issue of aging income tax returns that extend as far back as five years or more. It notes that delays in the processing of income tax returns for public officers may well be due to "gross negligence, incompetence, and even corrupt or irregular payroll and hiring practices that must be investigated and corrected." The PSU further stated that all money due on those returns should be paid to public officers with interest.

# Faber accuses ex of “selling” footage of domestic incident

**The latest footage that has surfaced of a domestic incident involving Collet area representative Hon. Patrick Faber was reportedly recorded in May 2022 (according to a date stamp on the video) by Faber’s ex-girlfriend, whom Faber accused in a social media post of selling the video to his political rivals**

by *Khaila Gentle*

BELIZE CITY, Thurs. Oct. 13, 2022

Hon. Patrick Faber has, once again, found himself embroiled in controversy after the circulation of a political ad that features video footage of him in a domestic dispute with his current fiancée. After the surfacing of the video, the Collet area representative has, in a social media post, accused the mother of one of his children, who is an ex-girlfriend of his, of recording the incident, which took place while their young daughter was present, and selling the video to his political opponents in an act of jealousy.

The video featured in the ad shows Faber and a woman in a struggle as each of the two tries to wrest a set of car keys from the hands of the other. As the incident unfolds and slowly escalates, a child can be seen standing in the corner of the shot. Eventually, an angered Faber head-butts the woman.

The video also features a voice overlay of comments made by Commissioner of Police Chester Williams during a past interview, in which he spoke out against domestic abuse. During this week’s police

press briefing, the Police Commissioner said that the production of the ad has disappointed him.

“I want it to be known that I have nothing to do with the ad, and I disassociate myself from it completely, for I have not authorized anybody to use my voice in order for them to achieve their own political objective,” said Williams.

He then added that, if the ad is broadcasted, he plans to take action against whoever airs it. Nevertheless, Commissioner Williams has maintained his position of being vehemently against domestic violence.

“I would never support [someone] who stands for domestic violence, because I do believe that we must learn to respect and cherish our women and children,” he said.

Not long after the incident was made public, Hon. Patrick Faber’s girlfriend, the woman who filmed the incident, Nickiesha Polanco, spoke out about the UDP parliamentarian’s long history of domestic abuse. She stated, via a post on social media, that she made the decision to step away from her

relationship with Faber out of concern for her safety and that of her daughter. She added that the video footage is that of a recent incident involving Hon. Patrick Faber and his fiancée which occurred during the summer, calling it a “frightening and regrettable” moment. (7News has reported that it saw a date and location stamp which confirmed that the incident took place on May 3 of this year—five months ago.)

“People need to stop enabling abusers. People need to stop blaming the victims and the victims need to stop blaming themselves,” she wrote.

In a since-deleted comment under that Facebook post, Faber lashed out at his ex, accusing her of having an “evil, nasty, destructive personality.” Faber further accused her of selling the video to his political rivals—an accusation she has forcefully denied.

According to the Commissioner of Police, the incident shown in the video was “already addressed long ago” by the Police Department.



**Hon. Patrick Faber involved in domestic incident**

It is believed that the ad was produced by Faber’s political opponents within the United Democratic Party. The Collet area representative and a number of party members have been in conflict with each other for months now. Most recently, in an *Amandala* article dated Friday, September 23, 2022, we reported that Faber’s application to once again be the party’s standard bearer for the Collet division had been denied by the UDP Nominations Committee. According to a letter from the Committee’s chairperson, this was because Faber allegedly failed to comply with at least three articles in the UDP Constitution by publicly criticizing the party on social media.

A few of Faber’s UDP colleagues, including Hon. Tracy Panton, Alberto August, and Lee Mark Chang, publicly spoke out against the committee’s decision and requested that Faber be allowed to run.



**Celso Cawich, deceased**

BELMOPAN, Thurs. Oct. 13, 2022

Police have arrested a 27-year-old Harmonyville vendor, John Horace, following the coldblooded murder of 38-year-old marine biologist Celso Cawich. Originally a resident of the Orange Walk District, Cawich lived, and owned a business, in the Harmonyville area of Cotton Tree Village at Mile 41. He was reportedly assailed by two male persons who entered his place of business on Saturday evening. Around 6:30 p.m. that day, police were called to the village, where they found him suffering from multiple gunshot wounds.

Cawich was rushed to the hospital for medical attention, but passed away shortly after. Police are currently still uncertain about the motive for this recent murder in a relatively quiet community — although the incident might have appeared to be an attempted robbery.

## Marine biologist executed in Harmonyville

“It would want to look like the initial intent was a robbery, and from what witnesses have described, they are saying that when Mr. Cawich made a movement as to go towards his waist for some reason, that was when the gunmen opened fire on him,” the Police Department’s communications director, ASP Fitzroy Yearwood, said during today’s press briefing.

According to Yearwood, the abrupt moves of the victim, who reportedly stepped backward a bit after the men entered the establishment and made their demands, might have jolted the gunmen into opening fire. The two men, who reportedly had a getaway vehicle waiting for them, escaped following the shooting. Yearwood further noted that it appears, based on the statements received by police, that no robbery took place following the shooting.

There is no indication that Cawich, who was a conservation-oriented UB lecturer, was involved in any illegal activity that could have imperiled his life. However, according to one villager from Harmonyville, he had detained and handed over a man to the police sometime before the shooting.

A villager who chose to remain anonymous told reporters that a man who claimed someone was trying to kill him had run into her home, seeking refuge. The man, whose identity has not yet been revealed, did not want to leave her home but was eventually removed



**John Horace Franklin, charged with murder**



**Jalen Amaury Oshen, charged with robbery**

from the residence with the help of some men working in the area and the victim, Cawich, who had been on his way to Cotton Tree to buy items for his store.

Cawich reportedly detained the man and handed him over to the police. Later that evening, he was shot and was rushed to the hospital by his wife, but unfortunately passed away. Prior to the arrest of Horace, it had been reported that two persons were in police custody after the shooting, and three other persons were being sought by police.

Cawich is being remembered as a helpful and community-oriented

member of Harmonyville.

“He is a very kind person, helpful, and respectful person that I know for so many years,” said one villager, who further remarked, “I was very shocked. I did not expect they would have killed him. I mean everybody here in the village was very shocked, and we cried, because he was a very nice person, kind, loving, so we did not expect this to have happened to him.”

On Tuesday, a 19-year-old from Belize City identified by police as Jalen Oshen was charged for the crime of robbery in connection with this recent murder recently.

## Pomona man killed by companion's ex-lover



**Kevin Williams, deceased**

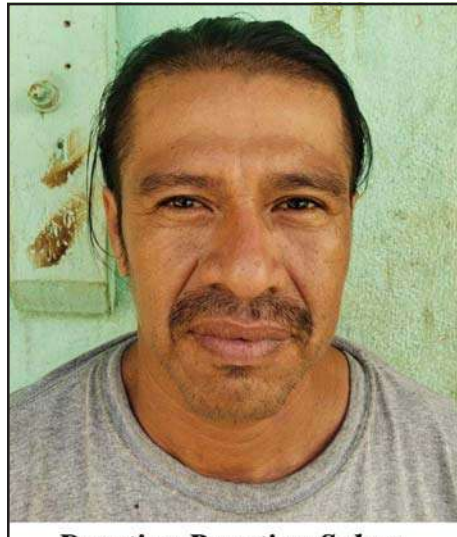
by Charles Gladden

POMONA, Stann Creek District, Tues. Oct. 11, 2022

Doratian Rogatian Salam, 43, was detained over the weekend by police, who had issued a wanted poster notifying the public that they were seeking him for questioning in connection with the murder of 29-year-old Kevin Williams, a construction worker of Pomona Village, Stann Creek District, which occurred early on Saturday morning, October 8.

Reports are indicating that at around 1:30 that morning, Salam had been riding his motorcycle when he saw Williams walking alongside a woman with whom Salam had been in a romantic relationship. (Williams and the woman had reportedly been at a bar in the village earlier.) According to reports, Salam then came off his motorcycle and pulled out a rusty ice pick, with which he proceeded to stab Williams four times—with three wounds being inflicted on Williams' chest.

The Belize Police Department's communications director, ASP Fitzroy



**Doratian Rogatian Salam, charged**

Yearwood, told reporters that police are following several leads, and they are awaiting instructions from the Office of the Director of Public Prosecution (DPP) before levying charges.

Yearwood confirmed that the woman with whom Williams had been walking, Ana Budna, 39, had been previously in a relationship with Salam. "It is not a secret that they may have been involved in a relationship [before] this incident, and I wouldn't want to put all that out until we know what would be the nature of the charges," he said.

Williams was transported to the Southern Regional Hospital by a passerby, but died of his injuries while undergoing treatment. On Monday, October 10, Salam handed in himself to Dangriga police in the presence of his attorney, Oscar Selgado.

A post-mortem examination was conducted on Williams and the results of that exam confirmed that his death was caused by hypovolemic shock and internal exsanguination (internal bleeding) due to multiple stab wounds. Salam was later charged for murder.

## Hurricane Julia kills 28 and counting in Central America



**Devastation in Venezuela. Julia continued its path of destruction in Venezuela. Heavy rain caused five streams to overflow and a landslide in Las Tejerías, some 50 kilometers (31 miles) southwest of the capital Caracas, which killed at least 25 people. More than 50 were missing.**

by Khaila Gentle

BELIZE CITY, Tues. Oct. 11, 2022

The storm that, at its strongest point, was Hurricane Julia has weakened since making landfall this weekend, but it continues to dump heavy rain over parts of Central America and Mexico, and, according to officials, has caused at least 28 deaths in Central America, as of Monday. According to one report from *NPR*, those deaths include fourteen in Guatemala, nine in El Salvador, four in Honduras, and one in Nicaragua.

In a press conference with the media on Tuesday, the National Emergency Management Organization (NEMO) confirmed that, so far, there has been no major loss of life or severe injuries due to the storm here in Belize.

Amid heavy rain, which has led to widespread flooding across the region, the death toll in other parts of Central America continues to rise. In Guatemala, at least five people have died as a result of a hillside

collapsing onto their house and burying them, according to that country's disaster prevention agency. Just recently, Guatemala's president, Alejandro Giammattei, declared a "state of calamity," which is expected to last for the next 30 days.

In El Salvador, the collapse of a house led to the deaths of five soldiers. The soldiers were among a group of military personnel involved in recent anti-gang raids. They were taking refuge in the house, located in the town of Comasagua. Two persons also died in the town of Guatajiagua after the wall of their house collapsed.

According to reports from *PBS News*, one man died when he was swept away by floodwaters and another after a tree fell on him.

The capsizing of a boat in northern Honduras led to the death of five persons, while strong currents swept away one 22-year-old woman.

In addition to the still rising death toll, there are also dozens of persons still missing, including in Venezuela, where a massive landslide destroyed over 300 homes in the city of Las Tejerías. According to reports, residents had mere minutes to flee their homes before an avalanche of mud and debris rolled down the mountainside and into neighborhoods. On Sunday, the president of the South American nation, Nicolas Maduro, declared a three-day period of mourning for the lives lost during the landslide.

After first making landfall on Nicaragua's coast as a Category 1 hurricane on Sunday, Julia weakened into a tropical storm and made its way into the Pacific later in the day. By Monday, the storm had weakened even further but has continued to cause heavy rain over Guatemala. Julia is the second system on record to have crossed from the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific with at least tropical storm-level strength. The first was Bonnie, which did so earlier this year.

According to the National Hurricane Center, as the week progresses, there is still a risk of life-threatening flash floods and mudslides across much of Central America and Mexico.

## US Embassy donates backlog-reduction equipment to Belize's judiciary

by Charles Gladden

BELIZE CITY, Thurs. Oct. 13, 2022

On Wednesday, October 12, the Belize judiciary received several pieces of equipment from the US Embassy as a part of the US government's Backlog Reduction Program.

The equipment, which has an estimated value of \$400,000 BZ, will be used to reduce the number of pending criminal cases that are before the courts.

The handing-over ceremony took place in the Supreme Court and was attended by officials representing the Supreme Court, Magistrate Court, the Police Department's Prosecution Branch, the National Forensic Science Service, and the Financial Intelligence Unit.

Georgia Belizaire, INL Justice Sector Program Specialist at the US Embassy, explained, "So there are laptops, scanners, and desks, particularly for updating the case management system. There are also security cameras for the court. There are servers because as much case goes into the case management system, they're going to need to actually expand their storage capacity. So, it's basically stuff to improve on the case management program."

The Registrar General of the Supreme Court, Trienia Young, further outlined how the equipment will be used: "The equipment is to be shared between the Supreme Court and the Magistrate Court. Part of the equipment is to go to the prison

to expand access to the prison for adjournments and bail applications so that magistrates throughout the country would be able to have access to the prisoners who are on remand. So, that is part of it. Presently, there are four access points at the prison. So that access points are set. ...So, it's only the Belize Supreme Court and I believe two Magistrate Courts in Belize that have that. Now, this would allow for magistrates, wherever in the country of Belize, to be able to access through a wifi-connected laptop," she said.

Young further pointed out that the equipment will also provide a reduction in costs for taxpayers who finance the transportation of convicts and persons on remand to the courts.

"You would also have prisoners from Punta Gorda who would be brought a couple of days in advance, the same in San Pedro. You have situations that we have seen, where prisoners have gotten injured due to traffic accidents; I believe in Orange Walk that has occurred. You have where the prison is on lockdown for whatever reason and the prisoners are not able to have access to the courts. This will alleviate that completely," she said.

During her comments at the ceremony, the Chief Justice of Belize, Hon. Louise Blenman, stated, "It is critical that litigants are provided with easy access to justice that is fair and efficient, failing in which fundamental rights may be impacted. More recently, inefficiencies in the delivery of

justice were forever laid bare during the COVID-19 pandemic. This state of affairs does not augur well, since, for example, potential investors who have a genuine interest in Belize will be reluctant to come to Belize. And if they are of the informed view that crimes are not effectively prosecuted and punished, all of this can have the effect of undermining Belize's development and eroding its stability. As a matter of urgency, the Judiciary and Magistracy will be reformed and modernized in order to be able to properly serve the people of Belize," said Chief Justice of Belize, Hon. Louise Blenman.

Her comments were echoed by the US Embassy's Charge d' Affaires, Leyla Moses-Ones, who highlighted the joint relationship between Belize and the US through the International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL), which has been established since 2016.

"The current program aims to reduce the criminal case backlog through supporting legislative reform and, as the Chief Justice said, the development and enhancement of a case management system that rests on modern, digital technologies. It represents an investment, not only in the courts but sort of a spiritual investment in swift justice that means so much, as the Chief Justice said, not only for Belizean communities but for the broader implications in the country's stability and economic prosperity," she said.

It was also noted that the efforts to reduce the backlog in cases have so far been

fruitful—with a 42% reduction being achieved over the last few months.

Belizaire, the INL Justice Sector Program Specialist at the US Embassy stated, "When we started, the system was doing something like 49,000 cases. We're down to 19,000 to 20,000+, which is quite incredible. And it was a lot of effort from the court to do that. Success can only come if the government wants that success, and obviously, they want it."



## Spend that “wage increase” on local products, NOT foreign goods

In his Independence Day address, Prime Minister John Briceño announced that in January 2023 his government will be delivering on a campaign pledge of his party, to increase the minimum wage from \$3.30 per hour to \$5.00 per hour. The last time the minimum wage was increased was a decade ago, in 2012, when it was increased from the \$3.10 per hour set in 2010 to the present \$3.30.

The 2010 wage increase wasn't across the board. The International Labour Organization (ILO), at the website [www.ilo.org](http://www.ilo.org), said the minimum wage rate in Belize was adjusted to BZ\$3.10 per hour in August 2010 “for all workers except manual/agricultural workers.” Apparently, not all workers will qualify for the full increase that the PUP promised when it contested the November 2020 General Elections. *Amandala* journalist, Ms. Khaila Gentle, reported last week that the government was carrying out a number of consultations with the public, and that personnel from the Ministry of Rural Transformation, Community Development, Labour, and Local Government had explained that their objective was “to discuss the impact of the increase for unskilled workers and those engaged in elementary occupations, interventions required to ensure compliance, and a potential formula for gradual increase in specific sectors and future wage adjustments.”

The PUP had promised to deliver on the minimum wage increase as soon as the economy roared back from four consecutive quarters of negative growth under a previous administration. But the pandemic followed, and to add to our economic woes, war came to Europe. The cruel bombardment and occupation of parts of Ukraine by Russia has led to a massive increase in the cost of two essential tools of industry: fuel and fertilizers.

Our economy has improved since we were in the full grip of the pandemic, but no one, not even the most die-hard PUP, claims to hear a roar. The fact is that our economic engine has never hummed. We might have improved beyond the too familiar disappointing “sputter” in the second decade of this new millennium, that period when the oil money was pouring in, if our once robust citrus and shrimp industries hadn't dipped to near non-performance because of two devastating diseases.

Earlier this year, on July 1, the GOB's Press Office had announced that a task force had been set up “to oversee the gradual implementation of the five-dollar minimum wage”, and the PM had explained that the reason his government had to move cautiously was because it needed to ensure that the economy could absorb the increase. The Belize Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BCCI) had expressed support for a gradual implementation of the increase, because it would give businesses time to adjust to the change.

Now the captain of our ship has shifted gears and announced that we are opening the throttle, to near full speed ahead. Some skeptics are wondering where the money will come from. Skeptical employers worry that persons who are presently making \$5.00 per hour will demand more, and those who are presently earning more than \$5 per hour will also want more when they see people below their pay scale jumping up to their level. It shouldn't matter what anyone else makes; indeed we should be happy to see our less fortunate brothers and sisters get a boost but, alas, this world doesn't work that way.

It can't be that the GOB, seeing the disarray in the main opposition, the UDP, is thinking about an early election, just two years into its mandate. The previous party in power, the UDP, might have been on that course when in June 2015 it agreed to a well-deserved 8% salary increase for public officers and teachers, retroactive to April of that year. In September 2015 PM Barrow followed that with the announcement that a very favorable agreement had been reached on the nationalization of BTL. One month later he dissolved the House of Representatives, and on November 4, 2015, just 3 years and 8 months into its five-year mandate, Barrow and his UDP rolled over the PUP at the polls for a third consecutive time.

There are concerns about this increase which will become law in January 2023, but independent studies show that the minimum wage, even at \$5.00 per hour, is woefully low. A decade ago, a \$5 minimum wage would have indicated that our economy was beginning to fire on all cylinders. In 2022, \$5 per hour doesn't look like much, and it cannot buy much.

Earlier this year the PM stated that a too high wage increase could “create incredible inflation that can lead us to devaluation.” Today, the all-important peg to the US dollar remains 2 (BZ\$) to 1 (US\$), but data from the Statistical Institute of Belize (SIB) shows the purchasing power of the Belize dollar is far less than what it was a decade ago. Looking at staples, **ground beef** was \$4.29 per pound in 2012, and it now sells for \$6.04 per pound, an increase of 40%; **rice**, sold at \$1.08 per pound in 2012, is now \$1.57 per pound, an increase of 45%; **flour**, which had a price of \$0.92 per pound in 2012, is now \$1.22 per pound, an increase of 32%; **eggs**, sold at \$2.90 per dozen in 2012, now cost \$4.56 per dozen, an increase of 57%; and the price of **whole chicken**, which was \$2.59 per pound in 2012, is now \$3.03 per pound, an increase of 17%.

The skeptics wonder where the money will come from, but for the GOB it wasn't an option; it had to implement the increase. It is important for the economy, for Belizeans involved in commerce and industry to respond positively. Actually, there are a number of ways the increase in the minimum wage will benefit businesses. Greater purchasing power for workers means more sales, and happier workers means more production.

The GOB making good on its promised wage increase won't take any of us out of poverty, but it will surely help us get by. Workers of Belize, if we want more than getting by, if we want to get by “betta”, we have to pay more attention to our dollar. We can continue along the same path we're on, and watch inflation erode our gains away, or we can make a necessary about turn.

We need to spend less on foreign luxury goods. We have to root out or curb our appetite for products from abroad that we are “addicted” to. We need to prioritize products that are made in Belize. The expiration dates and nutrition information on labels are important, but equally or more important is the strip at the bottom that says it is made at home.

When we buy goods made in Belize, we expend less foreign exchange, which means more of our dollars stay at home and work for us, to help us all win. That wage increase isn't that much. Its impact will be much greater if we spend it wisely.



(estb. 1969)

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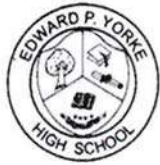
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**Vacancy- Edward P. Yorke High School**

**1. Business Teacher (Full-time)**

**Minimum Qualifications**

Bachelor's Degree in Business Education with a valid **Teachers license** and evidence of CXC passes in the subject area.

Candidates must be familiar with the CSEC syllabus in the related subject areas.

**PAYSCALE**

In accordance with the government pay scale.

**2. Technical Drawing and Wood Technology (Temporary)**

**Minimum Qualifications**

Associate Degree with specialization in the subject area to be taught or a Trained Teachers Diploma with G.C.E. or C.X.C. passes in the respective subjects.

A First Degree and/ or experience in the teaching of the specified subject(s) will be preferred.

**PAYSCALE**

Government pay scale (8) to (16) dependent on qualifications.

Applicants must be in possession of a valid **Teachers license** and a current Social Security card valid for employment.

**3. Cleaner/Janitor (Full-time)**

Primary school leaving certificate

**PAYSCALE**

Government pay scale 2

Letters of application accompanied by a resume, references, copies of qualifications, and police record must reach the Secretary of the Board of Management, Edward P. Yorke High School P.O Box 471, Belize City, Belize by 4:00 p.m. on Friday, October 28, 2022.

**BTB hosts first ever Elevate Training Expo**



**Abil Castaneda, Director of Quality Management, Capacity Development, and Registrar of Hotels for Belize Tourism Board**

*by Charles Gladden*

BELIZE CITY, Thurs. Oct. 13, 2022

The Belize Tourism Board (BTB) launched day one of its first annual two-day Elevate Training Expo at the Belize Biltmore Plaza in Belize City.

During the expo, which is the result of a collaboration between the BTB and Florida International University, experienced local and international trainers will be making presentations on key areas of focus/interest within the tourism sector. Notable features of the expo are a Birding Tour, to be conducted

by the Belize Audubon Society, and a training session by Beltraide on how to upsell products to consumers.

One of the objectives of the Ministry of Tourism is to make Belize a destination for international tourists. The Director of Quality Management, Capacity Development, and Registrar of Hotels for the Belize Tourism Board, Abil Castaneda, told the media that this expo will provide needed skills to new persons entering the industry to meet the needs of an increasing number of tourists arriving in the country subsequent to the Covid-19 pandemic.

“Part of the product development aspect of any industry is making sure you have human resources, ability, skills, and the competency to provide the service or the product that you want to provide. So as we want to continue very good numbers in terms of recovery and we’re getting to the point where we are going beyond pre-Covid numbers, we have to be also ready, and the reality is we have new people coming into the industry because of what happened during Covid, so then these new people need to be trained. They need to gain the skills as well,” he said.

**Belize nominates new ambassador to the EU**

**Dr. Gianni Avila, a career diplomat, has been selected by Prime Minister, Hon. John Briceño to serve as Belize’s new ambassador in Brussels, Belgium**

BELIZE CITY, Thurs. Oct. 13, 2022

The morning, the government of Belize announced that the Prime Minister, Hon. John Briceño, named a new Belizean ambassador to the European Union, Dr. Gianni Avila. Avila, who holds a doctorate in International Economic

Law from Maastricht University in The Netherlands, previously served at the Belize Permanent Mission in New York, where she worked as a trade economist.

“Dr. Avila was part of the legal team

**Please turn to Page 35**

**INTERNATIONAL LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANIES ACT 2011 (No. 13 of 2011)**

**NOTICE OF DISSOLUTION**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the company named “**AHIMSA SERVICES AND CONSULTING LLC**”, a Belize International Limited Liability Company, with Registration No. IFSC/200/ LLC 112/13, has been dissolved and struck off from the International Limited Liability Companies Register with effect from the 6th October, 2022.

GEORGETOWN TRUST, LTD. – Registered Agent

**INTERNATIONAL LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANIES ACT 2011 (No. 13 of 2011)**

**NOTICE OF DISSOLUTION**

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GEORGETOWN TRUST, LTD. – Registered Agent

**CLASSIFIED ADS**

**VACANCY**

**VACANCY:** Interviewing for distillers and distillery workers. Email inquiries and resumes to: [rumcrafters@gmail.com](mailto:rumcrafters@gmail.com)

**FOR RENT**

**FOR RENT:** A three-bedroom one-bathroom upstairs at 44 Albert Hoy, Belama Phase 1. Fenced yard and ac in the Master bedroom. \$900 per month with payment in advance. For serious inquiries text or call 620-8059.

**NOTICE**

**NOTICE:** I, Clotildo Luis Martinez, have lost boat title of Registration

**LIQUOR LICENSE NOTICE**

Number: BZ-2449. Name of Vessel: INNIES. Color: white hull. Length: 25ft. Beam: 5ft. Description: Fiberglass skiff.

**LIQUOR LICENCE NOTICE:** Notice is hereby given that Victor Enriquez is applying for a Beer Liquor License to be operated at AnaVic’s Kitchen, 1 ¼ Miles Southern Highway, Stann Creek District, under the intoxicating Liquors Act, Revised Edition of 2000.

**LIQUOR LICENCE NOTICE:** Notice is hereby given that Shane Young is applying for a Liquor License to be operated at Triple’s Mini Shop, Lot #94 New Spanish Town, Ladyville, Lords Bank, under the intoxicating Liquors Act, Revised Edition of 2000.

# We Are Losing Grip On Poverty



by Rudolph A. Neal

In the midst of the global pandemic, Covid-19, the poverty rate in Belize was reported at a staggering 52%! Now if that doesn't immediately give you chest pain and raise your blood pressure levels, let me break down what a 52% poverty rate indicates. A poverty rate of 52% means that more than half of our country is unable to provide the basic necessities that are needed for sustenance and survival. A 52% poverty rate indicates that in a room with an average of 100 ordinary people, 50 of them are poor. It means that there's a pretty good chance

that the person sitting next to you on that bus ride did not have breakfast and has no idea where the next meal or copper is coming from. But to utterly compound this already terrible situation from bad to worse, it was recently reported that the poverty rate is projected to rise, propelled by incendiary inflation and subsequent stagflation which, when all put together, is causing us to lose our grip on poverty in Belize.

Every day we turn on the news, we are eerily reminded of the crippling effects of poverty, which is highlighted on various platforms. It is now made even more abundantly clear with the advent of technology and the proliferation of mass media, which highlights and broadcasts the plight of the poor and suffering in this country. While poverty has always plagued us, the number of families in the country who were unwittingly subjugated to the bitter and callous trenches of penury and destitution has been exacerbated since the onset of the global pandemic. Now

that we have begun to get a hold of the virus and have made significant strides to stymie and reduce new infection and mortality rates, we have inadvertently begun to lose our grip on poverty.

The cost of living in Belize has skyrocketed, and the crippling effects of inflation have taken their unjust place in our homes. The price of almost everything has risen, except, of course for salaries and wages. The sustained increase in the price of fuel in this country has led to a higher cost of transportation, which also, as an underlying corollary, has increased the cost of goods and services. A \$50 trip to the grocery store has become a burdensome \$120 now and a once-shopping cart of groceries has been reduced to the most affordable shopping basket of absolute necessities. Belizeans are now faced with the harsh dilemma of carefully selecting between the most critical needs while cutting down is now the constant refrain; that is of course for those who are able to.

That is because there are many who don't even have anything to even curtail. Yes, there are many of our citizens who wake up lacking, in total and complete want for basic needs. There is no money, no food and the shelter that they share doesn't even constitute a decent abode. UNICEF reports that while the poverty rate for the general population in Belize is generally high, the outlook for children is grim. The report notes that up to 50% of children in Belize under the age of 15 years are marred by the hardships of indigence and poverty while 58% of

youths under the age of 18 are classified as multi-dimensionally poor. It goes on to cite that UNICEF and ECLAC estimate that 6 out of every 10 children in Belize lack at least one of the basic needs that are required for sustenance and survival. This is bad, very bad, and this grimacing report cites the rather chilling and inherent poverty situation in Belize that needs urgent redress.

The current path that we are on to seriously address the issues of poverty in this small developing jewel is less than sufficient and quite frankly, unacceptable. Belize is a small country, you know, with a billion-dollar budget, yet almost half of the country suffers from impoverishment and destitution. Little over 400,000 people in this country and half of our children are lacking their basic needs and are already subject to indigence and penury; having not even been privy to a fair start in life. Go figure what the outcome will be if we allow 50% of our children (who are the near future of the country) to continue through poverty into adulthood without stemming it: a repeated and calculated cycle of poverty is the only thing that will be birthed from that. We have seriously got to recognize this as a state of emergency and pool resources together to combat this as a matter of urgency. No excuses can be had. We must address this seriously and with grave concern, because we are losing our grip on poverty!

*Unchained Reflections Of A Liberal Pragmatist.*



## Vacancy for Youth Coordinator in the Roman Catholic Diocese of Belize City & Belmopan

The Roman Catholic Diocese of Belize City & Belmopan is seeking a Youth Coordinator for Youth Ministry. The applicant must be an active Roman Catholic in good standing with the Church and possess a strong commitment to the Catholic faith and relationship with God. Must possess leadership skills and have a high degree of comfort working with youth and the ability to communicate effectively with youth. Some travel and weekend work is required.

Minimum qualification required is an Associate Degree or have participated in a youth leadership training program or have experience working with young people. Being bilingual would be an asset.

**Mission:**

To serve the Roman Catholic Diocese of Belize in its ministry to youth and young adults

**Responsibilities:**

- Coordinating and liaising with the Diocesan Pastoral Life Youth Ministry Resource Team and the Roman Catholic Chancery Office as to the goals and ideas for meeting youth needs and evangelization of the youth and young adult of our diocese.
- Giving support to youth ministries in the parishes and assisting in setting up youth ministries in the parishes.
- Assist in coordinating and supporting national youth gathering.
- Fostering the involvement of young people in the life of the parish by being involved in parish activities.
- Determine effective means for publicizing and promoting programs and activities among youth in the parish.

**Application package must include:**

- ▶ A letter of application and résumé
- ▶ Two recent letters of recommendation (one must be from previous or present employer)

**Application package must be addressed to:**

Youth Resource Team  
 Roman Catholic Chancery Office  
 148 North Front Street  
 P.O. Box 1823  
 Belize City

Or email application and résumé to [episkopos@btl.net](mailto:episkopos@btl.net)

**Deadline for application is Friday, October 28, 2022**

For further information contact the Roman Catholic Chancery Office at 223-6919 or via email: [episkopos@btl.net](mailto:episkopos@btl.net)

**“Walk Humbly With God”**

## PUBLICAUCTION SALE: PROPERTIES

### SAN PEDRO TOWN AMBERGRIS CAYE, BELIZE

BY ORDER of the Chargee **CAYE INTERNATIONAL BANK LIMITED**, Licensed Auctioneer Robert Cadle JP will sell the following properties at the Bank's location: Coconut Dr. San Pedro Town, Ambergris Caye on Friday October 21<sup>st</sup>, 2022 at 10:30a.m.



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCELS
San Pedro	7	5456,5457,5458,5459

Total of four vacant lots situated near North of the San Pedro Bridge, facing the lagoon area, San Pedro, Ambergris Caye, Parcel no. 5456 is 3,708.80 sq. ft. Parcel no. 5457 is 4,221 sq. ft. Parcel no. 5458 is 3,873.39 sq. ft. Parcel no. 4,420.58 sq. ft. **WILL BE AUCTION ALL TOGETHER.**

**TERMS: CASH ONLY**

**CALL: +501-601-1771**

**EMAIL: [silverstarbz@gmail.com](mailto:silverstarbz@gmail.com)**



## Gasten ese "aumento salarial" en productos locales, NO en productos extranjeros

En su discurso del Día de la Independencia, el Primer Ministro John Briceño anunció que en enero de 2023 su gobierno cumplirá una promesa de campaña de su partido, de aumentar el salario mínimo de \$3.30 por hora a \$5.00 por hora. La última vez que se aumentó el salario mínimo fue hace una década, en 2012, cuando pasó de los \$3.10 la hora fijado en 2010 a los \$3.30 actuales.

El aumento salarial de 2010 no fue generalizado. La Organización Internacional del Trabajo (OIT), en el sitio web [www.ilo.org](http://www.ilo.org), dijo que la tasa del salario mínimo en Belize se ajustó a BZ\$3.10 por hora en agosto de 2010 "para todos los trabajadores excepto los trabajadores manuales/agrícolas". Aparentemente, no todos los trabajadores calificarán para el aumento completo que prometió el PUP cuando se presentó a las Elecciones Generales de noviembre de 2020. La periodista de *Amandala*, la Srta. Khaila Gentle, informó la semana pasada que el gobierno estaba realizando una serie de consultas con el público y que el personal del Ministerio de Transformación Rural, Desarrollo Comunitario, Trabajo y Gobierno Local había explicado que su objetivo era "discutir el impacto del aumento para los trabajadores no calificados y aquellos que se dedican a ocupaciones elementales, las intervenciones requeridas para garantizar el cumplimiento y una posible fórmula para el aumento gradual en sectores específicos y futuros ajustes salariales".

El PUP había prometido cumplir con el aumento del salario mínimo tan pronto como la economía se recuperara de cuatro trimestres consecutivos de crecimiento negativo bajo una administración anterior. Pero siguió la pandemia y, para aumentar nuestros problemas económicos, llegó la guerra a Europa. El cruel bombardeo y ocupación de partes de Ucrania por parte de Rusia ha llevado a un aumento masivo en el costo de dos herramientas esenciales de la industria: combustible y fertilizantes.

Nuestra economía ha mejorado desde que estuvimos en pleno control de la pandemia, pero nadie, ni siquiera el PUP más recalcitrante, afirma haber escuchado un rugido. El hecho es que nuestro motor económico nunca ha zumbado. Podríamos haber mejorado más allá del demasiado familiar y decepcionante "chisporroteo" en la segunda década de este nuevo milenio, ese período en el que el dinero del petróleo estaba llegando a raudales, si nuestras industrias de cítricos y camarones, que alguna vez fueron sólidas, no se hubieran hundido hasta casi dejar de funcionar debido a dos enfermedades devastadoras.

A principios de este año, el 1 de julio, la Oficina de Prensa del Gobierno de Belize había anunciado que se había creado un grupo de trabajo "para supervisar la implementación gradual del salario mínimo de cinco dólares", y el primer ministro había explicado que la razón por la que su gobierno tuvo que moverse con cautela fue porque necesitaba asegurarse de que la economía pudiera absorber el aumento. La Cámara de Comercio e Industria de Belize (BCCI por sus siglas en inglés) había expresado su apoyo a una implementación gradual del aumento, porque daría tiempo a las empresas para adaptarse al cambio.

Ahora el capitán de nuestro barco ha cambiado de marcha y ha anunciado que estamos abriendo el acelerador, casi a toda velocidad. Algunos escépticos se preguntan de dónde vendrá el dinero. Los empleadores escépticos se preocupan de que las personas que actualmente ganan \$5.00 por hora exijan más, y aquellos que actualmente ganan más de \$5 por hora también querrán más cuando vean que las personas por debajo de su escala salarial saltan a su nivel. No debería importar lo que ganan los demás; de hecho, deberíamos estar felices de ver que nuestros hermanos y hermanas menos afortunados reciben un impulso, pero, qué pena, este mundo no funciona de esa manera.

No puede ser que el Gobierno de Belize, viendo la desorganización en la principal oposición, el UDP, esté pensando en una elección anticipada, apenas dos años después de su mandato. El anterior partido en el poder, el UDP, pudo haber estado en ese rumbo cuando en junio de 2015 acordó un merecido aumento salarial del 8% para funcionarios públicos y docentes, retroactivo a abril de ese año. En septiembre de 2015, el Primer Ministro Barrow siguió eso con el anuncio de que se

había llegado a un acuerdo muy favorable sobre la nacionalización de BTL. Un mes después disolvió la Cámara de Representantes, y el 4 de noviembre de 2015, apenas 3 años y 8 meses después de su mandato de cinco años, Barrow y su UDP derrotaron al PUP en las urnas por tercera vez consecutiva.

Existen preocupaciones sobre este aumento que se convertirá en ley en enero de 2023, pero estudios independientes muestran que el salario mínimo, incluso a \$5.00 por hora, es lamentablemente bajo. Hace una década, un salario mínimo de \$5 habría indicado que nuestra economía estaba comenzando a funcionar a toda máquina. En 2022, \$ 5 por hora no parece mucho y no puede comprar mucho.

A principios de este año, el primer ministro declaró que un aumento salarial demasiado alto podría "crear una inflación increíble que puede llevarnos a la devaluación". Hoy en día, la paridad más importante con el dólar estadounidense sigue siendo de 2 (BZ\$) a 1 (US\$), pero los datos del Instituto de Estadística de Belize (SIB) muestran que el poder adquisitivo del dólar de Belize es mucho menor de lo que era hace una década. En cuanto a los alimentos básicos, la carne molida costaba \$4.29 la libra en 2012 y ahora se vende a \$6.04 la libra, un aumento del 40%; el arroz, que se vendía a \$1.08 la libra en 2012, ahora cuesta \$1.57 la libra, un aumento de 45%; la harina, que tenía un precio de \$0.92 la libra en 2012, ahora cuesta \$1.22 la libra, un aumento del 32%; los huevos, que se vendían a \$2.90 la docena en 2012, ahora cuestan \$4.56 la docena, un aumento del 57%; y el precio del pollo entero, que era de \$2.59 por libra en 2012, ahora es de \$3.03 por libra, un aumento del 17%.

Los escépticos se preguntan de dónde saldrá el dinero, pero para el Gobierno de Belize no era una opción; tuvo que implementar el aumento. Es importante para la economía, que los beliceños involucrados en el comercio y la industria respondan positivamente. En realidad, el aumento del salario mínimo beneficiará a las empresas de varias maneras. Un mayor poder adquisitivo para los trabajadores significa más ventas, y trabajadores más felices significan más producción.

Que el Gobierno de Belize cumpla con su aumento salarial prometido no sacará a ninguno de nosotros de la pobreza, pero seguramente nos ayudará a salir adelante. Trabajadores de Belize, si queremos algo más que salir adelante, si queremos salir adelante "mejor", tenemos que prestar más atención a nuestro dólar. Podemos continuar por el mismo camino en el que estamos y ver cómo la inflación erosiona nuestras ganancias, o podemos dar un giro necesario.

Necesitamos gastar menos en artículos de lujo extranjeros. Tenemos que erradicar o frenar nuestro apetito por los productos del extranjero a los que somos "adictos". Necesitamos priorizar los productos que se fabrican en Belize. Las fechas de vencimiento y la información nutricional en las etiquetas son importantes, pero igual o más importante es la tira en la parte inferior que dice que está hecho en casa.

Cuando compramos productos fabricados en Belize, gastamos menos divisas, lo que significa que una mayor parte de nuestros dólares se quedan en casa y trabajan para nosotros, para ayudarnos a todos a ganar. Ese aumento salarial no es tanto. Su impacto será mucho mayor si lo gastamos sabiamente.

### Sunday Review News Review Talk Show

On Krem TV & Krem Radio

Live-streaming on Krem Television Face Book Page

**Host:** YaYa Marin Coleman

**Date:** Sunday, October 16, 2022 **Time:** 10:30 a.m. to noon

**Guest:** Bredah Maurice Carney/Co-Founder & Executive Director of Friends of the Congo.

Sunday Review will be repeated at 5:30 p.m. on Sunday, October 16, 2022



# UN celebrates 10-year anniversary of International Day of the Girl Child



Image: Zach Lucero on Unsplash

by Khaila Gentle

BELIZE CITY, Tues. Oct. 11, 2022

This past Tuesday marked the ten-year anniversary of the UN's International Day of the Girl Child. It was first observed in 2012, ten months after a United Nations General Assembly declared October 11 a day to recognize the rights of, and unique challenges faced by, girls around the world.

It is a day dedicated to promoting the empowerment of girls and the fulfilment of their human rights, and this year's theme was "Our Time Is Now—Our Rights, Our Future."

"Today, we celebrate our girls and advocate for their inclusion in decision-making on issues of national importance

and also on all issues that impact their lives and development," wrote Prime Minister John Briceño this week. The Prime Minister also expressed support for his wife, H.E. Rossana Briceño, and the work that she carries out as the Special Envoy for Women and Children.

On Tuesday, the Special Envoy highlighted three key areas that demand greater attention from the international community when it comes to empowering young girls: supporting the leadership of adolescent girls at the forefront of change efforts, increasing resources and investments for them, and improving access to and uptake of inclusive adolescent girl-centered services at all times, but especially in crisis response and recovery.

There has been much progress in securing equality and rights for young girls in society, but as H.E. Rossana Briceño suggested, there is still work to be done.

The Child Development Foundation of Belize (CDF Belize) notes that Belize has one of the highest prevalence of child marriage or early unions in the region.

"The practice is often arranged by parents. Often parents think that they are securing the wellbeing of the girl, but these arrangements interrupt or end education; promote teenager pregnancy and have a high rate of domestic violence and exploitation," said the organization.

The Belize Olympic and Commonwealth Games Association, in speaking about the inequalities that affect women in sports, stated that access to and participation in sports activities, representation at coaching and management levels, media coverage, and wage gaps, are all issues still plaguing young girls and women today.

According to UNESCO's Director-General, Audrey Azoulay, if we want our progress in empowering young girls to continue (the gender gap in global access to education is close to zero, and the proportion of girls completing primary school has increased by 20% over 25 years), then we must continue our efforts.

"The pandemic has increased risks to girls' education, with lockdowns

contributing to a decrease in girls returning to school. School closures could lead to an additional 10 million early marriages of girls over the next 10 years. We must therefore give girls the tools they need to succeed – and create an environment that allows them to do so," she said.

A part of that effort, added the Director-General, is developing appropriate public policies for girls' and women's education. It also means fighting the underlying causes of school dropouts, like early and unintended pregnancies.

"Today's more than 1.1 billion girls are poised to take on the future," notes the UN. "Every day, girls are breaking boundaries and barriers, tackling issues like child marriage, education inequality, violence, climate justice, and inequitable access to healthcare. Girls are proving they are unstoppable."

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## "Tour-isms"

### What is a hero by any other name?

A hero by any other name is still a hero. On the other hand, heroism can only be called heroism. The Belize Tourism Board acknowledges, appreciates, and respects Belizean heroism. Over the past two years, heroism across the world did not look like masked men and women who have other worldly superpowers, as depicted in the movies. It looked like medically masked doctors, nurses, sanitation workers, teachers, concerned neighbors, taxi drivers, delivery workers, and even cashiers at the local grocery stores. During the pandemic, Belizeans demonstrated incredible bravery because even the most common things, had to be done in new and uncommon ways. The last two years have taught us not to take the small things for granted. Therefore, while the threat of Covid-19 has abated with the help of vaccines and booster shots, the BTB has expanded its efforts to thank and reward frontline heroes.

The BTB Frontline Hero initiative was first launched in September 2021. The campaign initially focused on frontline workers in the medical field who aided during the Covid-19 pandemic. With the threat of the pandemic significantly reduced, the campaign has shifted to focus on heroes within the Tourism Industry itself. The objective of this campaign is to highlight individuals who have served at the frontlines of the tourism sector and who have provided the kind of excellence that has kept the industry going. Nominees for this initiative are selected with the help of industry partners such as the Ministry of Health and Wellness, PGIA, the Police Department, Customs etc. Apart from the BTB's gratitude, the organization offers a small token of its appreciation by presenting the nominees with a cash reward and a staycation package sponsored by hoteliers. These heroes have given much more to the industry than can be stated in one reward, but the BTB and the Ministry of Tourism and Diaspora Relations hope that they know that they are appreciated for their steadfast heroism.

The organization's appreciation for its industry heroes cannot be overstated. Earlier this year, Mr. George Nicholson, a taxi driver who has served at the PGIA for over 22 years, was the first industry hero to be rewarded. More recently, Police Constable 989 Rolando Tino Oh became the second recipient. As a member of the Tourism Police Unit (TPU) for over 18 years, PC Oh has dedicated his service to the industry while conducting regular checks at hotels, resorts, and archeological sites in San Ignacio. Any job worth doing is worth doing well. These two heroes have proven that, and the Belize Tourism industry has benefited tremendously from it. A hero by any other name is still a hero. However, the idea of what heroism looks like has shifted since the pandemic. The people who continue to bravely do their jobs despite the tremendous setbacks that the industry has experienced over the years and especially since 2020, are what real heroes look like.

By dictionary definition, a 'hero' is a mythological or legendary figure often endowed with great strength or ability such as Hercules. In real life, heroes are those who are worthy of admiration for showing courage in more subtle ways. **Sensationalism** is the "ism" we highlight this week. It is without sensational methods or language that these industry heroes have demonstrated bravery. The sensationalism is in their ethics and their willingness to keep offering their service even when many were so uncertain. The BTB will continue to highlight its industry heroes for the everyday, regular, and abnormal humanity in their heroism.

See you next week.

The Belize Tourism Board



# Taiwan's participation can strengthen international cooperation to fight transnational telecommunication fraud in the post-pandemic era

Li, Hsi-ho  
Commissioner  
Criminal Investigation Bureau  
Republic of China (Taiwan)

studying, shopping, and conducting other transactions online have become commonplace. But the digital financial services that have developed from these activities are an easy target for criminal organizations and have also made investigating crime more complicated for the police. In 2021, Taiwan reported fraud-related losses of NT\$5.61 billion

(equivalent approximately to US\$186 million), indicating that fraud has seriously damaged national economic development. There is little doubt that fraud poses a formidable challenge to countries worldwide.

In recent years, fraud has become more diverse and sophisticated and scammers are working in new and constantly

evolving ways. Schemes involving cryptocurrency—recently a hot commodity—have inflicted heavy losses on victims. When Taiwan's police investigate cases, they often encounter difficulties arising from the fact that servers, recipient accounts, and cryptocurrency exchange platforms used by perpetrators are based overseas. This prevents officers from stopping the transfer of money in time to help the victims and makes it more difficult to track down suspects.

The inflow of profits from fraud and other illegal activities involves money laundering, tax evasion, and other crimes that undermine domestic financial regulatory systems and erode the sovereign authority of governments. Police cooperation between Taiwan and other countries would help reduce the number of fraud cases and contribute to the administrative efficiency of governments worldwide.

### International cooperation is needed to combat the use of virtual currencies for money laundering

Virtual currencies are a high-risk-high-reward commodity. They have grown increasingly popular in investment markets. As the average person does not fully understand how virtual currencies work, these investments have become a common instrument of organized fraud. Taiwan police have recently discovered that money laundering by criminal groups using virtual currencies mostly involves proceeds from investment fraud. Victims are lured into registering with a fake investment platform and when they try to withdraw funds after making a profit, the customer service system—operated by the criminal group—requires them to pay additional taxes of 10 to 20 percent before the withdrawal can be approved. Even if the payment is made, the criminal group continues to fabricate further demands that the account be replenished in order to cover, for example, transaction fees.

Criminal organizations have shifted their tactics from buying mule bank accounts to using virtual currency wallets, thus lowering the risk of police detection when funds are withdrawn. The gangs open phony accounts with virtual currency exchanges, where identity verification procedures are relatively relaxed. Once a victim makes a deposit into a designated account, the scammers quickly transfer the money multiple times, eventually moving it to a cold wallet. It is then switched to another exchange, where it is converted into legal tender. Crypto wallets that do not require user authentication and have no upper limit on transactions are a convenient tool for money laundering. The victim, perpetrator, and location of the crime are usually in different countries. Thus, transnational cooperation is needed to effectively crack down on the common practice of concealing illegal gains and converting them into legal assets.

### Taiwan's police strive to protect victims of organized human trafficking

Anticipating that the number of job seekers would increase due to involuntary

## Belize Climate Week 2022

BELIZE CITY, Wed. Oct. 12, 2022

Yesterday, Belize Climate Change Week officially started with an initial session focused on sensitizing Indigenous people to climate change and biodiversity. Today, October 12, is now known in the country as Indigenous People Resistance Day, and in line with the principles underlying that national holiday, a representative from the Maya and Garinagu communities was engaged in a knowledge-sharing session organized by the Belize National Climate Change Office and the Belize National Biodiversity Office yesterday.

The session created an opportunity for representatives from those Indigenous groups to be heard and engaged in conversation geared toward collective involvement in activities that are part of a national effort to address the impacts of climate change.

The second session, held in the afternoon, focused on youth and youth negotiators.

"This afternoon's session of our Climate Change Week saw the vibrant engagement of young and enthusiastic individuals from across Belize as they participated in a mock Conference of Parties (COP) dialogue alongside Belize's very own COP27 Delegation of Young Negotiators," a release from the Ministry of Sustainable Development, Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management stated.

COP27 will be held in Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt, in November of this year.



Indigenous Peoples Sensitization session



Youth Sensitization session

## Press Release

Date: October 3, 2022.



I, Dr Steven Wells, Podiatrist, Foot and Ankle Surgeon, hereby informs the general public that, effective today, October 3, I am no longer affiliated with the Rudolph Williams Diabetes Limb Salvage & Prosthetic Center.

All persons who have previously done castings for prosthetic limbs and persons with appointments, kindly contact the **Belize Diabetes Association** at telephone #670-9239 or #203-3333 for more information.

# How time exposed Hubert

by Colin Hyde

Remember: "...they love the bridge...but where is it?...Madam Speaker, could Hon. Sam Waight organize a House party and take us to the site, to see this magnificent bridge he made over the Belize River?...I want to see it, Barrow wants to see it, and my brother, Sedi, who will kick the stuffings out of George Price in Pickstock in the next general elections, he wants to see it...Mister Speaker, this bridge, there's never been another like it...this isn't Brooklyn Bridge, which was sold...this isn't London Bridge, which fell down...this one never made it across the river! When the scuba divers are done finding the Titanic, we've got a job for them, to find the Sam Waight PUP Bridge over Iguana Creek."

Hmm, I don't know if I have all that speech down word for word; it's like 89-98 PUDP we're talking about — a time when the PUP was led by the unelected Ralph Fonseca, and Luke Espot was that gang's version of Arguelles and Imer. But if I missed a few words here, and added a few words there, I'm sure you get the gist.

You know, maybe it is Hubert to blame for the wasted 13 years of UDP, 2008 to 2020, when instead of fixing all the wrongs of the PUP predecessors, they milked them for political gain. I don't have all the details about the design, but I was able to ask a few questions of

people working on the bridge because it's not far from my neighborhood. My recollection is that the foundations on both sides of the river were nearing completion, and a large concrete structure was standing in the middle of the river, when the flood came.

See, they were to lay giant beams across the river; those giant beams would rest on the columns in the middle of the river, and the weight of the beams would stabilize the columns so that they could withstand the flood waters coming down. Maybe they needed a couple weeks more to complete the foundation works, maybe they needed a month, I don't know how much more time they needed. Alas, the rains came early! Down went the columns in the river, the foundations suffered some damage, and with that failure the hopes of hundreds who cross the river in that area daily, and thousands who cross the river during the year, were washed away.

Those bad bohga UDP laughed. They did not try to salvage what remained when they came to power in 1993, after the PUP called a very early election. We were left with the same old dry-weather structure the bridge was to replace. Years went by, and then the Mennonite community of Spanish Lookout invested in a more sturdy bridge, a foot or two higher, across the river where it's near Iguana Creek. That's a big help, but when a big flood comes, everyone wishes for the Sam Waight Bridge.

The UDP spent their entire 1993-1998 government laughing about it. When the PUP came to power in 1998, they started on a new bridge, this one several miles downriver, the Agripino Cawich Bridge at Young Bank.

Flush with cash off their oil royalties, the Mennonite community realigned and refurbished an old road that connected Spanish Lookout with Valley of Peace and the Cawich Bridge. That road is called the Farmers' Expressway, and thanks to that road there has been no stopping people who have vehicles from doing business on either side of the river, when the floods have come, like they did earlier this week.

Bah, early Monday morning I saw pics with the Belize River flush with the deck of the Mennonite Iguana Creek Bridge. You bet right now there's no small number of unhappy people who curse successive governments, and Hubert, for giving up on the real deal Iguana Creek Bridge. The foundations are still there, waiting for some good government to come along.

## Liar is a madabig HUGE word

I went to the Heritage Library on Tuesday the 11<sup>th</sup>, my primary mission being to look in the *Amandala* for a column I wrote in October 2010, because I read an fb post last weekend by Mr. Glenn Tillett in which he said I not only accused him of lying, but that I was eager to do so.

I'm not bothering with his suggestion that I was foolish about a certain matter, not today. Of course that last is no small matter, but it is considerably smaller than my directly calling out someone for lying. It's not impossible that I wrote what Glenn said I had written, all things under the sun being possible. But I'll have to read it to believe it.

Now, because it takes a man coupling with a woman to make a human baby, there is some of everything in each of us. So, in many ways we are all alike. Whoa, please to bear with me as I pick my way through this minefield. I'll very soon get to what I'm after.

There is culture. There's a man's world, and there's a woman's world. On the matter of the woman's world, I'll just say that I wouldn't have to go to the library if someone said I'd accused one

of them of lying. That could never happen.

Ah, in just about the first piece I wrote, back in 2003, I was griping about a traffic ticket I got in Belmopan, and that I went to the City Council's office to beef, and when I got there I had to yield all my grief over giving up the equivalent of an 8-pound mutton snapper to pay the ticket. See, instead of facing off with the dastardly male traffic warden who was about the city issuing tickets, I was met by a vivacious young lady. So I paid up that \$25 without a peep.

In the world of the *mapeincili*, if you call a man a liar you are prepared to die, or kill. I'm not *gapeincili*. When I was a boy, I wasn't impressed by the pen in my dad's pocket. We are who we are. The core of a person is what they were in their youth. I research papers when I am preparing my pieces for the *Amandala*, but I'm never far from the core me, a man who likes to listen, a man who will never be comfortable when he sees his name in print, a man who is at his Godservigest when he puts down his pen/laptop and takes up a machete or hoe.

I don't like or endorse violence, so I am surprised by the claim that not only did I write that Glenn had lied, but that I was eager to do so. Okay, I went to the library, and this is what I found. Bah, you know that Glenn Tillett was right? Hmm, yes, but there's a mighty big story that goes with it! I wrote: "*Now Glenn, you noh even noa how fu lie. Wow, after 6,000 years fish still get kech by dehn mouth.*"

Please to allow me an explanation. In the part of the piece that included Glenn, I said, at the beginning, "*The unabashed capitalist, Mr. Glenn Tillett (of the PUP), wrote last week in the National Perspective that...*" Let me explain something here. Charlie Galvez, who is my in-law through my wife, comes to the yard where I live oftentimes, and he might be tired of me saying, every time I meet him, *unu wikid, wotlis, krukid PUP*.

In that incarnation of Glenn, when he was in the belly of the PUP, writing for the NP, man, when I said, *Mr. Glenn Tillett (of the PUP)*, I was making it clear, beyond any doubt, that I was challenging neither field brother nor intellectual, I was speaking to a political animal. I'm not suggesting he took offense to that little jab. I'm just clearing up that I am very not loose with such an accusation.



## LADYVILLE TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL VACANCIES



Ladyville Technical High School invites suitably qualified persons to apply for the following post:

- **English A & B Teacher ( Full time)**
- **Caretaker**

### Teachers' Qualifications:

- Bachelor/ Associates Degree in the specified subject area
- Applicants must have a valid Teacher's license
- Experience in teaching at the CXC level would be an asset

### Other Professional Requirements

- Good interpersonal and communication skills with students and colleagues
- Commitment to education
- Self-motivated
- Possesses sound ethical principles and values
- Willingness to participate in extra-curricular activities

### Caretaker requirements:

- Basic skills in plumbing, construction, general repairs etc.

### Salary

Salary according to Government pay scale

**Deadline for application is October 28, 2022.**

**Teachers' position:** Letter of application with curriculum vitae, two letters of recommendation, a certified copy of Teacher's License, Social Security Card, Birth Paper, Qualifications, Official Transcript, Police Record and Ministry of Education Medical Certificate

**Caretakers' position:** Letter of application, two letters of recommendation of past employment, copy of Social Security Card, Birth Certificate, Police Record.

**Chairman  
Ladyville Technical High School  
9 ¼ Miles Philip Goldson Highway  
Ladyville, Belize District  
Belize, C.A.**

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# PRESS PREDICTIONS

The sports psychic speaks

## BOLEDO

**“Press” Predictions: 49-08-94**  
*Boledo stats thru 14<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> Oct. 2022*

In boledonews, 34 finally played after 1 year. These are my lucky numbers for this week: 49-08-62-58-15-94. These are my lucky jackpot numbers: 6547-3800-7291. These are my lucky PICK-3 numbers: 930-124-658-707-028. Get ready Belize, some mucho dinero will be coming our way this week. There are only 8 numbers left to play for this year: 00-18-26-30-35-47-55 and 94. 22 played 8 times already, 33 and 88 played 7 times already, 70 and 52 and 68 played 6 times each already. Then there are 5 numbers that played 5 times each, 19-74-23-07-42. The nineties series has not played on a Sunday since 27<sup>th</sup> of February when 99 played, that’s over 32 Sundays now. The seventies series played the most on a Sunday this year 2022. 33 and 74 played the most on a Sunday this year. The eighties series will be out this week. Doubles has played some 34 times now. 00 and 55 are the only 2 doubles that are left. 55 will complete 2 years this Friday if not played. 26 is still out for over 1 year 8 months 2 weeks and 6 days now. Remember to read your Psalms 91-72-63. Good luck to all buyers, next week more stats.

## LOCAL FOOTBALL

**All games were postponed due to the weather situation**

### Local Football Results and Predictions

In local football action, there were no games this weekend because of the weather situation. The schedule will continue with week-11 action, Port Loyola will go to beautiful Dangriga and play Wagiya FC who are looking for a playoff spot. There will be a Top 4 playoff format. Altitude FC has a back match with the San Pedro Pirates in Mango Creek, Independence. Then Progresso FC will go to Benque at the Marshalleck Stadium this Saturday night, Altitude FC will play the 2-time defending champion Verdes FC in Belmopan at the FFB Field this Sunday at 3:45 p.m. Altitude FC leads the tournament with 21 points. Verdes FC is in second with 19 points. Then



**Jaren Lambey**

the San Pedro Pirates in third place with 17 points, Wagiya FC at the fourth spot with 14 points, Progresso FC of OW with 11 points. Port Loyola FC have 10 points, the Belmopan Bandits only have 5 points at the last position. Andres Orosco of Altitude FC leads the league with 7 goals. Luis Ibara of Verdes FC has 6 goals. Sean Young of Port Loyola has 5 goals, Jaren Lambey has 4 goals for the Bandits. Next week more stats and some results.

## INTERNATIONAL BASEBALL

### The Seattle Mariners beat the Toronto Blue Jays 2 straight games

#### Baseball Postseason Results and Predictions

In baseball action, there were 4 Wild Card Series games played in a 3-game series. In the American League first series, the Seattle Mariners beat the Toronto Blue Jays in 2 straight games. Then in the other series, the Cleveland Guardians beat the Tampa Bay Rays also in 2 straight



**Aaron Judge**



**by Gilroy “Press” Cadogan**

games. So the big showdown will be between the New York Yankees and the Guardians from Cleveland. The Yankees will prevail in 4 hard games because of Aaron Judge’s performance, he had 62 homeruns and 138 RBI’s. He leads the league in those 2 categories, he will be named the American League MVP very soon for the regular season, then the Houston Astros will beat the Seattle Mariners in 5 games. Justin Verlander is one of the top ace pitchers in baseball for Dusty Baker and the Astros. In the National League, the San Diego Padres shocked the New York Mets who were 101-61. Then the Philadelphia Phillies upset the Central Division champions in 3 hard



**Mookie Betts**

**Please turn to Page 26**

Applications are invited from suitably qualified persons to fill the position of **Retail Manager-San Pedro** with one of our multinational clients. This position offers an attractive remuneration package, excellent benefits, and a great opportunity for career development. Come join the team!

### RETAIL MANAGER – SAN PEDRO

#### Essential Duties and Responsibilities, but not limited to:

- Develop and execute a competitive store level, retail sales plan in support of revenue achievement and strategic business development in order to achieve the company’s goals.
- Collaborate with Sales Leadership team to deliver or exceed revenue, profit and other key metrics.

#### Education/Skills and Work Experience:

- Bachelor’s Degree in Business Management.
- Minimum of three (3) years experience in retail management, preferably of a medium to large store.
- Experience with reviewing and understanding financial reports.
- Ability to analyze productivity metrics and adjust to ensure achievement of indicators.
- Ability to coach teams to drive rapid growth.

**Closing date for applications: 21 October 2022**

**Please send resumes to:**

#### Executive Selection and Search

E-mail: [eallp@btl.net](mailto:eallp@btl.net)  
 Belize City, Belize

**APPLY NOW**

# MADISON’S

AUCTIONS AND APPRAISALS LLP

## PUBLIC AUCTION

BY ORDER of the Supreme Court of Belize, Licensed Auctioneer Sylvano Guerrero, is selling by way of ONLINE AUCTION via [www.madisons.bz](http://www.madisons.bz) the following property with a reserve price. Auction is now open for bidding and will close on Wednesday, November 2, 2022 at 11:00 a.m.



**Registration Section**  
**Albion Island**

**Block**  
**4**

**Parcel**  
**96**

All that piece or parcel of land being referred to as Parcel No. 96 Block 4 Albion Island Registration Section, San Roman Village, Orange Walk District, situate approximately 0.75 of a kilometer west of San Roman Village in the Orange Walk District; comprising of a total area of 15.77 Acres.

The subject property is held by Land Certificate in the name of Reinaldo Novelo.

[www.madisons.bz](http://www.madisons.bz) **TERMS:10% DEPOSIT. BALANCE IN 14 DAYS**

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ALPHA BUSINESS CENTRE  
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 BELAMA PHASE 1  
 BELIZE CITY, BELIZE

# Ancient Maya elite may have suffered from chronic mercury poisoning

**Studies have found evidence of use of the metal at sites in Mexico, Belize, Guatemala, Honduras, and El Salvador.**

by *Khaila Gentle*

BELIZE CITY, Fri. Oct. 7, 2022

A review article published in the journal *Frontiers in Environmental Science* has revealed that high concentrations of mercury were found in numerous sites once occupied by ancient Maya civilizations, leading experts to believe that many of the elite Maya may have suffered from chronic mercury poisoning.

Archaeologists have been researching and attempting to understand the ancient Maya's long history of mercury use for some time now. Cinnabar, a mercury compound, was often utilized for ceremonies and for decorating artefacts. According to Nicholas Dunning, a co-author in the study and a geologist at the University of Cincinnati, the ancient Maya believed that cinnabar contained ch'ulel or "soul force".

"The brilliant red pigment of cinnabar was an invaluable and sacred substance...but unbeknownst to them it was also deadly, and its legacy persists in soils and sediments around ancient Maya sites," he said.

The review article featured a study

of all literature related to research done on a total of ten sites in Mesoamerica (Mexico, Guatemala, Belize, Honduras, and El Salvador). Soil and sediment samples from seven of those ten sites had mercury concentrations above what is known as the Toxic Effect Threshold (TET) of 1 part per million (ppm). Tikal, for example, had mercury concentrations of up to an astounding 17ppm. Other sites, such as Marco Gonzales, located on Ambergris Caye, and Chan b'i, located in Southern Belize, yielded samples with near undetectable levels.

### The Effect on Human Health

According to the article, entitled "Environmental legacy of pre-Columbian Maya mercury", the large volume of research that exists on the Maya's use of mercury shows that the exposure to the toxic metal via cinnabar-based paints on ceramics, the use of cinnabar and elemental mercury in ritual and ceremonial activities (including burials) and, probably, the seepage of mercury into food and water, was likely to have caused numerous negative health impacts.

In the case of Tikal, evidence has



Xunantunich, Cayo District

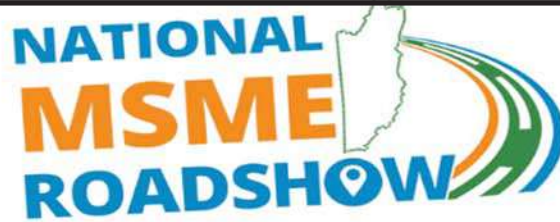
suggested that many of the ancient elite suffered from mercury poisoning due to prolonged exposure. One 2020 report found that Tikal's water reservoirs had grown contaminated with mercury due to runoff from ceremonial burial grounds. (The tombs of many rulers were described as being covered with cinnabar powder). This may have been one of the many contributors to the city's collapse in the ninth century.

Chronic mercury exposure is known to cause damage to the central nervous

system, kidneys, and liver, as well as severe metabolic syndrome. Notably, one of Tikal's last rulers during the Terminal Classic period, Dark Sun, was believed to have been "pathologically obese" as a result of said syndrome.

Duncan Cook was the lead author on the review paper. Upon its publication, he issued a statement, noting that mercury pollution in the environment is usually found in

Please turn to **Page 18**



## 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

BOOT CAMP & FORMALIZATION CLINIC: ST. FRANCIS XAVIER SCHOOL AUDITORIUM  
POP-UP SHOP: HOUSE OF CULTURE - BASKETBALL COURT

### BELMOPAN | SEPT 28 - 30

BOOT CAMP & FORMALIZATION CLINIC: BELMOPAN CIVIC CENTER  
POP-UP SHOP: CIVIC CENTER PARKING LOT

### ORANGE WALK | AUG 31 - SEPT 02

BOOT CAMP & FORMALIZATION CLINIC: BANQUITAS HOUSE OF CULTURE  
POP-UP SHOP: CENTRAL PARK

### SAN IGNACIO/SANTA ELENA | OCT 05 - 07

BOOT CAMP & FORMALIZATION CLINIC: SI/SE TOWN HALL  
POP-UP SHOP: WELCOME CENTER

### BELIZE CITY | SEPT 07 - 09

BOOT CAMP & FORMALIZATION CLINIC: ITVET DINING ROOM  
POP-UP SHOP: ITVET

### DANGRIGA | OCT 12 - 14

BOOT CAMP & FORMALIZATION CLINIC: SPORTS COMPLEX  
POP-UP SHOP: ALEJO BENI PARK

### PUNTA GORDA | SEPT 14 - 16

BOOT CAMP & FORMALIZATION CLINIC: SOCIAL SECURITY CONFERENCE ROOM  
POP-UP SHOP: CENTRAL PARK / WELCOME CENTER

### PLACENCIA VILLAGE | OCT 19 - 21

BOOT CAMP & FORMALIZATION CLINIC: VILLAGE COUNCIL CENTER  
POP-UP SHOP: FOOTBALL FIELD

### CAYE CAULKER | SEPT 22 - 23

BOOT CAMP & FORMALIZATION CLINIC: CAYE CAULKER VILLAGE COMMUNITY CENTER  
POP-UP SHOP: MARKET PLACE AREA

### SAN PEDRO | OCT 26 - 28

BOOT CAMP & FORMALIZATION CLINIC: LIONS DEN  
POP-UP SHOP: CENTRAL PARK AREA



# Minister Courtenay addresses 52nd OAS Gen. Assembly



Hon. Eamon Courtenay, Minister of Foreign Affairs

LIMA, Peru, Fri. Oct. 7, 2022

“Inequality and discrimination abound in the Americas”—those were the words of Minister Eamon Courtenay as he addressed the 52nd General Assembly of the Organization of American States last Friday in Lima, Peru. Minister Courtenay, in his address, highlighted a drastic increase in inequality across the Americas that he attributed to the COVID-19 pandemic, and high commodity prices. This is in contrast to what was taking place in the early 2000s, when, according to Minister Courtenay, a substantial decline in inequality was seen across the region.

“Poverty fell on average from 42.3% in 2002, to 23.1% in 2018, as vast swaths of the population moved into the middle class. However, the COVID-19 pandemic and the end of high commodity prices have increased hemispheric inequality,” Courtenay stated.

He spoke directly about the effects of systemic racism and its negative impact on development across the region.

“Mr. President, inequality is a vestige of our colonial past, colonialism that spawned structurally

unequal societies, replete with racism and racial inequality. Today this legacy threatens the stability of our political systems, weakens our social fabric, and fosters unjust societal income—inequality in Latin America and the Caribbean is a cancer,” Minister Courtenay went on to say.

He also made note of the wage disparity seen across the Americas: “The richest ten percent earns twenty-two times more than those in the bottom ten percent. The richest one percent takes in twenty-one percent of the income of our economies, while the top ten percent collect more than half of the pre-tax national income. This is the inequality that we must come together to fight against,” he said.

Courtenay further noted that while the constitutions of countries in the region are aimed at fostering equality, the reality on the ground is very different—with persons of African descent and Indigenous peoples of the Americas continuing to be among the poorest and most discriminated against in the region.

He then remarked that the view held by many of those disadvantaged groups, that governments are unfair,

is a result of the inequality that is still unchecked in developing countries, and he asserted that the fight against racial discrimination and securing reparations for the oppressed peoples of the region is of high importance.

“Afro-descendants make up 25 percent of the population and indigenous peoples, but across the region, both groups are far more likely to be poor. This is inequitable, and this is why Belize joins the ever-louder chorus that calls for reparations. People of African descent and the indigenous peoples of the Americas must be compensated for the injustices they have suffered,” Courtenay said.

In regard to access to affordable climate financing, Courtenay pointed out that Belize is among the top 5 countries in the world currently generating 50% renewable electrical energy, but is still one of the countries that will be most affected by the negative impacts of climatic events.

“The current climate crisis presents a stark picture of these inequalities,” Courtenay said, adding, “we enjoy a stellar record for environmental conservation, but that will not save our low-lying coastline and the fabulous reef system from the imminent ravages of climate change. We need access to imminent climate financing, and we need it now.” Courtenay said.

Highlighting other global and regional issues, he stated, “We in Belize are unrepentant multilateralists. We envision a world order that rejects war and condemns the Russian Federation for its illegal war against Ukraine. But, Mr. President, the OAS, we cannot credibly fight injustice and discrimination if we continue to allow an unelected and illegitimate man to sit amongst us. The sanctions against Venezuela are discriminatory, and that punishment must end. We will not win the fight against injustices and discrimination until the illegal blockade against Cuba is lifted.”

## Our democracy is strong!

I read a column in the *Amandala* last week, written by Rudolph Neal, regarding the hemorrhaging of Belizean democracy! I wanted to express my utter rejection of that theory! Mr. Neal discusses Mr. Faber’s political skill and acumen, but fails to discuss his many shortcomings as a man! Winning at all cost is not a solution to the woes of the United Democratic Party, if you can still call it a party. The Leadership, which itself is flawed, in my opinion, somehow saw the downsides of him being in their electoral schemes. As a matter of fact, and this is only my opinion, Pere is the only competent member of a party I once supported, almost rabidly!


Now we have Patrick Faber, alleged domestic abuser; we have Saldivar, allegedly having corrupt business dealings and friends from the darkest fringes of society! We have Shyne Barrow, salesman extraordinaire, who sells himself as much as he sells Belize, to the world! A novice in politics, more adept at rapping than governing. These, these are characters seeking to lead a once respected political party out of oblivion, and out of the political purgatory they find themselves in! It is a sad reflection of a once great movement that wanted to be a force for good, and to protect us from “evil Guatemala!”

Mr. Neal failed to mention the reasons Faber is being banned from participating in party politics. First of all, he has been a member of parliament in name only; he has not attended a sitting of the House, for an indecent amount of time, while collecting an undeserved salary, from taxpayers who are struggling with inflation, and the aftereffects of the plague! Secondly, and more importantly, he has been accused of being a chronic domestic abuser. That alone should be a reason for him never being allowed to participate, not when you hold more than half of the population in such low regard, disrespect, and disdain!

I know that sometimes we forgive charismatic figures for their shortcomings. Look at Donald Trump, the worst of the worst, but hopefully he’s an aberration, not the norm, and Mr. Faber is definitely not charismatic! After the blowout in the last election, one would think that this party would do some soul-searching, clean up their act, and find people worthy of the legacy of Philip Goldson, and all the other honorable men that have been part of the leadership of this now floundering organization, to lead them back to some semblance of significance!

It is not democracy that’s hemorrhaging; it’s a political party that is now rudderless, confused, and caught up in its own cannibalistic drama! Total disregard for their followers, some of whom have nowhere go, except into the arms of the ruling party! If this disarray continues, Belize will remain a one-party country for the foreseeable future! And that is not a good thing, for any country! Our democracy is strong; the people saw the abuse and corruption, and corrected course! Salud, amor, y pesetas!

Glen



## Public Notice of Investment

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the Social Security Act, Chapter 44 of the Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2003, that the Social Security Board, as per its Investment Framework, Section 49, has proposed to place a **Term Deposit** in the amount of **BZ\$3,000,000 (Three Million Dollars)** at the Spanish Lookout Credit Union. Duration will be for a period of one year and interest will be paid at the rate of four (4.0%) percent per annum.

Social Security Board: Safeguarding You, Your Family, Your Future!

# Julia's waves topple Monkey River home

**A house in Monkey River toppled into the sea as a result of rapid coastline erosion due to the battering of the Monkey River coastline by waves whipped up by Hurricane Julia. Other Monkey River residents are trying to save their homes.**

MONKEY RIVER VILLAGE, Toledo District, Mon. Oct. 10, 2022

The impact of Hurricane Julia on Belize is still being assessed within the country by disaster response officials. The effects of that storm, however, were perhaps most dramatically witnessed in the coastline village of Monkey River, where residents saw the real-time and horrific effects of coastal erosion, with at least one iconic house in the village being claimed by the battering waves of the seas. Over the weekend, video footage that was released on social media showed residents trying their best to try to shore up their properties to prevent damage by the heavy waves associated with Hurricane Julia.

One house, the residence of the late Ms. Eleanor Sandlin, was claimed by the waves and toppled into the sea following the further weakening over the past few days of the eroded beachfront on which it was located by the wind and waves whipped up by the hurricane. Footage shows the balcony of the house, which overlooked the sea, collapsing into the water, which has been continually encroaching on what was once land in the village.

"We had rain all day Sunday,"

Monkey River chairperson Ekoydia Cuevas said in an interview with *KREM News*. "Sometime before day, that's when villagers started to experience all the water coming into the house, the waves washing against the houses, bringing all the sand and stuff inside," she said.

She said that no one was living in the house that fell in the sea.

This iconic house and its late owner were well-known and loved in the village, and the destruction of the property marks a significant milestone in Monkey River's battle to save the village from coastal erosion.

The land on which the house sat, which was initially located in the center of the village, according to locals, underwent years of erosion which eventually led to it becoming beachfront property. During those years in which that transition took place, a football field, cemetery, and other parts of the village were washed away by the sea as a result of years of erosion.

Rachel Graham, a resident of the village, stated in a Facebook post, "This loss is the combined effect of coastal erosion from misdirected high-level central decisions swayed by



**Iconic Monkey River house was toppled by Hurricane Julia's massive, erosion-causing waves**

private interests over the needs of coastal communities, storm surge from more impactful storms and rising seas. Climate change is here. It's no longer at our doorstep, it has taken our doorstep. And in Ms. Eleanor's case, it is taking the whole house. "

While the rapid erosion that caused

the collapse of the house into the sea can be attributed to the recent hurricane and strong wave activity, years of ongoing erosion have been plaguing the community of Monkey River, and continue to encroach on the real estate of the village and the livelihood of its residents.

## BY ORDER OF MORTGAGEE

### NOTICE OF INTENTION TO SELL

ASCENDANCY BELIZE LTD., a company duly incorporated in accordance with the Companies Act Cap 250 of the Revised Laws of Belize 2020 with registered office situate at Cor. Landivar & 4<sup>th</sup> Streets, Kings Park, Belize City, Belize hereby gives notice of its intention to exercise its power of sale as Mortgagee under and by virtue of Charges between those hereinafter named and the said Ascendancy Belize Ltd. which said Charges are registered at the Lands Registry in Belmopan City. ASCENDANCY will at the expiration of **two 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 CAVE LOCHAN WATSON LLP, Cor. Landivar & 4<sup>th</sup> Streets, Kings Park, Belize City, Belize District, Belize, Attorneys-at-law for Ascendancy Belize Ltd., from whom full particulars and conditions of the sale (and for public auction) may be obtained.

### THE SCHEDULE ABOVE REFERRED TO

1. **ALL that** piece or parcel of land being Parcel 3118/1, Block 4, Orange Walk Town Registration Section together with all building and erections standing and being thereon, the leasehold property of **Rafael Novelo**.
2. **ALL that** piece or parcel of land being Parcel 9171, Block 7, San Pedro Registration Section together with all building and erections standing and being thereon, the freehold property of **Nafez Faws Obeid**.

DATED this 30<sup>th</sup> day of September 2022.

CAVE LOCHAN WATSON LLP  
COR. LANDIVAR & 4<sup>TH</sup> STREETS  
KNGS PARK  
BELIZE CITY  
BELIZE



### Vacancies at Julian Cho Technical High School

Julian Cho Technical High School invites suitably qualified persons to apply for the following posts:

- 1 Spanish Teacher – Permanent**
- 1 Belizean Studies/Visual Arts Teacher - Permanent**

#### **Qualification for Teacher:**

- (a) Bachelor's Degree or Higher in the subject area with pedagogical training preferred, however an Associate Degree in the subject area may be considered.
- (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
- Certified copies of diplomas and certificate/s
- Sealed transcript from all post-secondary institutions attended
- Birth certificate or Passport
- Certified copy of Social Security Card
- Recent Medical Certificate
- Recent Police Record
- **Valid Teacher's License** (Secondary level)
- Two **recent** letters of recommendation

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

#### **Salary:**

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:**

[ictchs.secretary2@yahoo.com](mailto:ictchs.secretary2@yahoo.com)  
[icttechnical@yahoo.com](mailto:icttechnical@yahoo.com)

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

**Deadline for applications is Monday, October 24, 2022.**

# Gwen Lizarraga High School

Ministry of Education

Telephone: 227 – 7144  
Fax: 227 – 4678

Antelope Street  
Belize City, Belize C.A.



## Gwen Lizarraga High Ministry of Education

Qualified applicants are invited to fill **Science Teacher position** at Gwen Lizarraga High School.

### Qualifications:

- Minimum Associate's Degree in relevant field; Bachelor's degree with Education preferred;
- Pedagogical training and/or years of teaching experience in the subject area;
- Ability to work and communicate effectively with student, staff and administration;
- Highly motivated, enthusiastic and commitment to the mission of GLHS;
- Possession valid license to teach at Secondary Level;
- Willingness to assist with extra-curricular activities is required.
- Familiar with online Google/Microsoft platforms: Classroom, Teams, Zoom etc.

**Remuneration:** In accordance with Government Pay Scale approved by Ministry of Education

### Application Process:

Send or deliver application letter along with valid license to teach; copy of certificates; copy of transcript; current resume; recent police record and two seal recent recommendation to:

**Chair, Human Resource Committee  
Board of Management  
Gwen Lizarraga High School  
Email: [principal@glhs.edu.bz](mailto:principal@glhs.edu.bz)**

Deadline for submission of applications Friday, October 21<sup>st</sup> 2022



## ATTORNEY GENERAL'S MINISTRY VACANCY NOTICE

Suitably qualified applicants are invited to fill the position of:

### DIRECTOR OF LEGAL ADVICE AND SERVICES CENTER

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

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

Experience and training required:

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

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

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

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

Deadline for receipt of applications: **November 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.



## REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (CONSULTING SERVICES – INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANT SELECTION)

### Belize

**Climate Resilient and Sustainable Agriculture Project (CRESAP)**

Loan No.: **9347-BE**

Project ID No.: P172592

**Assignment Title: Procurement Officer**

**Reference No. (as per Procurement Plan): CS 06**

The Government of Belize has received financing from the World Bank toward the cost of the Climate Resilient and Sustainable Agriculture Project and intends to apply part of the proceeds for consulting services.

The consulting services ("the Services") is for a suitable qualified fulltime **PROJECT STAFF- PROCUREMENT OFFICER** as part of the Project Implementation Unit of the CRESAP within the Belize Social Investment Fund. The Procurement Officer will be primarily responsible for the management of project procurement activities undertaken as part of the CRESAP implementation, supervise the international and national bidding process for goods, non-consultant services, consultant services and if needed, also civil works; prepare and submit bid evaluation reports, negotiate contracts and make recommendations for awarding contracts, conforming to terms and conditions stipulated in the subsidiary agreement and World Bank procurement regulation.

The GOB has appointed the Belize Social Investment Fund (BSIF) as the implementing agency for the project and the BSIF is seeking to recruit an individual to fill the position of **Procurement Officer**.

The consultancy is expected to be for an initial period of Twenty-four (24) months commencing November 2022. The Procurement Officer will be supervised by the Project Coordinator (PC) of the CRESAP.

The detailed Terms of Reference (TOR) for the assignment can be obtained by submitting a request in writing via e-mail to [nellie.trench@sifbelize.org](mailto:nellie.trench@sifbelize.org) or at the following link <https://sifbelize.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/CS-06-Term-of-Reference-TOR-Procurement-Officer-CRESAP-101022-final.pdf> on the website of BSIF at [www.sifbelize.org](http://www.sifbelize.org).

The Belize Social Investment Fund now invites eligible individuals ("Consultants") to indicate their interest in providing the Services. Interested Consultants should provide information demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the Services (such as cover letter, Curriculum Vitae etc.).

### Minimum Mandatory Requirements \*(Required)

#### Qualifications

- Bachelor's degree in Law, Procurement, Business Administration, Public Administration, Finance, or any other field related to this assignment.

#### General Experience

- Five (5) years' experience working in public or private sector performing tasks that include drafting of reports, chairing of meetings, writing meeting minutes, procuring of goods or services etc. (max 20 points).

**\*If these minimum requirements are not met, the candidates will not be considered for the process\***

### Additional Requirements (Desirable)

#### Specific Experience

- Three or more years working experience at procurement officer level (max 30 points)
- Working experience conducting procurement under strict guidelines of IFIs (e.g. World Bank, IDB, CDB, EU etc.) (max 20 points)
- Project Management or Procurement training completed (max 15 points)
- Experience working in a project environment (max 15 points)

**Minimum total points required to be considered for the assignment is 75 points.**

The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to Section III, paragraphs, 3.14, 3.16, and 3.17 of the World Bank's "Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers" July 2016 ("Procurement Regulations"), setting forth the World Bank's policy on conflict of interest.

A Consultant will be selected in accordance with the Selection of Individual Consultant method set out in the Procurement Regulations.

Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours, i.e. 0800 to 1600 hours Belize Time.

Expressions of interest must be delivered in a written form to the address below (in person, or by mail, or by e-mail) by **October 28, 2022** at 16:00 hours Belize Time.

Belize Social Investment Fund  
Attn: Nellie Trench, Finance Coordinator  
P.O. Box 459, 1902 Constitution Drive (3rd Floor), Belmopan, Belize  
Telephone +501-822-0239  
Email: [nellie.trench@sifbelize.org](mailto:nellie.trench@sifbelize.org)



# Nayib Bukele's speech



by Clinton Canul Luna

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

Madam President of the General Assembly, my compatriot and Ambassador to the United Nations; Your Excellency as Heads of State and Government; distinguished members of different delegations; my wife Gabriela and my daughter Layla; ladies and gentlemen, and principally to the peoples of the nations of the world:

I bring you greetings from the land of surfing, volcanoes, coffee, peace, Bitcoin and freedom. Almost all of the above is easily verifiable: anyone who goes to El Salvador will find the best surfing beaches in the world, volcanoes everywhere, incredible coffee; you will be able to walk with peace and tranquility through any corner of our country, and especially, you will find a united people

fighting for their freedom. And that is precisely what I have come to speak about on this podium, at the United Nations General Assembly. Of freedom. The one that my people yearn for, and the one that all the peoples of the world yearn for. And it is that freedom is a word that is easy to say; but that requires struggle, perseverance and many sacrifices, for it to be true. The freedom to choose where we want to go and how we want to achieve it. The freedom to define our path as human beings.

But to be free, like much of what defines us, depends on how others see us, but, above all, on how we see ourselves. Therefore, in addition to deciding that we want to be free, it is an essential requirement that the powerful respect our freedom. I come from a people that for a long time saw itself as less than the others. I come from a people where we never had the courage to make our own decisions. I come from a people where our destiny was always controlled by others. I come from a people that only owns the smallest country in the American continent. And that, even that small property on that little piece of land, that you can barely see on the map, is not respected by countries that have a lot more territory, a lot more money, a lot

more power and that CORRECTLY think they are the owners of their country; but who INCORRECTLY think that they also own ours. And it is that a group of powerful countries not only have much more than all the others, but they also believe that they are owners of the little that the countries that are not powerful have. It is as if someone lived in a very small and very humble house, but had a very, very rich neighbor, whose house is a beautiful and gigantic palace, with immense extensions of land and unimaginable treasures. Whoever lives in the little house respects and admires his neighbor; it doesn't bother him that the other is immensely richer than him; he is happy in his little house, but he has decided to improve it; he is going to paint it, fix it and furnish it better, with effort, of course, but he is sure it will be worth it. All good up to there. Until the rich neighbor decides that his poor neighbor does not have the right to fix up his house, he does not have the right to buy other furniture or paint the walls. The rich neighbor has decided that he not only owns his palace, but can also give orders in the small house of his poor neighbor. And the order is that everything has to continue badly, as it was before. Arrangements are not authorized. The poor neighbor should not oppose his rich neighbor; he should not envy him, he should not aspire to have what the rich neighbor has, he should not pretend that he will give orders to his palace or demand that he change the marble from his room. But the poor neighbor should at least have the right to clean HIS house, patch and paint HIS walls, change HIS furniture, plant flowers in HIS GARDEN and change HIS roof for one that doesn't leak and covers him from the rain. That cannot bother the rich neighbor, who cannot demand that he put back the old furniture, cut the flowers, strip the walls, remove the new roof (which is also working for him), to put back the roof that was before, with the aggravating circumstance that that leaky roof never worked.

The rich neighbor has no authority to demand that his poor neighbor return to the past. In the first place, because he would have no reason to pretend to rule in someone else's house. Second, because this poor neighbor already tried to follow orders and could not have done worse. And thirdly, because what he is doing IS WORKING for the first time. Why should his neighbor force him to go back to how he was before? For what purpose? To achieve what? Shouldn't he be glad that his poor neighbor is doing a little better than before? That is why I say that freedom is something that we still fight for in our country, El Salvador. Because although on paper we are free, sovereign and independent, we will not really be until the powerful understand that we want to be their friends, that we admire them, that we respect them, that our doors are wide open to trade, so that they visit us, to build the best

possible relationships, but what they can't do is come to command in our house. And not only because it is ours, but because it would not make sense to undo what we are achieving: In a very short time, El Salvador has gone from being LITERALLY the MOST DANGEROUS country IN THE WORLD, to being on the way to being the SAFEST country IN AMERICA. We went from being a country unknown to many and those who knew it, knew it because of the gangs, because of the dead, because of the violence, because of the war. We went from that to being a country known for its beaches, for surfing, for its volcanoes, for its financial freedom, for its good government and for having put an end to organized crime. And those achievements, which are just beginning and have been achieved in a very short time, are immense for us. And we have the right to protect them and continue on the path of our development.

That's why I said that freedom is something we still fight for. Because we still need recognition of our right to be free. To be truly independent. I wanted to use this podium to say these words, because perhaps they will not only resonate in my country, El Salvador, but also in other peoples of the world, who like mine, want to build their own path, with freedom. Some will be able to do it before, others later; for some it will be easier, for others more difficult. But it will be faster if powerful countries help us, instead of condemning us. And if they don't want to help us, at least they shouldn't get in the way. Each people should find their own way. And each people will find friends in the search for that path. To these countries, I humbly offer the friendship of this small country, the smallest in America, the country of surfing, volcanoes and pupusas. The country that is still fighting for its freedom, but is about to achieve it. 3 years ago, I was here, on this very podium at the United Nations. At that time, I told you that this format was already obsolete. Now, 3 years later, it is even more so. But perhaps it will still be of some use; perhaps it will serve, among many other things, for this representative of this small country, the smallest in the American continent, to humbly remind you that these United Nations were not created to divide, to destroy or to submit; but to relate to each other, to work together, to build a better community of countries and to seek solutions to the world's problems; but with absolute respect for the sovereignty, independence and self-determination of each country and in the way that the Charter of the United Nations itself says, in the First Principle of how this Organization would be: "The Organization is based on the principle

## NOTICE

### GOVERNMENT OF BELIZE TREASURY BILLS ISSUE NUMBER 11/2022

Tenders are invited for an issue of Government of Belize Treasury Bills. The amount of the issue will be \$64,391,800.00.

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 Tuesday, 25 October 2022 and will be redeemed on Tuesday, 24 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 to bids@centralbank.org.bz or at the designated drop off box no later than 12:00 noon on Friday, 21 October 2022.

The Auction in the Central Securities Depository System (CSD) will be opened from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm on Tuesday, 25 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)**

4 October 2022

**BELIZEPROPERTYAUCTIONS.COM**

**COUNTRYWIDE PUBLIC AUCTION SALES: PROPERTIES**

*Orange Walk Town, Orange Walk District*

1. BY ORDER of the Mortgagees Messrs. Heritage Bank Limited, Licensed Auctioneers Kevin A. Castillo and Christiana R. Castillo are selling ONLINE via [belizepropertyauctions.com](http://belizepropertyauctions.com) the following property. **Sales currently running and will expire on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> October 2022 at 9:00 am.**

**Corner Egret & Kiskadee Streets, Otro Benque Area, Orange Walk Town:**



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
Orange Walk North	4	109

(Being a two-storey concrete dwelling house [36 ft. X 44 ft.] consisting: Ground & First Floors: 3 Bedrooms + 2 Bathrooms + Living/Dining/Kitchen and laundry room and lot [0.254 acre or 1229.36 S.Y.] situate at the corner Egret & Kiskadee Streets, Otro Benque Area, Orange Walk Town, the freehold property of Mr. Earl Nicholson)

*Guinea Grass Village, Orange Walk District*

2. BY ORDER of the Mortgagees Messrs. The Belize Bank Limited, Licensed Auctioneers Kevin A. Castillo and Christiana R. Castillo are selling ONLINE via [belizepropertyauctions.com](http://belizepropertyauctions.com) the following property. **Sale currently running until 8<sup>th</sup> November 2022. Public Auction Sales will expire fortnightly on the dates and times listed on the website until this property is sold. Parcel No. 632 Guinea Grass Village, Orange Walk District:**



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
Guinea Grass	4	632

The freehold property of Ms. Melissa Westby

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

**TERMS: STRICTLY CASH**

**KEVIN A. CASTILLO**

**TELEPHONE 223-4488**

**Website: [belizepropertyauctions.com](http://belizepropertyauctions.com)**

**E-mail: [kevinacas@yahoo.com](mailto:kevinacas@yahoo.com)**

**Facebook: Belize Auctions**

**PUBLIC AUCTION SALES: PROPERTIES & ASSETS**

**ROBERT'S GROVE BEACH RESORT, Placencia Peninsula, Stann Creek District**

BY ORDER of the Receiver, Robert's Grove Limited, Licensed Auctioneers Kevin A. Castillo and Christiana R. Castillo are selling ONLINE via [belizepropertyauctions.com](http://belizepropertyauctions.com) the properties known as Robert's Grove Beach Resort. **Sale currently running until 30<sup>th</sup> November 2022. Public Auction Sale/s will expire fortnightly within this period on the dates and times listed on the website until the resort is sold.**



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCELS
Placencia North	36	136, 41, 42, 3641, 3642, 3257, 3259, 3260, 3261, 3262, 3263 3264, 3265, 3266, 3267, 3268, 3269, 3271, 3281, 3284, 3286

(Being the following improvements/developments:

**Main Two Level Administration/Studio Building, Ocean view Apartment Suites (A, B & C), Workers Quarters, Habanero Restaurant and Bar, Outdoor Bar & Patio, Swimming Pool and Court, Beachfront Spa and massage parlor, Laundry House, Back Office Building/Bedroom, Marina Generator House, Bicycle Shed, Gazebo, Gymnasium Building, Sweet Mama's Restaurant, Beachfront Pier, Staff Quarters, Dive Shop Building, Office/Storeroom Timber Building, Main Warehouse, Garage Shed Building, Carpentry Shop Building, Staff Quarters, The Marina, RG Generator House, Manager Residence, Fuel Station & Storage Tanks**

**TOGETHER with approximately 13 acres of land, the freehold properties of Messrs. Robert's Grove Limited)**

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

**TERMS: STRICTLY CASH**

**KEVIN A. CASTILLO**

**TELEPHONE 223-4488**

**Website: [belizepropertyauctions.com](http://belizepropertyauctions.com)**

**Email: [kevinacas@yahoo.com](mailto:kevinacas@yahoo.com)**

**Website: [belizepropertyauctions.com](http://belizepropertyauctions.com)**

**Face Book: Belize Auctions**

# Beads are Killers

As an educator, one of the primary duties is to ensure that learners who are placed within one's care are safe at all times. How, then, can parents assist educators to meet this objective effectively? Of course, there are several ways. But let us zero in on the wearing of beads by children—whether in the hair or as accessories. Now, one of the first questions is, what do beads have to do with the learning process? Well, the reality is that they can kill. Then the next line of argument is, can't the pen or pencil kill? The truth is that they can, but they are first and foremost learning tools and are only introduced in education as learners get older. But let us be practical: how does the wearing of beads benefit the learner? I get the idea of creative expression and even entertained the thought of *enhancing* a child. Who wouldn't support that? But let us analyse at what price.

This expression and *enhancement*

are now at the cost of your child or another child. Beads can cause strangulation in kids. Remember, when a bead is detached from that beautiful hairstyle and another child accidentally swallows this beautiful sparkly object or inserts the bead in the ear or nose, this can result in serious harm. So, at this point you ask, what is the teacher doing? The teacher in a class of ratio 10:1 could be assisting or monitoring another student, and let us remember some class sizes are much larger. So, while we beat down on how archaic we consider educational systems in not allowing beads as a part of the dress code, we must also think of the child we can save and still have our child creatively expressing themselves in another form. And always remember that beads can turn on your own bundle of joy. The price is too high to pay.

Kalehia Johnson

[Kalehijohnson@gmail.com](mailto:Kalehijohnson@gmail.com)

# Ancient Maya elite may have suffered from chronic ...

*Continued from* Page 13

contemporary urban areas and industrial landscapes.

"Discovering mercury buried deep in soils and sediments in ancient Maya cities is difficult to explain, until we begin to consider the archaeology of the region which tells us that the Maya were using mercury for centuries," said Cook.

The most recent discovery of mercury at a Maya site occurred at Lamanai in Belize. Beneath a ball court, archaeologists found a small bowl containing liquid mercury along with a small amount of cinnabar powder. Additionally, at Caracol, archaeologists found a cache beneath structure A6

containing "least 664.7 grams of elemental mercury along with other artefacts".

While there have been decades of research dedicated to understanding the ancient Maya's long history of mercury use, there are still some gaps in that research. The study notes, for example, that more information is needed on the environmental persistence of mercury, including environmental consequences, if any, and the effect that it may have on present-day archaeologists.

There is also still very little known about how, why, or when the Maya began to obtain and use mercury-based material, though it is believed that they transported it along trade routes much as they did with jade and obsidian.

# Nayib Bukele's speech

*Continued from* Page 17

of equality sovereign of all its Members." And as one of the main purposes for which this Organization was founded says: "To promote friendly relations among nations based on respect for the principle of equal rights and the self-determination of peoples."

Perhaps the change from the unipolar world to a multipolar world that is talked about so much, would be better if, instead of going from one superpower to several superpowers, we better go to a world where each people is truly free to build their own path and where in this community of nations, let us all contribute, the big ones and the small ones, from our experiences and our capacities, to solve the problems of humanity. Nobody could be against that, but as with Freedom, it is easy to say it; the difficult thing is that it is real. I came here, to stand on this podium,

in a format I no longer believe in, to say something that most likely won't change the way powerful countries see each other anyway. But maybe it will change the way we developing countries see ourselves. If after these few words, I have achieved that, at least with a handful of individuals, who will see themselves with respect and know that they are capable of building their own path, then it was worth coming here, to speak to this obsolete format. And who knows? Perhaps, over time, other nations, other peoples, will also decide to fight for their Freedom. And then the United Nations will have become relevant again, at least for this humble servant. Thank you very much. And may God bless all the nations of the world.

[fincasolan@gmail.com](mailto:fincasolan@gmail.com)

October 7, 2022

Finca Solana

Corozal Town



**Call us at: 202-4477**



**REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST  
(CONSULTING SERVICES – INDIVIDUAL  
CONSULTANT SELECTION)**

**Belize****Climate Resilient and Sustainable Agriculture Project (CRESAP)**Loan No.: **9347-BE**

Project ID No.: P172592

**Assignment Title: Deputy Project Coordinator****Reference No. (as per Procurement Plan): CS 02**

The Government of Belize has received financing from the World Bank toward the cost of the Climate Resilient and Sustainable Agriculture Project and intends to apply part of the proceeds for consulting services.

The consulting services (“the Services”) is for a suitable qualified fulltime **PROJECT STAFF- DEPUTY PROJECT COORDINATOR** as part of the Project Implementation Unit of the CRESAP within the Belize Social Investment Fund. The Deputy Project Coordinator will support the Project Coordinator (PC) in providing leadership and management of the Project Implementation Unit (PIU) and will support the PC in coordinating the activities to be implemented. The Deputy Project Coordinator will also assist the PC in project planning, budget preparation and management and execution, to achieve the Project’s objectives and targets.

The GOB has appointed the Belize Social Investment Fund (BSIF) as the implementing agency for the project and the BSIF is seeking to recruit an individual to fill the position of **Deputy Project Coordinator**.

The consultancy is expected to be for an initial period of Twenty-four (24) months commencing November 2022. The Deputy Project Coordinator will be supervised by the Project Coordinator (PC) of the CRESAP.

The detailed Terms of Reference (TOR) for the assignment can be obtained by submitting a request in writing via e-mail to [nellie.trench@sifbelize.org](mailto:nellie.trench@sifbelize.org) or at the following link <https://sifbelize.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/CS-02-Terms-of-Reference-TOR-Deputy-Project-Coordinator-CRESAP-10-10-2022-final.pdf> on the website of BSIF at [www.sifbelize.org](http://www.sifbelize.org).

The Belize Social Investment Fund now invites eligible individuals (“Consultants”) to indicate their interest in providing the Services. Interested Consultants should provide information demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the Services (such as cover letter, Curriculum Vitae etc.).

**Minimum Mandatory Requirements \*(Required)****Qualifications**

Master’s degree in project management, agriculture, rural development, or any other field related to the assignment.

**General Experience**

Eight years’ working experience in public or private sector performing tasks related to managing of projects (max 20 points)

**\*If these minimum requirements are not met, the candidates will not be considered for the process\***

**Additional Requirements (Desirable)****Specific Experience**

- At least five years’ experience in implementation of projects in the agriculture field (max 30 points)
- At least five years’ experience working in rural development, particularly in rural/local communities (max 20 points)
- Minimum of three (3) years’ experience working with agriculture value chain particularly livestock or horticulture crops (max 15 points)
- At least five years’ experience with project management for activities funded by of IFIs (e.g. World Bank, IDB, CDB, EU etc.) (max 15 points)

**Minimum total points required to be considered for the assignment is 75 points.**

The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to Section III, paragraphs, 3.14, 3.16, and 3.17 of the World Bank’s “Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers” July 2016 (“Procurement Regulations”), setting forth the World Bank’s policy on conflict of interest.

A Consultant will be selected in accordance with the Selection of Individual Consultant method set out in the Procurement Regulations.

Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours, i.e. 0800 to 1600 hours Belize Time.

Expressions of interest must be delivered in a written form to the address below (in person, or by mail, or by e-mail) by **October 28, 2022** at 16:00 hours Belize Time.

Belize Social Investment Fund  
Attn: Nellie Trench, Finance Coordinator  
P.O. Box 459, 1902 Constitution Drive (3rd Floor), Belmopan, Belize  
Telephone +501-822-0239  
Email: [nellie.trench@sifbelize.org](mailto:nellie.trench@sifbelize.org)

**BELIZEPROPERTYAUCTIONS.COM****COUNTRYWIDE PUBLIC AUCTION SALES: PROPERTIES****Santa Elena, Belmopan & Duck Run 2, Cayo District; Belize City, Belize District; Corozal Town, Corozal District**

BY ORDER of the Mortgagees Messrs. The Belize Bank Limited, Licensed Auctioneers Kevin A. Castillo and Christiana R. Castillo are selling ONLINE via [belizepropertyauctions.com](http://belizepropertyauctions.com) the following properties. Sales currently running until **30<sup>th</sup> November 2022**. Public Auction Sales will expire fortnightly on the dates and times listed on the website until these properties are sold.

**1. Parcels Nos. 2711 & 2712 Corner San Narciso & Eden Streets, Santa Elena, Cayo District:**



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCELS
Santa Elena/Cayo	23	2711 & 2712

(Being a fabulous two storey timber/concrete dwelling house [3,106 sq. ft.] containing: Ground Floor – Office + Laundry + Garage; First Floor - 3 Bedrooms + 3 Bathroom + Living/Dining/Kitchen + Spacious Verandas and Double Lots [1,266.033 S.M.] situate at corner San Narciso & Eden Streets, Santa Elena, Cayo District, the freehold property of Mr. Audomaro Bedran)

**2. Parcel No. 2025 Guatemala Street, Belmopan, Cayo District:**



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
Belmopan	20	2025

(Being a concrete bungalow house [1,200 sq. ft.] containing 2 Bedrooms + 1 Bathroom + 1 Kitchen + Living/Dining + Restaurant + 1 Small Apartment [1 bedroom + 1 Bathroom] TOGETHER with lot [800.072 S.Y.] situate on Guatemala Street, Belmopan, Cayo District, the freehold property of Mr. Luis Peraza and Ms. Emily Peraza)

**3. Parcel No. 1153 Majorie Liang Street, Port Loyola, Belize City:**



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
Queen Square West	45	1153

(Being a two storey concrete house [3399 sq. ft.] containing: Ground Floor – Recreation Room + 2 Bathrooms + Kitchen; First Floor – 4 Bedrooms + 3 Bathrooms + Living/Dining/Kitchen + Laundry + Verandah TOGETHER with lot [371.466 S.M.], the freehold property of Ms. Kimberly Haulzes)

**4. Parcel No. 2094 Corner Fig & 26th Ceiba Streets, Corozal Town, Corozal District:**



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
Corozal North	1	2094

(Being a concrete bungalow dwelling house [1,657 sq. ft.] containing 3 Bedrooms + 3 Bathrooms + Living/Dining/Kitchen + Laundry/Storeroom TOGETHER with lot [5,507 sq. ft.], the freehold property of Mr. Ravey Vellos)

**5. Lot No. 9 Duck Run 2 Village, Cayo District:**



ALL THAT lot piece or parcel of land situated in Duck Run 2 Village, Cayo District, Belize being Lot No. 9 comprising of 0.45 acres as shown on Entry No. 15300 of Register No. 38 surveyed by J. Javier Depaz, Licensed Surveyor TOGETHER with all buildings and erections standing and being thereon. (Being an elevated timber dwelling house [795 sq. ft.] containing 3 Bedrooms + 1 Bathroom + Living/Dining/Kitchen + Porch TOGETHER with lot [0.45 acre or 19,602 sq. ft.], the freehold property of Mr. Henry Klassen and Ms. Leticia Klassen)

**“FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION & PHOTOGRAPHS PLEASE VISIT WEBSITE”**

**TERMS: STRICTLY CASH**  
**KEVINA CASTILLO**  
**TELEPHONE 223-4488**

Website: [belizepropertyauctions.com](http://belizepropertyauctions.com)

E-mail: [kevinacas@yahoo.com](mailto:kevinacas@yahoo.com)

Facebook: [Belize Auctions](https://www.facebook.com/BelizeAuctions)



## REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (CONSULTING SERVICES – INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANT SELECTION)

### Belize

#### Climate Resilient and Sustainable Agriculture Project (CRESAP)

Loan No.: **9347-BE**

Project ID No.: P172592

Assignment Title: **Project Coordinator**

Reference No. (as per Procurement Plan): **CS 01**

The Government of Belize has received financing from the World Bank toward the cost of the Climate Resilient and Sustainable Agriculture Project and intends to apply part of the proceeds for consulting services.

The consulting services (“the Services”) is for a suitable qualified fulltime **PROJECT STAFF- PROJECT COORDINATOR** as part of the Project Implementation Unit of the CRESAP within the Belize Social Investment Fund. The Project Coordinator will provide overall leadership and management of the Project Implementation Unit (PIU) and will coordinate the activities to be implemented. The Project Coordinator will have the ultimate responsibility for planning, budget preparation and management and execution to achieve the Project’s objectives and targets. In addition, the Project Coordinator will report to Ministry of Agriculture Food Security and Enterprise (MAFSE) and the Belize Social Investment Fund (BSIF) on overall project implementation and will act on the MAFSE behalf in his/her contacts with public and international institutions and provide overall supervision of service providers contracted by the project. The Project Coordinator will also provide regular project update to the Project Oversight Committee.

The GOB has appointed the Belize Social Investment Fund (BSIF) as the implementing agency for the project and the BSIF is seeking to recruit an individual to fill the position of **Project Coordinator**.

The consultancy is expected to be for an initial period of Twenty-four (24) months commencing November 2022. The Project Coordinator will be supervised by the Executive Director of the BSIF and will report to Ministry of Agriculture Food Security and Enterprise (MAFSE) and BSIF on overall project implementation.

The detailed Terms of Reference (TOR) for the assignment can be obtained by submitting a request in writing via e-mail to [nellie.trench@sifbelize.org](mailto:nellie.trench@sifbelize.org) or at the following link <https://sifbelize.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/CS-01-Terms-of-Reference-TOR-Project-Coordinator-CRESAP-10-10-2022-final.pdf> on the website of BSIF at [www.sifbelize.org](http://www.sifbelize.org).

The Belize Social Investment Fund now invites eligible individuals (“Consultants”) to indicate their interest in providing the Services. Interested Consultants should provide information demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the Services (such as cover letter, Curriculum Vitae etc.).

### Minimum Mandatory Requirements \*(Required)

#### Qualifications

Master’s degree in project management, agriculture, rural development, or any other field related to the assignment.

#### General Experience

Eight years’ working experience in public or private sector performing tasks related to managing of projects (max 20 points)

**\*If these minimum requirements are not met, the candidates will not be considered for the process\***

### Additional Requirements (Desirable)

#### Specific Experience

- At least five years’ experience in implementation of projects in the agriculture field (max 30 points)
- At least five years’ experience working in rural development, particularly in rural/local communities (max 20 points)
- Minimum of three (3) years’ experience working with agriculture value chain particularly livestock or horticulture crops (max 15 points)
- At least five years’ experience with project management for activities funded by of IFIs (e.g. World Bank, IDB, CDB, EU etc.) (max 15 points)

**Minimum total points required to be considered for the assignment is 75 points.**

The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to Section III, paragraphs, 3.14, 3.16, and 3.17 of the World Bank’s “Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers” July 2016 (“Procurement Regulations”), setting forth the World Bank’s policy on conflict of interest.

A Consultant will be selected in accordance with the Selection of Individual Consultant method set out in the Procurement Regulations.

Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours, i.e. 0800 to 1600 hours Belize Time.

Expressions of interest must be delivered in a written form to the address below (in person, or by mail, or by e-mail) by **October 28, 2022** at 16:00 hours Belize Time.

Belize Social Investment Fund  
Attn: Nellie Trench, Finance Coordinator  
P.O. Box 459, 1902 Constitution Drive (3rd Floor), Belmopan, Belize  
Telephone +501-822-0239  
Email: [nellie.trench@sifbelize.org](mailto:nellie.trench@sifbelize.org)

## SRC TRADING THOUGHTS

# Pound Volatility: What implications for Caribbean tourism and trade?

*Alicia Nicholls*

Winter is coming! And not in the Game of Thrones sense. The big news in currency markets on Monday, September 26, 2022 was the British pound (GBP)’s record slump against the United States dollar (USD). It seems unfathomable now that years ago one UK pound was worth some 2 USD. Then early that Monday morning in September, the pound dropped to the equivalent of US \$1.03 at one point, almost reaching parity with the greenback before rebounding slightly in the afternoon and recovering somewhat since then. However, that day was the closest in history that the GBP/USD rate has come to parity and marks one of the most volatile periods the Sterling has experienced since the turmoil of the Brexit referendum in June 2016 and its aftermath.

But what does this volatility of the UK pound and UK economic developments more generally mean for the Caribbean? This SRC Trading Thoughts discusses this state of affairs and potential implications for the Caribbean’s tourism and trade with one of its major trading partners.

### What accounts for the pound’s depreciation?

One of the simplest answers for the pound’s depreciation against the dollar is that the latter is experiencing strong appreciation against other world currencies, as often happens when there is global uncertainty leading investors to retreat to the safety of the US dollar. But several other factors, including recent political and economic events in the UK, also explain the pound’s most recent depreciation.

After emerging victorious in the race to replace then disgraced Prime Minister Boris Johnson as Conservative Party leader, current UK Prime Minister Liz Truss has inherited a UK economy on the brink of recession, if the Bank of England’s projections of two consecutive quarters of negative GDP are proven true. Some pundits, like the economists at S&P Global Ratings, say the UK economy is already in a full recession. Volatile energy prices fueled by the Russia-Ukraine conflict have spiked inflation in major world economies, including the UK. Though global energy prices have dropped somewhat in recent weeks, UK households face a winter with rising costs of food and gas diminishing their purchasing power. Inflation in the UK is currently running at 9.9%, as reported by the UK Office of National Statistics (as at August 2022), which is a dip from July’s 10.1% but remains elevated. Moreover, the decline in global oil prices might be short-lived. At its just-concluded Vienna meeting, the Organisation of the Petroleum Exporting Countries plus Russia (OPEC+) announced its decision to cut daily oil production by 2 million barrels, which could drive up oil prices once again, with concomitant consequences for global inflation.

To cool inflation, the Bank of England (BoE) has raised its key interest rate to 2.25%, which is the highest level since

the 2008/2009 global financial crisis. It follows the US Federal Reserve’s third straight significant rate hike on September 21 to do the same for the US economy. The BoE has further said in its statement that it “will not hesitate to change interest rates by as much as needed to return inflation to the 2 percent target sustainably in the medium term, in line with its remit”.

On September 23, 2022, the newly appointed UK Chancellor of the Exchequer, Kwasi Kwarteng, delivered a ‘mini-budget’ in which he announced several fiscal measures to help UK households mitigate the effects of spiraling prices. The main problem, however, was the huge tax cuts announced, which were largely unfunded and included a proposed scrapping of the top personal income tax rate of 45% for the highest income earners, therefore benefiting the wealthiest taxpayers in the middle of a cost-of-living crisis. Not only were the proposed tax cuts deeply unpopular in the UK, but it rattled financial markets, accounting for that Monday’s unprecedented drop in the Sterling’s value and also spiking rates for new mortgages and remortgages in the UK for the first time since 2008.

The move was also strongly condemned internationally. The International Monetary Fund (IMF), in a statement issued on September 27, 2022, made the unusual step of publicly critiquing the policy proposals of a major G7 country and urging a “re-evaluation” of the proposed policies. On September 28 the BoE intervened to purchase UK bonds in order to restore stability and calm markets following a historic sell-off of UK government bonds by investors in the wake of the policy announcements. On October 3 2022, the Chancellor subsequently announced a reversal of the Government’s proposed removal of the top personal income tax rate of 45%. The pound has since regained some value, but as at Wednesday, October 5, 2022, it remains at a low rate of 1 GBP to \$1.13 USD.

### Implications for the Caribbean

The Pound’s record low rates are a potential mixed bag for the Caribbean. Starting with the positives, Caribbean Community (CARICOM) Member States imported US\$596 million in goods from the UK in 2021, according to ITC Trade Map data. Depending on the pricing terms of supplier contracts, Caribbean importers could find importing from the UK cheaper due to the stronger US dollar vis-à-vis the UK pound. Caribbean tourists to the UK and students pursuing studies in that country will find that their money will go further. However, this gain is offset somewhat by the record inflation – the fastest rate in four decades.

Now to the negatives. The UK is a leading tourism source market for the Caribbean region and for some countries, like Barbados, is the biggest source market. With the UK facing a winter of uncertainty, UK travellers,

# Heritage Education Network hosts second annual Belize KULCHA Symposium

*The Keeping Up with Language, Culture, Heritage, and Arts Symposium features lectures and presentations on publishing in Belize, archaeology, entrepreneurship, Belizean culture, anthropology, ancient and modern history and more.*



by *Khaila Gentle*

BELIZE CITY, Wed. Oct. 12, 2022

From the plight of the Christian Workers Union's stevedores, to periods of poverty, to the innovation of the ancient Maya, the topics explored during the Heritage Education Network Belize's second annual Belize KULCHA Symposium ran the gamut. The three-day symposium took place last week and concluded on Friday.

The annual symposium is aimed at creating discussion around community issues and innovative practices in Belize. The main areas of focus are language, literature, and poetry; culture and cultural heritage (both tangible and intangible), archaeology, and anthropology; heritage and history (including natural heritage); and fine and creative arts in Belize.

This year's symposium's three main themes were Archaeology and Cultural Heritage Management in Belize, Belize's Culture in Historical and Modern Context, and Celebrating Lamanai's Nomination to the World Monument Fund's Watch List.

Dr. Dylan Vernon, who recently published his book on Political Clientelism in Belize was one of four presenters who explored Belize's culture in historical and modern context. His talk focused on the role that ethnicity and party politics play, and have played, in Belize's political culture.

Dominique Noralez presented "Sitting at the Dock: Sugar and Cream, the Case of the Stevedores of the Christian Workers Union", during which she explored the establishment and history of one of Belize's most prominent unions as well as the

struggles that the members of that union have faced at the hands of capitalist interests.

Under the theme of Archaeology and Cultural Heritage Management in Belize, Dr. Amy Thompson and Aidan Hunt both focused on Belize's Maya history, with Dr. Thompson discussing indigenous landscapes and village formation, particularly that of the Mopan and Q'eqchi' Maya, while Mr. Hunt focused on British colonial policy towards the Icaiche Maya.

On Friday, the KULCHA Symposium presentations were centered on celebrating the recent nomination of Lamanai to the World Monuments Fund Watch List, focusing especially on the relationship between Lamanai archaeologists and the local communities that surround the site, including the village of Indian Church.

The World Monuments Watch is an initiative by New York-based NGO World Monuments Fund to draw international attention to cultural heritage around the world that is threatened by neglect, vandalism, or disaster. The Heritage Education Network Belize successfully nominated Lamanai to the list in March of this year in an effort to underscore the greater need for action against climate change, imbalanced tourism, underrepresentation, and other issues that threaten the site and other places like it.

Those interested in viewing the presentations from the symposium can do so via Heritage Education Network Belize's Facebook page. Both this year's and last year's presentations can also be accessed on the Heritage Education Network Belize YouTube page.



can be heard on the following frequencies:  
96.5FM in Belize City, Punta Gorda Town, Santa Elena, Cayo and Carmelita Village;  
91.1FM in Ladyville and Independence;  
101.1FM in Dangriga Town, Camalote Village and Caye Caulker



## 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:

- an Attorney-at-Law qualified to practice law in Belize or the Commonwealth
- versed and trained in Intellectual Property laws.
- in good health.
- 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:

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

Salary: Based on qualifications and experience.

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

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

Deadline for receipt of applications: **November 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.



## ATTORNEY GENERAL'S MINISTRY VACANCY NOTICE

Suitably qualified applicants are invited to fill the position of:

### SENIOR LITIGATOR

Applicants for the position of Senior Litigator:

- must be:
  - qualified to practice as an attorney-at-law or as an advocate in a court in any other part of the Commonwealth having unlimited jurisdiction either in civil or criminal causes or matters; and
  - has been qualified for not less than five years so to practice in such a court.
- must be in good health.
- must be 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 in the standards of the legal profession.

Experience and training required:

- Minimum of ten (10) years' experience as a practicing attorney-at-law in the area of civil litigation of complex legal matters specifically in public law (constitutional law and administrative law) and human rights law;
- Bachelor of Laws Degree from a recognized institution; and
- Legal Education Certificate or equivalent from a recognized institution.

Salary: BZD \$84k per annum with allowances.

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

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

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.



# KREM Television Program Guide

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

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

**Friday, October 14 to Thursday, October 20, 2022**

**FRIDAY**

- 6:30 a.m. **Wake Up Belize Morning Vibes (LIVE)**
- 9:00 a.m. **Morning Stew (LIVE)**
- 12:00 p.m. **Krem TV Evening News (repeat)**
- 1:00 p.m. News Broadcast: Democracy Now
- 2:00 p.m. Documentary: Lee Kuan Yew (1923-2015)
- 3:30 p.m. **Wake Up Belize Morning Vibes (repeat)**
- 6:00 p.m. **Krem TV Evening News (LIVE)**
- 7:00 p.m. Ted Talks: Is Humanity Smart Enough to Survive Itself?
- 7:30 p.m. **Navel String Connections (repeat)**
- 9:00 p.m. **Krem TV Evening News (repeat)**

**SATURDAY**

- 9:00 a.m. Documentary: Unforgivable Blackness
- 10:39 a.m. Movie: No Way Out
- 12:09 p.m. Documentary: The True Story of Che
- 1:36 p.m. Movie: The Men - 1950 Marlon Brando, Teresa Wright
- 3:14 p.m. Documentary: Capitalism Hits the fan - Robert Wolff
- 4:31 p.m. Movie: Just An Old Sweet Song (1976) Robert Hooks, Cicely Tyson
- 6:15 p.m. Documentary: Edge of America
- 8:06 p.m. Music Videos

**SUNDAY**

- 10:30 a.m. **Sunday Review (LIVE)**
- 12:00 p.m. Movie: A Case of Deadly Force (1986)
- 1:34 p.m. Documentary: Re Caribbean Women for Land, Food and Climate Justice
- 3:13 p.m. Movie: License To Kill (1984)
- 4:49 p.m. Documentary: The Last Reef
- 5:30 p.m. **Sunday Review (repeat)**
- 7:00 p.m. Sunday Jazz
- 8:00 p.m. Music Videos

**MONDAY**

- 6:30 a.m. **Wake Up Belize Morning Vibes (LIVE)**
- 9:00 a.m. **Morning Stew (LIVE)**
- 12:00 p.m. **Krem TV Evening News (repeat)**
- 1:00 p.m. News Broadcast: Democracy Now
- 2:00 p.m. Movie: The Guardian (1984)
- 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: America's 33 Dollar Mercenaries
- 9:00 p.m. **Krem TV Evening News (repeat)**

**TUESDAY**

- 6:30 a.m. **Wake Up Belize Morning Vibes (LIVE)**
- 9:00 a.m. **Morning Stew (LIVE)**
- 12:00 p.m. **Krem TV Evening News (repeat)**
- 1:00 p.m. News Broadcast: Democracy Now
- 2:00 p.m. Documentary: CASE LAW - What are the SOURCES of LAW
- 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: Robert Miller Presentation - International Seminar on the Doctrine of Discovery
- 9:00 p.m. **Krem TV Evening News (repeat)**

**WEDNESDAY**

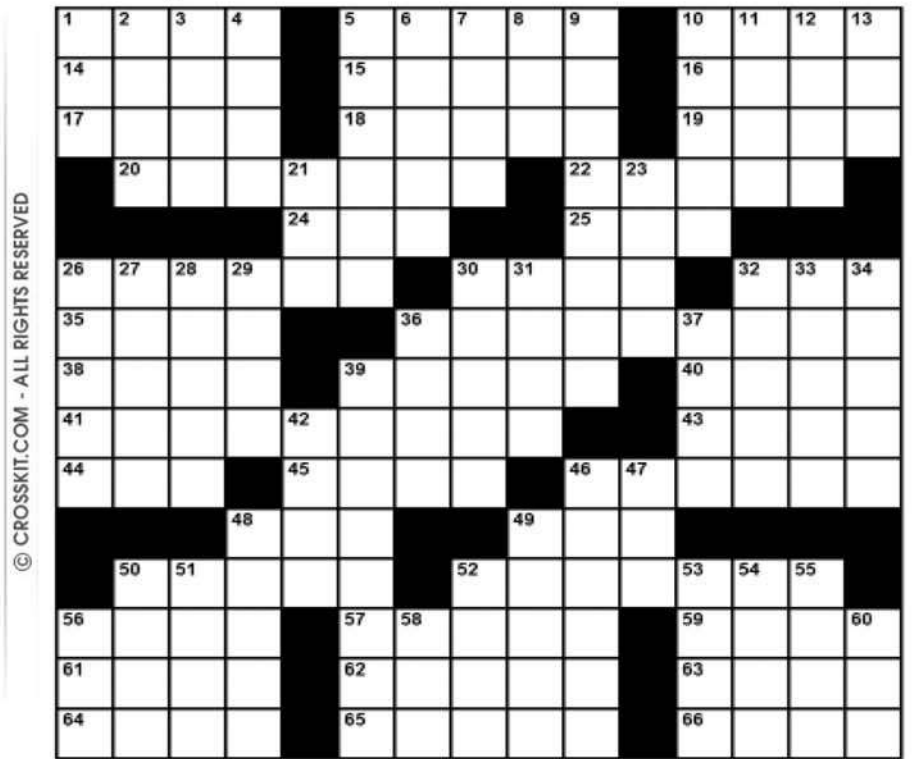
- 6:30 a.m. **Wake Up Belize Morning Vibes (LIVE)**
- 9:00 a.m. **Morning Stew (LIVE)**
- 12:00 p.m. **Krem TV Evening News (repeat)**
- 1:00 p.m. News Broadcast: Democracy Now
- 2:00 p.m. Movie: Mahogany (1975)
- 3:30 p.m. **Wake Up Belize Morning Vibes (repeat)**
- 6:00 p.m. **Krem TV Evening News (LIVE)**
- 7:00 p.m. Documentary: Here's why Thanksgiving is a day of mourning for indigenous people of Massachusetts
- 7:30 p.m. **Navel String Connections (LIVE)**
- 9:00 p.m. **Krem TV Evening News (repeat)**

**THURSDAY**

- 6:30 a.m. **Wake Up Belize Morning Vibes (LIVE)**
- 9:00 a.m. **Morning Stew (LIVE)**
- 12:00 p.m. **Krem TV Evening News (repeat)**
- 1:00 p.m. News Broadcast: Democracy Now
- 2:00 p.m. Documentary: Drug War
- 3:30 p.m. **Wake Up Belize Morning Vibes (repeat)**
- 6:00 p.m. **Krem TV Evening News (LIVE)**
- 7:00 p.m. News Broadcast: Democracy Now
- 8:00 p.m. Belizean Legend: Melvan "Maleli" McGregor
- 9:00 p.m. **Krem TV Evening News (repeat)**



**Daily Printable Puzzle - 10-13-2022**



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**Across**

- 1. Cooking device
- 5. Coffee order
- 10. Bistro
- 14. Curved doorway
- 15. City in Nebraska
- 16. Calla lily, e.g.
- 17. Fabricator
- 18. Of the kidneys
- 19. Bar crossers
- 20. Bon vivant
- 22. Casing
- 24. Above, in poems
- 25. Absorb, as costs
- 26. More ostentatious
- 30. Cats and dogs
- 32. Glide downhill
- 35. Compared to
- 36. Soil burrower
- 38. Neophyte
- 39. Dispatch boat
- 40. Forest ox
- 41. ERA would have been one
- 43. Knelled
- 44. Apple color
- 45. All that's left
- 46. Beef Wellington, for one
- 48. A play on words
- 49. Cassowary kin
- 50. Alpha's antithesis
- 52. Cracker Jack prize
- 56. Hens and mares
- 57. California fort
- 59. Moslem prayer leader
- 61. Pig noise
- 62. City built on ancient Thebes
- 63. Exec's car
- 64. Gist of a letter
- 65. Akin on mom's side
- 66. Black-and-white cookie

**Down**

- 1. They called her frivolous
- 2. Blue nose
- 3. U.N. civilian aviation agcy.
- 4. By way of, for short
- 5. Type of window
- 6. Arabian ruler
- 7. Isn't able to
- 8. Caught ya!
- 9. Artificially high voice
- 10. Insert mark
- 11. Chemistry term
- 12. Feed a fire
- 13. Font widths
- 21. Baby fish
- 23. Diner eats
- 26. Essential oil
- 27. Free verse lack
- 28. Weighed
- 29. A party to
- 30. Coat of many colors
- 31. Formerly, once
- 32. Bat signal
- 33. Currency of Denmark
- 34. Man in the mirror
- 36. Arden and Curie
- 37. Part of a wicked witch costume
- 39. Willing to agree
- 42. Pharmacy buy
- 46. Defector
- 47. Convent dweller
- 48. Bothersome
- 49. Rye fungus
- 50. Baltimore partner
- 51. Darn socks
- 52. Groupings of organisms
- 53. Metric measure, for short
- 54. Amman VIP
- 55. Bring to heel
- 56. Cry out loud
- 58. Diamond score
- 60. Barn sound

**Crossword answers for last edition**

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



**Daily Printable Crossword Puzzle - 10-05-2022 - Answers**



# Truck driver rescued on flooded Coastal Road

BELIZE CITY, Wed. Oct. 12, 2022

A daring rescue was caught on film yesterday around noon after a truck and its driver were swept off the Coastal Road by rushing flood waters. The driver sought refuge on the top of his truck as workers from the construction company working on the road came to his aid. Reports are that the vehicle began overturning after the driver missed the road and got stuck at the edge of the embankment.



**Truck driver being pulled to safety**

The man is seen holding onto the top of the vehicle as the strong currents raged past him, while on the dry portion of the road the men from the construction company were creating a belt by tying ratchet straps together. That belt was thrown to the driver, who scurried toward it — groping for it in the murky waters with one hand while holding onto the truck with the other.

He got a hold of the belt and tied it around his body securely before sliding his feet off the top of the truck, and was pulled to safety by the men on the other side.

Colonel Shelton Defour, NEMO

Coordinator, stated at a press conference held yesterday that at this time the relief operations are currently still ongoing, since significant flooding is forecast for the Belize River Valley area. He thus implored residents to heed the advisories.

“We have a responsibility to keep the public informed or advise them accordingly, but it is the individuals who have to adhere to those advice and not take the risk, and believe that they could take the chance of going through flood waters, either walking through it or driving through it, because you are putting your life and your equipment at risk,” Col. Defour said.

# World Mental Health Day 2022 focuses on making mental health a global priority

by *Khaila Gentle*

BELIZE CITY, Tues. Oct. 11, 2022

According to the World Health Organization, close to 1 billion persons have a mental health disorder. Despite this, relatively few have access to adequate mental health services. This past Monday, October 10, the international community, along with WHO and the UN, observed World Mental Health Day under the theme “Make Mental Health and Wellbeing a Global Priority for all.”

In a statement released by the Ministry of Health & Wellness, Hon. Kevin Bernard explained that this year’s theme was chosen to address the inequalities in mental healthcare that were exposed by the COVID-19 pandemic as well as the impact that the pandemic had on mental health globally.

During the first year of the pandemic alone, depression and anxiety increased by 25% around the world. WHO has stated that the pandemic has triggered a global mental health crisis due to increased short and long-term stress. Here at home, Belize reported a 31.5% increase in anxiety disorders.

This World Mental Health Day, the WHO has made a call for greater investment in mental health care for all. The Karl Heusner Memorial Hospital (KMH) has answered that call recently, by providing training for staff on how



to show greater empathy to patients.

“This day provides an opportunity for all stakeholders to raise awareness about stigma and discrimination associated with mental illness,” said Minister Bernard.

World Mental Health Day has been observed annually since the year 1992. The Ministry of Health and Wellness offers mental health care services for free and advises anyone in need of help to access these resources or talk to their primary healthcare provider about it.

## REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST



### ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES FOR THE DESIGN AND SUPERVISION OF SIX (6) STORAGE AND PACKING FACILITIES

**Institution:** Ministry of Economic Development

**Country:** Belize

**Project:** Resilient Rural Belize Programme

**Loan No.:** 2000002301

**Deadline for Submission of Proposals:** November 11, 2022 at 3:00 p.m.

#### Background:

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 and relevant GOB Departments.

#### Scope of Service:

The main objective of this consultancy is to contract the services of a consultancy firm to provide architectural services for the Design and Supervision of construction work for Storage and Packaging Centers for RRB Beneficiaries in the following villages:

1. Cayo District - Valley of Peace, San Antonio, and Seven Miles
2. Orange Walk - San Carlos
3. Corozal District - Concepcion and Xiabe villages.

#### Specific Experience of Firm:

- A minimum of four (4) years’ experience designing, developing and supervising architectural designs.
- A minimum of at least one project of similar nature and complexity. Experience with any Agricultural and produce/food handling structures and facilities will be an advantage.

#### Key Staff Qualifications:

The consultancy firm must possess two (2) Key staff members:

- Architect
  - Must possess a minimum of a bachelor’s degree in architecture, Professional Architect registered with the Association of Professional Architects of Belize (APAB)
  - Minimum 3 years relevant experience in architecture.
  - Proficiency in the use of Computer Aid Design (CAD) Software for the preparation of the drawings and the creation of the 3D renderings.
- Engineer
  - Must possess a minimum of a bachelor’s degree in civil engineering
  - Must be registered with the Association of Professional Engineers of Belize (APEB)
  - A minimum of three (3) years’ experience in engineering design, design review, construction supervision and its related requirements.

The Resilient Rural Belize (RRB) Programme now invites expressions of interest (EOIs) from firms to provide services for the **Design & Supervision of construction work for Storage and Packaging Centers.**

A Consulting Firm will be selected in accordance with the procurement procedures set out by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and is open to all eligible bidders as defined in the policies.

Consulting Firms interested in receiving the Request for Expression of Interest (REOI) should register their interest by sending an e-mail (with subject: *Request for REOI - Design & Supervision of construction work for Storage and Packaging Centers*) to the Procurement Officer at [nvernon.RRB@med.gov.bz](mailto:nvernon.RRB@med.gov.bz) giving full contact details of the Consultant. This will ensure that the Consultants receive updates regarding this RFP.

**The REOI must be submitted via email to the following address on or before November 11, 2022 at 3:00 p.m. (Local time). Only electronic submission will be accepted.**

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



## REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (CONSULTING SERVICES – INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANT SELECTION)

**Belize**  
**Climate Resilient and Sustainable Agriculture Project (CRESAP)**  
 Loan No.: **9347-BE**  
 Project ID No.: P172592  
**Assignment Title: Senior Accounts Officer**  
**Reference No. (as per Procurement Plan): CS 05**

The Government of Belize has received financing from the World Bank toward the cost of the Climate Resilient and Sustainable Agriculture Project and intends to apply part of the proceeds for consulting services.

The consulting services (“the Services”) is for a suitable qualified fulltime **PROJECT STAFF- SENIOR ACCOUNTS OFFICER** as part of the Project Implementation Unit of the CRESAP within the Belize Social Investment Fund. The Senior Accounts Officer will have the overall responsibility of sundry project accounting and administrative tasks required for the successful implementation of the Climate Resilient and Sustainable Agriculture Project.

The GOB has appointed the Belize Social Investment Fund (BSIF) as the implementing agency for the project and the BSIF is seeking to recruit an individual to fill the position of **Senior Accounts Officer**.

The consultancy is expected to be for an initial period of Twenty-four (24) months commencing November 2022. The Senior Accounts Officer will be supervised by the Finance Unit Coordinator of the Social Investment Fund (SIF).

The detailed Terms of Reference (TOR) for the assignment can be obtained by submitting a request in writing via e-mail to [nellie.trench@sifbelize.org](mailto:nellie.trench@sifbelize.org) or at the following link <https://sifbelize.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/CS-05-Terms-of-Reference-TOR-Senior-Accounts-Officer-CRESAP-101022-final.pdf> on the website of BSIF at [www.sifbelize.org](http://www.sifbelize.org).

The Belize Social Investment Fund now invites eligible individuals (“Consultants”) to indicate their interest in providing the Services. Interested Consultants should provide information demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the Services (such as cover letter, Curriculum Vitae etc.).

### Minimum Mandatory Requirements \*(Required)

#### Qualifications

- Bachelor’s degree in Accounting, Management, Business Administration, Finance or equivalent qualification.

#### General Experience

- Three (3) years’ experience working in accounting field in public or private sector performing tasks that include reconciliation of bank statements, preparation of payroll and conducting general accounting services. (max 20 points)

**\*If these minimum requirements are not met, candidates will not be considered for the process\***

### Additional Requirements (Desirable)

#### Specific Experience

- Three or more years of experience conducting accounting services for international funding agencies (max 25 points)
- At least three years of experience working with automated financial information systems preferably Quick-books (max 20 points)
- Experience working in a project environment (max 15 points)
- Experience conducting accounting processes under strict guidelines
- Project Management training completed (max 10 points)
- Formal training completed or working knowledge of Fund Accounting and Multi-Currency transactions (max 10 points)

**Minimum total points required to be considered for the assignment is 75 points.**

The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to Section III, paragraphs, 3.14, 3.16, and 3.17 of the World Bank’s “Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers” July 2016 (“Procurement Regulations”), setting forth the World Bank’s policy on conflict of interest.

A Consultant will be selected in accordance with the Selection of Individual Consultant method set out in the Procurement Regulations.

Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours, i.e. 0800 to 1600 hours Belize Time.

Expressions of interest must be delivered in a written form to the address below (in person, or by mail, or by e-mail) by **October 28, 2022** at 16:00 hours Belize Time.

Belize Social Investment Fund  
 Attn: Nellie Trench, Finance Coordinator  
 P.O. Box 459, 1902 Constitution Drive (3rd Floor), Belmopan, Belize  
 Telephone +501-822-0239  
 Email: [nellie.trench@sifbelize.org](mailto:nellie.trench@sifbelize.org)

# Sandhill man killed in freak accident

**Denbigh Grinage, 45, of Sandhill Village, Belize District, was accidentally killed when part of a dump truck fell on his head.**

*by Charles Gladden*

BISCAYNE VILLAGE, Belize District, Fri. Oct. 7, 2022

Denbigh Grinage, 45, of Sandhill Village, Belize District, lost his life on Friday, October 7, in Biscayne Village, Belize District, when the box of a dump truck fell on his head while he was working in the sandpit.

Reports indicated that at around 1:30 in the afternoon that day, Grinage was working on the truck’s hydraulic system between the chassis and the box of the dump truck, when the box crushed part of his forehead, killing him instantly.

The brother-in-law of the deceased, Jacinto Hernandez, told local reporters that while Grinage and others were “putting on the pan” of the truck, he pulled out a wooden board from his side and was supposed to go around and



*Denbigh Grinage, deceased*

pull the other board. However, Grinage stretched forward and pulled out the other wooden board, causing the box of the truck to collapse and kill him.

“Actually, it didn’t slap all the way down. It just came down a bit and smashed a part of his forehead,” said Hernandez, who remarked that Grinage was “a cool guy, hardworking ... handyman.”

Grinage had no children.



*Site of the freak accident*

## Pound Volatility: What implications for Caribbean tourism and trade?

*Continued from* **Page 20**

including those in the Caribbean diaspora, might be less inclined to travel to the Caribbean region, especially given the higher airfares. Moreover, those like High Net-Worth Individuals (HNWIs) who do decide to travel, might also spend less due to diminished purchasing power, which could adversely impact our countries’ tourism receipts. Pound volatility could also once again impact foreign direct investment in Caribbean countries’ second-home markets, in which UK residents are among the main purchasers and renters of luxury accommodations.

### Going forward?

The UK pound’s volatility is not new for Caribbean traders, especially since the Brexit events of June 2016. On the positive side, with a strong US dollar and weak pound, UK goods and services (including travel to the UK) will be cheaper for many Caribbean consumers in the near future, high airfares aside. Conversely, Caribbean exporters could see softening demand for their goods and services in the UK

market, given higher inflation and lower purchasing power of the average UK consumer. Caribbean countries’ tourist arrivals and receipts from the UK could also be adversely affected due to the average UK consumer’s lower purchasing power.

Without doubt, Caribbean tourism and trade authorities are assiduously monitoring these developments in the UK. This, like other shocks before, further reiterates the critical need for continued diversification of our mostly tourism-dependent economies and tourism source markets, including intensifying efforts to build travel and trade links with Asia and Latin America and more recently, Africa. Winter is indeed coming, and we all must be prepared for the possible fallout, as well as any opportunities that developments in the UK economy might portend.

**Alicia D. Nicholls, B.Sc., M.Sc., LL.B. is the Junior Research Fellow of the Shridath Ramphal Centre for International Trade Law, Policy & Services of The University of the West Indies, Cave Hill. Learn more about the SRC at [www.shridathramphalcentre.com](http://www.shridathramphalcentre.com).**



# Supal Street Gang member confesses to murder in leaked recording

by Charles Gladden

BELMOPAN, Wed. Oct. 12, 2022

Over the weekend, an audio clip from a well-known member of the Supal Street Gang in Belize City was leaked to members of the local media, and in that recording, the notorious street figure can be heard confessing to serious crimes, including two recent murders that took place in Ladyville, and theft.

During the weekly police press briefing on Tuesday, October 11, members of the local media questioned Commissioner of Police, Chester Williams—who recognized the voice of the gang member

in the clip—about what could be done to prosecute that individual on the basis of the recorded confession. However, the gang member whose voice is seemingly heard in the recording is in hiding in the US, and no charges have yet been levied against him in connection to the murders mentioned in the audio clip.

Notably, it is yet to be confirmed whether the voice heard in the recording is indeed that of the well-known gang member, and, according to Commissioner Williams, for charges to be levied on the individual, such a confirmation would have to be done through voice analysis.

“There certainly will be a lot that will be required to be done. Yes, we need to have some voice recognition expert who would be able to ascertain without any doubt that the person in the voice clip is indeed him. Yes, you and I who may have come into contact with him on numerous occasions can say at first glance that the voice is his, but we still need to go beyond that. And then we need to see whether or not the information in the voice clip is indeed credible, that what he described had actually occurred. Once that is ascertained, then we can look at perhaps producing a warrant because, to some extent, he is promoting gang activity

and under the gang regulations, we certainly will be able to charge him,” Commissioner Williams told reporters.

He further explained, “Once we would produce the warrant for his arrest, then we would inform the U.S. authorities and Interpol to indicate that he is wanted in Belize on that particular charge. Once he is captured and returned to the country, then we can proceed with court proceedings against him in respect thereof. And if it is we can get more in respect to the murders that he alleged in the voice note that was committed by him or his group, then certainly the charge of murder can also be looked at.”

## HELP FOR PROGRESS VACANCY: Operations Manager

### Description of the position

In close cooperation with the different positions in place at Help for Progress, the Operations Manager is responsible to assist with the overall management of quality of program, staff collaboration, logistics, project writing for fundraising, finance and procedures. When delegated by the Director, he/she may additionally represent Help for Progress with donors with specific focus on UNHCR partnership, institutions, NGOs, local Government and international agencies available in the area. He/she guides correct project implementation in accordance with the local and donors' standards and procedures. He/she cooperates with the Director in the definition of the Help for Progress' strategy and intervention priorities for its area of competence.

### RESPONSIBILITIES

- Project management and strategy: Always referring to the Director and in coordination with UNHCR interlocutors, he/she coordinates and directly supervises projects, guaranteeing their correct implementation in conformity with contractual obligations and donors' procedures, and in line with the Help for Progress procedures and management standards. He/she coordinates the elaboration, writing, and necessary documents preparation for presenting new projects, referring to the Director. He/she is responsible for the preparation of project reports and all monitoring documents requested by UNHCR. He/she ensures that all official and administrative documents are reviewed and cleared by the Director before sharing externally.
- Project budget responsibility and reporting requirements: he/she participates in the preparation of the project's budget and ensures – through the administrative function – the respect of financial reporting deadlines and the organization/donor's procedures.
- Management: As designated by the Director, he/she is responsible for all different aspects linked to management: economic and financial situation, logistics, monitoring and participating in evaluation, in conformity with the organizational and national guidelines and procedures.
- New opportunities identification: He/she verifies and proposes to the Director the intervention priorities to consolidate new opportunities of involvement for Help for Progress. He/she cooperates with the Director in the identification of new project opportunities and participates in the elaboration of the strategy.
- Institutional relations: Delegated by the Director, he/she manages relations with UNHCR, institutional donors and potential ones. In coordination with the Director, he/she represents Help for Progress in its area of competence through relations with institutions, NGOs, local and international organizations, and partners. He/she is also responsible for the Organization's reputation in the country.

### SPECIFIC RESPONSIBILITIES

#### A. Program Technical Quality

1. Lead the planning of project activities and set appropriate performance targets ensuring adherence to technical standards, best practices, reporting time lines and donor guidelines are respected.
2. Ensure that the project execution is in line with the project guidelines and is effectively implemented and in line with s
3. Ensure key changes in program direction and focus are done in consultation with the Director and UNHCR interlocutors.
4. In close coordination with UNHCR interlocutor staff, ensure project objectives and results are fully accomplished and meet expected technical quality standards.

#### B. Partnership

5. In conjunction with the Director, positively collaborate with and manage partnerships between the representatives of the assisted/targeted communities, government, UNHCR, international agencies, civil society, learning institutions, and others as the needs arise.

#### C. Representation and Advocacy:

6. In conjunction with the Director, represent Help for Progress and act as primary program contact to the donor and other local and international stakeholders

7. responsible for addressing all programmatic matters.
7. In conjunction with the Director, strengthen linkages with existing and potential partner agencies.
8. In conjunction with the Director, ensure that the program communication strategies, including compliance with Help for Progress and the donor's branding and marking requirements as well as Help for Progress marketing and communication procedures are followed.

#### D. Project Management:

9. Project writing. Identification of new projects, and project writing for new projects.
10. Oversee the relevant technical scopes of work, associated budgets, sub-agreements and grant management of local implementing partners. In conjunction with the finance and administration teams, develop, implement and monitor capacity building plans to address any organizational capacity gaps for local implementing partners, as needed
11. In conjunction with the Director: Lead, manage and supervise Help for Progress staff.
  - 11.1 Ensure performance and development planning, coaching and appraisals of staff performance are conducted in keeping with Help for Progress performance management system, addressing any issues of underperformance as appropriate.
  - 11.2 Ensure staff and project compliance with all Help for Progress, operational, and financial procedures and policies, as well as applicable to the donor regulations.
12. Oversee the project's financial management, as per the project budget, reporting guidelines and timely submission of annual expenditure analysis reports, in conjunction with the Director's review and clearance.
13. Ensure timely submission of high-quality project narrative reports and other data as per request and agreement requirements.

**Competencies:** These are rooted in the mission, values, and principles of Help for Progress, used by each staff member to fulfil his or her responsibilities and to achieve the desired results.

- Serves with Integrity
- Models Stewardship
- Cultivates Constructive Relationships
- Promotes Learning

**Disclaimer:** This job description is not an exhaustive list of the skill, effort, duties, and responsibilities associated with the position.

#### PROFILE:

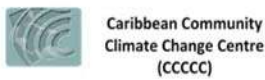
- Degree in International Education, International Development, Sociology, Business and Administration or a related field or equivalent work.
- Minimum five years experience in the humanitarian field and in a similar position, with a track record of success and results achieved;
- Previous experience with an international humanitarian NGO is an advantage;
- Strong analytical and practical problem-solving skills;
- Strong supervisory abilities, and demonstrated capacity of teamwork and of coordination with the relevant actors;
- Very good inter-personal and writing communication skills;
- Ability to organize work efficiently and deliver assignments in a timely manner often under time constraints;
- Proficiency in written and spoken English and Spanish
- Computer literacy, with high proficiency in the use of standard office software applications (e.g. Microsoft Word, Excel and PowerPoint);
- Valid driving license with standard transmission.

**Salary:** negotiable

**Duty Station:** Belmopan

**Closing Date:** 4<sup>th</sup> November, 2022

**Application:** Please send resume, cover letter, police record, and provide the names of 3 references to PO Box 97, Belmopan City, or via email to [helpforprogressbz@gmail.com](mailto:helpforprogressbz@gmail.com). Letters will only be sent to short listed candidates.



INTRA-ACP GCCA+ PROGRAMME An initiative of the ACP Group of States funded by the European Union's European Development Fund

Project: Enhancing Climate Resilience in CARIFORUM Countries

**Lot 1: Supply, Delivery and Installation of Water Lines and Water Meters for the Upgrade of Rudimentary Water System for Billy White Village, Cayo District, Belize**

**Lot 2: Supply, Delivery and Installation of Water Lines and Water Meters for the Upgrade of Rudimentary Water System for Santa Familia Village, Cayo District, Belize**

Contract#89/2022/EU-GCCA/CCCCC  
Publication Ref: EU-GCCA/WKS21

#### SUMMARY CONTRACT NOTICE

The Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre (the Centre) intends to award a works contract(s) for the Expansion and Upgrade of the Rural Water Systems of Billy White and Santa Familia Village in the Cayo District, Belize with financial assistance from the European Development Fund financed programme "Enhancing Climate Resilience in CARIFORUM Countries (FED/2018/404-539) EDF.

1. Tenders are required to be submitted through the Electronic Procurement System of the Centre @ [E-bid Submission From – Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre \(caribbeanclimate.bz\)](https://caribbeanclimate.bz).
2. The deadline for submission of tenders is **on or before 12:00 p.m. (GMT- 6), Tuesday November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022**
3. **A pre-bid conference/site visit will be organized by the Centre during the week of October 24<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup>.**

Prospective Bidders are invited to contact the Centre at telephone number 822-1104/1094 (T. Johnston)/email to [tjohnston@caribbeanclimate.bz](mailto:tjohnston@caribbeanclimate.bz) or check the updates to the Bidding Document on the procurement webpage for the details and final dates for the pre-bid conference/site visits.

4. Bidding documents can be downloaded at the Centre Website at <https://www.caribbeanclimate.bz/blog/category/opportunities/procurement-2/procurement/> or by obtained through email request to [tjohnston@caribbeanclimate.bz](mailto:tjohnston@caribbeanclimate.bz)

The Centre is an equal opportunity employer



## MINISTRY OF HEALTH & WELLNESS

### INVITATION TO BID

#### SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF BLOOD DONOR BAGS AND RELATED SUPPLIES

The Ministry of Health & Wellness (MOHW) hereby invites eligible and qualified bidders to submit sealed bids for **Supply and Delivery of Blood Donor Bags and Related Supplies**.

All interested bidders are asked to contact the Policy Planning and Project Management Unit, Ministry of Health & Wellness, Second Floor, East Block Building, Belmopan (Tel. 822-0992) for the relevant **Tender Document**. Eligible Bidders must be in accordance with Ministry of Health & Wellness requirements as indicated in the **Instruction to Bidders**. Tender package are free of cost.

The Tender Package may be collected from the Policy Planning and Project Management Unit, Ministry of Health & Wellness, East Block, Belmopan commencing on **Monday, October 17, 2022 to Friday, October 28, 2022 from 8AM to 4PM**. All tender submissions must be returned to the Policy Planning and Project Management Unit no later than **Thursday, November 3, 2022 at 10AM**. Late bids will be rejected.

## Taiwan's participation can strengthen international..

*Continued from* ▶ Page 10

unemployment driven by the pandemic, criminal organizations set up call centers in various parts of the world and recruited people on a large scale through online advertising. The scammers used attractive slogans like "easy job" and "fast financial freedom" and promised stable and legal employment in other countries. Victims only discovered after arriving that the jobs involved fraud or were not what they expected. Some even had their passports confiscated, were deprived of their freedom, and were beaten or sold to other unlicensed businesses if they refused to comply. If they asked to quit, they were forced to pay exorbitant fines or threatened with organ removal to compensate the gangs.

Human trafficking is a serious issue that needs to be addressed by the global community. Fraud rings take advantage of the convenience of the internet to recruit people of different nationalities through multiple channels to work in scam call centers around the world. Taiwan police have long spared no effort to crack down on this type of transnational crime. This year, they have received reports of Taiwanese citizens being held against their will and forced to engage in fraudulent activities in Cambodia, the Philippines, the United Arab Emirates, and other countries by illegal organizations set up by Chinese nationals. International cooperation is urgently needed to rescue the victims and fight such crimes.

In 2021, Taiwanese and Vietnamese police jointly cracked down on a fraud ring in Taiwan that was forcing Vietnamese migrants who had overstayed their visas to engage in scams targeting their fellow compatriots. The racket earned the criminals VND3.29 billion (equivalent to about US\$140,000). In cooperation with other foreign law enforcement agencies, Taiwan's police have uncovered several cases of organized crime outside Taiwan linked to cross-border fraud and human trafficking. They worked with Montenegro in 2020 and with Turkey in 2021 to clamp down on organized crime involving perpetrators, victims, and locations in multiple countries. In the joint operation

with Montenegro, 92 suspects were arrested for defrauding more than 2,000 victims of a total of NT\$632.78 million (equivalent roughly to US\$21 million). These cases not only underscore the importance of cooperation among countries to combat crime but also highlight the need for concerted efforts to protect human dignity and values.

#### Taiwan's contribution will benefit the world

Taiwan has a high regard for the rule of law and human rights. The Constitution of the Republic of China (Taiwan) upholds the ideal that national sovereignty resides with the people and explicitly provides for the protection of people's rights and freedoms. The government strictly prohibits any action that infringes on the rights of others. Transnational crime often involves multiple countries and areas, which can hinder investigations. In the post-pandemic world, criminal tactics will continue to evolve and new methods will emerge. In investigating new forms of criminal activity, experience is invaluable. Taiwan is willing to share its experience in solving crimes. Today, telecommunications and cyber fraud are conducted across borders and transnational crime rings are organized and departmentalized. This poses a challenge to the sovereignty of nations and undermines livelihoods, economies, and law and order. Taiwan is keen to exchange intelligence with partners and assist other countries in staving off threats from overseas and combating organized crime within their borders.

Police officials are entrusted with the heavy responsibility of maintaining law and order. Their top priority is to protect people's lives and property. Given that crime has taken on increasingly diverse forms, police are facing even greater challenges. To fight modern crime, law enforcers need a firm understanding of the latest criminal developments so that they can prepare for the future and be ready to respond decisively. Looking ahead, Taiwan's police will continue to work with partners worldwide. No place should be overlooked in fighting the pandemic or tackling crime. The international community can count on Taiwan.

## PRESS PREDICTIONS

The sports psychic speaks

*Continued from* ▶ Page 12

games. The LA Dodgers and Mookie Betts will beat the Padres in 4 games. Then the Atlanta Braves will beat the Phillies in 5 games. Next week some results.



#### Lionel Messi will go back to FC Barcelona next year

##### International Football Results

In international football action, in the EPL, the most exciting and most competitive league in the world, Manchester City, Arsenal, Tottenham Hotspurs and Manchester United alongside Brighton, the surprise, are the top best 5 teams right now. Liverpool with Mohamed Salah are struggling because of the loss of Sadio Mané to Bayern Munich. Erling Haaland has 15 goals already for

Manchester City Manager Pep Guardiola, he is a Norwegian National, not a German; he has a very big body with a lot of height. Those small defenders will



Lionel Messi

be in a lot of trouble marking him. Harry Kane has 8 goals for Tottenham. In the La Liga, Real Madrid has a comfortable lead already, they have no competition. Lionel Messi will be going back to FC Barcelona next year July 1. This will be his last World Cup in Qatar some 38 days away, the most expensive World Cup ever. In the UEFA Champions League, Inter-Milan beat FC Barcelona 2-nil. Then Real Madrid won their first 3 group games, Karim Benzema will return very soon. Next week more stats.

# MADISON'S

AUCTIONS AND APPRAISALS LLP



BY ORDER of the Mortgagee, Messrs. Ascendancy Belize Limited, Licensed Auctioneer, Sylvano Guerrero, is selling by way of ONLINE AUCTION via www.madisons.bz the following properties with reserved prices. The online public auctions will expire bi-weekly on October 26, 2022, November 9, 2022, and November 23, 2022 until a sale is determined within this period.

**TERMS: 10% DEPOSIT. BALANCE IN 14 DAYS**

**Lot 63, Pomona Village  
Stann Creek**



All that piece or parcel of land being Parcel #63 Pomona Village, Stann Creek District; comprising of a total area 461.849 square meters together with all buildings and erections thereon being a concrete building approximately 20 feet by 40 feet and elevated 11 feet above the ground with 2 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, kitchen, dining and living room, a front porch approximately 5 feet by 10 feet and a side porch approximately 7 feet by 15 feet.

The property is held as a Minister's Fiat Grant No. 178 of 2006 in the name of Roy Sylvester Tillett.

**Block 7, Parcel 1988/1  
San Pedro**



All that piece or parcel of land being Parcel #1988/1, Block #7, Boca Del Rio Area, San Pedro Town. Building 1 is 2 storeys with 7 one bedroom units with an area of 1795sq.ft. Building 2 is a single-story building with 2 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, living, dining and kitchen with an area of 520 sq. ft. Building 3 is an external lavatory with an area of 64sq.ft. The entire property has a total area of 416.67 sq. yds.

The property is held by a Leasehold title (Freehold Interest) in the name of Tomasito Paz.

**Block 3, Parcel 604, Sarteneja Village, Corozal**



All that piece or parcel of land being Block #3, Parcel 604, Sarteneja Village, Corozal District, Belize; comprising of 1,519.8 sq.m. together with a concrete bungalow having 2 bedrooms, 1 shared bathroom, living, kitchen, and dining rooms, and a large front porch. The building has an area of 1,475 sq. ft., porch of 5 ft by 25 ft and a back section with dimensions of 12 ft by 2 2 ft.

The subject property is held as a Land Certificate Interest in the name of Carol Cobb.

**Block 1, Parcel 224 San Pablo/San Jose, Orange Walk**



All that piece or parcel of land being Block #1, Parcel #224, San Jose/San Pablo Registration Section, Orange Walk District; comprising a total area of 1635.8 sq.m. together with all buildings and erections thereon being a concrete bungalow with 4 bedrooms, a shared bathroom, kitchen, dining room, and living room with external dimensions of approximately 22 ft by 47 ft inclusive of an enclosed front porch of 9 ft by 10 ft and a back verandah of 7 ft by 12 ft.

The property is held as a Land Certificate Interest in the name of Alfredo Samuel Cabrera and Josue Cabrera.

**Lot 184 Hummingbird Community, Stann Creek**



All that piece or parcel of land being Lot #184, Hummingbird Community, Stann Creek District; together with all erections thereon. On the property is a bungalow with two bedrooms, one bathroom, a living room, a dining room, and a kitchen. The property is in fair condition and measures 1,092 square feet.

The property is held in the Freehold Interest in the name of Pedro Guerra.

**Block 4, Parcel 1493/1 Ann Gabourel Registration Section**



All that pieces or parcels of land being Parcel #1493/1, Block #4, Orange Walk Town, Orange Walk District, Belize, totaling 416.67 sq. yds. The property has a single-story building with one bedroom, one bathroom, a living room, a dining room, and a kitchen. The floor area of this building is 657 sq. ft.

The subject property is held in Leasehold Interest in the name of Rosalba Rosado.

**Block 42, Parcel 420/1, Punta Gorda**



All that piece or parcel of land being Block #42, Parcel #420/1, Punta Gorda Town, Toledo District, Belize; comprising of 450 sq. yds. together with all erections thereon being a single storey residence having three bedrooms, two bathrooms, living, dining, kitchen, utility room, and an enclosed garage. The building has an area of 1,588 sq. ft.

The subject property is held as a Leasehold Interest in the name of Maria Roches.

**Block 42, Parcel 100, Hopeville, Punta Gorda**



All that piece or parcel of land being Parcel #100, Block #42, Punta Gorda Town, Toledo District, Belize comprising of a bungalow residence with four bedrooms, one bathroom, living, dining, kitchen, and utility, with a large porch in front. The house has an area of 850 sq. ft. The porch is 224 sq. ft. This land has a total area of 657.25 sq.yds.

The property is held in the Freehold Interest in the name of Maria Roches.

**Lot 143 Maya Mopan Village, Stann Creek**



All that piece or parcel of land, Lot #143, Maya Mopan Village, Stann Creek District, Belize; together with all erections thereon, totaling 825.22 sq. yds. The structure is a single-story structure with two bedrooms, a living room, and a dining room.

The property is held in the Freehold Interest in the name of Narciso Tush.

**Block 1, Parcel 134, San Pablo/San Jose, Orange Walk**



All that piece or parcel of land being Block #1, Parcel #134 San Jose/San Pablo Registration Section, San Pablo Village, Orange Walk District; comprising of a total area of 4,195.7 square meters together with all buildings and erections thereon being a concrete bungalow residence with 2 bedrooms, a small living room area and a kitchen with dimensions of 18 ft by 24 ft and a front porch of 5 ft by 24 ft.

The property is held as a Land Certificate Interest in the name of Alfredo Samuel Cabrera and Josue Cabrera.

**Lot 246 Silk Grass Village Ext, Stann Creek**



All that piece or parcel of land being Lot #246, Silk Grass Village, Stann Creek District, Belize; together with all erections thereon. The property is 833.33 square yards in total, with all structures being an elevated residence with two bedrooms, one bathroom, living, dining, and kitchen. It is in fair condition and measures 624 square feet.

The property is held in the Freehold Interest in the name of Felix Galeana.

**Block 4, Parcel 948, Orange Walk Town**



All that piece or parcel of land being Block #4, Parcel #948, Orange Walk Town, Orange Walk; comprising a total area of 738.76 sq.yds. together with all buildings and erections thereon being 2 buildings, both having reinforced concrete foundation, ground floor, beams and columns with the first having a floor area of 800 sq. ft, and the second 450 sq. ft.

The subject property is held in the Freehold Interest in the name of Narciso Ramirez.

**Block 1, Parcel 57/1, Buena Vista Village**



All that piece or parcel of land being Block #1, Parcel #57/1, Buena Vista Village, Corozal; comprising of a total area of 1280.44 sq. yds together with all buildings and erections thereon being a two-story building having a large open area, a bedroom, and a storeroom on the lower level, with an area of 1882 sq. ft.

The subject property is held as a Leasehold Certificate interest in the name of Florencia Pott.

**Block 1, Parcel 157 & 158, Douglas North, Orange Walk**



All that piece or parcel of land being Block #1, Parcel #157 and #158, Douglas North, Orange Walk Belize. They are bounded on the east by a gravel street and on the west by an open land, on the north by a proposed street, and on the south by an open land, for a total area of 2494.466 sq. yds.

The subject properties are held by a Freehold Interest in the name of Erica Cabral.

**Parcel 12B (5 acres), Jacintoville, Toledo**



All of that parcel of land, Parcel #12B, Jacintoville, Toledo District, Belize, together with all erections thereon, totaling 5 acres. The Southern Highway borders the property on the north, a vacant lot on the south, a residence on the east, and a residence on the west. The land has citrus, coconuts, pineapple, and other fruits, but only about 40% of it is cultivated.

The property is held in the Freehold Interest in the name of Laverne Williams.

**Block 42, Parcel 793, Punta Gorda**



All that piece or parcel of land being Block #42, Parcel #793, Punta Gorda, Toledo; comprising a total area of 893.33 sq. yds together with all buildings and erections thereon being a 2 storey building, having on the ground floor 5 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, living, dining and kitchen, and on the upper level, 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, living, dining, kitchen and 2 large porches with an area of 3,728 sq. ft. and porch of 686 sq. ft.

The subject property is held in the Freehold Interest in the name of Aurelio Oliva.

# Market Manager – Belize

**About the Company:**

Copalli Rum is made at Copal Tree Distillery in the Toledo District. The genesis of the brand stems from a conservationist and champion of Belize's pristine environment looking for a way to provide more economic opportunity to the people in the community.

A sustainable, farm to bottle operation outside of Punta Gorda, Copal Tree Farms is the first certified organic farm in Belize. The farmland surrounding the distillery produces all the heirloom sugarcane used to make the rums and is nestled within 22,000 acres of protected rainforest. The organic, single estate rum is made from just three ingredients: fresh pressed sugar cane juice, canopy water, & yeast.

The distillery funds a non-profit that supports many community, cultural, educational, and environmentalist causes.

**About the Position:**

Reporting to the Head of Sales, this Market Manager will be responsible for the sales performance in Belize including depletion goals, gaining high quality points of distribution, cocktail menus / features, displays, and key account management.

Lead, co-develop and manage all Copalli Activation Initiatives in market. Leverage all resources, partnerships, and relationships to build and execute the Belize activation plan. Grow quality, presence, awareness, and relevance among target consumers and accounts.

Develop close and effective relationships with the personnel and management of our Belizean Distributors. Identify, cultivate, educate, and motivate Key Brand Influencers; particularly bartenders, managers, and owners of On and Off Premise Target Accounts; and spirits opinion-makers.

**Qualifications and Training:**

- Minimum 5 years' sales experience in the beverage alcohol industry.
- Solid understanding of how the On-Premise business operates and the proven ability to independently make things happen in the On Premise.
- Self-motivated, driven, independent, entrepreneurial.
- Existing Belizean trade/account relationships.
- Strong financial acumen; understanding of pricing, ROI on programing, and budget management.
- Proven ability to drive pull thru with accounts and understand how to build brands
- Hospitality experience a plus.
- Confident public speaker with in-depth spirits knowledge.
- Solid human being that enjoys working on teams and that brings solutions to problems.
- Ability and willingness to work non-traditional hours including nights and weekends.

**Tasks and Responsibilities**

**1. Selling!**

- a. Independently open new Copalli accounts
- b. Sell new Copalli distribution, menus, features, displays, etc..
- c. Conduct staff trainings
- d. Build relationships with key stakeholders and inspire them to sell more Copalli
- e. Maintain account lists (current and targeted accounts), and personal market knowledge.
- f. Track account velocity results via orders and reorders.

**2. Planning**

- a. Understand Target Consumers and Accounts, brand attributes and key selling points.
- b. Lead, co-develop and manage Activation Calendar:
  - i. Major Events/Trade Shows/Account Events
  - ii. Distributor Initiatives – training, work-withs, incentives, programming, tracking.
  - iii. On Premise Initiatives – Key/Targeted Account development, staff training, consumer events, cocktail development, menu placements.
  - iv. Off Premise Initiatives – Key/Targeted Account development, Shelf placement, merchandising/POS, display drives, tastings.
- c. Assess ROIs for all programing and ensure we are always within guidelines.
- d. Track progress, resolve issues, adjust based on key learnings, share successes.

**3. Sales Leadership**

- a. Schedule, manage and attend distributor work-with activities.
- b. Support distributor activities, including sales meetings, trade tastings, and local events.
- c. Build rapport with distributor team thru personal interaction, meetings, and happy hours.
- d. Work closely with distributor reps and managers to inspire them to sell more Copalli.
- e. **Independently open new accounts and create account relationships – cannot be reliant on distributors – show them success and they will follow!**

**4. Field Marketing**

- a. Actively seek out and identify local event and promotional opportunities to help drive increased Copalli Rum brand awareness and trial.
- b. Lead merchandising activities in the market including installation of shelf talkers, bottle neck hangers, retail displays, branded signage, menu / cocktail features, etc.
- c. Lead effective and efficient communication with Copalli Leadership on all local promotions and events to ensure strategic execution.
- d. Manage Point of Sale assets and regional allocation.

**5. Admin / Budget Compliance**

- a. Manage local market budget adhering to company approval policies, expense reporting policies and expense management platform
- b. Participate in weekly team and individual sales calls with Copalli Leadership, and maintain a high level of communication regarding market management
- c. Adhere to all sales and marketing reporting routines.

**Location & Travel:**

- Preference is that candidate lives in or near Belize District
- Must have own reliable transportation
- Travel within country anticipated at 40% Belize, 20% Cayo, 10% each other four districts.

**Compensation:**

- Base salary
- Commission
- Bonus (based on hitting vol/distribution/KPI goals)
- 2 weeks' vacation + company holidays
- Car allowance
- Laptop provided
- T&E budget to cover travel & expenses in territory

**Resume/CV submissions:** jobs@copallirum.com

## NOTICE TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC

THIS IS TO ADVISE YOU THAT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE BELIZE TELECOMMUNICATIONS ACT OF 2002, SI 110 OF 2002 THAT SPEEDNET COMMUNICATIONS LIMITED OF 2 ½ MILES NORTHERN HIGHWAY, BELIZE CITY HAS APPLIED TO THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION FOR THE FREQUENCY SPECTRUM AUTHORIZATION TO OPERATE &/OR PROVIDE MICROWAVE RADIO BACKHAUL SERVICES THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY OF BELIZE.

LOCATION		FREQUENCY START	FREQUENCY END	LOCATION		FREQUENCY START	FREQUENCY END
Site A Coordinates		Transmit Frequency A	Transmit Frequency A	Site B Coordinates		Transmit Frequency B	Transmit Frequency B
Latitude	Longitude	( MHz )	( MHz )	Latitude	Longitude	( MHz )	( MHz )
17.9355	-87.9536	7480.5	7508.5	18.0078	-87.9130	7641.5	7669.5
16.6876	-88.3106	7452.5	7580.5	16.5678	-88.3668	7613.5	7641.5
17.2513	-89.0048	7452.5	7580.5	17.1475	-89.0750	7613.5	7641.5
17.2295	-88.8438	7428	7456	17.2280	-88.7702	7582	7610



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**Belizean to the bone**

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(formerly Partridge St.),  
Belize City.  
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# Can you handle the truth?

by CLINTON CANUL LUNA

Permit me, our dear readers of this column, to present to you the below analysis which I find to be of utmost interest. The following, entitled “Can You Handle The Truth?” was posted by The LaRouche Organization on their YouTube page on October 7, 2022. It is as follows:

Good morning. I’m Harley Schlanger from the LaRouche Organization with your daily video update for October 7, 2022. Yesterday, on October 6, we had quite an extraordinary event sponsored by the executive intelligence review. It was a webcast titled, “We will not be silenced; speaking truth in times of War,” and this was an extremely interesting event, and I hope you had a chance to watch it live. If not, it is archived, and there’s a link at the bottom of the description page so you can go take a look. It included a number of courageous

journalists, former diplomats, retired intelligence officials and activists, speaking on the whole question of the threat of nuclear war coming from the NATO policy toward Ukraine, as well as the efforts by NATO of the United States working with the Ukrainian government to silence opposition using institutions called the Committee to Combat Misinformation and Myrotvorets.

Now, the basic point of all the speakers was an appeal to reason that the war must be ended, that there needs to be a new security and financial architecture which represents the sovereign interests of all nations and that this is urgent because the continuation of this war is doing nothing except propelling the world toward the brink of a thermonuclear catastrophe. Now, among the presentations with Colonel Richard Black, who spoke on, “Did the U.S and NATO blow up the Nord Stream pipelines?” This has already had

over 300,000 views as a separate video and Black, as he always does, laid out the military, strategic and legal consequences of not addressing this action, and his conclusion is that it was most likely the United States and NATO, but watch for yourself; you can reach your own conclusions. Helga Zepp-LaRouche spoke. She addressed why the Schiller Institute is a special target of these so-called disinformation hit lists, and she did it from reflecting back on an event from October 6, 1986, when she and her husband Lyndon were subjected to an attack by 400 armed agents of various governments including the FBI and the ‘Get LaRouche’ task force and that they only escaped assassination by action taken from the Reagan Administration. Other speakers included Eva Bartlett, who gave an eyewitness report from the Donbass—interesting, if you have the misfortune of listening to BBC. They’ve had non-stop coverage of the shelling the day before yesterday of an apartment complex in Zaporizhzhia City where they go in excruciating detail about the deaths, which now I think are 10 or 11 people, but not once have they mentioned the Ukrainian shelling of cities in the Donbass, which have had many more victims than that and are taking place day after day, and this is what Eva Bartlett reported on. Why not mention those? Well, that’s part of the censorship. Other speakers included U.S. Senate candidate Diane Sare, former CIA operatives Graham Fuller and Ray McGovern. Again, there’s a link at the bottom of the page for you to watch this, and I would encourage you to watch it and share it.

Now, since it’s Friday, I’m going to take three questions that I think out of the many that were said sort of get at what’s on people’s minds. Several people asked about stories that are appearing in the press. The fact that the *New York Times* two days ago had a story on the U.S. government’s response to the assassination by car bomb of Darya Dugina, which the Russians have said was done by Ukraine, and also on *The Daily Mirror* ran an article on ‘Revenge killings’ in Ukraine, citing Ukrainian officials saying “they are shooting like pigs, collaborators”. So, why is that coming out now? What does this portend? Now, the *New York Times* article cites U.S. intelligence officials, naturally unnamed, but they say that they have concluded that Ukraine is behind the killing of Darya Dugina, the daughter of Russian philosopher Dugan, that the U.S took no part in these killings, that American officials admonished Ukrainian officials for the assassination and, the article said they expressed concern that future such attacks quote, “could widen the conflict...” unquote. Now, the Russian spokesman for President Putin, Peskov, said with qualifications that this is a positive sign, but he did express concern that it could be an effort by the United States quote, “... to absolve themselves of responsibility for some plots for future terror attacks that Ukraine may be involved in...” unquote.

Now, this is of course, quite a significant statement, because the U.S. putting out this statement is quite

unusual, given that the U.S. has so far tried to keep a certain distance from the dirtier aspects of the war going on in Ukraine. But the people who wrote this story in the *New York Times* know the story which was the subject of the EIR conference and which we’ve publicized, namely of U.S.-NATO involvement in drafting hit lists or kill lists produced by the committee, the Ukrainian committee, to combat disinformation and Myrotvorets and that Dugina was on that hit list. So, why was that not mentioned? If in fact, you’re coming clean and say we’re not involved in this, why are there U.S. officials at the meetings of this committee and why have they funded it? So, meanwhile you have a Zelensky spokesman, Podolyak, who admitted quote, “We have other targets on the territory of Ukraine”. So, our demand is that all U.S.-NATO support be ended for these institutions that are producing these lists and that the role of Western governments, instead of funding these kinds of provocations, instead of supporting the intimidation and possible killing of people who disagree with the U.S. and Western policy, that the U.S. government should be engaged in demanding an end to the fighting instead of stoking the flames of war, and it raises an additional question: why is there no outcry from the West against the targeting of people who are opposing questions, such as, shouldn’t we have a security architecture for Russia and Ukraine? This is the demand of the Schiller Institute. This is why 31 people who have participated at Schiller Institute conferences have been put on these hit lists. So, it shows that minimally, the *New York Times* story is only part of the story, but that one suspicion that it’s part of a cover-up, as Peskov may have been implying, certainly, is real.

I would encourage you to join our mobilization to get the U.S. Congress to stop funding these operations. The Congress should stop funding the war in general, stop shipping arms to the Ukrainian military, but in particular, Congressional funding that’s going to civil institutions in Ukraine that are trying to silence American voices in the United States. That’s not only un-American, it’s unconstitutional and should be stopped. Now, the second question: Why did Liz Truss reverse the tax cut? Now, this was a very important event, because her whole economic policy was based on a huge tax cut modeled on the Margaret Thatcher policy from the mid-1980s, at the same time, pumping money to bail out bankrupt firms, both supposedly to fight inflation. Now, this is just a complete confused jumble of idiocy. She and Kwarteng, the chancellor of the Exchequer, actually believe that a big tax cut will stimulate the economy, when the fact is that inflation is robbing people of their ability to keep their homes warm and feed their children with food, and fuel going through the roof and wages is stuck. The situation in the United Kingdom is ripe for an explosion, and there’s a significant backlash with a strike wave developing—rail workers, dock workers, nurses and so on. Meanwhile, the UK credit rating was

## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Vacancy exists for a Chef to work at the residence of U.S. Ambassador Michelle Kwan.

Successful candidate will be required to obtain a security clearance and undergo a medical examination.

### BASIC FUNCTION OF THE CHEF POSITION:

Duties include but are not limited to planning, budgeting, shopping, preparing and presenting a variety of meal services for the residence and for events of 2 to 200 guests. With an understanding of nutritional balance and essential elements, the Chef’s repertoire must include a diverse and wide range of cooking styles and meal types, including appetizers for receptions, baked goods, desserts, and the ability to create vegetarian/vegan meals and cater to gluten sensitivities. The Chef will also be required to maintain expense records for each event or function, create menus, manage inventory, and assure the highest standards of safety, cleanliness, and proper food preparation and storage. The Chef is required to plan menus in advance and carry out the actual purchasing of supplies and ingredients necessary to produce the dishes reflected in the set menus. All responsibilities shall be completed on time, with integrity and honesty, and in a manner representing the highest U.S. standards of customer service.

### QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED:

- At least three years of culinary experience in a hotel/restaurant setting is required
- Associate Degree or completion of culinary/catering certificate program or in the absence of an Associate Degree, five years of culinary experience in a hotel or restaurant setting
- Must have a fluent command of reading, writing, and speaking English, and the ability to follow recipes and cooking instructions of varying complexity
- Must have initiative, good interpersonal skills and flexibility

**WHO MAY APPLY:** Applicants must be in possession of a Belize social security card valid for employment and/or a resident/work permit, and be eligible for appointment under Belize’s local laws.

### HOW TO APPLY:

Interested candidates must submit a letter of application, current résumé, two references and all other applicable supporting documentation by email to [BelmopanJobs@state.gov](mailto:BelmopanJobs@state.gov).

All applications must include in the subject line the position they are applying for (eg: **Employment Application for Chef position**). Incomplete applications will not be considered. For a complete copy of the position description listing all duties and responsibilities, please send an email to [BelmopanJobs@state.gov](mailto:BelmopanJobs@state.gov) or call at 822-4011, Ext. 4231. The deadline for submitting applications is **Sunday, October 30, 2022**.

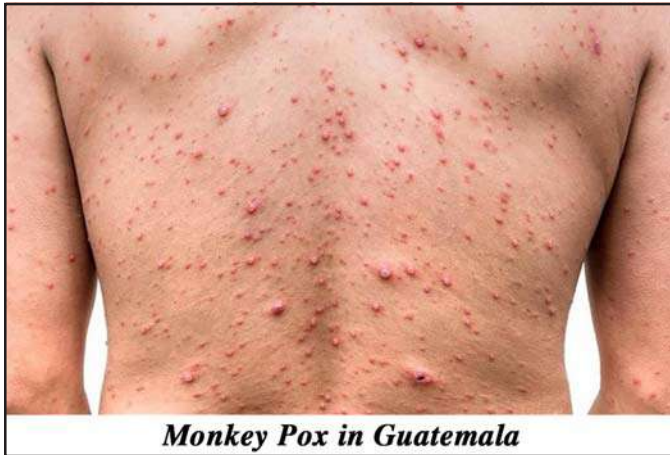
## REGIONAL & INTERNATIONAL

### 10 new Monkeypox cases in Guatemala identified

GUATEMALA CITY, Thurs. Oct. 13, 2022

In a post on Twitter yesterday evening, the Ministry of Public Health and Social Assistance of Guatemala announced that 10 new cases of Monkeypox have been identified in the country. Nine (9) of the cases were found in Guatemala City and the other in the city of Chimaltenango.

At this time a total of 53 cases are within that country which neighbors Belize, where a total of 102 persons have been tested, 17 recoveries have



Monkey Pox in Guatemala

been recorded, 45 suspected cases of monkeypox have been ruled out and 4 are still being listed as probable cases.

In El Salvador, the 5th case was recently confirmed, and 1,968 cases have been confirmed in Mexico.

### Parkland school shooting: Families devastated as gunman spared death



Family members comfort each other as verdict is being read

by Sam Cabral and Bernd Debusmann Jr.

BBC News, Ft Lauderdale & Washington

The gunman who killed 17 people at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida, has been spared the death penalty.

A jury recommended that the defendant, 24, should instead spend the rest of his life in prison for the 14 February, 2018 shooting.

Family members of victims were visibly upset and angry as the decision was read out in court.

A sentencing hearing has been set for 1 November.

The gunman, Nikolas Cruz, pleaded guilty to the murders in October last year. It was the deadliest mass shooting case ever to reach a jury trial in the US.

The verdict sparing him from capital punishment was described as “unreal” and “wrong” by relatives of those killed at a press conference afterwards.

“I could not be more disappointed in what happened today,” said Fred

Guttenberg, whose 14-year-old daughter Jaime was among the students killed.

“I’m stunned. I’m devastated,” he said. “There are 17 victims that did not receive justice today. This jury failed our families today.”

The jury’s decision was also a blow for prosecutors, who had repeatedly sought to prove that the crimes were “cold, calculated and premeditated” and met Florida’s definition of “aggravating factors” that warrant the death penalty.

A unanimous decision would have been needed to issue a death sentence.

As each of 17 counts was read out in court, it emerged that while jurors agreed there were factors that would warrant the death penalty, at least one juror believed there were also “mitigating factors” that instead warranted life in prison.

Full article can be found at: <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-us-canada-63217414>

First published by BBC News

### Bombshell: Pfizer Exec admits COVID vaccine never tested on preventing transmissions



BRUSSELS—During a hearing today on the European Union’s COVID-19 response, Pfizer’s president of international developed markets, Janine Small, admitted that its vaccine had never been tested before its release to the general public on its ability to prevent the transmission of COVID when asked by Dutch politician and a current Member of the European Parliament (MEP) Robert “Rob” Roos.

“Regarding the question around did we know about stopping immunization before it entered the market...No.,” Small replied with a smirk when asked by Roos if the Pfizer’ COVID vaccine was ever tested to stop the transmission of the virus before it entered the market.

She continued, “We have to really move at the speed of science to really understand what is taking place in the market.”

It was not clear from the questioning of Ms. Small if she were referring to the Pfizer BioNTech (BNT162b2) vaccine which is authorized under Emergency Use Authorization or Comirnaty which is the FDA-approved vaccine. Under an Emergency Use Authorization, vaccines cannot be mandated.

According to the August 2022 article, *The Pfizer BioNTech (BNT162b2) COVID-19 vaccine: What you need to know*, it states that there “is modest vaccine impact on transmission” to prevent COVID infection.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the EU implemented a wide range of health policies with its EU Vaccines Strategy and initiatives, one being EU Digital COVID

Certificates which exempted persons from “free movement” restrictions. The EU implemented “free movement” restrictions to slow down the spread of coronavirus and protect the health and well-being of all Europeans.

EU Parliamentarian Roos, exposed an alleged misinformation campaign by Pfizer with the release of his video tweet today. In it he called the actions “criminal”, “scandalous” and “a cheap lie.”

Below is a transcript of Roos’ Twitter post:

*“If you don’t get vaccinated, you’re antisocial. This is what the Dutch prime minister and health minister told us. You don’t get vaccinated just for yourself, but also for others. You do it for all of society, that’s what they said. Today, this turned out to be complete nonsense.”*

*“In a COVID hearing in the European Parliament, one of the Pfizer directors just admitted to me at the time of introduction, the vaccine had never been tested on stopping the transmission of the virus.”*

*“This removes the entire legal basis for the COVID Passport. The COVID passport that led to massive institutional discrimination as people lost access to essential parts of society. I find this to be shocking, even criminal.”*

*“This is scandalous. Millions of people worldwide felt forced to get vaccinated because of the myth that ‘you do it for others.’ Now this turned out to be a cheap lie.”*

Article can be found at: <https://lynnwoodtimes.com/2022/10/11/covid-transmission-221011/>

### Can you handle the truth?

Continued from Page 29

downgraded to negative yesterday, but Truss and Kwarteng remain committed to the Thatcherite Dogma, the neoliberal policy, which they reasserted that, well, this is a step back but we will continue in this direction in the future.

Now, the solution is what the Schiller Institute has proposed, what Lyndon LaRouche proposed with his four laws. You have to stop bailing out bankrupt institutions and instead put them through bankruptcy reorganization. Stop pumping funny money into the economy to bail out swindlers and instead establish a credit agency, a national bank which funds real physical

economic activity. If you don’t do that, then you’re not serious about fighting inflation or improving the standards of living of your population. But you can’t do that in one country. We need a new Bretton Woods, we need an international agreement to re-establish fixed exchange rates and to make sure that the currencies that are being used, whether we stick with the dollar or whether we move to the proposal to use national currencies, that they be reflective of something of real value, that is, an economy which is producing, as opposed to an economy which main product is printing money. So, further

Please turn to Page 35



## FFB calls National U20 Women's Team to camp

BELMOPAN, Wed. Oct. 12, 2022

The Belize National U20 Women's Team is starting its training preparations for the CONCACAF Women's U20 Qualifiers. The qualifier is scheduled to take place from April 14 to 23, 2023.

The Football Federation of Belize (FFB) wishes the National U20 Women's Team all the best as they report to camp on October 19, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. The team will be training from Wednesday to Saturday of the following week.

National U20 Women players called to camp are (LEGEND: Cayo – cyo, Corozal – czl, Belmopan – bmp, Toledo – tol, Orange Walk – owk, Midsouth – mds, Belize bze, Stann Creek – scr, San Pedro – snp.): goalkeepers – Dennisha Pineda (snp, San Pedro Pirates), Rhea Gordon (mds, Wagiya SC Ladies), Janel Nunez (scr, Sagitun Girlz), and Jaleeny Belisle (bmp, Cayo Dreamers FC); defenders – Jesselle Conorque (cyo, Jewel Fury FC), Nigelee Myers (cyo, Cayo Dreamers FC), Jahniah Arnold (cyo, Cayo Dreamers FC), Shadette Lino (scr, Wagiya SC Ladies), Jessie McLaughlyn (scr, Wagiya SC Ladies), Shamika Lambey (scr, Jewel Fury FC), Saudy Rivera (bze, Rebels Girls FC), Mikayla Munro (bmp, Jewel Fury FC), Alicia Coc (bmp, Napoles

FC), Karel Avila (tol, Hyper Phoenix FC), and Gabriela Mendoza (mds, Sagitun Girlz); midfielders – Ceneia Apolonio (scr, Jewel Fury FC), Tanya Garbutt (mds, Rumberas FC), Tanya Teul (snp, San Pedro Pirates), Anahie Blanco (czl, Rebel Girls FC), Aaliyah Herbert (bze, Bay City FC), Janivi Quiroz (cyo, Jewel Fury FC), Leslie Pensamiento (scr, Sagitun Girlz), Loraine Cal (tol, Hope FC), Shendra Casimiro (scr, Rumberas FC), Laila Waight (cyo, Jewel Fury FC), and Xhania Dubon (cyo, Jewel Fury FC); strikers – Reah Burgess (mds, Sagitun Girlz), Alisha Terry (czl, Bay City FC), Khalydia Velasquez (scr, Jewel Fury FC), and Allyisha Bowman (cyo, Cayo Dreamers FC); and international players – defender Shante Chacon (Garden City University, USA), defender Carlene Tillett (Lincoln University, USA), defender Stephanie Barrientos (Lincoln University, USA), and midfielder Roshanny Narvaez (Lincoln University, USA).

Technical Staff: Head Coach - Wayne Casimiro; Assistant Coach - Joseph Waight; Goalkeeper Coach - Miriam Villamil; Fitness Coach - Iris Centeno; Physiotherapist - Balyn Gordon; Kit Manager - Herbert Trapp; Team Manager - Sakenah Lopez.

- press release -

## FFB calls National U17 Girls Team to camp

BELMOPAN, Wed. Oct. 12, 2022

The Belize National U17 Girls Team is starting its training preparations for the CONCACAF Girls U17 Qualifiers. The qualifier is scheduled to take place from August 24 to 31, 2023.

The Football Federation of Belize (FFB) wishes the National U17 Girls Team all the best as they report to camp on October 14, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. The team will be training Friday to Sunday of this week.

Players called to camp for the Belize National U17 Girls Team are (LEGEND: Cayo – cyo, Corozal – czl, Belmopan – bmp, Toledo – tol, Orange Walk – owk, Midsouth – mds, Belize bze, Stann Creek – scr, San Pedro – snp.): goalkeepers – Loraine Crawford (cyo, Jewel Fury FC), Belinda Linarez (bmp, Napoles FC), Vadia Myvett (tol, Amazons FC), and Ahnyiah Cocom (owk, Juventus Sugar Girls); defenders – Jahniah Arnold (cyo, Cayo Dreamers FC), Kimberly Palma (mds, 501 United FC), Tory Ramirez (bmp, Cayo Dreamers FC), Obando Nyiesha (cyo, Cayo Western Strikers), Aireh King (mds, Hyper Jewels), Shakeisha Jones (bze, Royal Fusion FC), Shaniki Mena (scr, Wagiya SC Ladies), and Melchol Kristel (bmp, Valley Girls); midfielders – Illyn Cruz

(cyo, Cayo Dreamers FC), Marjorie Sanchez (bmp, Napoles FC), Esther Fuentes (bmp, Napoles FC), Iris Shluckebier (mds, 501 United FC), Cenia Apolonio (scr, Jewel Fury FC), Allana Pandy (tol, Hyper Jewel FC), Asia Flores (bze, Royal Fusion FC), Zariah Gentle (bze, Royal Fusion FC), Emaya Ku (bze, Royal Fusion FC), Leneth Chan (czl, Cristo Rey Youngsters), and Kenya Perez (mds, San Juan Scorpions); strikers – Khalydia Velasquez (scr, Jewel Fury FC), Elva Nunez (snp, San Pedro Pirates), Kishawn Thomas (scr, Wagiya SC Ladies), Aldisha Yat (mds, RB Scarlet Girls), Aryn Ramsey (mds, 501 United FC), Nayeli Lemus (mds, San Juan Scorpions), and Merlin Aguirre (owk, Las Flores FC); and international players – midfielder Ella Heron Provost (FC Prime, USA), midfielder Leah Duran (Los Angeles SC, USA), and striker Rayne Leslie (Florida Premier FC, USA).

Technical Staff: Head Coach - Iris Centeno; Assistant Coach - Liz Zabaneh; Goalkeeper Coach - Miriam Villamil; Fitness Coach - Eris Galdamez; Physiotherapist - Heidy Polanco; Kit Manager - Tamara Baptist; Team Manager - Karrison Alvarado.

- press release -

## National U13 Girls Elite Championship kicks off on Saturday

BELIZE CITY, Wed. Oct. 12, 2022

As of today, according to the FFB secretariat, the National U13 Girls Elite Championship is still scheduled to kick off this Saturday, October 15.

Football games countrywide, including the start-up of the Travel Beach Soccer Cup, were postponed this past weekend due to the effects of Hurricane Julia which passed south of Belize but affected us with heavy rainfall and some flooding.

Competing regional teams are: Group A – Stann Creek Elite; Toledo Elite; Cayo Elite; Benque Viejo Elite; Mid-South Elite; and Group B –

Corozal Elite; Orange Walk Elite; Belize Elite; San Pedro Elite; Belmopan Elite.

Week 1 schedule for National U13 Girls Elite Championship:

Saturday, October 15

2:00 p.m. – (A) Stann Creek vs (B) Belmopan – Carl Ramos Stadium

2:00 p.m. – (A) Toledo vs (A) Mid-South – Victor Sanchez Union Field

2:00 p.m. – (B) Orange Walk vs (B) Corozal – People's Stadium

2:00 p.m. – (A) Benque Viejo vs (A) Cayo – Marshalleck Stadium

2:00 p.m. – (B) Belize vs (B) San Pedro – MCC Grounds

## Postponed last weekend, Travel Belize Beach Soccer Cup kicks off this Saturday in Hopkins

BELIZE CITY, Wed. Oct. 12, 2022

On Friday last, October 7, the Football Federation of Belize (FFB) announced the postponement of all its weekend activities “due to the inclement weather conditions” associated with nearby Hurricane Julia. However, today the FFB secretariat confirms that the schedule for the new Travel Belize Beach Soccer Cup tournament, previously set to kick-off on October 8 in Hopkins, has been pushed forward a week, so that the tournament kickoff

will still take place in Hopkins Village with Week 1 games this Saturday, October 15, where all 6 participating teams will see action.

Upcoming Week 1 schedule for Travel Belize Beach Soccer Cup:

Saturday, October 15, Hopkins Village

10:00 a.m. – Christ Warriors Seine Bight vs Cayo Selection

12:00 noon – Griga United vs BDFC City Rookies

2:00 p.m. – Hopkins Ibayani vs Corozal FC

## FFB launches first ever National U13 Girls Elite Championship

BELMOPAN, Tues. Oct. 11, 2022

The Football Federation of Belize (FFB) is proud to inform the general public that the 2022 edition of the National U13 Girls Elite Championship is tentative to commence on October 15, 2022 and end on November 26, 2022. This tournament will run for a period of 7 weeks and games are scheduled to be played on Saturdays at 2:00 p.m.

The National U13 Girls Elite Championship is aimed towards the development of players which will lead to the selection of a pool of 40 girls who will form a part of FFB's National Team Development Program.

Participating Regions are: Group A – Stann Creek Elite; Toledo Elite; Cayo Elite; Benque Viejo Elite; Mid-South

Elite; and Group B – Corozal Elite; Orange Walk Elite; Belize Elite; San Pedro Elite; Belmopan Elite.

In the preliminary rounds of the competition, each team will be playing a minimum of four games, while the semi-finals will be played as home-and-away and the finals as knockout as per the tournament regulations.

President Sergio Chuc, the FFB Executives and the entire FFB Family take this opportunity to wish all participating teams the best of luck as they kick off this tournament. We take this opportunity to remind all participants that fair-play principles must always guide our actions on and off the pitch.

- press release -

**Our email address for news, letters and articles is  
editor\_amandala@yahoo.com**



# 2 weeks remain in reg. season of SSBA Tournament

by Jonelle O'Brien

SAN IGNACIO TOWN, Mon. Oct. 10, 2022

The San Ignacio & Santa Elena Basketball Association (SSBA) hosted 8 games over the weekend at the Resilience Center at Victor Galvez Stadium in San Ignacio Town. Below are the scores from the games played this past weekend.

**Friday, October 7**

(Under 7 – Female) OBs OJ, 5-4, over Shabla Events. OBs OJ – Khloe Ara 3 pts; Kaydy Garnette 2 pts. Shabla Events – Jazirah Sabido 4 pts.

(Under 7 – Male) Joseph Freights/RGM Trading, 12-7, over Mambas. Joseph Freights/RGM Trading – Zane Lawrence 10 pts; Jordan Quewell 2 pts. Mambas – Isaac Jeffrey 3 pts; Ethan Briceno and Nadir Hernandez 2 pts each.

(Under 15 – Male) Yute Expeditions, 17-15, over Tyre Center. Yute Expeditions – Bryon Rosas 12 pts; Clifford Martinez 3 pts; Daryl Cathers 2 pts. Tyre Center – Dylan Segovia 5 pts; Sheheen Urbina 4 pts; Mikhail Saquil 3 pts.

(Under 18 – Male) Recino’s Imports, 40-38, over JDB. Recino’s Imports – Ian Rodriguez 18 pts; Floyd Gillett 7 pts; Mynor Lizarraga 6 pts; Tayshawn Haylock 5 pts. JDB – Israel August 12 pts; Kishawn Usher 9 pts; Michael Pinelo 5 pts.

**Saturday, October 8**

(Under 10 – Coed) Habet Service Station, 18-10, over Eskimo Ice. Habet Service Station – Tyler Lemus and Amid Juan 8 pts each; Andrea Chilroy 2 pts. Eskimo Ice – Jaelon Juarez and Connor Smith 4 pts each; Jose Luis Pech 2 pts.

(Seniors – Female) Vegan Roots Sisterhood, 46-42, over Ixchel. Vegan Roots Sisterhood – Jane Martinez 21 pts; Isisita Kwatamani 18 pts; Kwasheita Kwatamani 4 pts. Ixchel – Jesika Prom 12 pts; Amanda Sarceno and Mabel Rodriguez 10 pts each; Claudia Bolanos 6 pts.

(Under 18 – Male) Atlantic Bank, 37-26, over JDB. Atlantic Bank – Jamie Mangar 7 pts; Christian Baeza, Maleek Zetina and Daniel Trapp 6 pts each. JDB – Jaheim Arnold 9 pts; Kishawn Usher 7 pts; Israel August 6 pts.

(Seniors – Male) West Side, 73-49, over Belize Vegan Roots Brotherhood. West Side – Jahiem Ciego 37 pts; Kysslon Kisling 17 pts; Raul Roches 9 pts.

Belize Vegan Roots Brotherhood – Emani Enriquez 18 pts; Shelton DeFour 10 pts; Zokraa-I Kwatamani 8 pts.

All teams will advance to the playoffs, where the U7, U10, U12, U15 and U18 divisions will use the one-and-out format, while the senior males and females will play best-of-three series.

Below are the standings with 2 weekends remaining in the regular season.

**STANDINGS**

UNDER 7 - FEMALE	Games Played	Won	Loss	Total Points	Rank
Shabla Events	4	2	2	6	1
Obs OJ	4	2	2	6	2
Venom	2	1	1	3	3
UNDER 7 - MALE	Games Played	Won	Loss	Total Points	Rank
Joseph Freights/RGM Trading	3	2	1	5	1
Mambas	3	1	2	3	2
UNDER 10 - COED	Games Played	Won	Loss	Total Points	Rank
Habet Service Station	3	3	0	6	1
Caracara Reserve	3	2	1	5	2
Codd's Drug Store	2	1	1	3	3
CK Restaurant	2	0	2	2	4
Eskimo Ice	2	0	2	2	5
UNDER 12 - MALE	Games Played	Won	Loss	Total Points	Rank
Q & M Construction	3	2	1	5	1
KG Equine Supplies & Oye FM	3	1	2	4	2
UNDER 15 - FEMALE	Games Played	Won	Loss	Total Points	Rank
Royal International	2	2	0	4	1
San Ignacio Hotel	2	0	2	2	2
UNDER 15 - MALE	Games Played	Won	Loss	Total Points	Rank
Yute Expeditions	4	3	1	7	1
Tolacca Restaurant	3	1	2	4	2
Tyre Center	3	1	2	4	3
UNDER 18 - MALE	Games Played	Won	Loss	Total Points	Rank
Joehann Construction	4	4	0	8	1
Atlantic Bank	4	2	2	6	2
JDB	4	1	3	5	3
Recino's Imports	4	1	3	5	4
SENIORS - FEMALE	Games Played	Won	Loss	Total Points	Rank
Ixchel	2	1	1	3	1
Benque Queens	2	1	1	3	2
Vegan Roots Sisterhood	2	1	1	3	3
SENIORS - MALE [Group 1]	Games Played	Won	Loss	Total Points	Rank
Assassins	3	3	0	6	1
West Side	3	2	1	5	2
Vegan Roots Brotherhood	2	0	2	2	3
Alphas	2	0	2	2	4
SENIORS - MALE [Group 2]	Games Played	Won	Loss	Total Points	Rank
Nextgen Ballers	3	2	1	5	1
NBB Pay Elites	3	1	2	4	2

Below is the upcoming schedule for this weekend. All games will be played at the Victor Galvez Stadium.

**Friday, October 14**

6:30 p.m. - (Under 7 - Male) Mambas vs Joseph Freights/RGM Trading  
 7:00 p.m. - (Under 10 - Coed) CK Restaurant vs Codd's Drug Store  
 7:30 p.m. - (Under 15 - Female) Royal International vs San Ignacio Hotel  
 8:00 p.m. - (Seniors - Male) Venom vs Nexgen Ballers

**Saturday, October 15**

6:30 p.m. - (Seniors - Female) Western Queens vs Ixchel  
 7:00 p.m. - (Under 15 - Male) Tolacca Restaurant vs Tyre Center  
 7:30 p.m. - (Seniors - Female) Vegan Roots Sisterhood vs Ixchel  
 8:00 p.m. - (Under 18 - Male) Joehann Construction vs JDB  
 8:30 p.m. - (Seniors - Male) Alphas vs Vegan Roots Brotherhood

## PLB fixture affected by Julia; Altitude still on top

BELIZE CITY, Thurs. Oct. 13, 2022

Rainy weather and flooding associated with Hurricane Julia which passed south of Belize caused a number of adjustments to the Week 11 games scheduled for the past weekend in the Premier League of Belize (PLB) 2022-2023 Opening Season. All the weekend games had to be cancelled, but two of those games were played last night, Wednesday, while the other two weekend games, along with another back match between Altitude FC and San Pedro Pirates FC from Week 9, have all been re-scheduled as mid-week games next week. (See updated schedule below.)

Reviewing the results from the Week 11 schedule this past week:

Saturday night's clash between Benque FC and Progresso FC at Marshalleck Stadium was postponed, and is now re-scheduled to next Wednesday night, October 19.

The other scheduled Saturday night match-up, featuring Bandits SC vs San Pedro Pirates FC at the Isidoro Beaton Stadium was eventually played last night, Wednesday, and saw the Pirates coming away with a comfortable 4-1 win over the Bandits. Pirates got a brace from Horace Avila (14' & 59') along with a goal each from Eric Roman (63') and Louis Valdez (90'); while Jaren Lambey (85') got the only goal for the Bandits.

The scheduled Sunday encounter between Wagiya SC and Port Layola FC from Belize City could not take place at the Carl Ramos Stadium due to bad weather/field conditions, and since there are lighting issues at the Carl Ramos, that game will now be played next Thursday night, October 20, at the M.A. Stadium in Independence.

The other scheduled Sunday game, with Verdes FC hosting Altitude FC at the FFB Stadium, was postponed to last night, Wednesday, and saw them coming away with a 1-1 stalemate,

and Altitude thus maintaining their lead in the standings. (See latest standings on right.) After a scoreless first half, leading goal scorer Andrez Orozco (76') put Altitude in front, but rising star striker for Verdes,

TEAMS	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Diff	Pts
Altitude FC	10	7	1	2	17	8	9	22
Verdes FC	11	5	5	1	16	7	9	20
San Pedro Pirates FC	10	6	2	2	16	8	8	20
Wagiya SC	10	4	2	4	13	14	-1	14
Progresso FC	10	3	3	4	9	10	-1	12
Benque Viejo FC	10	3	2	5	9	13	-4	11
Port Layola FC	10	3	1	6	10	17	-7	10
Bandits SC	11	1	2	8	8	21	-13	5

(3 back matches remain to be played.)

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# WPC shot; fighting for her life

Continued from Page 1

Leonel Rowland, who is a resident of Dangriga, was also wounded during the shooting. By all indications, he was the gunman's target, since Commissioner of Police, Chester Williams has pointed out that there had been a tense verbal exchange between the shooter and the victim just before the attack.

"From what we gather, the suspect and the other victim, Rowland, had an exchange of words before shots were fired. Mr. Rowland had an exchange of words before shots were fired. Mr. Rowland is disputing having any altercation with the suspect, but we do have a credible witness to us that... and so we are waiting for Mr. Rowland to recover. He can be interviewed more in-depth to see if he will be forthcoming," stated Commissioner Williams. The Police Department is also asking any member of the public who might have information related to this shooting to come forward.

WPC Arzu was not on duty at the time of the shooting, and according to Williams, was seated in the passenger side of a vehicle being driven by Rowland when the shots were fired by the suspect toward the driver's side, where Rowland was seated. Some of the bullets passed him and hit the rookie police officer, who is originally from Punta Gorda, but

who has been working at the Dangriga police station since joining the force as part of the last police intake.

According to police, when Rowland was transported to the Western Regional Hospital, he was in a stable condition, but he was subsequently transferred to the KMH last night. Since then, there has been no update on his condition.

PC Arzu's family and her colleagues at the Police Department continue to hope for a miracle, given the dire prognosis from doctors. COMPOL Williams said they will decide, on the basis of advice from doctors who have been overseeing the medical care administered to Arzu, whether she will be transferred to the Belize Medical Associates for private care. He said that a key concern is the risks involved in physically transferring Arzu, who had been placed on life support, to another facility.

Police have not yet definitively identified the gunman who wounded Rowland and WPC Arzu, but members of the Police Department's Mobile Interdiction Team (MIT) are currently pursuing one suspect for questioning and police are waiting for an opportunity to interview Rowland, who might be able to provide information which could lead to the eventual detention of the shooter. At this point, they are making a collective plea for prayers for the speedy recovery of WPC Arzu.

# \$3.1 million found during "Mine Beer" factory raid



**Detained Chinese nationals employed at Caribbean International Brewery Company and their attorney before entering Orange Walk Magistrate Court**

Continued from Page 1

the Caribbean International Brewery Company factory in the Orange Walk District. This is the facility at which production of Mine Beer—a recently introduced alcoholic beverage that has been gaining ground in the Belizean market—takes place. That company's brand, however, has possibly been damaged due to allegations of human trafficking made against it after the discovery of 8 Chinese nationals, including the owner of the company, at the factory, despite the expiration of their visitors permits. The 8 Chinese men were charged with violating the conditions of their visitors' permit, while the manager at the facility, who is a Belizean, is facing 8 counts of employing persons without a valid work permit. They were arraigned at the Orange Walk Magistrate Court in Friday and subsequently remanded to the Belize Central Prison, but their attorney, Marcel Cardona, is reportedly trying to get a bail hearing for the men held as soon as possible.

Officers from the Police Department and Immigration Department personnel, along with members of the Anti-trafficking of Persons Unit, carried out the two-day sting operation on the strength of a search warrant for illegal labor at the facility, which is located in Carmelita Village in Orange Walk. During the search, the \$3.1 million dollars, which reportedly included some US currency, was found in a safe at the facility. The owners of the company are reportedly claiming that the money that was found is actually the proceeds of September beer sales, but the Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU) currently is in possession of the cash, and according to the Commissioner of Police, Chester Williams, they are this week applying "to the court for permission to seize the money, pending the outcome of a money laundering investigation." During that investigation, they will determine if indeed the funds are proceeds from legal sales

and if the requisite taxes were paid.

In regard to that investigation, Commissioner Williams stated at a press briefing this week, "It's an ongoing investigation. I am sure that if it is that they can produce receipts indicating the collection of that sum and to show that they have paid their fair share of taxes, then the Income Tax and the FIU department are going to release the funds back to them. It is not illegal once you can prove how you get it and you can prove that you have paid your fair share of taxes."

He went on to point, however, to allegations of a grave nature being made against the company—that it may have been withholding the passports of the Chinese nationals found during the raid, but he noted that those Chinese nationals are not cooperating with the police, who are carrying out a human trafficking investigation. The company has said that, in fact, the men found themselves stuck in Belize due to Covid-19-related travel restrictions in China, and that they had been scheduled to leave the country on October 11.

When speaking to reporters yesterday, however, Commissioner Williams countered that explanation by stating, "... that's another issue with them and their country, but even if that were the case, the Immigration Department in Belize is open, and if they wanted to stay longer due to unforeseen circumstances back in their country, then they could have visited the Immigration Department and asked for an extension."

The company is claiming, however, that the raid was malicious and has accused the Police Department of being used by entities with a separate agenda.

Today, AMANDALA spoke to the public relations personnel of the Caribbean International Brewery Company, who told us that there is no additional information that they can currently provide, since the matter is before the courts, but they are planning to hold a press conference with their attorneys.

## New passports may cost up to \$200—unconfirmed reports

PASSPORT FEES		
Adult (16yrs+) 10yr Validity \$200	Minor 5yr Validity \$150	Temporary Passport 1yr Validity \$100
24 HRS EXPEDITED PASSPORT FEES (ADDITIONAL TO PASSPORT FEE)		
Adult (16yrs+) \$300	Minor \$300	
LOST OR STOLEN PASSPORT FEES (ADDITIONAL TO PASSPORT FEE)		
Adult (16yrs+) \$200	Minor \$200	
URGENT MEDICAL PASSPORT FEES (ADDITIONAL TO PASSPORT FEE)		
Adult (16yrs+) \$100	Minor \$100	

Continued from Page 1

stolen passports.

As we reported in *Amandala* on September 8, the Government of Belize will be launching its new e-passport system later this month. Last week, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade, and Immigration, Hon. Eamon Courtenay, confirmed that the launch date is likely to be October 24.

In that interview, Hon. Courtenay said that he expects the new passport system will significantly reduce the extremely long lines that citizens have had to deal with at the Passport Office in Belmopan over the course of the past year. That is because, with the implementation of the new system, the application process will be digitized—meaning that persons will be able to apply in their own

districts by setting an appointment online. Hon. Courtenay also noted that, hopefully, the new passport system will eliminate the petty corruption that has been reportedly taking place in the Department.

What had been uncertain at the time of that interview, however, was the cost of the passports, since, according to the Immigration Minister, the matter was still before Cabinet.

"There is a debate—you know how these things are. People are living in very difficult times," said Minister Courtenay.

According to Courtenay, two key matters were being considered during the discussions about the proposed increase: the affordability for the Belizean populace as well as the recovery of the 20 million dollars that

was invested into the project.

"But on the 24th we will launch and all these details will be finalized. We're finalizing the legislation for the new passport, and I think it will be a tremendous increase and benefit to the Belizean people," he said.

Just under two weeks before the launch of the new e-passport system, the proposed prices for the new

passports have been leaked. Those prices include \$200 for an adult passport, valid for 10 years; \$150 for a minor's passport, valid for 5 years; and \$100 for a temporary passport that is valid for 1 year. Additionally, renewing a lost or stolen passport may cost \$200 plus the passport fee. The news has

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# Julia causes flooding and damage across Belize

**The flooding of Belize's rivers, damage to houses and power lines following a freak-weather event, and the spotting of a crocodile in a residential part of Belize City are just a few of the effects of Hurricane Julia on the country.**

by Khaila Gentle

BELIZE CITY, Tues. Oct. 11, 2022

The passage of Hurricane Julia this past weekend has caused widespread flooding throughout parts of Central America, including in Belize, where the storm's outer bands produced torrential rains that flooded western, central, and southern areas of the country.

On Tuesday, the National Meteorological Service, along with the National Emergency Management Organization (NEMO) and Ministry of Sustainable Development, Climate Change, and Disaster Risk Management, held a press conference to address the flooding and the damage caused by Julia.

According to Chief Meteorologist Ronald Gordon, some parts of southern Belize, such as Placencia and Middlesex, received between six and eight inches of rainfall over the weekend. Then, on Monday, as the remnants of storm Julia moved west, areas in the Cayo district experienced "upwards of three inches of rainfall in a very short period of time."

Apart from heavy rainfall, Julia also produced heavy winds of 15 – 25 knots and severe thunderstorms. In the Lake Independence area of Belize City, residents on McKay Boulevard made reports on Sunday of what they claimed to have been a tornado. Roofs were torn off and power lines were downed due to extremely heavy gusts of winds.

One eyewitness of the event, Marsha Valencio, reported that while she was in her living room, a sudden gust of wind ripped the roof of her home completely off, after which her furniture and other belongings became soaked with rainwater. Outside, her zinc fence was destroyed, and several neighboring houses had also suffered damage. According to Valencio, emergency personnel, as well as the police and Lake Independence area representative Hon. Cordel Hyde, were quick to respond.

Valencio, who is now trying to find the funds needed to rebuild her home and replace her belongings, said, "We are trying to get assistance from the Minister, Cordel Hyde, because he came the night to come check up on us. He came and asked us to go into shelter. He came personally and told us to get an invoice to see what he could help with, but if anybody else out there can assist, we can really appreciate it."

Anyone wishing to assist Ms. Valencio can contact her at 636-2927.

According to the Chief Meteorologist, the freak event is known as a microburst and was the result of the severe thunderstorm occurring in that area.

"You have these sudden surges of wind coming down, hitting the surface of the ground and spreading out very rapidly, which resulted in of course some damage to some structures. I believe they were roof damage, for the most part, and downing of powerlines in that area as well," he explained.

The National Coordinator of NEMO, Colonel Shelton Defour, says that it is still too early to assess the entirety of the damage caused by Julia, and officials

are waiting for floodwaters to recede. Additionally, NEMO is bracing itself for the significant amount of flooding that is likely to affect the Belize River Valley area in the coming days as floodwaters move downriver from the west to the east.

"The water is cresting in the Belize River in the Cayo District—it's moving downhill at a rapid pace, and so with the inundation, where the ground was already saturated in those areas due to pooling and accumulation of water, it means now that you have this second wave of floodwaters that will reach into places like Crooked Tree," Defour said.

The Belize River Valley has already been grappling with flooding caused by rain, and the incoming floodwaters are expected to exacerbate things even further. NEMO has warned persons in that area to follow advisories and to move their belongings and their animals to a safer location. The effects of the flooding, said Col. Defour, may be seen as far down as Lord's Bank and in parts of Ladyville.

"We implore the Belizean people, the public, to take the advisories [seriously]—don't play in floodwaters. The Ministry of Health is concerned about dermatitis and about gastrointestinal illnesses which are on the increase due to contaminated waters," he said.

Over the past two days, Belizeans have been documenting the large-scale flooding that has been occurring in various municipalities as well as the damage that has been caused across the country. In Belize City, residents reported seeing a small crocodile in Home Protector Park. It is believed that the animal was driven out of its natural habitat by floodwaters.

The flooding of the Sibun River has made parts of the Coastal Road impassable due to deep water. On Tuesday, one truck driver found himself stranded atop his vehicle after having driven off the submerged road. At some point, the truck keeled over in the waters swashing over the road, and he had to be rescued.

Meanwhile, residents of the village of Monkey River down south, who have been grappling with coastal erosion for years now, were forced to battle the unforgiving sea during the height of the passage of the storm, with at least one house having been lost to the rough water.

The losses experienced due to Julia, however, were not limited to homes and personal belongings. According to NEMO, the agriculture industry is expecting significant losses.

The Minister of Sustainable Development, Climate Change, and Disaster Risk Management, Hon. Orlando Habet, explained during Tuesday's press conference that a large amount of the production of agricultural food items in the Spanish Lookout area was affected, including soy beans, black beans, corn, and red beans.

"For some of these, the process for harvesting had already commenced, so

# Oil spill in Benque caused by Westline Bus Co., says DOE

**A release from the DOE states that a 1,100-gallon container of waste oil ruptured, causing the oil spill. The exact quantity of oil that was released has not been determined.**

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the incident took place is on a slope – causing oil to run down into a drain that leads to the Mopan River.

According to the DOE, the spill was not reported by the company. The release from the DOE states that it was yesterday, when personnel from the DOE conducted a site inspection, that an "oil spill which was not reported by the bus company, was observed on the land and discharging into the nearby drain."

Employees of the company are reportedly assisting the DOE personnel with the clean-up of the location, but a full assessment of the oil spill cannot be made yet, since the quantity of the spilled waste oil has still not been determined.

"There is no indication at this time that the oil has entered into the Mopan River; however, it is possible that contamination can occur once the flood waters recede," the release from the DOE states.

The DOE further stated in the release that the company kept no record of the amount of waste oil that was stored in the container. Waste oil is classified as a hazardous substance under the Environmental Protection Act (EPA). In a subsequent release, the DOE reminded businesses and the general public that those substances should be stored properly in line with the best practices and standard requirements.

"The contamination of the environment as a result of non-compliance with these requirements

when the rains came and the flooding increased, some of these [products] went underwater, some of them are still underwater. Maybe there will be a certain percentage that will still be able to be harvested, however, spoilage commences very quickly because they're now soaked up with water—they'll have to be put through a drying process, which is also expensive," he said.

A full assessment of the losses sustained within the agriculture industry will commence after floodwaters in the Cayo district, and then in the Belize River Valley, have receded. Until then, the Ministry along with NEMO will be sending out a team to conduct preliminary assessments via helicopter.

Right after Julia dissipated, meteorologists began looking at the possibility of another tropical cyclone developing just north of the country, due to a trough of low pressure over the Bay of Campeche. The disturbance has since become the 11<sup>th</sup> named storm of the 2022 Atlantic Hurricane Season — Tropical Storm Karl, and the Mexican government reportedly issued a tropical storm watch for parts of the Mexican coast. Karl is not expected to affect Belize, and weather conditions should improve in the next few days.



**Oil coming from culvert leading to water way**

may result in prosecution under the Environmental Protection Act," the release from the DOE stated.

A pollution abatement notice has been issued to the company to ensure that measures are implemented to avoid further impact from the spill. The DOE has also announced that they will seek advice about possible legal action that could be taken against the company under the EPA.

In an interview yesterday evening with KREM News' Marisol Amaya, however, Sergio Chuc, proprietor of the Westline Bus Co., said that the oil spill is not the result of negligent disposal practices by the company, but that a crack in the container led to the leakage of a little over 100 gallons of waste oil, and that because of the flooding caused by Hurricane Julia, no one was at the company's garage over the long weekend to notice.

"Unfortunately, over the weekend, with the heavy rain and the flooding, no one was at the garage, and last night it was found out by the chief mechanic," Chuc said. The crack was located near the valve of the 1100-gallon tank that holds all the waste oil from the company after oil changes.

"The tank had a little over 100 gallons of waste oil in it. By this morning when they wanted to deal with it, all the oil had seeped out — this is coming from the garage, and unfortunately it went into the drain," Chuc went on to say.

According to Chuc, although the entire contents of the container — about 100 gallons of waste oil — leaked out into the drain, the flood water created a blockage that prevented the oil from flowing to the Mopan River, which is about 300 to 400 yards away from the drain.

He therefore suggested that all the oil which leaked out the container is still in the drain.

A cease-and-desist order was issued for the closure of the garage on Westline Bus Company's premises for 96 hours. The DOE has stated that there is currently no estimated timeline to indicate how long it will take to complete the cleanup of the spill.

According to Chuc, the company does expect to be fined by the DOE.

# Ambulance's collision with busito causes student's death

Continued from **Page 2**

Community Hospital and is now being treated at the Northern Regional Hospital.

The third student, however, Aaliyah Marokin, 20, suffered multiple fractures—including to the hip, arm and leg—as well as abrasions to her head. Her family was reportedly told at the Northern Regional Hospital that she would need emergency surgery by a specialist, and she was thus transported to the Karl Heusner Memorial Hospital, but according to the family, she did not receive the urgent surgery when she arrived at the KMHM but was placed on a waiting list and given morphine. She will thus be at home for as long as three weeks before the surgery takes place, and the family is distressed about the further harm she could suffer as a result of the delay.

“When she reached to Belize, they told her they would just give her morphine for the pain, bandage her hand, her leg, and they told her they would not be doing any surgery and that she would be on a waiting list and this surgery could potentially take place until end of month's time. Now, she's a 20-year-old with her whole life there — what if any complications happen, infections, happen. She has a broken leg, a broken hand, and all you can do is just bandage it? We need reasons as to why she's on a waiting list... telling us a waiting list, telling

a mother who had previously went through a loss that her next child is there crying out of pain and all you could give her is morphine to put her to sleep, and if she gets addicted to this drug, what are we going to do?,” a relative of Marokin lamented to 7News.

The family is reportedly seeking possible assistance from other medical facilities or private practitioners and is asking the Ministry of Health to intervene.

The fourth injured student, Jaheem Williams, was reportedly in and out of consciousness and reportedly received an emergency CT scan when he was taken to the Karl Heusner Memorial Hospital.

Vargas would have graduated with honors in December, when he would have received an Associate's degree in Business Entrepreneurship, and the school is planning to have a program tribute in his honor and to issue an honorary Associate's degree to his parents at the graduation ceremony.

Dr. Rafael Riveroll, a cousin of the deceased, told local media, “Right now, he was doing Business and he was trying to finish up sixth form because due to difficulties then, now they managed to send him to finish sixth form, so that was his main goal, and I think right now it's more heartbreaking to find out that he did achieve his 3.0, honor roll, and he did receive some awards just day before yesterday.”

According to Gonzalez, there is currently a sorrowful mood on the campus of the college.

“When we got here this morning, a lot of the students were very sad. Some came to offer their condolences. Teachers are going through a very difficult time coming to accept the fact that he is no longer with us. In the history of our school, this is the second student we have lost [in] the fifteen years we have been in operation. Some teachers couldn't really have a class, especially his homeroom had to undergo some sessions with the counselor during the course of the day because they were very unstable and could not concentrate,” he said.

According to Riveroll, Vargas would routinely be at home after classes at 2:30 p.m., but on the day of the accident, Vargas contacted his mother to inform her that he would be late, as he needed to stay and prepare for a presentation at school. He was to have called his mother at 3:30 p.m. to notify her of his arrival so that she could pick him up at My Lights, but it was a call that she would never receive.

Dr. Riveroll mentioned to local reporters that Vargas was very active in the community. He recently participated in the Corozal Carnival and was a well-known athlete who played for Pelican FC, an amateur football club in Corozal.

AMANDALA was able to speak to a teammate of Vargas, Abner Itzab, who told us that the two were both members of the Pelicans FC and that their bond grew when they became classmates at CEMJC.

Itzab said that Vargas had the drive to become the best player on the team, but was also willing to assist his friends — both on the football field and in the classroom.

On Wednesday, October 12, the Ministry of Health and Wellness sent its condolences to the family and friends of those affected by the tragedy via a press release and strongly condemned irresponsible driving on the highways.

The Director of Public Prosecution's office will issue recommendations on whether charges will be brought against any of the drivers in connection with the collision.

## New passports may cost...

Continued from **Page 33**

been met with ire by much of the Belizean populace, with many persons highlighting the fact that the cost of the new passports will be 400% more than the previous price of \$50.

While some persons have deemed the new prices ridiculous, others have expressed the view that they may actually be reasonable, considering the fact that the cost of the adult passport breaks down to \$20 per year.

The new Electronic Passport

Issuance and Control System (e-PICS) will grant Belizeans the use of an e-passport, which features an electronic chip that stores necessary personal information and a passport photograph. According to Minister Courtenay, the passports will be efficient and fully secure thanks to the biometric verification features with which the chips will be equipped.

Amandala reached out to the Ministry of Immigration for confirmation of the new passport prices, but we are still awaiting a response.

## Can you handle the truth?

Continued from **Page 30**

in terms of the situation in England, no special status for the city of London. It's about time that the city of London gives up its imperial dreams and be forced to live under a regulated system in which none of them have any real experience, because they're so used to running governments and running central banks.

Now, the last question is: what do you make of the announcement by OPEC that they're going to reduce the production of oil? This was played up in the media as a rejection of an appeal from Biden, a slap in the face to the United States. So, why was this done? Well, as we've been reporting, much of the world is rejecting the sanctions policy of the western governments as well as the Green New Deal policy, which simply says fossil fuels are polluting, are causing man-made climate change and have to be shut down. That's a hard sell for the West to convince the Saudis to do that, but the reduction of production is partly oriented toward making sure the prices are sustained, because if you dramatically increase production and distribution of oil, the Saudis fear that this might reduce their profit, but more importantly, there's a shift away from the unipolar superpower order where the United States and London can order nations what to do. Now, we're seeing something fairly interesting occurring: the Biden Administration is now appealing to Venezuela, which the U.S. has been engaged in a bipartisan commitment to overthrow the government there and the sanctions from the United States are estimated to have killed between 40 and 50,000 people. Now, the United States is going to Venezuela because they need oil, and especially, they're trying to get a deal for Chevron. So, you can see the desperation. We saw it in Germany when Chancellor Schultz went to the

Middle East to make all kinds of promises and to beg for natural gas and liquefied natural gas and oil and came back basically empty-handed. Again, the solution is not to look for special deals for your country but to recognize that the global financial system is broken; the Great Reset is rejected by most countries because it's based on taking away their sovereignty, and as long as you have countries such as Russia and China which can stand up against these demands, then, you'll see support coming from countries like Indonesia, from Brazil, from the oil-producing countries which are looking for a consistent commitment to real physical economic production and being paid for their products with real money as opposed to funding money.

And so, I think the important thing here is not so much the question of are the Saudis rejecting Biden; most of the world is rejecting the demands for sanctions against Russia, and countries are looking at how they can move away from submitting to the unreasonable and unacceptable demands coming from the sole superpower backed by the military force of the United States and NATO. This is where the LaRouche solution is unique and will work, and I'd urge you to study the video from the executive intelligence review conference yesterday and then use that as an entry point to go into our websites and look at what we're writing, what we're producing on economy, on the strategic relations, and we have a series of events coming up, including on October 15<sup>th</sup> an international youth conference. Sign up for that today and have a thoughtful weekend, and I'll see you again on Monday.

[fincasolan@gmail.com](mailto:fincasolan@gmail.com)  
October 8, 2022  
Finca Solana  
Corozal Town

## PLB fixture affected by Julia...

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Trimayne “Peppa” Harris (78’) quickly replied to avoid a second loss for Verdes.

Upcoming Week 12 & back matches schedule:

**Saturday, October 15**

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

7:30 p.m. – Bandits SC vs Benque FC – Isidoro Beaton Stadium

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

**Sunday, October 16**

3:30 p.m. – Progreso FC vs Port Layola FC – Louisiana Football Field

**BACK MATCHES MID-WEEK SCHEDULE**

**Wednesday, October 19**

7:30 p.m. – (Wk. 11) Benque FC vs Progreso FC – Marshalleck Stadium

7:30 p.m. – (Wk. 9) Altitude FC vs San Pedro Pirates FC – M.A. Stadium in Independence

**Thursday, October 20**

7:30 p.m. – (Wk. 11) Wagiya SC vs Port Layola FC – M.A. Stadium in Independence

After Week 12 and the back matches, only two more regular season weeks remain. After that, the top 4 teams go on to the playoffs.

## Belize nominates new...

Continued from **Page 6**

that advanced Belize's first legal case before the Caribbean Court of Justice (Original Jurisdiction),” the release from the Government Press Office states, adding that she had also worked as a law lecturer and advisor on international trade matters.

Her Ph.D. dissertation focused on the legalities of trade creation with

CARICOM under the Revised Treaty of Chaguaramas. Avila holds a Master's degree in International Law and Economics from the World Trade Institute in Berne, Switzerland; an LLB from the BBP Law School in England, and another BA in International Studies from the University of South Florida.

She is married with two sons, the release from the Government Press Office states.

# SAVE THE DATE

# SUPER SALE

SCAN ME



DOWNTOWN ZONE

## ANNIVERSARY EDITION

SATURDAY **29** OCTOBER  
-----  
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