



# AMANDALA



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# TNC recommends deferral of Waterloo's project

**A letter sent by TNC's country director, Julianne Stockbridge, to the CEO of the Ministry of Sustainable Development and Chairman of the NEAC, Kenrick Williams, points to four major reasons for the Blue Bond facilitator's call for GoB to hit the brakes on Waterloo's proposed Port of Belize development.**

by Marco Lopez

BELIZE CITY, Wed. Oct. 5, 2022

The Nature Conservancy (TNC), which secured the financing for Belize's Blue Bond, thus making it possible for the country to retire the Superbond, and which co-created a framework for the generation of cash flow for conservation through 2040, has written a letter to the Government of Belize suggesting that GoB defer the consideration of Waterloo's proposal for construction of a cruise terminal at the Port of Belize until certain major

Please turn to **Page 30**



**Julianne Stockbridge, TNC Belize Program Director**

## Cop shoots man allegedly raping his ex-common-law

GUINEA GRASS, Orange Walk District, Thurs. Oct. 6, 2022

The Orange Walk CIB is currently investigating a police-related shooting that occurred when officers were responding to a domestic violence complaint yesterday. The man who was shot, Daniel Vasquez, 37, had allegedly been raping his ex-common-law wife, and their daughter had run to

get help—prompting a neighbor of the woman to make a report to the police, who arrived shortly after and entered the house.

According to initial reports, when the police attempted to intervene, Vasquez attacked them with a hammer, and he was then shot in the leg by one of the

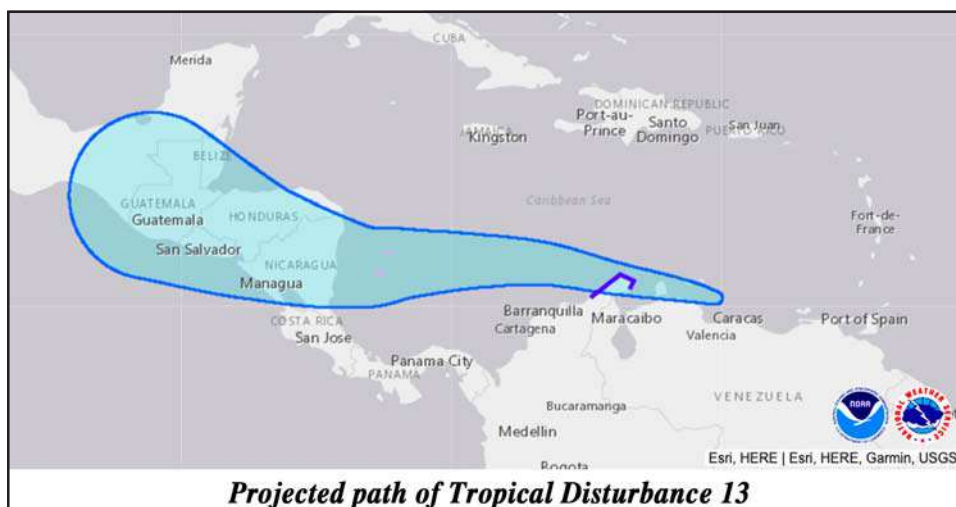
Please turn to **Page 6**

## Another tropical system threatens Central America

BELIZE CITY, Thurs. Oct. 6, 2022

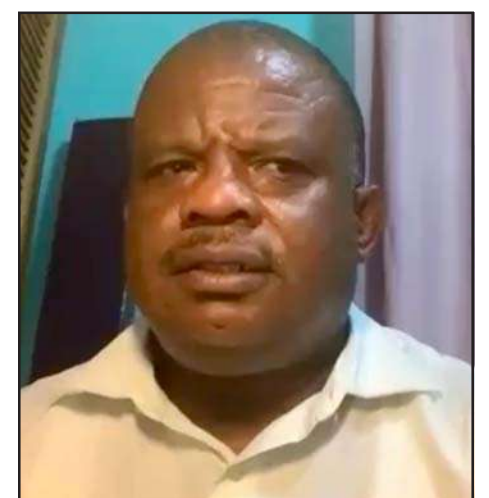
Tropical Cyclone 13 is currently off the coast of South America and is moving toward the Central America isthmus — with projections that it will

Please turn to **Page 30**



Projected path of Tropical Disturbance 13

## Atty. Saldivar: Re-districting Task Force established for gerrymandering



**Arthur Saldivar, attorney for claimants in Re-districting case**

BELIZE CITY, Wed. Oct. 5, 2022

On Monday, the most recent session of the Redistricting case brought by the Belize Peace Movement (BPM) against the government of Belize was held in the courtroom of Supreme Court judge

Please turn to **Page 31**

## Property owner builds a wall across boulevard in Belmopan

**Belmopan area representative, Hon. Oscar Mira, says the road is just one of the many parts of the city that were de-reserved and sold off below market price during the previous administration.**

by Khaila Gentle

BELMOPAN, Thurs. Oct. 6, 2022

Residents of Belmopan who are used to driving down Philip Goldson Boulevard have made a shocking discovery over the past few weeks: the boulevard is no longer passable, due to a large brick wall that was constructed across its entire width. According to Belmopan area representative, Hon.



The wall constructed across Philip Goldson Boulevard

Please turn to **Page 31**

## 7 villages to receive water wells under the RRB project

*A release from Resilient Rural Belize states that construction of the first well will begin in November.*



**CEO of Ministry of Economic Development, Osmond Martinez, and CEO of Rural Transformation, Valentino Shal, signing MOA**

BELIZE CITY, Thurs. Oct. 6, 2022

Earlier this week, the Government of Belize announced the signing of a memorandum of association between two ministries to forward component one of the Resilient Rural Belize (RRB) Program. Seven water wells are to be constructed in several small farming villages through the signing of this MOA.

The document was signed by the CEO of the Minister of Rural Transformation, Community Development, Labour and Local Government, Valentino Shal, and the CEO of Economic Development, Osmond Martinez. It will provide

access to “geophysical resistivity testing, drilling, and the construction of water wells,” the release states – with works to be carried out by the Ministry of Rural Transformation.

Along with the RRB, “both ministries will engage in collaborative actions aimed at increasing access to irrigation services to support rural small farmers,” the release states.

The villages that will be receiving the new wells are Concepcion and Xaibe in Corozal, Seven Miles El Progreso in Cayo, Trio San Jose Village in Toledo, Cow Pen in Stann Creek, and Maskall Village in the Belize District.

## Belize conducts Climate Change Vulnerability and Livelihood Assessment consultations

*The Climate Change Vulnerability and Livelihood Assessment consultations seek to increase resilience to climate events in Belize’s coastal zone and fisheries sector.*

*by Khaila Gentle*

BELMOPAN, Thurs. Oct. 6, 2022

On Wednesday, the fourth consultation for the Ministry of Blue Economy and Civil Aviation’s Climate Change Vulnerability and Livelihood Assessment came to a successful end at the Belize Best Western Biltmore Plaza. According to the Ministry, this week’s consultation session included the presentation of key findings from assessments conducted in Belize City, Dangriga, and San Pedro, three areas that are extremely vulnerable to climate change.

The purpose of those assessments is identifying habitats and ecosystem services for which climate change adaptation strategies can be developed.

The consultations and overarching assessment, which began in mid-August, are being carried out as a part of the Green Climate Fund’s readiness project, “Enhancing Adaptation

Planning and Increasing Climate Resilience in the Coastal Zone and Fisheries Sector of Belize.” The initiative is a collaborative effort between the Ministry of Blue Economy, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), and the Green Climate Fund (GCF).

Asha Singh, the International Consultant for FAO, told our colleagues at KREM News that the findings from the month and a half long assessments have revealed that the effects of climate change have already begun to be seen in Belize.

“The big takeaway of this is whether or not this study would have found an evidence base for climate change, and, overwhelmingly yes. Though Belize does have deficit in data, some of the data that we have used has shown that climate change is evident in Belize,” she said.

Those effects, so far, are subtle, but the study also found a trend of increase

## Evidence found that BDF private Micah Miguel was sexually harassed, bullied

*by Khaila Gentle*

BELIZE CITY, Wed. Oct. 5, 2022

Shortly after the apparent suicide of Belize Defence Force soldier, 23-year-old Private Micah Miguel in July, her family took to the media to allege that she had been frequently bullied as well as sexually assaulted while on the BDF camp at Price Barracks. The investigation into the matter, particularly the recently completed BDF court of inquiry, has unearthed some evidence that suggests those claims are true.

According to the Commander of the BDF, Brigadier General Azariel Loria, a recently completed court of inquiry found “circumstantial evidence” that Private Miguel was sexually harassed “by an individual”.

While the BDF Commander could not speak publicly on much of what was found, he did state that the BDF will be using text messages that are on Private Miguel’s cell phone to substantiate that circumstantial evidence. The phone, however, is currently in police custody.

“Whenever the Police Department



**Private Micah Miguel**

finishes with their investigation, we will try to access the contents of what was in that cell phone when it comes to the harassment of this individual and then we will take it up from there,” Loria said.

Private Micah Miguel took her own life after allegedly being subjected to abuse and bullying within the ranks of the Belize Defence Force. In late August, investigations into the allegations that Private Miguel had been sexually assaulted began. Those efforts are being spearheaded by the Belize Defence Force, the National Women’s Commission, and the Ministry of Human Development.

## 9 charged for robbery of Turneffe Atoll resort



**(l-r) Gabino Nah, Jr., Gabino Nah, Sr. and Juan Perez, jointly charged with theft**

*by Charles Gladden*

BELIZE CITY, Thurs. Oct. 6, 2022

Nine persons — eight adults and a minor — who allegedly stole close to \$62,000 from Belize Dive Haven resort on Ropewalk Caye in the Turneffe Atoll area were jointly charged with theft when they appeared in the Magistrate’s Court in Belize City on Monday, October 3.

The nine individuals were identified as Brain Orlando Garcia, 27; Franklin Stuardo Guzman, 42; Gabino Emir Nah Jr., 19; Gabino Seferino Nah Sr., 38; Juan Sabino Perez, 58; Christian Vigil Samos, 27; Armando Edwin Patt, 30; Rinaldo Jueno Baptist, 20

and a 17-year-old minor all fishermen from Chunox Village, Corozal District.

The group of nine reportedly entered Belize Dive Haven Resort on Friday, September 30, and stole several items, including two square tables valued at \$2,000; snorkeling and diving equipment; 3 outboard engines, and garden lights valued at \$16,000. The combined items are valued at \$61,939.

The nine men all pleaded not guilty to the offense and were offered bail of \$5,000 each, which they met. They are scheduled to reappear in court on Thursday, December 1.

in the country’s temperature and a decrease in rainfall. Singh said that these align with what has been happening across many parts of the globe in terms of climate change.

The assessments also sought to ascertain whether the communities being studied are vulnerable to climate change. The conclusion arrived at was

that, yes, they are and, according to Singh, “overwhelmingly so.”

“They are vulnerable in varying degrees, vulnerable from an ecological standpoint, a socioeconomic standpoint, and a cultural standpoint. And when you look at the livelihood as well, that level of vulnerability still holds for these communities,” she said.

# Belize assisting Cuba in Hurricane Ian recovery

**Widespread blackouts and an uptick in protests are just some of the aftereffects of Hurricane Ian that have afflicted the island nation. The Association of Belizean Graduates is asking Belizeans near and far to stand in solidarity with Cuba and send donations.**



Cuba devastated by Hurricane Ian (Source: Ramon Espinosa/AP)

by Khaila Gentle

BELIZE CITY, Thurs. Oct. 6, 2022

Belize has been doing its part in attempting to render assistance to Cuba as the island nation continues to grapple with the devastating aftereffects of Hurricane Ian. Today, *Amandala* spoke with attorney Ardelle Sabido, who, along with the Association of Belizean Graduates from Cuba, has been reaching out to those at home and throughout the diaspora for donations.

Sabido explained to us that Cuba, which has provided Belizeans with countless scholarships and other forms of support, has become a second home to many, including the students who are currently pursuing their degrees on the island and those who graduated and have gone on to become professionals serving the Belizean populace. As such, it is only right that we support the country that has become a friend and an ally in their time of need.

Power is slowly being restored on the island following the passage of Hurricane Ian. Last Tuesday, the then Category 3 storm devastated the western part of the country, leaving damaged power grids and countless destroyed homes and businesses in its wake. But the full extent of the damage, says Sabido, has not been covered by the media, and many remain unaware of how dire the situation truly is in Cuba.

Many believe that the landfall of Ian has dealt a crushing blow to the nation's already struggling economy. By the time the hurricane had strengthened to a Category 4 and was making its way toward Florida, the entire island of Cuba, which is home to some 11 million persons, was without power. According to a report by *Reuters*, power was restored throughout most of the capital of Havana by Monday, but the areas hit hardest by the storm, such as the city of Pinar del Rio, still have quite a way to go before making a complete recovery.

Furthermore, data from the Cuban Embassy in Belize reveals that some 400 schools and 300 medical facilities

have been affected by the storm.

While Cuba was recognized by the UN as a model in hurricane risk management back in 2004, recovery efforts following Ian, which officials have described as the worst storm the island has seen in some twenty years, have been slow. Exacerbating this is the US economic blockade currently imposed on the country, which makes it difficult for Cuba to procure the supplies needed for recovery.

In the storm's aftermath, numerous activists and organizations in the US have begun calling for US President Joe Biden to lift the blockade to allow for a full recovery, *Prensa Latina* reports. One group, The Let Cuba Rebuild movement, shared a message stressing that the economic, commercial, and financial blockade is preventing the country from receiving the resources it needs to rebuild and urged the White House to lift the blockade, even if only temporarily.

Here at home, The Association of Belizean Graduates from Cuba is working alongside the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Embassy of Belize in Cuba to fill a container with food supplies and medicine. That container will be shipped off to Cuba at the end of this month, which is why Ardelle Sabido has been hoping for a timely response to the call for support. So far, donations have been pouring in from schools—such as Our Lady of Guadalupe Primary School in Belmopan—as well as businesses, and especially relatives of current students studying in Cuba. But getting an entire container filled is no easy task, which is why Sabido is asking the public for more supplies, no matter how small.

“Every little bit counts. Even if it is a couple tins of Klim or Milo ... everything is welcome,” she said.

The Association is asking for donations of non-perishable foods as well as medicine. Drop-off points have been established in San Ignacio, Santa Elena, Belmopan, Belize City, Placencia, and Orange Walk. Those wishing to give monetary donations can do so through the Belize Bank by making deposits to the account “The



## Notice

Our advertisers, sellers and readers are advised that due to the Indigenous People's Resistance Day holiday on Monday, October 10, there WILL be only the Friday issue of *Amandala* next week. The paper will hit the streets Friday morning, October 14, 2022.



**Indigenous People's Resistance Day**

## Belize named one of friendliest countries in the world

by Charles Gladden

BELIZE CITY, Thurs. Oct. 6, 2022

*Condé Nast Traveller*, a lifestyle travel magazine published in New York, United States, has named Belize one of the friendliest nations in the world in its 2022 Readers' Choice Awards feature article, which was published on Tuesday, October 6.

*Condé Nast Traveller* is a market-leading monthly travel magazine that has been published since 1987 and has won 25 National Magazine Awards. It provides content on an array of travel topics, including destinations, hotels, food and beverages, and airlines as well as fashion, cars, and grooming, and has

9 international editions.

The article which lists Belize as one of the world's friendliest destinations notes that the country's diverse people and cultures, as well as its Barrier Reef and natural landscapes, and its activities such as snorkeling and cassava-bread-baking, are among the country's many distinct features.

*Condé Nast* ranked Ambergris Caye as the #4 Top Island in Central and South America and listed Matachica Resort & Spa in Ambergris Caye, Hamanasi Adventure & Dive Resort in Hopkins, Stann Creek District, and Turneffe Island Resort in Ambergris Caye, in their top 10 resorts in Central America—ranking them 6th, 7th and 10th, respectively.

Law Office of Ardelle Sabido”, account number 23899301012001.

Those wishing to render aid should note that the cut-off date for donations is October 15. The contact details for coordinators located at the respective drop-off points are as follows:

**San Ignacio:** Arnaldo Hernandez, Corner of First Street and Blancaneaux, 501-615-3648.

**Santa Elena:** The Belize Dermatology Clinic

**Belmopan:** Ardelle Sabido, 1 Lamanai Street, 501-614-8108

**Belize City:** Ramy Molina, Lot 269, Mile 8, George Price Highway, Western Paradise Village, 501-615-

1491 (WhatsApp)

**Orange Walk:** Dra. Perla Aldana, Cantun St., San Jose Nuevo Palmar, Orange Walk. 501-675-8840/501-674-1978.

**Placencia & Independence Villages:** MnM Hardware

Persons can also send a message to the Facebook page, “Solidarity for Cuba”.

To ensure that the donations can pass through Customs with ease, the organizers are also asking that donors include an itemized list of the packaged supplies that they send. They also ask that food items, such as rice or beans, are tightly sealed to prevent spoilage.

# Belize's hospitals receive two autoclaves through the EU

by *Khaila Gentle*

BELMOPAN, Wed. Oct. 6, 2022

The Punta Gorda Community Hospital and the Corozal Community Hospital will both be benefiting from the donation of brand-new autoclaves, which were obtained by the Ministry of Health and

Wellness through funding from the European Union. The donation, says Dr. Melissa Diaz, Director of Public Health and Wellness, marks a very important milestone for the ministry, since, from now on, the hospitals will have a safer, cleaner, and more efficient method for disposing of medical waste.

## BDF soldier charged with murder of Felina James walks free

*Albert Moreira, a BDF soldier, was arrested and charged for the murder of Felina James in October 2018. James' decomposing body had been found on the Coastal Road, seven days after she was reported missing.*



**Albert Moreira, acquitted**

by *Khaila Gentle*

BELIZE CITY, Tues. Oct. 4, 2022

Belize Defense Force (BDF) soldier, Albert Moreira, 31, was charged in 2018 for the gruesome murder of his ex-common-law wife Felina James, whose decomposing body and burnt vehicle were found separately over a week after she went missing, and he had been on remand at the Belize Central Prison since that time. This Tuesday, however, Moreira was acquitted of all charges after the case against him fell apart due to the non-cooperation of witnesses.

Moreira's trial was presided over by Supreme Court Justice Ricardo O'Neil Sandcroft. After two witnesses who reportedly saw James with Moreira shortly before her disappearance, refused to identify him while they were on the stand in court, the former BDF soldier's lawyer, Oscar Selgado, made a no-case submission. Justice O'Neil Sandcroft accepted the submission, and, with the case dismissed, Moreira was free to leave.

In total, the prosecution had called 22 witnesses over the week during which the trial took place in an effort to prove Moreira's guilt, but their case against him was weakened by the lack of cooperation of the two key witnesses. Notably, another witness had provided information which suggested Moreira's involvement in the burning of James' vehicle, but it was not substantial enough to indicate, without a doubt, that he burned the car.

October 18th, 2022 will mark four years since 37-year-old Felina Margaret James was found dead. She had first been reported missing by her friend, Ivette Roches, a week earlier, after James, a mother of two, left her sons in the care of

Roches but failed to return to pick them up. Days after that report was made, James' personal identification cards were found in Belmopan, and just one day later, on October 18, her decomposing body was found on the Coastal Road, two miles away from La Democracia village. She had died as a result of a chop wound to the neck.

Almost one week later, on October 23, the dismantled and burnt pieces of James' vehicle, a red Kia Sorrento, were found at a 'chop shop' in the Stann Creek District.

Albert Moreira was arrested and arraigned in court on October 31 for the murder. The police had recorded witness statements that indicated Moreira had been the last person seen with James before her disappearance.

James, who was the mother of Moreira's 2-year-old son, had reportedly been preparing to leave for the United States before her death. She had been in a relationship with Moreira for 3 years, and according to some reports, the relationship had been an abusive one. There were also allegations that the two had an argument on the day that James went missing.

It has been reported that Moreira, who had been placed on suspension by the BDF after he was remanded, will now be returning to his post as a BDF soldier following his acquittal. The Commander of the BDF, Brigadier General Azariel Loria, told reporters, "... it went through the courts, so if now that we've found out that he has been acquitted, there is no way, shape or form that we can go against the orders of the court. He has been acquitted, so he comes back to us. We are going to write to the Security Services Commission to lift his suspension..."



**Felina Margaret James, deceased**



**(l-r) Aniceto Rodriguez Ruiz, Dr. Melissa Diaz Musa and Dr. Noreen Jack**

The donation comes as part of the Health Sector Support Program, a five-year project being funded through a grant from the European Development Fund.

According to Dr. Diaz, hospitals in Belize, even one of its largest and most urban sectors, the Central Health Region, have struggled with medical waste disposal. Many hospitals in the villages and cayes have had to resort to using incinerators or landfills. The autoclaves, she said, will prove to be a game changer when it comes to getting rid of waste and will also be much safer for the environment.

"This modern technology will sterilize hospital waste without emitting harmful pollutants into the atmosphere and is considered the most effective method of disposing of hospital waste," said Dr. Diaz during an opening speech at Wednesday's handing-over ceremony.

Diaz added that the donation is a great step forward—not only for the Ministry of Health and Wellness, but for the entire country as well.

Mr. Aniceto Rodriguez Ruiz is the Head of Cooperation in the EU delegation for Jamaica, Belize, and the Bahamas. He told reporters on Wednesday more about the 10-million-Euro program that is underway in an effort to reinforce health systems in

Belize. He said that the program will be utilizing a three-pronged approach that will include enlarging and retrofitting six health facilities across the country (including through the donation of autoclaves), improving the governance of the health system, and creating a proper IT system for managing data and information flow.

Also present at the handing-over ceremony were Dr. Noreen Jack, the PAHO/WHO country representative, who was responsible for the implementation of the project; Dr. Osmond Martinez, CEO in the Ministry of Economic Development; and Kathrine Mendez, Director of the Belize/EU Cooperation Office.

In 2020, the European Union redirected 500,000 Euros to support Belize's response to COVID-19. Funds were used to expand the national laboratory network diagnostic capacity for early detection, which Dr. Melissa Diaz says was monumental in supporting that effort, and to enhance infection prevention and control with a focus on medical waste management for COVID-19, including the purchasing of the two autoclaves.

One autoclave, said Mr. Aniceto Rodriguez Ruiz, costs around 200,000 Euros or almost half a million Belize dollars.

## CLASSIFIED ADS

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**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.

**FOR RENT:** Three bedrooms, one bath, kitchen, dining room and living room, hot and cold water. Address: #817 Ocean Jack Avenue, Vista Del Mar, Ladyville (First Floor) Price: \$800 monthly. Contact: 620-4483

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### NOTICE

white hull with black stripes & blue deck. Length: 32ft. Description: Fiberglass skiff.

**NOTICE:** I, Frances MacGregor of Ivybridge, England, state that I have sold my vessel to Wayne Cabral of Placencia, Belize for the sum of \$10 US. Vessel: 23ft. length, 4ft. beam. Fiberglass skiff, Registration Number: SC-0365

**NOTICE:** I, Dominik Novelo, have lost the registration title for my boat "Suspect". If found please contact me at 620-9077

### LIQUOR LICENSE NOTICE

**LIQUOR LICENCE NOTICE:** Notice is hereby given that Maria Lazo of 4 1/2 Miles Stann Creek Valley Road, Dangriga, Stann Creek District is applying for a Publican Special liquor license for Mexicana to be operated at 4 1/2 Miles Stann Creek Valley Road, Dangriga, Stann Creek District for the year 2022, under the intoxicating Liquor Licensing Act, Revised Edition 2000.



# Not Columbus, Indigenous Peoples' Resistance Day – for the Maya, and every Belizean

In New York City and several other cities in the US, and in Italy and Spain, thousands of people, mostly of European lineage, will gather this week to celebrate the historic voyage of the brilliant and brave sea captain, Christopher Columbus, who in 1492 sailed across the Atlantic to a world unknown by Europeans at the time.

Columbus was in search of a new route to Asia, so that the Europeans could continue trading in the Indies, which is what they called Japan, India, China and the other countries in Asia. Chris Quan, at the website [chinahighlights.com](http://chinahighlights.com), says of the route which came to be called the Silk Road, that the Europeans traded furs, cattle, and honey along the route, and they returned to their countries with silk, along with porcelain, paper, tea, and bronze products from China; fabrics, spices, dyes and ivory from India; and cotton, wool, and rice from Central Asia.

Much of the terrain along the Silk Road was dangerous, and traders oftentimes had to fend off bandits who were after their wares. History.com says the Silk Road was opened in 130 B.C. by the Han Dynasty, and it was closed in 1453 A.D. “when the Ottoman Empire boycotted trade with China.” There was another path to Asia, the Mediterranean route, but the viability of that was considerably reduced by political instability and pirate attacks on merchant ships.

The treacherousness of the traditional routes to Asia spurred the Europeans to explore sailing around the African continent, but it wasn't until 1498 that Vasco da Gama successfully navigated around the Cape of Good Hope, and made it all the way to India. Though this expedition wasn't a “discovery” to the peoples living on the African continent, it was to the Europeans, and the route would remain popular until the completion

of the Suez Canal, in 1869.

Asia is to the east of Europe, and Columbus was privy to the fact that the world was round, so you could get there by sailing west across the Atlantic. Unbeknownst to him, however, in between lay the continent now called the Americas. After more than two months at sea, braving storms and doubt, Columbus and his crew touched ground in the Caribbean. They were greeted as fellow human beings by the peoples they met, and they returned kindness with the worst savagery – murder, rape, and slavery. When Columbus returned to Spain in 1493 he had potatoes, spices, coconuts, and natives to “display” in Europe.

Columbus's voyage across the Atlantic was a tremendous triumph for Europe. Aided by diseases spawned in the squalor of their congested cities, and their superior artillery, they decimated and overcame the peoples of the Western Hemisphere. With the vast new territory under their control, they turned to Africa, for labor. Over 200 years they bought/captured more than 12 million Africans, transported them to the Americas, and used them and their children to extract the wealth of the earth here, solely for their gain.

With the riches of the Americas

to support their military complex, the Europeans conquered the African continent, Arabia, and India. They extended their tentacles as far away as China, but their success there was limited partly because that country was too far away, too much out of their sphere.

From 1492 onward the Europeans have been the dominant race on the planet. The militaries of the Europeans are the most powerful, and their standard of living is among the highest. If there is a financially poor European in the world, it's because they rejected material wealth, suffer from mental illness, or have given their lives away to hard drugs.

The Europeans fully appreciated how the “conquest” had dramatically increased their fortunes, and 300 years after Columbus sailed the ocean blue, and landed in the West Indies on October 12, 1492, Italians in New York decided to make a tremendous splash about him. History.com says that New York's Columbia Order was the first to celebrate Columbus Day, in 1792, and that thereafter “Italian and Catholic communities in various parts of the country began organizing annual religious ceremonies and parades in his honor.”

In 1892, 400 years after the landing, people in other cities in the US, and in Spain, had huge celebrations in honor of Columbus. History.com says that that year, US president Benjamin Harrison encouraged Americans to “express honor to the discoverer and their appreciation of the great achievements of the four completed centuries of American life.” By the early 20<sup>th</sup> century the day took off in the rest of the Americas, with Hispanics, who were absolutely proud of their Spanish lineage, organizing parades to honor the great man. In 1937, the US recognized Columbus Day as a national holiday.

While the Europeans took off in 1492, the progress of the peoples of Africa and the Americas was set back. The Europeans planned a massive show for the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary, the quincentennial of the landing, but the indigenous peoples of the Western Hemisphere and the children of Africa living in the Americas, said *Basta!*, this day of your great pride, it is a story of genocide. The rumblings had started some time before the planned quincentennial. Native American leaders in the US declared that celebrating Columbus was offensive. In 1980, Burning Spear (Winston Rodney) sang, *Christopher Columbus is a damn blasted liar*, and it became an anthem for the non-European English-speaking peoples of the Americas.

Across the Americas, Columbus Day became known by other names, such as Pan-American Day (Day of the Americas), and Día de la Raza, a celebration of Hispanic culture. In Belize, where the day became known as Pan-American Day, neither name was fully embraced. Those names celebrated both the indigenous peoples and the peoples/culture created by the fusion of the Europeans and the peoples of the Western Hemisphere, but indigenous leaders said genocide, slavery, and robbery were embedded in any celebration that included Columbus.

Last year, responding to the call of indigenous Belizeans, the GOB replaced Pan-American Day with a new holiday, Indigenous Peoples' Resistance Day, the first of which will be celebrated on Monday, October 10. The feature is the Maya, the only 100% indigenous group in Belize, but because of our special blend, few if any Belizeans will not participate in the celebrations.

The core Belizean groups have considerable indigenous blood running through their veins. Mestizo Belizeans are products of Maya and European (Spanish); Garifuna Belizeans are products of various African tribes and the Kalinago, and Maya through intermarriage in Belize. Kriol (Creole) Belizeans are products of various African and European tribes, and the Maya and Miskito.

Ours is a tremendous melting pot; we are a multiethnic country, and we are conscious of the terrible injustice done to our Mayan and African ancestors. On Monday, Belizeans all over will overwhelmingly express kinship with our Mayan brothers and sisters, celebrate them for defending the beautiful culture. Happy Indigenous Peoples' Resistance Day to all Belizeans!



(estb. 1969)

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# San Jose Succotz villager, 70, beaten by man, 26

by Charles Gladden

SAN JOSE SUCCOTZ, Cayo District, Wed. Oct. 5, 2022

Over the weekend, a video of Cirio Panti, a 70-year old resident of San Jose Succotz, Cayo District, being physically attacked by two men from the same village, was circulated on social media. Family members of one of the attackers, Jason Cal, 26, are now claiming that he was provoked, and that, although he was charged by police for his actions, he was later assaulted by Panti's son-in-law, who has not been charged.

According to local media reports, Panti was sitting on the doorstep of his residence on Church Street when he



Miguel Cal, brother of accused

was attacked by Cal and a companion of his, who were both reportedly drunk. Panti has claimed that the men routinely beg for money around the village and become angry and aggressive if they are turned away. He went on to say that he had recently returned from San Ignacio, where he had done some work and been paid, but after the attack, he realized the money he had been paid was missing.

Following the incident, Cal was arrested and charged by police; however, on Tuesday, October 4, Cal's brother, Miguel Cal, told a reporter that Panti had insulted his brother. He also claimed that Panti later sent his son-in-law to attack Cal.

"Whosoever wants respect, needs to

give respect. I am not saying that my brother did it or not, and I am just relying on what he told us. Whenever he went to my house injured that he got attacked by the son-in-law of this elderly man. And now, my brother fainted in my sister's house and he was bleeding," said Miguel Cal.

According to Miguel Cal, his brother was assaulted by Panti's son-in-law at around 6:30 p.m. on the same day (on which the attack on Panti had earlier occurred) in front of a Chinese store which is situated at the entrance of the village on the George Price Highway.

He went on to claim that when his brother was taken to the San Ignacio Hospital, police arrived at the scene and arrested him, and denied his request to give a statement. He further pointed out that while his brother is facing criminal charges, the son-in-law of Panti is not.

"My brother has been receiving several charges about police from Succotz damaging his reputation. We are tired because whenever we go to the station to give a report or complaint, they don't pay mind to us. We have to be going to Belmopan to beg for assistance from the Professional Standards Branch, so we are tired of that situation," said Cal.

"...When something happens they will go kick our door and try to enter our house, and whenever somebody attacked us or did something toward us they don't investigate," Cal lamented.

Cal said that weeks before this incident, two persons entered his mother's home with large rocks and threatened her, but when the family went to file a complaint to police officers in the village, those officers refused to take her statement, so the family filed a complaint to the Professional Standards Branch in Belmopan, but no arrest was made. Cal, however, was charged with giving a false report.

## COMPOL: Without witnesses, accused 3-time killer Nimrod Catzim could walk free

*After allegedly killing Bernard Timmons on Independence Day, Nimrod Catzim has been charged with murder for the third time, but Catzim was able to elude full punishment twice for the murders he was accused of committing. Commissioner of Police, Chester Williams says that it is difficult for justice to be served without witness testimony.*

by Charles Gladden

ORANGE WALK, Tues. Oct. 4, 2022

Many Belizeans are puzzled by the fact that Nimrod Catzim, the man who allegedly killed 43-year-old Bernard Timmons, a well-liked Belize City library worker, after the Orange Walk Carnival on Independence Day, was a free man after being accused of committing two previous murders. And they are wondering whether it will be possible to finally hold him to account for the most recent killing (of Timmons) that he is accused of carrying out. It is a concern that was addressed by the Commissioner of Police, Chester Williams, when questioned by local reporters.

"Well, for the most part, you find witnesses are not cooperating, and if it is, those who may be witnesses against him refuse to cooperate, then no witness no justice—as simple as that. I am hoping

that this time, those who are witnesses will be able to go before the court and give their side of the story of what happened; perhaps he can be put away. From a police standpoint, we don't control the courts. We make the arrest and the matter is then dealt with by the courts," stated Williams.

Records show that prior to the killing of Timmons, Catzim, who reportedly chopped Timmons in the back of the neck after a disagreement, was accused of murder twice. In 2009, he was accused of killing his across-the-street neighbor and reputed lover, Enrique Castillo, 44, who had been beaten to death and was found with a slash wound to his throat area. Catzim, who according to some sources was in a relationship with the deceased at the time of the murder, turned himself in to police and was charged with the crime.

A little over a decade later, in 2020, he



Nimrod Catzim, charged

was accused of brutally murdering Abner Novelo, 30, a farm caretaker of Yo Creek, Orange Walk District, who was found in boxer shorts with massive chop wounds on his head, back, chest, abdomen, and knees; and with both his arms severed.

## Cop shoots man...

Continued from Page 1

officers and was subsequently taken to the Northern Regional Hospital, where he received treatment and is currently under police guard.

Vasquez reportedly has been accused of previous acts of violence against his ex-common law wife. Just this past Monday, he was convicted in court for damage to property following a report made by his former partner.

The Orange Walk police and the Domestic Violence Unit are currently investigating both the alleged rape and the police-related shooting.

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



SOCIAL SECURITY BOARD

### 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!*

# VACANCY

## RESERVATIONS CLERK – ENTRY LEVEL

Portofino Resort in San Pedro is looking for a full time reservations clerk to assist in our Reservations Department. No experience is necessary, training will be provided.

**Responsibilities:**

- Answer phone calls and attend to guests' requests to book rooms or events at the hotel.
- Check on the internal booking system and make the booking for the guest.
- Obtain payment information and run credit/debit card payments when required.
- Assist guests with arranging transfers and giving directions where required.
- Liaise with the other Reservations staff in the team and provide detailed handovers.
- Send and receive emails and monitor the inbox for bookings.
- Take and manage online booking through the online booking system.
- Provide outstanding customer service to all guests at all times.
- Follow up with guests who may have had an issue with online or telephone bookings.
- Manage the booking schedule effectively.
- Arrange or rearrange dates with clients when there is no space for their selected dates.
- Ensure management and receptionist staff are kept up-to-date with bookings.
- Other duties that may be assigned

**Skills and Requirements:**

- Associate's Degree in business, administration, tourism or a related field.
- Proficient in a variety of computer software applications including Microsoft Office Suite (Word, Excel, Outlook, and Access).
- Exceptional verbal and written skills
- Detail oriented

To apply, email resumes to [resort2023@gmail.com](mailto:resort2023@gmail.com) – No phone calls please DEADLINE for applications is October 19<sup>th</sup>.



## Wesley College

The Board of Management of Wesley College invites applications from highly motivated and dedicated individuals with good communication and interpersonal skills to fill the following vacancies.

• **1 Information Technology Teacher – Fulltime**

Applicants must be organized, creative, punctual, positive, and mature, self-motivated, a good team member, excellent role model, willing to work as a homeroom teacher, willing to work after school and participate in co-curricular activities. He/she must be familiar with the subject content and the CSEC syllabus, be able to teach on line if the need arise, willing to collaborate and work in a Methodist environment.

**Qualifications:**

**Teaching:** Preferred: Bachelor Degree in Education (in specified field) and must possess a Full License to Teach. Teaching experience would be an asset.

**Remuneration:** In accordance with the Government of Belize pay scale. Prospective applicants must submit the following:

- Cover letter with resume
- Valid Teacher's license
- Qualifications (*Original transcripts*)
- Social Security card (*Certified copy*)
- Birth Certificate/Passport (*Certified copy*)
- Medical Certificate (*Original*)
- Police Record (*Original*)
- Two recent character references
- Marriage Certificate (*Where applicable*)
- Work permit (*Where applicable*)

**Application Deadline: 21<sup>st</sup> October 2022.**

All documents must be certified and any documents in a foreign language must be accompanied by an official English translation. Only applicants who qualify will be invited for an interview. Interested candidates should submit application packages to:

**Human Resource Chair of the Board of Wesley College  
c/o Methodist District Office  
75 Albert Street, Belize City  
BELIZE**

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wishes everyone a safe and happy

# Indigenous People's Resistance Day

Please be advised that all Atlantic Bank branches and drive thrus will be closed for business on Saturday, October 8 and will reopen on Tuesday, October 11, 2022.

For your shopping convenience, use your Atlantic Bank Visa Debit Card or Visa/Mastercard Credit Cards.

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## No Colón, Día de la Resistencia de los Pueblos Indígenas: para los mayas y todos los beliceños

En la Ciudad de Nueva York y varias otras ciudades de EE. UU., así como en Italia y España, miles de personas, en su mayoría de linaje europeo, se reunirán esta semana para celebrar el histórico viaje del brillante y valiente capitán de mar Cristóbal Colón, quien en 1492 navegó a través del Atlántico hacia un mundo desconocido para los europeos en ese momento.

Colón estaba en busca de una nueva ruta hacia Asia, para que los europeos pudieran seguir comerciando con las Indias, que así llamaban a Japón, India, China y los demás países de Asia. Chris Quan, en el sitio web chinahighlights.com, dice de la ruta que llegó a llamarse Ruta de la Seda, que los europeos comerciaban con pieles, ganado y miel a lo largo de la ruta, y regresaban a sus países con seda, junto con porcelana, papel, té y productos de bronce de China; tejidos, especias, tintes y marfil de la India; y algodón, lana y arroz de Asia Central.

Gran parte del terreno a lo largo de la Ruta de la Seda era peligroso, y los comerciantes a menudo tenían que defenderse de los bandidos que buscaban sus mercancías. History.com dice que la Ruta de la Seda se abrió en el año 130 a.C. por la dinastía Han, y se cerró en 1453 d.C. “cuando el Imperio Otomano boicoteó el comercio con China”. Existía otro camino hacia Asia, la ruta del Mediterráneo, pero su viabilidad se vio considerablemente reducida por la inestabilidad política y los ataques piratas a los barcos mercantes.

La traición de las rutas tradicionales a Asia incitó a los europeos a explorar la navegación alrededor del continente africano, pero no fue hasta 1498 que Vasco da Gama navegó con éxito alrededor del Cabo de Buena Esperanza y llegó hasta la India. Aunque esta expedición no fue un “descubrimiento” para los pueblos que vivían en el continente africano, lo fue para los europeos, y la ruta seguiría siendo popular hasta la finalización del Canal de Suez, en 1869.

Asia está al este de Europa, y Colón sabía que el mundo era redondo, por lo que se podía llegar navegando hacia el oeste a través del Atlántico. Sin que él lo supiera, sin embargo, en el medio se encontraba el continente que ahora se llama América. Después de más de dos meses en el mar, desafiando tormentas y dudas, Colón y su tripulación tocaron tierra en el Caribe. Fueron recibidos como seres humanos por los pueblos que conocieron, y devolvieron la amabilidad con el peor salvajismo: asesinato, violación y esclavitud. Cuando Colón regresó a España en 1493, tenía papas, especias, cocos y nativos para “exhibir” en Europa.

El viaje de Colón a través del Atlántico fue un tremendo triunfo para Europa. Ayudados por enfermedades engendradas en la miseria de sus ciudades congestionadas y su artillería superior, diezmaron y vencieron a los pueblos del Hemisferio Occidental. Con el vasto territorio nuevo bajo su control, se dirigieron a África en busca de mano de obra. Durante 200 años compraron/capturaron a más de 12 millones de africanos, los transportaron a las Américas y los usaron a ellos y a sus hijos para extraer la riqueza de la tierra aquí, únicamente para su beneficio.

Con las riquezas de las Américas para sustentar su complejo militar, los europeos conquistaron el continente africano, Arabia y la India. Extendieron sus tentáculos hasta China, pero su éxito allí fue limitado, en parte porque ese país estaba demasiado lejos, demasiado fuera de su esfera.

Desde 1492 en adelante, los europeos han sido la raza dominante en el planeta. Los ejércitos de los europeos son los más poderosos y su nivel de vida se encuentra entre los más altos. Si hay un europeo económicamente pobre en el mundo es porque rechazó la riqueza material, padece una enfermedad mental o ha entregado su vida a las drogas duras.

Los europeos apreciaron completamente cómo la “conquista” había aumentado dramáticamente sus fortunas, y 300 años después de que Colón navegara por el océano azul y desembarcara en las Indias Occidentales el 12 de octubre de 1492, los italianos en Nueva York decidieron hacer un gran revuelo con él. History.com dice que la Orden de Columbia de Nueva York fue la primera en celebrar el Día de la Raza, en 1792, y que a partir de entonces “las comunidades italianas y católicas en varias

partes del país comenzaron a organizar ceremonias y desfiles religiosos anuales en su honor”.

En 1892, 400 años después del desembarco, la gente en otras ciudades de los EE. UU. y en España tuvo grandes celebraciones en honor a Colón. History.com dice que ese año, el presidente de los EE. UU., Benjamin Harrison, alentó a los estadounidenses a “expresar su honor al descubridor y su aprecio por los grandes logros de los cuatro siglos completos de la vida estadounidense”. Ya para principios del siglo XX, el día había despegado en el resto de las Américas, con hispanos, absolutamente orgullosos de su linaje español, organizando desfiles en honor al gran hombre. En 1937, Estados Unidos reconoció el Día de la Raza como feriado nacional.

Mientras los europeos despegaban en 1492, el progreso de los pueblos de África y América retrocedía. Los europeos planearon un espectáculo multitudinario por el 500 aniversario, el quinto centenario del desembarco, pero los pueblos indígenas del Hemisferio Occidental y los niños de África viviendo en las Américas, dijeron *Enough!*, este día de su gran orgullo, es una historia de genocidio. Los murmullos habían comenzado algún tiempo antes del quinto centenario planeado. Los líderes nativos americanos en los EE. UU. declararon que celebrar a Colón era ofensivo. En 1980, Burning Spear (Winston Rodney) cantó, *Cristóbal Colón es un maldito mentiroso*, y se convirtió en un himno para los pueblos de habla inglesa no europeos de las Américas.

En todo el continente americano, el Día de Colón se conoció con otros nombres, como el Día Panamericano (Día de las Américas) y el Día de la Raza, una celebración de la cultura hispana. En Belize, donde el día pasó a ser conocido como el Día Panamericano, ninguno de los dos nombres fue aceptado por completo. Esos nombres celebraban tanto a los pueblos indígenas como a los pueblos/culturas creados por la fusión de los europeos y los pueblos del hemisferio occidental, pero los líderes indígenas dijeron que el genocidio, la esclavitud y el robo estaban integrados en cualquier celebración que incluyera a Colón.

El año pasado, respondiendo al llamado de los indígenas beliceños, el Gobierno de Belize sustituyó el Día Panamericano por un nuevo feriado, el Día de la Resistencia de los Pueblos Indígenas, el primero de los cuales se celebrará el lunes 10 de octubre. El protagonista son los mayas, el único Grupo 100% indígena en Belize, pero debido a nuestra mezcla especial, ningún o pocos beliceños no participarán en las celebraciones.

Los principales grupos beliceños tienen una cantidad considerable de sangre indígena corriendo por sus venas. Los beliceños mestizos son productos de maya y europeo (español); Los beliceños garífunas son producto de varias tribus africanas y los kalinago, y mayas a través de matrimonios mixtos en Belize. Los beliceños criollos son productos de varias tribus africanas y europeas, y de los mayas y miskitos.

El nuestro es un crisol tremendo; somos un país multiétnico, y somos conscientes de la terrible injusticia cometida contra nuestros antepasados mayas y africanos. El lunes, los beliceños de todo el mundo expresarán abrumadoramente su parentesco con nuestros hermanos y hermanas mayas, celebrándolos por defender la hermosa cultura. ¡Feliz Día de la Resistencia de los Pueblos Indígenas a todos los beliceños!

### 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 9, 2022 **Time:** 10:30 a.m. to noon

**Guest:** Jerry Kobina Amokwandoh/Youth Glocal Community Reparations Education and Scholar-Activist from the United Kingdom

Sunday Review will be repeated at 5:30 p.m. on Sunday, October 7, 2022





## PRESS RELEASE

October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022– World Hospice and Palliative Care Day (WHPCD) is a unified day of action to celebrate and support hospice and palliative care around the world every second Saturday in October. To mark WHPCD 2022, thousands of people around the world will be coming together on the 8<sup>th</sup> of October 2022 to celebrate, but most importantly to speak out about their lived experiences in grief, loss, and bereavement. The Belize Hospice Palliative Care Foundation will be working together with hospices, palliative care facilities, and people living with palliative care needs to amplify the WHPCD theme, **“Healing Hearts and Communities.”**

*The experience of grief and the need to heal unite people globally.* Millions of families and caregivers are grieving the death of family and friends while experiencing social isolation and in some places property destruction. This has been caused by the effects wrought by the COVID-19 pandemic and conflicts around the world.

WHPCD 2022 will be a day where communities, institutions, and healthcare providers, unite and raise their voices to advocate for palliative care policies and programs that support the grief and bereavement needs of patients and families. Events will be held across the world to address the needs of bereaved people and ask governments and policy makers to develop and implement national plans to provide for and fund the diverse needs of the bereaved.

In Belize, the Belize Hospice Palliative Care Foundation (BHPCF) will organize television appearances on the local talk shows to promote palliative care, speak out and share compelling stories to sensitize on the much-needed palliative care access and fostering compassionate communities throughout Belize, which honors and supports healing and hope for every patient with life limiting illnesses.

According to the [Global Atlas of Palliative Care](#), over 56.8 million people are estimated to require palliative care every year including 31.1 million prior to and 25.7 million near the end of life. The majority (67%) are adults over 50 years old and at least 7% are children. The majority (54%) are non-decedents who need palliative care prior to their last year of life. The burden of severe illness and health related suffering, and the corresponding need for palliative care, are immense. Yet palliative care is still not accessible to most people in need, especially in low and middle-income countries.

-Ends-

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## Great Job Opportunity

### Job title: Grove Manager

(43 Miles George Price Hwy., Cotton Tree Village, Cayo)

- Job Description:**
- Create an Annual Work Plan/Strategy which includes open field planting and citrus and coconut grove husbandry other export oriented crops.
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- Requirements:**
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  - Associate's Degree in Agriculture with a speciality in Agronomy, Horticulture, Livestock or a combination of all.
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- Character:**
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or E-mail: [jobs@bennysonline.com](mailto:jobs@bennysonline.com)

## “Tour-isms”

### 4<sup>th</sup> Quarters & Season Starters

2022 is not over just yet but we are officially in the fourth quarter. Everybody knows that the final quarter is the best part of the game. But, since we are talking tourism and not basketball, 4<sup>th</sup> Quarters are different. The final quarter of the year *is* the start of the game in the tourist season. The High Season in tourism extends from December through April. The High Season is coming and statistically speaking Belize has had better 4<sup>th</sup> Quarters in the past. 2019 was one of the best years for Belize's tourism industry. Monthly and annual data from nine different organizations such as the Statistical Institute of Belize (SIB), the Department of Immigration and Nationality (DINS), and the Caribbean Tourism Organization (CTO) are sourced to compile the BTB's annual Travel & Tourism Statistics Digest. In 2019 these statistics showed that the tourism industry made its own history when Overnight arrivals to Belize surpassed the 500,000-visitor mark for the first time. This was a 2.8% growth rate over the previous year. Then the pandemic happened, and the industry had to drop the proverbial ball for six long months when Belize closed its borders for safety precautions. Nevertheless, the BTB had continued to prep for the coming seasons through various international marketing efforts such as the *Belize Awaits-Exhale* and *Grab Life* campaigns. As we head into the final quarter of 2022, it seems that team Belize has prepped to have quite the comeback season.

The Ministry of Tourism and Diaspora Relations along with the BTB have been planning for many future seasons. The National Sustainability Tourism Master Plan for Belize 2030 (NSTMP) is the current game plan. The Plan is a strategic approach for the future. Once revised and implemented, the NSTMP is expected to prepare Belize's tourism industry to be more dynamic, competitive, and sustainable. When the NSTMP was first written in 2012, it was clear that Belize's competitive edge as a tourist destination rested on its biodiversity, ecotourism, and cultural sites. Since the pandemic and a shift in consumer interests, the Belize Tourism Product has emerged as a destination that can offer travelers even more. The game plan is a delicate dance to balance growth and sustainable practices.

In May, at the BTB BOOM Forum, the BTB disclosed how its *Grab Life 2.0* campaign will continue to position Belize as an adventure's paradise. Post-covid, more conscientious travelers are looking for authentic experiences and clarity in life. Belize is poised to offer just that. Throughout this Summer and moving into the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter, a few of BTB's objectives have been to expand Belize's international presence, hit more direct flight markets, build more awareness about the country, create a multiple touch point media plan, utilize more digital, print, and webinars, and target more niche consumer markets. Additionally, the annual BTIA Summit, also hosted in May, touched on multiple factors impacting tourism in Belize and across the Caribbean such as public-private partnerships, market research and analysis, and climatic and marine challenges. The NSTMP is being revised to reflect environmental challenges, the post-covid traveler shifts, and any new offerings in the Belize Tourism Product.

As we approach the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter of 2022, our hurricane season is ending, the tourism High Season approaches in December, and our Dry season is almost upon us. In the attitude of seasonal changes, we highlight the idea of *progressivism*, less in the spirit of politics and more in favor of continued sustainable development in Belize's tourism sector. To learn more about the NSTMP visit <https://www.belizetourismboard.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/tourism.pdf>.

See you next week.

The Belize Tourism Board



# “Explosions regionally highlight the urgency for standards in the industrial and Medical gas industry in Belize”

- written by Jose A. Sanchez

Belize, at 41 years, is still a very young country compared to those which have hundreds of years of experience in nationhood but what separates developed nations from developing countries are usually thriving economies and standards. Decommissioned 1980's yellow school buses, regularly breaking down across the main highways, are symptomatic of the need for enforcement of standards and regulations of a developing nation.

There is one particular industry that has been brought to the forefront as a result of numerous regional accidents resulting in death, injury and damage to property: the industrial and medical gas supply and distribution. Industrial and medical gases are used by hospitals, welders, divers and companies whose needs are very specific.

Recently, there have been several cases of accidents involving the safe handling, storage and use of industrial gas cylinders in Costa Rica. The first accident on July 16, occurred in an ice cream parlor located in a shopping center in La Cieba de San Isidro, Alejuas, where a woman lost her limbs. The cylinder involved was the property of PRAXAIR-LINDE while in the possession of ProcontaTrigas. The second accident on August 02, involved personnel performing welding-works for a sign making company in San Joaquin Las Flores, Heredia, which left two persons seriously injured. The cylinder was the property of Gas Industrial Express, a GASPRO company. A third accident occurred on August 24 and two more innocent civilians were injured and more than 45 persons were consequently evacuated. In that incident, the cylinder involved was property of PRAXAIR-LINDE. Also, on September 23, 2022 in La Atlantida, Catia La Mar Venezuela, at least four people were reported injured when an oxygen cylinder, the property of LINDE, located inside the store of an oxygen provider, exploded. In all the cases it was evident, based on the reports, that there was negligence in performing proper cylinder inspection and requalification. The industrial gas cylinders were filled while showing clear evidence of defects such as dents, cuts, and invalid test dates. The storing of the cylinders in unsafe conditions near oils and high heat were also contributing factors.

There have been documented accidents and cases of gas cylinders exploding in Belize, resulting in death and damage to property. On September 14, 2009, at Brown's Butane, a butane cylinder exploded after it was refilled causing the death of a man. It was reported that the cylinder was leaking after it was filled, the evidence suggested that the butane cylinder bottom was welded. Another accident resulting in death involved the explosion of a scuba cylinder (dive tank) occurred on October 09, 2012 in San Pedro at Amigo's Del Mar Dive Shop. There was no conclusive evidence as to the cause of the cylinder rupture, however the cylinder was being filled at the time of the accident.

When handling hazardous materials (HAZMAT), such as industrial gases, there is always a chance of incidents occurring as risks are always present and can never be fully mitigated. Consequently, companies responsible for filling, handling and distributing industrial gases are required to comply with industry standards and regulations, safe practices and the **CERTIFIED** maintenance and requalification of cylinders.

So what standards and regulations are there in Belize to ensure that local companies are complying with standards in order to safeguard their operation, personnel, and the general public? What exactly are these “industry standards”? Are these standards being implemented and enforced?

The Belize Bureau of Standards (BBS) is the regulating and technical body for standards in Belize. Since the first LPG accident in 2009 there has been some progression in the development and publication of standards for the filling, handling, storage, transportation, inspection, testing and requalification of portable containers for LPG. These standards are currently in the process of being revised.



Contrastingly, however, progress has been little to none as it relates to developing standards for the industrial and medical gas industry. There is currently only one established standard in this area, that is the BZS 1: Part 7:2012 for the Marking and Labelling of Gas Cylinders. Fabrigas Belize Ltd. is the leading supplier of industrial and medical gases in Belize. Fabrigas is working closely with the Bureau to formulate new standards for the specification, filling, handling, storage, transportation, inspection, testing and requalification of industrial and medical gases and cylinders. The process from development to legislation of these standards is lengthy and very technical. It requires engagement from all stakeholders, in the evaluation, advertising, voting, drafting, and consensus prior to publication.

On the international landscape, the most prominent and recognized entity as it relates to the regulations on the safe transportation and designation of hazardous materials is the **Department of Transport USA (DOT)**. DOT issues a valid Requalifier Identification Number (RIN) to facilities conducting such maintenance and requalification, given that they have met the requirements of inspection and certification for their establishments. It is also required by DOT to have certified, trained personnel who handle these gases and requalify the cylinders. Personnel are required to be re-trained and re-certified every three years in handling HAZMAT while facilities are subject to audit every five years.

While the need for development of standards is evident, as it gives the necessary framework and guidance to businesses and operators of these industries, does it ensure compliance? Looking back from 2009 to present, it is clear to see compliance is still sadly lacking in the LPG industry. Butane cylinders are still being filled without proper inspection, maintenance and requalification processes in place, even though standards have been established. A closer look at the industrial and medical gas industry reveals, surprisingly, a completely different level of operation. Upon visiting Fabrigas' facility, it was evident that it is not only complying with local regulations, but also complying with industry and international standards. Fabrigas is certified by **DOT** and is currently the only company in Belize presently holding a cylinder RIN # for maintenance and requalification of industrial and medical gas cylinders, including the cylinders used for the LPG industry. The company is also **ISO 9001** certified for its Quality Management System; a member of the Compress Gas Association of the USA (CGA); the American Welding Society (AWS) and it is also certified by the National Fire Protection Agency (NFPA). It is externally audited every year by ISO representatives and every five years by DOT representatives to ensure compliance to standards.

While standards are crucial in developing the necessary framework for guidance, regulations, conformity and enforcement (in the form of audits and inspections), are also critical in guaranteeing compliance by these facilities. It is of the utmost urgency that the Government of Belize takes action to develop and enforce standards in Belize to improve **SAFETY FOR ALL!**



# Losing touch with the party

by Colin Hyde

Hn, I saw a list of UDP hopefuls who have applied to run for BelChina when the next big one is called, and it's minus my friends Rene Montero and Sista B. My, my, I've only met a handful of former and present MPs, and one is a dirty rotten crook, they say, and another is a dirty rotten serial absentee—and they are both absent from the new party roll. Their replacements, I don't even know their names.

Hmm, is that Zenaida following the footsteps of Pehreh, Duggy, Lee Maak, and OJ into Francis Fonseca's and Albert Vaughan's Freetown? I should have known that Vaughan Gill was playing mischief when he said Audrey and Zenaida were teaming up to form a people's movement. Zenaida is back with the Barrows. But Audrey won't run for the UDP until those Barrows are out.

## US Dems worrying about the Right

Andrea Carlo, in EuroNews, says the leader of Brothers of Italy, Giorgia Meloni, was "raised largely by her mother" — the absence of a strong father figure has informed her views on rejecting same-sex parenthood — and that she "rallies against some of the menaces she perceives as threatening Western civilisation, ranging from that of 'LGBT lobbies' and 'gender ideology' — the existence of which her critics fundamentally contest — and radical Islamism." Carlo says certain commentators worry that under her leadership Italy would be alienated from its partners, but "others think her premiership would not necessarily cause a giant rupture, and that Italy's foreign policy, especially towards Russia, would remain largely unscathed."

Olivier Knox, in a *Washington Post* piece titled "Biden expresses gloom

about Italian election", said the US president is decidedly gloomy about the right-wing victory in the Italian elections. The Italians electing the Brothers of Italy worries the left and middle because the party is said to be the farthest right in that country since Benito Mussolini. Knox said that at a Democratic Governors Association fundraiser, Biden warned that "democracy is at stake" around the world, and speaking directly on the Italian election, he said: "You just saw what's happened in Italy in that election. You're seeing what's happening around the world. And the reason I bother to say that is **we can't be sanguine about what's happening here either.**"

Speaking on what's happening "here", meaning there in the US, the American right wing does not accept that their candidate, Donald Trump, was defeated in the last presidential election. Deep issues divide the far right from the rest of the Americans.

There are some common threads in the white far right groups, and one of the most concerning things about them at this time is their position on Europe and the present war in Ukraine. If we remember, US president Donald Trump was very friendly with Russian president, Vladimir Putin.

Steven Pifer, in the 2018 story, "Trump, Putin, and Crimea", which can be found at the website *brookings.edu*, said that Trump had given hope to Russia on their position that their annexation of Crimea was "a settled matter." Pifer said that "while virtually all other U.S. officials maintain that the United States continues to regard Crimea as a part of Ukraine", Trump had said, prior to a meeting with Russia's Putin, that "we're going to have to see", and that "at a June G-7 summit, he reportedly suggested Crimea should belong to Russia because most people there speak Russian."

## White Supremacy rising

Anthony DiMaggio, in his piece, "Christian White Supremacy Rising: The Fascist Connection", said political actors of the reactionary kind are rising up in the US, with the mission "to reinforce white supremacy by erasing from public discussions any recognition of people of color, LGBTQ identities, and their struggles." He said one of the tools they are using is "book banning"....

DiMaggio said the crusade is being led by groups such as the very white "Moms for Liberty" and "No Left Turn in Education," and behind the mantra of "fighting for the survival of America" they are after "censoring people of color and LGBTQ+ individuals out of existence, while 'empowering' a white heteronormative version of identity."

Remember when white Evangelicals in Belize were saying that the US is lost, and they would make their stand in Belize? Well now those bohgas in the US are fighting back. Evangelicals feel that God speaks directly to them, so what they think is always best. DiMaggio cites the results of a survey which indicate that 57% of Republicans (mostly Evangelicals) don't believe the US Constitution allows for their government to declare the country a Christian nation, but "61 percent favor doing so anyway."

Continuing with the survey, "in 2020, 53 percent of white Evangelical Protestants and 60 percent of Republicans agreed the U.S. 'punishes men for acting like men', while 56 percent of white Evangelicals and 63 percent of Republicans agreed the country had 'become too feminine'...70 percent of White Evangelicals and 79 percent of Republicans in 2020 felt that the 'killings of black men by police are isolated incidents', compared to 43

percent of Americans overall." DiMaggio said the group is more susceptible to "racist beliefs", more likely to celebrate "white supremacist confederate monuments", refuses "to recognize the deleterious effects of generations of slavery on black Americans, susceptibility to negative stereotypes depicting black people as lazy and undeserving of assistance", and exhibit "a general negativity and fearfulness toward people of other races."

## Gay excess fueling white supremacists

Hmm, you see in that last piece how LGBT and color issues are intertwined. Now, the causes of women who are white and people who are black were aided big time in the US by men who are gay. I expect women who have same-sex love were supportive too, but the trophy goes to gay men. Gay men walk a tough road. The L in LGBT hasn't experienced 1/10<sup>th</sup> the persecution they have. Maybe we should understand why gay men want so much, but they have to know the cost of their excesses.

It's high irony that gay men helped white women in their liberation movement, helped Afro-Americans in their civil rights movement, and now, are effectively helping the main oppressor, white supremacists, in their ugly agenda. The story here is that excessive gay demands are diluting the fight against the white supremacists.

Evangelicals might get bex with me fu this, but it is a fact that white supremacists in the US come from the belly of that group. They have much in common. Both are base capitalists. They think welfare/social safety nets encourage laziness, they don't believe in free or heavily subsidized medical care, and they love to talk about people pulling themselves up by their bootstraps. White supremacists in the US, like Evangelicals, believe that Israel can do no wrong.

Many white supremacists share the Evangelical's puritanical views on sex. But it's no contradiction that both tolerate the offensive parts of the personal life of Donald Trump. You can call that being practical, pragmatic. They see in Trump's personal life that he is as "liberal" as the Democrats are, but they can get past that because he serves their core agenda, and because they know that behind the curtains many of them are as rude as he is. From King David to Ravi Zacharias to Jimmy Swaggart and to the Garden, sex is the root cause of much trouble.

White supremacists are locked in step with Evangelicals against LGBT excesses. On this one they have company. Some on the left, in the middle too, support LGBT excesses (We have to pray that Russia doesn't invade Cuba for their LGBT positions) but a whole heap of us that are at odds with the white supremacists about economic philosophy, safety nets, "NHI", and Israel, lock arms with them against gay men marrying and gay men adopting children.

Whoa, gays persisting with their excesses, they are making us bedfellows of white supremacists!

## PUBLIC AUCTION SALES: PROPERTIES

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

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

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



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

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



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

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

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

**E-mail: [kevinacas@yahoo.com](mailto:kevinacas@yahoo.com) • Facebook: Belize Auctions**

# PRESS PREDICTIONS

The sports psychic speaks

## BOLEDO

“Press” Prediction: 64-96-00  
Boledo stats thru 7<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> Oct. 2022



In boledo news, the public needs back the 4-cylinder machine for the Sunday Lottery. These are my lucky numbers: 34-57-64-96-00-17. These are my lucky jackpot numbers: 8603-7526-4818. These are my lucky PICK-3 numbers: 102-767-849-365-909. Get ready Belize, some dinero will be coming our way. 55 refuses to play after 1 year 11 months and 3 weeks now, 26 is still out for over 1 year 8 months and 2 weeks now, 47 is still out for over 1 year 5 months and 2 weeks now, 35 and 00 join the crowd. 9 numbers left

to play for the year: 00-18-26-30-34-35-47-55-99. You all must form some beautiful jackpot numbers from those hard numbers. The ending 2 ball played the most right now at 37 times already. The seventies series played some 30 times already; doubles productions very high. Doubles played some 33 times now. 00 and 55 are the only 2 doubles yet to play. 22 played 8 times already, 33 plays 4 times, 88-70-68 and 52 played 6 times now. Remember to read you Psalms: 91-72-23. Good Luck to all buyers, next week more lucky numbers.

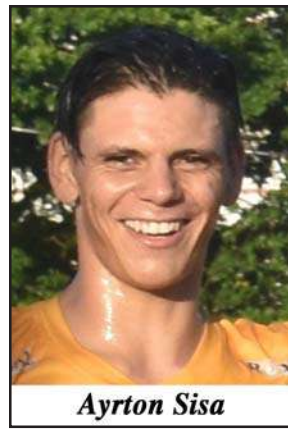
## LOCAL FOOTBALL

**Police Benque United snapped Verdes FC 44-game unbeaten streak**

### Local Football Results and Predictions

In local football action, the Police Benque United Team snapped Verdes FC 44-game unbeaten streak 2 to nil in Benque at the Marshalleck Stadium, Ayrton Sisa, the Argentine, scores the last goal. Their Mexican import scored the first goal. The game was well attended. Woodrow West was in the goal, Shamir Pacheco played a well game. In the other 3 games, Altitude FC beat the Belmopan Bandits 3-0. Andres Orosco now has 8 goals. They

lead the League will 21 points, Verdes FC has 18 points at the second position. Altitude FC and the San Pedro Pirates have a



Ayrton Sisa

backmatch game in the week. Then Wagiya FC and Progreso drew 1 goal apiece. The San Pedro Pirates beat Port Layola FC 2-0, on the Island. This weekend in Cayo, Verdes FC must beat Altitude FC, Krisean Lopez will score, Dalton Eiley is their sweeper. Next week some more results and predictions.

## INTERNATIONAL BASEBALL

**The Postseason gets started this weekend**

### Baseball Results and Postseason Prediction

In baseball action, the regular season will complete Wednesday. The Postseason gets started this Friday and Saturday night with some wild card games. The Los Angeles Dodgers will win 112 games and lose 50. They will have home field advantage throughout the playoff Postseason. The St. Louis Cardinals will win the Central. The defending champion, the Atlanta Braves, will edge out the New York Mets by just 1 game for the East Division. In the American League, the



Justin Verlander



Paul Goldschmidt



by Gilroy “Press” Cadogan

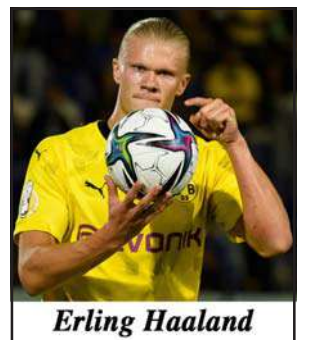
Houston Astros will have the best record at 106 games won losing 56. The New York Yankees will win their East Division, the Cleveland Guardians will win their division. The Seattle Mariners will be in the Postseason - since some 15 years ago. Justin Verlander is one of the best pitchers in the game Paul Goldschmidt from the St. Louis Cardinals is one of the best hitters in the game today. Next week some predictions.

## INTERNATIONAL FOOTBALL

**Arsenal has a one-point lead on Manchester City**

### International Football Results and Updates

In international football action, in the EPL, the most entertaining and most competitive league in the world, Arsenal has a one-point lead on Manchester City, who just crushed Manchester United 6 goals to 3. Erling Haaland, their top striker from Germany, has 14 goals already. Harry Kane for Tottenham Hotspurs has only 7 goals. Arsenal leads with 21 points, then Manchester City at the second position with 20 points, Tottenham in third with 17 points, Brighton is the surprise at fourth with 14 points, Chelsea, Manchester United and Liverpool in order. 8 games played already. In the La Liga, Real Madrid has no competition. They have a big lead already. There are only 4 teams that can give them a very good game in the La Liga. The UEFA Champions League is going on. The World Cup is just 44 days away in Qatar, next week more stats on the World Cup.



Erling Haaland

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Deadline: October 31st, 2022

## NOTICE

**BELIZE CITY, BELIZE**

**Estate of WAYNE THOMAS CASTLEBERRY, Deceased**

**STATUTORY NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

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

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

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

# Mediocrity in education!

Prof. Mainland Jones teaches organic chemistry at NYU, New York University. He's considered one of the best in his field. Apparently this subject is one of the courses required to get into medical school, and 82 of the 350 students in his class complained that his course was unreasonably challenging, in other words too tough for them! How did the university respond? They terminated his contract; yes, they sided with the students and not the teacher, who usually sets the bar. Now the students apparently set the bar! When I first read this story, I thought that it was a joke, I really did, but this happened last month. For those of you who don't know, NYU is considered one of the better colleges, with some of the world's best teachers.

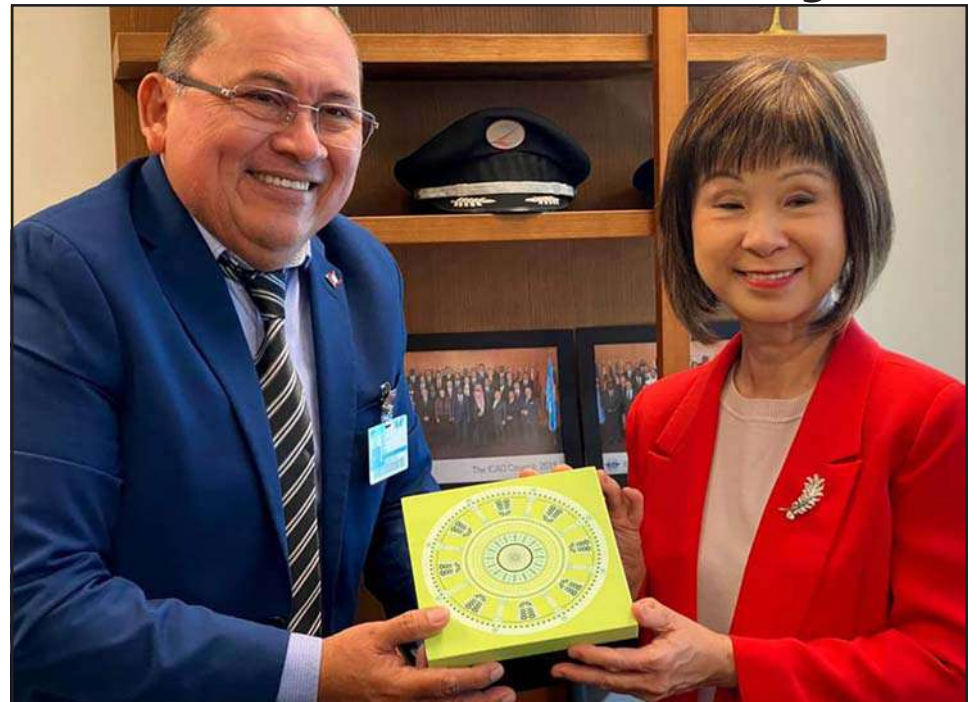
If I were a parent of a student at NYU, I would be very troubled by this extraordinary move by an institution which is supposed to give your child the best education possible! Companies

downsize, now colleges are downgrading? I could understand if three quarters of the class objected, and I would still side with the educator, but this is a quarter or less, of the class. You, the parents, are now paying for a degree that will be watered down by lazy students who don't want to put in the work to reach their full potential! And a very spineless administration that seems careless of the quality of education they are providing.

These are strange times indeed: gender fluidity, fascism in full bloom all over, inflation, and now the deflation of standards of education we are used to. It's as if though we are in this nightmare and can't wake up. This life is becoming a never-ending nightmare for more people, and now this! NYU is the trendsetter; we know how lemming-like society has become! Soon other universities will follow suit, and

Please turn to **Page 20**

# Minister Perez speaks at 41st IACO Assembly



Minister Andre Perez meets with Minister of State in The Ministry of Transport of Singapore Dr Amy Kho

MONTREAL, Canada, Wed. Oct. 5, 2022

A delegation from the Ministry of Civil Aviation is in Montreal, Canada, attending the 41st Assembly of the International Civil Aviation Organization (IACO). Minister Andre Perez gave remarks to the assembly yesterday in which he highlighted Belize's new commitment to the aviation industry, declaring it a national priority in the country. He announced that the Department of Civil Aviation is in the process of becoming an independent authority, which, he said, is an objective already approved in principle by the government.

"The present political will and commitment guarantee a climate that is conducive to the catapulting of aviation-based initiatives to full fruition and success," Minister Perez said. One of these initiatives includes the creation of the air-city hub in Belize. With civil aviation as a pillar of economic development, the government is poised to see the achievement of these goals.

"Our government has opened the door for us to take the necessary steps to move aviation to the forefront of our development agenda in Belize. Belize is open for business!" Hon. Perez said in his presentation.

He went on to state that the government and Civil Aviation department fully support the goals of IACO.

"Madam President, we are fully cognizant of the work of IACO, and as such, fully support initiatives such as the long-term aspiration goals for international aviation, the global aviation safety plan, the global air navigation plan, gender equality, strengthening aviation security and the spirit of reconnecting aviation," Hon. Perez said. He further noted that in Belize, the standards of safety and security oversight systems are above the global average, and the country will continue to improve the implementation of that safety oversight system on the heels of an audit from the Universal Security Audit Program.

"We are confident that we will demonstrate to the world, that Belize's Security Oversight System is above the global average and that it is sustainable," Minister Perez said.

Perez further noted that one avenue of diversification being looked at by the country is the development of an air city

Please turn to **Page 14**



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EMAIL : [revenue.manager@belizecitycouncil.org](mailto:revenue.manager@belizecitycouncil.org)**

# Ecotourism resort gives \$1.5 million grant for management of Turneffe Atoll

**Turneffe Flats will be providing the Turneffe Atoll Sustainability Association (TASA) with funding for the long-term management of Turneffe Atoll over the next 6 years.**

by *Khaila Gentle*

BELIZE CITY, Mon. Oct. 3, 2022

Turneffe Flats, an ecotourism resort located on Turneffe Atoll, and the association in charge of co-managing the Turneffe Atoll Marine Reserve, TASA, have joined forces in the name of conservation. A \$1.5 million grant agreement established between the two entities will allow for enhanced conservation efforts as well as the continued management of the protected area over the next six years.

According to a joint press release, the agreement outlines a partnership through which critical resources will be provided for protecting Turneffe's unique environment. Forty percent of the \$1.5

million (BZD) that Turneffe Flats will be providing to TASA over the next six years will be used to cover TASA's general operating costs. The remaining sixty percent will be designated for conservation initiatives approved by Turneffe Flats.

Established in 1981, Turneffe Flats is an eco-resort located at Turneffe Atoll that is owned by Craig Hayes. One of the resort's main claims is that it strives to be a model for green tourism—small-scale tourism that involves visiting natural areas while minimizing environmental impacts. This year, Turneffe Flats received the highest Green Globe Certification Score in Central America and the second highest in the entire Caribbean.

"Marine nature-based tourism, as we



**Turneffe Atoll Marine Reserve (Image: Turneffe Atoll Trust)**

so plentifully enjoy in Belize, is completely dependent upon a healthy environment. Sustaining the health and vitality of our marine environment is expensive, and we feel that those benefiting most directly (tourists and tourism operators) should shoulder a larger share of the financial responsibility," said Hayes.

The grant agreement also outlined a

number of commitments that TASA will be undertaking, including ensuring that an active commercial fishing stakeholder and a tourism stakeholder have seats on TASA's board.

TASA chairperson, Lindsay Garbutt says that many marine reserve managers have come to recognize that new and innovative methods are needed to adequately finance Marine Protected Areas (MPAs). TASA has applauded Turneffe Flats for recognizing that tourism benefits directly from well-run and fully-financed MPAs and for "taking the initiative to institute this innovative approach to MPA financing."

"We view this partnership with Turneffe Flats as the new way of accomplishing the conservation work and obtaining long-term support for the management of critical marine reserves such as Turneffe, while also creating jobs and improving the economy of Belize," Garbutt said.

The Turneffe Atoll Sustainability Association (TASA) is in charge of the day-to-day operation of the Turneffe Atoll Marine Reserve as well as representation of the reserve's local stakeholders. The association ensures that activities in the marine reserve are in accordance with all sustainability guidelines and policies.

## Minister Perez speaks...

*Continued from* **Page 13**

hub in Belize. The Prime Minister, Hon. John Briceño, during his Independence Day speech, said that at least \$250 million will be invested in the refurbishment of the Philip Goldson International Airport.

During Hon. Perez's remarks, he stated, "We have now embarked on an important initiative to develop an air city hub that will include cargo maintenance, air navigation training, and emergency relief, among many other initiatives."

Minister Perez also took the opportunity to highlight the importance of Flight Information Regions and called for the inclusion of Taiwan in the global assembly.

"As it relates to reconnecting the world, we recognized the importance of air travel and of Flight Information Regions, such as the Taipei Flight Information Region in connecting the world. My government is convinced of the importance of the Taipei FIR and join other global partners in calling for the Republic of China (Taiwan) to be given the opportunity to have meaningful participation in all IACO processes," Perez said.

The Assembly will continue up until the end of this week, and ends on October 7.



**MINISTRY OF INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT**

**AND**

**HOUSING**

**INVITATION TO BID**

**RENOVATION OF THE CHARLES BARTLET HYDE BUILDING,**

**BELIZE CITY, BELIZE DISTRICT**



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

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

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

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

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

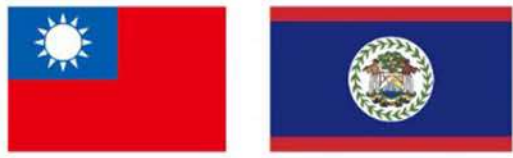
Bidding will be conducted through the national competitive bidding procedures and interested bidders may obtain further information and a copy of the bidding documents at the MIDH offices at the address below as of Tuesday, October 11, 2022, during normal office hours Monday through Fridays from 8.00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

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

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

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

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



# TAIWAN EXPO 2022

8-9 Oct. : 9:00-17:00

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## Taiwan Brings New Trade Opportunities to Belize

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

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

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

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

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

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

### Embassy of the Republic of China (Taiwan), Belize

Address: No. 1, Taiwan Street, Belize City, Belize.

Office: +501-2278744

Email: blz@mofa.gov.tw

### Taiwan External Trade Development Council

Contact: Ms. Belinda Yao

Address: 5<sup>th</sup> Fl., 333 Keelung Rd., Sec. 1, Taipei 11012, Taiwan, R.O.C.

Office: +886-2-2725 5200; Ext. 1332

Email: belinda@taitra.org.tw

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: [ealp@btl.net](mailto:ealp@btl.net)  
Belize City, Belize

**APPLY NOW**

**WESLEY COLLEGE  
VACANCY FOR PRINCIPAL**

The Board of Management of Wesley College invites applications for the post of PRINCIPAL.

**Academic Qualifications:**

- Master's Degree in Educational Leadership or its equivalent
- Bachelor's Degree in Secondary Education or its equivalent

**Professional qualities:**

- Minimum of five (5) years of experience in administration
- Hold a Full Secondary level Teacher's License
- Capacity to provide moral and ethical leadership
- Ability to motivate and encourage team spirit among faculty and staff
- Superior communication skills

**Duties/Responsibilities will include (but is not limited to):**

- Furthering the Mission, Vision and Values of Wesley College
- In collaboration with the Board, guiding the formulation of school policies, rules and programs
- Overseeing the daily administration of the school as well as the admission, placement and graduation of students
- Fostering and maintaining a safe school environment and culture conducive to teaching and learning
- Providing educational leadership in areas of pedagogy, curriculum and assessment

**Salary:**

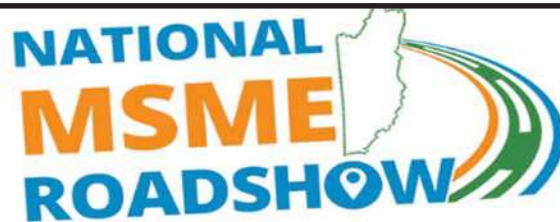
Commensurate with educational qualification and in accordance with Government Pay Scale.

Prospective applicants must submit the following documents:

- Cover Letter with resume
- Valid Teacher's License
- Qualifications (Original transcript)
- Social Security Card (Certified copy)
- Birth Certificate/Passport
- Medical Certificate
- Police Record (Original)
- Two (2) recent character references
- Work Permit (where applicable)
- Marriage/Divorce Certificate (where applicable)

ALL Documents must be certified and any documents in a foreign language must be accompanied by an official English translation. Only applicants who qualify will be invited for interviews. Interested candidates should submit application packages on or before 28 October 2022 to:

**Chairman, Wesley College Board of Management**  
c/o Methodist District Office,  
75 Albert Street, Belize City



**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





## Best regard from Tim Rush, Schiller Institute. LaRouche Organization

It is an honor to be able to serve in a noble cause such as that of the Schiller Institute with the LaRouche Organization through the largely circulated and well-read newspaper in Belize, the *Amandala*. The Russia/Ukraine/European Union/NATO/United Kingdom situation is very complex. At this moment, information received through the Western media is not the complete truth. We depend on independent persons with unbiased analysis to inform us of the situation that the European countries are facing. In my humble point of view, I believe that by the ending of this year they will have an internal civil war or a huge uprising that will shake the European system in such a way that many high officials' heads may be cut off. I look at two nations—one

being Germany and the other one the United Kingdom. The latter, along with the others, seems to want to destroy Germany. There was no need for a war and so many sanctions to break Germany. However, I could be mistaken, and I expect to be corrected. Nonetheless, let me share with you, our dear readers of this column, an email I received from Tim Rush:

“Hello Clinton. This is Tim Rush with the Schiller Institute and the LaRouche Organization (TLO). We appreciate greatly that you have been using material from our websites and making it available to Belizean readers, both through *Amandala* and International Affairs. In addition to the article a few weeks ago on the Ukrainian blacklists, I see you printed

Harley Schlanger's recent article on the Federal Reserve 'More Pain Ahead' interest rate hikes, today. I would very much like an opportunity to speak to you on our mobilization around the skyrocketing danger of broader war, and emphatically nuclear war, from the conflict in Ukraine. As part of this, we have a petition which I would encourage you to sign and circulate: [Open Letter to the United Nations No.2 From the Schiller Institute & the Foundation to Battle Injustice - Schiller Institute \(EN\) \(nationbuilder.com\)](#). I look forward to hearing from you and collaboration in the future.

Best regards,



by Clinton Canul Luna

Tim Rush  
Schiller Institute, the LaRouche Organization  
Leesburg, VA”

On the other hand, the following is the [Open Letter to the United Nations No.2 From the Schiller Institute & the Foundation to Battle Injustice — Schiller Institute \(EN\) \(nationbuilder.com\)](#):

September 20, 2022—The Foundation to Battle Injustice has appealed to the UN with an Open Letter to close down the Myrotvorets-List in Ukraine which targets 4000 international journalists and other institutional people for assassination (“liquidation”) and demands a criminal investigation into the background of this operation. Many of these journalists are on that list, because their coverage did not conform to the “permitted official narrative” of NATO about the Ukraine situation. But others are on that list because they demand a diplomatic solution before the war escalates beyond control. We are rapidly reaching that point of no return. The latest meeting of the Ukraine Defense Contact Group at Ramstein Airbase in Germany shifted the war into higher gear by having NATO member countries sending ever more sophisticated precision and longer-range weapons to Ukraine. It is becoming obvious that this is already a war between NATO and Russia.

The Ukrainian defense chief, Valery Zaluzhnyi, claims that Russia is about to use tactical nuclear weapons and demands that the West deploy preemptively the “entire arsenal of means at their disposal” against Russia. The “Kiev Security Compact” of the Ukrainian Government demands de facto NATO-and-EU-membership for Ukraine, providing Article-5-type protection, which deputy chief of the Russian Security Council Medvedev has characterized as the “prologue to World War Three.” The real reason for the war danger and this escalation lies in the fact that the Trans-Atlantic neoliberal financial system is heading towards a hyperinflationary breakdown crisis, as occurred in Weimar Germany in 1923, which has been caused by the decade-long monetarist policies of profit maximization and liquidity pumping. The crisis of this system is already affecting the whole world, but especially the developing countries with exploding food and energy prices. The only way to eliminate the danger of World War Three, which threatens the annihilation of the entire human species, is the replacement of the present hopelessly bankrupt system with a new credit system, a New Bretton Woods, which relaunches the world economy and provides cheap, long-term credit lines for real economic development of the Global South.

Since both the war danger and the



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

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

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

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

**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



**BELIZE**

**CLIMATE RESILIENT AND SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE PROJECT**

*AGRICULTURE & FOOD SECTOR*

GENERAL PROCUREMENT NOTICE

Loan No: 9347-BE

Project ID No.: P172592

The Government of Belize has received financing in the amount of US\$ 25,000,000 equivalent, from the World Bank toward the cost of the **Climate Resilient and Sustainable Agriculture Project**, and it intends to apply part of the proceeds to payments for goods, works (if necessary), non-consulting services and consulting services to be procured under this project. This project will be jointly financed by Local Beneficiaries and Unguaranteed Commercial Financing.

The project will include the following components:

**Part 1: Institutional Strengthening:** focuses on strengthening the capacity of key public institutions (government agencies and academic organizations) to support a more productive and sustainable agricultural sector. The component will finance goods, small works, equipment, studies, training, consulting, and advisory services.

**Part 2: Investments in Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA):** strengthening the capacity of farmers and participating financial intermediaries engaging in climate-smart agricultural investments under the Project, as to be able to take advantage of the provision of financing to farmers (matching grants and loans from PFIs) to adopt CSA technologies and practices, and increasing their productivity, levels of income and resiliency to climate change and weather events.

**Part 3: Project Management, Monitoring and Evaluation:** finance incremental and operating costs, goods and equipment for the Project Implementation Unit (PIU)

**Part 4: Contingent Emergency Response:** contingent financing mechanism which will permit Belize rapid access to World Bank support in the event of an eligible crisis or emergency.

The following processes are intended to be procured through international competitive procurement:

Brief Description	Category	Selection Method
Climate Smart Training (soil & water management)	Consulting Services	LCS
Supply, delivery and training of equipment for Plant pathology and entomology	Goods	RfQ
Supply and delivery of equipment for food safety (Liquid Chromatograph-tandem mass spectrometers)	Goods	RFB

Procurement of contracts financed by the World Bank will be conducted through the procedures as specified in the World Bank's *Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers (July 2016) (Procurement Regulations)* and is open to all eligible firms and individuals as defined in the *Procurement Regulations*. After project negotiations, the World Bank shall arrange the publication on its external website of the agreed initial procurement plan and all subsequent updates once it has provided a no objection.

Specific procurement notices for contracts subject to open international competitive procurement will be announced, as they become available, in UN Development Business online, on the World Bank's external website, CARICOM official portal, Government of Belize website, and Belize Social Investment Fund website and/or newspapers of national circulation in Belize.

Interested eligible firms and individuals who would wish to be considered for the provision of goods, works (if necessary), non-consulting services and consulting services for the above-mentioned project, or those requiring additional information, should contact the Borrower at the address below:

Organization/Department Belize Social Investment Fund  
Name: Mr Carlos Tun  
Title: Executive Director  
Address: P.O. Box 459 / 1902 Constitution Drive (3<sup>rd</sup> Floor)  
City: Belmopan  
Country: Belize  
Phone: +501822-0239  
Fax: +501822-0279  
Email: [carlos.tun@sifbelize.org](mailto:carlos.tun@sifbelize.org)  
Website: [www.sifbelize.org](http://www.sifbelize.org)



**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:** [jcths.secretary2@yahoo.com](mailto:jcths.secretary2@yahoo.com)  
[jctechnical@yahoo.com](mailto:jctechnical@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.**

# Belize hosts Regional Customs Brokers Conference



**Delroy Fairweather – President, Caribbean Association of Customs Brokers**

by Khaila Gentle

BELIZE CITY, Tues. Oct. 4, 2022

The Caribbean Association of Customs Brokers (CACUB) convened last week to discuss ways to improve trade within the region. The Regional Customs Brokers Conference, titled “the 21st Century Customs Broker” took place at the Belize Biltmore Plaza over a two-day period and had the participation of customs brokers from a number of CARICOM member states, including Belize, Antigua & Barbuda, Trinidad & Tobago, Barbados, Haiti, Jamaica, and more.

The president of the Caribbean Association of Customs Brokers, Delroy Fairweather, gave an opening address at the start of the conference, during which he noted that the trade industry has had to find ways to persist, even in the face of a pandemic and natural disasters.

“As customs brokers, we remain true to the cause of ensuring that trade continues unimpeded and uninterrupted,” he added.

The convening of the region’s customs brokers is timely, as CARICOM nations continue to grapple

with the effects that the pandemic had on regional trade as well as the effects of the Russian invasion of Ukraine on global supply chains.

According to Fairweather, planning the regional conference was not without challenges, including the navigation of travel logistics, since most participants had to fly to Belize by way of the United States—a route which is both costly and inconvenient.

“We continue to underscore the need for our CARICOM heads of government to open discussion for the possibility of flights within the region,” said the CACUB president.

Minister of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade, and Immigration, Hon. Eamon Courtenay was also a speaker at the event. He highlighted the importance of having such a conference.

“This is a gathering, as has been said, of people who are essential to international trade, especially the movement of goods across borders. Customs brokers across the world are at the forefront of ensuring that businesses and people get whatever inputs and consumables they desire and require,” said Hon. Courtenay.

# Senior police officers receive leadership training



**Police officers attending the training session**

by Charles Gladden

BELMOPAN, Wed. Oct. 5, 2022

On Tuesday, October 4, the Belize Police Department held the first session of a two-week developmental training program for senior police officers at the Belize Police Training Academy in Belmopan.

The purpose of the training is to improve the management and leadership skills of senior officers in the Police

Department.

Director of Training for the Belize Police Department, Senior Superintendent Leslie Wade told local reporters, “This is a training that has long been overdue. For [a] long we have heard that senior officers need training in management, [and] leadership skills, and so we have decided and we have developed a list of training that we

Please turn to **Page 20**



## Vacancy Belize Rural High School



The Belize Rural High School is seeking a qualified person to fill the following teaching position:

1.) Mathematics Teacher(permanent)

### Qualifications:

Applicants must possess the following qualifications:

- A Teaching License
- Minimum of an Associate’s Degree in subject area to be taught
- Teaching experience at the third and fourth form level
- Good command of the English Language
- Knowledge of the CXC syllabus
- Willingness to do extra-curricular activities
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills
- Have an interest to encourage and work with students according to ability and need.

**Salary:** Salary will be in accordance with Government’s pay scale for teachers.

Application packages should include a signed letter of application, a résumé, certified copy of diploma reflecting the highest earned Degree, certified or official university transcript, a copy of a valid teacher’s license, a police record and two letters of recommendation.

Completed applications can be e-mailed to [principal@brhs.edu.bz](mailto:principal@brhs.edu.bz) or mailed to:

**Principal  
Belize Rural High School  
P.O. Box 1481  
Double Head Cabbage, Belize District**

**Deadline for Application: October 14th, 2022**

## Notice to Mariners

NAVAREA IV 004/2022  
Belize City and Approaches  
Admiralty Chart #522

The Belize Port Authority hereby issue this Notice to Mariners that starting 10 October, 2022 through 10 January 2023 dredging operations at the mouth of the Haulover Creek near the Barron Bliss Lighthouse in Belize City will commence.

Mariners be warned that during this time floating pipes and dredge equipment will be located in the area immediately in front of Birds Isle Island and the Barron Bliss Lighthouse

All vessels transiting the area during this time must do so with extreme caution, stay clear of the area as much as possible and proceed at slow speed. **NO WAKE ZONE** is enforced.

### Emergency contact

VHF- Channel 16  
Phone-222-5666 or toll free 966

**By: Order of Port Commissioner  
Belize Port Authority**

## Letters to the editor

# Teacher discusses bank's withholding of funds

Editor  
Amandala Newspaper  
3304 Partridge Street  
Belize City

October 3, 2022

Dear Editor,

A genuine lady visited a bank to withdraw some money from the ATM. Unfortunately, she couldn't withdraw any funds, and upon checking at the bank, she was told that her money had been withheld because she needed to update her account.

This is very concerning, because one of the first pieces of information that the banks usually ask for when you create an account is your phone number. One of the reasons for this request is to call the customers when necessary. So why didn't the bank call the lady to update her information?

Withholding customers' money without their knowledge is simply unreasonable. Imagine you have a medical emergency at night but are unable to withdraw funds from the ATM because your account needed to be updated. This could be disastrous.

I believe that the bank should seek other ways to resolve this issue rather than withholding customers' funds. The decision to implement this policy may have been done in haste because the welfare of the customers was not taken into consideration.

If this is a policy at all the banks, then I believe that this policy needs to be reviewed so it can be tailored to the customers' needs. Yes, I do agree that we need the banks, but the banks need us more. So let's be empathetic.

A retired teacher

## Mediocrity in education!

Continued from Page 13

then what? China or India takes over? They have very strict educational practices.

We should always want to expand our minds, be the best we can. This professor has taught organic chemistry for years, and students either pass or fail. Usually they don't complain about how difficult the curriculum is; they apply themselves or just drop the

subject and find another field more suitable to them. I will make sure I keep far away from doctors who come out from this batch! Just sayin'.

I always thought that excellence was a requirement in whatever endeavor one might pursue. Like everything else, education is being made unrecognizable by a society that is turning on itself, self-loathing, and doomed to fail.

Glen

## Best regard from Tim Rush...

Continued from Page 17

threat of the looming collapse of the financial system affect the whole world, the UNGA is the appropriate place to initiate the creation of a New Just World Economic Order, which must take action for this now. We appeal therefore to the UNGA to guarantee an open and free debate about the need to establish a new international security and development architecture, which takes into account the interest of every single country on the planet, not only for all journalists and

individuals who are on the Myrotvoretlist, but for all people who are contributing concepts to make the world a safe and better place. We therefore appeal to the UNGA to convoke a special emergency conference to implement such a new international security and development architecture, and to pass a resolution expressing that intent.

[fincasolan@gmail.com](mailto:fincasolan@gmail.com)  
October 2, 2022  
Finca Solana  
Corozal Town

## Senior police officers receive...

Continued from Page 19

believe will assist our senior elements of the Police Department in doing management and how they lead their subordinates within their entire Belize Police Department. It is a training that we believe is well overdue. It is a training that we believe that senior officers, once they've been taught, what will be taught for the next two weeks, would definitely assist them in how they manage their formation."

Wade said that the participants will be acquiring skills in communication and management of assets and human resources. They will also be learning how

to manage a crisis. The training will be conducted by experts from within the Police Department, including the Commissioner of Police, Chester Williams, and the Deputy Commissioner of Police, Oscar Rosado, as well as lecturers from the University of Belize, he said.

According to Wade, the training is the first of its kind and is now possible due to the presence of officers in the Police Department who acquired a more advanced skill set due to further studies and can now educate their colleagues. After the first round of training for senior officers, another training program will be held for their deputies.



CENTRAL BANK  
of BELIZE

www.centralbank.org.bz

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### The Central Bank of Belize Launches New Website

Belize City, 30 September 2022: The Governor of the Central Bank of Belize today announced the launch of the Central Bank's new website.

"The Central Bank's website is an important channel to share information and knowledge with the public and other stakeholders," says Governor Kareem Michael. "Our redesigned website falls in line with the Central Bank's plans to further its financial inclusion strategy. One of our primary objectives is to educate the public in understanding financial concepts and taking control of their financial lives, and the new website followed through with this vision."

The new site modernizes the Central Bank's online platform. It extends the Central Bank's online functionalities with improved architecture and responsive design. "Our analytics revealed that increasingly more of the users to our website access the content via mobile devices," explains project lead, Sheree Smiling Craig. "It was important to have the new website, at the base level, mobile device-friendly."

The new site is also oriented toward visitors accomplishing key tasks of interest to the public. "We used a strategic approach to build this site," Craig says. "The first phase of the project identified the primary tasks of interest for our users—for example, foreign exchange approvals—and made it easy for the public to access this content."

Apart from the new material, the Central Bank will continue to be the definitive source for exchange and interest rates, statistical data, economic and financial reports, and information on monetary policy, banking supervision, and laws relating to the country's economy. The public is encouraged to visit the Central Bank's website at [www.centralbank.org.bz](http://www.centralbank.org.bz).

The Central Bank continues in its mission to promote financial and monetary systems' stability for the well being of Belize.

- ENDS -

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

1 GABOUREL LANE,  
BELIZE CITY, BELIZE  
T: +501 223 6194



## Great Job Opportunity

### Job title: Assistant Farm Manager

(43 Miles George Price Hwy., Cotton Tree Village, Cayo)

- Job Description:**
- Supervise and assist with the day to day maintenance of citrus groves, coconut groves, etc.
  - Supervise and assist with the task of harvesting and replanting of groves
  - Assist with the preparation of plans and schedules for grove related activities
  - Keeping an up-to-date knowledge of pests and diseases and use knowledge to assist with the fertilization and care of groves.
  - Assist with organizing maintenance/repair of farm property, equipment and machinery
  - Assist with training/instructing and supervising farm workers
  - Assist with tracking of farm workers for payroll purposes
  - Assist to ensure all staff adhere to health and safety regulations

- Requirements:**
- Bi-lingual
  - Possess good communication skills – written and verbal
  - Associate's Degree in Agriculture (minimum)
  - Computer literate with higher level skills in excel spreadsheets
  - Experience in Orange Grove Management

- Character:**
- Mature and Responsible
  - Flexible and Organized
  - Professional Demeanor
  - Strong Leadership Skills

NO WALK-INS PLEASE.

Application forms can be picked up from Benny's at 2.5 Miles Philip Goldson Highway, Belize City, & 43 Mls. George Price Hwy., Cotton Tree Village, Cayo

Visit [WWW.Bennys.bz/careers](http://WWW.Bennys.bz/careers)

or Call 223-6236

MAIL TO:  
Human Resources Manager,  
Benny's Homecenter, P. O. Box 215,  
Mile 2.5 Philip Goldson Hwy., Belize City  
or E-mail: [jobs@bennysonline.com](mailto:jobs@bennysonline.com)

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**Application for Licence under Electricity Act**

**HYDRO MAYA LIMITED OF 11 C STREET KINGS PARK, BELIZE CITY, BELIZE A COMPANY REGISTERED AND INCORPORATED IN BELIZE**, hereby serves notice to the general public that it has applied for a **LICENCE** from the **PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION (PUC)** to generate electricity subject to any approved Power Purchase Agreement. Pursuant to Section 14 (3) of the Belize Electricity Act, a copy of the application is published below:

**Public Utilities Commission  
Application for Licence under Electricity Act**

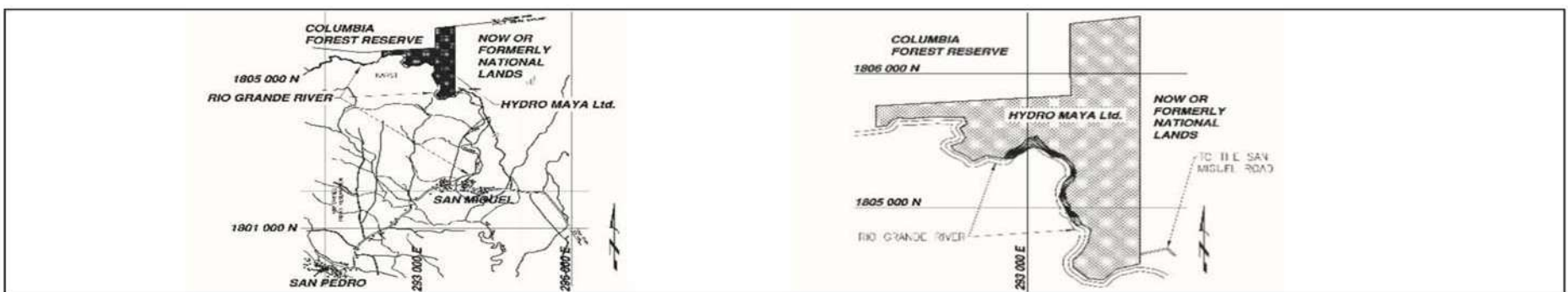
<b>Application on behalf of:</b>	Hydro Maya Limited
<b>Certificate of Incorporation Number:</b>	Incorporation No. 3890
<b>Purpose of Licence:</b>	Power Generation
<b>Authorized Area of Supply requested</b>	Does not provide direct consumer sales, instead interconnects to BEL transmission system for eventual distribution.
<b>Generation Facilities:</b>	Renewal of Licence for Rio Grande Hydroelectric Project in Toledo District.
<b>Transmission Facilities:</b>	Existing Interconnection and Transmission Facilities for connection of Rio Grande Hydroelectric Project to BEL transmission system.
<b>Contact Information:</b>	Name: Philip Penner Position/Title: Manager Phone Number: 6100540 Email Address: <a href="mailto:pennerphilip@hotmail.com">pennerphilip@hotmail.com</a>
<b>Registered Office (Address):</b>	11 C Street, Kings Park, Belize City, Belize
<b>Name of Signatory:</b>	Ted S. Sorenson
<b>Declaration:</b>	

I hereby certify that the information contained in this application is true to best of my knowledge, information belief:



Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2022



**Supporting Documents and Information:**

In addition to the application published above, supporting documents and information related to the proposed operations of Hydro Maya Limited as prescribed by the PUC were included in its submission.

**Viewing of Application and Supporting Documents and Information:**

The application and supporting documents and information may be viewed in their entirety at:

- a) **Hydro Maya Limited**  
11 C Street, Kings Park  
Belize City, Belize
- b) **PUC Office**  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Marina Towers  
Belize City, Belize

*Issued by Hydro Maya Limited on October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2022*



# 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 7 to Thursday, October 13, 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: Philip Goldson Interview with Nuri Muhammad
- 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: Emotional Intelligence - Using the Laws of Attraction
- 7:30 p.m. **Navel String Connections (repeat)**
- 9:00 p.m. **Krem TV Evening News (repeat)**

**SATURDAY**

- 9:00 a.m. Founders Day The White Swan Song 2022 (repeat)
- 12:01 p.m. Movie: The Spook Who Sat By The Door
- 1:44 p.m. Documentary: Foreign Exchange
- 3:15 p.m. Movie: Better Mus Come
- 4:58 p.m. Documentary: 15 Things Poor People Do That The Rich People Don't
- 5:12 p.m. Movie: Grenada The Future Coming Towards Us
- 6:06 p.m. Documentary: Re Caribbean Women for Land, Food and Climate Justice Webinar
- 8:06 p.m. Music Videos

**SUNDAY**

- 10:30 a.m. **Sunday Review (LIVE)**
- 12:00 p.m. Movie: All Gods Children
- 1:30 p.m. Documentary: Belizeanizing History - Decolonizing an Independent Belize
- 3:57 p.m. Movie: Mission Mind Control
- 5:30 p.m. **Sunday Review (repeat)**
- 7:00 p.m. Sunday Jazz
- 8:00 p.m. Music Videos

**MONDAY**

- 9:00 a.m. Movie: A Case of Deadly Froce
- 10:34 a.m. Documentary: Miles Davis Ahead - 2015
- 12:15 p.m. Movie: Black Girl (1972)
- 1:52 p.m. Documentary: America's Great Divide
- 3:47 p.m. Movie: License To Kill - 1984
- 5:23 p.m. Documentary: Money, Happiness And Eternal Life
- 8:06 p.m. Music Videos

**TUESDAY**

- 6:30 a.m. **Wake Up Belize Morning Vibes (LIVE)**
- 9:00 a.m. **Morning Stew (LIVE)**
- 12:00 p.m. **Krem TV Evening News (repeat)**
- 1:00 p.m. News Broadcast: Democracy Now
- 2:00 p.m. Documentary: Reggae Britannia
- 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: Raymond Gongora
- 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: Gary Wills
- 3:30 p.m. **Wake Up Belize Morning Vibes (repeat)**
- 6:00 p.m. **Krem TV Evening News (LIVE)**
- 7:00 p.m. Documentary: Ronan Farrow - Who Were the Rioters
- 7:30 p.m. **Navel String Connections (LIVE)**
- 9:00 p.m. **Krem TV Evening News (repeat)**

**THURSDAY**

- 6:30 a.m. **Wake Up Belize Morning Vibes (LIVE)**
- 9:00 a.m. **Morning Stew (LIVE)**
- 12:00 p.m. **Krem TV Evening News (repeat)**
- 1:00 p.m. News Broadcast: Democracy Now
- 2:00 p.m. Documentary: The Africans: A Triple Heritage Program-A Legacy Of Lifestyle
- 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: Ismael Shabazz
- 9:00 p.m. **Krem TV Evening News (repeat)**



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

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

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**Across**

- 1. Agalite
- 5. Ben Ezra, e.g.
- 10. NAFTA's big brother
- 14. Musical medley
- 15. Bishop's grant to a priest
- 16. Black-and-white cookie
- 17. Bacteria
- 18. Bridge prop
- 19. Derrick or crane
- 20. Hurry-up letters
- 21. Antony's loan request
- 22. A marble
- 23. Autumn birthstone
- 25. NASA, etal
- 27. Hymn book
- 30. Pastoral poem
- 31. Frostier
- 32. Dwarf of lore
- 33. Ammonia, e.g.
- 36. Female voice
- 38. Dead giveaway
- 40. Mil. rank
- 41. Duck's relative
- 43. Free, in a way
- 44. Formula of belief
- 45. Picture in pieces
- 46. Makes airtight again
- 49. Blue fin
- 50. Open a bottle
- 51. Absalom, to David
- 52. Babysitter's banes
- 56. Hidden store
- 57. Citrus peel
- 58. Flood survivor
- 59. Bone dry
- 60. Brat's opposite
- 61. Comic strip moppet
- 62. Copper or iron
- 63. Solid
- 64. Cry out

**Down**

- 1. Agrippa's apparel
- 2. Barley beverages
- 3. Ankara dollar
- 4. Bach or Bacharach
- 5. Undo an amendment
- 6. The A in CAT scan
- 7. Barley product
- 8. Blackball
- 9. Animal magnetism
- 10. 10 to the 100th power
- 11. Unit or tract follower
- 12. Easily irritated
- 13. Clan emblem
- 19. Pantomime clown
- 24. Manuscript section
- 25. Brick type
- 26. Flat-topped cluster of flowers
- 27. Disbursement
- 28. Computer pix
- 29. Little drinks
- 30. Stylish
- 32. Wares
- 33. Come by
- 34. Bhutan's locale
- 35. Boil slowly
- 37. Carol
- 39. Awkward looking
- 42. As a result
- 44. Breaks off
- 45. Tarzan's home
- 46. Actress Renee
- 47. ATM button
- 48. Horrify
- 49. Copier additive
- 51. A seasoning
- 53. Pout, in Paris
- 54. Become tiresome
- 55. Synagogue
- 57. Blasting material
- 60. Like

**Crossword answers for last edition**

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



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

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

# BDF confirms Captain Coc's suicide



**Brig. Gen. Azariel Loria,  
Commander, BDF**

Captain Coc, by all indications an upstanding career soldier, was accused of breaching a protection order taken out against him by his ex-common-law wife after the couple had separated. He was just days away from a bail hearing when the tragic incident took place.

"He somewhat denied our assistance. He said that he was okay," said Brig. Gen. Loria, who explained that the BDF had offered counseling to Captain Coc, although he had shown no signs of mental instability, because they were aware of his involvement in an ongoing domestic dispute.

According to the BDF Commander, Coc had changed his listed next of kin from his wife to his mother, who arrived in the country last week and has since been in constant communication with the BDF.

Funeral services for Captain Coc are scheduled to take place this coming Saturday in Sandhill Village.

"What we are doing here in the BDF to counteract that, this is something new ... I think that two years ago, a private soldier in the South committed suicide, to which our response was to hire a counselor, and that was it. So two years later we are back in it. We don't even have a budget. In this upcoming financial year, we

are going to request a budget to be provided for our first Wellness Center, it is called now. So we are drafting our directives. I will be signing it this morning and it will be disseminated to the commanding officers, as to the steps that they will be taking whenever we have issues or reports of suicides or soldiers having mental concerns," Brig. Gen. Loria told reporters.

BELIZE CITY, Wed. Oct. 5, 2022

Today, the Commander of the BDF, Brigadier General Azariel Loria, confirmed that Captain Damacio Coc died as a result of suicide. While being interviewed by local media, he explained that the results of a post-mortem examination on Coc's body that was conducted by the National Forensic Science Service indicated that he died as a result of asphyxia.

Coc, who had been alone in a cell at the Belize Central Prison, after being remanded for alleged violation of a protection order, was reportedly found hanging from a bed sheet that was tied through a breathing hole in his cell. The wicket was covered with a white sheet which had hidden the interior of the cell until a prison guard who was making a routine check looked inside.



**Captain Damacio Coc,  
deceased**

# Soursop expert conducts workshops in Belize

BELIZE CITY, Thurs. Oct. 6, 2022

Brazilian national and well-known soursop expert, Dr. Adel Reboucas will host three days of workshops at farms across the country of Belize starting today. His trip to Belize was facilitated by the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) and our Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security, and Enterprise (MAFSE).

Prior to these workshops, Dr. Reboucas recently conducted a three-day training session with technical officers from the MAFSE. On this trip, he will share some of his expertise with farmers in various parts of the country, starting in Cayo today, at Central Farm.

Tomorrow he will be in Corozal, where he will be visiting a farm in Yo Creek. On Saturday he will be visiting the Ayinha Farm in Lemonal in the Belize District. On Monday, he will host sessions at the



**Dr. Abel Reboucas, agronomist/soursop expert**

Stann Creek Agriculture Station for Toledo and Stann Creek farmers.

The purpose of these workshops is to impart skillsets in the areas of hand pollination, and dealing with pests and diseases that affect soursop plants. According to Barry Palacio from the MAFSE, about 400 acres of soursop are currently under cultivation in the country and farmers are planting more.

The training today will be streamed live on the Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security and Enterprise Facebook page.

## BELIZE PICKWICK CLUB LIMITED NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

To: All Shareholders of Belize Pickwick Club Limited.

**TAKE NOTICE** that the Annual General Meeting of the company will be held on **Wednesday, October 26th, 2022 at 7:00 pm** at the Belize Pickwick Club Limited, 160 Newtown Barracks, Belize City, Belize (wooden round house).

Agenda of Annual General Meeting to be held on 26th October, 2022:


**The purpose of the meeting is to:**

1. Receive the minutes of last AGM and Report from the Board of Directors
2. Receive the Audited Financial Statements for 2019, 2020 and 2021;
3. Appoint the Auditors for 2022 and authorize the Directors to determine the remuneration;
4. Elect Directors; (seven persons)
5. Transact such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

Every shareholder entitled to attend and vote at the meeting on 26th October, 2022 shall have the right to appoint a proxy (or proxies) to attend and vote in his stead and the proxy need not be a member. The proxy forms can be obtained by contacting [pickwick.belize@outlook.com](mailto:pickwick.belize@outlook.com) and if intended to be used must be filled out and returned to Belize Pickwick Club, ! Suite 308, Marina Towers, Newtown Barracks, Belize City, Belize or via email to [pickwick.belize@outlook.com](mailto:pickwick.belize@outlook.com) by no later than October 25, 2022 at 4 PM.

Dated the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of October, 2022.

By Order of the Board of Directors.



**Benny's**

## Great Job Opportunity

**Job title: Heavy Diesel Mechanic**  
(2.5 Miles Philip Goldson Highway, Belize City, Belize)

**Job Requirement:**

- Must have at least a first level certificate in automotive repair
- Good repair knowledge of air break system, diesel injection systems, hydraulic system and diesel diagnostics
- Assisting with day to day maintenance and repairs of fleet vehicles and equipment
- Must have a valid driver's license
- Traveling to districts to repair vehicles and equipment when necessary
- Willing to work overtime when needed
- Collaborate with coworkers to get repairs done in a timely manner
- Attention to detail
- Excellent communication skills

**Character:**

- Mature, Responsible, Organized
- Flexible
- Team Player
- Trustworthy

**Considered a Plus:**

- Knowledge of diesel engine repair, small engine and/or automotive electricity is a plus
- Knowledge of Marine engines and propulsion systems

NO WALK-INS PLEASE.

Application forms can be picked up from Benny's at 2.5 Miles Philip Goldson Highway, Belize City, & 43 Mls. George Price Hwy., Cotton Tree Village, Cayo

Visit [WWW.Bennys.bz/careers](http://WWW.Bennys.bz/careers) or Call 223-6236

MAIL TO:  
Human Resources Manager,  
Benny's Homecenter, P.O. Box 215,  
Mile 2.5 Philip Goldson Hwy., Belize City  
or E-mail: [jobs@bennysonline.com](mailto:jobs@bennysonline.com)

# Our Democracy is Hemorrhaging, Badly!

by Rudolph A. Neal

This past week, the days, politically, have been a little quieter, but that isn't necessarily a good thing. For context, we are all fully aware of the ramblings and internal ruckus that have been taking place within the opposition, the United Democratic Party. These internal squabbles have prevailed and have been the order of the day since the landslide victory by the ruling People's United Party back in 2020, but have only proliferated and been made worse since the last leadership convention within the UDP. Now, if you have been following my writings, I seek earnestly to stay far from the political fray, where partisan politics is concerned. However,

the UDP infighting and their sheer inability to get their house in order is a cause for grave national concern and is causing our democracy to hemorrhage, badly!

Most recently, the Richter scale was put to the test as the ground beneath us shook when it was announced that the Hon. Patrick Faber's candidacy to seek reelection in the Collet constituency was denied (at this time). Political pundits were baffled, and the nation was taken aback; hell, Collet constituency members were sent into a frenzy. Even the non-political observers were flabbergasted, because how? Not only is Patrick Faber the most senior parliamentarian on that side of the House, but he is arguably the most politically shrewd and adept candidate, thus

making his seat one of the surest in the opposition. Not only is it a terrible thing that the ruling People's United Party controls a supermajority in the House, but from a national perspective, risking your surest seat and most senior parliamentarian is a blow to the preservation of our sovereign democracy in this beautiful jewel.

There's no nice and sugar-coated way to say it, but the opposition is weak. Not only is it very weak, but it is lacking, significantly in substance. So as it is, the 5-member opposition, which is sadly, usually only a mere 3-member opposition, sometimes, only 2, is a ship lost at sea without a rudder. Now, it has begun to take on water and is now listing badly. To try and salvage it, they have accepted applicants to man the various breaches, but sadly, it does not look good, or promising. This causes one to send the distress signal and sound the alarm. With the opposition in such bad shape, it puts the security of our democracy in peril, and nobody seems to care or even be bothered. Yes, one could reasonably understand that the high cost of living, and the effects of inflation and stagflation, give us a lot to contend with. But we cannot be so cumbered by life's trials that we surrender to the fact that our democracy is hemorrhaging badly.

Unfortunately, in the midst of this eerie political silence from the opposition, there's no telling what is brewing. In the soft whispers of the wind, there are muzzled murmurs of a possible split, a possible fragmentation, and even some independent runs; who knows for sure? But there is also the dangerous possibility of nothing – of accepting the order of the day and simply carrying on, and that cannot suffice. It is of utmost, requisite importance that the opposition UDP meet, come together, mend fences, and forge forward for the sake of our democracy. Perhaps some of the senior (retired) UDP members and past parliamentarians can shepherd the new caretakers and aid in holding their hands, just for the sake of our democracy; maybe. Perhaps, goodwill can prevail and a greater sense of reasoning and understanding, fueled by a spirit of service and devotion to the country can take up its place to create a more formidable opposition that will, in turn, strengthen our democracy. See, the existing course being charted by the opposition is a dangerous one, and if someone doesn't take control of the bridge soon, and chart a more formidable path, our democracy will only continue to hemorrhage, worse than it already is.

*Unchained Reflections Of A Liberal Pragmatist.*

## VACANCY

### Production/Customer Service Attendant

Qualifications: Ability to stand for extended periods; be fast paced, organized and highly accurate; a strong team player with pleasant disposition and great interpersonal skills. Must be hands-on with manual dexterity to learn to press and dry clean (Training provided). High School Graduate, Basic Computer Knowledge.

Application forms can be picked up at Belize Dry Cleaners, #3 Dolphin Street, Belize City.

## Letters to the editor

### The glass is half full

Dear Editor,

In every dark cloud there is a silver lining. The last two years have been very challenging for this small nation, Belize. Besides having to bear with a very unpopular and corrupt government, the people had to also contend with a global coronavirus pandemic that crippled the country's economy. Whilst the lockdown felt like being in prison in your own home, there was so much uncertainty as to the way forward while being in this crisis mode. The pandemic put the world on pause, which allowed us time to reconsider our approach to the way we do things, not only as a country but also individually.

Along came a new government in the middle of the pandemic, who won the general elections with an overwhelming majority. Their ultimate objective was to resuscitate a collapsed economy. It is said that the voice of the people is the voice of God. The immature politics that we practice continue to put a major burden on our development. My impression of these two mass parties is that they seriously believe that they own this country. We should never have political enemies; political opponents should be the more operative word if we want to see the best for our country, Belize.

Nevertheless, the daunting task to get life back to some form of normalcy commenced. The tourism industry, which was responsible for 45% of the economy, was treading on thin ice. Unemployment was at an all-time high, and all our children were out of school. The government's hands were filled with some very difficult decisions to make. The teachers and public servants were in no mood to accept a 10% salary deduction, so they orchestrated their lockdown through protests across the nation, even though the Prime Minister

refused to take the advice of the IMF, which was to retrench persons in the public service.

It is very easy to criticize, point fingers and blame others when things seem dismal, especially when you're not aligned with the government of the day. Whilst it's described as holding your leaders accountable, mostly it's a genuine badmouthing, demonizing and undermining the administration. Sometimes it's better to look at the glass half full rather than half empty. I would want to think that as Belizeans we all want to see our country prosper.

The reality is that due to the commitment, resilience and hard work of the Belizean people, in particular the productive sector with the massive support of this administration, the economy is roaring back.

The teachers and public officers have gotten back their 10% salary within a year's time, the tourism industry is booming once again, the agricultural sector is doing wonders, our children are back in school full-time, most people are returning back to their jobs and the pandemic is now behind us. If you cannot see a silver lining with all the turmoil we have endured in the last couple years, then you may be living in a different country.

Coming from a business background and mindset, I believe that our Prime Minister is in the right place at the right time. He may not be the perfect orator like what we are used to, but he gets the job done. So, whilst we can't help ourselves but be all negative and dismissive about everything, let's instead look at the bright side and keep the faith.

Respectfully  
A.J. Alvarez

## 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)

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# Antelope Street resident killed in his yard

**“The crowd from the Antelope Street Extension, I am sick and tired of them. The truth is they have not felt the wrath of the SOE,” said Commissioner of Police, Chester Williams.**

by Charles Gladden

BELIZE CITY, Mon. Oct. 3, 2022

Just days after Karl Lamb, 18, was ambushed and killed by a group of men in the Antelope Street Extension area of Belize City on Monday, September 26, Jarett Crawford, 36, a father of one and a resident of Antelope Street Extension, was murdered in his yard on Friday, September 30, in the same area where Lamb was killed.

According to initial reports, at around 4:20 that evening, Crawford was inside his home when he heard someone calling his name and went into his yard wearing nothing but boxer shorts and was fatally shot.

According to Crawford’s cousin, Shackeria Torres, Crawford’s priority was taking care of his son, and when he was not working, he stayed at home. When the Commissioner of Police, Chester Williams, spoke to local reporters over the weekend, he confirmed that the deceased wasn’t a troublemaker and he spoke with great bitterness about the refusal of some men in the area to change.

“Anything is on the table at this time, but I can tell you, the crowd from Antelope Street Extension, I am sick and tired of them! And the truth is, they have not felt the wrath of the SOE and maybe that’s the reason they are behaving the way they are ... The past three murders in the city have been committed by them, and so something needs to be done drastically so that they get the message,” said Commissioner Williams.

“In the Antelope Street Extension, there are three different groups in [the] area. There [are] extremely high tensions among them, and as I’ve always said, there are some of these young men that certainly want nothing good in life. We do a number of programs to try and work with them. We talk with them. We have interventions with them. We did everything possible to try and get them to understand that the lifestyle that they are living is not good for them [and] society. While some are listening and making the changes, we’re seeing that a handful of them are still out there manifesting behaviors incompatible with human behaviors, and those are the ones we have to deal with,” Williams said.

He went on to note that despite the Belize Police Department’s efforts to



Jarett Crawford, deceased

reduce the crime in the Antelope Street Extension area, it is impossible for the department to always police the area and target every gang member.

“At the end of the day, while we do have police policing the area, you would know that these criminals monitor the movements of the police. The police have to move around. They can’t stay in one particular area, so when the police that way, they do their things this way. So it’s not that it’s difficult for police; it is beyond policing, and it has a lot to do with human behavior, because as human beings, we need to understand that we must act in a certain way, and when we demit violence against human beings, what does that say about us? From a police standpoint, from a social standpoint, there’s a lot that we are doing, and I’m sure the Belizean people can see and understand that we’re trying,” said Williams.

When one local reporter suggested the approach of the Salvadoran president, Nayib Armando Bukele Ortez, who has engaged in mass incarceration of gang members and criminals, Williams replied, “We are a nation of laws. We are a democratic nation. I know Salvador is as well. We have a nation where the Constitution is supreme, and the Constitution guarantees every Belizean certain fundamental rights and freedom. As the state or as the police, we cannot act beyond the scope of what the Constitution gives to act.”

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Taiwan Technical Mission  
Address 43 Forest Drive, Belmopan, Belize  
Phone +501 822-1568

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- BY ORDER of the Mortgagees Messrs. Heritage Bank Limited, Licensed Auctioneers Kevin A. Castillo and Christiana R. Castillo are selling ONLINE via belizepropertyauctions.com the following property. **Sales currently running and will expire on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> October 2022 at 9:00 am.**  
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REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
Orange Walk North	4	109

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REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
Guinea Grass	4	632

The freehold property of Ms. Melissa Westby

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- \* Puma Freetown
- \* Cambranes
- \* J & K Supermarket
- \* Twin Supermarket, #5526 St Thomas Street
- \* Tow Tow Grocery Store, Mahogany Street
- \* Julie Wong Store, Belama (by police station)
- \* JB's Store, Mahogany Street
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# Mayor Bernard Wagner Sponsors Mayor's Cup 2022

On Sunday, October 2, 2022, the Mayor's Cup U15 Football Tournament finals were held at the Yarborough Green in Belize City. This tournament, personally sponsored by Mayor Bernard Wagner, kicked off on August 7, 2022. Since then, games have been played at the Yarborough Green every Sunday leading up to the anticipated finals. The tournament was organized by Mr. Jerome "Peel Off" Maheia and saw the participation of six teams representing constituencies all across Belize City. These self-named teams included 'Reality Youths', 'Third World', 'Yabra Football Club', 'Poor and Famous', 'Jah-Love' and 'Hattieville'.

Ultimately, after nine weeks of intense matchups for the youths, 'Yabra Football Club' was crowned the champions of the



(L-R) Mayor's Cup MVP Calvin Thurton, Mayor Bernard Wagner

Mayor's Cup following their 3-2 victory over 'Reality Youths', with 'Hattieville' taking home third place in the tournament. The Mayor's Cup Tournament MVP Calvin Thurton of 'Yabra Football Club' stood out, as he scored all three goals for the winning team in the final game. The title of top scorer was earned by Brian Richardson of 'Reality Youths' while Shane Vernon of 'Reality Youths' was named top goalkeeper and Dion Meighan of 'Yabra Football Club' as top defender.

After the final game and award ceremony, Mayor Wagner provided Sunday lunch for those in attendance and spent some time with the players and their families. He says he plans to continue to organize and contribute towards activities which promote a Belize City that is child-friendly, resilient and inclusive.



Mayor's Cup Trophies



Mayor's Cup 1st Place Champions, 'Yabra Football Club'

## PLB schedule change – Verdes vs Altitude now at FFB Stadium

BELIZE CITY, Thurs. Oct. 6, 2022

Official sources in the Premier League of Belize (PLB) informed us yesterday that the Week #11 game formerly scheduled for this coming Sunday at 4:00 p.m. at the Norman Broaster Stadium between Verdes FC and Altitude FC, will now be played at the FFB Stadium instead, kickoff time 3:45 p.m.

It's an interesting move from Verdes FC, whose home game it is, and who just last weekend suffered their first defeat in a couple years, a 2-0 loss to Benque Viejo FC at the Marshalleck Stadium. Benque will be at home again this weekend, featuring their new "bad gun in town," Colombian striker Ayrton Sisa, who has scored 4 goals in their last two games. They will host the promising young Progresso FC from Orange Walk. Meanwhile, Verdes FC will be challenging new standings leader Altitude FC in what promises to be a monster match-up. Could the Verdes management be considering the potential loss of fan turnout at the Norman Broaster due to the nearby Benque match, versus a possible increase in fans from Mango Creek with the much closer

Please turn to **Page 29**



Photo: William Ysaguirre

(l to r) Luis Valdez and Horace Avila both scored for San Pedro Pirates



## Travel Belize Beach Soccer Cup kicks off this Saturday in Hopkins

**FFB rebrands the National Amateur Beach Soccer League under the name Travel Belize Beach Soccer Cup**

BELMOPAN, Tues. Oct. 4, 2022

The Football Federation of Belize (FFB), in collaboration with the Belize Tourism Board (BTB), is pleased to announce the launch of the Travel Belize Beach Soccer Cup. It kicks off this Saturday, October 8, 2022 in Hopkins Village.

This tournament will see the participation of 6 teams, namely: Corozal FC (Corozal), BDFA City Rookies (Belize City), Hopkins Ibayani (Hopkins), Griga United (Dangriga), Cayo Selection (Cayo), and Christ

Warriors Seine Bight (Seine Bight).

The Travel Belize Beach Soccer Cup is the FFB's premier event for Beach Soccer clubs and showcases the best talents from across the country of Belize. This tournament will serve as an opportunity to recruit players for the 2023 National Beach Soccer Team.

The Travel Belize Beach Soccer Cup is scheduled to run for seven weeks in round-robin format, with the top four teams advancing to semifinals and finals.

-press release-

## Cycling great, 1976 & 1979 Cross Country Champion, Alfred Parks passes

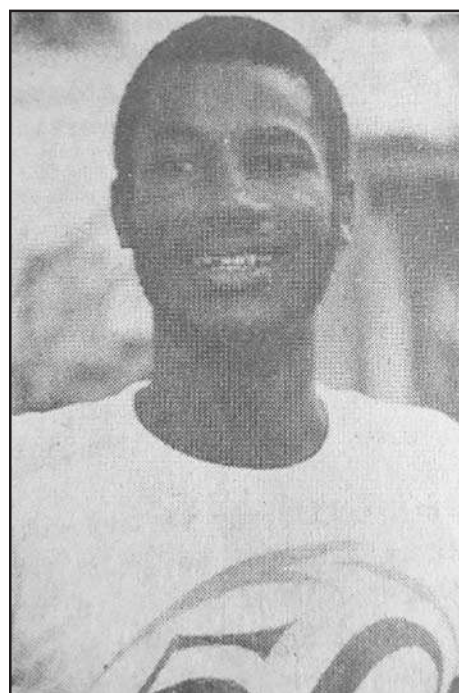
BELIZE CITY, Wed. Oct. 5, 2022

We received the sad news last Friday, September 30, that legendary two-time Holy Saturday Cross Country Champion, Alfred Parks, who has been residing in Los Angeles, USA for the past few decades, had passed. He had reportedly been ailing for some time. Our sincere condolences to all his relatives and friends.

As the topic of a National Hall of Fame keeps coming up among the football community, so it is with veterans of cycling that there is a concern that the younger generation, which dominates the local population, are not well informed about the exploits of those who came before them. Our stories are not being told, and the old timers are passing on without the youngsters knowing anything about them. Time marches on, but the exciting and dramatic achievements of the great ones have served over the years to help inspire the new crop of athletes to greatness. It used to be in Belize that the evening times would often see the sharing of a lot of information by "word of mouth" in sports, as vigorous and sometimes contentious street corner discussions re-enacted the exploits of our stars and lit up the flame of ambition among the up and coming generation of athletes in whatever sport.

But we are living in the age of social media and mass communication now, where young minds are bombarded with a plethora of information from all directions.

There is no official "Hall of Fame" in Belize cycling, but, thankfully, there is a list of the champions of our greatest one-day sporting event, since its



inception in 1928, and that serves as our cycling Hall of Fame. For every year that the Country has been ridden, only one man (and later there was the Woman Cross Country) wears the garland and that makes him someone very special to all Belizeans.

Twice in the decade of the 70s, in 1976 and again in 1979, Alfred Parks enjoyed that special feeling of being adored and loved by Belizeans across the length and breadth of the Jewel.

If any young man in Belize today thinks that it is a small feat to become Cross Country Champion, then he is encouraged to give it a try. Many of them do each year, and they all come away with even greater appreciation of the agony and the sacrifice and whatever else it takes to try and become Cross Country Champion. They all endure the agony, but only one each

## Live Life Youth Basketball Tournament ends

**Hard Rock Boyz from Antelope Street won the Live Life Youth Basketball Tournament and received both a trophy and a monetary prize.**



**Hard Rock Boyz wins Live Life Youth Basketball Tournament**

by Charles Gladden

BELIZE CITY, Tues. Oct. 4, 2022

After five months of vigorous competition, the Live Life Youth Basketball Tournament concluded on Saturday, October 1, with the Hard Rock Boyz from Antelope Street winning the first prize trophy and a monetary prize of fifteen hundred dollars.

At the start of the tournament, there were 140 participants from 15 teams based in Belize City, Ladyville and Hattieville competing for the first place prize.

The tournament is an initiative spearheaded by the Ministry of Home Affairs in an effort to reduce crime within the feuding gang zones of Belize City by bringing the young men who reside in those areas together in an activity that will enable them to bond through their shared love of basketball.

Over the weekend, Commissioner of Police Chester Williams, commented on the conclusion of the basketball tournament.

"Well, certainly, it is good not just for the police but for the community as a whole. As you know, this basketball tournament is a part of our crime-fighting strategy, where we try to bring the young men from the different areas together to do intervention through sports. It has been going on for 5 months now, and today is the termination of it, where we have the different teams competing for third place, second place, and first place. So

year may enjoy the ecstasy of victory.

We understand that brother Parks lived a reclusive life in L.A. He shunned the limelight and was reluctant to give an interview when we attempted to contact

it is an exciting day for them, and certainly, the prize that goes along with each place is exciting for them, so we'll see how it goes from there," said Commissioner Williams.

He went on to note, however, "We have seen the young men who are a part of this basketball tournament, they truly have been doing their best to keep the peace among themselves. Yes, there are still some people within the respective communities who seemly want to continue to behave as if they don't want to adopt behaviors that [are] compatible [with] human behavior and I don't think it will be right to drag them into what the others from their communities are doing. While we see a flare-up right now in Belize City where crime is a concern, it is something we're looking at very seriously, particularly in the Antelope Extension Area."

"... You know, Hard Rock team is from Antelope Street Extension and the Complex area, their team is in. Complex is one of the areas that are causing the flare-ups. [As] I said, those persons who are a part of the team, are not a part of the ongoing feud," Williams went on to add.

The Complex Titans were the runner-ups in the tournament and walked away with the second place trophy and twelve hundred dollars, while Hattieville Underdogs secured the third place trophy and a monetary prize of one thousand dollars. Kevin Hamilton of Hard Rock Boyz was named the Most Valuable Player in the Live Life Youth Basketball Tournament 2022.

him last year. But he certainly cherished the memories of his days of glory in Belize, a champion forever. Rest In Peace, brother Alfred Parks – Cross Country Champion 1976 & 1979.



# PLB schedule change – Verdes vs Altitude now at FFB Stadium

Continued from Page 27

FFB Stadium?

All other games remain as previously scheduled.

Premier League of Belize 2022-2023 Opening Season								
Standings at Week 10, Sunday, October 2, 2022								
TEAMS	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Diff	Pts
Altitude FC	9	7	0	2	16	7	9	21
Verdes FC	10	5	4	1	15	6	9	19
San Pedro Pirates FC	9	5	2	2	12	7	5	17
Wagiya SC	10	4	2	4	13	14	-1	14
Progreso 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	10	1	2	7	7	17	-10	5

In a quick re-cap of last weekend's Week #10 results, home team mentioned first: San Pedro Pirates FC, 3-2, over Port Layola FC. Pirates – Andir Chi (23'), Horace Avila (45') and Luis Valdez (66'); Port Layola – Pirates own goal (24') and Calvin Young (85'). Benque Viejo FC, 2-0, over Verdes FC. Benque – Juan Ocampo (26') and Ayrton Sisa (90+2'). Altitude FC, 1-0, over Bandits SC. Altitude – Delone Torres (90'). Wagiya SC, 1-0, over Progreso FC. Wagiya – Cion Augustine (64').

Updated PLB Week #11 schedule:

Saturday, October 8

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

7:30 p.m. – Bandits SC vs San Pedro Pirates FC – Isidoro Beaton Stadium

Sunday, October 9

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

3:45 p.m. – Verdes FC vs Altitude FC – **FFB Stadium**



Calvin Young scored Port Layola's 2<sup>nd</sup> goal in 3-2 loss to San Pedro Pirates

# BDF and YWCA conduct driving training program for women



Diane Haylock, Secretary-General at the YWCA

by Charles Gladden

BELIZE CITY, Thurs. Oct. 6, 2022

Sixteen women are learning how to drive through a driving training program that is a collaboration between the BDF (Belize Defence Force) and YWCA (Young Women's Christian Association), with help from UNICEF (United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund) and the Ministry of Transport.

The women, in addition to learning how to drive both automatic and standard-transmission trucks, will be also learning proper road safety protocols, and the various mechanical functions of a vehicle during the three-week course. The training sessions are held from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. from Monday to Friday.

"... the idea is for them to know the vehicle, know the engine, what to check, the oils, the lubricants, etc., and know that the vehicle is in good working condition, checking the insurance, the licenses, that they are up to date, and again to drive, to gain experience in their judgment skills while behind the steering wheel," said Brigadier General Azariel Loria, Commander of the BDF.

After the opening ceremonies at the BDF's headquarters at Price Barracks in Ladyville, Minister of Transportation, Hon. Rodwell Ferguson, told local reporters that participants in the program will gain an additional sense of independence and that the program might also open up job opportunities for them.

"We are a country of mostly men in the workforce, especially when it comes

to driving, and when I heard the initiative, I said, okay, let's go for it. We will take them as how they want to go and they can further apply to drive the big trailer trucks, the buses, [or] whatever it might be that they want to take on as a woman. I believe in equality, so I think what a man can do, a woman can also do," said Hon. Ferguson.

Secretary-General at the YWCA, Diane Haylock, expressed similar hopes about the new initiative.

"I think it's enviable. If the 'Y' is to do what it wants to do, which is to make a contribution to us having a more equal world and more equitable society, then we have to be able to work at breaking down some of the barriers that keep women from doing things that they can do, so it is providing an opportunity for women to get into this fields that [are] considered masculine [and] non-traditional for women," she said.

According to Haylock, the YWCA will be conducting another non-traditional class that will enable its women participants to gain skills in another male-dominated field—barbering. In the past, barbering courses at the YWCA were primarily offered to males.

# Security guard charged for handling stolen goods

by Charles Gladden

BELIZE CITY, Thurs. Oct. 6, 2022

Jaleel Darrel Burns, 26, a Belizean security guard of Central Farm Village, Cayo District, has been arrested and charged for having a motorcycle in his possession that was stolen from Roquelino Ortega, 34, of Santa Familia Village, Cayo District, on Saturday, October 1.

Ortega was reportedly riding his red and white Honda motorcycle near the Hammock Bridge on Branch Mouth Road near San Ignacio Town around 10:40 p.m., when he was approached by three men, one of whom pulled out a gun and shot him, then proceeded to steal his motorcycle, after which they fled the scene.

Ortega was then taken to the Western Regional Hospital for medical treatment and was listed as being in a stable condition.

The stolen motorcycle was recovered by police, and on Thursday, October 6, Burns was criminally charged for having the stolen motorcycle in his possession.

# High School Volleyball Tournament under way in Belize City

BELIZE CITY, Thurs. Oct. 6, 2022

On Monday of this week, the Central Secondary Schools Sports Association (CSSSA) tipped off its Volleyball Tournament 2022 with two games played at the Mexico Center court in Belize City. An average of 2 games are played daily from Monday to Friday, starting at 4:00 p.m.; and then on Saturdays they begin at 9:00 a.m. with 5 or 6 games scheduled.

Six female, and five male teams are participating in the tournament: FEMALES (F) – Wesley College (WES), Pallotti High School (PHS), Nazarene High School (NHS), Belize

High School (BHS), Edward P. Yorke High School (EPY), and St. Catherine Academy (SCA). MALES (M) – Wesley College (WES), St. John's College (SJC), Nazarene High School (NHS), Edward P. Yorke High School (EPY), and Gwen Lizarraga High School (GLHS).

In results of games played so far:

Mon. Oct. 3 – (F) PHS defeated WES, 25-17, 25-12; and (M) SJC def. WES, 25-12, 25-9.

Tues. Oct. 4 – (F) BHS def. NHS, 25-12, 25-15; and (M) WES def. NHS, 25-19, 25-11.

Wed. Oct. 5 – (F) PHS def. EPY,

25-13, 25-23; and (M) NHS def. GLHS, 25-22, 25-18.

The playoffs are scheduled to begin on Monday, October 24; and then the CSSSA male and female winners will go on to the Volleyball Nationals which are set for November 11 & 12 at host Belmopan Comprehensive High School.

In other games scheduled:

Thurs. Oct. 6 – (M) SJC vs EPY; and (M) GLHS vs WES.

Fri. Oct. 7 – (F) BHS vs WES; and (M) EPY vs NHS.

Sat. Oct. 8 – (M) SJC vs NHS; (M) GLHS vs EPY; (F) SCA vs EPY; (F)

BHS vs PHS; and (M) SJC vs GLHS.

No games are on for Mon. Oct. 10.

On Tues. Oct. 11 – (F) WES vs EPY; and (M) EPY vs WES.

Wed. Oct. 12 – (F) SCA vs NHS; and (M) GLHS vs NHS.

Thurs. Oct. 13 – (M) EPY vs NHS; and (M) WES vs EPY.

Fri. Oct. 14 - ALL STAR GAMES

Sat. Oct. 15 – (M) WES vs GLHS; (M) SJC vs EPY; (F) SCA vs WES; (F) EPY vs NHS; and (M) EPY vs WES.

(Information courtesy Mrs. Barbara Cadle Lanza of National Sports Council.)

## TNC recommends deferral of Waterloo's project

**A letter sent by TNC's country director, Julianne Stockbridge, to the CEO of the Ministry of Sustainable Development and Chairman of the NEAC, Kenrick Williams, points to four major reasons for the Blue Bond facilitator's call for GoB to hit the brakes on Waterloo's proposed Port of Belize development.**

*Continued from* ▶ Page 1

consideration of Waterloo's proposal for construction of a cruise terminal at the Port of Belize until certain major concerns are addressed, and until the development of a Marine Spatial Plan is completed. TNC is the world's leading conservation organization and, as just mentioned, entered an agreement with the government that required the country to commit to protecting our coral reefs, mangroves, and fish-spawning sites and approximately 30% of Belize's marine areas.

The proposed Cargo Expansion and Cruise Port Terminal and Village by Waterloo Investment Holdings at the Port of Belize has been actively opposed by members of the conservation community. According to Janelle Chanona, Vice President of Oceana Belize, a joint letter which was sent a few weeks ago by a coalition of conservation organizations to the Prime Minister to urge the government to put a pause on all ongoing EIAs (environmental impact assessments) in line with a commitment made by the Government of Belize under the Blue Bond Agreement had not included a signature from The Nature Conservancy for one reason: the process was done very quickly, and several groups which likely would have wanted to sign onto the document had not gotten the chance to be a part of the process.

On September 30, however, TNC's Belize program director, Julianne Stockbridge, clearly stated the organization's position in a letter sent to the CEO of the Ministry of Sustainable Development, Climate Change, and Disaster Risk Management, Kenrick Williams, who is also the Chairman of the National Environmental Appraisal Committee (NEAC). In that letter, TNC presented its comments on the ESIA submitted by Waterloo in August 2022 and outlined four major concerns about that ongoing process, after which it offered suggestions on a way forward.

Firstly, the organization recommends that an ESIA be submitted for each of the two projects that are part of the proposed development—the cargo expansion project and the cruise terminal project—separately, and the reason for that separation, it said, is to ensure that each ESIA addresses “ALL [emphasis ours] potential impacts”. The underlying suggestion in the TNC's comments is that it is not possible to address all these impacts in one overall document “due to the differences in the scope, objectives and potential social, economic and environmental impacts of the proposed Port of Belize Cargo Expansion (PoBCE) and Port Cruise Terminal (PCT) developments.” The TNC Belize program director thus recommends that these be “presented as two separate project proposals, each with their own EIAs”.

Notably, environmental officer of the Department of Environment, Kenrick Gordon had said, during the public

consultation on Waterloo's ESIA that was held at the Belize Best Western Biltmore Plaza on September 1, that “in terms of the presentation of the cruise port itself, and the cargo port itself, that has to come to the department in a whole. If they were to present just one project, we would consider it as a piecemeal approach; the department doesn't look at a project on the piecemeal approach; it has to be considered holistically”. However, the TNC Belize program director, in a portion of her comments that outlines a second area of concern, pointed out major shortfalls in the blanket ESIA being considered by the department. One of those deficits is that the document does not address the Outstanding Universal Value of our World Heritage Site, the Belize Barrier Reef Reserve System—a requirement that was included in the 2020 amendment of the EIA regulations. The Outstanding Universal Value is defined by UNESCO as having cultural and/or natural significance which is so exceptional as to transcend national boundaries and to be of common importance for present and future generations of all humanity.

This was pointed out by attorney Sharon Pitts during her presentation at the public consultation, when she asked the panel how the reef would be “present-proofed and future-proofed” by those persons/entities which are implementing this project. She outlined that a no-action alternative would be the only viable solution, and that position was echoed by TNC in its written submission as a third major point. Stockbridge noted that a no-action alternative is not included in the project proposal/ESIA, and points to that shortfall as something that must be rectified.

“The ESIA needs a no-action alternative, a key requirement of the approved ESIA Terms of Reference. The current ESIA does not include this alternative. The no-action alternative should establish the social, economic, and environmental baseline of the existing Fort Street Tourism Village and the under construction Port Coral cruise terminals, then show the incremental impact of the POBCE and PCT projects. This is a major failing of the ESIA and must be rectified,” TNC's letter states.

In the 2022 ESIA, Waterloo's consultants attempt to justify their exclusion of the no-action alternative by stating that, “The no action alternative only becomes a viable option where it is determined that a project's environmental and social impacts would far outweigh any net economic and social benefits.” Because the project is not considered in the ESIA in the context of two other proposed port developments (by Stake Bank Enterprise Ltd. and Portico Enterprises Limited), it is not possible for the ESIA submitted by Waterloo to give an accurate picture of net jobs created, in light of other jobs that might be lost due to the Waterloo project, nor the

## Another tropical system threatens Central America

*Continued from* ▶ Page 1

further develop over the next few days. Later on today and tomorrow it is expected to cause tropical storm conditions across portions of Colombia and northern Venezuela. According to Ronald Gordon, Belize's Chief Meteorological Officer, Belizeans should continue to vigilantly monitor this system. He said that by Sunday the strengthened storm is projected to make landfall in Central America, though where exactly it will land is still uncertain.

“The latter part of the weekend is when it will likely make landfall, if it does on the coast of Nicaragua or Honduras; that's what the models are indicating at the moment. So that would be the likely timeframe. The impacts on us will probably be about 1 day later or so, depending on where it tracks, and like I mentioned before, the impact will depend on how large the system becomes, how powerful it becomes and how slow it is moving,” Gordon said in a Zoom press conference yesterday.

The morning, the system was moving west at about 15 miles per hour with sustained winds of about 35 miles per

hour. While the system is still largely disorganized and is currently classified as a potential tropical cyclone, it is expected to gain strength and further develop as it moves into the open waters of the southwestern Caribbean Sea.

The system is projected to bring heavy rainfall to the area, a potential risk for Belize if it makes landfall and continues to move along its projected path.

“All indications are that the system will not be curving northward as we had with the hurricane recently. The forecast track is for the system to move westward and across Central America,” said Gordon.

An advisory released by NEMO this afternoon states, “The system is expected to strengthen when it moves over the southwestern Caribbean Sea. By Friday it is expected to be south of Haiti, by Saturday it is expected to be south of Jamaica, by Sunday morning it is expected to be over Nicaragua and Honduras, and by Monday it is likely to be in front of or over Belize. Rainfall amounts is likely to peak on Monday with daily totals of about 4 to 6 inches or higher. Rain is expected before the system reaches our region so flooding could occur before it makes landfall.”

environmental risks due to harm to our marine ecosystem as a result of the presence of two or three port developments within such a small area.

TNC makes note of this while outlining the fourth and final point in its letter to CEO Williams: “The cumulative impact of the existing cruise port developments nearby should be taken into consideration for the calculations of overall impacts to the environment and socio-economic values of ports. The proposed development of two new ports is within an 8-mile radius of [two] other cruise port developments. It's not clear what the cumulative economic, social, and/or ecological impacts are if all these developments were in operation,” the letter states.

After laying out these key observations in the letter to Williams, the TNC Belize program director suggests to the government and the NEAC that instead of granting environmental clearance to the Waterloo project at this time, it should defer such a decision until “a more in-depth assessment is completed that addresses these and other concerns”.

The organization then points to a larger picture—the need for an overall mapping of Belize's marine areas and an overall vision or strategy that could guide critical development decisions that might affect the country for decades to come. It goes on to present what it calls a “tangible and timely solution”: accessing key information on “what human activities can occur in the ocean and where” through a Marine Spatial Plan process that the Coastal Zone Management Authority and Institute (CZMAI) is starting in October 2022—this month. The TNC noted that it is a “public, participatory process with ecological, social and economic objectives that is based on science, information and local knowledge”. It went on to say that such a process “can be used to decide the best locations” for “industrial and large commercial developments such as cruise and cargo ports.”

“A national Marine Spatial Plan will facilitate decisions on a coordinated way forward... and will be inclusive of all major coastal and marine developments, including the other cruise port developments,” the letter points out.

This is in line with the need for the creation of a national strategy for port development.

The creation of the MSP is one of the principal commitments under the Conservation Funding Agreement, and a call to the public has been made to select a name for the marine spatial plan. “This Belize MSP will provide government, local communities, and marine sectors with a transparent, equitable, and participatory process for ensuring that Belize will continue to receive the benefits and services that a healthy ocean can provide,” a post on the TNC Facebook page states.

In the comments submitted to CEO Williams, the TNC Belize program director makes one final, critical point: that having a completed MSP could be of aid to the country when it is seeking financing. “An MSP can be an important asset for Belize when applying for large grants or loans, as it demonstrates that there is an integrated plan for the coastal and marine waters for uses and activities,” TNC's letter states.

“The zoning plan provides a level of business certainty for economic development and secures marine space,” the letter goes on to say.

The TNC Director concludes the comments sent to CEO Williams by stating, “We urge you to consider this as a solution on how to proceed for expanding ports in the country, not only for the Port of Belize ESIA but with all other EIAs and major developments in marine and coastal areas that are on the horizon.”

As mentioned, the Blue Bond financing arrangement between TNC and the Government of Belize represented the world's largest debt restructuring for marine conservation to date.

# Atty. Saldivar: Re-districting Task Force established...

Continued from Page 1

Genevieve Chabot, who is now presiding over the case following the ascension of Justice Michelle Arana to the Court of Appeal. The purpose of Monday's session was to fully update the new sitting judge on the case. In two weeks, on October 18, the parties will be in court once again, and questions will be posed at that time to the expert witness in this case. (As mentioned in earlier reports, Lord Michael Ashcroft joined the proceedings as an interested party and financed the hiring of an expert witness to map suggested layouts for the redistricting process in Belize.)

At the end of the process, there should be a roughly equal number of voters in each of the country's 31 constituencies — ensuring equal representation for all residents of Belize, and, despite a purported effort by an appointed Redistricting Task Force to accomplish such a goal, the claimants are seeking, by means of the case, to have the Elections and Boundaries Commission make a proposal to Parliament to carry out the redistricting process.

"This case is asking for one simple question: for section 90 of the Constitution to be adhered to, for the Elections and Boundaries Commission to make a proposal to Parliament to allow for the distribution of voters to make constituencies as equal as possible. Once that is done, then it goes back to the Elections and Boundaries Department to draw those lines. Those lines, as the expert has stated, could be done within a matter of days," the attorney for the claimants, Arthur Saldivar, explained.

He said clearly that the Re-districting Task Force established by the government has no legal authority under the Constitution and is in his view merely an attempt at gerrymandering.

"The task force is set up with an agenda of bias, because it is geared toward moving voters from areas where they predominantly vote for a particular party, into another area where they continue to vote for that party and its preferred candidate," Saldivar commented.

He noted that the matter of the task force had been brought forward by the defendants in their strike-out application (in an attempt to suggest that a litigative effort to initiate a redistricting process was no longer necessary) and was roundly put down by the courts.

"It cannot be used as a basis to say that they are complying with the Constitution. What it is really, it's a wasteful exercise, because it's taking taxpayers' money to pay for something that public servants have been doing from time immemorial," Saldivar said.

Saldivar further made reference to Minister Henry Charles Usher's suggestion of a merger of the Caye Caulker and St. George's Caye voters with those in Fort George, in which there are a below-average number of voters, and noted that such a decision would go against section 90(2) of the Constitution.

"The geographical features and transportation concerns would have to be taken into consideration when looking at the boundaries and setting up the boundaries of a constituency in a redistricting process. So, you would not go so far, to find additional votes to make up the numbers. You'd have to first look

closer," Saldivar said.

Saldivar went on to point out that voters in divisions that are in closer geographical proximity to the Fort George Division — such as Pickstock, Albert and Caribbean Shores, all of which are constituencies where the number of voters is below-average — would be looked at first for possible mergers that could bolster the number of voters in the Fort George Division, rather than a division as far from that constituency as Caye Caulker.

"We could actually amalgamate Fort George and Caribbean Shores. It would be a very interesting amalgamation, I think," he said. "In that regard, what would we do, then, with Mesopotamia? Mesopotamia is a small constituency as Queen's Square, as is Albert, so we could see a situation where Mesopotamia and Queen's Square become 1, or Mesopotamia and Albert become one. It's just a question of which representative go home," Saldivar went on to remark.

The Re-districting Task Force has already been ruled to be outside the Constitution, according to Saldivar, but will likely be used to generate a proposed redistribution layout to Parliament that would be favorable to the current members of government.

"Whether it is constitutional or not, our leaders don't really care. They are hellbent on spending that money and on doing this exercise, and I believe thereafter they will want to float a proposal to Parliament which will then show boundaries drawn with their particular leanings in mind," Saldivar said, adding that these decisions, which would be unconstitutional, may be challenged if that course of action is taken by the government.

Saldivar further noted that it would take a matter of days for the drawing of the new constituency boundaries to take place, since all the data is readily available, making the work of the Re-districting Task Force redundant.

"They have elected to do a task force, but what I'm saying is that by virtue of the day-to-day function of the Elections and Boundaries Department, the number is known, so if the numbers are known and the geographic composition of the constituencies are known, why would you need to create a new entity to do something that is already done. It's unnecessary, it's a waste, it's a waste of time and a waste of money," Saldivar said.

"The only reason it would take as long as these people want it to take is that they are trying to create an unfair advantage for themselves politically. They are not doing what is necessary under the Constitution; they are doing what they want to do for their political expedience and advantage," Saldivar went on to say, and he subsequently noted, "The groundwork that they are doing is to find out who votes for who."

He said that the expert witness was brought into the case to determine how the disparity across the electoral divisions in Belize can be remedied and to suggest a number of possible realignment scenarios.

"He gave three or four possible solutions where he basically was talking about, you could increase the number of constituencies or you could amalgamate some of the constituencies, or you could increase the numbers, the threshold in terms of the number of constituents within constituencies. Now, I don't see us going

# Property owner builds a wall...

Continued from Page 1

Oscar Mira, the wall was placed at that location because that section of the boulevard is no longer public property — it was de-reserved and sold, far below its market value, under the previous administration of then-Mayor Khalid Belisle and his city council.

The City of Belmopan is a planned city, and as such has planned roads that were positioned to ensure proper circulation of traffic as the city's population grows. In 2019, however, reports surfaced that some of the city's land which had been reserved for the construction of roads, including what was to become Philip Goldson Boulevard, had been surveyed and parceled off by Belisle's council. According to one report by *PLUS News*, the lands had been reserved for future use since 1996.

The recent development of the brick wall across the boulevard has caused frustration for the city's area representative and its current city council, just as it has for many of the city's residents.

"This, as a boulevard, was supposed to connect with George Price Boulevard. Now, here we are — a part of the boulevard being de-reserved and sold off as lots. Most of the people that bought land on this boulevard paid below market value, far below market value," Hon. Oscar Mira said.

Who is the property owner who expanded their private property across a road often traversed by the residents of Belmopan? According to Hon. Mira, former UDP Health Minister, Pablo Marin, holds the title to that piece of land. Marin, however, is not the only person who was reportedly sold a lot on the boulevard. Leading up to the 2020 General Elections, the boulevard was divided into 28 parcels of land and sold.

The divvying up of public land was not isolated to the Philip Goldson Boulevard, According to Hon. Mira, almost half of Almond Boulevard, located on the other side of the city, had been de-reserved and

sold off as lots as well. The sold lots, Hon. Mira said, were a part of the previous administration's "consistent efforts...to sell off anything that they could have found in Belmopan that was available" — a move that Hon. Oscar Mira has called "incomprehensible."

Despite Mira's frustration, along with that of the city's residents, there is not much that the current administration can do, since, most, if not all, of the parceled land already has title owners.

"We have discussed, and I have discussed with the Minister of Lands, and I have discussed with the current administration at City Council. It is very difficult. As you know, titles were issued very, very quickly; as soon as they de-reserved and they sold these lands. Now, if you have a title, it is costly to get it back, very very costly," he said.

Additionally, a main water pipe, belonging to the Belize Water Services Limited, runs directly under the boulevard, meaning that now, it runs under private property.

This is not the only issue that Belmopan's area representative, and City Council, have had to contend with as a result of the selling of public land. Earlier this year, on June 7, reports that a portion of the Isidoro Beaton Stadium had been sold off to a businessman began to surface. That piece of land, which was once used for parking, has now been turned into a carwash.

"There are many other examples around Belmopan that we can look at. And as we go along, we find out more," Hon. Mira said.

The selling of the de-reserved pieces of land, says Mira, is going to cost the city of Belmopan, certainly, much more than what the previous city council had sold the land for.

"Once you have a title, it is very difficult. We do have to respect the title. We do have to respect the idea that once you are a property owner, you have certain rights," he said.

over 31 seats, so he also gave us a variation that allows for 31 seats to be maintained," Saldivar explained, adding that a number of constituencies in Belize City would be brought together, and other out-district constituencies would be divided to create new divisions.

"For example, Stann Creek West would be split, Belmopan would be split, Cayo South would be split, so they were like the creation of 6 in the districts and in the city a number of them would be made one," he said.

Saldivar explained, "These constituencies' boundaries are known; they are well established for quite some time. We have polling areas, we know where all the polling areas are. So, for argument's sake, let's say you have 16 polling areas, 1 to 16, and you have four constituencies. So, you have four of these polling areas in these four constituencies, right, but now you are going to create 6 constituencies out of the four, so two of those constituencies out of the four are going to slip in two, and the polling areas won't change. It would just mean that polling areas 12 and 13 that were once in this particular constituency will not go into another one," he explained.

In reference to the resignation of Martin Aldana from the Re-districting Task Force, Saldivar said, "I expect more resignations from the Task Force, because what you

have there is a political process, and you will rarely find politicians agreeing on anything when they are from different parties."

Notably, the Elections and Boundaries Department compiles a supplementary list of voters each month and presents that data to the Elections and Boundaries Commission. The EBC has the responsibility to review those reports and determine if the distribution of voters is suitable so that each constituent is represented equally.

"They the commissioners [inaudible] should be able to see, because I think they put qualified educated people on that commission, not a bunch of dunces, who can't read and competency and read numbers and read figures and see when something is out of whack or not. If these are the intelligent people that we are putting on the Elections and Boundaries Commission, they should then know that their responsibility under the Constitution, once they see this disparity as wide as it is where one constituency is 10 times bigger than another constituency, that they would make that proposal. Manuel Esquivel in 1988 took it to Parliament and said that this should never happen again, that we should never have a situation where we have such a disparity in numbers between one constituency and the next," Saldivar said.

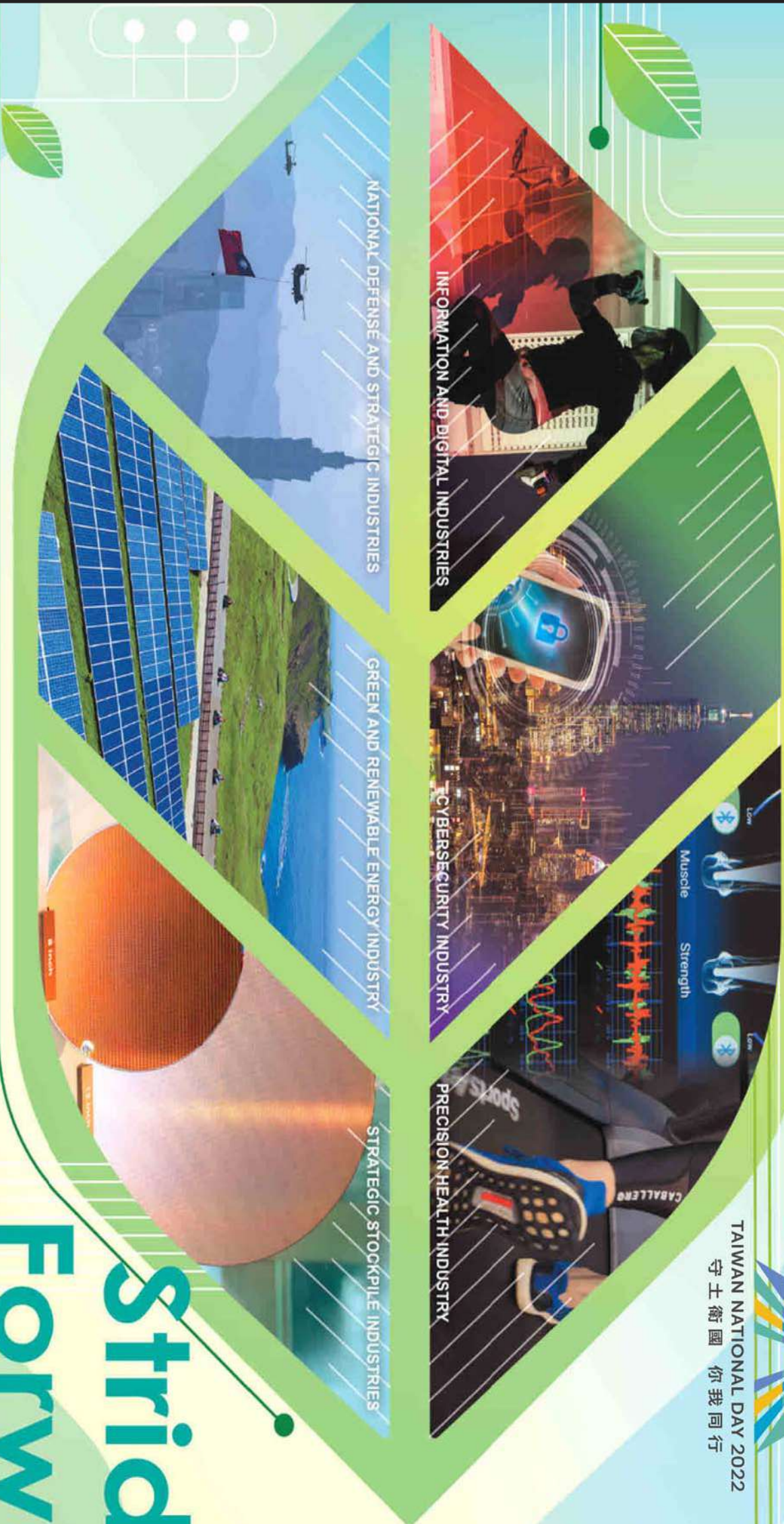


NATIONAL DAY CELEBRATION,  
OCTOBER 10, 2022



TAIWAN NATIONAL DAY 2022  
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# Striding Forward

Taiwan knows with challenges come opportunities. The high-tech powerhouse seized COVID-19 and climate change as chances to cement its position in global supply chains and transform its energy sector. The strategy is paying off: the economy grew 6.28 percent in 2021, and green power generation is poised to reach 15.1 percent by 2025.

Fueling this transition is the Six Core Strategic Industries initiative to boost resilience and realize the U.N. Sustainable Development Goals. This National Day, Taiwan's people stand resolute in their determination to meet the future head-on.



ROC (Taiwan) Embassies, Consulates and Missions

Photos: Ministry of Foreign Affairs