

Interdicted cop linked to weed gummies



Marijuana laced candies

news broke on Tuesday, April 25. By the time Commissioner of Police Chester Williams finally spoke on the matter in an interview today, Thursday, April 27, several layers had been peeled back to the story which seemingly gave the Belize Police Department another huge black eye. Not only had authorities confirmed that a civilian exhibit keeper at the Department's National Exhibit Room in Belize City had simply thrown out the gummies in the garbage, but it was

also revealed that the marijuana-laced candy had arrived at Customs in the name of an interdicted police officer.

When the ComPol addressed the media, he first offered details of the chain of command for the product.

They came into the country in January 2023 in a barrel. When Customs officials called to notify police, members of the Anti-Narcotics Unit

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BELIZE CITY, Thurs. Apr. 27, 2023
The outrageous, scary, incredible weed-gummies student-intoxication

Department's National Exhibit Room in Belize City had simply thrown out the gummies in the garbage, but it was

St. Luke students sickened by weed-laced candy

About 30 St. Luke Methodist Primary School students, as well as several adults, were hospitalized at the KMHM after consuming marijuana-laced candy.

by Kristen Ku

BELIZE CITY, Wed. Apr. 26, 2023

Panic gripped the hearts of many parents and guardians of students at St. Luke Primary School in the Lake Independence area of Belize City after 31 of the school's students, as young as 5-years old, and 7 adults began displaying symptoms such as dizziness, nervousness, vomiting and nausea, with



some even collapsing, after ingesting what was later discovered to be

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GoB revokes Brads' license; company seeks payout

BELIZE CITY, Thurs. Apr. 27, 2023

The 10:00 a.m. draw for the Sunday lottery on April 30 will be the last time that Brads Gaming Group Ltd. (BGGL) will be administering any Government lottery. The question now is how soon sales and draws will resume, as word to *Amandala* is that

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Independence teen killed in the old capital

by Charles Gladden

BELIZE CITY, Thurs. Apr. 27, 2023

A teen hailing from Independence Village, Stann Creek District, was executed on Balan Street in the Lake Independence area of Belize City moments after midday today, Thursday, April 27. *Amandala* has confirmed the identity of the teen as Shamar Shanton Cabral, 19, a delivery man.

Initial reports provided have determined that sometime after 1:00 p.m., Cabral was in the area of Balan Street visiting a friend, and while

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Shamar Cabral, deceased

Jasmine Hartin pleads guilty to manslaughter



Jasmine Hartin

by Roy Davis (freelance reporter)

BELIZE CITY, Tues. Apr. 25, 2023

Canadian socialite Jasmine Hartin, 33, the former daughter-in-law of British billionaire Lord Michael Ashcroft, made local and international news today when



Henry Jemmott, deceased

she appeared on Tuesday before Justice Ricardo Sandcroft and pleaded guilty to manslaughter by negligence for the death of Police Superintendent Henry Jemmott, 42, which occurred on May

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Mayor Wagner attends 1st Cities Summit of the Americas



Mayors of Latin America and the Caribbean (2023 Mayors Forum)



Mayor Michael Hancock and Mayor Bernard Wagner

BELIZE CITY, Thurs. Apr. 27, 2023

This year, the first Cities Summit of the Americas is being hosted by Mayor Michael Hancock and the City of Denver in Colorado, U.S.A from April 26 to April 28, inside the Colorado Convention Center. At the invitation of Mayor Hancock and the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB Belize), Mayor Bernard Wagner of Belize City is currently attending this inaugural event. The Cities Summit aims to promote regional cooperation by gathering a diverse group of subnational leaders from across the Western Hemisphere. These leaders represent various sectors, including government, civil society, academia, culture, arts, business and indigenous communities. Over these three days, attendees will participate in stakeholder roundtables,

networking sessions, expert panels, commercial engagements and public outreach activities, all of which should address a variety of local community priorities shared across the Americas.

One of the main events Mayor Bernard Wagner attended during the Cities Summit was the 2023 IDB Mayors Forum on April 26, 2023. This event, which was organized by the IDB Cities Network, brought together approximately forty mayors from Latin America and the Caribbean. Under the theme, “Financing Sustainable Development in Latin America and the Caribbean Cities,” participants had the opportunity to explore new avenues of financing, share tools and inspire the sustainable strengthening of public finances in order to fund projects that aim to improve citizens’ quality of life.

In addition to the Mayors Forum, Mayor Wagner will be participating in a panel

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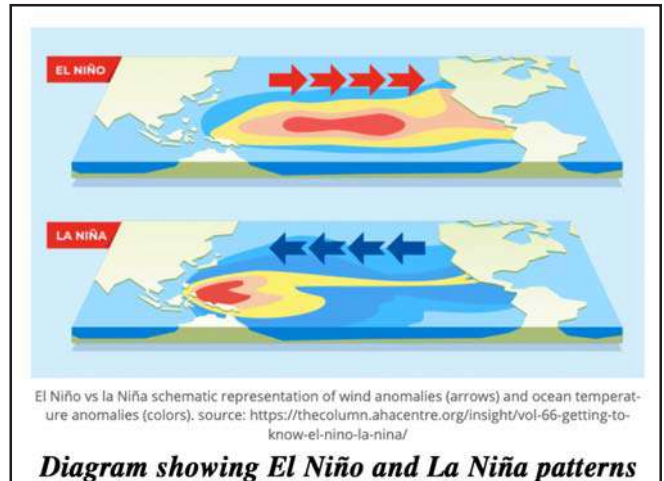
Record global temperature rise predicted with the return of El Niño

The cooling influence of La Niña over the past three years may have lowered global temperature-rise slightly – but 2023 and 2024 could possibly be the hottest years on record with the start of this new El Niño pattern.

by *Marco Lopez*

BELIZE CITY, Thurs. Apr. 27, 2023

Climate models predict a return of the El Niño, and with it record-breaking global temperatures. An El Niño is normally associated with record-breaking temperatures globally, and while whether this will occur in 2023 or 2024 is not yet known definitively, climate scientists believe that it is “more likely than not.”



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“Eruptions” proprietor challenges COMPOL

by *Charles Gladden*

BELIZE CITY, Wed. Apr. 26, 2023

The Eruptions Nightclub, which is located at Mile 11 ½ on the Philip Goldson Highway in Ladyville, Belize District, was in the news last week, not for a good reason as it was announced that all members of the Belize Defence Force (BDF) are prohibited from entering the establishment. To make matters worse, Commissioner of Police, Chester Williams declared in an interview last week with the local media that police officers are also banned from the establishment.

Eruptions Nightclub was in the news last year when a 17-year-old female was reportedly raped while inside the establishment. The proprietors were charged with admitting a minor, an individual under the age of 18 into the premises. In respect to the recent decision to ban BDF and Police personnel from Eruptions, an allegation was made that the owner of the club, or some relative had been involved in human trafficking.

The owner of the club, Hector Choj, has issued a statement on social media, denying involvement with any such deeds. “I have been in the nightclub business from the year 2010 until present, and I have never been brought before the court to be convicted or charged for human trafficking. Therefore, the false statement that was made...is reckless and highly defamatory, with no evidence, and has caused me to suffer reputational harm



Chester Williams, Commissioner of Police

as the owner, [and] individuals associated with me, including my family, and constitute tortious interference and harm to my establishment,” the statement said.

The statement continued: “... we have evidence to prove that the statements made contain serious, untrue, and highly defamatory comments towards myself and individuals related to me; some of which contain malicious falsehood.”

The proprietors of the club have reportedly challenged ComPol Williams to prove the allegation or they will be seeking legal action. When the proprietors of Eruptions Nightclub appeared in court to defend the 2022 charge of admitting a minor into their establishment, they were represented by attorneys Richard Bradley and Norman Rodriguez.

Man, 60, killed in Ladyville home

by *Charles Gladden*

LADYVILLE, Belize District, Thurs. Apr. 27, 2023

Shortly before noon on Wednesday, April 26, the body of Armando Williams, 60, who had been stabbed and bludgeoned to death, was found in his home on Swallow Street in Ladyville, Belize District.

According to initial reports at the scene, Williams was found lying in a fetal position on his bed with stab wounds to his chest area and visible head injuries with a smashed plastic pan covering his face.

While information about this latest murder is still limited, the deceased’s son, Martin Williams, a BDF soldier, told reporters that several men suspected of being involved in criminal activities, including drug-dealing, would often socialize at home with his father, and he (the deceased’s son) often chased them away.

Police searched Williams’ home, but



Armando Williams, deceased

there has been no indication so far that they found a murder weapon, and it is not yet certain what the motive was for the murder.

It was reported that Armando Williams suffered from mental illness.

Williams leaves behind two sons and a daughter.



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JPAC holds public broadcast

Auditor General Dorothy Bradley answered questions from the members of the Joint Public Accounts Committee (JPAC) working group on matters concerning the 2014-2015 Auditor General's Report.



Dorothy Bradley, Auditor General

BELMOPAN, Thurs. Apr. 27, 2023

The last Auditor General's Report prepared was for the period 2014-2015. That report was not sent to the Ministry of Finance until 2019. Holding persons with access to the public purse

accountable becomes difficult in these situations, said the chairperson of the Joint Public Accounts Committee (JPAC), Hon. Tracy Panton, during a meeting that the committee held on Monday, April 24, during which it held its first public broadcast. At that meeting, the Acting Auditor General, Dorothy Bradley, was present, after

having been invited by the committee to answer questions pertaining to the 2014-2015 Auditor General's Report.

The country is currently about 5 to 6 years behind on Auditor General Reports for a myriad of reasons. Members of the JPAC, inclusive of Ministers Dolores Balderamos Garcia and Kareem Musa, and Senators Elena Smith and Kevin Herrera, asked Bradley key questions about the challenges faced by her office and the reasons for the lack of completed financial reports.

In essence, Bradley stated that her office needs more independence from the Ministry of Finance, as well as resources, financial and human, to get the job done. She outlined that for years the government had been in the process of cleaning up accounts that featured a long list of hanging transactions that were not properly posted, resulting in a delay in the preparation of financial statements, since proper documentation for a number of transactions within government ministries could not be obtained or verified.

Bradley further explained that they had worked with their Caribbean counterparts to create a system to temporarily log those accounts in a suspended account, and began the process of creating financial statements

"Angry" American pastor, remanded for firearm offence, offered a cash bail of \$40,000

by Roy Davis (freelance reporter)

BELIZE CITY, Thurs. Apr. 27, 2023

Josue Galdamez, 63, an American national who claims that he is a pastor, appeared virtually today before Justice Ricardo Sandcroft for a hearing of his petition for bail for charges of aggravated assault with a firearm and harm.

He was offered a cash bail of \$40,000 with one to three sureties. The bail was granted on the condition that he report to the police station in Mango Creek every Monday, Wednesday and Friday; that he does not go to Punta Gorda where his wife resides; that he enters into an anger management program; and that a stop order be put at all ports of entry.

The incident occurred about 6:30 p.m. on April 8 in Punta Gorda. The pastor's wife, who is 65, reported to the police that she and her husband left their home and went to church. She said that during the service her husband, who seemed agitated, suddenly got up and left and she followed him.

She told police that when they arrived home he took a broomstick and he began to beat her on her buttocks and back with it, causing her to feel pain.

She said she tried to prevent him from hitting her in her face with the broomstick and that was when he struck her on her left arm and caused it to bleed.

She reported to the police that while her husband was beating her he kept

asking her why she had looked in his cellular phone. She said she then became fearful for her life because he had his firearm in his hand.

She also told police that on another occasion her husband came after her after she had just taken a bath, and he accused her of taking the bath because she had been with another man. She said she tried to assure him that she was not being unfaithful to him, but he wouldn't listen to her and he slapped her and choked her with a fan. She said that on that occasion her husband had pointed his firearm at her and had told her he will finish her.

Galdamez was represented in court by attorney Hurl Hamilton.

The Crown was represented by Crown Counsel Dercene Staine.

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Women and IP: Accelerating Innovation and Creativity

by Kristen Ku

BELIZE CITY, Thurs. Apr. 27, 2023

World Intellectual Property Day (WIPD) is observed every year on April 26 to bring awareness to the importance of intellectual property (IP) and its relevance to businesses, inventors, and artists worldwide.

Intellectual property refers to ownership of inventions such as literary and artistic works, music, designs, images, etc., that fall under four different categories: patents, trademarks, copyrights, and trade secrets.

This year, in celebration of WIPD 2023, Belize hosted a series of events under the theme: "Women and IP: Accelerating Innovation and Creativity."

While it is no secret that women contribute greatly to creativity and cultural expression in society, what is often downplayed are the challenges they face to perfect and own their artistic creations.

Therefore, the goal of the Belize Intellectual Property Office (BELIPO) is to build an IP ecosystem that allows these women to be more informed about the IP system while it promotes and accelerates continuous creativity and business growth.

In other words, it allows these women entrepreneurs to be protected and




officially own their inventions without the worry of their property rights being taken away.

The events began on April 25, which was called Application Assistance/ Consultation Day. On this date, female inventors were offered free consultations and discounts by BELIPO on all applications and copyright deposits.

A Women's Expo was also held the following day at the Belmopan Civic Center, where each of these female entrepreneurs displayed and sold their creations, and explained how their registered IP has positively impacted their businesses.

BELIPO, along with the Belizean Society of Composers, Authors, Publishers (BSCAP), a nonprofit/non-governmental organization, wishes to continue raising awareness for "the objective of ensuring compliance and remuneration for creators," according to the BSCAP post on their Facebook page.




Labour Day
NOTICE

Our advertisers, sellers and readers are advised that there will be no online Tuesday issue of the newspaper for May 2.

The Friday issue will hit the streets on Friday morning, May 5, 2023

HAPPY
Labour Day

From the management and staff of Kremandala





Demand better from police — without the bashing

As if our Police Department didn't have enough negative issues to deal with, they now have to address the disturbing incident this week that luckily didn't turn tragic: the intoxication of more than two dozen children and adults who unknowingly ate marijuana sweets. There is an ongoing investigation, reports say, to find out all the missteps that were made, and who were involved. Unfortunately, just as the Tuesday *Amandala* headline stated, police will be policing police. The police desperately need a completely non-police body to oversee investigations into matters like these.

The best report we could get from the police end of the incident is that it is an extremely unfortunate case of negligence and circumstance. As far as we know, our police officers are not used to handling marijuana edibles. They ACTUALLY look like sweets. Far, far more dangerous goods have been known to disappear from their exhibits room. The product was reportedly thrown in the garbage, and that should have been the end of the "sweets", if it were not for some desperate person at the dump (all persons who rummage there are desperate) who found them and proceeded to take them to market. And there's where all hell broke loose, because the "confectionery" which was infused with marijuana ended up in the mouths of unsuspecting children, and a few adults.

The morale and the image of our police might be at an all-time low. Several police officers who did very terrible things had their reckoning in court this past week. Three officers who bludgeoned a man they had detained, beat him until he died, were sentenced to years in jail, and another officer awaits sentencing after being found guilty of manslaughter, killing an innocent youth. Other officers are in prison: some awaiting trial after the shooting and killing of a young man on a

motorcycle, because they thought he had fired at them; some for "forgetting" a young man they had detained in a police van, which led to his death; some for involvement in the illegal drug trade. An extremely tarnished officer is incarcerated while he awaits his date in court to answer to the horrific charge of murdering three innocent Belizeans.

It is no small number of officers who are on remand or out on bail awaiting trial. The Minister of Home Affairs, Hon. Kareem Musa, says that is an indication that the process to weed out rogue officers is working.

Most police officers are not highly paid, and with so much wrong around them, it is inevitable that some of them will trip and fall. There's a lot of money around the US-sponsored drugs war against marijuana and cocaine, and many are tempted to facilitate the passage of the drugs through our country. Unsurprisingly, many frontline officers and even some high elected officials sell their services to the illegal trade. Some time ago, the police realized that the vast majority of individuals they charged with murder were walking out of the courts as free men, and to vent their frustration some of them began acting like violent criminals themselves.

Police officers are subjected to the worst abuse from too many members of the public, and when they break down, retaliate, cell phones appear on the scene to record their disgrace for all in the nation to see.

A persistent call has been for our officers to receive better training, so that they understand their duties better, so they can better tolerate the assaults from the ungenerous public, so that they prepare better cases for the court. Improved training could only be a plus. Officers are trained before they get to work in the society, and part of the training is geared toward divesting them of their personal flaws. Belizeans in general would be less flawed if our country didn't shirk on its responsibility to provide proper programs for our youth.

Life is real. Some officers are selected and trained to deal with violent elements — hardened criminals. Only an ostrich wouldn't know that there are individuals in our streets with weapons that should be found only in the armory of the BDF.

The men and women in the police ranks are ours, and for them and for all, our business must be to make them better. One constant over the years since the standard in the department started eroding is bashing. Some people say they bash to make our officers better. Well, has it? After years of bashing has the department gotten better? No! When it comes to the human heart and mind, mental abuse never produced a good harvest.

At the very least, we should have respect for the uniform, even if we've had some bad experiences with cops who are rogue. Apart from not being highly paid, officers sometimes work in dangerous conditions; they see corruption daily, and the temptation from the dishonest rich is always present, for them to make a quick but illegal buck. Cops who disgrace the uniform must be severely dealt with, by the law, but it must become the rule that we respect, if not love, our officers.

Waterloo thinks judge might have "unconscious" bias

During and subsequent to the vetting process of Waterloo Investments Holdings' proposal to build a cruise port at the present Port of Belize Ltd. — a project which has been rejected twice by the Department of the Environment (DOE) — the group charged unnamed GoB environmentalists with seeking bribes, appealed the DOE decision to reject the project, decided to take the GoB before the Permanent Court of Arbitration in The Hague, found fault with two of the members of the Tribunal that had been set up to hear their appeal, and now has announced their disapproval of a third member of the Tribunal, Justice Patricia Farnese.

The *Amandala* said that legal representatives of Waterloo had written to Justice Farnese expressing fear that given her "impeccable credentials as an environmental activist and expert" she could have an unconscious bias against the \$300 million development project which involves major dredging, the disposal of the spoils of dredging near the shore, and land-use change, among other things. Waterloo is calling for the judge, who is the chairman of the Tribunal, to recuse herself.

The story unfolding before us gets more incredible by the week. The law allows the developer to lodge an appeal, and for a Tribunal to be set up. The law calls for an individual who understands business and project development, an individual who is trained in environmental science, and an individual versed in the law, to form the Tribunal. The task of the Tribunal is to see if it can find anything salvageable in the rejected project, and if so to amend it and send it back to the DOE.

Anyone knows a judge on this planet who gives carte blanche to developers in a world that is in the grip of climate change? Anyone knows a judge in Belize who doesn't think the reef in our country is a world treasure? If there is such a judge, Waterloo is looking for them, because Justice Farnese might subconsciously have a bias against their project.

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NOTICE: Name of Vessel: Weak Moment. Owner: William Poston. Description: 35' Fiberglass Cabin Cruiser. Color: Blue & White Hull W/ Blue Stripe & White. Registration No.: SC-0927. Certificate No.: BPA-B02717. Engine (s): 455 HPC7X00114 (Port), 455 HPC7X00132 (Starboard)

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LIQUOR LICENCE NOTICE: Notice is hereby given that Yiu-Wah Chan is applying for a Liquor License to be operated at Yzla Bella, Calle Al Sol, Caye Caulker, under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 2000.

LIQUOR LICENCE NOTICE: Notice is hereby given that Eleanor Laverne Gillett is applying for a Shop Liquor License to be operated at Ms. G Mini Mart, Teakettle Village, under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 2000.

LIQUOR LICENCE NOTICE: Notice is hereby given that Victor Delgado is applying for a Publican Special Liquor License to be operated at Highway Cool Spot, Mile 49 George Price Highway, under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 2000.

Letters to the editor

P.G. resident responds to Wellington Ramos' article

Mr. W.C. Ramos,

I read with great interest your article, "The British and Belize governments continue to violate the Garifuna peoples' human/land rights in Belize."

I wish to commend you on a well-written article, but I, as a Belizean Creole, took offence on the point where you say, "The British at the time had some people from the continent of Africa as slaves known today as Creoles." Sir, I take serious offence at how casually you include and dismiss

our Creole people. I have noticed that some, not all, but some Garifuna see us Creoles as foreigners in our own country. Please bear in mind that it was our sweat, blood and lives that created this beautiful country of Belize. It was the faces of my ancestors that your ancestors looked upon as they came to shore. When you claim indigenous rights, please don't forget that most likely it was in my people's homes that your people stayed as brothers as they began to rebuild their lives.

The evil colonial masters kept us apart for a reason. Unity brings strength, which is dangerous to those who enslaved us. I hope your future letters can reflect unity between our people instead of dividing us.

Sincerely,
Andy Jones
Punta Gorda



The High Court of Belize
Belize City
Belize C.A.
E-mail: lduncan@belizejudiciary.org

Telephone No. 227-7377
Fax No. 227-0181

April 25th, 2023

Notice to the General Public High Court Notice – Active Inferior Appeals

Notice is hereby given that the High Court, formerly the Supreme Court, is in the process of addressing the issue of inferior appeals (Criminal and Civil/Family) that remain active in the Court's system. Anyone who has filed an appeal of a Magistrate Courts' decision to the High Court, which has not yet been addressed, is asked to kindly submit information regarding the appeal to the Assistant Registrar at srodriguez@belizejudiciary.org before Friday May 26th, 2023.


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Como si nuestro Departamento de Policía no tuviera suficientes problemas negativos con los que lidiar, ahora deben abordar el inquietante incidente de esta semana que afortunadamente no se volvió trágico: la intoxicación de más de dos docenas de niños y adultos que sin saberlo comieron dulces de marihuana. Hay una investigación en curso, dicen los informes, para descubrir todos los pasos en falso que se cometieron y quiénes estuvieron involucrados. Desafortunadamente, tal como decía el titular de Amandala del martes, la policía vigilará a la policía. La policía necesita desesperadamente un cuerpo completamente no policial para supervisar las investigaciones sobre asuntos como estos.

El mejor informe del incidente que pudimos obtener de la parte policial es que se trata de un caso extremadamente desafortunado de negligencia y circunstancia. Hasta donde sabemos, nuestros policías no están acostumbrados a manejar comestibles de marihuana. REALMENTE parecen dulces. Se sabe que mercancías mucho, mucho más peligrosas han desaparecido de su almacén de evidencias. Según informes, el producto habría sido tirado a la basura, y ese debería haber sido el final de los "dulces", si no fuera por una persona desesperada en el basurero (todas las personas que rebuscan allí están desesperadas) que los encontró y procedió a llevárselos para vender. Y ahí es donde se desató el infierno, porque la "golosina" infundida con marihuana terminó en la boca de niños desprevenidos y algunos adultos.

La moral y la imagen de nuestra policía podrían estar en su punto más bajo. Varios policías que hicieron cosas muy terribles fueron juzgados la semana pasada. Tres oficiales que apalearon a un hombre que habían detenido, lo golpearon hasta que murió, fueron sentenciados a años de cárcel, y otro oficial espera sentencia después de ser declarado culpable de homicidio involuntario, matando a un joven inocente. Otros agentes están en prisión: algunos en espera de juicio por el asesinato a tiros de un joven en una motocicleta, porque pensaron que les había disparado; unos por "olvidar" a un joven al que habían detenido en una camioneta policial, lo que le provocó la muerte; algunos por involucrarse en el tráfico ilegal de drogas. Un oficial extremadamente manchado está encarcelado mientras espera su cita en la corte para responder al horrible cargo de asesinar a tres beliceños inocentes.

No es pequeño el número de agentes que están en prisión preventiva o en libertad bajo fianza en espera de juicio. El Ministro del Interior, el Honorable Kareem Musa, dice que es una indicación de que el proceso para eliminar a los oficiales deshonestos está funcionando.

La mayoría de los oficiales de policía no están muy bien pagados, y con tanto mal a su alrededor, es inevitable que algunos de ellos tropiecen y se caigan. Hay mucho dinero en torno a la guerra contra las drogas patrocinada por Estados Unidos contra la marihuana y la cocaína, y muchos están tentados a facilitar el paso de las drogas a través de nuestro país. Como era de esperar, muchos oficiales de primera línea e incluso algunos altos

funcionarios electos venden sus servicios al comercio ilegal. Hace algún tiempo, la policía se dio cuenta de que la gran mayoría de las personas a las que acusaban de asesinato salían de los tribunales como hombres libres y, para descargar su frustración, algunos de ellos comenzaron a actuar como delincuentes violentos. Los oficiales de policía son sujetos a los peores abusos por parte de demasiados miembros del público, y cuando se descomponen, toman represalias, los teléfonos celulares aparecen en la escena para registrar su desgracia para que todos en la nación los vean.

Ha habido un llamado persistente para que nuestros oficiales reciban una mejor capacitación, para que entiendan mejor sus deberes, para que puedan tolerar mejor los ataques del público poco generoso, para que preparen mejores casos para la corte. La mejora de la formación sólo podría ser una ventaja. Los oficiales son entrenados antes de que comiencen a trabajar en la sociedad, y parte del entrenamiento está orientado a despojarlos de sus defectos personales. Los beliceños en general tendrían menos defectos si nuestro país no eludiera su responsabilidad de proporcionar programas adecuados para nuestra juventud.

La vida es real. Algunos oficiales son seleccionados y entrenados para lidiar con elementos violentos, criminales endurecidos. Solo un avestruz no sabría que hay individuos en nuestras calles con armas que solo deberían encontrarse en el arsenal de la Fuerza de Defensa de Belize.

Los hombres y mujeres de las filas policiales son nuestros, y por ellos y por todos, nuestro negocio debe ser hacerlos mejores. Una constante a lo largo de los años desde que el estándar en el departamento comenzó a erosionarse son los ataques. Algunas personas dicen que critican para mejorar a nuestros oficiales. Bueno, ¿ha mejorado? Después de años de ataques, ¿ha mejorado el departamento? ¡No! Cuando se trata del corazón y la mente humana, el abuso mental nunca produjo una buena cosecha.

Como mínimo, debemos tener respeto por el uniforme, incluso si hemos tenido algunas malas experiencias con policías deshonestos. Aparte de no estar muy bien pagados, los oficiales a veces trabajan en condiciones peligrosas; ven corrupción a diario, y la tentación de los ricos deshonestos siempre está presente, para que ganen dinero rápido pero ilegal. Los policías que deshonran el uniforme deben ser tratados con severidad por la ley, pero debe convertirse en la regla que respetemos, si no que amemos, a nuestros oficiales.

Waterloo cree que la jueza podría tener un sesgo "inconsciente"

Durante y después del proceso de escrutinio de la propuesta de Waterloo Investments Holdings para construir un puerto de cruceros en el actual Port of Belize Ltd., un proyecto que ha sido rechazado dos veces por el Departamento de Medio Ambiente (DOE por sus siglas en inglés), el grupo acusó a ambientalistas anónimos del Gobierno de Belize de la búsqueda de sobornos, apeló la decisión del DOE de rechazar el proyecto, decidió llevar al Gobierno de Belize ante la Corte Permanente de Arbitraje de La Haya, encontró desperfectos con dos de los miembros del Tribunal que se había establecido para escuchar su apelación, y ahora ha anunciado su desaprobación de un tercer miembro del Tribunal, la jueza Patricia Farnese.

Amandala dijo que los representantes legales de Waterloo habían escrito a la jueza Farnese expresando temor de que dadas sus "credenciales impecables como activista ambiental y experta", podría tener un sesgo inconsciente en contra del proyecto de desarrollo de \$ 300 millones que implica un gran dragado, la eliminación del desecho de dragado cerca de la costa y cambio de uso de suelo, entre otras cosas. Waterloo está pidiendo que la jueza, que es la presidenta del Tribunal, se recuse.

La historia que se desarrolla ante nosotros se vuelve más increíble cada semana. La ley permite que el desarrollador interponga un recurso de apelación y que se establezca un Tribunal. La ley exige que una persona que comprenda asuntos de negocios y desarrollo de proyectos, una persona capacitada en ciencias ambientales y una persona versada en derecho, formen el Tribunal. La tarea del Tribunal es ver si puede encontrar algo salvable en el proyecto rechazado y, de ser así, modificarlo y enviarlo de vuelta al DOE.

¿Alguien conoce a un juez en este planeta que dé carta blanca a los desarrolladores en un mundo que está bajo las garras del cambio climático? ¿Alguien conoce a un juez en Belize que no crea que el arrecife en nuestro país es un tesoro mundial? Si existe tal juez, Waterloo lo está buscando, porque la jueza Farnese podría tener subconscientemente un sesgo en contra de su proyecto.

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PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AND JUSTICE IN ENVIRONMENTAL
MATTERS IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

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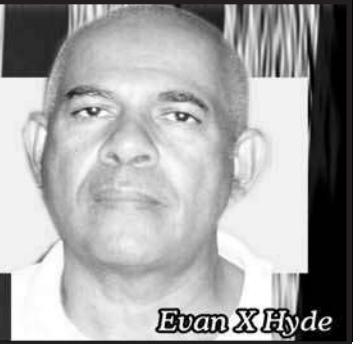
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From the Publisher



Evan X Hyde

In my life, I have had pretty close contact over the years with four different religions, which is to say, Roman Catholicism, Methodism, Islam, and the Jehovah's Witnesses.

I think that the importance of religion, as one ages, lies in the camaraderie among the various congregations when believers worship and participate in their different groupings.

Roman Catholicism, Methodism, and the Witnesses are Christian religions. They believe that Jesus Christ, the son of Mary, is the Son of God, and was crucified and gave His life in order that sinful mankind could be redeemed, saved from our sins.

Islam believes that there is only one God — Allah, so they see Jesus as a great prophet, but do not consider Him to be divine.

The vast majority of Belizeans belong to some Christian faith or the other, so if one intends to participate as a candidate in Belizean politics, it would be sensible for one to subscribe to a Christian faith, or at

least pay respect to such.

Christ was born and was crucified two thousand years ago. Those human beings who lived in Africa and America before the birth of Christ belonged to religions which were not Christian, because they had never heard of Christ before the Europeans invaded Africa and America with their horses and their swords and their guns and their cannons five hundred years ago.

In this region, the Maya people north and south of us, when the Europeans invaded, retreated into the jungle, where they were intent on surviving the onslaught of the Europeans, as much as they could, and preserve as many of their religious beliefs as they could.

The Maya were not a monolithic people. I think there were thirteen different Maya groups in what we now call Mexico, whereas there were and are many such groups in what we now know as Guatemala.

The bottom line is that the Europeans came with violence and

then they imposed their Christian religions in their educational institutions, a process which, in effect, excused their brutality and violence on the grounds that they were teaching pagans and savages how to be civilized and Christian.

When we were growing up in British Honduras in the 1950s and 1960s, there were Maya statues and hieroglyphics displayed in the Bliss Institute. These were carved in stone, and held no meaning or significance for us Belizeans.

Sometime in the early 1960s, Rt. Hon. George Price, who was Belize's political leader, was seeking to establish self-rule for Belizeans free from the colonial rule of the British. Mr. Price began a campaign on his government monopoly radio station to glorify the Maya past of Belize (Mr. Price's mother was a Maya Indian from the Orange Walk District) in order, it appears, to justify Belizean movement away from British culture and superiority.

Hon. Florencio Marin, Sr., who was first elected at age 22 in 1965 to the House of Representatives representing Mr. Price's People's United Party (PUP), and I were never friends, but in the last five or seven years, we held a few conversations. I asked him about the campaign to "Mayanize" Belize, because my opinion was that Mr. Price himself did not know much about the Maya. The Maya hieroglyphics and sacred writings were not translated until the 1970s, and Nelson Reed did not publish the first history book in English about the Caste War in Yucatan, which began in 1847 and lasted for most of the last half of the nineteenth century, until 1963.

Mr. Marin told me that it was his impression that Mr. Price had sent his information and communications guru, Rudy Castillo, to Merida to do research on the material on the Caste War and the Maya which were available in Spanish.

The main significance of Mr. Price's Maya initiative, to my mind, was the negative reaction it produced in those of us Belizean youth who were of African descent. Now, there were many, many older Belizeans of African descent who loved Mr. Price, and he was very comfortable with them, although the Price family, before Mr. George, would have been considered "Belize white."

These were the years of Ydigoras Fuentes and an aggressive Guatemalan claim to British Honduras. We Belizean youth of African descent did not know that

there was a civil war going on in Guatemala which had elements of a race war. The ruling "ladino" (white Spanish) class in Guatemala was butchering the Indigenous Maya, who lived mostly in the countryside. For us African Belizean youth, the Guatemalan claim back then meant simply that we would be pushed out of our home with nowhere to go.

I think the late Mateo Ayuso quoted me as describing Mr. Price as a "Maya racist", and I think there have been many Maya people who resent me for those words, which I wrote in 1970 or so, when the Price government was trying to incarcerate me for "seditious conspiracy." (By the way, my late father-in-law's mother was a Santa Cruz Maya refugee from the Caste War who lived in Guinea Grass.)

I understand why I would be condemned for the "Maya racist" comment, but I was being threatened with jail at precisely the same time for promoting African consciousness. You see how confused the 1970 situation was in Belize, and it was because the European educational system had taught our people of African and Maya descent nothing about our ancestors and our genetics.

Former Cayo North area representative and PUP Cabinet Minister, Hector Silva, this week on KREM Radio described the present situation in Toledo as a "powder keg." The principals who are confronting each other are Maya, on one side, and non-Maya (largely of African descent) on the other.

Maya and African people in Belize should not be this hostile to each other. This is the case, however, primarily because of the ignorance orchestrated by our European educational system, which has changed little, insofar as the teaching of Maya and African history is concerned, since 1970.

In the Congo, the richest territory on planet earth, where the poorest people in the world live, wars have followed wars. The wars in which Africans are killing Africans are financed by wealthy countries and companies outside of the Congo which want to control the Congo's natural resources. According to Mr. Silva, Toledo has petroleum in the south and uranium in its north. If this is so, then Toledo is indeed a powder keg. This is why it is often said that bountiful natural resources are a curse for poor countries.

This essay is inadequate, because the subject requires massive research, analysis, and debate. My contribution is humble.

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FROM THE PUBLISHER en Español

En mi vida, he tenido un contacto bastante cercano a lo largo de los años con cuatro religiones diferentes, es decir, el catolicismo romano, el metodismo, el islamismo y los testigos de Jehová.

Creo que la importancia de la religión, a medida que uno envejece, radica en la camaradería entre las diversas congregaciones cuando los creyentes adoran y participan en sus diferentes agrupaciones.

El catolicismo romano, el metodismo y los Testigos son religiones cristianas. Ellos creen que Jesucristo, el hijo de María, es el Hijo de Dios, y fue crucificado y dio Su vida para que la humanidad pecadora pudiera ser redimida, salvada de nuestros pecados.

El Islam cree que solo hay un Dios: Alá, por lo que ven a Jesús como un gran profeta, pero no lo consideran divino.

La gran mayoría de los beliceños pertenecen a una fe cristiana u otra, por lo que si uno tiene la intención de participar como candidato en la política beliceña, sería sensato que se suscribiera a una fe cristiana, o al menos respetarla.

Cristo nació y fue crucificado hace dos mil años. Esos seres humanos que vivieron en África y América antes del nacimiento de Cristo pertenecían a religiones que no eran cristianas, porque nunca habían oído hablar de Cristo antes de que los europeos invadieran África y América con sus caballos y sus espadas y sus fusiles y sus cañones hace quinientos años.

En esta región, cuando los europeos invadieron, el pueblo maya al norte y al sur de nosotros, se retiraron a la selva, donde intentaron sobrevivir al ataque de los europeos, tanto como pudieron, y preservar tantas de sus creencias

religiosas como pudieron.

Los mayas no eran un pueblo monolítico. Creo que había trece grupos mayas diferentes en lo que ahora llamamos México, mientras que había y hay muchos de esos grupos en lo que ahora conocemos como Guatemala.

La conclusión es que los europeos llegaron con violencia y luego impusieron sus religiones cristianas en sus instituciones educativas, un proceso que, en efecto, excusó su brutalidad y violencia con el argumento de que estaban enseñando a paganos y salvajes a ser civilizados y cristianos.

Cuando crecíamos en Honduras Británica en las décadas de 1950 y 1960, había estatuas mayas y jeroglíficos exhibidos en el Instituto Bliss. Estos eran tallados en piedra y no tenían ningún significado para nosotros, los beliceños.

En algún momento a principios de la

década de 1960, el Muy Honorable George Price, quien era el líder político de Belize, buscaba establecer un autogobierno para los beliceños libres del dominio colonial de los británicos. El Sr. Price comenzó una campaña en su estación de radio monopolizada por el gobierno para glorificar el pasado maya de Belize (la madre del Sr. Price era una indígena maya del distrito de Orange Walk) para, al parecer, justificar el alejamiento de Belize de la cultura y la superioridad británica.

El Honorable Florencio Marin, Sr., quien fue elegido por primera vez a los 22 años en 1965 a la Cámara de Representantes en representación del Partido Unido del Pueblo (PUP) del Sr. Price, y yo nunca fuimos amigos, pero en los últimos cinco o siete años, tuvimos algunas conversaciones. Le pregunté sobre la campaña para "mayanizar" a Belize, porque mi opinión era que el mismo Sr. Price no sabía mucho sobre los mayas. Los jeroglíficos mayas y las escrituras sagradas no se tradujeron hasta la década de 1970, y Nelson Reed no publicó el primer libro de historia en inglés sobre la Guerra de Castas en Yucatán, que comenzó en 1847 y se prolongó durante la mayor parte de la segunda mitad del siglo XIX, sino hasta 1963.

El Sr. Marín me dijo que tenía la impresión de que el Sr. Price había enviado a su gurú de la información y las comunicaciones, Rudy Castillo, a Mérida para investigar el material sobre la Guerra de Castas y los mayas que estaba disponible en español.

El principal significado de la iniciativa maya del Sr. Price, en mi opinión, fue la reacción negativa que produjo en los jóvenes beliceños que éramos descendientes de africanos. Ahora, había muchos, muchos beliceños mayores de ascendencia africana que amaban al Sr. Price, y él se sentía muy cómodo con ellos, aunque la familia Price, antes que el Sr. George, habría sido considerada "beliceña blanca".

Estos fueron los años de Ydígoras Fuentes y un agresivo reclamo guatemalteco sobre Honduras Británica. Nosotros los jóvenes beliceños de ascendencia africana no sabíamos que había una guerra civil en Guatemala que tenía elementos de una guerra racial. La clase gobernante "ladino" (español blanco) en Guatemala estaba masacrando a los indígenas mayas, que vivían principalmente en el campo. Para nosotros, los jóvenes beliceños africanos, el reclamo guatemalteco en ese entonces significaba simplemente que seríamos expulsados de nuestro hogar sin ningún lugar adonde ir.

Creo que el difunto Mateo Ayuso me citó describiendo al Sr. Price como un "racista maya", y creo que ha habido mucha gente maya que me ha resentido por esas palabras, que escribí alrededor de 1970, cuando el gobierno de Price intentaba encarcelarme por "conspiración sediciosa". (Por cierto, la madre de mi difunto suegro era una refugiada maya de Santa Cruz de la Guerra de Castas que vivía en Guinea Grass).

Entiendo por qué me condenarían por el comentario "racista maya", pero me amenazaban con ir a la cárcel precisamente al mismo tiempo por promover la conciencia africana. Ven lo confusa que era la situación de 1970 en Belize, y fue porque el sistema educativo europeo no había enseñado a nuestra

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Cherish this beautiful Belize

by Colin Hyde

In a world with many imperfect human things, Justice Conteh's decision to give communal rights to Santa Cruz and Conejo was beautiful and special. Quite likely it was tactical, the cases of two villages from the "hinterlands" being brought to court first. Later, the decision was extended to all Mayan villages. My understanding of the ruling was that the government would proceed to demarcate these villages. And that was fluid, a process that with goodwill for our Mayan brothers and sisters and the best interest of all of Belize at heart, would end with a practical solution.

Now, I believe that Chief Justice Conteh accepted that our Mayan brothers and sisters in Toledo might not have direct roots in the area where they live presently. Absolute proof of direct connectedness by our Mayan groups in the south wasn't necessary. I believe he arrived at his decision with a hefty application of practicality. The overriding fact was that our European ancestors came and chased our Mayan ancestors off the land. And bully, they had returned. I don't know to what extent Justice Conteh considered occupation, but in one of my earliest pieces in which I offered my opinion on the matter, I pointed out that had our Mayan brothers and sisters been pastoral, there would have been no need

for them to go to court; they would have had it all, okay, most of it, surrounded by barbed wire.

If the MLA doesn't know it, Cristina is the leader. She adored her brother-in-law, who was a man who had a solid vision, but died before seeing it realized. And all that is good. She came for the just cause along with Greg. She brought her intelligence and her fresh beauty, and she helped win a great victory for Belize, especially for our brothers and sisters in Toledo Rural who were in great need for the country to protect them, protect them from greedy super wealthy Belizeans and rapacious foreigners, not from roots Belizeans.

There are a number of Mayan villages that are surrounded by Mayan villages. I have given my opinion that the borders between these villages shouldn't be contiguous, because it might take us into the dangerous and sick world of balkanization. Our greatest badge is that we are mix-up, mix-up, and we get along in love. I thought it would be great for a little strip between villages to be set aside for regular land ownership and these owners should not necessarily be Mayan. It is also my opinion that we might still have a good balance if some of them, for example Santa Cruz, Pueblo Viejo, San Antonio, San Jose, and Nah Lumka, were conjoined.

Mayan villages on the outskirts, such as Midway and Laguna and Indian

Creek, should never have been the source of any contention. Yes, negotiations can be a beast. But negotiations on a matter like this cannot go there. This is a matter for the government, acting on the advice of the villagers.

We hear talk of persecution and divide and conquer. Most every tribe in Belize can speak about these things. The African side of Belize came on slave ships. The East Indians and the first Chinese weren't in luxury cabins on the ships that brought them here. The Mestizos and people from Arabia and recent Hispanics fled to Belize to escape ugly wars. The Mennonites came here so they could live the way their ancestors did.

Our Mayan brothers and sisters won a great victory, and that victory is a thing of beauty for all of Belize. Now it is becoming not so beautiful. Anyone wants to talk divide and conquer? Well, the seeds being sown here are far more noxious than any weed planted by the British. Please, you are negotiating with your fellow brothers and sisters of Belize, not a colonial master. The Prime Minister of Belize luk jos like a rural Toledo-born.

In the name of practicality, let's curb *vaulting ambition*. Again, I support Greg as the leader for our times. It's no defeat to love Belize.

Among other things, we can't pay fu this

The people who make their living in court want the rest of us to believe that the system is workable as it is, and this case that ended up with Officer Martinez being found guilty of manslaughter proves it. I disagree.

I still don't know all the details of the case that came out in court, details that were allowed under the law. I'm naturally not contemporary. Generally, I like to let things stew awhile, especially if I don't have to rush to a position. Ah, even if a lie, I expected the accused would say the death was accidental, that he aimed to fire high and he tripped and the bullet went low. Or, the accused would acknowledge the terrible deed he had done, show remorse and beg the court to go easy on him. I gather that the defense argued that Mr. Martinez didn't fire the fatal

shot, that in fact one of his colleagues is the guilty party.

Someone pointed out to me that this was one case where the key witness didn't run out on the prosecution. If the circumstances were different, it would have been reasonable to think that the key witness had received considerable support to go to court. We are human beings. We do think. The difference in this case is that the key witness was a close friend of both the youth that was killed and his family, and the key witness was also victimized that fateful night. Consider also that the key witness quite likely wasn't terrorized, because the accused was not a notorious gang banger/drugs runner. The accused was a police officer, an apparently overzealous officer who was serving special interests in Placencia who had told him that there were thieves in the area.

The Flemings, the family of the youth who was tragically killed, hired a private lawyer to bolster the case against Mr. Martinez. We won't ask them how much that cost. Did the prosecution in this case outspend the defense? The prosecution certainly had the more famous private lawyer on their side.

This case is NOT a showpiece for the potential of the present system. If that's what justice costs, we absolutely can't afford it. Before anyone says we can't afford to not deliver justice, I 100% agree that that cat has to be skinned, but maintain that this is not the way we are going to do it. What more of the little available public money in this country is to be thrown to fatten lawyers?

Don't get too excited by a conviction here, because it is unsustainable. The system is very much a dud, and if they don't know it, they are not as smart as they claim they are. The system has to be changed; it has to be changed because it has failed us and is failing us. And it would be changed, if the "strongman" in the mix, the foil, the lawyers, weren't throwing the kitchen sink and biting and clawing to protect their turf.

Did you see how Lawyer OJ went after the new Ombudsman a few weeks ago? There are many cases that should go before the Ombudsman, but end up

Please turn to **Page 27**

NOTICE

Erica Hislop, Camila Montes, Melanie Gill, Virginia Lopez, Shakira Arzu, Sylvin Arzu, Jamila Arnold, Alfreda Garri and Shanice Faber who is somewhere in the country of Belize kindly visit the nearest Department of Human Services Office or contact [227-2057/227-7451](tel:227-2057/227-7451) "



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The sports psychic speaks

BOLEDO

“Press” Predictions: 60-02-62

Boledo stats thru 28th April to 5th May 2023

In Boledo news, the teens love to play on a Friday. These are my lucky numbers for this week: 57-62-02-60-79-45-38-13-46-59. These are my lucky Jackpot numbers: 7903-9752-6832. These are my lucky PICK-3 numbers: 279-030-161-452-808. 47 still refuses to play after 2 years and 1 week exact. 03 will complete 1 year on the 26th of May; 46 is out over 1 year 1 month exact. These are the only 3 doubles that are left to play for the year: 88 played some 7 times last year, 33 played some 9 times last year, and 44 played some 3 times last year; those 3 doubles played some 19 times altogether. Get ready, Belize! Some dinero will be coming for all of us, including Flenroy from Bottom Dollar, my personal friend. Next week, more stats. Read Psalms: 72-91 & 63.

LOCAL FOOTBALL

The Verdes FC are Number 1

Local football results, playoffs and predictions

In local football action, the PLB has real parity. There were 5 teams fighting for 3 positions; Verdes FC with seed Number 1. Progresso FC will play Verdes FC in the semi-final games. Altitude FC, the defending champions will not be in the playoffs. In the other semifinal, Port Layola FC will be playing with the San Pedro Pirates FC, starting in Belize City. Gilroy “Bredda” Thurton, Sean Young and Michael Palacio, they have 20 goals amongst themselves. They will advance to the finals over the San Pedro Pirates, because they have 4 of the 6 points

between them for the regular season. Verdes FC will beat Progresso FC easily, but Charles Tillet will be in goal on a loan by the Verdes FC because they want the semi-finals to be very interesting. Verdes FC will be in the finals. The Port Layola FC will be in the finals. Next week, some more interesting predictions on the finals.



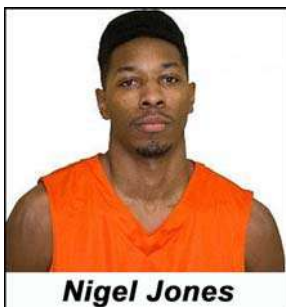
Michael Palacio

LOCAL BASKETBALL

The Belize Hurricanes is still number 1

Local basketball results and predictions

In the BEBL action for Week-10 games results, the Belize City Defenders crushed the Punta Gorda Panthers by some 30 points and more. The game was not so exciting. Nigel Jones had over 30 points and 13 rebounds; he is my early MVP candidate. Jamaal Harris is the other guy that has a very close chance. This league has parity also, like the PLB football league of Belize. There are 6 very competitive teams right now. 3 of them will be fighting for 2 playoff spots. The Belize City Defenders & MVP Nigel Jones; the San Pedro Tiger Sharks, Rico Black’s team coached by Mr. MVP Darren Bovell, just back from



Nigel Jones

some coaching studies in the USA at Oklahoma City; then the Orange Walk Running Rebels. There are 3 teams at 7-4. The Benny’s Belize Hurricanes will beat the Belize City Defenders by some 8 points this Friday night at the Civic Centre. The game will have at least over 3,000 fans, guaranteed. Next week, the results and more stats.

NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION

The Phoenix Suns will beat the LA Clippers in 5 games

NBA Playoffs, results and predictions

In NBA Playoffs action, there are 8 different match-ups in 2 the conferences, 4 in the East and 4 in the West. The Philadelphia 76ers has swept their series against the Brooklyn Nets. Joel Embiid is the MVP for this regular season, says “Press” Cadogan. He is my pick over 2 times MVP Nikola Jokic of the Denver Nuggets. The Nuggets will sweep the Minnesota Timberwolves in 4 straight games. Then the Phoenix Suns will beat LA Clippers in 5 games. Kevin Durant had 31 points and 11 rebounds in the game 4 win in LA; Kawhi Leonard and Paul George are both out. Russell Westbrook cannot do it by himself. Then the LA Lakers will beat the Memphis Grizzlies in 6 hard games. The Sacramento Kings will edge the Golden State Warriors in 7 hard games. In the East, the Boston Celtics will beat the Atlanta Hawks in 5 games. The Miami Heat and the Milwaukee Bucks will go



Joel Embiid



by Gilroy “Press” Cadogan

to 7 games. The New York Knicks will edge the Cleveland Cavaliers in 7 games. Next week, more stats.

NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE

Real Madrid beat Chelsea twice, 2-nil, to advance

International football results and predictions

In international football action, the Champion of Champions League are in the final 4 teams. Real Madrid beat Chelsea 2-nil twice to advance. They will meet either Bayern Munich or Manchester City in the semi-finals, because the 2 Milan teams in the series, from the Italian League, will clash in the other semi-final matchup. Real Madrid has won the most UEFA Champions League - 14 titles. Zinedine Zidane is the only manager to win it 3 times in a row. AC Milan won 8 titles, but they have not won in a 15-year span, since 2008. Rafael Leo is their top striker. Kareem Benzema is back in the Real Madrid lineup; he won the Ballon d’Or for 2022. The EPL is still the best league in the World; Arsenal will be the new champions. Next week, more stats.



Rafael Leo

BELIZEPROPERTYAUCTIONS.COM

COUNTRYWIDE PUBLIC AUCTION SALE: PROPERTY

San Pedro, Ambergris Caye Belize City, Belize District

BY ORDER of the Mortgagees, Licensed Auctioneers Kevin A. Castillo and Christiana R. Castillo are selling ONLINE via belizepropertyauctions.com the following properties. Sales currently running until 30th June 2023. Public Auction Sales will expire fortnightly on the dates and times listed on the website until the properties are sold.

Parcel No. 6387 Summit Street, Belmopan, Cayo District:



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
Belmopan	20	6387
The freehold property of Mr. John Milton Arana.		

SEAFRONT PARCEL NO. 5083 APPROXIMATELY 1 3/4 MILE SOUTHWEST OF SAN PEDRO TOWN CENTRE, AMBERGRIS CAYE BELIZE DISTRICT:



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
San Pedro	20	6387
The freehold property of Messrs. Caribbean Coves Estate Limited		

“FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION & PHOTOGRAPHS PLEASE VISIT WEBSITE”

TERMS: STRICTLY CASH

KEVIN A. CASTILLO

TELEPHONE 223-4488

Website: belizepropertyauctions.com

E-mail: kevinacas@yahoo.com

Facebook: Belize Auctions

INTERNATIONAL BOXING

Gervonta Davis TKOed Ryan Garcia in the 7th round

International boxing results and updates



Gervonta Davis

In international boxing action, in Las Vegas at the T-Mobile arena in the MGM, undefeated 2 division champion Gervonta “Tank” Davis at 29-0-27 KO’s, TKOed Ryan Garcia at 23-1-19 KO’s in the 7th round of action. Both fighters’ strength was their left hook. Garcia suffered a first-round

Please turn to Page 31

Fire ravages Bacab Eco Park

by *Kristen Ku*

BURRELL BOOM, Belize District, Tues. Apr. 25, 2023

Two of the main structures at the Bacab Eco Park, a popular eco recreational site near the Burrell Boom junction for many years, were extensively damaged after bursting into flames on Monday night.

The National Fire Service was alerted of a fire on the property at about 7:00 p.m. Tuesday, but when fire fighters arrived they found that a significant portion of two of the facility's main structures had been destroyed — leaving behind only a charred silhouette of the restaurant/bar that the structures had housed. Another structure in the compound, a bicycle shed, was also gutted along with the other two

buildings.

There has been much speculation about what caused the fire. Some have suggested that the blaze was caused by wildfire, which has been flaring up in different areas of the country, while others have speculated that it may have been intentionally set as a way to “collect



Entrance to Bacab Eco Park



Remains of the bicycle shed



Remains of the restaurant and bar structure



Pool area of Bacab was not affected by the fire



PRESS RELEASE

Notice to all Agents of Government Lotteries: Boledo Lottery, Jackpot Lottery and Ordinary Lottery

Belize City. April 26, 2023

The Lotteries Committee hereby informs the general public, all agents, and sub-agents of the Government Lotteries (Boledo Lottery, Jackpot Lottery, and Ordinary Lottery) that Brad's Gaming Group Limited's (BGGL) exclusive license to administer the Government Lotteries has been revoked effective May 2nd, 2023.

We advise all agents that as of May 2nd, 2023, that given the revocation of the exclusive license to BGGL, that they too are prohibited from selling Government Lotteries (Boledo Lottery, Jackpot Lottery, and Ordinary Lottery). Anyone caught promoting or selling any government lottery from this date onward without a valid license will be prosecuted to the full extent of the law.

The public will be advised when the Government Lotteries will resume normal activity. If you have any queries, kindly send your concerns to the Lotteries Secretary at BelizeInvestment@invest.gov.bz. The Lotteries Committee and the Ministry would like to thank the public for its understanding and continued cooperation.

*** ENDS***

insurance money”.

ACP Hilberto Romero of the Police Department informed local reporters that, based on the information they have so far gathered, they believe that the fire was intentionally set, but it is unlikely that the fire was set by the owners with the intention of collecting an insurance payout, since the structures had thatch roofing, and thus could not be insured.

“Initial investigations revealed that a motorcycle was seen entering the area with two male persons and thereafter the buildings were seen engulfed in flames. Thereafter, the two male persons fled from the area on the motorcycle. We are conducting an investigation into this fire,” reported Romero.

Although the identities of these men are currently being withheld, Giovanni Smith, one of the owners of the park, is confident he knows exactly who is responsible and why.

Smith believes that it was the ex-boyfriend of one of the employees, a waitress and mother of 6, who snuck into the compound around 6:15 p.m. that evening, dodging the security guard of the park, and set the restaurant on fire. Alarmingly, Smith alleges that with the suspect was a police officer who helped him get into the compound. (These claims are yet unconfirmed.)

According to Smith, the relationship between the alleged culprit and the establishment's employee had recently ended, and she had taken out a restraining order against him.

Smith noted that the suspect had shown the tendency to be unduly jealous on previous occasions — and cited an occasion when the suspect had questioned his ex-girlfriend about having her boss' number saved in her contacts.

Notably, the park, as popular as it was, had been up for sale by the owners, who have struggled to recover following the pandemic in 2020 and Hurricane Lisa in 2022.

Police have since detained the suspect, a resident of Biscayne Village, who is being questioned for the fire that has left 18 persons unemployed.

The total estimated cost of what was lost is approximately \$400,000.

Marine organizations receive grant funding

by Charles Gladden

BELIZE CITY, Tues. Apr. 25, 2023

Grants totaling 11.5 million dollars in value were given to several NGOs (Non-Government Organizations) and government bodies by the Ministry of the Blue Economy through the Belize Fund for Sustainable Future (BFSF) on Tuesday, April 25.

“This is our first ever as the Belize Fund for a Sustainable Future that we are dispersing among not only governmental entities but also non-governmental,” highlighted Kennedy Carrillo, CEO in the Ministry of Blue Economy.

The grants are the result of a commitment made by the Government of Belize to facilitate marine conservation through the Blue Bonds agreement.

Grant recipients belonging to two sectors—governmental bodies which met the required criteria and NGOs—were selected through an open process.



Kennedy Carrillo, CEO in the Ministry of Blue Economy, presenting Grant to recipient

“I want to highlight that the efforts that are being made through this particular fund [are] to ensure that everyone can have an equal ground on which to compete for these grants. And

so even small organizations that may not have the capacity in grant writing ... we encourage them to apply because we have a technical team that reviews their proposal and works with them to

strengthen that,” CEO Carrillo noted.

One of the grant recipients was Turneffe Atoll Sustainability Association (TASA), whose Executive Director, Valdimar Andrade, told local reporters that the funds received will be used for the management of the Turneffe Atoll Reserve.

“What we’re doing, we’re implementing technology solutions to be able to continue to do the work with respect to sustainable financing and sustainable marine biodiversity protection. The technology solutions that we are looking at are innovating our special monitoring and reporting tool to be able to have more real-time access and approach where it is kicking out analysis through a dashboard so that we can incorporate those into our enforcement plans, into our education plans, into our science plans, and into our tourism plans,” he said.

Leandra Cho Ricketts, Executive Director of the Belize Fund for Sustainable Future, explained, “Our role is to work with government, work with [the] non-government sector in helping to see the best application of the funding that we have here. And in some instances, we’ll be looking at leveraging that to be able to raise more funds to invest into managing our coastal and marine resources, or our blue spaces as they’re referred to.”

BELIZE CITY COUNCIL
Always 'bout The People

722 U Crescent

PUBLIC AUCTION

By order of the Municipal Court, certified and licensed Auctioneer Daniel Matus will sell the following property on:
Thursday, May 11, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. ON SITE

Property in Belize City
Parcel #722 U Crescent
Containing 367.816 sq. yards
Situated in Caribbean Shores/Belize
Registration Section, Belize City

Licensed Auctioneer
Daniel Matus
#1.25 Miles Phillip Goldson Hwy | Belize City
Tel#: 610-5886
Email:daniel@mre.bz

TERMS - CASH
10% Deposit - Balance in 14 days

BELIZE CITY COUNCIL
Always 'bout The People

Map showing property layout with streets: Juliet Soboranis Street, Signa York Street, Antonio Saboranis Crescent, U Crescent, Phillip Goldson Hwy, Travellers Ltd., United Services Ltd., Rainbow Hights Apt. Hotel, Hotel, Dolphin Drive.

From the Publisher en Español

Continúa de página 10

gente de ascendencia africana y maya nada sobre nuestros antepasados y nuestra genética.

El ex representante del área de Cayo Norte y ministro del Gabinete del PUP, Héctor Silva, describió esta semana en Radio KREM la situación actual en Toledo como un "barril de pólvora". Los principales que se enfrentan son mayas, por un lado, y no mayas (en su mayoría afrodescendientes) por el otro.

Los pueblos maya y africano en Belize no deberían ser tan hostiles entre sí. Este es el caso, sin embargo, principalmente debido a la ignorancia orquestada por nuestro sistema educativo europeo, que ha cambiado poco, en lo que respecta a la enseñanza de la historia maya y africana, desde 1970.

En el Congo, el territorio más rico del planeta tierra, donde vive la gente más pobre del mundo, guerras han seguido guerras. Las guerras en las que los africanos están matando africanos son financiadas por países ricos y empresas fuera del Congo que quieren controlar los recursos naturales del Congo. Según el Sr. Silva, Toledo tiene petróleo en el sur y uranio en el norte. Si esto es así, entonces Toledo es de hecho un barril de pólvora. Por eso se suele decir que la abundancia de recursos naturales es una maldición para los países pobres.

Este ensayo es inadecuado, porque el tema requiere una investigación, un análisis y un debate masivos. Mi aporte es humilde.

¡Poder al pueblo!

MADISON'S

AUCTIONS AND APPRAISALS LLP



BY ORDER of the Mortgagee, Messrs. Ascendancy Belize Limited, Licensed Auctioneer, Sylvano Guerrero, is selling by way of ONLINE AUCTION via www.madisons.bz the following properties with reserved prices. The online public auctions will expire bi-weekly on May 3, 2023, May 17, 2023 and May 31, 2023 until a sale is determined within this period.

TERMS: 10% DEPOSIT. BALANCE IN 14 DAYS

**Lot 63, Pomona Village
Stann Creek**



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

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

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



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

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

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



All that piece or parcel of land being Block #3, Parcel 604, Sarteneja Village, Corozal District, Belize; comprising of 1,519.8 sq.m. together with a concrete bungalow having 2 bedrooms, 1 shared bathroom, living, kitchen, and dining rooms, and a large front porch. The building has an area of 1,475 sq. ft., porch of 5 ft by 25 ft and a back section with dimensions of 12 ft by 22 ft.

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

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



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

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

**Lot 184 Hummingbird
Community, Stann Creek**



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

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

**Block 4 Parcel 2990,
Orange Walk Town**



All that pieces or parcels of land being Parcel #2990, Block #4, Orange Walk Town, Orange Walk District comprising of a total area of 555.56 sq. Yds; together with all buildings and erections standing and being thereon. The property consists of a single-story structure with two bedrooms, one bathroom, living, dining, and kitchen.

The property is held in the Freehold Interest in the name of Gabriel Pate.

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



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

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

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



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

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

Block 7 Parcel 9171 San Pedro Registration Section



All that piece or parcel of land comprising 445.685 square metres being Block 7 Parcel 9171 San Pedro Registration Section situate in San Pedro Town, Belize District Belize, as shown and described on the Registry Index Map at the Office of the Registrar of Lands, Belmopan together with all buildings and erections standing and being thereon.

The property is held in the Freehold Interest in the name of Chehade Gharzeddine.

Lot 246 Silk Grass Village Ext, Stann Creek



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

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

Lot 143 Maya Mopan Village, Stann Creek



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

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

AUCTIONEER: SYLVANO GUERRERO
TELEPHONE: +501-610-3916
EMAIL: SG@MADISONS.BZ
FACEBOOK: MADISONSAA

ALPHA BUSINESS CENTRE
2118 GUAVA STREET
BELAMA PHASE 1
BELIZE CITY, BELIZE

MADISON'S
AUCTIONS AND APPRAISALS LLP

ATLANTIC INSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED

Applications are invited from suitably qualified persons to fill the position of Parking Lot Attendant.

BASIC FUNCTION: KEEP PARKING AREAS SAFE, CLEAN AND ORDERLY.

Education/Experience: High School Diploma, training in safety and security, and two years of related experience.

Working Conditions: Work indoors and outdoors.

Knowledge, Skills, and Competencies:

- ◆ Ability to establish and maintain effective public and working relationships.
- ◆ Ability to understand and effectively carry out instructions.
- ◆ Ability to exercise mature judgment in effectively controlling unruly behavior.
- ◆ Ability to perform necessary written and record keeping activities.
- ◆ Ability to communicate effectively with community law enforcement officers.
- ◆ Ability to work shifts that include before and after normal working hours.
- ◆ Ability to contribute positively to team building.
- ◆ Ability to maintain professional appearance and conduct.

DAILY RESPONSIBILITIES:

- ◆ Monitor parking lots to maintain order and security.
- ◆ Monitor and confronts unauthorized persons on parking lots.
- ◆ Keep parking areas free of litter and debris.
- ◆ **Perform other functions in safety, security, and order.**

FOR SUBMISSION OF ONLINE APPLICATIONS IS MONDAY 5 MAY 2023

ALL APPLICATIONS MUST INCLUDE:

TWO RECENT LETTERS OF REFERENCE ONE FROM PAST EMPLOYER
AND A VALID POLICE RECORD AND PASSPORT SIZE PICTURE
SEND APPLICATIONS AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS TO:

our website at: <https://aicbelize.com/employment-application>

Note: Incomplete applications will not be considered. Only short-listed applicants will be contacted for interviews.

[We thank you for your application.](#)

VACANCY POSITION: Head Distiller

A vacancy exists for the position of **Head Distiller** at a reputable distillery in Belize.

The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running and managing of a premier, fully certified organic distillery, producing artisan spirits and maintaining the distillery as a best in class operation.

Summary of Responsibilities:

- Oversee all operations of the distillery including efficient and consistent cane processing, fermentation, distillation, power and steam generation, bottling, barreling, packaging, shipping, utilities, and waste management.
- Ensure continued adherence and attainment of certifications, including annual Organic Certifications
- Oversee a team of 30 employees, setting schedules, setting goals, mentoring, developing, evaluating, counseling, hiring, and discipline. Ensure accountability to goals are being met consistently and maintaining a positive work culture and work environment.
- Coordinate with HQ to develop, publish, manage, and execute an annual production and supply plan to meet short- and long-term sales goals.
- Coordinate with HQ to develop 5 years strategic, capacity, execution, and CapEx plans to meet future growth.
- Develop and manage an annual budget with monthly reporting and identification of areas for improvement. Ensure escalation of issues that require intervention or help.
- Manage the inbound logistics and ordering of key materials and inputs in coordination with director of Supply Chain.
- Manage storage and accurate inventory of all key materials including development and execution of long-term storage plans including space, tanks, and barrels. Source appropriate raw inputs such as sugar cane, bagasse, nutrients, inputs, and other necessary items for high caliber production. Manage raw materials inputs sourcing timing, volumes, and storage.
- Manage the outbound shipment of all orders on time and in accurate quantities. Manage all compliance of import/export in coordination with Director of Supply Chain.
- Ensure effective management of barrel aging program.
- Manage all recipes/formulas and lead development of product innovations.
- Develop documentation and procedures to manage compliance with governmental, environmental, organic, eco-cert, plant safety, and other training/administrative procedures for Belize, US, EU, and other jurisdictions.

Qualifications, Skills, Experience:

- Substantial year of experience in distilling spirits. Experience with cane-based rums preferred.
- Experience in alcoholic beverage compliance. Experience in organic and eco-cert preferred.
- Experience in new product development and recipe generation and management.
- Experience in managing and developing a highly motivated and efficient team of employees.
- Experience in scheduling and planning weekly, monthly and annually as per distillery requirements.
- Experience in managing equipment and facilities, with the ability to forecast and plan for future capacity expansion.
- An inspirational leader who can get the most out of their teams.

Remuneration: Negotiable

Interested applicants should submit their application package, inclusive of a letter of application, resume and two references to: jobs@bissystemsbelize.com by Monday, May 8, 2023.

BY ORDER OF MORTGAGEE

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO SELL

ASCENDANCY BELIZE LTD., a company existing pursuant to the Belize Companies Act 2022 with registered office situate at Cor. Landivar & 4th Streets Kings Park, Belize City hereby gives notice of its intention to exercise its power of sale as Mortgagee under and by virtue of Deeds of Mortgage between those hereinafter named and the said Ascendancy Belize Ltd. which said Deeds of Mortgage are registered at the Land Titles Unit 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 & 4th 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 Lot No. 31 comprising 464.576 S.M. situate West of Punta Gorda Town, Toledo District together with all building and erections standing and being thereon, the freehold property of **Cupertino Pulcheria Teul**.
2. **ALL that** piece or parcel of land being Lot 153 comprising 423.779 S.M (Plan No. 2005) situate in Hopeville Village, Toledo District together with all building and erections standing and being thereon, the freehold property of **Laverne Lovanna Williams**.
3. **ALL that** piece or parcel of land being Lot 125 comprising 555.6 S.Y. situate in Independence Village, Stann Creek District together with all building and erections standing and being thereon, the freehold property of **Michael Hobbs**.
4. **ALL that** piece or parcel of land comprising 0.98 acres (Plan No. 73 of 1983) situate in Jacintoville, Toledo District together with all building and erections standing and being thereon, the freehold property of **Gerald Williams**.
5. **ALL that** piece or parcel of land being Lot 5 comprising 771.893 S.M situate South of Stann Creek Valley Road, Hoffman Estate, near Mile 11, Stann Creek District together with all building and erections standing and being thereon, the freehold property of **Santiago Acosta**.
6. **ALL that** piece or parcel of land comprising 16466.20 S.Y. (Plan No. 167 of 1978) situate in the town of Independence, Stann Creek District together with all building and erections standing and being thereon, the freehold property of **Denzel Garbutt/Sharole Saldivar**.

DATED this 11th day of April 2023.

CAVE LOCHAN WATSON LLP
COR. LANDIVAR & 4TH STREETS
KINGS PARK
BELIZE CITY
BELIZE

A Story of Miguel's Life (Part 18)



by Clinton Canul Luna

Everything was going great. In Miguel's eyes, he had found the perfect woman. However, Shakira hid a secret that he did not know of, which she was not going to tell him. That horrendous experience was a past relationship she was involved in with plenty of violence. So, in her eyes, she saw Miguel as the man who was not violent, who was calm, who trusted her, who respected her, but he was not the man who filled that part that she longed for, that she needed; nevertheless, she didn't demand anything from him. Over time, she was going to tell him about her experience, meanwhile, time passed, and they had two beautiful children. During their growth, Miguel and Shakira had already decided to send them to a very prestigious private school, which

they attended. So, the life they led was more expensive; they were going to need more money.

That was when Miguel got an opportunity to sell a house. However, he didn't have the ability to speak the sales language; he wasn't persuasive enough, so he invited his wife to participate in this opportunity, since she had a facility of speech. Shakira knew many people in the city whom she communicated with, searching for clients to sell the first house. This is how they got started in the real estate business. Miguel, because of his blind trust in Shakira, let her manage all the finances of the house; he gave her all the money he worked for, he let her manage all the profits from their sales, in other words, she took care of

EVERYTHING. The bills were paid, and everything needed was bought. Time went by this way, and over the years, when she was deep in the business with many acquaintances, she met Robert. He was different. He was affectionate, loving, thoughtful, cheerful, but most importantly, he filled that emptiness Shakira felt. A relationship between the two commenced, small at first. Gradually, it resulted in them falling in love with each other. That was when she asked Miguel for the divorce.

Confused he asked her, "What have I done? What harm have I done to you?" She replied, "Miguel, I love you dearly. But I have fallen in love with another man. You are a good person

but you are not a good enough husband. You didn't know how to give me what I most desired. The love, the affection, the attention. You never made me feel like I was someone, like I was a woman. You never made me feel like you needed me. That part of me was empty. I married you because, well, you're a good person in the sense that you're not violent, you're quiet, but you didn't know how to fill that part."

In that, Miguel was reminded of the past when he was in a relationship with another woman. She had once told him, "Miguel, you are a good lover, but you are a bad husband." He didn't understand it at the time. It took many years for him to comprehend those words, and when Shakira had told him what she had to say, it was like he was reliving the same moment. He loved her, but he had to understand that he made a mistake. She wasn't to blame for that. That was something that was in him. What, yes, she was selfish about, was that after the divorce she could have given him a house and a share of the money that they both earned. However, she left him nothing; she left him on the streets. That was when Miguel decided to go to another city, for he couldn't live in the same place and watch the woman he loved, his children, he couldn't bear to see that everything he had worked for was suddenly lost overnight due to an error that he didn't even know about, but he chose not to fight for anything. He moved to another city and, once there, he tried to understand everything. He began analyzing his life, not looking for culprits, but looking for the reasons for the mistakes made, trying to comprehend for himself. It was going to take time to heal and understand, and it was after a few years of internal struggle, of analyzing little by little, grasping, not throwing the blame on anyone, but taking a deeper look at all that had happened; when he understood all of that and accepted everything that had happened throughout his life, that a new man was born.

(To Be Continued)
fincasolan@gmail.com
 April 23, 2023
 Finca Solana
 Corozal Town



REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

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

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

The Belize Compact Development Team will be led by a National Coordinator who will manage the team, engage key stakeholders across all sectors, and bear responsibility for the overall performance and work quality of the team. The Finance and Administration Director will be a member of BCDT and will work closely with the Program Coordinator and other members of the BCDT as well as the MCC team to lead the finance, informational technology, security and administrative unit and is responsible for the strategic and day-to-day management of the BCDT budget and ensuring the BCDT's fiduciary integrity and financial health are based on the MCC's Financial Guidelines.

Vacant Post

1. Financial Director

Remuneration: Competitive salary and benefits are offered, commensurate with academic level, work experience and other relevant strengths of the winning candidate.

Kindly follow the below link for further details.

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

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

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

Deadline for application is **12th May at 4:00 pm**. Application can be sent via email to: econdev@med.gov.bz or hand delivered to the address indicated below:

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

Any request for clarification should be sent via email no later than 8th May 2023. Responses will be

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

ATLANTIC INSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED

Applications are invited from suitably qualified persons to fill the position of Handyman.

BASIC FUNCTION: MAINTAIN CLEAN AND ATTRACTIVE LANDSCAPING IN AND AROUND THE BUILDING.

Education/Experience: High School Diploma, two years' experience in a similar position and knowledge of plant health and care.

Working Conditions: work indoors and outdoors.

Equipment: Gardening tools and supplies, and cleaning equipment and supplies.

Knowledge, Skills, and Competencies:

- ◆ Ability to establish and maintain effective public and working relationships.
- ◆ Ability to understand and effectively carry out instructions.
- ◆ Ability to contribute positively to team building.
- ◆ Ability to maintain professional appearance and conduct.
- ◆ Good vision and manual dexterity to operate gardening and cleaning tools and supplies.

GENERAL RESPONSIBILITIES:

- ◆ General care of plants in and around the building.
 - a) Water, trim, care, and clean plants.
 - b) Take plants outside and bring inside when necessary.
- ◆ Work closely with the landscaping contractor in all matters of plant health and landscaping.
- ◆ Clean general spaces to maintain attractive landscaping.
- ◆ Twice daily polish the main entrance door glass.
- ◆ Clean and wash main entrance stairway.
- ◆ Clean and wash building stairways.
- ◆ Clean and wash all parking areas.
- ◆ Clean and wash drive-thru area.
- ◆ Wash garbage chute.
- ◆ Replenish the water coolers when needed.
- ◆ Replenish kitchen supplies with coffee, creamer, sugar.
- ◆ Replenish bathrooms with toilet paper, paper towel and hand soap.
- ◆ Wash Company vehicles once a week.
- ◆ Clean and polish elevator inside and out twice a week.
- ◆ Ensure flags are raised and lowered daily as per schedule, and properly folded.
- ◆ **Perform other related duties as assigned.**

FOR SUBMISSION OF ONLINE APPLICATIONS IS MONDAY 5 MAY 2023

ALL APPLICATIONS MUST INCLUDE:

TWO RECENT LETTERS OF REFERENCE ONE FROM PAST EMPLOYER AND A VALID POLICE RECORD AND PASSPORT SIZE PICTURE
SEND APPLICATIONS AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS TO:

our website at: <https://aicbelize.com/employment-application>

Note: Incomplete applications will not be considered. Only short-listed applicants will be contacted for interviews.
We thank you for your application.



Advice to Customers of Belize Bank International Limited

As required under Section 39 of The International Banking Act Revised Edition 2020, we are publishing the names of those customers whose accounts have been dormant for 10 years and over. Please contact the Belize Bank International Limited at (501) 227-0697 or (501) 227-1548 to activate your account. If the account is not activated by May 19, 2023, the account balance will be transferred to the Central Bank of Belize.

PTW HOLDINGS INT'L CORP.

TEXAS GLOBAL SYSTEMS INC.

RED FORT MERCANTILE INC.

ANTONIO IAFIGLIOLA

INDY MANAGEMENT SERVICES LTD.

PEGASUS RESERVE FUND LTD.

ANSHUMAN VIJAYAVARGIYA

As required under Section 39 of The International Banking Act Revised Edition 2020, we are publishing the names of those customers who purchased bankers drafts which have remained unclaimed for 10 years and over. Please contact the Belize Bank International Limited at (501) 227-0697 or (501) 227-1548, along with proof of purchase of the bankers draft to claim a refund. If the draft remains unclaimed by May 19, 2023, the funds will be transferred to the Central Bank of Belize.

NEKSTREAM GLOBAL LLC

CYGNUS GROUP INC.

PICKFORD WORLDWIDE INC.



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

Belize

Climate Resilient and Sustainable Agriculture Project (CRESAP)

Loan No.: **9347-BE**

Project ID No.: **P172592**

Assignment Title: **Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist**

Reference No. (as per Procurement Plan): **CS 13**

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

The consulting services ("the Services") is for a suitable qualified fulltime **PROJECT STAFF-MONITORING AND EVALUATION SPECIALIST** as part of the Project Implementation Unit of the CRESAP within the Belize Social Investment Fund. The Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist will be part of the Project Implementation Unit (PIU) and will be in charge of the overall planning, monitoring and evaluation responsibility of the project during its execution, and will provide guidance and support to the PIU during the implementation phase so that the Project Development Objectives (PDO) and impacts are achieved in accordance with the Project Operation Manual (POM) and the Climate Smart Matching Grant Operation Manual (MGOM).

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

The consultancy is expected to be for an initial period of Twenty-four (24) months commencing May 2023. The Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist will be supervised by the Project Coordinator (PC) of the CRESAP.

The detailed Terms of Reference (TOR) for the assignment can be obtained by submitting a request in writing via e-mail to procurement.cresap@sifbelize.org.

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

Minimum Mandatory Requirements *(Required)

Qualifications

Bachelor's degree in development studies, statistics, social science, agriculture, rural development, project management, or any other field related to the assignment.

General Experience

Three (3) years of proven working experience in planning, monitoring and evaluation from internationally funded projects (i.e., World Bank, CDB, EU, UNDP, FAO, IFAD, etc.) with reference to the agriculture sector. (Max 20 points)

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

Additional Requirements (Desirable)

Specific Experience

- At least three (3) years' experience in designing and implementation of M&E systems. (Max 15 points)
- At least three (3) years' experience in the application of M&E methodologies and approaches (including quantitative, qualitative and participatory) (Max 15 points)
- At least three (3) years' experience in the preparation and use of the logical framework/ theory of change and other strategic planning approaches (Max 15 points)
- At least three (3) years' experience in training M&E systems and implementation (Max 10 points)
- At least three (3) years' experience in facilitating learning-oriented analysis sessions of M&E data with multiple stakeholders. (Max 10 points)
- At least three (3) years' experience in working with age and gender disaggregated indicators. (Max 10 points)
- At least three (3) years' experience in informative analysis and report writing. (Max 5 points)

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

Budget: The total estimated price for this consultancy inclusive of taxes is **USD149,926.00** which represents the estimated amount for said position to cover the full implementation period of the World Bank loan is 5 years.

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

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

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

Expressions of interest must be delivered in a written form to the address below (in person, or by mail, or by e-mail) by **May 12, 2023**, at 16:00 hours Belize Time.

Belize Social Investment Fund
Attn: Ian Ramirez, Procurement Officer
P.O. Box 459, 1902 Constitution Drive (3rd Floor), Belmopan, Belize
Telephone +501-822-0239
Email: procurement.cresap@sifbelize.org

Labour Day - Time to prioritize social justice



Gilbert F. Hounbo, Director-General of the International Labour Organization, May 1st OpEd

May 1st is widely known as Labour Day, a day when we celebrate the contribution of workers worldwide. It is a moment for pride, celebration and hope.

After three years of the COVID-19 crisis, followed by inflation, conflict, and food and fuel supply shocks, we badly need this. But the promises of renewal made during the pandemic, of 'building back better', have so far not been

delivered for the great majority of workers worldwide.

Globally, real wages have fallen, poverty is rising, inequality seems more entrenched than ever.

Enterprises have been hard hit. Many could not cope with the cumulative effects of recent unexpected events. Small and micro-enterprises were particularly affected, and many have ceased operations.

People feel that the sacrifices they made to get through COVID-19 have not been recognized, let alone rewarded. Their voices are not being heard clearly enough. This, combined with a perceived lack of opportunities, has created a disturbing level of mistrust.

It doesn't have to be like this. We are still the masters of our fate. But if we are to shape a new, more stable, and equitable world, we must choose a different path. One that prioritizes social justice.

I believe this is not only do-able but essential for a sustainable and stable future. So, how do we get there?

First and foremost, our policies and actions must be human-centred, to allow people to pursue both their material well-being and their spiritual development in conditions of freedom and dignity, economic security and equal opportunity. This approach is not new, it was set out and agreed in the aftermath of World War Two, when the ILO's international membership signed the 1944 Declaration of Philadelphia.

This visionary document set out guiding principles for our economic and social systems, that they should not be turned exclusively to hitting specific growth rates or other statistical targets, but to address human needs and aspirations. This means focusing on inequality, poverty alleviation and core social protection. The most effective way to do this is by providing quality jobs so that people can support themselves and build their own futures – 'Decent Work for All', as Sustainable Development Goal 8 terms it.

It means realistically addressing the long-term structural transformations of

our time; ensuring that new technology creates and supports employment; proactively facing the challenges of climate change and ensuring we offer the jobs, skills training and transition support necessary for workers and businesses to benefit from the new low-carbon era; treating demographic changes as a 'dividend' rather than a problem, with supporting action on skills, migration and social protection, to create more cohesive and resilient societies.

We also need to reassess and refashion the architecture of our social and economic systems, so that they support this change of course towards social justice, rather than continuing to channel us into a policy 'doom loop' of inequality and instability. We must reinvigorate labour institutions and organizations so that social dialogue is effective and vigorous. We must review laws and regulations affecting the world of work, so that they are relevant and up-to-date

Please turn to **Page 20**

TENDER FOR SECURITY AND SURVEILLANCE SERVICES CENTRAL INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY OFFICE GOVERNMENT OF BELIZE

Tenders are invited from security companies to provide 24-hours Security and Surveillance Services for the Central Information Technology Office (CITO).

1. The tender shall be for a period of one (1) year commencing 1 July 2023, and ending 30 June 2024.
2. **Services** The successful tender will be expected to provide the following security and surveillance services:
 - a. General security and surveillance of the Belize National ICT Center compound (the "Premises") including all buildings and fixtures erected therein by armed guards on a 24-hour basis seven days per week, including public and bank holidays.
 - b. General security and surveillance of the top floor of the Post Office Building in Belmopan ("Off-Site") using surveillance cameras, nightly patrols, and random verification checks of the generator, electrical room door, and main access doors commencing at 6pm to 6am seven days per week, including public and bank holidays.
 - c. Allow only authorized persons and vehicles to enter the Premises.
 - d. The Security must maintain a log of all persons and/or vehicles entering and leaving the Premises and the Off-Site.
 - e. Conduct patrols outside the Premises and the Off-Site to ensure that doors remain locked and that there is no sign of breakage into the buildings.
 - f. The Security Company will provide its personnel with equipment including a licensed firearm for the effective performance of their duties.
 - g. The Security Company, or its agents shall not divulge to any person or persons any proprietary information that they may be privy to during the execution of their duties.
 - h. The Security Company/Guard shall also comply with CITO's Fire Safety Policy in the event of an emergency fire evacuation. (Details available upon request).
 - i. In the event of an approaching storm or hurricane, the security guard will be required to execute specific duties and arrangements according to CITO's Disaster Recovery Plan. Such arrangements will be communicated to the security firm in advance.
 - j. Any other security related task may be agreed upon from time to time by the Parties involved.
3. Costs incurred in visiting the Premises and preparations of the tender bid are the sole responsibility of the tenderer.
4. **Administrative Requirements** All Tenders shall include the following additional documentation in their submissions:
 - a. Current Certificate of Good Standing from:
 - i. Belize Tax Service within 1 year
 - ii. Belize Companies Registry within 1 year
 - iii. Belize Social Security Board within 1 year
 - b. A valid copy of the entity's Trade License reflecting the name of the entity that is bidding within 1 year.
 - c. Provide evidence of valid firearm licenses within 1 year.
 - d. Provide references from three or more existing customers.
 - e. Provide evidence of at least five (5) similar jobs performed over the past three years.
 - f. Technical and Financial Offers are to be placed in separately sealed envelopes.
5. **Evaluation Criteria** All Tenders will be evaluated according to the following criteria:
 - a. Capacity to deliver services based on qualification and certification in related field.
 - b. Specific Experience in the field (years in operation).
 - c. Past Performance in similar jobs during the past three (3) years.
 - d. Integrity of the company as per Administrative Requirement 4 (a) and (b).
 - e. Financial Offer.
6. **Taxes** The Financial Bids should be inclusive of General Sales Tax (GST) payment of 12.5%.
7. **Questions and Replies** Questions shall be type-written in English and shall be sent via email to the following address: securitytender2023@cito.gov.bz. The deadline for queries is 25 May 2023. Responses from the CITO will be type-written in English and will be emailed to the requester and may also be made available to other Tenderers subject to confidentiality.
8. **Submission of Tenders** are to be submitted in separate seal envelopes labelled Technical Offer and Financial Offer. Both sealed envelopes should be placed in an outer sealed envelope labelled "TENDER FOR SECURITY AND SURVEILLANCE OF THE CENTRAL INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY OFFICE (BELMOPAN)".
9. **Deadline for submission** is 2 June 2023 at 3:00 pm. The bids are to be delivered to the Central Information Technology Office in Belmopan.
10. **The opening of tenders** will be on 6 June 2023 at 10:00 am. at the Central Information Technology Office. Bidders or their representatives are welcome to attend the tender opening session.
11. **Evaluation of the tender** will be carried out immediately after the opening of the tenders on 6 June 2023.
12. Only bids that satisfy the Administrative Requirements will have their Technical and Financial Offers evaluated against the Evaluation Criteria.
13. Additional information can be obtained from Ian Smith at telephone: 828-5169 or by email at ian.smith@cito.gov.bz.
14. The lowest tender will not necessarily be accepted.
15. Late tenders will be disqualified and returned to the tenderer unopened.

NOTICE

BELIZE CITY, BELIZE

**Estate of PATRICIA ALAMILLA MORITZ, 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 **PATRICIA ALAMILLA MORITZ**, late of 5868 Macarthur Blvd., New Orleans, Louisiana 70131, U.S.A are required to send particulars in writing of their claims or demands to **TODD R. HYMEL**, the Administrator of the said estate, c/o Courtenay Coye LLP, Attorneys-at-Law of 15 A Street, Belize City, Belize, and to send such particulars **no later than the 17th day of June 2023.**

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 Patricia Alamilla Moritz, 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 17th day of March, 2023


COURTENAY COYE LLP
Attorneys-at-Law

Labour Day - Time to prioritize social justice

Continued from **Page 19**

and able to protect workers and support sustainable businesses.

To make all this happen, we need to recommit to international cooperation and solidarity. We must enhance our efforts and create greater policy coherence, particularly within the multilateral system, as the United Nations Secretary-General, Antonio Guterres calls it.

This is why we need a Global Coalition for Social Justice. This Coalition will create a platform to bring together a broad

range of international bodies and stakeholders. It will position social justice as the keystone of the global recovery, so that it is prioritized in national, regional and global policies and actions. In sum, it will ensure that our future is human-centred.

We have the chance to reshape the world we live in – economically, socially and environmentally. Let us take this opportunity and move forward to build the equitable and resilient societies that can underpin lasting peace and social justice.

belize bank

Our Country. Your Bank

Advice to Customers of The Belize Bank Limited

As required under Section 120 of The Domestic Banks and Financial Institutions Act 2012, we are publishing the names of those customers whose accounts have been dormant for 10 years and over. Please call the Belize Bank Branch at which your account is located to activate your account. If the account is not activated by May 19, 2023, the funds will be transferred to the Central Bank of Belize.

Dangriga

Anderson, William A.
Andrews, Roland C.
Baumgartner, Michael
Bodden, Flori / Maureen
Burns, Winifred
Cardinez, Jimmy D
Castillo, William
Deaton, Priscilla S.
Driftwood Beach Bar And
Pizza Snack Limited
Drysdale, Trevaughn K.
Galiano, Roberto Antonio
Galvez, Jerilyn M. & Secundino
Gann, Eddie Dean
Georgetown Cooperative Group
Guity, Rhea J.
Hernandez, Jose Daniel
Hunziker, James
Hyde, Jahneen J
Jeffords, Clava Jay
Lewis, Alice
Lockie, Richard Colin
Logan, Andrew Alvin
Martinez, Cliffara B.
Martinez, Kaylon H.
Martinez, Neville A.
Mckoy, Carrie Edna
Mendicuti, Teresa
Mendicuti, Teresita Del Nino
Miller, Shemika R.
Nasario, Norma Lynelle
Noralez, Madline &/Or
Lorenzo, Theola
Pop, Celia Teresita
Seine Bight PTA
Selgado, Nicole Ann
Sisters Of Charity Of
Nasareth Associate
Vasquez, Michael E.
Vasquez, Seleny M.
Walker, Etiji
Walker, Eyana
Zuniga, Etevia

Independence

Berry, Cleveland Kent
Diego, Evaristo
Foreman Sr., Aldos
Gabourel, Eugenie
SJMA Preschool PTA

Punta Gorda

August, Welhem Devon
Braddick, Abraham
Choco Sebastian Blue Creek
Coy, Pedro &/Or Coy, Rosaria
Gonzalez, Bernadine

Hawley, Lillian M. Or Reusser,
Nathan G.
Johnson, Alric Peter
Johnson, Gloria V. For Solo. Smith
Juan Coy Group,
Lewis, Max
Ramsey, Jacob A
San Antonio Matambre Farmers
Cooperation
Staine, James Alexan

Corozal

Belizean Development Limited
Charaf, Zahir A.
Chen, Chung / Yu, Ping
Ek, Nelvio
Engelmajer, Lucien Joseph
Garbutt, Cecil
He, Xi Yuan &/Or Lin, Yan Qin
Richardson, Kathleen Eleanor
Marin, Artemia
Medina, Delroy
Ogaldez, Florene
Post, Melva I. /Or Thomas J.
Wiltshire, Florencia

Orange Walk

Acosta, Cordelia E.
Almendarez, Jeanette
Carrillo, Romel/Anabe
Duran, Ernestina / Leonor /
Albertina
Flores, Abdon
Flowers, Greg M. A.
Gongora, Kyan Lyle
Itzab, Alejandro
Jones, Regis
Moh, Bonifacio
Novelo, Kelsey N.
Odin, Angela Funmilol
Perez, Kenneth A
Reid, Antonia M.
Romero, Enirr D.
Seiferth, Kenneth / Margaret
Tun, Hiram Yazir
Tun, Myrka L.
Urbina, Laura L.

Belmopan

Andrews, Elijah J.
Andrews, Judah R.
Arnold, Priscilla
Austin, Lavern
Ayala, Antonia
Barrera, Ramberto
Beardall, Nathan A.
Belmopan Consumer Association
Belmopan Junior School P.T.A.

Belmopan Methodist Church
Booth, Sonia Alberta
Brunner, Johannes G, &/Or
Brabozz, Rahm Jurgen
Castillo, Justo Leo
Chi-Teng, Chen
Cruz, Jose L.
Daniels, Joseph
Dubon, Dinah
Ellis, Patricia M.
Galvez, Daniel
Guate, Vidalia
Hall, Phillip
Hulse, David S. / Barrera, Nazha M.
I-Hsun, Hsieh
James, George A.
Loewen, Dorothy
Marroquin, Edras
National Council On Ageing
Neal Jr., Richard S.
Neal, Kamryn C.
Pao, Chun Chen
Powell, Johnny R. / Roma M.
Quality Information Systems
Engineering
Santos, Maria Isabeth
Tan, Wenya
The Belize Bank Ltd For Peter
Lacey Jr.
Usher, Danon
Velasquez, Esmeralda
Waight, Simone Abigail
Wang, Ting-Hung
Young, Jay T.
Yumei, Tan

San Ignacio

Arollo, Iris Elizabeth
Barnett, Amilcar
Bennett, Elbert A.
Cambranes, Cruz Efrain
Castellanos, Emilio
Chen, Botai
Chrysler, Ronald / Kimberly
Chulin, Maria &/Or Juan C.
Cunningham Jr, Terry
De La Rosa, Miguel Angel
Garcia, Atanacio
Guerra, Salem D.
Irmiter, Leona F.
John Jr., Theodore Richard
Langmacher, Thomas J.
Mercado, Fredys De Je
Mountain Pine Ridge
Environmental Coalition
Oliver, Kathleen A.
Palencia, Alvaro A.
Pott, Ethan E.
Reimer, Janice

Robateau, Marie E.
Sanchez, Rosario
Sanchez, Sheryl L.
Sanchez, Teresita Almira
Santiago Juan Development
Committee
Silva, David Alexander
Sutherland, John R.
Tang, Yun Lan
Thompson, Inez Aurora
Tobar, Marlon
Velasquez, Leonzo
Wu, Wenjun
Zhu, Zhaopei

San Pedro

Balona, Jose Manuel
Casanova, Martha Francisca
Defalco, Samuel S.
Devlin Enterprises Limited
Garcia, Celestino
Garcia, Maikel
Graniel, Pedro
Gueulette, Martin &/Or Precious,
Dana E.
JSD Villa Holdings Limited
Latham-Brown, Julie J. &/Or
Ernest
Ludkey, Gemma Marie
Meigs, Hilton D. / Vergie
Mcdonald
Pinelo, Carmen
Reimer, David B. & / Shelly R.
Sheffield, Piper Ashley
Thompson, Marisha J.
Valencia, Steven
Willett, Billy Richard &/Or Joy

North Side

Edward P Yorke High School
Savings Account
Zhou, Su Zhen
Bucknor, Philip &/Or Janis
Bucknor, Philip A.
Usher, Heidy Yomara
Tucker, Ashanti Iyodalie
Perriott, Paul Andrew
Lopez, Janine
Brown, Aaleayah B.
Corzo De La Cerda, Carlos A.
/ Cuellar, Juan D.
Flowers, Sigourney D.
Goodger-Porter, Thaddeus
Lin, Shu Yu
Moguel, Kelcey A.
Reid, Jeannette, C.
Romero, Rosenda A.
Vernon, Darlene M.

Bernice Yorke Institute Of
Learning
Portfolio Corporate Services
Limited

Belize City

Sunshine Holdings Limited
Jennell's Trucking Company
3 Stars Tours Limited
Acosta, Monica M.
Arnold, Heath Justin
Association Of Professional
Engineers
Bailey, Glenda J. &/
Ramclam, Norma G.
BECO
Belize Boxing Federation
Blades, Elda Marina
Boaz, Gloria &/Or Christie,
Gaynor
Bowen, Merlene
Bowman, Michael
Bowman, William F.
Brown, Michael Anthony
Brown, Selah
Bucknor, Philip Anthony
Burgess, Hervin
Burrell & Burrell Associates
Cabrera, Manuel R. &/Or
Guadalupe E.
Castillo, Walter Orlando
Cayetano, Emelia Blanche
Chen, Jiahao W
Chen, Jiamei M
Cherrington, Leah M
Crawford, Catherine I. &/
Or Cloyd S.
Daly, Eleanor R. &/Or
Wilson, Janice Daly
Dawson, June C.
Dominguez, Brian Stanley
Ebenezer Church Men's
Fellowship Group
Faber, Gloria M.
Fernandez, Edward H.
Fisher, William W.
Flowers, Henry / Richard /
Bruce/ Jones, Thelda
Flowers, Marie L.
Flowers, Tristan
Fuller, Hugh Elwin
Gardiner, Marie Geredine
Gegg, Nelly / Gegg, Peter A.
Gray, Golda E.A.
Guerra, Nazette S.
Guerrero, Francisco R.
Hem, Norman H. &/Or
Fontanez, Margarita M.
Henry, Federick / Williams, R.

Hilton, George
Hudson, Peter D.
Jones, Annelee / Souto, Marcos
Kwok, Qai Chong
Lopez, Arlene Esme
Lord, Kathleen D. &/Or
Belisle, Arthur
Marin, Gliselle V.
Martinez, Guadalupe
Mcsweaney, Carl
Membrano, Lodigaria
National Bus Owners
Organization
Nicholas Sr, Wilfred
Obrien, Alexander
Orchid International
Owens, Gilda A. &/Or
Franklin Blackshire
Pallotti High School
Perera, Maria Idalia
Perez, Justin A
Perez, Lindsay B
Pfeiffer, Richard Douglas
Queen Square Welfare
Committee
Rafique, Tanveer
Reynolds, Marie &/Or Ajose,
Marilyn J.
Satori Development Group
Limited
Sharp, Allan M.
St. Catherine Academy Student
Council
Stephens, Alma
Sutherland, Mehetebell V.
Villanueva, Domingo
Watson, Olga
Welch, Shawn B. &/Or Clarke,
Juana
Wesby, Emily R.
Young, Marie Leonie
Young, Wilhelm
Zaldivar, Alexia N.
Zeerip, David L. / Mary I.

As required under Section 120 of The Domestic Banks and Financial Institutions Act 2012, we are publishing the names of those customers who purchased Bankers Drafts or sent a Local Transfer which have remained unclaimed for 10 years and over. Please visit the Belize Bank Branch at which you purchased the Bankers Draft, along with your proof of purchase to claim a refund. If the draft or local transfer remains unclaimed by May 19, 2023 the funds will be transferred to the Central Bank of Belize.

Independence

Barefoot Rentals
Wee, Kom Bai
Reyes, Hugo

Orange Walk

Camara, Vilma

San Pedro

Gonzalez, Florentino
Martinez, Ezequiel
Sosa, Pablo

Belize City

Belizean Dreams Estate Ltd.
BTALCO
Castro, Edmond
Ezeafulukwe, Mary Jane
Flores, Sylvia
Flores, Venancia

Flowers, Richard J.
Furusawa, Fukutaro
Government Of Belize
Ka'Ana Boutique Resort & Spa
Leslie, Wilfred
Penner, Jacob B.

Velasquez, Guerson
Woolery, Anselma
Young, Favan
Young, Stephen

Incoming BNTU president under internal fire

(Editor's APOLOGY: We hereby repeat this front-page story from last Friday's issue of *Amandala* along with our sincere apologies to readers as well as to the main subject of the article, Ms. Ruth Shoman, for a missing part of the article which should have appeared on page 31 of last week's paper. The article was interrupted on page 27 with the line "explain that 'what is out there are partial...'", followed by the instruction to "Please turn to Page 31" where the story should have continued but didn't. Once again, our sincere apologies. Below is the complete article.)



Ruth Shoman

BELIZE CITY, Thurs. Apr. 20, 2023

Less than a week after being elected president of the Belize National Teachers' Union (BNTU) on April 13, Ruth Shoman has been forced to publicly address an incident that occurred in 1998 when she says she was 19. This week, some union members began circulating on Facebook a civil suit judgment from February 2000 regarding theft from Island Marketers Ltd. and Belize Yacht Club Ltd., of which one Ruth Guerra (purportedly a young Ruth Shoman) was an employee. The judgment states that based on an audit, the loss to the companies totalled \$71,028.00. While Guerra was in police custody, a representative of the companies had her sign an agreement that she would pay back \$110,000. As per the judgment, after considering all the evidence, including that Guerra never denied taking the money, the Judge ordered that she pay \$81,028, which included \$10,000 in legal fees. Guerra was therefore not processed in court for a criminal charge.

Some union members are now questioning Shoman's membership based on the section of the Union's constitution which outlines reasons for "Forfeiture of Membership" under "by-laws and regulations." The specific section cited is 4 (b) (ii) which states "After due process, the Union by decision of Council may cancel the membership of persons who ... are convicted of criminal offence or grave professional misconduct." The outgoing president of the BNTU, Elena Smith, on Wednesday, April 19, was asked about the allegation that Shoman wants that particular clause removed as part of the ongoing revision of the Union's constitution. The question was framed in the context of the court judgment from 23 years ago. Smith told the press, "I am not privy to what you are saying in terms of striking out any clause, because no one person can make a change to the constitution. You can recommend an amendment, but that recommendation has to be approved by the membership ... We have a committee that was looking at the suggested amendments." She explained that the suggested amendments will now be sent to the membership for their

input, so nothing is yet finalized. Another recommended amendment that is being frowned upon is the need for a president's fund. In that regard, Smith said they must look at how the union is growing and changing, and determine the purpose for such a fund. However, she said the ultimate decision rests with the membership.

Appearing today on the *LOVE FM* Morning Show with her daughter by her side, Shoman said that the BNTU is seen as one of the catalysts for change, and the more it becomes involved in how we are governed, the more the leadership position comes into the spotlight. Referring to the incident itself, she said she never spoke about it before, but that on Wednesday night after the story aired on the evening news, her daughter told her it was time to tell her story. Shoman proceeded to explain that "what is out there are partial stories," and that what happened at the time played out in the context of her being the victim of gender-based violence that even saw her two young children (one two and a half years old and the other under a year at the time) taken away from her and moved abroad without her permission. She reported that the father was facilitated in getting a passport for the children without her consent. She added, "... and so the embezzlement that they are talking about wasn't me. It wasn't me. It was a part of what was the story of my story." As to the details of the incident, Shoman would only say, "When this transpired, when the incident - which I will not get into the details - I was told if you sign this document it will be faster for you to get out of all this mess and then you can go look for your kids. I didn't know what I signed. All I know is that I wanted to go find my kids." Shoman affirmed on the show that she was not even charged.

Shoman is set to take over as national president of the BNTU at the beginning of July 2023. As to the possibility of the controversy remaining an issue, Shoman said that if it comes up again, "I keep fighting."

In related news, Smith was asked if Shoman will have to be paid out of union funds if she is not with a school management. Smith responded that the Union's Council of Management will have to make a decision about that.

(First Publication)

IN THE HIGH COURT OF BELIZE A.D. 2022

CLAIM NO. 632 OF 2022

BETWEEN: (ROGER CHANG t/a CAPITAL FACTORY CLAIMANT
(
(AND
(
(ARRON ARNOLD FIRST DEFENDANT
(EUGENE MYERS SECOND DEFENDANT

NOTICE

TO: EUGENE MYERS

TAKE NOTICE that an action has been commenced against you in the High Court of Belize, Claim No. 632 of 2022 by **Roger Chang t/a Capital Factory** of No. 207 Santa Rita Road, Corozal District, Belize in which the Claimant's claim is for the total sum of BZD \$36,936.35 to be returned to the claimant due to a default in payment, and (b) BZD \$3,000.00 being the Legal Practitioner's fixed cost on issue.

Amount Claimed \$36,936.35 with interest to be assessed pursuant to section 166 of the High Court of Judicature Act.

AND it has been Ordered that service of the Claim in the said action on the defendant be effected by this advertisement. If you desire to defend the said action, you must enter an appearance at the office of the High Court no later than fourteen (14) days of the second publication of this NOTICE in person or by your attorney.

TAKE NOTICE that in default of your so doing, the said Claimants may proceed therein, and judgment may be given in your absence.

DATED the 27th of April 2023.

ESTEVAN PERERA & COMPANY LLP
Attorneys-at-Law for the Claimant
#2118 Guava Street
Belize City, Belize

PER: ESTEVAN PERERA



Copal Tree Distillery Ltd. is an Organic Rum Distillery and has an opening for a **Senior Electrician/Maintenance Supervisor**. We are located at Wilson Road, Toledo District producing world class organic rum made from fresh sugarcane.

Summary of Responsibilities include:

- Maintaining all electrical circuits throughout the distillery (including distillery's automated production system and all motor controls)
- Schedule and perform servicing and maintenance of chiller, motors, pumps, central air condition, and bottling line equipment
- Maintaining the distillery's wastewater and water treatment system
- Installation of new motors and pumps
- Maintain inventory of all tools, maintenance equipment, and supplies
- Resolve any electrical, pump, motor issues
- Resolve issues with electrical appliances
- Plan, lead and supervise annual general maintenance projects

Qualification, skills, and experience required:

- Degree in electrical and/or mechanical engineering
- Or equivalent electrical and/or mechanical certification
- At least 5 years electrical and/or mechanical experience in similar industry operations
- Experienced in wastewater and water treatment system
- Ability to understand electrical diagrams and P & ID's

Kindly email your application letter and resume to sp@copalreedistillery.com no later than 12th May 2023.

The British and Belize governments continue to violate the Garifuna people's human/land rights in Belize



by Wellington C. Ramos, Adjunct Professor of History and Political Science



Continued from page 22 of the Friday, April 21, 2023, issue #3641 of the Amandala.

Hurricane Hattie struck Belize in 1961, and after this terrible experience, many Belizeans started to migrate to the United States. This migration affected all the households in Belize, and especially the Garifuna and Creole

families. The family members of the Garifuna and Creoles then started to assist their families back home to reduce the burden on the Belize governments.

The UDP came to power for the first time in 1984, and they promised change

from the status quo of the PUP. But since they came to power and in all of their administrations, they have failed to bring employment to the south, and to give the Garifuna people the opportunity to own their own

businesses to remain independent people, and to have control over their indigenous lands. This has led to an increased state of dependency and poverty.

Many Garifuna families in the south own lands, but the Belize Land Tenure System (BLTS) is being used by the UDP and PUP governments of Belize (GOB) to use, grant leases, and issue titles to Garifuna lands. The Government wants the Garifuna people to apply for a lease and title to lands they already own and have been occupying for centuries.

Obtaining any land document from the Government of Belize takes years, and in many cases will not be granted unless a Garifuna or other citizens pays a member of the government to obtain their land title. A case in point is that I had a Minister's Fiat Title that I obtained in the early 1990's for my purchased lot. The Government of Belize discontinued Minister's Fiats after 2008 and told all the citizens of Belize to apply for a Certificate of Title, and I applied.

I did not receive my Certificate of Title until 2020. Most Belizeans have been, and are awaiting their land titles for over five years. This is despite the fact that they have submitted all the required documents requested by the government's Lands Department. The citizens of Belize cannot do anything without their land titles. Garifuna citizens also need the finance to work their lands, and both the UDP and PUP have failed to provide it to them through the Development Finance Corporation (DFC).

When the General Elections are coming up in Belize, the two main political parties, PUP and UDP, make several unfulfilled promises, pay our people to vote for them, get elected, reelected, and it goes on and on with no end in sight. Still, many of our people and family members remain loyal to these two political parties. The purpose of a political party, when they become the government, is to assist their citizens with the resources they need to take care of their families and themselves. The two of these political parties, the UDP and PUP, have failed miserably with this task.

There are many of our Garifuna people who still hold on to this lingering belief, that things will get better. Some are even blaming their own people for being lazy and worthless as the main cause for their living status. I believe that if we make the finance and equipment available for our people to work on their farmlands, the situation will get better. I am not recommending the old slash and burn farming, because our people tried that for many years and it did not work. I am talking about the government establishing a program to provide the equipment for our people to clear their lands, give them the seeds to grow the crops, and the money to pay the people for their labor.

Too many years have passed by and the UDP/PUP has no established program for our people. They just continue giving them more unfulfilled promises, like this one again to reopen



CENTRAL BANK of BELIZE



CAREER OPPORTUNITY

SUPERVISOR, GENERAL SERVICES

The Central Bank invites qualified individuals to join its Administration Department.

The Supervisor, General Services, is responsible for the functions and operations of the General Services Unit, which includes the Central Bank's procurement and inventory management, asset management, and logistical and courier functions. The Supervisor, General Services, must adhere to the Central Bank's policies and procedures and best practices within these areas.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Manage the vehicle fleet and ensure that vehicles are maintained, repaired, cleaned, or replaced as per the Central Bank's policies and procedures.
- Verify monthly motor vehicle and fuel analysis reports and make recommendations on efficiency.
- Manage the Central Bank's fixed assets and ensure all required movements are completed according to the Fixed Assets Procedure.
- Oversee logistical arrangements for all meeting facilities conducted by Office Attendants.
- Oversee stocktaking of the Central Bank's cutlery and kitchenware at least once annually.
- Assist in the sale of collectible coins.
- Assist in executing the Administration Department's Business Continuity Plan.
- Assist with preparing data required for the annual insurance tender process for the Central Bank's vehicle fleet, Building and Contents, and Public and Employers' Liability Covers.
- Provide logistical support for conferences, meetings, training, and workshops hosted by the Central Bank.
- Supervise all staff of the General Services Unit to ensure that all tasks are completed per their job description.
- Prepare annual strategic work plan and quarterly program reports for General Services Unit.
- Perform any other duties as per the functions of the Administration Department and cross-functional duties within the Central Bank.

The applicants should possess the following:

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE

- A minimum of a bachelor's degree in business administration, management, or a related field from a recognized university with at least three (3) years of relevant experience.

TECHNICAL KNOWLEDGE

- Possesses, applies, and maintains a high degree of knowledge in the relevant area to deliver quality work, and keeps informed of the latest trends and development in the discipline; Demonstrated cross-functional ability and desire to learn more about new areas; Proficient in software applications including Microsoft Office Suite.

COMPETENCIES

- Strong Communication Skills; Results Orientation; Flexibility/Adaptability; Organizational Awareness; Interpersonal Effectiveness; Decision Making/Problem Solving; Leadership; Empowering and Developing Others.

Submit the following documents by **Wednesday, 10 May 2023:**

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

Applications should be addressed to:

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

Ref: Supervisor, General Services- Administration Department
Email: hr@centralbank.org.bz or online at www.centralbank.org.bz
(All applications will be held in strict confidence.)

Connect with us on

Linked in

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/central-bank-of-belize/>



GOVERNMENT OF BELIZE
Ministry of Finance, Economic Development and
Investment



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
P.O. Box 42
Ground Floor, Sir Edney Cain Building
Belmopan City
Belize, Central America

Tel: (501) 880-2526
(501) 880-2527
Email: econdev@med.gov.bz

Our Ref: MED/CEU/GEN/23 (11) Vol I

Notification of Intention to Award

For the attention of Consultant's authorized representative
Name: Mindaugas Glodas
Address: Lokkentangen 20B, NO-1337 Sandvika, Norway.
Telephone number: +370 656 91898
Email Address: info@nrd.no

DATE OF TRANSMISSION: This Notification is sent by: email on March 13, 2023 (local time)

Notification of Intention to Award

Employer: Government of Belize through the Ministry of Finance, Economic Development, and Investment on behalf of the Attorney General Ministry

Contract title: Design, Develop and Implement a Civil Registry and Vital Statistic System

Country: Belmopan, Belize C.A.

Loan No.: BL-L1039

RFP No.: #1/2022

This Notification of Intention to Award (Notification) notifies you of our decision to award the above contract. The transmission of this Notification begins the Standstill Period. During the Standstill Period you may:

- (a) request a debriefing in relation to the evaluation of your Proposal, and/or
- (b) submit a Procurement-related Complaint in relation to the decision to award the contract.

1. The successful Consultant

Name:	Norway Registers Development AS
Address:	Lokkentangen 20B, NO-1337 Sandvika, Norway
Contract price:	US\$1,589,800.00

2. Short listed Consultants

Name of Consultant	Submitted Proposal	Overall technical scores	Financial Proposal price (if applicable) (USD)	Evaluated Financial Proposal price (if applicable)	Combined score and ranking (if applicable)
E-Data Limited	No	None	Not applicable	Not applicable	None
Incredisoft	YES	Disqualified	Not applicable	Not applicable	None
Genesis Systems Incorporated	No	None	Not applicable	Not applicable	None
KYN Consulting	YES	Criterion (1): Sub-criterion (1): 1: [0] 2: [0] Criterion (2): Sub-criterion (2): 1: [8] 2: [4.8] 3: [1] Criterion (3): Sub-criterion (3): 1: [2.25]	Not applicable	Not applicable	None

Name of Consultant	Submitted Proposal	Overall technical scores	Financial Proposal price (if applicable) (USD)	Evaluated Financial Proposal price (if applicable)	Combined score and ranking (if applicable)
		2: [4.95] 3: [3.84]			
MEIT Technology	Yes	Disqualified	Not applicable	Not applicable	None
MT Technology	No	None	Not applicable	Not applicable	None
Smart Moves Limited	No	None	Not applicable	Not applicable	None
Thalis	No	None	Not applicable	Not applicable	None
New Legacy	No	None	Not applicable	Not applicable	None
Smart & WCC Group	Yes	Criterion (1): Sub-criterion (1): 1: [15] 2: [15] Criterion (2): Sub-criterion (2): 1: [14] 2: [12.16]	\$1,724,587.00	Not applicable	81.965 (3 rd)

Name of Consultant	Submitted Proposal	Overall technical scores	Financial Proposal price (if applicable) (USD)	Evaluated Financial Proposal price (if applicable)	Combined score and ranking (if applicable)
		3: [3] Criterion (3): Sub-criterion (3): 1: [4.95] 2: [5.85] 3: [11.04]			
Norway Registers Development AS	Yes	Criterion (1): Sub-criterion (1): 1: [15] 2: [15] Criterion (2): Sub-criterion (2): 1: [20] 2: [16] 3: [4] Criterion (3): Sub-criterion (3):	\$1,589,800.00	Not applicable	94.947 (1 st)

Name of Consultant	Submitted Proposal	Overall technical scores	Financial Proposal price (if applicable) (USD)	Evaluated Financial Proposal price (if applicable)	Combined score and ranking (if applicable)
		1: [7.56] 2: [5.85] 3: [12]			
Idemia & IAFIS	Yes	Criterion (1): Sub-criterion (1): 1: [15] 2: [15] Criterion (2): Sub-criterion (2): 1: [20] 2: [16] 3: [4] Criterion (3): Sub-criterion (3): 1: [6.48] 2: [2.25] 3: [12]	\$1,480,000.00	Not applicable	92.584 (2 nd)

3. Reason/s why your Proposal was unsuccessful

KYN Consulting- Did not obtain the minimum technical score.

4. How to request a debriefing [This applies only if your proposal was unsuccessful as stated under point (3) above]

DEADLINE: The deadline to request a debriefing expires at midnight on March 15, 2023 (local time).

You may request a debriefing in relation to the results of the evaluation of your Proposal. If you decide to request a debriefing your written request must be made within three (3) Business Days of receipt of this Notification of Intention to Award.

Provide the contract name, reference number, name of the Consultant, contact details; and address the request for debriefing as follows:

Attention: Mr. Rene Nunez

Title/position: Lead Consultant

Agency: Central Executing Unit, Ministry of Finance, Economic Development, and Investment

Email address: Rene.Nunez@med.gov.bz

If your request for a debriefing is received within the 3 Business Days deadline, we will provide the debriefing within five (5) Business Days of receipt of your request. If we are unable to provide the debriefing within this period, the Standstill Period shall be extended by five (5) Business Days after the date that the debriefing is provided. If this happens, we will notify you and confirm the date that the extended Standstill Period will end.

The debriefing may be in writing, by phone, video conference call or in person. We shall promptly advise you in writing how the debriefing will take place and confirm the date and time.

If the deadline to request a debriefing has expired, you may still request a debriefing. In this case, we will provide the debriefing as soon as practicable, and normally no later than fifteen (15) Business Days from the date of publication of the Contract Award Notice.

5. How to make a complaint

DEADLINE: The deadline for submitting a Procurement-related Complaint challenging the decision to award the contract expires on midnight, March 24, 2023 (local time).

Provide the contract name, reference number, name of the Consultant, contact details; and address the Procurement-related Complaint as follows:

Attention: Mr. Rene Nunez

Title/position: Lead Consultant

Agency: Central Executing Unit, Ministry of Finance, Economic Development, and Investment

Email address: Rene.Nunez@med.gov.bz

At this point in the procurement process, you may submit a Procurement-related Complaint challenging the decision to award the contract. You do not need to have requested, or received, a debriefing before making this complaint. Your complaint must be submitted within the Standstill Period and received by us before the Standstill Period ends.

In summary, there are four essential requirements:

1. You must be an 'interested party'. In this case, that means a Consultant who has submitted a Bid in this selection process, and is the recipient of a Notification of Intention to Award.
2. The complaint can only challenge the decision to award the contract.
3. You must submit the complaint within the period stated above.
4. You must include, in your complaint, all of the information pursuant to paragraphs 2.77 to 2.81 of the Bank's Procurement Policies and Appendices 1 and 3.

6. Standstill Period

DEADLINE: The Standstill Period is due to end at midnight on March 24, 2023 (local time).

The Standstill Period lasts ten (10) Business Days after the date of transmission of this Notification of Intention to Award.

The Standstill Period may be extended. This may happen where we are unable to provide a debriefing within the five (5) Business Day deadline. If this happens we will notify you of the extension.

If you have any questions regarding this Notification, please do not hesitate to contact us.

On behalf of Ministry of Finance, Economic Development, Investment:

Signature:

Name: Osmond R. Martinez, Ph.D.

Title/position: Chief Executive Officer, Ministry of Economic Development

Telephone: 501-880-2526/27

Email: ceo@med.gov.bz



VACANCY

The British High Commission, Belmopan has a vacancy for a Post Security Manager.

Main purpose of the job:

Lead and manage the security team; be the first point of contact for all security matters at Post as well as oversee and manage protective security systems, equipments and procedures and to provide insights around key security issues, risks and opportunities for improvement.

To monitor and analyse the security situation in Belize, produce briefings and highlight trends, risks and threats.

Roles and responsibilities:

- Security Management, advice and support
- Security Analysis
- Administrative Tasks

Full details available online.

Essential on arrival:

- Good command of oral and written English
- Initiative and good judgement
- Ability to work effectively as part of a team
- Analysis
- Ability to multi-task, work under pressure and meet deadlines.
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills.
- Ability to work autonomously and to approach activities with initiative.
- IT literacy.

Desirable:

- Former Officer/Senior Non Commissioned Officer (SNCO) in the military or Police
- Knowledge of Spanish would be an asset
- Driving Licence

Salary will be BZ\$ 3,687.93.

Working Hours: 38 hours per week

How to Apply

Interested persons should use the preferred method of applying online at <https://bit.ly/41qVrCs> or by scanning the QR Code below.



The Deadline for applications is **Sunday, 14 May 2023**. Only those candidates who are short-listed will be contacted. Please be aware that all applicants must have a legal status to work in Belize. Confirmation of appointment is subject to the satisfactory completion of a probationary period and security clearance.

The British High Commission in Belize is an inclusive and diversity-friendly employer. We value difference, promote equality and challenge discrimination, enhancing our organisational capability. We welcome and encourage applications from people of all backgrounds. We do not discriminate based on disability, race, colour, ethnicity, gender, religion, sexual orientation, age, veteran status or other category protected by law. We promote family-friendly flexible working opportunities, where operational and security needs allow.

ATLANTIC INSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED

Applications are invited from suitably qualified persons to fill the position of Custodian.

BASIC FUNCTION: KEEP ASSIGNED AREAS CLEAN AND ORDERLY.

Education/Experience: High School Diploma with three years' experience in a similar position.

Working Conditions: Work indoors.

Equipment: Cleaning equipment and supplies.

Knowledge, Skills, and Competencies:

- ◆ Ability to establish and maintain effective public and working relationships.
- ◆ Ability to understand and effectively carry out instructions.
- ◆ Ability to contribute positively to team building.
- ◆ Ability to maintain professional appearance and conduct.
- ◆ Ability to promote a sanitary work environment.
- ◆ Ability to work well with little supervision.

DAILY RESPONSIBILITIES:

- ◆ Clean glass partitions throughout assigned floor.
- ◆ Twice daily polish the entrance door glass of each assigned floor.
- ◆ Clean assigned floor space including offices, meeting room, lobby, entrance way, kitchen, and bathrooms (sweep, mop, polish, sanitize and organize).
- ◆ Clean high touch objects/surfaces (doorknobs, light switch, etc.)
- ◆ Wash and sanitize kitchen and bathroom trash cans.
- ◆ Clean low dust areas (chair and table legs, sides of desks, cabinets).
- ◆ Remove trash from the assigned floor at the close of business.
- ◆ Keep proper care of all cleaning tools and supplies.

WEEKLY RESPONSIBILITIES:

- ◆ Clean refrigerator and dispose of left over drinks and food.
- ◆ Clean and polish microwave oven and water cooler dispensers.
- ◆ Wash and sanitize office trash cans.
- ◆ Weekly clean high dust areas (blinds and items on walls).
- ◆ **From time to time, holdover for other custodians and perform other related duties as assigned.**

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF ONLINE APPLICATIONS IS MONDAY, 5 MAY 2023

ALL APPLICATIONS MUST INCLUDE:

TWO RECENT LETTERS OF REFERENCE ONE FROM PAST EMPLOYER AND A VALID POLICE RECORD AND PASSPORT SIZE PICTURE

SEND APPLICATIONS AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS TO:

our website at: <https://aicbelize.com/employment-application>

Note: Incomplete applications will not be considered. Only short-listed applicants will be contacted for interviews.
[We thank you for your application.](#)

IN THE HIGH COURT OF BELIZE A.D 2023

CLAIM NO. 48 OF 2023

ASCENDANCY BELIZE LTD.

CLAIMANT

AND

ROLAND TUN

DEFENDANT

TO: ROLAND TUN of Cattle Landing Village, Toledo District, Belize/Go Deh Strong Area, Punta Gorda Town, Toledo District, Belize

TAKE NOTICE that Claim No. 48 of 2023 has been commenced against you in the High Court of Belize, by **ASCENDANCY BELIZE LTD.** a company duly incorporated under the Laws of Belize with registered office situate at Cor. Landivar & 4th Streets, Kings Park, Belize City, Belize in which the CLAIMANT'S claim is for monies owing by the Defendant to the Claimant, on account of a loan advanced to the Defendant under and by virtue of a Charge and Memorandum Accompanying Charge executed by the Defendant inclusive of legal fees:

AND it has been ordered that service of the Fixed Date Claim Form with Affidavit in Support of 23rd January, 2023 on you be effected by this advertisement.

AND you are required to enter an appearance within fourteen (14) days of the second publication of this Notice of the Fixed Date Claim Form by causing an Acknowledgement of Service to be filed for you at the Office of the Registrar of the High Court of Belize.

AND you are required to attend court on May 8th, 2023 at 10:45 a.m. before the Honorable Madam Justice Martha Alexander at the High Court of Belize to defend the said Claim.

TAKE NOTICE that in default of your so doing, the said Claimant may proceed therein, and Judgment may be given in your absence.

You may appear to the said Claim by filing an Acknowledgement of Service in person or by your attorney at the Office of the Registrar of the High Court of Belize.

DATED the 19th day of April, 2023.

CAVE LOCHAN WATSON LLP
Attorneys-at-Law for the Claimant
Cor. Landivar & 4th Streets, Kings Park
Belize City, Belize

The Forgotten Story of the Tragedy of the *E.M.L.*

by Donia Scott

Part 3 — Search and Recovery

The first alert of the sinking was received at 4:40 a.m. on April 10th, when Police Constable Benjamin McKoy was woken at his post at the station house in the northern town of Consejo, situated only a few miles from the Mexican border. He opened the door to the alarming sight of four sodden and bedraggled men, a nun and a screaming child of about two years of age, later identified as the son of Mrs. Marchand.

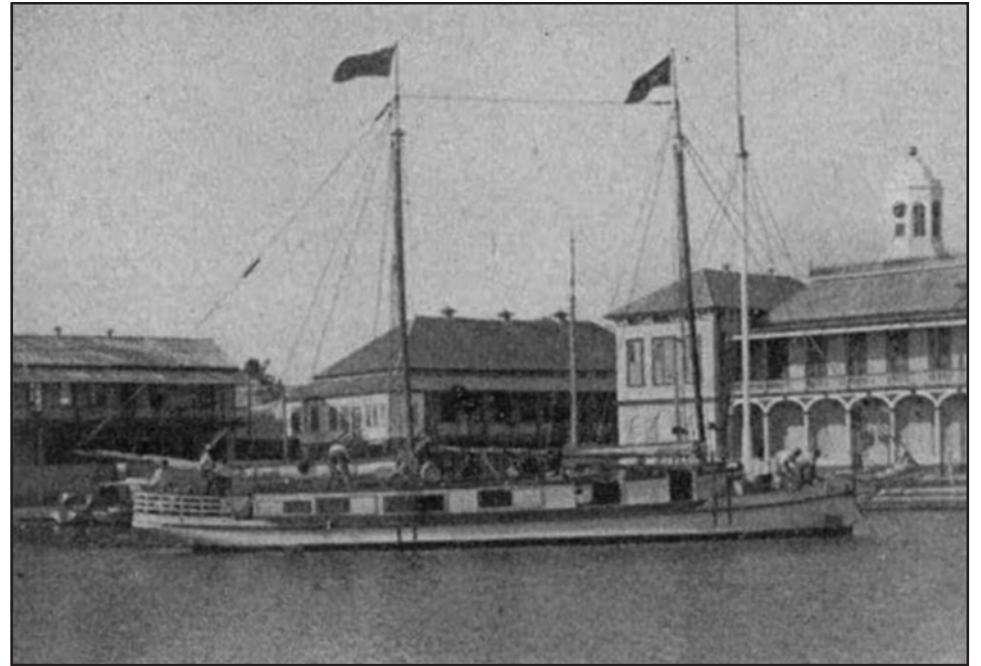
McKoy! The E.M.L. gone down! The E.M.L. gone down!" he heard.

As far as he knew, the mailboat was scheduled to arrive a few hours after midnight at Corozal, 8 miles south, on its weekly trip from Belize. But these people claimed that it had sunk some two hours earlier, somewhere between Warre Bight and Sarteneja, with many passengers on board. The motley group before him had

escaped, they said, in the only available lifeboat.

McKoy recognised the most vocal of the men as Percival Grant, a steward on the *E.M.L.* With him were two other crew members, one of whom identified himself as the cook, Cecil Patterson, and the other as a sailor named Hubert Flowers. The fourth man explained in broken English that his name was Serapio Lopez from Honduras and that his wife was left clinging to the wreckage. The nun, partly speaking in a language that he later learned to be German, said that she was Mother Cecelia of the Pallottine order and that she had been travelling with two fellow nuns and Bishop Hopkins.

As for the child, all they could say about him was that he had been thrown to them as they set off in the lifeboat. A woman in the crowd that had begun to gather around the station house took the crying child away to be fed and put in dry clothes. Later that day, McKoy learned that the child's name was Chester, that he had been on board with his mother



and several siblings, and that he was the son of Mr. Lucio Marchand, a Customs official in Belize.

Immediately upon receiving the shocking news, McKoy telephoned the

station house in Corozal to report what Grant had told him. This was passed on to Mr. P.N. Riveroll, the telegraph officer

Please turn to **Page 28**

The Nature Conservancy



The mission of The Nature Conservancy (TNC) is to conserve the lands and waters upon which all life depends. From a rewarding mission to career development and flexible schedules, there are many reasons to love life #insideTNC

Protecting nature. Preserving life.

The Nature Conservancy (TNC) Belize invites suitably qualified individuals to fill the position of:

Communications Specialist



WE'RE LOOKING FOR YOU!

The Communications Specialist (TNC Belize) is responsible for developing and implementing focused communication and media strategies and campaigns. This position helps drive and constructively contribute to TNC's systemic approach to scaling and transforming conservation and sustainable development in Belize.

Responsibilities include but are not limited to:

- > Facilitate on-going communication between all parts of the globally dispersed marketing division, internal and external stakeholders and identifies communication and media needs and opportunities.
- > Develop speeches, key messages, talking points, infographics and short executive level briefings (1-2 pages), among other, as needed.
- > Provide consultation, media training, coaching and talking points to persons serving as spokesperson(s).

Qualifications:

- Bachelor's degree in related field and a minimum of 5 years of related professional experience or equivalent combination of education and experience.
 - Fluency in written and spoken English and Spanish.
- Experience developing, managing, implementing and tracking media strategies and campaigns.

Apply Today! **Deadline : Friday, May 5th, 2023**

Job ID 53346

Applications will only be accepted through the TNC

Careers online page:

<https://careers.nature.org/>

Vacancy Notice Tool Pusher

Suitable qualified applicant are invited to apply for the vacant post of **TOOL PUSHER** at Belize Natural Energy Ltd.

Essential Duties and Responsibilities:

- Ensure the safe and efficient performance of the drilling rig, well completion and work over activities by supervising the execution of all related activities in compliance with national regulations and approved operation program;
- Ensure the progress of the activities is in line with work programs;
- Prepare daily reports on operations;
- Be familiar with the safe handling and operating of all drilling related tools and equipment;
- Be familiar with the established well control procedures according to international standards;
- Be familiar with the established drilling operational procedures according to international standards;
- Manage rig moving activities by supervising the activity of crews, the lifting activities and verifying that the equipment is correctly positioned in location;
- Development proper maintenance plan for the drilling equipment and ensure stock level of spare parts and consumables is documents and maintained;
- Be responsible for safe working conditions on the rig site at all times;
- Lead the safety meetings of the drilling crew;
- Report to Management

Requirements:

- Minimum 10 yrs. experience as Tool Pusher, or 15 yrs. experience as Driller.
- Experience on land rigs of up to 1500 HP
- Certified IWCF/IADC Well Control
- Verse in Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, Power Point)
- Strong computer and writing skills
- Need strong organizational and managerial skills
- Required to work a flexible schedule to include nights, weekends and public & bank holidays.
- Applicant must be well verse in fire fighting and safe handling of hazardous materials.
- A valid B3 driver's license.
- Degree in Petroleum Engineering, or related field would be an asset.

Compensation:

- Salary is negotiable based on years of experience, training and certification acquired for the oil rig industry

Applicants should submit: Letter of application, Curriculum Vitae, two letter of recommendation and a recent police record to below address:

CAO / HR Manager
Human Resource Department
3 Miles Spanish Lookout Road, Iguana Creek
Cayo District, Belize
P.O. Box 279 Belmopan
Email: info@bne.bz or gsmith@bne.bz

Deadline for application is Monday, May 15, 2023

UEF April Community Actions 2021, 2022, 2023

by Sista YaYa Marin Coleman

BELIZE CITY, Wed. Apr. 26, 2023

April 2021

The United Black Association for Development Educational Foundation (UEF)'s home base, our Library of Afrikan and Indigenous Studies at 3304 Amandala Drive in Southside Belize City, remained closed since March 2020 for face-to-face community gatherings because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

April 2022

The United Black Association for

Development Educational Foundation (UEF) collaborated with Kate Wilson/Saint Lucia National Focal Point for the Escazu Agreement to make this flyer for a side event at the Conference of the Parties in Santiago, Chile, which was held April 20-22, 2022. The UBAD Educational Foundation (UEF) chairperson YaYa Marin Coleman participated in this regional panel discussion on "UEF's role in advocating for the Government of Belize to ratify the Escazu Agreement so this regional environmental and human rights treaty may be used as a tool for catalyzing change towards a more resilient, just, inclusive, and gender-

responsive society." The voices and stories of villagers from Monkey River Village, an Afrikan Heritage Community in the Toledo District of Belize, was central in Y a Y a ' s presentation about the loss of their homes, the washing away of family members' graves, streets, and a football field to consistent beach erosion.



April 2023

The United Black Association for

Please turn to Page 27



HAPPY LABOUR DAY

Saluting all Public Officers, the engine of Government!

From: Hon. Henry Charles Usher and the Ministry of the Public Service, Constitutional and Political Reform and Religious Affairs

Cherish this beautiful Belize

Among other things, we can't pay fu this

Continued from Page 11

in court because the lawyers are protecting their feeding grounds. That segment when OJ called the WUB to put the Ombudsman in his place, someone with money should buy the clip and make it an infomercial, for Belizeans to see what it is all about.

I know we are a capitalist country, and money is big business. But we have to be wise in going about creating it. Sorry, taking money from the poor and the government to give to lawyers isn't the blueprint that will make us all win. We are not living in the USA where money is flying about like dirt. Every law is a bonanza for the law professors. Look, I hated writing this piece. You know what it is about. Somebody has to say it.

The British and Belize governments continue to violate the Garifuna...

Continued from Page 22

the Commerce Bight Port when election is approaching. When I listened to the Prime Minister's comments two weeks ago, he used the word "marina" port. That sends me a message that they will not allow ships to dock there any more, and this is a downsize from what it was, and is capable of being used for. They do not want Commerce Bight Port to compete with the Big Creek Port and the Belize Port.

The Garifuna Nation was skeptical of the plan at the time because their people and organizations were not consulted before the contract was issued to the company.

Commerce Bight Pier is a port and harbor that has natural depth compared to Big Creek and the Belize City Ports. It does not require ongoing dredging like the other two ports. Also, it is a place where vessels can dock to be safe in the event of a storm and during the hurricane season. It is a multipurpose port facility that has all the amenities to be used, including boat and ship building. Yet, the government of Belize has been neglecting it for 21 years now. Why? Is it because it is in the south where the Garifuna people live? The south has always historically been neglected by the Central Government in Belmopan.

The Garifuna people in Dangriga and Stann Creek District want the Commerce Bight Port to reopen with their consultation, consent and approval so they can benefit from its use. But the Government of Belize has refused to consult us to gain our consent and approval. This action on their part makes me believe that they do not care about us.

Now in 2023, the PUP government is planning to do the same thing the UDP did, without our Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC). This is convincing me that, it does not matter whether it is the UDP or PUP governing our country as it relates to our Indigenous Human and Land Rights. They will continue to do as they please. Let us demonstrate to them how much we care about ourselves by coming together to confront this government on their proposed Commerce Bight Pier plan.

I predicted, in an article that I wrote prior to the 2020 General Elections, that we might not have any Garifuna person in the House of Representatives, and that prediction came true. When the PUP did their first electoral representation reforms in 1960, they gave us two representatives each for the Toledo and Stann Creek Districts.

If we do not confront this government, they will continue to use their Land Tenure System (LTS) to violate our human and land rights in Belize. The Commerce Bight Port is only one case, but there are hundreds of cases that our Garifuna citizens can bring forward, where their lands are occupied, leased or titled, without their consent, knowledge and approval. We are being taken for fools, and now is the time for us to let them respect us. We need Garifuna representatives who will stand up for us and to go to Belmopan and demand our rights, and our fair share of our Belizean national resources.

They did subsequent reforms and increased the number of seats in all the other districts except Toledo and Stann Creek. The Stann Creek and Toledo Districts still only have two seats each. Currently, Redistricting is taking place in secrecy, and we are not being told how many seats the Stann Creek and Toledo Districts will gain when they are finished with their recommendations.

In 2020, the citizens of Belize, including our Garifuna people, elected the PUP with the hope for a change by a landslide. As soon as they came into power, they voided the lease for twenty-five (25) years that was granted by the UDP to RCL Limited in 2016 to reopen the Commerce Bight Pier.

UEF April Community Actions 2021, 2022, 2023

Continued from Page 26

Development Educational Foundation (UEF) sent a letter to Hon. Kareem Musa, Minister of Home Affairs and New Growth Industries (Minister responsible for holidays):

not responded to UEF's letter. UEF also reminded Minister Kareem Musa that he did not respond to another letter sent **October 25, 2022**, Re: The Press Release Public and Bank Holidays 2023/ Tuesday August 1, 2023 date was not recognized as Emancipation Day and the Public and Bank Holiday. The date of August 1, has been recognized as Afrikan Emancipation Day globally in many former British enslavement territories, no matter what day of the week that date is! On August 1, 1838 our human trafficked Afrikan Ancestors were fully emancipated from legal chattel enslavement by the British enslavers in this land now known as Belize!

RE: The names, email addresses, and phone numbers of the individuals you said are on the Holiday Committee who decided that Monday July 31, 2023 will be the day that Belizeans will observe as the Public and Bank Holiday in lieu of Tuesday August 1, 2023/Afrikan Emancipation Day. To date, Monday, April 24, 2023 Minister Kareem Musa has

MADISON'S AUCTIONS AND APPRAISALS LLP

PUBLIC AUCTION

BY ORDER OF Messrs. St. John's Credit Union Ltd., Licensed Auctioneer Sylvano Guerrero is selling chattels seized by Writ of Execution from D's Hostel and Laundry via Public Auction.

The auction will take place on Saturday, May 13th, 2023 at 10:00 AM at the Corner of Commerce and Riverside Streets in Dangriga Town, Stann Creek.

Chattels Include:

- | | |
|---|----------------------------------|
| 1. Microwaves | 11. Wooden Benches |
| 2. Mini Refrigerators | 12. Toilets |
| 3. Queen Size Bed Frames | 13. Sinks |
| 4. Sofas | 14. Storage Locker |
| 5. Wooden Cabinets | 15. Ladder |
| 6. Wooden Doors | 16. Dining Room Table and Chairs |
| 7. Wall Paintings | 17. China Closets |
| 8. 8 Wood Single Bed Frames | 18. Washing Machines |
| 9. Chest of Drawers | 19. Electric Dryers |
| 10. Electrical Water Heating Shower Heads | 20. 1/2 HP Water Pump |

Items will be available for viewing from 8:00 AM to 10:00 AM on auction day. For more information please call 610-3916.

www.madisons.bz

TERMS: CASH ONLY

AUCTIONEER: SYLVANO GUERRERO
 TELEPHONE: +501-610-3916
 EMAIL: SG@MADISONS.BZ
 FACEBOOK: MADISONSAA

ALPHA BUSINESS CENTRE
 2118 GUAVA STREET
 BELAMA PHASE 1
 BELIZE CITY, BELIZE



Belize Electricity Limited is the primary distributor and the only licensed public provider of electricity in Belize. Our Mission is to deliver safe, reliable and sustainable energy solutions to enhance the quality of life and the productivity of enterprise and to support national development.

We are looking for highly motivated, goal oriented, responsible and committed persons to join our Company in the role of:

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT II

in the Energy Supply & System Control, HR Relations & Services, and Transmission & Substation Departments in Belize City.

View details at www.bel.com.bz

Submit application letter and resume to career.opportunity@bel.com.bz by Friday, May 5, 2023



MADISON'S

AUCTIONS AND APPRAISALS LLP

PUBLIC AUCTION

BY ORDER of the Supreme Court of Belize, Sylvano Guerrero will sell the following property with a reserve price on **Wednesday, May 17th, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. onsite.**



Registration Section	Block	Parcel
San Pedro	7	3841 (H51)

All that piece or parcel of land being strata lot with Parcel I.D. 7-42-3841(H51) containing 1461 square feet (Unit Entitlement) situated in Royal Palm Villas, San Pedro, Registration Section, Belize District.

Condominium measures 41 feet by 41 feet and is situated on the ground floor and contains two bedrooms with ensuite bathrooms, an open space as kitchen/dining/living areas, half bath, and a utility room. In addition, it has a covered balcony overlooking the Caribbean Sea measuring 7 feet by 34 feet (238 square feet).

The subject property is held by Land Certificate in the name of James Janmohamed.

For more information and pictures visit www.madisons.bz or call 610-3916.

www.madisons.bz **TERMS:10% DEPOSIT. BALANCE IN 14 DAYS**

AUCTIONEER: SYLVANO GUERRERO
TELEPHONE: +501-610-3916
EMAIL: SG@MADISONS.BZ
FACEBOOK: MADISONSAA

ALPHA BUSINESS CENTRE
2118 GUAVA STREET
BELAMA PHASE 1
BELIZE CITY, BELIZE

TENDER



Inventory Management Consultancy

BEL invites tenders for Inventory Management Consultancy as follows:

The Consultant will review and document BEL's current end-to-end inventory management and logistics processes to determine how well they align with the Company's objectives and the requirements of the end-use departments as well as with regional and international best practices. Based on these findings and other relevant considerations, the Consultant will propose a wholly revised end-to-end process with supporting policies, procedures, and systems re-engineered to deliver on the Company's mission, vision, objectives, and strategic plans and to meet the requirements of end-users as cost-effectively as possible.

The bid document which outlines all the duties and responsibilities of the contract, and dates are available on BEL's website at www.bel.com.bz/Tenders.aspx

Bidders are invited to a pre-bid virtual meeting at **2:00 p.m. local time on Tuesday, May 9, 2023.**

Bids will be accepted by email only and should include the bid number located on the respect bid form.

Submit bids via email to bidsubmittal@bel.com.bz no later than **3:00 p.m. local time on Friday, May 12, 2023.**

For more information or queries, send email to bidboxrequest@bel.com.bz

Cost incurred for preparation of the tender document is the sole responsibility of the bidder. The lowest or any tender will not necessarily be accepted.

The Forgotten Story of the Tragedy of the *E.M.L.*

Continued from **Page 25**

at Corozal, who sent a telegram with the news to his counterpart in Belize and, without awaiting instructions, another to the chief operator at nearby Payo Obispo across the border in Mexico asking for urgent assistance.

The Collector of Customs at Payo Obispo set off for the location of the stricken vessel with two motor boats. All available motor boats in Corozal and Consejo were dispatched to search for survivors. Mr. Robert Turton, a prominent mahogany and chicle merchant in Consejo, sent out his two personal motor launches, the *Lena* and the *Lula H.* They were joined by many other townspeople from Corozal and Consejo in canoes and dories.

The *Lena*, named after one of Turton's daughters, set off at around 5:45 a.m. with Constable McKoy on board. With him was Turton's engineer, Selvyn Ireland, and the mailboat's steward, Percival Grant, pointing the way.

About two miles out, they came across a man who McKoy recognised as John Moody, "clinging to a board". Not long after, they picked up Percival Reneau, the engineer of the *E.M.L.* Altogether, the *Lena* retrieved six survivors from the water before reaching the wreck.

Within half an hour, they spotted the *E.M.L.* some four or five miles out of Consejo lying on her side almost entirely underwater with only the rigging visible. Clinging to the rigging were fifty or more people clamouring for help, many of whom appeared to be women and children.

Altogether, forty-five survivors were rescued by the various boats and taken to Corozal, where the anxious townspeople fed and clothed them.

Even before the rescue boats had returned, the "leading men of Corozal"—the Rosados, Romeros and others—set up a relief fund to provide for the survivors. They reported that \$150 was subscribed within an hour, a substantial sum in today's currency.

Throughout the morning, numerous telephone calls were made from Corozal to the authorities in Belize, with name after name coming through as survivors were brought ashore. At 10:30 a.m., a list of the 51 survivors was posted outside the store of Messrs James Brodie and Co. Ltd. in Belize. The list contained several errors since, in the panic, little care was given to correctly transcribe the names.

Passengers: , John Moody, John Riverroll, Ernesto Peyrefite, Emilio Mena, William Parham, Francisco Perez, Rafael Diaz, Braulia Lopez, Mrs Lucio Marchand, Octavio [Gustave] Marchand, Olga Marchand, Ambrose Marchand, Joseph Franco, Ignacio Franco, Norman Wade, Maria Delgado, Marta Delgado, Mrs Manuel Carbajal, Christina Trejo, Christine [Sybil] Sabido, Gregorio Torres, Felipe Ramirez, Mrs Felipe Ramirez and child, Mrs Candido Gonzales, Marta A Gentina, Jacinto Gonzales, Maria Escobar, Miss Erneese Woods, Cecilia Arnold, Henry Longworth, Christopher Broadster, Adam Francis, Daniel Ramsey, Charles Gulop,

Serapio Lopez, Sister Cecilia, Crecencio Xul, Lydia Usher, Elizabeth Usher, Daniel Ingleton, 1 child [later known to be Chester Marchand]

Crew: Percival Reneau (engineer), Nicholas Maldonado (purser), George Burn (2nd purser), Hubert Flowers, Emmanuel Trapp (Captain), James Pollard (oiler), Percival Grant (steward), Cecil Patterson (cook), Francisco Gomez (sailor), Cresencio Humes (sailor)

As far as we can gather, those not rescued are: His Lordship Bishop Hopkins, two Sisters, Mrs Lawrence and 6 children, Miss Daisy Woods and 4 children, one child of Mrs Lucio Marchand, and two children of Mr. E.L. Fuller.

In a belated attempt to rescue remaining survivors, Government officials in Belize sent the Customs boat, *Panther*, which set off at 10:00 a.m. On board were Lucio Marchand, the Assistant Harbour Master of Belize, Henry Masson, and the Assistant Medical Officer, Henry Folsie. The *Panther* arrived in Corozal just after 8:00 p.m. that evening.

A newly-registered motor launch, *Afri-Kola*, belonging to a Mr. Chevannes and commissioned by the colonial government to transport mail from Belize to the southern towns, was also dispatched to Corozal, setting sail at 10:30 a.m. On board was Mr. Henry Lawrence, a cabinetmaker whose large family group of 14 women and children—including his own wife and six young children—had left Belize on the *E.M.L.* for Corozal the previous day. The *Afri-Kola* arrived in Corozal soon after 1:00 a.m. the next day, April 11. It returned to Belize late the following evening with ten survivors on board.

Messrs C. Melhado and Son Ltd. also sent their boat, the *Milton*, from Belize to render assistance in the search for survivors.

Meanwhile, fishermen from Consejo were beginning to recover the bodies of the drowned passengers. Over three days, the bodies of all but two children were found in the sea off Consejo, where they had drifted. They were taken to Consejo, and then by truck to Corozal for formal identification and burial.

The first bodies to be recovered were those of two small girls and an infant belonging to the Wood family, who were picked up on the day of the sinking by a Mexican boat running between Payo Obispo and Consejo. Over the next two days, eleven bodies were recovered by fishermen in their dories. One in particular, Apolonio Pech, was responsible for finding eight bodies, which he delivered to Consejo over five trips in his dory. The day after the sinking, the body of a woman, identified as one of the Wood sisters, Adela, the wife of Harry Lawrence, was recovered at the site of the wreck; it had become dislodged and floated to the surface during an attempt to tow the wreck into the shallows. Bishop Hopkins's body was the last to be found, tangled in mangroves at the mouth of the Hondo River that marks the border between British Honduras and Mexico.

At first, the bodies were delivered

Please turn to **Page 31**



Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre

TENDER OPPORTUNITY: REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTERESTS Project Development Specialist

Beneficiary:	Belize
Donor:	Green Climate Fund (GCF)
Project Name:	National Adaptation Planning for Integrated Water Resource Management in Belize (BLZ-RS-007)
Contract Title:	Project Development Specialist
Contract #:	#33/2023/GCF/Belize/CCCCC
Number of Positions:	1
Type of contract:	Lump Sum – Individual expert’s cost will include Professional fees, travel related expenses
Estimated Start Date:	May, 2023
Contract duration:	12 Months
Budget:	USD \$48,000.00
Main duty station:	CCCCC Office- Belize
Deadline for Submission:	<i>on or before 2:00pm (GMT-6), Wednesday 10th May 2023</i>
The CCCCC is an equal opportunity Employer and Reaffirms its commitment to achieving gender equality	

The full Terms of Reference (TOR) for the contract “Project Development Specialist” can be accessed and downloaded at: <https://wp.me/pa0qC3-5sm>

Requests for Clarification: email: procurement@caribbeanclimate.bz Attention: **Andrea Tillett, Procurement Officer.** Requests for clarification should be received by the Centre no later than: **Monday, 1st May 2023.** Consultants are advised that the responses to the requests for clarification will be only posted on the Centre’s Webpage at: <https://www.caribbeanclimate.bz/blog/category/opportunities/procurement-2/procurement/>

The Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre reserves the right to accept or reject any submission and to annul the process and reject all submissions at any time prior to the contract signature without thereby incurring any liability.

3rd Floor, David L. McKoy Business Centre, P.O. Box 563, Bliss Parade, Belmopan, BELIZE
Tel: (501)822-1104 or 1094, Fax: (501)822-1365, Website: www.caribbeanclimate.bz

“Tour-isms”

B.O.O.M., Boom, Boom!



Travelers want to be cultured. We are not referring to how they refine their taste, manners, art history, or education. But, we are talking about experiences that they believe will improve their understanding and appreciation for other people and other ways of living. Recent tourism trends indicate that people looking to travel in 2023, particularly families, want a vacation experience that directly connects them with the culinary, social, and local customs in the country that they visit. The pandemic is behind us; however, it seems that the desire for authentic human-to-human experiences has only increased since the days of lock-down. Vacations are not just about the hotel room, the pool bar, or the spa treatments. Travelers are looking for more - but how do we know what that “more” is? Fortunately, many of these emerging topics were discussed at this year’s annual BTB B.O.O.M. Forum. At the Forum, participants were introduced to a series of presenters and areas impacting the global tourism industry as well as those that are particular to Belize. The presentations indicate that some factors influencing the industry include social media, artificial intelligence (AI), global inflation, sustainability, and the culture element. Combined with news of new travel trends, all of the information suggest that we need to keep with the information. Minister of Tourism and Diaspora Relations, Honorable Anthony Mahler, summarized it in the form of a question. “How relevant is your marketing strategy?” The question permeates the objective of the

annual Forum which is to keep Belizean tourism stakeholders with up to date information for their business and marketing decisions.

At this year’s Forum, we learned that artificial intelligence (AI) will become more relevant moving forward. AI in the travel industry is expected to save businesses and travelers both time and money through uses such as AI travel chatbots, voice-based digital assistance, and personalized recommendations for tourists. Presenters from BTB’s partner agencies such as the Zimmerman Agency, Development Councillors International (DCI), and FINN Partners, various guest presenters, and representatives from BTB, all delivered on a series of key insights about Belize’s source markets for tourists and future developments. For example, we learned that Canadians are looking for transformational experiences that feel safe and that have good value. Belize is being promoted as a “bucket list” must do in the United Kingdom (UK), where visitors get much of their information from podcasts. Germans are more spontaneous and often book their vacations at short notice. Americans are still planning their vacations even while dealing with inflation and tighter budgets. No insight was too small and all the information shared was invaluable.

The BTB continues to **Build On Our Momentum** by sharing insight for the future. Information is key. Whether it is learning that travelers want to experience more of the country through cultural connections or that an important part of retaining employees in hospitality is more about *selecting* people and not just employing them, we know that we need to keep knowing. This week we highlight “**culturalism**” as a nuance in tourism. This is for our dynamic Belizean culture and to stress culture as an active agent in our tourism. Our industry and country will continue to B.O.O.M so long sharing the right information becomes our culture. We will continue to share so that we can adjust our strategies, attract more guests, and take care of the unique elements that maintain our competitive edge. As the Minister also said in his opening remarks “the faster we all move in the same direction, the harder it is for us to be stopped”.

See you next week.
The Belize Tourism Board

FOR SALE



2017 Great Wall Wingle 5 4 Door Blue Pickup Truck

The vehicle may be viewed at Heritage Bank Limited,
#106 Princess Margaret Drive, Belize City

Interested parties can contact the Recoveries Unit at
#223-0559/223-6783/223-6784.

Inflation rate up by 6.1% in March 2023

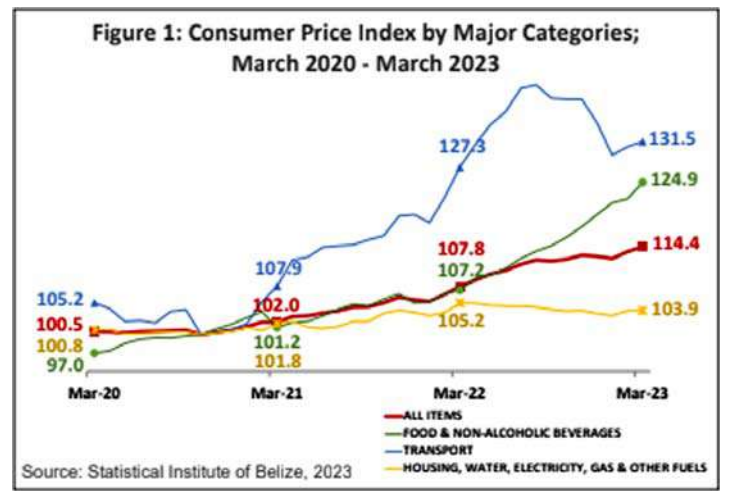
by *Kristen Ku*

BELIZE CITY,
Thurs. Apr. 27,
2023

The Statistical Institute of Belize (SIB) report on the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for the month of March 2023 reveals that consumer prices for all goods and services have risen by 6.1%, compared to March 2022.

Notably, the categories of 'Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages' and 'Transport' show the highest increases overall.

Under the 'Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages' category, inflation rates went



up by 16.4% in March 2023 compared to March 2022, with the 'Food' category alone increasing by 18.9%. Some of the foods included are: cereal products, up by 20.9%; veggies, up by 17.9%; fruits, up by 28.2%; dairy products and eggs, up by 24.4%; meats, up by 12.1%; seafood, up by 12.6%; and oils up by 30.8%.

The 'Restaurant and Accommodation Services' category saw an inflation rate of 10.4% for the month of March 2023. In the 'Transport' category, International airfares increased by 75.5%; taxi and bus fares increased by 18.9% and 3.7%, respectively; motor vehicle fuels increased by 0.5%; and new motor vehicle fuels increased by 2.2%.

The categories of 'Recreation, Sport, and Culture', 'Furnishings, Household Equipment, and Routine Household Maintenance', and 'Personal Care, Social Protection and Miscellaneous Goods and Services', experienced an inflation rate of 9.3%, 4.8%, and 3%, respectively, when comparing March 2023 to March 2022.

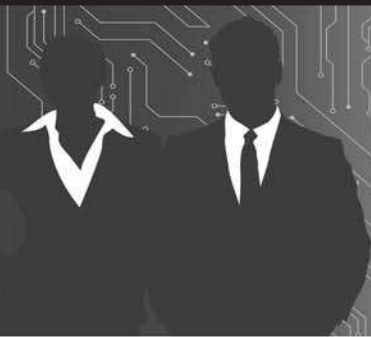
Unlike the previous categories, 'Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels' experienced a decrease of 1.2% in March 2023 when compared to March 2022. This is due to a reduction in the cost of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG), which went down from \$149.76 in March 2022 to \$126.30 in March 2023 per 100-pound cylinder of LPG.

Under 'Information and Communication' there was also a decrease from March 2022 to March 2023, this time by 1.6% due to reductions in internet provision services.

In regard to inflation rates seen by municipalities, Independence Village was identified as having the highest increase in consumer prices for the month of March 2023, at 8.4%, while Belmopan was identified as the municipality with the lowest rise in consumer prices of 4.1% when compared to March 2022.



JOB FAIR MAY 2023



Chief Finance Office Division

Senior Accounting Clerk (GL)

The Senior Accounting Clerk (GL) is responsible to assist in the preparation of periodic financial statements, analysis and reports required for both internal and external reporting. The incumbent will supervise staff and review all reconciliations on all cash, receivables, and payable accounts within the General Ledger section. He/ She will create mappings for new services being implemented in accordance with accounting rules and regulations.

Qualifications/Experience:

- Bachelor's degree in accounting, Finance, or related field.
- Minimum five (5) years accounting experience in similar position or in an accounting firm.
- Successful completion of a Professional Certification such as CPA, ACCA, CGA is an asset.
- Adequate knowledge and ability to quickly understand complex financial concepts/ apply International Financial Reporting Standards.

Senior Accounting Clerk (Accounts Payable)

The Sr. Accounting Clerk (Accounts Payable) is responsible to supervise the staff and the day-to-day operations of both the Accounts Payable functions. The incumbent is also responsible to pay third parties and employees by scheduling and preparing checks, resolving purchase orders, ensuring credit is received for outstanding bills, and issuing stop-payments or purchase order amendments.

Qualifications/Experience:

- Bachelor's degree in accounting, Business Administration or related field.
- Minimum two (2) years' experience in accounting or auditing.
- Excellent working knowledge of accounting principles and controls.

Senior Accounting Clerk (Inventory Management)

The Senior Accounting Clerk (Inventory Management) will monitor and ensure that the various inventory locations are adequately stocked, initiate re-order of inventories when stock levels dip below pre-determined levels, ensure proper levels of controls are in place and are being followed. In addition, the incumbent will perform timely stock taking activities and ensure that the inventory subsidiary ledgers and other general ledger accounts are properly reconciled monthly.

Qualifications/Experience:

- Bachelor's degree in accounting, Business Administration, or other related discipline
- Minimum three (3) years' experience in Inventory.
- Strong knowledge and experience of inventory and General Ledger.
- Adequate knowledge of IFRS and its impact on inventory.

Accounting Clerk (Procurement)

The Accounting Clerk (Procurement) will be responsible for preparing purchase orders, processing, and monitoring quotations for (foreign and local) suppliers, maintain purchasing & quotation records, perform research, and negotiate with suppliers to obtain prices and specifications. In addition, the incumbent will participate in vendor relationship management and identify cost-saving opportunities to support profitability goals.

Qualifications/Experience:

- Associate degree in Accounting, or Business Administration or related field
- Minimum two (2) years' experience in Procurement.
- Working knowledge of procurement principles and controls.
- Knowledgeable of record keeping methods and procedures applicable to purchasing.

Senior Accounting Clerk (Procurement)

The Senior Accounting Clerk (Procurement) will be responsible for the supervision of the procurement team engaged in a wide range of high-volume purchasing activities. In addition, the incumbent will process and assist in negotiating high dollar value, complex acquisitions which require preparation of market and product research, cost analysis, review of specifications, and development of special contractual clauses.

Qualifications/Experience:

- Bachelor's Degree in Accounting, Business Administration, or other related discipline with minimum three (3) years' experience in purchasing.
- Sound knowledge of procurement principles and controls.
- Thorough knowledge of purchasing methods and procedures, including the rules/policies of the company.
- Considerable knowledge of a wide variety of technical supplies and materials.

Financial Planning Analyst (VM)

The Financial Planning Analyst (Value Management) will collect, analyse, and report on key financial & cost accounting data used for management decisions and profitability outcomes. He/she will conduct relevant analysis in the areas of cost-benefit analysis, margin analysis, budget preparation, budget control, and forecasting. In addition, the analyst will provide analytical support to management for monthly reporting to BTL's Executive Leadership Team and Board of Directors.

Qualifications/Experience:

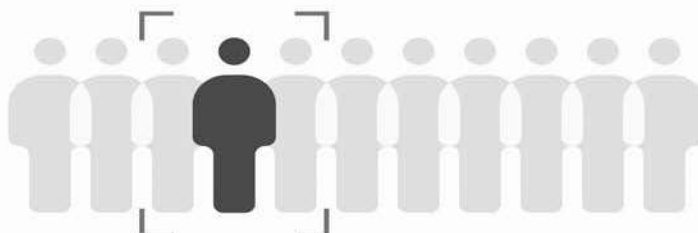
- Bachelor's Degree in Accounting or other related field.
- Minimum two (2) years' experience in financial planning and analysis with strong focus on value management.
- Advance analytical skills: with the ability to weigh and synthesize inputs from a variety of sources.
- Ability to present draft proposals such as budgets for cost proposal reviews.

Revenue Assurance Analyst:

The Revenue Assurance Analyst is responsible for performing revenue analysis reporting to improve the accuracy and timeliness of revenue management. The incumbent will also be responsible for supporting the reporting manager in identifying and recovering potential revenue lost due to leakage, fraud billing, and any other issues.

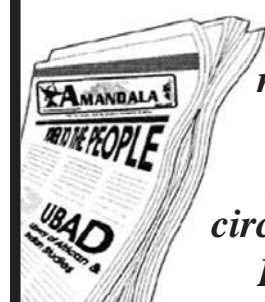
Qualifications/Experience:

- Bachelor's Degree in Accounting and/or Information Systems
- Minimum of three (3) years of experience in a related field.
- Revenue Assurance certification.
- General working knowledge of accounting concepts, procedures, and techniques.



For more details on the position visit Careers Link on the Digi Website:
<https://www.livedigi.com/careers>

AMANDALA



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Belize!

PRESS PREDICTIONS

The sports psychic speaks



Continued from Page 12

knockdown but survived 6 more rounds. Davis was too strong at the weight class of 140 pounds. Devin Haney will face off with Vasyliy Lomachenko in early May. Negotiations are still going on for the Terence Crawford and Errol Spence, Jr. showdown; a lot of boxing fans are looking forward to that fight. Gervonta Davis says he is the "milking cow" of boxing. If you all want to make money, come and fight me. There are a lot of nice fights on the horizon. The Charlo brothers have some very interesting matchups coming up in their middleweight class. The heavyweights also have some nice fights on the agenda. Next week, more updates and predictions.

The Forgotten Story of the Tragedy...

Continued from Page 30

from Consejo directly to the Corozal mortuary for the cause of death to be determined by Dr. Fredrick Davis, Assistant Medical Officer at Corozal, and his counterpart who had arrived from Belize for this purpose, Dr. Henry Folse. From there, they were transported to the Corozal Cemetery for burial. But by the 12th, the bodies were arriving in such a state of advanced decomposition that they were taken directly to the cemetery.

On April 13, the Governor of British Honduras, Sir Eyre Hutson, sent a telegram to His Excellency L. Abitia, the Governor of the Mexican state of Quintana Roo and the Comandante of Payo Obispo:

I desire to thank you, your officers and others in Payo Obispo for the ready response to the call for assistance in connection with the wreck of the E.M.L. which has been very valuable and highly appreciated by this Government and by the people of the Colony.

To be continued.

**KREM
PHONES
(OFFICE)**

280-4469

280-4299

(EMAIL)

ON LINE LIVE:
www.krembz.com



GOVERNMENT OF BELIZE

BELIZE SOCIAL INVESTMENT FUND III PROJECT

INVITATION FOR BIDS

Amendment and Republication of the notice published

on March 24th, 2023

The Government of Belize (GOBZ) has received financing from the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) in an amount equivalent to USD\$10,000,000 towards the cost of the Belize Social Investment Fund III Project and intends to apply a portion of the proceeds of this financing to eligible payments under this contract. Payment by CDB will be made only at the request of (GOBZ) and upon approval by CDB, and will be subject, in all respects, to the terms and conditions of the Financing Agreement. The Financing Agreement prohibits withdrawal from the financing account for the purpose of any payment to persons or entities, or for any import of goods, if such payment or import, to the knowledge of CDB, is prohibited by a decision of the United Nations Security Council taken under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations. No party other than (GOBZ) shall derive any rights from the Financing Agreement or have any claim to the proceeds of the Financing.

The Project is being implemented by the Ministry of Economic Development through the Belize Social Investment Fund (BSIF). BSIF has contracted Consultants who will assist with delivering the project.

BSIF now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the **Completion of the Corazon Creek Technical High School Building, Corazon Creek Village, Toledo District, Belize.** The works include, but are not limited to the following:

The proposed scope includes the construction of a two storey ferro-concrete building measuring 164'-11" long by 42'-2" wide complete with eight (8) classrooms, two (2) administrative spaces, two (2) male and female students' bathrooms, two (2) male and female teachers' lavatories, storage spaces and an access ramp up to the ground floor of the building to accommodate users with disabilities.

Works shall include but not be limited to the following activities: proposed compacted backfill to existing foundation; construction of reinforced concrete ground floor and upper floor slabs; construction of masonry walls; construction of reinforced concrete columns and beams; construction of a reinforced concrete roof; construction of concrete staircases; application of concrete rendering; construction of ceilings; installation of windows and doors; installation of electrical, plumbing, water supply and wastewater systems; application of surface finishes; and the undertaking of landscaping activities. Adherence to the contract's environmental and safety protocols during construction is of paramount importance.

Consideration will be limited to firms or joint ventures of firms, which are legally incorporated or otherwise organised in, and have their principal place of business in an eligible country and are either:

- (a) more than 50% beneficially owned by a citizen or citizens and/or a bona fide resident or residents of an eligible country, or by a body corporate or bodies corporate meeting these requirements; or
- (b) owned or controlled by the Government of an eligible country provided that it is legally and financially autonomous and operated under the commercial law of an eligible country and otherwise meets the eligibility requirements of the CDB Guidelines for Procurement (2006).

All countries are Eligible.

Eligible bidders will be required to submit full qualification information with their bids establishing their eligibility to bid and qualification to perform the contract if the bid is accepted. Tender and qualification information are to be submitted in the English Language on the prescribed forms inserted in the Bid Documents. Submissions that do not provide the information required, or do not demonstrate the prospective contractor's ability to perform satisfactorily, will not qualify and will not be considered for further evaluation.

Qualification requirements include, inter alia:

- (a) an average annual turnover (defined as certified payments received for works in progress or completed) within the last 5 years of at least One Million Four Hundred Thousand Belize Dollars (BZ\$1,400,000.00) (US\$700,000.00)
- (b) a demonstrable cash flow (including access to credit) for One Hundred Fifty Thousand Belize Dollars (BZ\$150,000.00) (US\$75,000.00)
- (c) experience as a prime contractor, joint venture member, management contractor, or subcontractor, of at least four (4) assignments of a nature, scope and complexity comparable to the proposed project activity within the last five (5) years (to comply with this requirement, works quoted should be at least 80 percent complete).

Bidding Documents may be obtained by eligible bidders from the first address below for a non-refundable fee of BZ\$150 (USD\$75). Requests may be made by written application including email. Written applications must be clearly marked: "**Request for Bidding Documents for the Completion of the Corazon Creek Technical High School Building, Corazon Creek Village, Toledo District, Belize.**", along with the name, address and contact information of the bidder for which Bidding Documents are being requested. Payment should be by cash deposited to, or Bank transfer to BSIF's Bank Account only. Banking details can be requested at the address below. Cash payment will not be accepted at the BSIF Office.

Applicants who request that documents be forwarded to them must submit an account number from a local courier agent that accepts freight collect charges. Documents will be promptly dispatched, but under no circumstance will the Government of Belize or their authorised agent be held responsible for late delivery or loss of the documents so transmitted.

Submissions in sealed envelopes clearly marked "**Bid for the Completion of the Corazon Creek Technical High School Building, Corazon Creek Village, Toledo District, Belize.**", must be received at the second address below not later than **10:00am (Belize Local Time) on 22nd May 2023.** Bid opening will take place immediately after the deadline for submission at the address below in the presence of bidders representatives who choose to attend. Qualification information only must be simultaneously submitted electronically to the third address below.

All bids must be accompanied by a "Bid Security" of: BZ\$8,000.00 (USD\$4,000.00). Late bids will be rejected.

The Government of Belize reserves the right to accept or reject any bid, and to annul the process and reject all bids, at any time prior to award of contract, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected prospective bidder(s) or any obligation to inform the affected prospective bidder(s) of the grounds for the Government of Belize action. The Government of Belize will not defray any costs incurred by any bidder in the preparation of bids.



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

Friday, April 28 to Thursday, May 4, 2023

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: Driving While Black: Race, Space And Mobility In America
- 3:30 p.m. **Wake Up Belize Morning Vibes (repeat)**
- 6:00 p.m. **Krem TV Evening News (LIVE)**
- 7:00 p.m. Documentary: Guess Who's Coming To Dinner
- 7:30 p.m. **Navel String Connection (repeat)**
- 9:00 p.m. **Krem TV Evening News (repeat)**

SATURDAY

- 9:00 a.m. **Agriculture & Trade Show 2023 (LIVE)**
- 3:00 p.m. Documentary: Pele - Birth Of A Legend
- 4:50 p.m. Movie: Avatar - The Way Of Water
- 8:00 p.m. Music Videos

SUNDAY

- 9:00 a.m. **Agriculture & Trade Show 2023 (LIVE)**
- 3:00 p.m. Movie: Just Mercy
- 5:17 p.m. Documentary: A Plastic Wave
- 5:41 p.m. Movie: A Time to Kill
- 8:10 p.m. Music Videos

MONDAY

- 9:00 a.m. Documentary: 60 Minutes Belize (1988)
- 9:15 a.m. Movie: Letters To God
- 11:09 a.m. Documentary: 12 Years a Slave
- 1:23 p.m. Movie: The Great Debaters
- 3:29 p.m. Documentary: Malcolm X
- 5:17 p.m. Oliver Samuels - Irreverent Reverend
- 5:47 p.m. Belizean Legends: EXPLOSIVE 70S BELIZEAN FOOTBALL (SOCCER) PLAYERS MAURICE JONES & RICKY GONGORA!
- 6:11 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. Movie: Madea's Big Happy Family
- 3:30 p.m. **Wake Up Belize Morning Vibes (repeat)**
- 6:00 p.m. **Krem TV Evening News (LIVE)**
- 7:00 p.m. News Broadcast: Democracy Now
- 8:00 p.m. Documentary: Three (3) MUST know legal points about Protection Orders.
- 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: I Can Do Bad All By Myself
- 3:30 p.m. **Wake Up Belize Morning Vibes (repeat)**
- 6:00 p.m. **Krem TV Evening News (LIVE)**
- 7:00 p.m. News Broadcast: Democracy Now
- 8:00 p.m. Documentary: How to be a lawyer for the day
- 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. Movie: Passing
- 3:30 p.m. **Wake Up Belize Morning Vibes (repeat)**
- 6:00 p.m. **Krem TV Evening News (LIVE)**
- 7:00 p.m. Ted Talk: How to Figure Out What You Really Want
- 7:30 p.m. **Navel String Connection (LIVE)**
- 9:00 p.m. **Krem TV Evening News (repeat)**



NEW PUZZLE

Daily Printable Puzzle - 04-27-2023

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

Across

- 1. Condemnation from the church
- 4. Part of the mind
- 10. Made cloth
- 14. Artificial language
- 15. Columbus native
- 16. Dental exam
- 17. Ring around the collar
- 18. Constructs
- 19. Disrupt
- 20. Air force
- 22. Kind
- 23. Calligrapher's supply
- 25. Wielded
- 27. Sound omission
- 31. Cry over a mouse
- 32. Airport sight
- 33. Curative water
- 34. Chili need
- 36. Fresh air foiler
- 38. Droop
- 39. Compact mass
- 40. Clean a fish
- 41. Chestnut cage
- 42. A murid
- 43. Approach the terminal
- 44. Air by a pair
- 45. Ace, when not eleven
- 46. Discordance
- 47. Afflict
- 48. Pretender
- 50. Awls
- 54. Chicago lyricist
- 55. Favoring
- 56. Top on a string
- 57. Cry like a cat
- 60. Makes law
- 63. Baby's break
- 64. Egg outline
- 65. Depot carrier
- 66. Worldwide labor org.
- 67. Heavenly
- 68. Hard and cold
- 69. Cable chaser

Down

- 1. Hull's bottom
- 2. Privately between two individuals
- 3. Clamoring
- 4. "Annabel Lee" author
- 5. Cry of terror
- 6. Bond statistic
- 7. Pull back the hammer
- 8. Beaver or boater
- 9. Fodder harvested while green
- 10. Toils
- 11. Bauxite bonanza
- 12. Boxlike vehicle
- 13. Antiquity
- 21. Part of a tire
- 24. Bird beak
- 26. Addition column
- 27. Salmonella cousin
- 28. Flow out
- 29. 1960s fad
- 30. Annoyer
- 34. Master, in jungle movies
- 35. All gone
- 36. Horrify
- 37. Boxer Baer
- 40. Attackers, sometimes
- 41. Like some sweaters
- 42. Big argument
- 44. Carried out
- 46. Boxing punch
- 47. Of a heart line
- 49. In recent days
- 50. Lawn game
- 51. Like some columns
- 52. African antelope
- 53. Sleepiness
- 55. Get lighter
- 57. 12-foot bird
- 58. A memorable Arden
- 59. Blade
- 61. After deductions
- 62. Austin Powers, e.g.

Crossword answers for last edition

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



Daily Printable Crossword Puzzle - 04-20-2023 - Answers

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

Imports up and Domestic Exports down in March 2023

by *Kristen Ku*

BELIZE CITY, Thurs, Apr. 27, 2023

The latest Statistical Institute of Belize (SIB) release, for the month of March 2023, reveals that there has been an increase of imports, by 6.3%, and a decrease of exports, by 36.9%, compared to March 2022.

Imports

March 2023 saw an increase in imports, \$237.8 million, up from \$223.5 million in March 2022.

Increasing Activity

The four main contributors to the increase in imports are Machinery and Transport Equipment, Mineral Fuels and Lubricants, Crude Materials, and Food and Live animals.

Within the Machinery and Transport Equipment category there was an increase of 50% or \$19M, as numbers rose from \$39.2M in March 2022 to \$58.2M in March 2023 due to a donated airplane from the United States Government. Mineral Fuels and Lubricants saw an

increase of \$5.7M, as numbers changed from \$32.4M to \$38.1M due to a surge in imports of diesel and regular fuel. Numbers in Crude Materials increased by \$2M, from \$2.3M in March 2022 to \$4.3M in March 2023, due to higher imports of treated pine lumber and grass seeds. There was also an increase in the Food and Live Animals category, from \$23.9M in March 2022 to \$25.1M in March 2023, due to increased purchase of malt, orange concentrate, and powdered milk.

Decreasing Activity

Imports of fertilizer declined 37%, from \$31M in March 2022 to \$19.5M in March 2023. Other Manufacturers also saw a decrease, from \$19.1M in 2022 to \$17.4M in 2023 due to fewer imported medical supplies, sensors, and regulators.

Exports

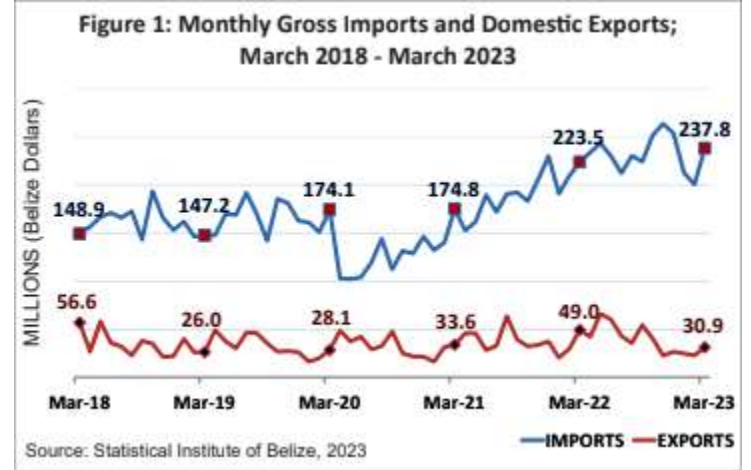
The SIB report on domestic exports for the month of March 2023 revealed a decrease of 36.9%, from \$49M seen in March 2022 to \$30.9M in March 2023.

Decreasing Activity

All major exports decreased from March 2022 to March 2023. Sugar shipments saw a decrease, from \$18.2M to \$4.9M due to different shipping schedules. Revenues from bananas saw a decrease, from \$6.6M to \$3.5M; while earnings of marine products decreased from \$5.2 million to \$3.6 million, due to a reduction of lobster tails and its sale prices along with a dip in conch market prices.

Other exports such as Crude Petroleum decreased, from \$1M in March 2022 to \$0.2M in March 2023, while revenues from citrus products declined from \$6 million to \$5.6 million.

Black-eyed peas and red-kidney beans also declined from March 2022 to March



2023, going from \$1 M to \$0.4 M and from \$1.4 million to \$1 million, respectively.

Major Destinations

Revenues received from the European Union declined from \$20.2M to \$2.2M from March of last year (2022) to March 2023, due to lower sugar exports. Similarly, revenues from the United States saw a reduction from \$8.2 million to \$5.2 million, due to the decrease of exports of lobster tails and no exports of orange concentrate and red kidney beans.

Earnings from the CARICOM region grew from \$6.8 million to \$8.7 million, mainly from the exportation of orange concentrate and red kidney beans.

Finally, export to 'Other Countries' saw a rise from \$1.2 million in March 2022 to \$3.3 million in March 2023 due to an increase in the export of molasses.

Record global temperature...

Continued from Page 2

This warming, like the last recording-breaking year in 2016, will be fueled by climate change, and the continued emission of greenhouse gasses.

During an El Niño, Tropical Pacific winds blowing west along the equator slow down – allowing warmer waters trapped near Asia to spread and be pushed east. The rainfall, winds, and currents over the Tropical Pacific affect weather across the world. The shift in wind intensity from strong to slow determines opposite phenomena of El Niño and La Niña, determining the warmth or coolness of ocean surface temperature

During the La Niña, upwelling – when warm water is replaced by cooler waters from the bottom of the ocean – typically takes place frequently, thanks to the strong winds. When those winds die down, El Niño presents itself and is indicative of warmer conditions. This is known as the El Niño – Southern Oscillation (ENSO).

The possibility of a strong El Niño developing by the end of 2023 is highly likely, models show. Continually high records of CO2 and other greenhouse gas emissions in 2023 will fuel the warming globally. The effects of weather patterns like the ENSO are also exacerbated by human-caused climate change.

The record for the world's hottest year which was set in 2016 will likely be broken in either 2023 or 2024, projections support. The last eight years are among the hottest years ever recorded, with the global temperature now 1.2 degrees Celsius warmer than the 1850 to 1990 average.



WE ARE HIRING



Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) Opportunity

The Digi Team is looking for 15 candidates to fill the position of:

RECONCILIATION CLERK

Requirements

- Minimum Associates Degree in Accounting or Business Administration with at least five (5) years of accounting experience.
- Sound knowledge of accounting and audit principles.
- Computer literacy specifically Microsoft Suite.
- Organized and analytical.
- Able to meet deadlines and work beyond regular business hours when necessary.
- Team player and able to work with different departments and workers across functional areas.

Responsibilities

Includes but not limited to:

- Prepare and perform reconciliations for both General Ledger and Balance Sheet Accounts; resolve queries on any reconciling items in accordance with the project plan.
- Support project team and finance team on reconciliation of General Ledger and Balance Sheet to resolve reconciliation issues or data migration issues relating to the data migration between accounting systems.
- Perform analysis of Revenues, Operating Costs, Assets and Liabilities as per agreed project timelines in accordance with the framework set by the Project Team and Consultants.
- Support manager in ensuring the goals and objective of the Project is met with regards to accuracy, and timeliness to ensure all the Project deliverables are met.

About Offer

- Based in Belize City
- 12 - 18 months fixed term contract
- Annual Salary (\$25, 001.25 to \$38, 855.00) negotiable and will commensurate with qualification and experience.

Apply Now

Submit a letter of application and Curriculum Vitae/Resume to digicareers@livedigi.com. Include in email Subject line: ERP Reconciliation Clerk



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Belize Electricity Limited is the primary distributor and the only licensed public provider of electricity in Belize. Our Mission is to deliver safe, reliable and sustainable energy solutions to enhance the quality of life and the productivity of enterprise and to support national development.

We are looking for a highly motivated, goal oriented, responsible and committed person to join our Company in the role of:

SENIOR CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER

in the Corporate Communications Department of our Employee & Corporate Services Division in Belize City.

View details at www.bel.com.bz

Submit application letter and resume to career.opportunity@bel.com.bz by Friday, May 12, 2023



Interdicted cop linked to weed gummies

Continued from Page 1

responded and retrieved samples that were then sent for testing at the National Forensic Science Service (NFSS). Williams said, “We did not know then what those gummies were. So, for us to have been sure, it was sent to the lab for testing.” He says that about three weeks ago, the boxes of the product were taken for safekeeping, pending the results requested from the lab. The ComPol was briefed that sometime last week, the exhibit keeper “decided to dispose of these gummies by way of putting them in a garbage trailer that is kept inside the Queen Street Police Station compound. Thereafter, the yardman at Queen Street took the trailer to the dumpsite at Mile 3 on the Philip Goldson Highway and disposed of those gummies; but the yardman also dug into the boxes, and, he too, took some of those gummies - as well as other persons who were at the dumpsite at that particular moment. The gummies were then brought back into the city by different persons and were later sold.” The reason reportedly provided by the exhibit keeper for deciding to discard the tainted treats was that they were giving off a scent in the exhibit room.

According to the Commissioner, up to Wednesday, April 26, they had not yet received the results from the NFSS. He noted that only after midday today did the Director for the NFSS indicate that the tests were concluded, and he

confirmed that the gummies contained cannabis. The ComPol then corroborated that the product arrived at Customs in the name of Akeem Gamboa, a police officer whom he says has been on interdiction for over two years following a fight at the Dangriga Police Station. The ComPol then added that Gamboa “was tried in a tribunal and was convicted of that fight in the Police Station in Dangriga. He was also tried in the Magistrate Court and was also convicted for that fight. And so, today, he was dismissed from the Police Department. So, he is no longer a police officer as of today.”

The ComPol said they checked Customs today and, still, no one had claimed the barrel; but, since the news report went out Wednesday night that the barrel was in Gamboa’s name, the ComPol says they are no longer able to follow through with their intention of conducting a sting operation. Prodded further on why no one had called Gamboa before Wednesday, the Commissioner reiterated that they were awaiting the lab results after which they would have conducted the sting and called the person to go for the barrel. The top cop also commented, “You and I would know that to import something from the States in a person’s name, it would require more than just your name on that item for you to be prosecuted ... So we were hoping that perhaps someone, maybe Akeem or someone on his behalf, would have gone to Customs and claimed the barrel

Verdict for Cecil Gill charged with murder set for June 16



Cecil Gill

by Roy Davis (freelance reporter)

BELIZE CITY, Tues. Apr. 24

The prosecution and the defense have closed their cases in the trial of Cecil Gill, 42, who is charged with the murder of Phillip Samuels, which had occurred in July 2017.

The trial judge, Justice Ricardo Sandcroft, who is judge and jury, has reserved his verdict until June 16.

The incident occurred on Boots Crescent in Belize City.

According to reports, Gill became involved in an argument with a woman,

which led to a fight, and Samuels intervened on the woman’s behalf. A fight then ensued between Gill and Samuels and during it, Samuels was stabbed in his chest.

Gill was on the run for several days before he handed himself over to the police.

To prove its case, the Crown, represented by Crown Counsel Reese Cattouse, relied on the testimony of 15 witnesses, some of whom testified from the witness stand and some whose statements were read into evidence. Two of the witnesses testified that they saw Gill with a knife in his hand, and he and Samuels fighting on the ground with Gill on top. They said that when Samuels got up, there was blood on his clothes. They did not testify that they saw Gill stab Samuels.

After the Crown closed its case, Justice Sandcroft told Gill that he has three options: that he can give sworn testimony from the witness stand, that he can give an unsworn statement from the dock, and that he can remain silent. Gill chose to remain silent.

Gill was represented by attorney Oscar Selgado.

Two persons arrested for shooting Jervis Valencia



Jervis Valencia



Lyndon Alexander St. Claire and Kareem Kelly, arraigned

by Charles Gladden

BELIZE CITY, Wed. Apr. 26, 2023

Two Belize City men have been remanded to the Belize Central Prison after being charged for their alleged involvement in the shooting of well-known street figure, Jervis ‘Diamond’ Valencia, 41, last Wednesday, April 19.

As reported in last week’s issue of the *Amandala*, Valencia had left a meeting organized by the LIU (Leadership Intervention Unit) and was on Logwood Street moments before midday when multiple gunshots were fired in his direction, and he was wounded in the leg.

His injuries were non-life-threatening.

On Monday of this week, 25-year-old Lyndon Alexander St. Claire of Logwood Street and 23-year-old

Kareem Kelly of Mayflower Street appeared in the Magistrate’s Court in Belize City unrepresented before Chief Magistrate, Jayani Wegodapola to answer to charges for their alleged involvement in the shooting.

St. Claire was arraigned and read three charges—one count of attempted murder, one count of use of deadly means of harm, and one count of dangerous harm; while Kelly was read a single charge of abetment to commit murder.

No plea was taken or was bail offered to the men, and as a result they were both remanded to the Belize Central Prison until June 23.

Kelly had previously been accused of being involved in a shooting that caused injuries to Valencia in 2021.

Kareem Kelly is reportedly also the first cousin of Jervis Valencia.

and the other content, because they had not known that Customs had received it. Once that would have been done, then we would have created the nexus between the person who comes and claims and the barrel.” Williams said that on Wednesday they sought to find

Gamboa to interview him. He did agree that there is a possibility that someone could have tipped off the recipient that the items had been discovered.

Some have taken the view that

Please turn to Page 38



SPECIFIC PROCUREMENT NOTICE REQUEST FOR BIDS - WORKS

One Envelope Bidding Process

Energy Resilience for Climate Adaptation (ERCAP)

The Government of Belize (GOB) has been allocated grant funds (the Grant) from the Global Environmental Facility (GEF), which are administered by the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (World Bank) and executed by Belize Electricity Limited (BEL) in conjunction with the Ministry of Public Service, Energy and Public Utility (MPSEPU) and the National Meteorological Service (NMS), in an amount equivalent to USD 8 million, towards the cost of an Energy Resilience and Climate Change Adaptation Project. A portion of the proceeds of the Grant will be applied to eligible payments under the contract for which this specific procurement notice is issued. Payments by the World Bank will be made only at the request of BEL, and upon approval by the World Bank, and will be subject in all respects to the terms and conditions of the Grant Agreement. The Grant Agreement prohibits withdrawal from the financing account for the purpose of any payment to persons or entities, or for any import of goods, if such payment or import, to the knowledge of the World Bank, is prohibited by a decision of the United Nations Security Council taken under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations. No party other than GOB shall derive any rights from the Grant Agreement or have any claim to the proceeds of the Grant.

BEL now invites electronic Bids from eligible Bidders for the Civil works and supply of manpower for the installation of a) hydro-meteorological automatic weather stations, b) rainfall stations, and c) automatic weather stations.

Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding (NCB) using a Request for Bids (RFB) as specified in the World Bank's "Guidelines: Procurement of Goods, Works, and Non-Consulting Services under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits & Grants, dated January 2011 (revised July 2014) ("Procurement Guidelines") and is open to all eligible Bidders as defined in the Procurement Guidelines.

Interested eligible Bidders may obtain further information from the following person:

Ms. Carolyn L. Crawford
Procurement Consultant
ERCAP Project Management Unit
Belize Electricity Limited
E-mail: Carolyn.Crawford@bel.com.bz

The bidding document in English may be requested by interested Bidders upon the submission of a written application to the address above. The document will be sent electronically upon this request.

Bids must be received at the e-mail address below on or before **Wednesday, May 31, 2023, by 3:00 p.m. and will be opened at 3:15 p.m. sharp Belize time.**

Submission of bids by electronic e-mail (EM):

A PDF copy of the bid should be submitted by EM. The PDF copy should be encrypted, or password protected. The e-mail should not be encrypted but only the attachment shall be encrypted, or password protected.

The procedure for submission of bid is:

- A. The zipped file is to be sent to Manager, Procurement Department at **bidsubmittal@bel.com.bz**.
- B. Password or encryption key should be sent along with the bid to the same bid submission e-mail address listed below.
- C. Bidders will receive a confirmation e-mail from BEL once the bid is received.
- D. Bidders should ensure that the bid document(s) are not corrupt or affected by any computer virus that may possibly deny access to the files. The Employer shall not be responsible for such corrupt files which may deny access during the bid opening process.
- E. The maximum file size in each mail will be 30 MB. Any mail with an attachment above this size will bounce back. Hence, please ensure the attachments do not exceed 30 MB.
- F. E-mail submissions should be clearly labelled in their subject with the following: **Bid for Weather Stations Installation – ERCAP – "include Bidders name or Company name"**.

Bids submitted electronically shall only be opened publicly at the Bid Opening time mentioned above on May 31, 2023, in the presence of Bidders and/or their representatives who have submitted a bid. Bid opening will be held virtually using Microsoft (MS) Teams. The link to the MS-Teams bid opening invite will be shared with all Bidders prior to the bid opening date and all Bidders are encouraged to participate therein. Late Bids shall be rejected.

All Bids must be accompanied by a Bid-Securing Declaration.

The address referred to above is:

Manager
Procurement Department
Belize Electricity Limited
2 ½ Miles Phillip Goldson Highway
Belize City, Belize
E-mail: bidsubmittal@bel.com.bz
Telephone: +501-227-0954

BEL reserves the right to reject late bids or to cancel the bid opening session in its entirety. It will not be bound to assign any reason for not engaging the services of any Bidder and will not defray any costs incurred by any Bidder in the preparation and submission of their bid.



AMANDALA

Belizean to the bone

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(formerly Partridge St.),
Belize City.

Telephones:
501-280-4703/
202-4477

amandalapress@yahoo.com

JPAC holds public broadcast

Continued from Page 4

to carry out the audits, so that statements were being produced for a number of years starting around 2004-2005 until about 2011.

Other challenges faced by the Auditor General's office involved access to financial records and responses from ministries on important requests for information. Auditor General Bradley said that in many instances ministries simply do not respond to the queries sent by the office. This is despite a mandate to do so within a certain time, and as a result, follow-up requests have been made by the office.

"In some instances, maybe we have sent a follow-up, but it doesn't matter because we don't get a response; we have never gotten a response. That's why we have been agitating for the Public Accounts Committee to assist

us in bringing attention to those instances, but up to now, we haven't gotten any responses," Bradley expressed.

She said that the Ministry of Education has been the sole ministry to respond to the office's requests so far.

The Chairperson of the JPAC, Hon. Tracy Panton, said that the long delays in the preparation and publishing of these very important reports resulted in records going missing, persons leaving the public service, and an overall difficulty in holding persons accountable, among a number of other issues.

According to Panton, the Auditor General in her presentation also spoke about arrears in revenue statements in the books of those departments that collect revenue on behalf of the government. Those departments have an obligation to outline the outstanding

revenue that is yet to be collected. The inadequacy of the management and filing of records within ministries was also highlighted, along with a lack of bank reconciliations and a lack of pertinent information uploaded to the Smart Stream system for payments made through that avenue.

Mayor Wagner attends 1st Cities Summit...

Continued from Page 2

discussion focused on "Local Leadership in Preventing and Responding to Hate and Extremism and Enhancing Public Safety".

In an effort to promote regional cooperation and as a product of the Cities Summit, Mayor Wagner will also sign onto two declarations on behalf of Belize City. The first declaration, led by Denver mayor Michael Hancock, is the "Denver Declaration on City Priorities for Regional Cooperation," which demonstrates cities' commitment to addressing priorities, including housing and sustainable development, migration, and climate action and their enabling conditions through finance and investment, technology transparency and good governance. The second declaration, led by Mayor Eduardo Paes of Rio De Janeiro, is the "Denver Declaration on Enhancing Mayoral Leadership in Addressing Hate, Extremism, and Polarization and Safeguarding Local Democracy in the Americas". This declaration signifies cities' commitment to condemning the rising levels of extremism and hate, increased polarization, anti-government sentiment, and gender-based, inter-communal, gang-related violence and misinformation.

When speaking with the *Amandala* about his experience at the inaugural summit, Mayor Bernard Wagner said that he had found many similarities between his experience and that of other mayors he encountered. He said, "Having the opportunity to sit down, to network and to collaborate with other mayors of the Americas has been a wonderful experience. What you quickly find out is that the challenges you face in your municipality are common in most municipalities of the Americas. We all face challenges brought on by issues such as climate change, unplanned urbanization, sustainable development and inability to access finance to fund climate resilient infrastructure, clean energy, as well as instituting climate adaptation processes." Mayor Wagner went on to say, "We all continue to grapple with the need for greater decentralization and autonomy. Through avenues such as this summit we are able to identify best practices that have worked in other municipalities and in some instances apply in our scenario."



CHRISTIAN WORKERS UNION

Affiliated to: National Trade Union Congress of Belize (NTUCB)

28 Dean Street • Belize City, Belize, C. A.

P.O. Box 533 • Tel: 227-2150 • Email: cwu.belize@gmail.com



NOTICE

CHRISTIAN WORKERS UNION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2023

Members of the Christian Workers Union are hereby notified that the 2023 Annual General Meeting will be held on Saturday, May 20, 2023 starting at 10:00 am at the CWU Secretariat, #28 Dean Street, Belize City.

The following offices are up for elections:

1. *President* 2. *Trustee* (1)

Candidates interested in contesting for any of these posts are asked to submit their interest in writing, along with a photograph, a recent resume and a current police Record to the Secretariat at #28 Dean St., P.O. Box 533 or to email cwu.belize@gmail.com by Friday, May 12, 2023.

Entries for a Theme for the next year are also invited. A cash prize of \$100.00 is offered for the Winning Theme, which must be submitted by Friday, May 12, 2023.

BELIZEPROPERTYAUCTIONS.COM COUNTRYWIDE PUBLIC AUCTION SALES: PROPERTY

Frank's Eddy Agric. Layout, Cayo District

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. Sale will expire on 8th May 2023 at 10:00 am.

346.31 acres approx. 5 ½ Miles South of the George Price Highway, Frank's Eddy Agricultural Layout, Cayo District:



346.31 acres of land situate south of the Western Highway, near Mile 39, Frank's Eddy Agricultural Layout, Cayo District TOGETHER with all building and erections standing and being thereon. (Being a vacant parcel of land containing 346.31 acres situate approximately 5 ½ Miles South of the George Price Highway) in the Frank's Eddy Agricultural Layout, Cayo District, the freehold property of Mr. William Lindo)

"FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION & PHOTOGRAPHS PLEASE VISIT WEBSITE"

TERMS: STRICTLY CASH

KEVIN A. CASTILLO

TELEPHONE 223-4488

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E-mail: kevinacas@yahoo.com

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Telephones:
501-280-4703/
202-4472



Chris Banner, a farmer, hunter, fisher folk, attorney, and #1 cricketer

by Peter Young



BELIZE CITY, Thurs. Apr. 27, 2023

My fellow Belizeans at home and abroad, and all others who are lovers of our sport - CRICKET, Good Day!

Under the auspices of the Belize National Cricket Association (BNCA), the Barry Bowen / Harrison Parks Cricket Competition 2023 continues to spark brightly on the field of play. It's getting even better as the season progresses. The results of last weekend's matches are as follows, in no particular order:

Long Journey over Progressive, which was a very tightly contested match, 155 to 152. Long Journey took to bat first and scored 155, with Alvin Dawson scoring 42. Progressive went to bat next, and they fought very hard bringing the winning shy of 4 runs before the last batsman fell. L. O'Brien scored 39. Kendis Moody took 3 wickets for Long Journey, and Edward Bull, Charles Stamp and Adeel Nicholas took 2 wickets each.

Again, St. Paul's Strikers continues to dominate Level Two by defeating Rising Star. 65 to 64 with all of 10 wickets to spare. For Rising Star, Lawrence Wade scored 19. For the Strikers, Lloyd and Jerry Cassasola scored 30 and 27, respectively. Maleek Sutherland took 6 wickets.

Brave Union Boys are running hot as they defeated Golden Eagles very easily, 122 to 120 with 4 spare wickets. For Golden Eagles, Risdon Smith scored 24, and Jerome Pook took 3 wickets. For Brave Union Boys, Kevin Thompson scored 43, and Caryl Rodas took 5 wickets.

Western Eagles fought a good one, but lost to Excellence, 147 to 189. Excellence went in first and scored 189, with Orson Flowers scoring 38, while Jareem Lord took 3 wickets for the

Eagles. Then the Eagles took to bat, but, tried as they did, the team could only score 147, with Kenton Moses scoring 35, and Jeris Stephenson taking 3 wickets.

Well, Wicked 11 put a stop to BDF's winning streak by defeating them, 205 to 131. For the wicked boys, Ordel Cassasola scored 67 and took 3 wickets. Travis Robinson top scored with 72. For BDF, Bernan Stephenson scored 62, and Jervis Wade took 8 wickets.

Brave 11 Reloaded over Weekend Warriors, 133 to 134 with 2 spare wickets. For Brave 11 Reloaded, Sherman McCulloch scored 30, and Jerome Pook took 3 wickets. For Weekend Warriors, Tyrone Bood and Anthony Robinson scored 36 and 35, respectively, and they each took 3 wickets.

Last, but definitely not the least, on Sunday at Lords Bank, Surprise defeated Sunrise with a score of 115 to 118 with 5 spare wickets. Sunrise went to bat first, and with the superior quality bowling coming from the strong arms of Chris Banner, who took 6 of Sunrise wickets, the team still scored 115 with the help of Sunil Wadhvani and Zaghi, who scored 20 and 16, respectively, but they did not have the help needed from the other team players. Surprise took to bat next. Although Kalid Khan Pathan and Zaghi tried their best in getting the Surprise boys out for as little runs as possible by taking 2 wickets each, it just couldn't happen, as Leeron and Aaron Muslar, who scored 30 and 26, respectively, added on to the amount their other team players had made, and the Sunrise 115 score was beaten, reaching 118 with 5 wickets to spare.

For Chris Banner, he continues to shine with the Surprise team. Although Sunrise is trailing in the competition they are not the team to give up with Zaghi and Kalid at the helm. Kalid will be playing on the "A" team on the weekend.

Regular break this weekend, folks; making way for international cricket! Remember, venues are Landing and



Chris of Surprise



Kalid Pathan of Sunrise



Zaghi of Sunrise

BEBL Week 12 preview

Belize Elite Basketball League 2023 Tournament Standings

Position	TEAM	GP	W	L	Pts	Home	Away	Str
1.	Benny's Belize Hurricanes	10	8	2	18	5-1	3-1	+4
2.	Orange Walk Running Rebels	11	7	4	18	5-1	2-3	+1
3.	Belize City Defenders	11	7	4	18	4-1	2-4	+3
4.	Griga Dream Ballers	11	7	4	18	6-0	1-4	-1
5.	Western Ballaz	11	4	7	15	4-2	2-3	-2
6.	San Pedro Tiger Sharks	09	5	4	14	3-0	2-4	+4
7.	Belmopan Red Taigaz	10	3	7	13	3-3	1-4	-5
8.	Punta Gorda Panthers	11	1	10	11	1-4	0-6	-7

(Cancelled and possibly postponed): Fri. Jan 27: San Pedro Tiger Sharks vs Belmopan Red Taigaz; Sat. Mar 25: San Pedro Tiger Sharks vs Benny's Hurricanes (San Pedro High School)

Results and Schedule

Week 11: Fri. Apr 21: Belize City Defenders 105, Punta Gorda Panthers 60 (Belize City Civic Centre); Belmopan Red Taigaz 93, Orange Walk Running Rebels 99 (UB Gym).

Sat. Apr 22: San Pedro Tiger Sharks 76 Griga Dream Ballers 72 (Angel Nunez Stadium); Western Ballaz 63, Belize Hurricanes 82 (SHC Auditorium).

Week 12: Fri. Apr 28: Belize City Defenders vs Belize Hurricanes (Belize City Civic Centre); Western Ballaz vs Belmopan Red Taigaz (SHC Auditorium).

Sat. Apr 29: San Pedro Tiger Sharks vs Orange Walk Running Rebels (San Pedro High School); Punta Gorda Panthers vs Griga Dream Ballers (Toledo Sporting Complex).

BELIZE CITY, Thurs. Apr. 27, 2023

It is do or die time for 2 of the 2023 Belize Elite Basketball League Tournament competitors this weekend as the regular season nears its climax.

The Belmopan Red Taigaz' hopes of making it to the 4-team playoffs has all but faded, but they will try their utmost to beat their host, the Western Ballaz at the Sacred Heart auditorium in San Ignacio in the hope of preserving that slim slenderest of hope. The Ballaz are as desperate, if not more so, having recorded their seventh loss, and it is only by winning their remaining 3 games and hoping one of the current top four falters, that they too could make it.

There are no reports of physical injuries on either team's roster, but this is the phase of the tournament when the emotional combination due to the disappointment from a lack of playing time and dimming prospects causes some players to appear to lose interest.

At press time we are unable to assess the credibility of rumors that the hapless Punta Gorda Panthers won't be able to host the visiting Griga Dream Ballers as scheduled. The

Panthers have no chance to make the playoffs, barring some unforeseen force majeure event, having lost 10 of the 11 games they've played.

Griga was stung by a close loss in their last game on the road to the streaking San Pedro, and urgently needs to continue to integrate a new player, Daniel Estes, as they fight to preserve their position in the standings, a 3-way second place tie, therefore will not ease up if indeed the game is played. They also have the distinction of an unblemished 6-0 home court record, but a losing 1-4 record on the road.

The ambitious Orange Walk Running Rebels are also determined to not only to hold on to that cherished second place spot, but to also keep their shot at the top spot. Like Griga they know that finishing in the top two means homecourt advantage in the playoffs where they are 5-1, but have only won twice in 5 outings on the road.

In their bid, they have added Belizean-Americans Leon Jacobs and Leroy Lauriano, both of whom flew to Belize this week from the USA.

Their hosts, the San Pedro Tiger Sharks are riding a blistering 4-game winning streak, though, and know that they urgently need to keep winning, having lost 4 times in 6 outings on the road, but are so far undefeated at home.

They are counting on playing a schedule of 4 of their 5 remaining games at home to vault them into the playoffs if one of the 4 teams above them should falter.

For the 2 Belize City rivals, their weekend showdown has several implications, and both teams have added reinforcements. The league-leading Benny's Belize Hurricanes has announced the arrival of Belizean-American Nick Phillips, while at press time the Belize Defenders were still awaiting the arrival of Phillip Fayne from Hungary, where he has just finished tournament play there.

It appears both teams will be at full strength and ready for a titanic clash tomorrow night at the Civic by dah Riva.

Lords Bank. Follow the schedule on my Facebook page.

Bye bye, folks! Come out and watch International Cricket in Belize! Respect to one and all.

MCC in Belize

BELIZE CITY, Thurs. Apr. 27, 2023

With little fanfare, the English club for which the popular MCC Grounds was named around the middle of the last century, the Marylebone Cricket Club is reportedly in Belize to participate in cricket games.

On his Facebook page, Peter Young said that "on the 27th to 30th April, there will be international cricket playing in Belize. It's the 8th Central American Cricket Championship Tournament in Belize. VENUES are Bermudian Landing and Lords Bank. Countries participating are Belize - 2 teams, Panama, Costa Rica, Mexico, and MCC (Marylebone Cricket Club) from England. Scheduled for the 27th are: At 8:00 a.m. Opening ceremony at Landing; 9:30 a.m. Belize Team #2 vs MCC; 2:00 p.m. MCC vs Belize Team #1 at Landing. At 2:30 p.m. Costa Rica vs Mexico at Lords Bank."

St. Luke students sickened by weed-laced candy

Continued from Page 1

marijuana-laced candies.

On Tuesday, April 25, sometime after midday, the students were rushed to the emergency ward of the Karl Heusner Memorial Hospital (KMH) after consuming the laced candies. Before the horrific incident unfolded, some of the children had innocently purchased the sweets from vendors outside the school, who sold them for a dollar, while others had received them from family members who had purchased the sweets for them, and had consumed them during recess and at lunch break.

As parents arrived at the KMH with their sick children and adult family members who also happened to taste some of these candies, the hospital's Mass Casualty Code was put into effect, with extra staff members being called in and the side gates being pulled closed, in addition to the deployment of additional units to ensure care was provided to all the sick children.

"[At] approximately 1:30 [p.m.], we received an influx of a few children that were exhibiting symptoms of nausea and vomiting, lethargy, etc. And so, we were alerted and we just, I think about, fifteen minutes more, a few more came in, and so we had to see what was going on," explained Chandra Cansino, CEO of KMH.

CEO Cansino added that an estimated 27 children and 3 adults were admitted and were in stable condition, and the situation was under control with the help of Social Services. The Ministry of Health and Wellness, and other relevant ministries also stepped in.

In the end, 31 young children, ages ranging from 5 to 15, and 7 adults were admitted and discharged the same day, except for 2 kids who were kept overnight for observation and were released the following day.

It is common knowledge that marijuana-laced edibles, which are food items infused with cannabis extracts, can only be consumed in small quantities and should certainly not be given to children. Research indicates that THC, the chemical in marijuana (a substance used for medical purposes) that causes a "high", can have damaging effects on the minds of young children.

In the case of many of the St. Luke students, they consumed the candy on an empty stomach, which made the short-term effects of the drug more severe. In extreme cases, large doses or repeated ingestion of such drug-laced edibles could have serious effects such as disruptions to nerve connections and to breathing as well as the lowering of blood pressure and, in some rare cases, could even result in a coma.

Many distressed parents have since expressed their anger and concern to the media regarding the nightmarish incident and how they felt upon coming to know what had happened to their children. Olga Gordon, a grandmother and resident of the Lake Independence area, described the emotions she felt when her daughter called her in a panic, trying to figure out what to do and whom to call after receiving the news.

"I was called by my daughter, Ishel Gordon, to say that Jordon is there, they're flushing them out, and some

other kids. And I was like, what happened? They purchased something that they ate," said Gordon.

And despite her initial reaction being a desire to find the ones responsible, she still had so many questions as to how this could happen.

"I'm kind of upset as a mother and a grandmother because, how much other kids that went home will be affected. I want to know if they [vendors] know what is in the package, that is my first thing. And if they know what is in this package, why send it to our kids? Uno tiad ah we children dehn? Uno want kill dem out? Dehn da no fi uno responsibility. They all have their mother and grandmother, so they're not your responsibility," Gordon said.

In regard to how the marijuana-infused treats got into the hands of the vendors, Hon. Kareem Musa, Minister of Home Affairs, confirmed with local reporters this week during a briefing that the drugs were confiscated by the Customs Department and were sent to the Police Exhibit Room. However, while the department was awaiting the results of tests on these items, a civilian serving as exhibit keeper of the Belize Police Department took it upon himself to improperly dispose of these edibles, purportedly due to the strong unpleasant aroma that they released, and they were later discovered by dumpsite scavengers.

Many Belizeans are disturbed both by the fact that these candies were sold for consumption after being at the garbage dump and that adults thought it would be a good idea to sell drug-laced edibles to children. Many are questioning whether the vendors were aware of the substance contained in these items before selling them to kids.

The principal of St. Luke Primary, Jacklyn Lynch, recounted confronting one of the vendors outside the school after witnessing multiple students with symptoms of nausea, weakness, and even hallucination.

"For some reason, I just decided to walk straight to one of the other shops outside. And I asked the vendor, 'Sir, I am trying to find out if you are selling something contained in this packet.' And so, he fished it out of a box. And I said, 'Sir, are you selling our students this?' And he said, 'No, Miss; I won't do that because it's for adults.'", Lynch related. She said that she then told him, "But you're selling it in front of our school."

According to Lynch, this was the second vendor whom she had confronted, after the first claimed she had only sold some to the warden, who then gave it to her daughter and nephew. Lynch further learned that a third vendor was involved who sold some to other students from other schools in the area.

The Police Department's exhibit keeper, ultimately viewed as responsible for the edibles reaching the public, has also been detained, as investigations may lead not only to the termination of his job but possibly criminal charges for his breaching of proper protocol when disposing of the items, in addition to causing harm by negligence.

"I am extremely disappointed in the actions of this particular exhibit keeper, because he has been employed with the department for the last ten years, so it cannot be that he is not aware of the

Independence teen killed in the old capital

Continued from Page 1

parking his motorcycle, four male persons approached him and demanded that he hand over his transport vehicle.

Throughout the attack one of the individuals held on to him, while another produced a knife-like object and inflicted injuries on him. During the scuffle a third individual pulled out a firearm and held Cabral at gunpoint and told him, "Dis bike da fu we now, bwai!"

Fearing for his life Shamar yielded and started to walk away. Still, he was fatally shot by the said male person who had the firearm.

Judith Estell, a friend of Cabral, told *Amandala* that Cabral had arrived in the old capital just hours before his demise, and his purpose for being there was to take her out for a belated birthday treat.

"He came down here to see me because my birthday just went on April

18, and he wanted me to go to Mango Creek to go see him so that we could spend it together, but I told him I would not be able to make it there. So, he said that he will come here and we'll spend it together," she said.

Estell said that while she was waiting for Cabral to pick her up to spend time together, she called him, not knowing that he had already been killed.

Reports are suggesting that Cabral was socializing in the area with several friends, and had left the area to go to the bank to get more money when he was targeted.

At the scene, Senior Superintendent of Police, Reymundo Reyes, Deputy OC, told reporters that they believe the motive for Cabral's death is robbery, as the motorcycle he was on had been stolen, but there was no confirmation on whether the money he had gone to retrieve was stolen as well.

Police have detained one person concerning this latest homicide.

Interdicted cop linked to weed gummies

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authorities are trying to place all the blame on the civilian exhibit keeper who discarded the items. The ComPol today pushed back on the notion that others within the Police Department are to blame. He declared, "Clearly, all indications are saying that a person, on his own accord, did something without following the procedure that is in place." He explained that the employee should have followed protocols and contacted his commander about the proper disposal of the items. Ultimately, he avowed, the commander would have then

procedures that should be followed when discarding substances that are held as exhibits. For one, this is an active investigation that was awaiting results from the Forensics Department, and so it doesn't matter what you were smelling inside your exhibit room you have no authority to then take it upon yourself, without consulting the prosecutor, without consulting the Commissioner of Police, and then to discard potential evidence in a criminal case," said Minister Musa.

Additional allegations are surfacing, however, which indicate that there are other individuals who might be involved in what some reports have been suggesting is a reoccurring event at the Customs Department - an influx of such packages at the border. Furthermore, reports are suggesting that this particular bulk was delivered in a blue barrel under the name of a police officer. Although the identity of this officer has not been disclosed to the public yet, he has not been detained for any sort of questioning, perhaps because he has been on interdiction from his station in connection with another matter.

Unfortunately, as a result of this entire ordeal, food vendors have already begun to suffer the consequences due to the fear experienced by children who would normally come to buy food at their stalls as well as their parents and the

sought permission from the ComPol to do so. Williams said he would then have sent a team from Belmopan to inspect the items. He reiterated that the exhibit keeper is not an amateur and knows the process. Possible charges being explored against him are perverting the course of justice or causing harm by negligence. However, for the former, intent would have to be proven. But, whatever the case, Williams declared, "He *knows* the process, and that is what angers me. He knows! And when you know the process, and you don't follow the process, and things like this happen, then you have to be held accountable."

surrounding community.

Some have reported to the media that they have even been visited at their homes by police who have ransacked their homes in search of the drug-laced substance. It was only after coming out with empty hands that these vendors were able to go out again and attempt to sell their food. However, their business was severely affected, as students were forbidden to purchase from their stalls.

Minister of Education, Hon. Francis Fonseca, while addressing the media after the scare, said that while different schools hold different policies regarding food vendors, there must certainly be a more effective policy that requires vendors to obtain a license even if they are selling manufactured sweets and not cooked food.

"It's important for us to recognize and acknowledge that where those loopholes exist, in terms of those school vendors, all of us will have to work together. The schools, Ministry of Education, City Council, and the Ministry of Health, the people who actually certify these food handlers' certificates, to see if there are any loopholes there; and if there are, how can we close them and address them so that we ensure at all times that our children and our teachers... we want to ensure that at all times they are safe, and that they are consuming safe products," said Fonseca.

GoB revokes Brads' license; company seeks payout

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it will take a few weeks. Prime Minister John Briceño today told the newspaper they will consult their attorneys before providing comment, citing a potential lawsuit from Brads. On Wednesday, April 26, the Government made the bombshell announcement that the Lotteries Committee, at a meeting on April 20, decided to revoke the exclusive licence held by BGGL to administer the Government Lotteries. These include the Boledo, Jackpot Lottery and Ordinary Lottery. In Wednesday's press release, it was stated simply, "The government will, in the near future, make alternative arrangements for the administration of the Government Lotteries while maintaining a standard that will guarantee that consumer rights are not violated."

When the Barrow administration privatized the management of the Government Lotteries beginning on April 1, 2010, the contract was awarded to Brads Gaming Company Ltd. (BGGL). At the time, the Government cited the objectives for privatization as maximizing financial returns and improving efficiency of the Lotteries regime. The Government reported that collections from the sale of lottery books and license approvals totalled an estimated \$0.9 million annually. In December 2019, when the first 10-year contract was coming to an end, the Barrow administration issued a tender for the administration of the distribution, sale and marketing of lottery tickets. The report was that there were three applicants. After the revision process, BGGL was awarded the administration contract for the next 10 years.

In its announcement this week, the Briceño administration said the license revocation was due to "material and substantial breaches of the conditions of the exclusive license, and the Lotteries Act and its regulations." On December 23, 2022, the Lotteries Committee wrote Brads a 5-page letter outlining a laundry list of alleged breaches of the terms of its exclusive license and relevant laws and requested that the company explain why the Committee should not revoke its license.

In an AMANDALA article, "Lotteries Committee goes after Brads", dated Thursday, January 5, 2023, those alleged breaches were outlined in detail. According to the article, the letter listed "twelve ways in which Brads, in its yearly operations, did not meet the terms stipulated in the contracts and it set January 16, 2023 as the deadline for Brads to submit a response to the points of contention laid out in the 5-page document." Among those points of contention was the assertion that the company, according to the article, had not sold and used tickets "in the form prescribed by the Lotteries Committee" and that a mark which was to have been lodged with the Lotteries Committee was not present on the tickets. The letter, according to the AMANDALA report, "also pointed to failure of the company to develop a system, in coordination with the Income Tax

Department and the Lotteries Committee, for the collection, recording and reporting of sales data, as is mandated" and noted that there was no indication that the company had "even been making any effort to compile, record and verify accurate sales data." The Lotteries Committee further noted in the letter that Brads had not attempted to reach out to consult with the two listed agencies on the creation of the system, and it also drew attention to lapses in the company's financial reporting. According to Garcia, some of the reports outlining revenues and how the government's share of the profits was calculated were either late or incomplete. (According to the January 5 AMANDALA article, the report from the company was to have included "data on sales, commissions paid to agents, and the company's expenses.") Garcia additionally asserted that there was no evidence that the company contracted the services of an independent lottery expert, nor did the company facilitate electronic purchase of the lottery by customers.

Attorney for BGGL, Dean Barrow, S.C. submitted to the committee what was purported to be a refutation of each claim and Barrow further claimed that wherever there was an omission, it was not so substantial as to warrant revocation because the omissions did not amount to a breach of the company's license. He also argued that BGGL was not being allowed due process, as no opportunity was provided for the company to remedy the alleged breaches. Barrow pointed out that revocation was a last resort that should not be "summarily imposed" because to do so would be contrary to fair play and good commercial practice.

That response letter was followed up by another communication from Barrow and Williams acting on behalf of Countach Technologies Ltd., a Cayman Islands company which is said to have acquired shares in BGGL over the last few years. Countach made the claim that the holder of the current license is not the same as Brads Gaming Company Ltd. but that the Briceño administration was conflating the two and was using "the supposed non-compliance of the previous licensee to threaten the current licensee." It ultimately reminded the government that the Cayman Islands is a British Overseas Territory and Countach is covered under the Bilateral Investment Treaty between the Government of the UK and the Government of Belize (the very treaty that Lord Ashcroft has cited as the basis for suing the government due to the Department of Environment's refusal to grant approval to his Waterloo cruise port project.) At that time, Countach said the revocation of Brad's license and agreement would constitute wrongful interference and they would invoke the Treaty.

After this week's announcement, Senior Counsel Barrow told *Amandala* that Kim Chee, the Managing Director of Brads, does not agree that the Government had proper justification for the revocation of the license and will therefore seek compensation for the remaining 7 years on the contract (ending March 31,

Fire engulfs home in Orange Walk Town

by Kristen Ku

ORANGE WALK, Thurs. Apr. 27, 2023

A fire on Mopan Street in Orange Walk Town has left a mother and her partner displaced after it gutted their home late Wednesday.

Reports reveal that on April 26, at approximately 9:00 p.m., police responded to news of a fire on Mopan Street, where the home of Maria Rosado, a Belizean resident who was away for medical attention in Merida City, Mexico, was completely engulfed

in flames.

Rosado's daughter, Leidy Hall, 42, of Mullins River Street, was present to report to the police and explained that the structure was actually being occupied by Rosado's partner, George Anglin, and it could have been a mistake on his part.

No one was harmed by the fire, and police have since opened an investigation into how it started and the value of the house and its contents.

Lamentably, the house was not ensured.

Jasmine Hartin pleads guilty to manslaughter

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20, 2021, on a pier in San Pedro Town, Ambergris Caye.

Justice Sandcroft has indicated that her sentence will likely be non-custodial—that is, the imposition of a fine rather than imprisonment. He has set May 31 as the date for sentencing, and Hartin's bail has been extended until that time. Sandcroft has also ordered that a social inquiry report and a victim's impact assessment statement be provided by the Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP), Cheryl Lynn Vidal, who appeared in court on behalf of the Crown.

On the night of the incident, a single gunshot was heard, and, according to police reports, when officers arrived at the scene they saw Hartin standing on the pier with blood on her hands. Jemmott's body was in the water with a gunshot wound behind the left ear. Hartin, the mother of twins, told police that she, Jemmott and Andrew Ashcroft, the son of Lord Ashcroft, were socializing on the pier when Andrew left,

wanting to retire early for the night. She said Jemmott took out his service pistol and showed her how to use it, and when she handed the gun back to him it accidentally fired.

In a previous court session, members of the Jemmott family had worn shirts with writing on them expressing their desire for justice, but the judge had chided them about it and told them not to return to court wearing them.

After Tuesday's guilty plea and indication by Justice Sandcroft that the sentence would likely be non-custodial, we reached out to Jemmott family members but they declined to comment at this time. However, it is expected that a victim assessment statement from them will be read by the judge at the sentencing which is scheduled for May 31.

On Tuesday outside the courtroom Hartin told court reporter Anita Nembhard: "I just want Henry's family to have peace now, and I want this whole thing to be behind us so we can heal."

Hartin was represented by Senior Counsel Hubert Elrington and his son, attorney Orson "OJ" Elrington.

2030). The intention is to seek a court declaration that the revocation is unlawful. However, Barrow clarified that Brads will not seek the restoration of the license because the Government is within its rights to revoke the license since the lotteries belong to the Government. Barrow stated, "it [the Government] gave the license under a contract and it gave the license for a period of years. Government is free to take it away, but, of course, if it took it away wrongly, then it must compensate the licensee for the years that the licensee would have lost."

Barrow's opinion is that this was the intention of the Briceño administration all along. He declared, "This is the end of the Brads license. Kim Chee would not even want the license to be restored. Clearly, it would be impossible to work with this Government and this Lotteries Committee ... He's reached the end of the road. Government was determined from the start to get rid of it." When the Government Lotteries was privatized in 2010, the Barrow administration said Government would collect \$2 million annually for the license and would benefit from a profit-sharing arrangement and business tax.

However, while in opposition, Briceño called the arrangement a "sweetheart deal" and when his party came into office, they sought to collect a lotteries tax of 12.5%, which would require undoing an exemption granted by the Barrow administration that, according to the current government, has been yielding the company about \$5 million annually. That matter is still in court, as the company sought to block the lifting of the exemption.

Today, the Government issued a notice to all agents of Government Lotteries indicating that as of May 2nd, they are prohibited from selling and promoting Government Lotteries and anyone caught doing so thereafter without a valid license will be prosecuted. The notice states, "The public will be advised when the Government Lotteries will resume normal activity."

In an interview today, when asked what happens next week with Boledo, the Prime Minister stated, "Obviously, during the pandemic when they were not selling Boledo for a few weeks, nobody lost their life. So, we want to ensure that whatever is done, it can be done properly, and in a way that our citizens can benefit from it."

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