

# Senate considers “more draconian” SOEs

**Business Senator says time has come for a discussion of “more draconian” indefinite SOEs**

BELMOPAN, Tues. July 23, 2024

As the Senate debated a motion to extend the latest State of Emergency by two months, Business Senator, Hon. Kevin Herrera declared that perhaps the time has come for Belize to discuss the need to take a more draconian step and impose SOEs indefinitely as El Salvador has done.

In setting the context for the weighty recommendation that would follow, Senator Herrera noted that SOEs have been a tool that both administrations have used, and explained that he drew



Business Senator, Kevin Herrera

the Salvador comparison where murders have drastically reduced due to SOEs because, “it’s a very serious issue.”

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## Crime stats reveal rising murder rate



by Kristen Ku

BELIZE CITY, Thurs. July 25, 2024

The crime statistics recently released by the Belize Police Department’s Joint Intelligence Coordinating Center have

revealed a concerning increase in major crime across the country, with a particular rise in murder cases.

The data covers the first half of 2024,

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## “The Dean Barrow Story,” by Lawrence Vernon

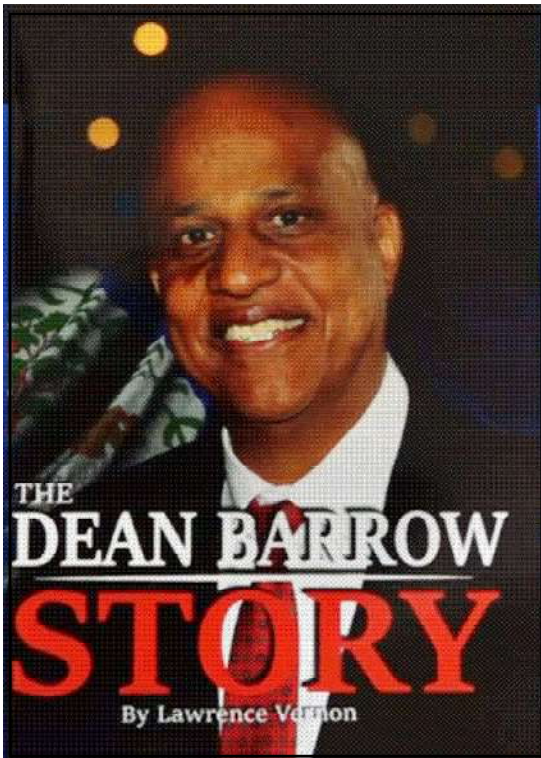
by Charles Gladden

BELIZE CITY, Wed. July 24, 2024

A biography of the fourth prime minister of Belize, Rt. Hon. Dean Barrow, was launched on Wednesday, July 24. The publication was penned by Belizean author, Lawrence Vernon and is titled, “The Dean Barrow Story.”

“Since the lives and achievements of three prime ministers – George Price, Manuel Esquivel, and Said Musa – have been recorded in biographical sketches, and over the years, I thought that it would be only fitting that a biography of the fourth prime minister be written

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## Belizean softball legend, Brenda Johnson passes

by Roy Davis (freelance writer)

BELIZE CITY, Wed. July 24, 2024

In an interview that was aired on YouTube, sports writer Bilal Morris called her Belize’s humble softball giant; and indeed, she was, considering all of her accomplishments.

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## Whooping Cough alert

**PAHO releases epidemiological alert for Whooping Cough**

by Kristen Ku

BELIZE CITY, Thurs. July 25, 2024

The Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) has issued an epidemiological alert following a rise in Whooping Cough (pertussis) cases globally and specifically in several



Whooping Cough vaccination

countries across the Americas.

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UDP rumblings on social media

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# UDP rumblings on social media

**UDP power brokers make social media statement supporting Tracy for leader**

BELIZE CITY, Thurs. July 25, 2024

As the day unfolded Tuesday, July 23, there was a flurry of social media posts, presumably started by former Belmopan UDP area representative and current standard bearer, John Saldivar. He wrote, “The first loss she took it on the chin, now all she is going to do is win.” That was accompanied by a photo of UDP Albert area representative, Hon. Tracy Panton, with the wording, “I’m with her” displayed across it. Other UDP top officials and members followed suit, sharing only the Hon. Panton picture and tag with nothing more. Those other sharers included former party leader and Collet area representative, Hon. Patrick Faber; Beverly Williams and former councilors, among others.

Former councilor Jason Edwards gave more of a clue as to what was happening, writing as his caption to the photo, “#I’mWithHer# This is a moment that we, and the entire nation, have been waiting for. At last, our beloved UDP will have the most elegant, experienced, and educated leader. Reform and a red wave can be seen on the horizon. The UDP ship will be led by the best captain, a woman captain. The hour has come! All hands on deck, with full support from myself and colleagues. Belize has waited too long for this moment. #ImWithHer”. Another former councilor, Michael Theus, wrote, “There is a time for everything. This right here is the Hon. Tracy Taegar Panton time. The road will be rocky, but the reward at the end shall be the beginning of leadership that cares, listen, involves and includes us. Forward i say!” Philip Willoughby, ousted as standard bearer for the Port Loyola division, had also posted Hon. Tracy Panton’s picture on his WhatsApp story, and repeated his support on Facebook with several posts.

At the end of the day on Tuesday, Hon. Panton told *Amandala* that it was too early for a comment, but we note that she had taken issue with the unceremonious removal of Willoughby after it emerged that he had married his PUP opponent’s daughter — a revelation on *7News* that came with some leaked personal WhatsApp exchanges between Willoughby and party leader, Hon. Moses “Shyne” Barrow, who was none the wiser about who was becoming Willoughby’s spouse when Willoughby was asking for bridge financing for the engagement ring.

Reports are that Hon. Panton has asked for the Willoughby matter to be placed on the agenda of a National Party Council (NPC) meeting slated for August 3, which would have otherwise been primarily focused on the postmortem of the Toledo East by-election.

In light of the Hon. Panton “I’m with her” social media campaign, Barrow



supporters also rallied behind him, sharing his photo with the tag, “1 party, 1 leader, 1 mission!” Former councilor Dean Samuels called for unity, and also called out those supporting Hon. Panton, saying, “It is hypocritical that the people who bread butter on both sides continue to push for chaos and disturbance within the Party..... it’s driven by self interest, greed, power...”

Asked about it late Tuesday afternoon, UDP chairman Michael Peyrefitte said he knew nothing of a coup attempt against Barrow, and told the media to ask those who were making the posts. He added that no mechanism has been triggered to remove the party leader, and also made light of the comment that since the Toledo East by-election, people have been calling for Barrow’s removal. He said the by-election results are “par for the course,” given that the “entire Government with all its resources were down in Toledo East.” Peyrefitte added that the 1,100 votes the UDP candidate received are a “basis for which we can then springboard into the general elections, especially since ... the whole government won’t be in Toledo East.” Peyrefitte said that whenever the Prime Minister calls elections, they will be ready.

Alongside the social media display of support for either Hon. Panton or Hon. Barrow, we also learned Tuesday that Saldivar had resigned as the UDP’s Regional Leader of the Western Zone. Later in the day, we received word that Dr. Omar Figueroa, former UDP Cayo North area rep, had been elected to

# Covid cases back on the rise

by Kristen Ku

BELIZE CITY, Tues. July 23, 2024

It has been approximately four years since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic which paralyzed the globe, causing the loss of millions of lives as well as devastating economies and overwhelming healthcare systems.

According to statistics, as of April 2024, a total of 7,010,681 deaths caused by COVID-19 have been registered worldwide, while Belize had a total of 71,409 cases, with 688 deaths registered.

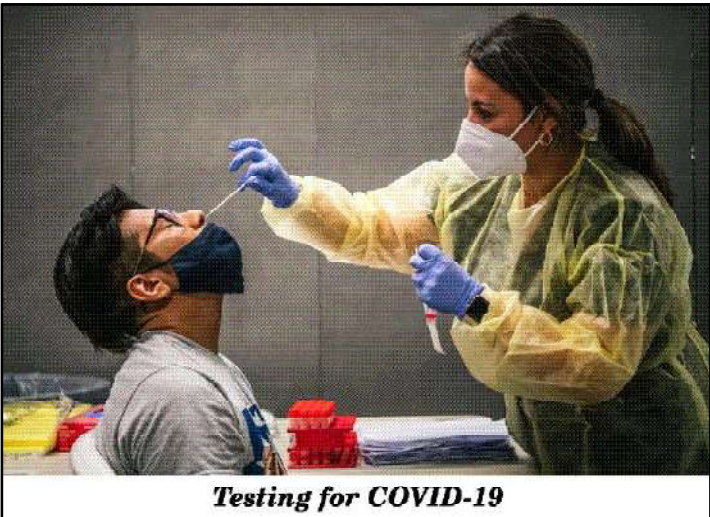
It has been more than a year since the end of the pandemic was officially declared, but there have been growing fears among members of the public due to the recent rise in the number of COVID-19 cases in certain countries, including the U.S. and Belize.

The Belize District, which encompasses Belize City and the cayes — where tourist activity is concentrated—is the section of the country in which the most cases have been found.

Infected persons who are receiving medical treatment for the virus are primarily individuals who are classified as being in a high-risk group, such as the elderly and pregnant women. Currently, the number of cases and the types of symptoms being observed are not severe enough to classify the increase in COVID cases as an outbreak. Notably, there are also other viruses currently circulating, including influenza and RSV, which could also cause severe symptoms that require hospitalization.

According to the Director of the Epidemiology Unit at the Ministry of Health and Wellness (MoHW), Dr. Russell Manzanero, the Ministry has seen a steady increase in the number of COVID cases over the past four to six weeks, particularly among individuals working the productive sector (those in the working category).

Dr. Manzanero explained that while the



Testing for COVID-19

majority of cases are being seen among those of the primary working age—between 15 and 50 years old—elderly members of the community are also contracting the virus.

“You are seeing an increase of cases in the older population, too. This means that, perhaps, what we would see is that these individuals who are working and everything, are going back home to their grandma and grandpa and then they might be transmitting that. They themselves might not be with symptoms or a slight flu, but then the older individuals might be affected a little bit more,” he said.

Already, there have been a couple of elderly persons hospitalized and placed on oxygen therapy so that their condition can be stabilized.

As a result, Dr. Manzanero advises those who are suffering from flu-like symptoms not to take it lightly, but to get themselves tested, and practice preventative measures, especially if they are living with high-risk individuals, which includes the elderly, pregnant women, and children.

“There are things that can be done there, but the public also has a part to do with the hand hygiene, and the cough etiquette. If you know you really feel bad and you cannot make it to work, it is upon the employer, actually, to understand the conditions like that. And the individuals have to be responsible to know that, ‘I’m really sick, I should not be going in today,’” he added.

Though an outbreak is not projected at this time, Manzanero believes that Belizeans should be concerned not only about COVID, but also about influenza, which could also potentially be deadly if untreated.

# Two drownings occur in Toledo

by Charles Gladden

BELIZE CITY, Thurs. July 25, 2024

In separate incidents, two persons — an elderly man and a child — lost their lives as a result of drowning in the Toledo District this week.

According to reports, earlier this week, on Sunday, July 21, an elderly farmer identified as 92-year-old Thomas Edulfo Salam was attempting to cross a flooded creek in Pueblo Viejo Village when he was swept away by the strong currents.

The other drowning incident took place on Wednesday, July 24, in Indianville, where 10-year-old Jazer

Cho, a standard four student of Bethel SDA Primary School, lost his life.

According to official police reports, around 1:00 p.m. that day, the deceased’s father, 49-year-old Bernardo Cho, arrived home after being informed that Jazer had fallen into a tilapia pond in his yard and drowned. Upon his arrival, he took the child out of the water and performed CPR, after which a little water and food came out the boy’s mouth, but he remained unresponsive.

Police arrived at the scene shortly after and transported Jazer to the Punta Gorda Hospital, where he was declared dead.



# NTUCB questions SSB decisions; SSB Chair responds



Social Security Board (Photo: Mitchell Moody Associates)

by Kristen Ku

BELIZE CITY, Thurs. July 25, 2024

The National Trade Union Congress of Belize (NTUCB) has voiced its concerns regarding recent actions taken by the Social Security Board (SSB). In a letter addressed to Mrs. Nigeli Sosa, the Chair of the SSB, on July 24, the NTUCB outlined several issues it believes require immediate attention and resolution to ensure fairness, transparency, and accountability.

The letter, signed by NTUCB Secretary-General, Philip Tate, expressed deep concerns about the recent employment of a Deputy CEO at the SSB. According to the NTUCB, this decision did not follow proper procedures.

“The NTUCB does not support this decision, as it appears to have been made without due process for the formal creation of a Deputy CEO post,” the letter stated. The union believes that the position was not openly advertised, budgetary allocations were not timely, and current employees and managers

at SSB were not given the first opportunity to apply. Moreover, the NTUCB criticized the lack of adequate notice or consultation regarding this appointment.

Another significant issue raised in the letter pertains to what the NTUCB described as “pre-determined discussions and decisions” with some SSB Directors without meaningful consultation with NTUCB representatives on the Board. The union argues that this decision disregards the tripartite nature of the SSB, which is designed to include contributions from various stakeholders.

“The NTUCB has reached a point where the purpose of our participation at Board meetings is indeed irrelevant or only a façade for bench warming,” the letter reads.

They urge the SSB to retract a previous decision to appoint external individuals as Directors for the Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) and to maintain a tripartite composition as guided by

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# Brodies at Mile 2 ½ burglarized

by Charles Gladden

BELIZE CITY, Wed. July 24, 2024

S o m e t i m e between 2:00 and 3:00 a.m. on Tuesday, July 16, five robbers reportedly broke into Brodies Supermarket located at Mile 2 ½ on the Philip Goldson Highway, and stole over \$10,000. The incident went unreported by the Belize Police Department, and thus the media had not made the public aware of the incident in the days following the robbery. When reporters questioned ACP Hilberto Romero, Regional Commander of the Belize Police Department Eastern Division, during Monday’s police press briefing, he declined to provide an explanation for the department’s failure to report the incident.

Sources have told *Amandala*, however, that the thieves used a ladder to climb up the back of the building and they entered the establishment from the roof by prying open the zinc wall that extends from the ceiling into the business. At that point, the security alarm went off, alerting on-duty security guards, but when



checks were made nothing was found, and they concluded that it was a system malfunction.

The men managed to enter the office, where a safe containing cash was kept, and reportedly stole cash, along with several vouchers and cheques, which together totaled over \$12,000.

This is the third robbery of an establishment this month that was not reported by the Belize Police Department. The other two incidents both occurred on Friday, July 12. Munnings Funeral Home on Albert Street was robbed in broad daylight on that day, and Kelsey’s Fast Food on St. Thomas Street was held up a few hours later in the night.

*Amandala* contacted Brodies Supermarket at Mile 2 ½ and we were informed that this incident was the first time they had been burglarized.

# Belizean organizations get \$1 Mil through CARSI-ESF

by Charles Gladden

BELMOPAN, Thurs. July 25, 2024

The US Embassy distributed 1 million USD, which was shared among four Belizean organizations, through the Central America Regional Security Initiative’s Economic Support Fund (CARSI-ESF) on Wednesday, July 24, in Belmopan.

The four recipients – RET International, UNDP Belize, Galen University, and LOVE Foundation – will be using the funds to support their ongoing work to address various social issues.

“Today was a handing over [of] a million US dollars to civil society organizations doing incredible work,” said Michelle Kwan, US Ambassador to Belize. “Today, I am thrilled that we have a high-level senior visitor from Washington. We have the Deputy Assistant Secretary Eric Jacobstein also having important meetings on shared issues; so today is just a spectacular event celebrating and acknowledging the hard work being done across this country,” she added.

Since 2012, the US government contributed over \$12 million via the CARSI-ESF grants to civil society organizations which are playing a crucial role in promoting good governance in Belize, and thus paving the way for economic and social progress.

“This is a highly, as you can imagine, competitive grant process, and they have proven themselves to do incredible work and listed [strategically] and proving that their organization is stepping up,” Ambassador Kwan said.

According to Ambassador Kwan, the US looks at an organization that meets its criteria of good governance, an anti-corruption record, and empowerment of youth and adolescents.

Amlin Mendez, Inclusive Growth, Digitization, and Governance Program Analyst at UNDP, highlighted during her



remarks that the grant will be used in the Belize Project, which aims to implement a range of interventions focused on building the capacity of public servants, civil society organizations, academia, and the media.

“These efforts intend to influence behavioral changes within the public service, and establish a group of watchdogs to ensure the government of Belize remains accountable to the citizens it serves. The project will carry out a range of activities including capacity building and institutional strengthening, whereby we will train public servants, CSOs, media, and academia via face-to-face and online training in anti-corruption, fraud, budget cycle, citizen engagement, the role of the Joint Public Accounts Committee, and internal controls, ethics and public service values and procurement planning,” she said.

RET International Belize will be receiving the grant three times. “Our core commitment has always been to provide multidimensional solutions, including formal and informal educational initiatives [to build] the capacity of youth and women to be positive change makers,” said Chereese Ferguson, Country Director for RET International Belize.

“Adolescents are uniquely impacted by Gender Based Violence (GBV). Their young age and inexperience with relationships can heighten their risk for physical and sexual intimate-partner violence. Being a victim of GBV during adolescence can lead to long-lasting negative mental and physical health outcomes, and can set young women on a trajectory for subsequent abuse,” she added.

# Motorcyclist fatally hit by bus

by Charles Gladden

BELIZE CITY, Thurs. July 25, 2024

On Wednesday, July 25, Orion Michael McKenzie, 36, of Belize City was hit by a bus as he attempted to cross the street on his motorcycle on East Canal Street, and he passed away hours later.



Michael McKenzie, deceased

According to reports, McKenzie was en route to work around 8:20 that morning, and he was crossing the intersection of East Canal Street and King Street when he was struck from the left side by a bus driven by 44-year-old Yadir Perez of

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# Training to combat human trafficking



TLEAP stakeholders receiving copy of the training module

## RET's TLEAP project trains transportation personnel to combat human trafficking in Belize

by Kristen Ku

BELIZE CITY, Wed. July 24, 2024

Today, the Refugee Education Trust, also known as RET International, concluded its Transportation Leaders Empowered Through Education Awareness and Effective Policy Change on Human Trafficking in Belize (TLEAP) project. The closing ceremony took place at the Best Western Belize Biltmore Plaza in Belize City.

The TLEAP project, which began in January 2023, was a collaborative effort involving the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Council, the US Embassy, the Ministry of Transport, the University of Belize, and various municipal bodies across the country.

This project is RET's second initiative

aimed at combating human trafficking, focusing on raising awareness and equipping those in the transportation sector with the knowledge to identify and report potential trafficking situations.

"Human traffickers use different modes of transportation to transport victims, hiding them in plain sight. Personnel in the transport sector are the eyes and ears on the highways, in the air, and at sea or on the waterways. The nature of your profession puts you in a unique position to recognize and report potential instances of human trafficking," explained Cherese Ferguson, RET Country Director.

The project included educational training and capacity-building for 540 stakeholders in the transportation service industry at both national and municipal levels. It also expanded public awareness campaigns on human trafficking. One of the primary goals was to strengthen partnerships between civil society and government in order to enhance citizen participation in combating trafficking.

Under the theme, "Spot, Share, Stop Human Trafficking," the awareness

campaign was promoted through written material and videos. These were created and distributed in collaboration with the Ministry of Transport and Alvin Young Nazarene High School, which helped produce animated videos.

The project also partnered with the University of Belize to develop an online course, providing a broader reach and supporting the sustainability of prevention efforts through continued education.

Belize's efforts in combating human trafficking were acknowledged in the 2024 Trafficking in Persons Report by the US State Department, which ranked the country as Tier 2. This ranking indicates that Belize is making significant efforts to meet the minimum standards for addressing human trafficking, although there is still more work to be done.

To further these efforts, TLEAP has developed a training module for those interested in becoming trainers. This resource provides a comprehensive curriculum, learning objectives, topic content, and activities designed to educate others about human trafficking.

"It's a starting point, obviously, that you start and you build on it, and the training manual is an ongoing training. You never reach a point where you fully understand all the implications with respect to human trafficking. Being able to have this manual is the first step, but being able to have it spread across your entire municipality is the next step," shared the Mayor of Belize City, Bernard Wagner, who was in attendance.

Wagner also noted the importance of awareness in everyday situations. "You might see a young person attached to someone, a stranger, and it might just pass you; but having this manual now, and having the training done by RET individuals, you will be able to now quickly recognize that sort of activity," he added.

The closing ceremony was held in recognition of World Day Against Trafficking in Persons, observed on July 30. Next on RET's agenda is a Human Trafficking Awareness Walkathon/ Rideathon, to be held free of cost, on July 27, at the BTL Park, starting at 6:00 a.m.

# Belizean softball legend, Brenda Johnson passes

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Well, Brenda Johnson, 80, affectionately known as, "BJ," is no longer with us. She passed away on Sunday morning, July 21, at her home in Belize City. It is believed that her transition was peaceful and that she died from natural causes.

BJ was a devout member of the Anglican religion and, although funeral arrangements have not yet been made, there is no doubt that the funeral service will be held at St. John's Cathedral.

BJ, in her day, was an outstanding softball player, and she was the catcher for the Belizean softball contingent that went to the Central American &

Caribbean Games in Santo Domingo in 1974 and won the Gold.

She began playing softball in 1960 at the age of 16, and during the 15 years she played the sport, she was a catcher for the Dunrite team, a team she led to victory on numerous occasions at home and abroad.

But softball was not her only passion. She was a career teacher and accountant who believed in passing on her knowledge to others.

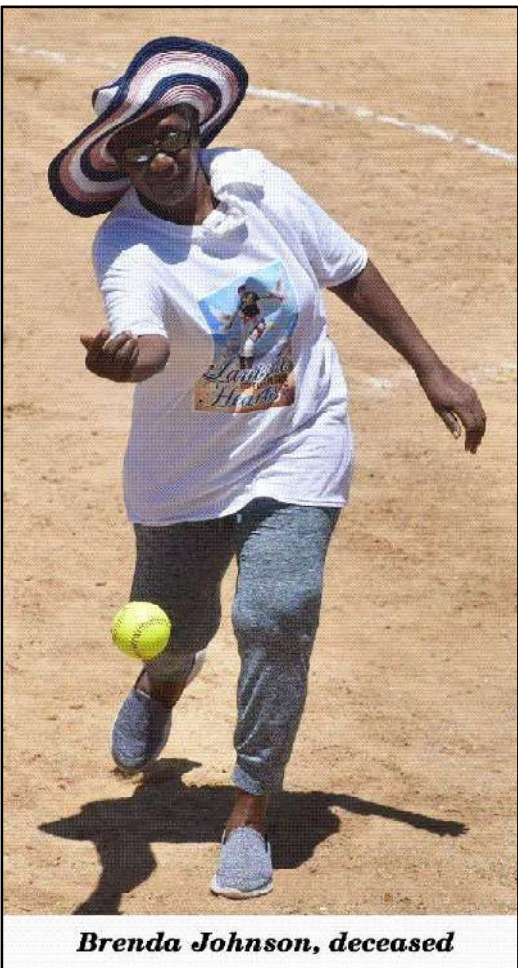
"Apart from softball, teaching was her passion, and she inspired many young women in her time to be the best that they can be," said her sister, Amanda Johnson.

BJ taught at St. John's Primary School, and she was an accountant for St. John's Credit Union. She worked with the US Peace Corps, and in that capacity she travelled all over the world.

BJ is predeceased by her husband, Fred Gabourel. She is survived by her daughters, Estelle Gabourel and Alma Gabourel.

Apart from her sister, Amanda, she is survived by 6 sisters and 5 brothers.

(AMANDALA Ed. Note: We join the softball and sporting community in extending our sincere condolences to the family and relatives of a great Belizean,



Brenda Johnson, deceased

a true Golden Girl of Belize softball and a legend in her own right. Rest in peace, sister Brenda Johnson.)

## Motorcyclist fatally hit by bus

Continued from Page 3

Corozal. Reports are indicating that McKenzie was flung off his motorcycle onto a nearby cement wall and hit a taco vendor. He lay there at the corner of the street until he was transported to the Karl Heusner Memorial Hospital, where he passed away a few hours later.

Felipe Cowo, 44, a San Antonio Village (Toledo) resident who was a passenger on McKenzie's motorcycle when the accident occurred, survived the incident and is reportedly in stable condition.

It is being alleged that McKenzie failed to stop at the stop sign and

attempted to cross the intersection, which caused Perez to crash into him.

While it is being reported that Perez had the right-of-way, the brother of the deceased, Darren Benguche, noted to media outlets that Perez should have stopped the bus upon seeing McKenzie, who had almost fully made it across the intersection when the back wheel of his motorcycle was reportedly clipped by the bus.

Benguche explained that his brother had been riding motorcycles for a long time, and most of the jobs he has had required use of the motorbike.

Perez reportedly was served with a notice of intended prosecution.





# Belize gears up to celebrate Emancipation Day

Three years ago, on Sunday, August 1, 2021, Belize joined the rest of the Caribbean in celebrating Emancipation Day, the day when the chains were removed from the legs of our African ancestors who were enslaved. The National Humanities Center said: “In 1517 the first slaves sent directly from Africa arrived to do forced labor on the Spanish plantations and mines in the Caribbean islands. As the Native Americans enslaved by the Spanish died by the thousands from overwork and disease, more Africans were captured and shipped to replace them.” More than 12 million people from the continent of Africa were forced to make the journey across the Atlantic Ocean. It is estimated that more than 2 million of them died in the holds of the ships, in chains.

There were countless slave rebellions in the Caribbean, Belize, the USA, wherever our African ancestors were enslaved. Divorced from their homeland by a great ocean, their fight for liberation was especially difficult, and many would die fighting for their freedom. Some escaped. In Jamaica, enslaved Africans escaped to the mountains and formed their own communities. In Belize, some escaped and formed communities, or assimilated into Mayan communities to the west and north. But millions, they and their offspring, remained enslaved, and it was on their backs, and with much of their knowledge, that the Europeans built their empire.

On August 1, 1834, slavery in the British Caribbean officially ended. But in some countries, including Belize, those who were enslaved entered an apprenticeship system, which was introduced under the pretext that enslaved people needed to learn a trade so they would be self-sufficient when they became free citizens. The reality was that slave owners, who had received ample compensation for their loss of “property” from the British government, got more time to ready themselves for conducting business without the tremendous advantage of free labor.

Thus, Emancipation Day in Belize is August 1, 1838. There is a photograph of a gathering of our African ancestors at Queen Street Baptist Church, a possible record of the occasion when the last chains fell away. This was a day they had fought for ever since the first raid on the African continent, and their subsequent journey as cargo across the Atlantic Ocean, to be sold like cattle in the Americas, like chattel in the marketplace.

The records show that national hero, Simon Lamb, who was at the fore of the commemoration of the Battle of St. George’s Cay on the Battle’s 100th anniversary, unsuccessfully tried to get our country to give proper recognition to Emancipation Day. UBAD, which came into being in 1969, and its media organ, *Amandala*, picked up the ball and never put it down. Beginning on August 1, 2014, Sister Virginia Echols of the UBAD Educational Foundation (UEF) held a symbolic ceremony at the seashore in front of the Yabra Green in Southside Belize City, and the UEF’s Sister Yaya Marin Coleman, with considerable support from former NICH chair, Yasser Musa, carried the ball across the line.

In his address to the nation on the second commemoration of Emancipation Day, on August 1, 2022, Hon. Francis Fonseca said: “the indignity and injustice of slavery brought with it psychological trauma and socio-economic inequities which

have been passed on from generation to generation”, and that “we have an obligation and duty to create greater opportunities in these underserved sectors ...”

500 years later, the struggle continues for people of Afro-descent. On August 1 we pause to remember our ancestors who struggled under the yoke as an enslaved people, and recommit to the fight for freedom, justice, and equality.

## Netanyahu admonished by UN; Lula counsels Maduro in Venezuela

A great number of Belizeans “natively” have positive feelings about Israel, which is natural, since we are mostly Christians here, and the Christian faith has deep roots in Israel and its religion, Judaism. But the leaders of modern Israel, in particular its present president, Benjamin Netanyahu, have caused the feelings of both Christians and non-Christians here to sour. Modern Israel has a history of hostility toward its Palestinian neighbors, and has been on a rampage since a one-day siege on October 7 by the militant Hamas left hundreds of Israeli citizens and visitors to the country dead or in captivity. Israel has been pounding Gaza with bombs and bullets almost unceasingly since then, seemingly without a care about the carnage; the massive destruction of property, including hospitals and schools; the hunger and injuries and displacement; and the over 20,000 innocent men, women, and children who have been killed.

Thus far, Israel has resisted calls from the international community to cease its bombardment of Gaza. But a recent *ICJ Opinion* might pressure it to return to humanity, become more civilized in its behavior. The Government of Belize embraced the *ICJ Opinion*, which states that Israel is in breach of “Article 3 of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination.” The *Opinion* says, “As a consequence of Israel’s policies and practices, which span decades, the Palestinian people has been deprived of its right to self-determination over a long period”, that Israel must “end its unlawful presence in the Occupied Palestinian Territory as rapidly as possible... [and that Israel] provide full reparation for the damage caused by its internationally wrongful acts [and] allow all Palestinians displaced during the occupation to return to their original place of residence.”

Much closer to home, President Lula of Brazil declared that he’s “scared” by reports coming out of Venezuela that the present president of that country, Nicolas Maduro, has said that if he loses the presidential election on Sunday, there’ll be a “bloodbath.” Lula told the media in Brazil, “Maduro has to learn: if you win, you stay [in power]. If you lose, you go. And you prepare to contest another election.”

Both Lula and Maduro are left wing, and our region is hopeful that Lula’s experienced counsel will resonate with Maduro in the event that he loses. Lula has been there, lost an election to a right-wing rival, and he was returned to power after the people woke up and realized that far right policies mostly serve the rich.

It’s a difficult time for Venezuela. International sanctions, mainly by the US, have severely hurt the country economically. Venezuela sits on the world’s largest oil deposits, but they have struggled because of policies that have earned them the ire of rich capitalist nations.

Many Venezuelans are poor, and they have seen neighboring Guyana become one of the richest countries in the Americas after business deals with the big oil barons. Over the years, the two countries haven’t had an adequately neighborly relationship because Venezuela hasn’t let go a more-than-century-old claim of a significant portion of Guyana’s territory. Last year the situation took a worrying turn when the Venezuelan government asked Venezuelans if they approved of creating a state in Guyana. Venezuela’s referendum got its close neighbors nervous, and forced its friends in CARICOM to express their earnest hope “that Venezuela is not raising the prospect of using force or military means to get its own way in this controversy over territory.”

Belize and most countries in the Caribbean have been supportive of the present regime in Venezuela, which began under the leadership of Hugo Chavez in 1999. The Chavez government introduced the Petro Caribe program which allowed countries in the Caribbean and Central America to purchase fuel at hugely concessionary prices. We don’t know how favorable a new leadership in Venezuela would be to us, but Belizeans believe, like Lula, that the will of the people must be respected.



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# St. John's College

## VACANCIES



St. John's College, Belize City, invites applications from suitably qualified persons to fill the following full-time positions:

### 1) Director of the SJC School of Nursing

**Job Description:**

The Director of the SJC School of Nursing is a critical leadership position, in coordination with the divisional administrators, and reporting directly to the Dean, responsible for overseeing and advancing the academic, administrative, and strategic functions of the nursing program at the college level. This role requires a visionary leader with a deep understanding of nursing education, research, and practice, as well as the ability to foster collaboration, innovation, and excellence within the college.

**Responsibilities:**

- Develop and implement, in consultation with the Dean, a strategic vision and long-term plan for the School of Nursing in alignment with the overall goals of the college.
- Foster a culture of excellence, innovation, and collaboration among faculty, staff, and students.
- Collaborate with the Dean to address trends and challenges in nursing education and healthcare.
- Ensure high-quality, evidence-based nursing programs that meet licensure standards and prepare graduates for successful careers.
- Oversee curriculum development to reflect best practices and evolving healthcare needs.
- Foster interdisciplinary and interprofessional collaboration within the School of Nursing and across the college.
- Undertake teaching of professional core courses and coordinate student advising, as necessary.
- Encourage and support faculty and student research initiatives, securing external funding, and promoting dissemination of research findings.
- Foster a culture of scholarly, critical thinking, and evidence-based practice within the School of Nursing.
- Support faculty in disseminating research, presenting at scholarly forums, and engaging in collaborative projects.
- Manage daily operations, including budgeting, resource allocation, and staff management.
- Ensure compliance with college policies and promote a positive, inclusive work environment.
- Build relationships with healthcare organizations, professional nursing associations, the Nurses and Midwives Council of Belize, and other community partners; coordinate clinical placements, internships, and collaborative projects to enhance student learning.
- Represent the School of Nursing at relevant meetings and events.

**Qualifications/Requirements:**

- Minimum of a Master's Degree in Nurse Education or a related field.
- A valid nursing license and eligibility for registration as a nurse in Belize.
- Familiar with and supportive of the mission of St. John's College.
- Significant academic experience, including teaching, research, and leadership roles in nursing education.
- Demonstrated administrative and management skills, including budgeting, resource allocation, and supervision.
- Knowledge of licensure standards, regulatory requirements, and best practices in nursing education.
- Strong interpersonal, communication, and collaboration skills.

**Remuneration:** In accordance with the pay scale approved by the College.

### 2) Administrative Assistant

**Responsibilities:**

- Provide comprehensive support, including managing calls, greeting visitors, and handling administrative issues.
- Act as the liaison for operational and administrative matters.
- Organize meetings, appointments, and travel arrangements.
- Maintain the reception area, appointment diaries, and office files.
- Prepare and manage office correspondence.
- Oversee and guide lower-graded staff and student employees.
- Manage office supplies and equipment.
- Pursue professional development opportunities.
- Perform other related duties as assigned.

**Qualifications/Requirements:**

- Associate's Degree or higher in Business Administration, Office Management, or a related field preferred.
- Minimum of three (3) years of relevant work experience.
- Familiar with and supportive of the mission of St. John's College.
- Commitment to confidentiality and trust in handling sensitive information.
- Proficiency in administrative and clerical procedures.
- Proficiency in computer systems and relevant software.
- Understanding of customer service principles and practices.
- Strong interpersonal, communication and collaboration skills with the ability to work effectively with diverse individuals and groups.
- Excellent analytical skills for effective problem-solving and decision-making.

Successful applicants will be expected to participate in orientation programs and in St. John's College's continuous formation in accordance with the mission and goals of the college and the Catholic, Jesuit education.

**Remuneration:** In accordance with the pay scale approved by the Ministry of Education.

Applications are due by **Friday, August 9, 2024.**

Application forms are available at the Human Resources Office or online at [www.sjc.edu.bz](http://www.sjc.edu.bz).

Send or deliver completed St. John's College application for employment along with cover letter, resume, a copy of your Social Security card, a copy of your birth certificate or passport page, a police record, medical and drug test, a copy of highest degree, an official sealed transcript, and two (2) recent completed reference forms or letters of recommendation to:

**Human Resources**  
**St. John's College**  
**Princess Margaret Drive**  
**P.O. Box 548**  
**Belize City, Belize C.A.**  
**E-mail: [hr@sjc.edu.bz](mailto:hr@sjc.edu.bz)**

# UEF July 2024 Community Actions

*by Sista YaYa Marin Coleman*

BELIZE CITY, Thurs. July 25, 2024

## July 2024

The United Black Association for Development Educational Foundation (UEF) hosted the 3rd of our 10-year Breddah Cliff Augustine and United Black Association for Development Educational Foundation (UEF) Summer Youth Film Photography Camp commitment to our 7 Young, Gifted and Black youth film photographers from 5 communities in Southside Belize City in July 2024. It is funded by Breddah Cliff Augustine's family, and supported by local partners: Kim Neal, Marilyn Patton, XTV, *Amandala* newspaper, Krem Radio, Varela's Auto Rental, Seine Bight Garifuna Youth Drummers, Successfully Swimming & Smiling, ImagiNation Community Art Gallery, Angelus Press, local cooks & taxi drivers, community members and international partners KISO, Art House Film Lab, & Black in Marine Science (BIMS).

This year, Menyelek Marin Coleman was unable to be the lead photographer. Belizean photographer Kennth Grant from Knight & Day Studios led our "Fu Wi, Bai Wi" face-to-face sessions. Belizean filmmaker Sherone Hope, who has been our day 1 in-house film documentarian, continues to document on film the process of these Young, Gifted & Black Belizean film photographers. On Wednesday, July 31, 2024 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. at the ImagiNation

Community Art Gallery on North Front Street in Belize City, there will be our "Fu Wi, Bai Wi" Community Film Photography Exhibition; at which the young photographers' art will be on sale. This year, our youths took community portraits of Belizeans.

Breddah Cliff Augustine was a Belizean Garifuna who was a calm, smiling rebel who was an advocate for social equity, justice, and equality. During his lifetime he invested in empowering others through education. He also represented and advocated for grassroots banana farmers like himself (chairman of Banana Growers Association and Banana Board). At the end of his life, Breddah Cliff talked about the drums of his father and ancestors, and of the importance of contributing to the development of our Belizean people, especially our youths, and living for others. The vinyl images of Belizean portraits will be on sale on Wednesday July 31, 2024 from 7:00 to 9:00 pm, and the Community Exhibition will be up for 2 weeks at the ImagiNation Art Gallery.



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# CLASSIFIED ADS

## LIQUOR LICENSE NOTICE

**LIQUOR LICENSE NOTICE:** Notice is hereby given that **Jose Alas** is applying for a Publican Special Liquor License to be operated at Armenia Pasadita Restaurant & Bar, Armenia Village, Cayo District under the intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 2000.





**BELMOPAN METHODIST HIGH SCHOOL**  
P. O. Box, Price Center Road  
City of Belmopan

**THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT INVITES APPLICATIONS FOR THE  
FOLLOWING POSTION FOR AUGUST 2024**

**One Guidance Counselor (Full time)**

**QUALIFICATIONS:**

Education: A degree in Sociology and/or Psychology

**EXPERIENCE:**

Possess at least 2 years experience as a counselor. Three years teaching Life Skills at a secondary school.

**REMUNERATION:**

Remuneration will be in accordance with the salary scale for teachers, and as determined by the Teaching Service Commission.

**APPLICATION PROCESS:**

Applicants must be in possession of a valid Teacher’s License.

The deadline for submission of applications is Monday, August 5, 2024. An application letter along with an original transcript, a resumé, two recent letters of reference, copy of a valid social security card, copies of certificates and a valid police record should be sent to:

**Secretary  
Board of Governors  
Price Center Road  
City of Belmopan**



Ah! Gold...The element (Au) with its metallic yellow, heat, and electricity conducting, malleable nature, and atomic number 79. In space, gold is formed inside huge stars that explode in a powerful and luminous blast called a supernova. The metal owes its rarity to the incomprehensible amount of energy needed to help it form. On Earth, its monetary value comes from the fact that it is costly to mine, it can only be found in a few places on the planet, and it cannot be artificially created. Gold is a medium of exchange and since it does not corrode, it has been utilized as currency since 600 BC. Symbolically, the best standard is a “gold standard” and in sports receiving a “gold medal” demonstrates dominance. Why so much talk about gold? This past weekend Belize’s national female volleyball team proved their dominance. The Under-21 Women’s Central American Volleyball Championship ended with Belize achieving a historic win against Guatemala to earn the gold medal. The Belize Civic Centre exploded in a luminous chorus of civic pride. The country with the smallest population in the region clinched its first gold medal in the sport for any category, male or female. The U-21 female volleyball athletes are our stars, and Belize is officially the atomic number (501). Our three particles? Volleyball, Victory, and Gold.

Our little Belize is *numero uno*. Of all the elements that go into creating a gold-winning volleyball national team, time, repetition, and discipline are among the most important; however other forms of support are necessary to *host* a regional tournament. Belize has hosted consecutive volleyball tournaments, and perhaps being able to host was a major step towards victory. The home court advantage is a real sports phenomenon. The Belize Tourism Board (BTB) is proud to have been a sponsor of the Belize team and the tournament. The only thing more valuable than “gold” is a diamond, and according to the President of the Belize Volleyball Association (BVA), Mr. Allan Sharp, “BTB is a Diamond Sponsor”. According to Mr. Sharp, the BTB “tries to help in whatever way they can within their areas of control” and the BVA regards them as “a major Diamond sponsor that is always very supportive.” The support and investment have paid off because, *this* time, Belize is number one.

Belize has been sending its volleyball teams to compete in regional tournaments since 1990. The Ministry of Tourism and Diaspora Relations and the BTB support the development of sports because it helps to advance Belizean identity and civic pride. Not to mention, sports tourism in Belize has its potential. The mission and vision of Belize’s National Sports Policy is to contribute to Belize’s development by leveraging sports. Progress continues in key areas like training, media, infrastructure, sports education, international cooperation, and others. In disciplines such as basketball, football, and volleyball, Belize’s growing number of sporting facilities and arenas are attracting athletes and spectators from near and far. After our victory this past weekend, no one can dispute the importance of sports development and its benefit to Belizean athletes, society, and tourism. While the volleyball team has already had their victory parade, the BTB is hoping that some of our local tourism stakeholders and partners will clinch a few top places in the 1<sup>st</sup> annual World Sustainable Travel & Hospitality Awards, being hosted in Belize. Perhaps the home court advantage will apply to tourism as well as it applies to volleyball.

This volleyball victory marks a new era for Belize in the sport and the region. The road to the top of the podium has been decades in the making. As the President of the BVA stated, “it is not an overnight thing...but what was fantastic is that it was dominant”. This time our volleyball stars exploded on the court- a supernova of atomic number (501).

Chat again later.

*Jasmine Anderson*  
**The Belize Tourism Board**



**Vacancies exist at  
Pallotti High School  
for the following positions:**

- 1 Temporary Integrated Science Teacher**
- 1 Full-time Chemistry Teacher**
- 1 Full-time Music Teacher (Voice)**
- 1 Full-time Music Teacher (Percussion)**

**Education and Experience:** A professional background (with a minimum of a Bachelor Degree) in education in the related field and updated pedagogy in the subject area, valid teacher’s license, as well as moral soundness (in keeping with Catholic teaching and tradition) would be an asset.

**Please send cover letter and resume to:**

**Principal  
Pallotti High School  
P.O. Box 180  
Belize City, Belize**

**Deadline for Application: July 31, 2024**





# Belize se prepara para celebrar el Día de la Emancipación

Hace tres años, el domingo 1 de agosto de 2021, Belize se unió al resto del Caribe para celebrar el Día de la Emancipación, el día en que se quitaron las cadenas de las piernas de nuestros antepasados africanos que fueron esclavizados. El Centro Nacional de Humanidades dijo: “En 1517, los primeros esclavos enviados directamente desde África llegaron para realizar trabajos forzados en las plantaciones y minas españolas en las islas del Caribe. A medida que los nativos americanos esclavizados por los españoles morían por miles por exceso de trabajo y enfermedades, más africanos fueron capturados y enviados en barco para reemplazarlos”. Más de 12 millones de personas del continente africano se vieron obligadas a realizar el viaje a través del Océano Atlántico. Se estima que más de 2 millones de ellos murieron en las bodegas de los barcos, encadenados.

Hubo innumerables rebeliones de esclavos en el Caribe, Belize, Estados Unidos, dondequiera que nuestros antepasados africanos fueron esclavizados. Separados de su tierra natal por un gran océano, su lucha por la liberación fue especialmente difícil y muchos morirían luchando por su libertad. Algunos escaparon. En Jamaica, los africanos esclavizados escaparon a las montañas y formaron sus propias comunidades. En Belize, algunos escaparon y formaron comunidades, o se asimilaron a las comunidades mayas del oeste y el norte. Pero millones, ellos y sus descendientes, siguieron esclavizados, y fue sobre sus espaldas, y con gran parte de su conocimiento, que los europeos construyeron su imperio.

El 1 de agosto de 1834, terminó oficialmente la esclavitud en el Caribe británico. Pero en algunos países, incluido Belize, los que fueron esclavizados ingresaron en un sistema de aprendizaje, que se introdujo con el pretexto de que las personas esclavizadas necesitaban aprender un oficio para ser autosuficientes cuando se convirtieran en ciudadanos libres. La realidad fue que los dueños de esclavos, que habían recibido una amplia compensación por su pérdida de “propiedad” del gobierno británico, tuvieron más tiempo para prepararse para realizar negocios sin la enorme ventaja de la mano de obra gratuita.

Así, el Día de la Emancipación en Belize es el 1 de agosto de 1838. Hay una fotografía de una reunión de nuestros antepasados africanos en la Iglesia Bautista en la Calle Queen, un posible registro de la ocasión en que cayeron las últimas cadenas. Este fue un día por el que habían luchado desde la primera incursión en el continente africano y su posterior viaje como carga a través del Océano Atlántico, para ser vendidos como ganado en las Américas, como bienes muebles en el mercado.

Los registros muestran que el héroe nacional, Simon Lamb, que estaba al frente de la conmemoración de la Batalla de Cayo San Jorge en el centenario de la Batalla, intentó sin éxito que nuestro país reconociera debidamente el Día de la Emancipación. UBAD, que nació en 1969, y su órgano de comunicación, *Amandala*, recogieron la pelota y nunca la dejaron. El 1 de agosto de 2014, la hermana Virginia Echols de la Fundación Educativa UBAD (UEF en inglés) celebró una ceremonia simbólica en la orilla del mar frente al parque Yabra en la Zona Sur de la Ciudad de Belize, y la hermana YaYa Marin Coleman de UEF, con un apoyo considerable del ex presidente de NICH, Yasser Musa, llevó la pelota hasta la línea de meta.

En su discurso a la nación en la segunda conmemoración del Día de la Emancipación, el 1 de agosto de 2022, el Honorable Francis Fonseca dijo: “la indignidad y la injusticia de la esclavitud trajeron consigo traumas psicológicos y desigualdades socioeconómicas que se han transmitido de generación en generación”, y que “tenemos la obligación y el deber de crear mayores oportunidades en estos sectores desatendidos...”

500 años después, la lucha continúa para las personas de ascendencia africana. El 1 de agosto hacemos una pausa para recordar a nuestros antepasados que lucharon bajo el yugo como un pueblo esclavizado y volvemos a comprometernos con la lucha por la libertad, la justicia y la igualdad.

## Netanyahu amonestado por la ONU; Lula aconseja a Maduro en Venezuela

Un gran número de beliceños “nativamente” tienen sentimientos positivos sobre Israel, lo cual es natural, ya que aquí somos mayoritariamente cristianos, y la fe cristiana tiene raíces profundas en Israel y su religión, el judaísmo. Pero los líderes del Israel moderno, en particular su actual presidente, Benjamin Netanyahu, han hecho que los sentimientos tanto de los cristianos

como de los no cristianos se agrieten aquí. El Israel moderno tiene una historia de hostilidad hacia sus vecinos palestinos, y ha estado arrasando desde el asedio de un día el 7 de octubre por parte del militante Hamás que dejó a cientos de ciudadanos israelíes y visitantes del país muertos o en cautiverio. Israel ha estado bombardeando Gaza con bombas y balas casi sin cesar desde entonces, aparentemente sin preocuparse por la carnicería; la destrucción masiva de propiedades, incluidos hospitales y escuelas; el hambre, las lesiones y el desplazamiento; y los más de 20.000 hombres, mujeres y niños inocentes que han sido asesinados. Hasta ahora, Israel ha resistido los llamamientos de la comunidad internacional para que cese sus bombardeos de Gaza, pero una reciente *Opinión de la CIJ* podría presionarlo para que vuelva a la humanidad y adopte un comportamiento más civilizado. El Gobierno de Belize dio la bienvenida a la *Opinión de la CIJ*, que afirma que Israel está violando el “artículo 3 de la Convención Internacional sobre la Eliminación de todas las Formas de Discriminación Racial”. La *Opinión* dice que “como consecuencia de las políticas y prácticas de Israel, que se extienden a lo largo de decenios, el pueblo palestino se ha visto privado de su derecho a la libre determinación durante un largo período”, que Israel debe “poner fin a su presencia ilegal en el territorio palestino ocupado lo antes posible... [y que Israel] proporcione una reparación completa por el daño causado por sus actos internacionalmente ilícitos [y] permita que todos los palestinos desplazados durante la ocupación regresen a su lugar de residencia original”.

Mucho más cerca de casa, el presidente Lula de Brasil declaró que está “asustado” por los informes que llegan desde Venezuela de que el actual presidente de ese país, Nicolás Maduro, ha dicho que si pierde las elecciones presidenciales del domingo, habrá un “baño de sangre”. Lula dijo a los medios de comunicación en Brasil: “Maduro tiene que aprender: si gana, se queda [en el poder]. Si pierde, se va. Y se prepara para participar en otras elecciones”.

Tanto Lula como Maduro son de izquierda, y nuestra región tiene la esperanza de que el experimentado consejo de Lula resuene en Maduro en caso de que pierda. Lula ha estado allí, perdió una elección ante un rival de derecha, y volvió al poder después de que el pueblo despertó y se dio cuenta de que las políticas de extrema derecha en su mayoría sirven a los ricos.

Es un momento difícil para Venezuela. Las sanciones internacionales, principalmente de los EE.UU., han dañado gravemente al país económicamente. Venezuela se asienta sobre los depósitos de petróleo más grandes del mundo, pero ha luchado debido a políticas que le han ganado la ira de las naciones capitalistas ricas.

Muchos venezolanos son pobres y han visto a su vecina Guyana convertirse en uno de los países más ricos de América tras acuerdos comerciales con los grandes magnates del petróleo. A lo largo de los años, los dos países no han tenido una relación de vecindad adecuada porque Venezuela no ha abandonado una reivindicación de más de un siglo sobre una parte importante del territorio de Guyana. El año pasado, la situación dio un giro preocupante cuando el gobierno venezolano preguntó a los venezolanos si aprobaban la creación de un estado en Guyana. El referéndum de Venezuela puso nerviosos a sus vecinos cercanos y obligó a sus amigos de la CARICOM a expresar su sincera esperanza de que “Venezuela no esté planteando la posibilidad de utilizar la fuerza o medios militares para salirse con la suya en esta controversia sobre el territorio”.

Belize y la mayoría de los países del Caribe han apoyado el actual régimen en Venezuela, que comenzó bajo el liderazgo de Hugo Chávez en 1999. El gobierno de Chávez introdujo el programa PetroCaribe, que permitía a los países del Caribe y América Central comprar combustible a precios enormemente favorables. No sabemos qué tan favorable nos resultaría un nuevo liderazgo en Venezuela, pero los beliceños creemos, como Lula, que la voluntad del pueblo debe ser respetada.

*AMANDALA - ¡El periódico de mayor circulación en Belice!*





Tears came to my eyes, as I’m sure they did to the eyes of millions of black people all over planet earth, when Barack Obama, the son of an African (Kenyan) father and a white American mother, was elected President of the United States of America in 2008.

A couple weeks after his inauguration, Barack and his wife were hosting a social function at the White House when one or two strange guests appeared who had not been invited. Those of us who are cynics, concluded that the American secret service was sending a message to Mr. Obama: you are not safe; things can happen to you.

The election of a man of color to the leadership of the most powerful nation in the world was more symbolic than anything else. Barack was owned and controlled by the same forces which own and control any other U.S. president.

It has been an exciting few days in American politics since President Joe Biden of the Democratic Party announced over the weekend that he was stepping down as his party’s November 2024 presidential candidate, and then endorsed his vice-president, Kamala Harris, to run as the Democratic candidate against Republican Donald Trump in the presidential election this November.

Kamala Harris, very well-qualified and experienced in public life, is the daughter of a Jamaican father of color and an Indian (Asian) mother. She therefore excited Americans of color and also the forces of women empowerment who are fighting the ban on abortion which is now possible due to the lifting of the Roe vs Wade

protections by a Republican-controlled Supreme Court.

I was moved by Kamala’s speech and demeanour, not to mention her good looks, but the Obama precedent tells me I cannot expect anything from her, if she is elected president, which would be different from the administration of any other American president, who have all been considered Caucasian (despite the remonstrations of J. A. Rogers) except for Barack.

I now beg your indulgence to reproduce a section of a paper published in *The London Review of Books* dated February 22, 2018. The article is entitled, “Why do white people like what I write,” and is written by one Pankaj Mishra and is essentially a review of a book by Ta-Nehisi Coates, which is entitled, *WE WERE EIGHT YEARS IN POWER: AN AMERICAN TRAGEDY*. The paragraphs reproduced below from Mishra’s article appear on page 19 of that particular *London Review*.

*There were signs during Obama’s campaign, particularly his eagerness to claim the approbation of Henry Kissinger, that he would cruelly disappoint his left-leaning young supporters’ hopes of epochal transformation. His actions in office soon made it clear that some version of bait and switch had occurred. Obama had condemned the air war in South Asia as immoral because of its high civilian toll, but three days after his inauguration he ordered drone strikes in Pakistan, and in his first year oversaw more strikes with high civilian casualties than Bush*

*had ordered in his entire presidency. His bellicose speech accepting the Nobel Peace Prize signalled that he would strengthen rather than dismantle the architecture of the open-ended war on terror, while discarding some of its fatuous rhetoric. During his eight years in office, he expanded covert operations and air strikes deep into Africa; girding the continent with American military bases, he exposed large parts of it to violence, anarchy and tyrannical rule. He not only expanded mass surveillance and government data mining operations at home, and ruthlessly prosecuted whistleblowers, but invested his office with the lethal power to execute anyone, even American citizens, anywhere in the world.*

*Obama occasionally denounced the “fat cats” of Wall Street, but Wall Street contributed heavily to his campaign, and he entrusted his economic policy to it early in his tenure, bailing out banks and the insurance mega-company AIG with no quid pro quo. African Americans had turned out in record numbers in 2008, demonstrating their love of an ostensible compatriot, but Obama ensured that he would be immune to the charge of loving blacks too much. Colour-blind to the suffering caused by mortgage foreclosures, he scolded African-Americans, using the neoliberal idiom of individual responsibility, for their moral failings as fathers, husbands and competitors in the global marketplace. Nor did he wish to be seen as soft on immigration; he*

*deported millions of immigrants — Trump is struggling to reach Obama’s 2012 peak of 34,000 deportations a month. In his memoir, Dreams from my Father, he had eloquently sympathised with the marginalised and the powerless. In power, however, he seemed in thrall to Larry Summers and other members of the East Coast establishment, resembling not so much the permanently alienated outsider as the mixed-race child of imperialism, who, as Ashis Nandy diagnosed in The Intimate Enemy, replaces his early feeling for the weak with “an unending search for masculinity and status”. It isn’t surprising that this harbinger of hope and change anointed a foreign policy hawk and Wall Street-friendly dynast as his heir apparent. His post-presidency moves — kite-surfing with Richard Branson on a private island, extravagantly remunerated speeches to Wall Street and bromance with George Clooney — have confirmed Obama as a case of mistaken identity. As David Remnick, his disappointed biographer, said recently, “I don’t think Obama was immune to lures of the new class of wealth. I think he’s very interested in Silicon Valley, stars and showbusiness, and sports, and the rest.”*

## Kamala Harris

by Marie-Therese Belisle Nweke

Tuesday, July 23, 2024

This is what Professor Bola Akinyemi had to say about Kamala Harris taking over the slot of presidential candidate of the Democratic Party from Joe Biden. Akinyemi was a former Foreign Minister of Nigeria, and was once the head of Nigeria’s Foreign Affairs Institute and a professor at Nigeria’s first university — the University of Ibadan:

“I hope nobody is going to underestimate Kamala Harris. She had to keep a low profile, and I said three weeks ago that when you are the Vice President, you cannot be seen outshining the President. You do what the President tells you to do.”

“Kamala Harris is going to be a hard nut for Trump to crack. Be careful of lawyers, especially someone who has been an attorney general and a prosecutor. She will take you to pieces with the way she will put her own questions and the way she will use you to wipe the floor. She won the Senate seat by 60% from California when she ran, so you see that she is not an easy nut to crack.”



SOCIAL SECURITY BOARD

VACANCY

The Social Security Board invites applications from suitably qualified persons to fill the role of **TEAM LEADER, CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE** at SSB Headquarters, Belmopan.

**MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:**

Bachelor's Degree in Management, Business Administration, Public Relations, Marketing, Communications or other closely related academic discipline with three (3) years' supervisory experience which includes exposure in managing projects; planning and executing research & surveys in service delivery; analysis of customer data; customer service; customer relationship management.

OR

Associates Degree in Management, Business Administration, Public Relations, Marketing, Communications or other closely related academic discipline with five (5) years' supervisory experience which includes exposure in managing projects; planning and executing research & surveys in service delivery; analysis of customer data; customer service; customer relationship management.

Visit our website at <https://socialsecurity.org.bz/careers/> to view further details and requirements on this position.

**APPLICATION PROCEDURE:**

Complete application package containing application letter, resume, two (2) recent letters of recommendation, copy of academic credentials and current police record or receipt for record may be submitted via email only to:

HR Advisor, Policy and Strategy, HR Services, SSB Headquarters at: [fphillips@socialsecurity.org.bz](mailto:fphillips@socialsecurity.org.bz)


Copy emails to: General Manager, HR Services, SSB Headquarters, Belmopan at: [odakers@socialsecurity.org.bz](mailto:odakers@socialsecurity.org.bz)

**Email subject line: "Team Leader, Customer Experience"**

**APPLICATION DEADLINE: 3:00 pm; July 31st, 2024**

(Incomplete application packages will not be considered)





ANGLICAN CATHEDRAL COLLEGE

NISI DOMINUS FRUSTRA  
(Formerly St. Hilda's College for Girls and St. Michael's College for Boys)

Applications are invited from suitably qualified persons to fill the following positions:

✧ (4) English Language (Permanent)

✧ (1) Physical Education (Permanent)

✧ (1) Mathematics (Permanent)

✧ (1) Business (Temporary)

Core Responsibilities:

- Planning, preparing and delivering lessons
- Researching and developing relevant teaching material
- Setting assessments and overseeing examinations
- Providing academic support to students
- Supporting school activities and initiatives

Qualifications & Requirements:

- Minimum qualification required is an Associate Degree in the subject to be taught or a related area, however, a Bachelor's Degree is preferred.

Salary

Salary will be in accordance with Government pay scales for teachers.

Application Package:

✓

Cover Letter

✓

Curriculum Vitae

✓

Certified copies of transcripts

✓

Certified copies of degrees, diplomas and certificates

✓

Certified copy of valid Teachers' License

✓

Medical Certificate or a certified copy

✓

Valid Police Record or certified copy

✓

Certified copy of Social Security Card

✓

Two recent letters of recommendation

All applications should be submitted by Monday August 5, 2024 to:

The Principal

Anglican Cathedral College

71 Regent Street

Belize City, Belize



GEORGETOWN TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL  
GEORGETOWN VILLAGE  
STANN CREEK DISTRICT

Applications are invited from suitably qualified individuals to fill the following vacancies:

1 English Teacher – Permanent

1 Belizean Studies Teacher – Permanent

1 Belizean Studies Teacher – September – November 2024

1 Automotive Teacher - September – November 2024

Qualifications for the teaching positions: Preferably a Bachelor's Degree in Education or the subject area. Interested persons in possession of an Associate's Degree may also apply.

Interested persons are asked to submit Letter of Application, complete with Résumé, Transcripts, Valid Teacher's License, Police Record, Medical Certificate and Two Letters of Recommendation.

Pay Scale will be in accordance with the scales approved by the Ministry of Education.

Applicants are asked to submit applications by August 2, 2024 to the:

Secretary

Board of Governors

Georgetown Technical High School

P.O. Box 235

Dangriga Town



Nazarene High School

Princess Margaret Drive

P.O. Box 539 - Tel: 203-2248 - Email: nhs@nazarenehighbz.org

Belize City, Belize, C.A.

VACANCIES

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Qualified individuals are encouraged to apply for the following teaching positions available for the 2024 – 2025 Academic Year.

• Basic Electrical Technology Teacher - Permanent

• Belizean Studies/Caribbean History Teacher – Permanent

• Mathematics Teacher (September-November)

• Life Skills / Counsellor (September – November)

Qualifications Requirement:

• Bachelor's Degree or higher in related field.

• Flexibility in offering two or more subject areas will be considered a tremendous asset.

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All completed application packages must include:

1) Application letter with Curriculum Vitae

2) Official Transcript/s

3) Copies of all certificates

4) Valid Teachers License

5) One letter of recommendation from a Pastor or a church elder

6) One letter of recommendation from last employer

7) One character reference letter from a reputable person

8) Recent police record

9) Medical Certificate

10) Birth Certificate/Passport

11) Valid Social Security card

All copies **MUST** be certified

All applications should be hand delivered by Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> August, 2024 addressed to:

Chairperson

Nazarene High School

Princess Margaret Drive

Belize City, Belize



Mrs. Elisa Seguro (Ed. D.)  
Principal



"I WILL GO IN STRENGTH OF THE LORD GOD." PS. 71:16



Vacancy at Julian Cho Technical High School



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

1 IT Technician/Teacher – Temporary (August – November 2024)

Qualification for Teacher:

(a) Bachelor's Degree or Higher in the subject area with pedagogical training preferred, however an Associate Degree in the subject area may be considered.

(b) Teaching experience at the secondary level would be an asset.

(c) Good communication skills and a willingness to uphold the mission of Julian Cho Technical High School.

Application package must include:

• A letter of application and resume

• Certified copies of diplomas and certificate/s

• Sealed transcript from all post-secondary institutions attended

• Birth certificate or Passport

• Certified copy of Social Security Card

• Recent Medical Certificate

• Recent Police Record

• Valid Teacher's License (Secondary level)

• Two recent letters of recommendation

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

Salary:

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

Application packages must be addressed to:

Secretary

Board of Governors

Julian Cho Technical High School

P.O Box 171

Toledo District

Belize, Central America

ELECTRONIC PACKAGES CAN ALSO BE EMAILED TO:

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

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

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

Deadline for applications is Monday, July 29, 2024.



# And how much did that court case cost us?

*by Colin Hyde*

So, after 12 years Mr. Jared Ranguy has been found guilty of a triple-homicide, murdering three of his family members in one of the most violent nights in our history. Emotionally devastated relatives of the family whom he was charged with murdering were united in the desire to see him put away, serve the maximum time for his crimes. “Closure” came last week, and most of those who looked forward to that were exhausted by the time it came.

Roy Davis and Charles Gladden said in the *Amandala* “he [Ranguy] changed his attorney numerous times. Prior to Senior Counsel Godfrey Smith, a total of about five lawyers had represented Ranguy at some point during his trial, including Senior Counsel Simeon Sampson, Leslie Mendez and Hector Guerra; at one point he even wanted to represent himself in court, which is not permissible for murder cases.”

We know a number of counsels for the defense did so pro bono, and we were told the last to appear for Ranguy, Godfrey Smith, also rolled in for free. It really might be altruism; of course he can afford it. Ah, borrowing a cynical bone, it might also be Smith’s most lucrative contract yet. This pro bono thing is no cash, but nowhere on the label does it say, “no kind”. Lord Ashcroft’s lawyer might be tired of dabbling into the lives of famous Caribbean leaders,

or has exhausted the supply, and to fill the vacuum he might be after gathering gruesome material so he can make a play at being Agatha Christie.

Getting to the defense, reporters reported that Smith proposed to the court that his client sleepwalked through the murders. It’s not impossible. Drugs, extreme fatigue, extreme insomnia, excessive drinking, some say even a heavy fish meal late in the evening, all can turn a daytime Jekyll into a nighttime Hyde. In a very informative article, Joey Garcia, a close relative of Ranguy and the three deceased, said that Jared had worked along with them on family initiatives and “no one mentioned a sleepwalking disorder ever occurring in the family.” Joey said a sleepwalking disorder is very strange behavior, so “it’s hard to imagine that it would never have been mentioned” and that Jared had “no established medical history” with the problem.

I think that’s a fair point by Joey, but where her position is unassailable is the argument that “the introduction of a sleepwalking defense” could have considerable “impact [on] the judicial system of Belize.” Joey says, “If it persists, sleepwalking might be used for any crime in Belize without the proof required in countries where the sleepwalking defense has already been rejected.”

The *Amandala* story said Smith said: “One of the main things we relied on

was the forensic psychiatric report of a United Kingdom forensic psychiatrist and a sleep specialist. Unfortunately, those reports could not be conclusive without having hooked up Mr. Ranguy to a sleep machine, and sleep study machines in the prison ... the cost was too prohibitive. We couldn’t go that far ...” Really, really, the Good Samaritan Smith is believed to be a multi-millionaire, yet the defense he pushed to exonerate his client collapsed because the price was too steep. I think we need a number here. Until then, staying cynical I will say if he was sincere he would have opened one of his vaults.

We flat out cannot afford getting into this kind of defense. Much of this case has been a waste of the court’s time. Belize, we are so impractical. It is absurd for us to be put through these contortions. Who’s paying for this? When the British handled these things here, Mr. Ranguy would have been hung within a month. Of course, we are not so barbaric.

Staying awake, the *Amandala* said the triple murder “was reportedly committed sometime after an argument ensued between Ranguy and Robert Velloso [one of the deceaseds] when Ranguy demanded money that Velloso had won at the casino that day.” Look, I sympathize with Ranguy: it’s not impossible that he was not in his senses when he committed those crimes. But we have neither the science nor the money to go down that lane.

of knowledge, negligence, sheer ignorance, and malice. There are accidents too. This one’s about alleged malice.

The parents of an 8-year-old boy who drowned in a water hole in Georgia said they knew he was the victim of a malicious act because the boy was terrified of water. Silva said, “It took 55 days to confirm what Noah Bush’s family had known for weeks. His death was not an accident, as authorities had initially insisted.” Bush was out with a friend, a 10-year-old, whom he had known for some months, and another boy, an 11-year-old, whom he did not know.

Francys Johnson, a lawyer for Noah’s family, said, “At some point, they pressured Noah to go down to the borrow pit.” (A borrow pit is what is left behind when excavators remove earth for filling elsewhere or to make roads.) Silva said Johnson said “an argument ensued between the boys, and he was pushed into the water by the older juvenile.”

Ms. Silva said “Johnson described the area as a ‘tight-knit’ but impoverished trailer-home community”, and that Johnson said “Noah’s family didn’t come from any great means, but neither are the people who are accused of his manslaughter.” As with many things in the US, race is mixed into the story. Johnson told Silva that “Noah’s mother ... criticized the sheriff’s office’s handling of the investigation”, and that it was her (the mother’s) “belief that, ultimately, her child didn’t matter to them.” Silva said “Noah was Black” and that “Johnson said the two boys who were arrested are white.”

Every year at the ceremony with all the pomp, our judges get scolded for the backlog of cases. And we spend over a decade on this case! Twelve sakkin years this case has been in and out of court, while other cases our courts are fully equipped to handle, were neglected. We probably deserve it ending up in theater. But, at least one person might be smiling. Mr. Smith probably has enough material for his murder mystery. Aw shucks, I should apologize. The lawyer’s got a right to his pay.

## Don’t miss this water story

I get very nervous when I hear of young people near water – the sea, river, creek, lagoon, swimming pool, water holes – and I’m not around. I say, I’m not sure everyone gives water the respect that I do. So much for my nature, my water fears.

There’s this story from the US on NBC News by Daniella Silva that caught my eye: “Family of boy who drowned in a ‘borrow pit’ calls for more arrests after 10-and 11-year-old are charged weeks later.” Being on the water is fun, but it comes with some risk. People lose their lives in the water because of lack

Some things you never forget. I must have told you this story before, but some things need to be repeated. I say, you really can’t be *too* careful with children when they’re around water.


When my younger brother, Ronald, was a young teenager, he had a young friend, the son of an Indian expatriate. They both played lawn tennis, and I knew the youth because he came by our house in Belmopan a couple times. One day Ronald got a message that his friend had drowned in a swimming pool. I don’t recall where the swimming pool was; it might have been in another country. But I remember the story well. The youth was playing in the pool with friends, and they held him under the water, too long.

I am not aware that any charges were levied against the boys who were responsible for the drowning of the Indian youth. If there were, the accused would have been found innocent, as I expect the accused boys in this case in the US will be. If the 11-year-old had held Noah down in the water, he would have gotten off with a misdemeanor. It’s hard to prove malice.


### EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

The U.S. Embassy is seeking an eligible and qualified applicant for the following position:

**Position Name:** Residential Housing Coordinator  
**Vacancy number:** Belmopan-2024-13  
**Closing date:** August 4, 2024



To view this vacancy, please scan the QR code or visit the ERA site at <https://erajobs.state.gov/dos-era/blz/vacancysearch/searchVacancies.hms>



For instructions on how to apply via the ERA system, please scan the QR code or visit the U.S. Embassy’s website at: <https://bz.usembassy.gov/jobs/>

The U.S. Mission in Belmopan provides equal employment opportunity and fair and equitable treatment to all people without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, political affiliation, marital status, or sexual orientation.


**Note 1:** Resumes will not be considered. Candidates must note all work experience when completing the ERA application. Insufficient or incomplete information will result in an ineligible application.

**Note 2:** Candidates must submit applicable required documentation by the closing date of this announcement. Failure to provide the required documentation will result in an ineligible application.

## NOTICE

“Dorian Cadle” is no longer employed by JAMES BRODIE & CO. LTD. and is not authorized to conduct any business on behalf of the company.





## AMANDALA

the newspaper with the greatest circulation in Belize!



BY ORDER OF MORTGAGEE  
NOTICE  
OF INTENTION TO SELL

ATLANTIC BANK LIMITED, a company incorporated under the Laws of Belize with its registered office situate at Corner Freetown Road and Cleghorn Street in Belize City hereby gives notice of its intention to exercise its power of sale as Mortgagee under and by virtue of Charges and Deeds of Mortgage between those hereinafter named and the said Atlantic Bank Limited which said Charges and Deeds of Mortgage are registered at the Land Registry and the Land Titles Unit. The Bank 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 ATLANTIC BANK LIMITED from whom full particulars and conditions of sale may be obtained.

ALL THAT piece or parcel of land being Block 35 situate in the More Tomorrow Agricultural Layout, Cayo District, Belize comprising 50 acres, TOGETHER with all buildings and erection standing and being thereon, the freehold property of PIVOT LTD.

ALL THAT piece or parcel of land being Block 36 situate in the More Tomorrow Agricultural Layout, Cayo District, Belize comprising 48.8 acres, TOGETHER with all buildings and erection standing and being thereon, the freehold property of PIVOT LTD.

ALL THAT piece or parcel of land being Block 37 situate in the More Tomorrow Agricultural Layout, Cayo District, Belize comprising 55.7 acres, TOGETHER with all buildings and erection standing and being thereon, the freehold property of PIVOT LTD.

ALL THAT piece or parcel of land being Block 38 situate in the More Tomorrow Agricultural Layout, Cayo District, Belize comprising 59.2 acres, TOGETHER with all buildings and erection standing and being thereon, the freehold property of PIVOT LTD.

ALL THAT piece or parcel of land being Block 39 situate in the More Tomorrow Agricultural Layout, Cayo District, Belize comprising 49.9 acres, TOGETHER with all buildings and erection standing and being thereon, the freehold property of PIVOT LTD.

ALL THAT piece or parcel of land being Block 40 situate in the More Tomorrow Agricultural Layout, Cayo District, Belize comprising 48.9 acres, TOGETHER with all buildings and erection standing and being thereon, the freehold property of PIVOT LTD.

ALL THAT piece or parcel of land being Block 41 situate in the More Tomorrow Agricultural Layout, Cayo District, Belize comprising 50.2 acres, TOGETHER with all buildings and erection standing and being thereon, the freehold property of PIVOT LTD.

ALL THAT piece or parcel of land being Block 42 situate in the More Tomorrow Agricultural Layout, Cayo District, Belize comprising 62.8 acres, TOGETHER with all buildings and erection standing and being thereon, the freehold property of PIVOT LTD.

Dated this July 12th, 2024.

BELIZEPROPERTYAUCTIONS.COM

PUBLIC AUCTION SALES: PROPERTIES

Alta Mira Area, Corozal Town, Corozal District; Sarawee Village, Stann Creek District

BY ORDER of the Mortgagees Messrs. St. John's Credit Union Limited, Licensed Auctioneers Kevin A. Castillo and Christiana R. Castillo are selling ONLINE via [belizepropertyauctions.com](http://belizepropertyauctions.com) the following properties. **Sales currently running until 31<sup>st</sup> August 2024. Public Auction Sales will expire fortnightly within this period on the dates and times listed on the website until these properties are sold.**

1. Parcel No. 3658 Alta Mira Area, Corozal Town, Corozal District:



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
Corozal North	1	3658
The freehold property of Mr. Santos Acosta.		

2. Lot No. 29 Sarawee Village Ext, Stann Creek District:



ALL THAT piece or parcel of land being Lot No. 29 situate in Sarawee Village Extension, Stann Creek District, the freehold property of Ms. Marlene Genieve Murillo.

**"FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION & PHOTOGRAPHS PLEASE VISIT WEBSITE"**  
**TERMS: STRICTLY CASH**  
**KEVIN A. CASTILLO**  
**TELEPHONE 223-4488**  
**Website: [belizepropertyauctions.com](http://belizepropertyauctions.com)**  
**E-mail: [kevinacas@yahoo.com](mailto:kevinacas@yahoo.com)**  
**Facebook: [Belize Auctions](https://www.facebook.com/BelizeAuctions)**

PRESS PREDICTIONS  
The sports psychic speaks



"Press" Predictions 51-89-64

Boledo stats thru July 26 - August 2, 2024

In Boledo news, there are only 11 numbers left to play since the new system has been implemented: 01-11-15-29-38-40-41-53-64-71-89. These are my lucky numbers for this week: 51-89-64-08-37-93. These are my lucky Pick-3 numbers: 171-264-037-565-989. These are my lucky Jackpot numbers: 7022-9613-4802. Get ready, Belize! Some mad dinero will be coming our way this week! Keep your eyes open for 11 & 15. 11 is the only doubles that is left since the 3rd of December. Since the new system started, 73-74-47-56-39-24-42-09-69 & 79 - ending 9 ball played the most, 25 times already. The seventies series played the most on Sundays at 14 times already. The hardest series right now not to play is the teens & ending 1 ball. There are 4 ending one ball numbers left to play: 01-11-41 & 71. Next week, more stats, & remember to read your Psalms: 63, 72 & 91.



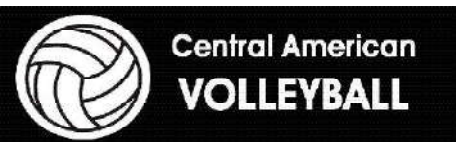
Port Layola FC will upset Aguila of Guatemala, 2-nil

Local football predictions & Concacaf

In local football action, Port Layola FC will shock Aguila of Guatemala, 2-nil, at the FFB Stadium this Tuesday night, July 30, at 4:00 o'clock. Tickets will be available at the FFB office in Belmopan and Club Bizzo in the Yabra area for only \$25.00. The Port Layola FC line-up is very compact right now. All positions are very tight and ready for some serious action. Olympia will come to town on the 8th of August. That game will have a much bigger crowd than the Guatemala game because there are a lot of Hondurans in Belize; plus, Olympia is a household name in Central America. Latrell Middleton, Gilroy "Bredda" Thurton, Andres Orozco the Colombian, Mateos the Peruvian, Colombian midfielder Miguel Garcia & Colombian goalkeeper "Seco" Palomino are all ready for those 2 big clashes in Belize. Port Layola FC coach Charlie Slusher will make history in Concacaf. Next week, some more results & predictions.



Gilroy "Bredda" Thurton



The 20th Central American Volleyball Championship in Belize  
Belize U-21 Women Volleyball Team win their first Gold

In international volleyball in Central



by Gilroy "Press" Cadogan

America, Belize U-21 women won their very first volleyball Gold medal by beating Honduras, El Salvador, Nicaragua, & Guatemala in 3 straight sets each. That's

a Central American record in volleyball for the last 20 years. That will be for ages. Gareth Bruce, the captain was very impressive. Top server Nisaa n



Gareth Bruce

Martinez was also very effective with her spike service constantly. The Civic Center had over 4,000 volleyball fans. Our Belizeans love to support volleyball; especially Guatemala, our rival country that have over 18 million people, compared to our country that don't even have half of a million people at 438,000. Our talent pool is much smaller than theirs by some 38 times. Do the mathematics people. Congratulations to the president, Allan Sharp; enuff respect to Miss Lupita Quan who played the biggest role in our championship. Next tournament, Belize U-23 will win again.



Long Island will beat Lakers-1 in the finals

Belikin 8-Ball Billiards results & predictions

In the Belize Belikin 8-Ball Billiards Tournament, there were 9 teams, including Lakers-1, Lakers-2 and Lakers Juniors. Mr. James Young is the owner of the Lakers club. Long Island and Seishe were in the playoffs but Lakers-1 beat them 6 straight



James Young



Larry Lisbey

Please turn to Page 28



# Juan Garrido, Conquistador!

Wednesday, July 24, 2024

Juan Garrido was born in West Africa, went to Portugal as a youth, and converted to Catholicism and adopted a Christian name. Matthew Restall, one of the Publisher’s favorite authors, wrote this book called *The Black Conquistadors: Armed Africans in Early Spanish America*. In this book he describes the involvement of the black Conquistadors, whom the Spanish did not credit for their part in the conquest of the New World. Garrido stood out, because he was always a free and educated man, joined in the expedition in 1502 to Hispaniola. He was the first black man to arrive in North America with Ponce de Leon in 1513, and by 1519 he was a part of Cortez’s siege of Tenochtitlan. He settled in Mexico, got married, and became the first known farmer to have sowed wheat in America. The church of San Hipolito was a chapel built by him to commemorate

the deaths of the many Spaniards killed by the Aztecs, in 1520. It is one of the most famous churches in Mexico City, and is on the Paseo de Reforma! On a personal note, I have been to that church as part of a tour of the Paseo, and have passed it by many times during my trips to the city, not knowing its colorful history! You can Google all this information as I have, but I’m sure most Mexicans aren’t aware of the history of the church, or maybe even who Juan Garrido was!

Do you remember when you used to go to matinees or to the movies to see a good Western? We always rooted for the cavalry or for the cowboys over the Indians. Same with movies about Africa. When the hordes would attack the white man, we rooted for the bwai, the main protagonist! We never stopped to think that the attackers were the good guys,

Please turn to ➡ Page 23

# San Jose man dies in motorcycle accident in Orange Walk

by Charles Gladden

ORANGE WALK, Tues. July 23, 2024

A road traffic accident claimed the life of a man – 31-year-old Yelsin Alexander Arias – on Monday night, July 22, on the Philip Goldson Highway in Trial Farm Village, Orange Walk District.

According to reports, the San Jose Village resident was riding his motorcycle on that portion of the highway near Paraiso Bar a little before 7:30 p.m. when he reportedly lost control of the bike, allegedly due to the poor condition of the road, and fell onto the road.

It has also been reported that Arias was not wearing a helmet before his accident, and thus sustained head injuries when he was flung off his motorcycle and landed on the ground. He was reportedly alive for a short time after the incident before passing away



Yelsin Arias, deceased

at the scene. When police arrived at the scene, Arias had already been transported to the Northern Regional Hospital and pronounced dead by medical personnel.

A pool of blood could be seen at the location of the accident, along with Arias’s motorcycle, which was completely destroyed.

According to Roberto Campos, father of the deceased, Arias would regularly ride his motorcycle from home to his workplace at Quality Poultry in Orange Walk Town when the weather was good, but would catch the bus on wet days.

“Anytime he used to come, his mom always gets mad and tells him, ‘I don’t



Scene of accident



like you coming into Orange Walk on your cycle because there are a lot of accidents happening and you need to be careful. If you don’t crash, they’re going to crash into you,” his father said.

Campos mentioned that every day Arias would visit his parents during his lunch break, and on the day of the accident they had shared a meal.

Lydia Novelo, Branch Manager for Quality Poultry, told reporters that Arias had been employed with them for 9 months and exhibited the qualities of an outstanding employee.

“He was willing to go the extra mile and help others. What I saw in him, as a manager, is that he had the drive and the energy to pursue what he wanted in life. He was always willing to help his colleagues, and was sometimes quiet, but he always wanted to go that extra mile. He had a passion for talking with customers. He had that passion to demonstrate what he wanted; so, Yelsin was an important asset in my branch. I could say in my heart, that he was not only an employee, he was like a family to all of us,” she said.

Arias leaves behind his common-law wife and their infant child.



## REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS FOR DATABASE ADMINISTRATOR II AND SOFTWARE DEVELOPER I CITO – Ministry of Finance

### Relaunched – July 2024

**Institution:** Ministry of Finance, **Economic Development** and Investment

**Country:** Belize

**Project:** Strengthening Public Expenditure Management in Belize (SPEM)

**Sector:** Finance and Public Service

**Abstract:** This project aims to promote the fiscal sustainability of Belize. The specific objective is to increase the efficiency of public resources by strengthening public financial management.

**Loan No.:** 5353/OC-BL

**Deadline:** Tuesday, August 20, 2024, 10:00 a.m. (Local Belize Time)

The Government of Belize has received eight million US Dollars (US \$8M) in loan financing from the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) for the implementation of the Project – Strengthening Public Expenditure Management in Belize. One subcomponent of this project will focus on Technological Infrastructure, to promote a more sustainable technological infrastructure enabling processes to be more reliable and faster. Such objectives will require the support and assistance of the Central Information Technology Office in the Ministry of Finance.

In this regard, the Ministry is now relaunching the process to fill the following two (2) contractual positions, as consulting services, under the Project:

The **Software Developer I** will be responsible to Analyze, design, code, test, assess, and troubleshoot software programs and applications throughout their software development life cycle for CITO, MOF, Government of Belize. This includes researching, designing, configuring, coding, developing, documenting, and modifying software specifications throughout the project/development life cycle.

The **Database Administrator II** will be responsible for assisting the Database Administrator I in technically supporting multiple implemented database systems(s) which support the various implemented applications. The Database Administrator II will also assist in providing technical expertise in the design, implementation and maintenance of database management systems. Assists in Data Security and Disaster Recovery planning and execution for all database systems.

The Ministry of Finance, Economic Development and Investment now invites eligible Individual Consultants to submit applications in providing the services. Further information, including the required template for the application and full Terms of References, can be obtained via <https://med.gov.bz/>, by emailing [tjoseph.ceu@med.gov.bz](mailto:tjoseph.ceu@med.gov.bz) or calling 501-672-0848 during the hours 8:00am – 4:30pm from Mondays to Fridays prior to **August 15, 2024**. Interested Consultants should provide information demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the Services.

Consultants will be selected in accordance with the procedures set out in the Inter-American Development Bank: Policies for the Selection and Contracting of Consultants financed by the Inter-American Development Bank GN-2350-15 and is open to all eligible candidates as defined in the policies. The Consultants will be selected based on qualifications. **Only short-listed applicants will be invited for an interview.**

Qualified Consultants should submit one (1) pdf copy in English via e-mail to [tjoseph.ceu@med.gov.bz](mailto:tjoseph.ceu@med.gov.bz) and/or two (2) hardcopies of their application to the address below clearly indicating **the specific position being applied for**.

**The Deadline for submission is no later than Tuesday, August 20, 2024**, by 10:00 a.m. local Belize Time. No late submissions will be accepted. Hard copies of the application should be submitted to the following address:

Trudy Joseph  
Procurement Specialist  
Central Executing Unit  
1904 Constitution Drive, 2nd Floor  
Belmopan City  
Belize, Central America

Ref: **Specify Position – CITO - SPEM - Your name**





REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST  
INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANT  
FINANCIAL SPECIALIST

Institution: Ministry of Health and Wellness  
Country: Belize  
Project: Improving Efficiency, Quality, and Access in Belize’s Health System  
Sector: Health  
Abstract: Financial Specialist  
Loan Agreement.: BL-L1048  
Deadline: August 5, 2024

- The Government of Belize (the “Borrower”) has received financing from the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), (the “Bank”) toward the cost of the programme: Improving Efficiency, Quality, and Access in Belize’s Health System. The Ministry of Health and Wellness (MOHW), an executing agency of the Borrower, intends to apply a portion of the proceeds of this loan to engage an individual consultant to perform the consulting services (hereinafter called “Services”): of Financial Specialist. More details on the Services are provided in the Terms of Reference.
- An individual consultant will be selected under procedures, in accordance with the Policy for the Selection and Contracting of Consulting Services financed by the IDB (GN-2350-15) which can be found at the following website: [www.iadb.org/procurement](http://www.iadb.org/procurement).
- Interested eligible consultants may obtain a complete set of documents and further information at the address given below from 8:00am-4:00pm Monday to Friday.
- Your expression of interest accompanied by your curriculum vitae should be submitted by Monday, August 5, 2024 during the hours of 8:00 am-4:00pm Monday to Friday, in writing to the address given below.

Address for requesting documents and information and for submitting CV:  
Chief Executive Officer, Ministry of Health & Wellness  
East Block Building, Second Floor, Belmopan  
Telephone: +501-822-0992  
Email: [pmu@health.gov.bz](mailto:pmu@health.gov.bz), Copy: [jbulwer@health.gov.bz](mailto:jbulwer@health.gov.bz)



PROJECT EXECUTION UNIT  
1900 Constitution Drive, City of Belmopan Belize.  
(501) 828-5147  
[www.moechst.gov.bz](http://www.moechst.gov.bz)

NOTIFICATION OF CONTRACT AWARD  
(Procurement of Goods)

Financing Institution: Inter-American Development Bank  
Procurement Type: International Competitive Bidding (ICB) - Goods  
Sector: Education  
Country of project: Belize  
Project name: Skills for the Future Program  
Loan.: BL-L1044  
Contract/Bid No.: MOECST SFTF/ICB/GO-2023/01  
Bid/Contract Description: Supply and Delivery of E-Learning Devices (2000 Chromebooks) for Primary Schools

During the *bidding* process for the *goods* indicated above, under the *bidding process ICB*, the firms listed below submitted bids. The bid price at opening, the evaluated bid price and their final ranking follow below:

**Evaluated Bidder(s):**  
**Name of the bidder**  
**and nationality:** Productive Business Solution (Belize) Limited (Belize)  
**Bid price at bid opening:** BZ\$2,007,605.95  
**Evaluated bid price:** N/A

**Evaluated Bidder(s):**  
**Name of the bidder**  
**and nationality:** The Angelus Press Limited (Belize)  
**Bid price at bid opening:** BZ\$2,389,100  
**Evaluated bid price:** BZ\$2,389,100

**Evaluated Bidder(s):**  
**Name of the bidder**  
**and nationality:** Business Computer Systems Limited (Belize)  
**Bid price at bid opening:** BZ\$2,014,140  
**Evaluated bid price:** BZ\$2,014,140

**Evaluated Bidder(s):**  
**Name of the bidder**  
**and nationality:** Fultec Systems Limited (Belize)  
**Bid price at bid opening:** BZ\$1,955,742  
**Evaluated bid price:** BZ\$1,955,742

**Evaluated Bidder(s):**  
**Name of the bidder**  
**and nationality:** Belize Telemedia Limited (Belize)  
**Bid price at bid opening:** BZ\$1,598,380  
**Evaluated bid price:** BZ\$1,598,380

**Evaluated Bidder(s):**  
**Name of the bidder**  
**and nationality:** Vira Group Company Limited T/A Cellular World (Belize)  
**Bid price at bid opening:** BZ\$1,750,000  
**Evaluated bid price:** BZ\$1,750,000

Any Bidder is entitled to a debriefing to ascertain the grounds on which its bid was not selected by making a formal request at the address indicated below.

**Awarded Bidder:**  
**Name of the bidder**  
**and nationality:** Vira Group Company Limited T/A Cellular World  
**Contract Price:** BZ\$1,750,000

**Country of Awarded Bidder:** Belize  
**Scope of the contract:** Supply and Delivery of E-Learning Devices (2000 Chromebooks) for Primary Schools

**Date contract signed:** July 15, 2024

**UNDB Reference number:** IDB-C2126578-07/24

Address:  
Project Execution Unit  
Attn: Mrs. Ingrid Acosta  
1900 Constitution Drive,  
3rd Floor of Building,  
Belmopan City  
E-mail: [project.coordinator@moe.gov.bz](mailto:project.coordinator@moe.gov.bz) and [procurement.specialist@moe.gov.bz](mailto:procurement.specialist@moe.gov.bz)



Vacancy Announcement

Position: Supervisor of Marketing  
Department

Company: 123 Supermarket Co. Ltd.  
Location: #9 Liberty Avenue, Orange Walk Town, Belize, C.A.  
Telephone: 322-3888  
Email: [123supermarketbz@gmail.com](mailto:123supermarketbz@gmail.com)

123 Supermarket Co. Ltd. is seeking a dynamic and experienced individual to join our team as the Supervisor of our Marketing Department.

- Responsibilities:**
- Develop and implement marketing strategies and campaigns
  - Manage and lead the marketing team
  - Conduct market research to identify trends and opportunities
  - Collaborate with other departments to ensure cohesive marketing efforts
  - Oversee digital and traditional marketing efforts

- Requirements:**
- Proven experience in marketing, preferably in a supervisory role
  - Strong leadership and communication skills
  - Ability to analyze market trends and consumer behavior
  - Proficiency in digital marketing tools and platforms
  - A Bachelor’s degree in Marketing, Business, or a related field is preferred

Salary is based on qualifications and experience.

**Application Deadline:**  
Applications must be submitted by August 9th, 2024.

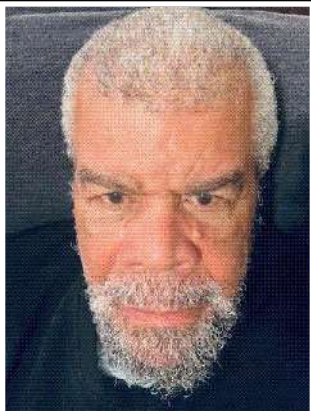
Interested candidates should submit their resume and a cover letter to our physical address or email us:

**Email:** [123supermarketbz@gmail.com](mailto:123supermarketbz@gmail.com)

Join us at 123 Supermarket Co. Ltd. and help us shape the future of retail marketing in Orange Walk!



# Memory lane! — Part 2



Tuesday, July 23, 2024 at 9:05 AM

In my last column, I wrote about the beauty and wonder and innocence of our Jewel in the days that are no more. It was all the good that I saw and felt and lived through in my younger self. But being a Libra and believing in Ying and Yang, I have to go back to the darker side of those times. There is nothing perfect in life, except for women, who are the miracles we cavemen could not live, or survive without! Well, most of us anyway.

The darker side of that past was in

Belize becoming lighter in pigmentation, with thousands upon thousands of Creoles and Garinagu migrating to the United States, the United Kingdom, the Caribbean, and to places unknown. That migration caused a seismic shift demographically, and the effects are still being felt in the Jewel today. It was also the time when the churches and the politicians decided what would be, and would not be taught in our schools; they shaped the curricula to suit their agendas. I believe that those changes were detrimental to us, as students, and gave us a false or incomplete narrative of our past. The British had a vested interest in making us anglophiles; that is understandable from their point of view! But after we achieved self-government in 1964, I believe that we were in charge of what subjects were taught and their contents, including history and civics and geography; so, in effect, it was our

churches and the state that decided to keep us dumbed down! That worked out too well, because for me, I learned the history of my country at the university of *Amandala*, period!

It was also a time when we started to sell our birthright for pennies to speculators, who didn't have the best interests of Belize in mind. It was all about the Benjamins! It was a time of living in a bubble, not being culturally and socially aware of our importance, that is, until the birth of UBAD, teaching us not to hate ourselves because of too much melanin, but to embrace our ancestry and ancestors, and celebrate and enhance our uniqueness. This message was for all people of color, although some of us still thought that we were white, until America and Europe unceremoniously reminded us that we were not.

Another mistake we made at that time

was to make sports very political, while not supporting our athletes the way other countries did, and still do. We did not help foster in them their hopes of becoming national heroes, to excel in their respective sports. There were no serious government programs to harness and develop gifted athletes to reach for the gold, and the goal! Nada. Imagine a Colin Thurton, or a Chukku Young, who just passed away, or a Sonny Meighan, and many others who had the ability to compete on the world stage, but lacked the support, not half-assed, but the full support, of the government. Who knows what additional glories they could have brought to this tiny country, the pride and joy we could have all experienced! But noooo, people like Kenrick Halliday, one of our famous cyclists, had to work 10 hours a day and then go and train, late evenings. Most of the footballers and other sport personalities had a day job, and their sports was secondary. Their gifts were not expanded upon, to make them better and more competitive with other countries. How many Usain Bolts we may have overlooked? With no help from Uncle George, nor Uncle Sam, and all the other succeeding administrations, and that is a travesty, and a whole lot of tragedies.

We weren't given the opportunity to be ourselves, to be comfortable in our own skins, and to have our own national identity. Instead, we became de facto American or European; we did not fully appreciate our heritage! That all goes back to our educational system, which denied us that right to fully appreciate our genesis. According to the history that was fed to us, our massas loved us, did not abuse us. What a pile of you know what! To this day, most of our children aren't aware of our complex history, and of our relationships with our neighbors. Some have tried to correct this misguided compass, but TikTok and Facebook and Instagram have drowned out those efforts. Better to keep them hungry for instant thrills, rather than to let them know who they are, and where they came from!

So, while I celebrate those halcyon days of yore, I cannot forget that it was not all perfect, all sunshine and roses, but that we were also overshadowed by the dark clouds of inequality and racism, and by a subdued, but effective campaign, of ethnic cleansing! That we did not fight hard enough for this precious piece of paradise, lovingly called the Jewel. You know, maybe we weren't that innocent after all. What a shame! What a ting!

Glen

MADISON'S

AUCTIONS AND APPRAISALS LLP

[www.madisons.bz](http://www.madisons.bz)

BY ORDER of the Mortgagee, Messrs. Ascendancy Belize Limited, Licensed Auctioneer, Jovan Guerrero, is selling by way of ONLINE AUCTION via [www.madisons.bz](http://www.madisons.bz) the following properties with reserved prices. The online public auctions will expire bi-weekly on July 31st, 2024; August 14th, 2024; August 28th, 2024; and September 11th, 2024 until a sale is determined within this period.

TERMS:10% DEPOSIT. BALANCE IN 14 DAYS

<div><div>Lot 53 Hummingbird Community, Stann Creek</div></div> <p>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.</p> <p>The subject property is held as a Leasehold Certificate in the name of Pedro Guerra.</p>	<div><div>Block 1, Parcel 224 San Pablo/ San Jose, Orange Walk</div></div> <p>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.</p> <p>The property is held as a Land Certificate Interest in the name of Alfredo Samuel Cabrera and Josue Cabrera.</p>
<div><div>Block 1, Parcel 57/1, Buena Vista Village</div></div> <p>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.</p> <p>The subject property is held as a Leasehold Certificate in the name of Florencia Pott.</p>	<div><div>Block #365B, Hummingbird Highway, Stann Creek</div></div> <p>All that piece or parcel of land being Block No. 365B comprising 19.76 acres situated North of the Stann Creek Valley Road between Miles 13 &amp; 14, Stann Creek District, attached to Minister's Fiat Grant No. 101 of 1998, together with buildings and erections standing and being thereon. The Valley Community Area is rural with mainly residences, a few shops and stores, and citrus and banana farms.</p> <p>The property is held as a Minister's Fiat Grant in the name of Carlos Acosta.</p>
<div><div>Lot #5, Pomona Village, Stann Creek</div></div> <p>All that pieces or parcels of land being Lot #5, New Site, Pomona Village, Stann Creek District, comprising a total area of 958.33 sq. yds; together with all buildings and erections thereon being a single storey residence with 2 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, living, dining and kitchen (total 761 sq.ft.).</p> <p>The property is held in the Freehold Interest in the name of Santiago Acosta.</p>	<div><div>Lot #152, Mile 16, Hattieville Village, Belize</div></div> <p>All that pieces or parcels of land being Lot #152, Hattieville Village, Belize, together with all erections thereon being a 2 storey building, having on the lower level, 2 small rooms and a large open area as storage; on the upper level, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, living, dining, kitchen and a large porch, totaling 2493 sq. ft.; a small building as office and an open workshop area, both having reinforced concrete foundation and floor with areas of 188 sq. ft. and 600 sq. ft. respectively. The property is held in the Leasehold Interest in the name of Crispin Jeffries.</p>
<div><div>Lot 143 Maya Mopan Village, Stann Creek</div></div> <p>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.</p> <p>The property is held in the Leasehold Interest in the name of Narciso Tush.</p>	

AUCTIONEER: JOVAN GUERRERO

TELEPHONE: +501-614-3916

EMAIL: [SG@MADISONS.BZ](mailto:SG@MADISONS.BZ)

FACEBOOK: MADISONSAA

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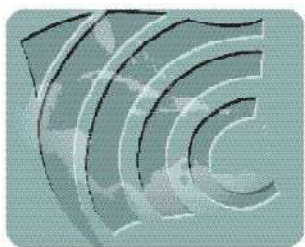
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## Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre

The Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre (CCCCC) has received financing from the European Union for the implementation of the project Intra ACP GCCA + Project “*Enhancing Climate Resilience in CARIFORUM Countries (FED/2018/404-539)*” and intends to apply a part of the proceeds towards a works contract for:

*Supply of Materials and Construction of a Roof Platform/Structure for the Installation of Hydro Panels for a Renewable Water Production System for the Duck Run 1 Polyclinic and Hurricane Shelter, Duck Run 1 Community, Cayo District, Belize C.A.*

The Centre now invites interested and eligible contractors to submit bids. More details on the works can be found in the bidding documents. To request a complete package of the bidding documents please send an email to [corellano@caribbeanclimate.bz](mailto:corellano@caribbeanclimate.bz).

A site visit is scheduled for **Thursday July 25th, 2024, at 10:00 a.m.** in Duck Run 1, Polyclinic and Hurricane Shelter compound. Please confirm participation by sending an email to [corellano@caribbeanclimate.bz](mailto:corellano@caribbeanclimate.bz) by Wednesday July 24th, 2024.

Requests for Clarification: email to [corellano@caribbeanclimate.bz](mailto:corellano@caribbeanclimate.bz) Attention: Cindy Orellano, Lead Procurement Officer. Requests for clarification should be received by the Centre no later than: **Monday July 29th, 2024.**

Interested contractors are required to submit their bids **on or before 4:00pm (GMT-6), Wednesday August 7, 2024.**

Bowen  
Bowen

We're  
Hiring!

Logistics Planning Manager

Ladyville, Belize District

The position is to:

- Develop strategic plans for warehousing, dispatching, distribution, and management of floating assets.
- Oversee and guide primary dispatch planning to ensure timely product delivery to depots.
- Enhance warehousing and distribution operations at depots.
- Assist in structuring and analyzing expenditure and operational key performance indicators (KPIs).

The position requirements are:

- Bachelor Degree in Logistics, Supply Chain Management, or related field
- Experience in Logistics or Supply Chain Management
- Proficiency in data analysis and KPI management
- Strong strategic planning and project management skills

Application Deadline: August 09, 2024

Shortlisted applicants will be contacted for interviews. If you are not contacted within three (3) weeks after the application deadline, we welcome your application for any other vacancy.

Join our Bowen & Bowen Family of 1,200+ who are united in Pursuing Excellence for a Stronger Belize.

Apply: [bowen.bz](https://www.bowen.bz)

Bowen  
Bowen

We're  
Hiring!

Production Planning Director

Ladyville, Belize District

The position is to:

- Oversee and support the overall strategy and execution of supply chain management functions to enhance business performance.
- Manage forecast projections and develop plans to achieve production and inventory objectives.
- Monitor inventory levels, analyze consumption patterns, and optimize procurement strategies.
- Evaluate and report on supply chain planning key performance indicators (KPIs).

The position requirements are:

- Bachelor Degree in Supply Chain Management, Industrial Engineering or related; advanced degree and certifications is a plus
- Experience in production planning, materials planning, and warehouse management within the industrial manufacturing sector
- Strong critical thinking, problem-solving and analytical skills
- Fluency in both English and Spanish

Application Deadline: August 09, 2024

Shortlisted applicants will be contacted for interviews. If you are not contacted within three (3) weeks after the application deadline, we welcome your application for any other vacancy.

Join our Bowen & Bowen Family of 1,200+ who are united in Pursuing Excellence for a Stronger Belize.

Apply: [bowen.bz](https://www.bowen.bz)



**BY ORDER OF THE MORTGAGEES**

Pursuant to The Belize Bank Limited Undertaking (Belize Bank Corporation Limited Operations) Vesting Act, 2021 and The Belize Bank Limited Undertaking (Belize Bank Corporation Limited Operations) Vesting Act (Appointed Day) Order, 2021, **THE BELIZE BANK LIMITED**, a company duly formed and incorporated under the Laws of Belize with registered office situate at Suite 201 Belize Bank Centre, Coney Drive, Belize City Belize (the “Bank”) acquired the undertaking of Belize Bank Corporation Limited (formerly Scotiabank (Belize) Ltd.).

The Bank thus hereby gives notice of its intention to exercise its power of sale under a Deed of Mortgage between The Bank of Nova Scotia of the one part and Frank Arzu and Estanislau Arzu (hereinafter called “the Mortgagor”) of the second part which was filed at the Land Titles Unit in Belmopan City on 17<sup>th</sup> March 2000 in Deeds Book Vol 12 of 2000 at Folios 1043-1066. The Bank will at the expiration of two months from the date of the first publication of this notice sell the property of the Mortgagors described in the SCHEDULES hereto.

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

**THE SCHEDULE ABOVE  
REFERRED TO AS**

ALL THAT piece or parcel of land being Lot No. 104 comprising 7,405 square feet situate in Hopkins Village, Stann Creek District, bounded and described as shown by Plan No. 291 of 1990 attached to Ministers Fiat Grant No. 291 of 1990 TOGETHER with all buildings and erections standing and being thereon.

Of

Dated the 10<sup>th</sup> July 2024

**The Belize Bank Limited**  
Suite 201  
Belize Bank Centre  
Coney Drive,  
Belize City

**BY ORDER OF THE MORTGAGEES**

Pursuant to The Belize Bank Limited Undertaking (Belize Bank Corporation Limited Operations) Vesting Act, 2021 and The Belize Bank Limited Undertaking (Belize Bank Corporation Limited Operations) Vesting Act (Appointed Day) Order, 2021, **THE BELIZE BANK LIMITED**, a company duly formed and incorporated under the Laws of Belize with registered office situate at The Belize Bank Limited Suite 201, Belize Bank Centre, Coney Drive, Belize City, Belize (the “Bank”) acquired the undertaking of Belize Bank Corporation Limited (formerly Scotiabank (Belize) Ltd.).

The Bank thus hereby gives notice of its intention to exercise its power of sale under:

Deed of Mortgage between Scotia Bank (Belize) Ltd. of the one part and Floriana Shol (hereinafter called “the Mortgagors”) of the second part which was filed at the Land Titles Unit in Belmopan City on the 7th Day of February 2014 being instrument: LTU-201400242. The Bank will at the expiration of two months from the date of the first publication of this notice sell the property of the Mortgagors described in the SCHEDULES hereto.

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

**THE SCHEDULE ABOVE  
REFERRED TO AS**

ALL THAT piece or parcel of land being Lot No. 60 (1204.62 Square Meters) situate in San Pedro Columbia Village, Toledo District, Belize bounded and described as shown by Plan No. 38 of 2011 TOGETHER with all buildings and erections and developments standing and being thereon.

Dated the 15th of July 2024

**The Belize Bank Limited**  
Suite 201  
Belize Bank Centre  
Coney Drive,  
Belize City, Belize.

**Expressions of Interest to Purchase  
Properties in Belmopan City, Belize**

**Lot #2**

1991.768 square meters of land bordered to the North by Bliss Parade and to the West by Lot 4970 and to the East by Lot 972. Lot #2 is being marketed as a combined sale of both the CDMA building as well as the adjoining Lot 972 as described.

**Lot #3**

5.589 acres of land formerly described as Lot Number 972 and bounded to the West by Lot 6109 and Lot 6108 and to the East by Lots 5625, and 5626, to the South Lots 6095 and 6094.




**Bidders are invited to make an offer for one or both lots. Single and combined lot sales will be considered.**

Interested? Email [icleverly@livedigi.com](mailto:icleverly@livedigi.com) to request a copy of the Bidding Pack as well as to arrange for site visits.







#7 Central American Blvd  
Belize City, Belize  
+501-222-4757 Ext. 1408  
pr@bws.com.bz  
www.bws.bz

NOTICE TO MINORITY SHAREHOLDERS

No.: 202406-27-1

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING:

Notice is hereby given that the 23rd Annual General Meeting of Belize Water Services Limited (BWS) will be held at the SCA Mercy Center Auditorium on Friday, August 30, 2024 commencing at 7:00 p.m.

Shareholders who wish to appoint a proxy, may submit written questions to [shareholderinfo@bws.com.bz](mailto:shareholderinfo@bws.com.bz) by 3:00 p.m. on Friday, August 16, 2024.

DIVIDENDS:


The Board of Directors of BWS is pleased to announce dividends of 7.5 cents (\$0.075) per share (equivalent to 5%) for the year ending March 31, 2024.

Shareholders are reminded that this year's dividend payments are being paid via direct deposit to your bank or credit union account. If you have not yet provided BWS with your banking information, please email, call or WhatsApp message us to obtain the banking update form. The completed form must be returned to BWS no later than Friday, July 12, 2024. Direct Deposit payments will be processed by August 4, 2024.

For shareholder information, kindly contact us at:  
Email: [shareholderinfo@bws.com.bz](mailto:shareholderinfo@bws.com.bz); Telephone: +501-222-5155; or send a WhatsApp message to 613-5382.

BWS: Delivering Water and More...

TENDER



REPLACEMENT OF HIGH-PRESSURE SODIUM STREETLIGHT TO LED – COUNTRYWIDE

Interested bidders are invited to a **virtual pre-bid meeting at 9:00 a.m. local time on Tuesday July 16, 2024**. The bidding Documents for the services required and the terms of reference and scope of work for the services will be discussed at this meeting.

Access to the link for the meeting can be obtained by sending an email to [bidboxrequest@bel.com.bz](mailto:bidboxrequest@bel.com.bz) using the email subject **"Expression of Interest BID #2024-2408 Replacement of HPS Streetlight to LED – Countrywide"** no later than **Wednesday July 10, 2024**.


Bidders will be required to submit a proposal and fixed price quotation no later than **3:00 P.M. on Wednesday, July 31, 2024** via email.

Email address: [bidsubmittal@bel.com.bz](mailto:bidsubmittal@bel.com.bz)  
Email subject: **BID #2024-2408 Replacement of HPS Streetlight to LED – Countrywide**

Proposals will be accepted by email only and should include the

For more information or queries, send email to [bidboxrequest@bel.com.bz](mailto: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.



Tel: +(501) 610-2142  
Customs & Excise Headquarters  
Caesar Ridge Rd, Belize City  
[cbccbelize@gmail.com](mailto:cbccbelize@gmail.com)

PUBLIC NOTICE

2024 CUSTOMS BROKERS EXAMINATION

The Board has commenced the registration process for 2024-2025 examination.

1. Kindly contact us by Email ([cbccbelize@gmail.com](mailto:cbccbelize@gmail.com)) for a registration form.
2. Deposit can be made to Atlantic Bank #100305493 – Customs Brokers and Customs Clerks Board.
3. Payment receipt of \$50.00 exam fee must be emailed to [cbccbelize@gmail.com](mailto:cbccbelize@gmail.com) by no later than September 30,2024.
4. Registrants will receive a confirmation email upon submission of payment receipt. If within 5 days a confirmation email has not been received, the registrant must verify spam/junk folder prior to enquiring their status.
5. Syllabus fee of \$200.00 (Optional)

-----END-----



# Hurricane Beryl damage payout of US\$2.2M received by Grenada’s NAWASA

*by Kristen Ku*

BELIZE CITY, Wed. July 24, 2024

Following the devastation caused by Hurricane Beryl on July 1, the National Water and Sewerage Authority (NAWASA) of Grenada has been awarded a payout of US \$2,201,833 (EC\$5.9 million). This funding is aimed at repairing and restoring the damaged water and wastewater systems across Grenada, including the islands of Carriacou and Petite Martinique.

This payout comes from the Caribbean Water Utilities Insurance Collective Segregated Portfolio (CWUIC SP), a new insurance program, supported by the UK government and designed to help Caribbean water utilities recover from natural disasters.

The initiative is also seen as a step towards encouraging other regional water utilities to protect their services

through similar insurance.

CWUIC SP was launched in September 2023 by the Caribbean Catastrophe Risk Insurance Facility (CCRIF), the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), the UK Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO), and the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB).

This program, housed within CCRIF, offers insurance solutions specifically for the water and wastewater sector in the Caribbean. This specific portfolio structure allows for customized insurance products that address the specific risks faced by these utilities.

The insurance covers extreme weather events such as hurricanes, tropical storms, and heavy rainfall. NAWASA, along with Dominica Water and Sewerage Company Limited (DOWASCO) and Belize Water Services (BWS), was the first to purchase coverage from CWUIC SP.



Cheque for US\$2.2M handed over from CWUIC SP’s team lead, Christopher Husbands, to NAWASA’s General Manager, Terrence Smith (Courtesy Caribbean News Service)

The timing of NAWASA’s insurance purchase proved fortunate, as it was completed just before Hurricane Beryl struck.

The establishment of CWUIC SP involved mobilizing \$8.8 million in grant resources. This included \$8.2 million from the IDB Group, with \$5.6 million provided by the UK Government through FCDO. The funds were used for technical assistance and premium subsidies to support water utilities in six Caribbean countries.

Additional contributions came from IDB-managed multi-donor trust funds, the Climate Investment Funds, and The Coca-Cola Foundation. The Caribbean Development Bank also contributed \$650,000 for technical assistance, while FCDO provided \$25 million in development aid to CCRIF to help fund CWUIC SP.

The CWUIC SP not only offers insurance but also supports emergency response planning, post-disaster restoration, and provides advisory services to improve resilience against natural hazards. The payout to NAWASA is part of a larger sum of \$55.57 million paid to Grenada by CCRIF, including funds for the government and Grenada’s electric utility, GRENLEC.

With around 35 water utilities across 29 Caribbean territories identified as potential clients, CWUIC SP represents a step in improving the strength of water infrastructure in the face of increasing natural disaster risks.



### Consultancy Service for the Design of the Supplier’s Development Program including governance establishment, procurement and selection processes

**Institution:** Ministry of Economic Development  
**Country:** Belize  
**Project:** Trade and Investment Facilitation Program in Belize (TIFP)  
**Sector:** Trade and Investment  
**Abstract:** This project aims to promote Belize’s foreign direct investment and trade performance.  
**Loan No.:** 5582/OC-BL  
**Process ID:** BL-L1040-P00014  
**Profile:** Individual Consultancy  
**Deadline:** Friday, August 16, 2024; 10:00 a.m. (Local Belize Time)

The Government of Belize has received eight million US Dollars (US \$8M) in loan financing from the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) for the implementation of the Project – Trade and Investment Facilitation Program in Belize (TIFP). The Trade and Investment Facilitation Program is a response to the low investment flows and limited international trade competitiveness faced by Belize. The general objective of the program is to promote Belize’s foreign direct investment and trade performance.

The specific objectives are to:

- (i) improve investment facilitation through simplification, standardization, and automation of key investment procedures;
- (ii) improve the investment promotion tools and MSMEs internationalization through the strengthening of the trade and investment institutional apparatus; and
- (iii) improve trade facilitation through simplifying, standardizing, and automating key trade processes.

The program is comprised of three (3) components that will support achievement of the objectives:

Component 1. Facilitate Investments in Belize through the Implementation of a Single Investment Window - This component will contribute to simplifying and automating key investment procedures through the implementation of the Single Investment Window

Component 2. Investment Promotion and Export Development - This component seeks to increase the positive spillovers of FDI in the local economy through the improvement of investment promotion programs and the development of a new suppliers’ program to accelerate MSMEs internationalization, which will promote the growth of direct and indirect exports of the local firms in Belize.

Component 3. Trade Facilitation - This component will contribute to reducing delays associated with administrative trade procedures by strengthening trade facilitation through the implementation of a Foreign Trade Single Window.


In this regard, the Ministry is now launching the process to fill a contractual position, **Consultancy Service for the Design of the Supplier’s Development Program including governance establishment, procurement and selection processes** under the Project. The objective of this consultancy is the design of a Supplier Development Program (SDP) to establish a structured framework that systematically enhances the capabilities and performance of a supplier base. This program aims to develop collaborative and sustainable partnerships/commercial relations between multinational companies (MNCs) / large companies (LEs) with local suppliers, driving mutual growth and delivering value across the supply chain.

The Ministry of Economic Development now invites eligible Individual Consultants to submit applications in providing the services. Further information, including the required template for the application and full Terms of References, can be obtained via <https://med.gov.bz/>, by emailing [tjoseph.ceu@med.gov.bz](mailto:tjoseph.ceu@med.gov.bz) or calling 501-672-0848 during the hours 8:00 am – 4:30 pm from Mondays to Fridays prior to **August 9, 2024**. Interested Consultants should provide information demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the Services.

Consultants will be selected in accordance with the procedures set out in the Inter-American Development Bank: Policies for the Selection and Contracting of Consultants financed by the Inter-American Development Bank GN-2350-15 and is open to all eligible candidates as defined in the policies. The Consultants will be selected based on qualifications.

Qualified Consultants should submit one (1) signed pdf application in English, using the required template via e-mail to [tjoseph.ceu@med.gov.bz](mailto:tjoseph.ceu@med.gov.bz) indicating in the subject - “**Consultancy Service for the Design of the SPD– BL-L1040**”.

**The Deadline for submission is no later than August 16, 2024**, by 10:00 a.m. Local Belize Time. No late submissions will be accepted.



## AMANDALA

### Belizean to the bone

#3304 Amandala Drive (formerly Partridge St.), Belize City.

[amandalapress@yahoo.com](mailto:amandalapress@yahoo.com)





Se me llenaron los ojos de lágrimas, como estoy seguro de que les brotó a los ojos de millones de personas negras en todo el planeta Tierra, cuando Barack Obama, hijo de padre africano (keniano) y madre estadounidense blanca, fue elegido Presidente de Estados Unidos de América en 2008.

Un par de semanas después de su toma de posesión, Barack y su esposa estaban celebrando una función social en la Casa Blanca cuando aparecieron uno o dos invitados extraños que no habían sido invitados. Aquellos de nosotros que somos cínicos, llegamos a la conclusión de que el servicio secreto estadounidense estaba enviando un mensaje al señor Obama: usted no está a salvo; le pueden pasar cosas.

La elección de un hombre de color al

liderazgo de la nación más poderosa del mundo fue más simbólica que cualquier otra cosa. Barack era propiedad y estaba controlado por las mismas fuerzas que poseen y controlan a cualquier otro presidente de Estados Unidos.

Han sido unos días emocionantes en la política estadounidense desde que el presidente Joe Biden, del Partido Demócrata, anunció durante el fin de semana que renunciaba como candidato presidencial de su partido para las elecciones de noviembre de 2024, y luego respaldó a su vicepresidenta, Kamala Harris, para postularse como la candidata demócrata contra el republicano Donald Trump en las elecciones presidenciales de este noviembre.

Kamala Harris, muy bien calificada y experimentada en la vida pública, es hija de padre jamaicano de color y madre india (asiática). Por lo tanto, entusiasmó a los estadounidenses de color y también a las fuerzas del empoderamiento de las mujeres que están luchando contra la prohibición del aborto, que ahora es posible gracias al levantamiento de las protecciones Roe vs Wade por parte de una Corte Suprema controlada por los republicanos.

Me conmovieron el discurso y el comportamiento de Kamala, por no hablar de su buena apariencia, pero el precedente de Obama me dice que no puedo esperar nada de ella, si es elegida presidenta, que sería diferente de la administración de cualquier otro

presidente estadounidense, quienes todos han sido considerados caucásicos (a pesar de las protestas de J. A. Rogers), excepto Barack.

Ahora les pido indulgencia para reproducir una sección de un artículo publicado en *The London Review of Books* con fecha del 22 de febrero de 2018. El artículo se titula “¿Por qué a los blancos les gusta lo que escribo?” y está escrito por un tal Pankaj Mishra y es esencialmente una reseña de un libro de Ta-Nehisi Coates, que se titula *WE WERE EIGHT YEARS IN POWER: AN AMERICAN TRAGEDY [TENÍAMOS OCHO AÑOS EN EL PODER: UNA TRAGEDIA ESTADOUNIDENSE]*. Los párrafos que se reproducen a continuación del artículo de Mishra aparecen en la página 19 de ese *London Review* en particular.



REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

Consultancy Services to Support the Procurement of Supply, Installation, Operation, Maintenance and Disposal of 40 MW Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) for Power Sector of Belize.

**Institution:** Ministry of Finance, Economic Development and Investment  
**Country:** Belize  
**Project:** Belize Renewable Integration and Resilient Energy System Project  
**Sector:** Energy  
**Abstract:** The project’s implementation includes the procurement of several contracts that falls in the following categories: goods, consulting (individuals and firms) and non-consulting services to increase the supply of electricity consumption from renewable energy sources to achieve the target set out in the Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) of 75% of gross electricity generation from renewables by 2030.  
**Grant No.:** TFC2805-BZ  
**Process ID:** BZ-CEU-429313-CS-QCBS  
**Deadline:** August 8, 2024; on or before 2:00 p.m. (Local Belize Time)

The Government of Belize has received financing from the World Bank (WB), and it intends to apply part of the proceeds to payments for goods, consulting (individuals and firms) and non-consulting services to be procured under the project Belize Renewable Integration and Resilient Energy System Project. Bidding will be governed by the World Bank’s eligibility rules and procedures.

**Objectives:**  
The objective of this consultancy is to provide support and advice to the CEU to the Ministry of Economic Development, and the Ministry of Public Utilities, Energy, Logistics and E-governance, as appointed by Government of Belize (GoB), in all phases of the implementation of the BESS for this project for the power sector of the country as per GoB and World Bank guidelines and rules.

The Ministry of Finance, Economic Development and Investment now invites eligible consulting firms (“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.

From the expressions of interest received, the Executing Agency will prepare a short list comprising not fewer than five (5) and not more than eight (8) eligible firms.

Consultants will be selected in accordance with the procedures set out in the World Bank: [Procurement-Regulations-September-2023.pdf \(worldbank.org\)](#) and is open to all eligible bidders as defined in the policies.

Consultants may associate with other firms in the form of a joint venture to enhance their qualifications. For the purpose of establishing the short list, the nationality of a firm is that of the country in which it is legally incorporated or constituted and in the case of Joint Venture, the nationality of the firm appointed to represent it.

A Consultant will be selected in accordance with the QCBS method set out in the Consultant Policies.

For further information & Expression of Interest template may be requested via email during the hours of 8:00am – 4:00pm Mon - Fri.

Expressions of interest must be delivered in a written form (1 PDF file) to the email address [tjohnston.ceu@med.gov.bz](mailto:tjohnston.ceu@med.gov.bz) by **August 8, 2024**, on or before 2:00 pm Belize Time. Subject must include – **Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) - name of Consulting Firm.**

Therese Johnston  
Procurement Specialist Assistant  
Central Executing Unit to the Ministry of Economic Development  
#1904 Constitution Drive, 2nd Floor  
Belmopan City, Cayo District, Belize  
E-mail: [tjohnston.ceu@med.gov.bz](mailto:tjohnston.ceu@med.gov.bz) cc [rpascascio.ceu@med.gov.bz](mailto:rpascascio.ceu@med.gov.bz)  
Tel: 501-822-4106

Hubo señales durante la campaña de Obama, en particular su afán por reivindicar la aprobación de Henry Kissinger, que decepcionaría cruelmente las esperanzas de sus jóvenes partidarios de tendencia izquierdista de una transformación trascendental. Sus acciones en el cargo pronto dejaron en claro que se había producido alguna versión de enganche y engaño. Obama había condenado la guerra aérea en el sur de Asia como inmoral debido a su elevado número de víctimas civiles, pero tres días después de su toma de posesión ordenó ataques con aviones no tripulados en Pakistán, y en su primer año supervisó más ataques con un alto número de víctimas civiles de los que Bush había ordenado en toda su presidencia. Su belicoso discurso al aceptar el Premio Nobel de la Paz señaló que fortalecería, en lugar de dismantelar, la arquitectura de la guerra indefinida contra el terrorismo, al tiempo que descartaría parte de su retórica fatua. Durante sus ocho años en el cargo, amplió las operaciones encubiertas y los ataques aéreos en lo más profundo de África; Al rodear el continente con bases militares estadounidenses, expuso gran parte del mismo a la violencia, la anarquía y el gobierno tiránico. No sólo amplió la vigilancia masiva y las operaciones gubernamentales de extracción de datos en su país, y procesó despiadadamente a los denunciantes, sino que dotó a su oficina del poder letal para ejecutar a cualquier persona, incluso a ciudadanos estadounidenses, en cualquier parte del mundo.

Obama denunció ocasionalmente a los “peces gordos” de Wall Street, pero Wall Street contribuyó en gran medida a su campaña, y le confió su política económica al principio de su mandato, rescatando bancos y la megacompañía de seguros AIG sin toma y daca. Los afroamericanos habían acudido a las urnas en cifras récord en 2008, demostrando su amor por un aparente compatriota, pero Obama se aseguró de que sería



FROM THE PUBLISHER TUESDAY  
ONLINE ISSUE

Reproduced from page 7 of  
the Tuesday, July 23, 2024,  
#3759 issue of Amandala

As late as 1988, when Franklin Patterson wrote his very important paper on the history of the Guatemalan military academy, the population of Guatemala was 54 percent Maya, and oppressed.

Although the Hon. Florencio Marin, Sr., Minister of Natural Resources from 1965 to 1984 under Rt. Hon. George Cadle Price, was very friendly with my late uncle, James V. Hyde, who was Lands Commissioner for many years under Mr. Marin’s leadership, Hon. Florencio and I were distant from each other until six or so years ago.

Mr. Florencio said he was just 22 when he was first elected area representative for Corozal South in 1965, and was given the Natural Resources portfolio.

In the first general election held in British Honduras under a new Ministerial constitution in 1961, Jesus Ken had been elected area representative for Corozal South with an 85 percent majority. He was very, very popular with cane farmers, and he was a militant, so militant that it appears that Mr. Price felt that he had to replace him in order to keep the peace with the British, who controlled the transnational Tate & Lyle and were looking to make a major investment in the Tower Hill sugar factory in Orange Walk Town. (Previously, there had only been a Pembroke Hall sugar factory in Corozal.)

It is an indication of how powerful Mr.

Price was in 1964 that he was able to replace the very popular Hon. Ken with the young Florencio, who was a humble schoolteacher at Copper Bank at the time. I believe the late Ray Lightburn played a major role in influencing the candidate convention in Florencio’s favor.

It is fairly certain that Mr. Ken is a descendant of a leading family amongst the Santa Cruz Maya in southeastern Yucatan, and I believe Mr. Marin also has Maya ancestry, although he carries a Hispanic surname.

It is not clear to me when it was exactly that Mr. Price began a campaign on the government-controlled radio station wherein he discussed and emphasized Belize’s Maya past in order to legitimize, so to speak, Belize’s drive for self-rule in the form of self-government, which was achieved in January of 1964, and political independence.

The thing is that no one knew much about the details of Maya history in the region, because the Maya hieroglyphics (code) were not “broken” until 1973. And Nelson Reed did not publish his historic work on Yucatan’s Caste War (1847-1903) until 1963. There were a couple writings about the Caste War, but these were written in Spanish.

A few years ago, after Mr. Florencio and I became more cordial, I asked him about Mr. Price’s Mayanization campaign. He said that he believed that

Mr. Price had sent the late Rudy Castillo to Merida to do research. This would have been in the early/middle 1960s, because it was happening before I went abroad to school in 1965.

There was a backlash to Mr. Price’s Mayanization campaign amongst black youth in Belize City. These youth were not black conscious. Belize was very isolated regionally and internationally at the time. We knew absolutely nothing about the Haitian Revolution in 1791, *apartheid* in South Africa, and the imprisonment of the iconic Nelson Mandela in 1963. But we knew that we were not Maya, and it is for this reason that UBAD became so popular in 1969.

Since Nelson Reed first published his Caste War treatise in 1963, there has been an explosion in studies having to do with the Yucatan amongst the academics in American universities.

Perhaps the leading researcher and publisher in the sociology and history of the Yucatan, especially insofar as Yucatecans of African and Maya descent are concerned, is Professor Matthew Restall of Penn State University. One of my friends in the United States (he’s actually a regular columnist in this newspaper) told me last week that he had actually met Matthew Restall recently.

I was excited, and began thinking about the possibilities insofar as some academic

institution here perhaps organizing a visit to Belize by Professor Restall. Our young Belizean students know next to nothing about the real history of Belize, located as it is between Guatemala’s Peten and Mexico’s Yucatan.

There was a divisive ethnicity game played by the British here during their colonial rule. The Garifuna were excluded from the civil service, and ended up being recruited by the Roman Catholic Church to teach in the rural areas of Belize. It seemed the people of Mestizo/Maya descent were also excluded from government service, but the discrimination against the Garifuna was more blatant, because the Garifuna had been here from the early nineteenth century, whereas the Mestizo and the Maya did not begin drifting in from the north until the latter part of the nineteenth century.

Creole leadership in Belize never acknowledged the reality of the discrimination being practised by the colonial British. They focused on condemning Mr. Price for “Latinization,” and they basically migrated to the United States.

The institutions of higher learning in Belize do not want to examine our British colonial past. If they did, they would have to admit that there was discrimination here which favored the clerical Creoles.

PUBLIC AUCTION SALES  
Dangriga Town, Independence Village & Punta Gorda Town

BY ORDER of the Mortgagees, Messrs. Heritage Bank Limited, Licensed Auctioneer Fitzgerald A. Joseph will sell the following properties ON SITE on Saturday the 3rd August, 2024 starting at 9:00 a.m.

Registration Section      Block      Parcel  
Dangriga South              31              1756



Being an elevated concrete house having three bedrooms, two baths, living, dining, kitchen, two porches, verandah and having a cement roof located in the south western side of Dangriga Town together with a parcel of land containing 729.05 square meters together with all buildings and erection standing and being thereon the freehold property of Hilberto Arzu Jr. at 9:00 a.m.



Being Lot 1037 situated in the Malacate area containing 767.64 square yards situated in Independence Village, Stann Creek District the freehold property of Grace Sjogreen at 10:30 a.m.



Being Lot 1758 containing 920.057 square meters situated in Independence Village, Stann Creek District the freehold property of Monique Moguel at 11:00 a.m.

Registration Section      Block      Parcel  
Punta Gorda                  42              1234/1



Being a parcel of land containing 574.08 square yards situated at the Cor. Orange Walk & Stann Creek Streets, in Punta Gorda Town, Toledo District being the leasehold property of Allan Hines Jr. at 2:00 p.m.

TERMS: STRICTLY CASH  
FITZGERALD A. JOSEPH  
TELEPHONE: 601-2039  
Email: [palas105@yahoo.com](mailto:palas105@yahoo.com)



belize bank


Our Country. Your Bank


AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
OF THE BELIZE BANK LIMITED PUBLISHED IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 74(1)  
OF THE DOMESTIC BANKS AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS ACT, 2012

The Belize Bank Limited  
Statement of financial position  
At 31 March 2024  
In Belize dollars

At 31 March	Notes	2024	2023
<strong>Assets</strong>			
Cash and cash equivalents	4	49,911,113	54,891,669
Balances with the Central Bank of Belize	5	439,329,184	507,065,522
Due from banks	6	188,920,813	169,400,791
Loans to customers (net of allowances)	7	972,763,258	874,385,300
Investment securities	8	382,111,300	264,304,492
Other assets and receivables	9	5,799,862	8,001,824
Due from Government of Belize (net of allowance)	10	39,217,891	56,447,426
Property, plant and equipment	11	54,828,491	37,012,614
<strong>Total assets</strong>		<strong>2,132,881,912</strong>	<strong>1,971,509,638</strong>
<strong>Liabilities and equity</strong>			
Customer accounts	12	1,833,925,578	1,744,744,069
Other liabilities and payables	13	26,556,698	21,631,541
<strong>Total liabilities</strong>		<strong>1,860,482,276</strong>	<strong>1,766,375,610</strong>
<strong>Shareholders' equity:</strong>			
Share capital	14	14,000,000	14,000,000
Statutory reserve	3.r	14,000,000	14,000,000
Revaluation reserve	15	15,640,861	-
Other reserves		(39,095)	-
Retained earnings		228,797,870	177,134,028
<strong>Total equity</strong>		<strong>272,399,636</strong>	<strong>205,134,028</strong>
<strong>Total liabilities and equity</strong>		<strong>2,132,881,912</strong>	<strong>1,971,509,638</strong>

The financial statements on pages 4 to 8 were approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Directors on 22 July 2024 and were signed on its behalf by:

  
Filippo Alario  
Executive Chairman

  
Michael Coye  
Chief Financial Officer



Crowe Belize LLP  
35A Regent Street  
Belize City, Belize  
Main +501 227 6629  
www.crowe.bz

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT  
To the Board of Directors of The Belize Bank Limited  
Report on the audit of the financial statements

**Opinion**

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of The Belize Bank Limited (the Bank), which comprise the statement of financial position as of 31 March 2024, the statements of income, comprehensive income, cash flows, changes in equity for the year then ended and explanatory notes to the financial statements including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Bank as of 31 March 2024, and of its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with the financial reporting provisions of the Central Bank of Belize, including the Domestic Banks and Financial Institutions Act as amended (DBFIA) and Practice Directions, and International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS).

**Basis for Opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with the International Standards on Auditing (ISAs). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of the Bank within the meaning of the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants' Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (IESBA Code) together with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Belize, and we have fulfilled our ethical responsibilities under these requirements and the IESBA Code. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

**Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements**

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards and the financial reporting provisions of the Central Bank of Belize including the DBFIA and Practice Directions, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Bank's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Bank or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Bank's financial reporting process.

**Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements**

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users based on these financial statements.

- As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs, we:
- (i) exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit.
  - (ii) identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error; design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks; and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
  - (iii) obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Bank's internal control.
  - (iv) evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
  - (v) conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Bank's ability to continue as a going concern. If we should conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify the opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our report. However, future events or conditions may cause an entity to cease to continue as a going concern.
  - (vi) evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.
  - (vii) obtain sufficient audit evidence regarding the financial information of the Bank to express an opinion on the financial statements. We remain solely responsible for our audit opinion.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

  
Crowe Belize LLP  
Belize City, Belize  
22 July 2024



# The king is dead! Long live the queen!

Tuesday, July 23, 2024

I am waiting for the excitement and the novelty of replacing President Biden with a black, Asian woman to subside, before I can make my predictions about the outcome of the coming elections. So far, it has all been positive; but again, one can get caught up in the moment and throw caution to the wind, only to be disappointed later on.

I voted for Joe Biden, not because he was a Democrat, but because of the man he is. He has suffered great personal losses in his life, he has overcome physical disabilities to reach the pinnacle of power in the United States. I voted for him because I believed that he would protect the interests of ordinary citizens, because of his empathy and his concern for everyone! And I also voted for him because the alternative was too disruptive, in a bad way, and was only in the race for his own benefit, not for we, the people! And to show how unselfish he is, he has relinquished his chance for a second term, for the greater good! Also, because it was

time for him to go! A true patriot!

My opinion is that we should not underestimate, a George W. Bush malapropism, the power of Kamala Harris, her qualifications, and the power of women in this country! A former prosecutor, attorney general of California, a senator from California, and Vice President of the United States! One of my dearest friends reminded me that Hillary was very qualified, but came up short because women sometimes resent successful women. She might be right, but this time there is too much at stake for women, in this race, to be petty or picky!

Women’s rights and women’s health are some of the most important issues in this campaign! Donald Trump and his clone, Vance, are two of the most misogynistic candidates to ever run for office, so there’s that. The Republican Party and their backers want to take us back to a past that reflects their Neanderthal beliefs! They have already started a racist campaign against Miss Harris, which I truly believe will backfire.

All the dog whistles and racist memes, I believe, will hurt them, especially among women of all colors and parties!

This new campaign will be between a seasoned prosecutor and a convicted felon!

Whenever he attacks her, she will remind him of his shortcomings, of which there are too many to mention in a short column! And if he bullies her, which is his trademark, I also believe that will backfire. But as I’ve said before, let the dust settle before we can start celebrating.

Kamala Harris is a much smarter, much more intelligent person than her opponent! While she was prosecuting criminals like him, he was firing contestants on his TV show, ripping off students who paid to attend his fake university, grabbing women by the you-know what, and keeping minorities out of his buildings! The contrast couldn’t be more stark, in my opinion.

I don’t know what will happen in November, but I’m quietly optimistic that the people will see through all the noise and fog and hate and disinformation, and

do the right thing. If the Mexicans, a very macho-oriented society, can elect a woman as president, I believe we can do the same!

My gut instincts tell me that we will do the right thing. Let’s see what voters think, and do, this November! Long live the queen!

Glen

## Juan Garrido, Conquistador!

Continued from Page 13

and that the bwai was the intruder, the colonizer! The reason is because of all that indoctrination foisted upon us by those colonizers!

The Spaniards made it seem as though they were invincible, that a few conquered the many, the savages! Nothing can be farther from the truth. Cortez made alliances with tribes that were hostile to the Aztecs; that, along with the diseases they brought with them, helped to decimate and annihilate the Aztecs, and their superior numbers. Same with Pizarro. Atahualpa, the Inca king, whose vast kingdom included some 12 million inhabitants, was steeped in a vicious civil war, and a small pox plague that had traveled rapidly from the north. Pizarro made alliances with Atahualpa’s enemies, and thus Atahualpa, the god, was defeated and killed!

There were many black conquistadors, of which there is hardly any recognition in Spanish history; after all, they had to project their superiority and dominance over their newly acquired lands! They did not credit the black conquistadors or the native armies that helped in their conquest. White supremacy, my boy! And if you believe for one moment that we, in the Caribbean and America, we alone as black peoples suffered the insufferable as slaves, think again!

Because of the Spanish crown’s insatiable appetite for silver and gold, approximately 7 million slaves lost their lives mining silver in Peru, and elsewhere in South America! 7 million who were not looked upon as humans, but as a means of enriching the coffers of Isabella and Ferdinand, and later Philip! These slaves worked and slept and died in those horrific mines, malnourished and easily disposable and replaceable! This is before the first slaves landed in North America. What a ting!

Look, I’m no historian, but I love history. For me, Columbus was the biggest mass murderer ever! Through his accidental discovery and subsequent colonization of the Indies, and the colonization through later expeditions by others, of North and South America, he unleashed the near extinction of many races and cultures! Through scholars like Restall, and many others, we are beginning to see history not through rose-colored lenses, but the naked truth!

As for those black conquistadors, they were caught up in the zeitgeist of the Old World, conquering and oppressing others, while their own were being viciously oppressed! See the irony in that?

By the way, many of the earliest cowboys were black! Just saying.

My only desire is to always make you think, maybe you learn something new. Maybe you will look at the world and life differently. But then again, what do I know?

Glen



### JOB VACANCY

#### Consultancy Services for a Project Engineer

Country: Belize  
Name of Project: General Hospital Project for San Pedro Town and Caye Caulker Village, Belize District, Belize  
Assignment Title: Consultancy Services for a Project Engineer  
Deadline: August 9th, 2024, at 10:00 a.m.

The Government of Belize has received financing from the Republic of China (Taiwan) toward the cost of the General Hospital for San Pedro Town and Caye Caulker Village, Belize District and intends to apply part of the proceeds for consulting services. The Central Executing Unit to the Ministry of Economic Development, an executing agency of the Borrower, intends to apply a portion of the proceeds of this grant to perform the consulting services (hereinafter called “Services”): **Consultancy Services for a Project Engineer.**

The objective of the position of **Project Engineer** is to be responsible for conducting technical, environmental, financial, and sustainability appraisals for both projects. In addition, the Project Engineer shall be responsible for the monitoring of the project along with the Project Manager for the smooth administration and successful implementation of the “General Hospital Project for San Pedro Town and Caye Caulker Village, Belize District” in accordance with procedures and obligations specified in the Agreement and the Government of Belize (GOB) Procurement Guidelines. The duration of the consultancy is for a period of three (3) years. The detailed Terms of Reference (TOR) for the assignment can be obtained at the email address given below.

The Ministry of Economic Development now invites eligible individual (“Consultant”) 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.

A Consultant will be selected in accordance with the Individual Selection method set out in the Government of Belize – Public Procurement Procedures Handbook – Volume I – Standardized Procurement Procedures First Edition – January 2013.

Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Expressions of interest must be delivered in a written form (1 PDF file) to the email address [khamilton.ceu@med.gov.bz](mailto:khamilton.ceu@med.gov.bz) by August 9th, 2024, at 10:00 a.m.

#### Address for requesting documents, information and submitting CV:

Karon Hamilton  
Procurement Specialist Assistant  
E-mail: [khamilton.ceu@med.gov.bz](mailto:khamilton.ceu@med.gov.bz)  
Tel: 501-822-4106





# REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

## Independent Expert to Review PUC’s Initial Decision on BEL’s 2024 Full Tariff Review Proceedings

The Public Utilities Commission (PUC) is conducting a Full Tariff Review Proceeding (FTRP) for the determination of Regulated Values and Tariffs, Fees and Charges, and a Mean Electricity Rate (MER) for Belize Electricity Limited (BEL) for the Full Tariff Period (FTP) of November 1, 2024 to June 30, 2028. The PUC issued an Initial Decision on the FTRP (the “Initial Decision”) on June 29, 2024. On July 23, 2024, BEL filed an objection to the Initial Decision.

Pursuant to Section 23 and 24 of the Electricity (Tariffs, Fees and Charges) Byelaws, as amended, the PUC is required to appoint an Independent Expert to review the Initial Decision and the merits of BEL’s objection. All relevant information/documentation will be made available to the expert by the PUC and BEL.

PUC now invites eligible applicants to submit Expression of Interest for the provision of this consulting services.

**Duration**

It is expected that the Independent Expert shall issue a written report to the PUC within thirty (30) days of appointment.

**Shortlisting Criteria**

- A. Eligibility
  - Recognized competence in engineering, economics, law, finance, utility management or business
  - Minimum 10 years of relevant professional experience
  - Working in or with a small regulated electric utility (< 500 MW) such as in Belize / the Caribbean in the last 5 years is preferred
- B. Skills and Knowledge in Specific Areas of Expertise
  - Have proven experience and understanding of electric utility practice in respect of price regulation systems and its components (efficiency analysis, cost allocation, finance, setting of asset base, WACC, quality targets, etc.)
  - Previous experience working in a regulatory environment is preferred
  - Proficient (oral and written) in the English language
  - Proven capability to draft technical texts in the English language

PUC reserves the right to request any additional documentary evidence from applicant(s), if necessary.

**Submission of Application**

A complete application shall include the following:

- 1) Cover letter – highlighting analogous undertakings and relevant professional experience for this assignment
- 2) Curriculum Vitae
- 3) Consultancy Fees

*Please note that personal data will be protected and strict codes of confidentiality will be applied.*

**Appointment Timeframe**

The PUC shall appoint an Independent Expert no later than August 5, 2024. To meet this deadline applicants are being asked to respond to this Expression of Interest within the timeline outlined below. Information about the outcome of the selection procedure shall be made available to applicants by August 5, 2024 in writing.

**Other Information**

No correspondence will be exchanged on the status of the application except in the case of a final decision, positive or negative. Applicants are requested not to enquire about the progress of their application neither by email, telephone or by letter. For questions or queries prior to the submission of the application, please submit emails to [info@puc.bz](mailto:info@puc.bz) or call +501-223-4938 during office hours 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. local time on Monday through Thursday, and 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. local time on Fridays.

Further information and the Terms of Reference (TOR) can be obtained at [www.puc.bz](http://www.puc.bz)

**Deadline**

Expression of Interest must be received at the address provided below no later than 10:00 a.m. local time on Tuesday, July 30, 2024. Email submissions should include the name and address of the applicant and labelled “Expression of Interest – Independent Expert for Initial Decision on BEL’s 2024 FTRP”.

**Public Utilities Commission**  
2nd Floor Marina Towers, New Town Barracks, Belize City, Belize  
Re: Expression of Interest – Independent Expert for Initial Decision on BEL’s 2024 FTRP  
Email: [info@puc.bz](mailto:info@puc.bz)



BY ORDER OF THE MORTGAGEES

Pursuant to The Belize Bank Limited Undertaking (Belize Bank Corporation Limited Operations) Vesting Act, 2021 and The Belize Bank Limited Undertaking (Belize Bank Corporation Limited Operations) Vesting Act (Appointed Day) Order, 2021, THE BELIZE BANK LIMITED, a company duly formed and incorporated under the Laws of Belize with registered office situate at The Belize Bank Limited Suite 201, Belize Bank Centre, Coney Drive, Belize City, Belize (the “Bank”) acquired the undertaking of Belize Bank Corporation Limited (formerly Scotiabank (Belize) Ltd.).

The Bank thus hereby gives notice of its intention to exercise its power of sale under:

Deed of Mortgage between Scotia Bank (Belize) Ltd. of the one part and Ruby Mesh (hereinafter called “the Mortgagors”) of the second part which was filed at the Land Titles Unit in Belmopan City on the 4<sup>th</sup> Day of May 2013 being instrument: LTU-201300591. The Bank will at the expiration of two months from the date of the first publication of this notice sell the property of the Mortgagors described in the SCHEDULES hereto.

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

THE SCHEDULE ABOVE  
REFERRED TO AS

ALL THAT piece or parcel of land being “A Lot” situate in San Antonio Village, Cayo District, Belize bounded as follows: On the Northeast for 29.407 Meters by land now or formerly held by Rubio Tzib; On the Southeast for 19.965 Meters by land now or formerly held by Rubio Tzib; on the Southwest for 20.847 Meters by land now or formerly National Lands; And on the Northwest for 22.573 Meters by a 40 Feet wide Street; Containing 520.080 square meters of land as shown on Entry No.12202 Register 4 at the office of the Commissioner of Lands and surveys TOGETHER with all buildings and erections standing and being thereon.

Dated the 25<sup>th</sup> of July 2024

The Belize Bank Limited  
Suite 201  
Belize Bank Centre  
Coney Drive,  
Belize City, Belize.



Public Notice

ISSUED: JULY 23, 2024

BEL SUBMITS FORMAL OBJECTION  
TO PUC’S INITIAL DECISION

Today, Tuesday, July 23, 2024, Belize Electricity Limited (BEL) formally submitted its objection to the Public Utilities Commission’s (PUC) Initial Decision under the Full Tariff Review Proceedings (FTRP) 2024 (the “Initial Decision”).

The next step in the electricity FTRP process, pursuant to the Electricity (Tariffs, Fees and Charges) Byelaws, as amended, is for the PUC to appoint an **Independent Expert** to consider the PUC’s Initial Decision and the merits of BEL’s objections to said decisions.

The Independent Expert’s role is to carefully consider the objections raised by BEL, taking into account PUC’s rationale in its decision, and to offer recommendations to the Commission for consideration.

The PUC aims to issue an Expression of Interest this week to engage the services of an Independent Expert as soon as possible.

A copy of **BEL’s objection and PUC’s Initial Decision** can be viewed in its entirety at [www.puc.bz](http://www.puc.bz).

Expressions of Interest  
to Purchase Property at 13.5 Mls.  
Philip Goldson Highway, Belize

Aquarius Villa (Land & Building)

The subject property is situated at approximately 340 feet east of the Junction of the Philip Goldson Highway and the Burrell Boom-Hattieville Road, Belize District, Belize.

The building comprises of a total floor area (Comprising of the ground floor and the first floor) of approximately 3,917 square feet. The property also includes 0.86 acres of Land.

Interested?

Email [icleverly@livedigi.com](mailto:icleverly@livedigi.com) to request a copy of the Bidding Pack as well as to arrange for site visits.







BELIZE CITY COUNCIL NOTICE TO ABATE NUISANCE

Pursuant to sections 138 & 140 of the Public Health Act, the Belize City Council hereby serves notice on the following owners or agencies of the following properties to abate nuisance by cutting all overgrown vegetation within fourteen (14) Days of publication of this Notice.

OWNER	LOT #	PARCEL#	HOUSE #	STREET
Maude/ Veronica Est Al Dupree Locke/Pandy	2105	161	10	Simon Lamb
John / Mariela Flowers / Alavrado	2104	160	12	Simon Lamb
Daniel Mejia	2101	226	18	Simon Lamb
Walter Flowers	2102	229	16	Simon Lamb
Xuangey Yuang	2097	037	23	Nurse Seay Street
Steve Bishop	7228	2020		Ceaser Ridge
Ruth Sankey	3464	1896	14	Allan Pitts Crescent
Lois Faber	2152	011	13	St. Joseph Street
Patricia Middleton	5834	182	14	Bachelor Avenue
John Vernon	4132	113	17	Cassarina Street
Feliz E Reyes	5879	91	14	2nd Ave
Lyncia Margaret Hornsby	4136	115	21	Cassarina Street
Derek J Bond	2912	1254	7	Fabers Road
Mario & Judith Lofton & Romero	2015	477	57	West Collectt Canal
Yvette August	7426	918	38	Rio Grande Crescent
Cherry R Cabral	7413	905	4	Alligator Lane
Lorna Ramclan	7415	906	2	Alligator Lane
Joycelyn Louise Craig	1664	861	111	Amara Avenue
Ann Meighan	24	642	11	Woods Street
Gustavo & Sheila Bautista			14	Glynn Street
Hilberto Lopez Rodriquez		612B	8	Glynn Street
Hilberto Lopez Rodriguez		613A	10	Glynn Street
Josiah Gonzalez	R		12	Glynn Street
Rajesh Chawla	1830	74	26	Bagdad Street
Gertude Audinett	408/9	1137	41	Cemetery Lane
Llna Acosta	5266	822		6th Street
Hortence Olive Clarke Est. s Admin. Shelimae Crawford	3344	1017	32	Nurse Findley Crest
Ismael Ortis	3375	1015	25	Nurse Findley Crest
Sonia Jones	3378	1108	19	Nurse Findley Crest
Linda Arnold	3385	1094	5	Nurse Findley Crest
Eugenia Nicholas	6816	703		Tibruce Street (Estella Metzkin
Maria Foreman	403	2928	17	Clifton Betson Street
Maria Tillelt	404	2927	19	Clifton Betson Street
Emogene Lopez	409	2922	12	Clifton Betson Street
Manuel Lizama	959A	1008	10	Handyside Street
Falcon Holdings Ltd	777	1066		Hutson Street
Elaine Carraby	147	3036		Dougal Street
Esther Pollard	149	3037		Dougal Street
Pao San Lee		1442		Coney Drive
Talbert/Dawn Brackett	411	1134	45	Cemetery Lane
Sylvia T Moss Est. Admin Janine V Lewis	2257	741		Guadalupe Street
Nelson Leonardo	235	3033		Apollo Street
Ann Lewis	2005	393	15	Kut Avenue
Claude Beeks		1029		Vernon Street
Nigel Matura	5	3257		Thomas Vincent Ramos Street
Adnan A Assad	21	3241		Lauren Burgess Crescent Street
Hazel Johnson	2359	1333	8	Haynes Street
Kent Crawford	2353	1339	9	Haynes Street
Daffodel Saldano	3319	983		Central American Blvd
Steve Bishop	7228	2020		Ceaser Ridge Road
James Glenford Dawson	2491	262	10	Nargusta Street

Kindly be advised that if any changes have been made to the ownership of any property in this listing above, it is the onus of the new owner to update the Council. If the nuisance has been abated, kindly disregard this notice.





BELIZE CITY COUNCIL NOTICE TO ABATE NUISANCE

Pursuant to sections 138 & 140 of the Public Health Act, the Belize City Council hereby serves notice on the following owners or agencies of the following properties to abate nuisance by cutting all overgrown vegetation within fourteen (14) Days of publication of this Notice.

OWNER	LOT #	Parcel #	HOUSE #	STREET
Virgil Lemuel & Beatrice Cooper	34	1251	80	Regent Street
Fidencio Vasquez	3		2	Cadle Alley
Chun Mei Wang	51	710		U Crescent
Randolph Welch	50	711		U Crescent
Richard Hughdonald Bowman	49	712		U Crescent
Ivy Davis	48	713		U Crescent
Ivy Davis	47	714		U Crescent
Ivy Davis	46	715		U Crescent
Roberto & Sandra Pott	45	716		U Crescent
Roberto & Sandra Pott	44	717		U Crescent
Elroy Dixon	43	718		U Crescent
Elroy Dixon	42	719		U Crescent
Fredrick Sandiford	41	720		U Crescent
Kim Wai Chee	40	721		U Crescent
Carla Davis	38	723		U Crescent
Rhona & Milwood C. & Khaulia & Milwood Hughes / Hughes Jr. / Hughes /Hughes 111 (Jointly)	15	724		U Crescent
Milwood /Khaulico/Rhona Hughes	15	724	16	U Crescent
George A. & Rosa M	14	725		U Crescent
George A. & Rosa M	13	726		U Crescent
Milwood & Rhona Hughes Jr.	12	727		U Crescent
Albert Weir	11	728		U Crescent
Marylee Davis	10	729		U Crescent
Kim Wai Chee	7	732		U Crescent
Yum Chee Lo	6	733		U Crescent
Adrian Bruce & Radiance Soila Sanchez	5	734		U Crescent
Adrian Bruce & Radiance Soila Sanchez	5	734		U Crescent
Ivy Davis	4	735		U Crescent
Ivy Davis	3	736		U Crescent
Randolph E. Welch	2	737		U Crescent
Mohammad Kamruzzaman	26	739		U Crescent
Marvin & Florita Laurain Avila	25	740		U Crescent
Marvin & Florita Laurain Avila	24	741		U Crescent
Q.A. Bernard Pitts	23	742		U Crescent
Ivy Davis	22	743		U Crescent
Carla Davis	21	744		U Crescent
Carla Davis	21	744		U Crescent
Lionel L.R. Welch (Dec'd)	16	749		U Crescent
Lionel L.R. Welch (Dec'd)	37	750		U Crescent
Kim Wai Chee	36	751		U Crescent
Hector Benjamin Villanueva	35	752		U Crescent
Rita Davis Cunil	34	753		U Crescent
Hortense Olive Clarke (Est.)	32	755		U Crescent
Carla Davis	32	755		U Crescent
Ivy Davis	31	756		U Crescent
Ivy Davis	30	757		U Crescent
Agnes Apolonio	29	758		U Crescent
Ivy Davis	28	759		U Crescent
Ivy Davis	27	760		U Crescent

Kindly be advised that if any changes have been made to the ownership of any property in this listing above, it is the onus of the new owner to update the Council. If the nuisance has been abated, kindly disregard this notice.



UDP rumblings on social media

Continued from Page 2

replace him. There are reports that Saldivar got wind of his imminent removal and resigned beforehand.

And while it was mostly quiet on social media on the UDP front on Wednesday, today Hon. Patrick Faber posted from his official page affirming, "I do not support dictatorship and censorship! If I'm unable to say how I feel in the party's internal structures, I'll say it here loud and clear! I don't support the dictator leader of the UDP and he must go!"

As to what can be expected at the August 3rd NPC meeting, speaking last week during an interview, Hon. Barrow declined to discuss the report that Hon. Panton has requested that there be other

matters on the agenda. He remarked that there are people who lose sleep thinking of how to overthrow him, but he affirmed that he is not concerned about them. "I know that the majority of my colleagues support me. And I will continue doing the work to support my colleagues. Right now, we're in transfer period. We need to focus on that, and we have a general election coming soon. I don't care what the Prime Minister says. He may call it in November. He may call it in March. We need to be ready," stated Barrow.

As to the removal of Willoughby as UDP Port Loyola standard bearer, Peyrefitte clarified that it was a decision of the NPC, and he supports that decision.

PRESS PREDICTIONS

The sports psychic speaks

BILLIARDS

Continued from Page 12

games to advance to the finals. Long Island has a very strong team. There was no C-Delta team this year. Joshua Kuylen from Corozal plays for Long Island, plus they have Larry Lisbey & Manuel Ramos - aka "Policeman". Those 2 players have the most experience in the game of pool. They have been playing for almost 30 years now. Dennis Zuniga is also in their line-up. The Nationals will be in 3 weeks' time. Lakers-1 players are Robert Requena, Angel Blair, James Young, William Leiva and Mr. Victor "Jr." Robateau. Corozal are the back-to-back champions. Let's see if they can threeppeat for the very first time in the Nationals. Next week, more stats.

Tour de FRANCE

Tadej Pogacar will win back-to-back very easily

The 121st Tour de France results

In cycling action, the 121st Tour de France will see a back-to-back champion for team UAE. He is the very highest paid cyclist right now since Peter Sagan has retired. He is the very most complete cyclist ever, because he can time trial, he can sprint & he is the very best in those very steep hills. He will win at least 4 Tour de France in a 5-year span very easily because of his young age. African Bini Girmay will be the first black man to win 3 stages & plus won the green jersey. Jonas Vingegaard is still the biggest threat to Tadej Pogacar. He rides for Team Bismo which is the strongest team in the tour. Vingegaard is a 2-time Tour de France winner, plus he now has 2 second place finishes. Pogacar won 6 stage races, plus he is just 26 years old. He will win as many as 3 more. Next year, more stats on the next tour.



From the Publisher en Español

Continúa de página 20

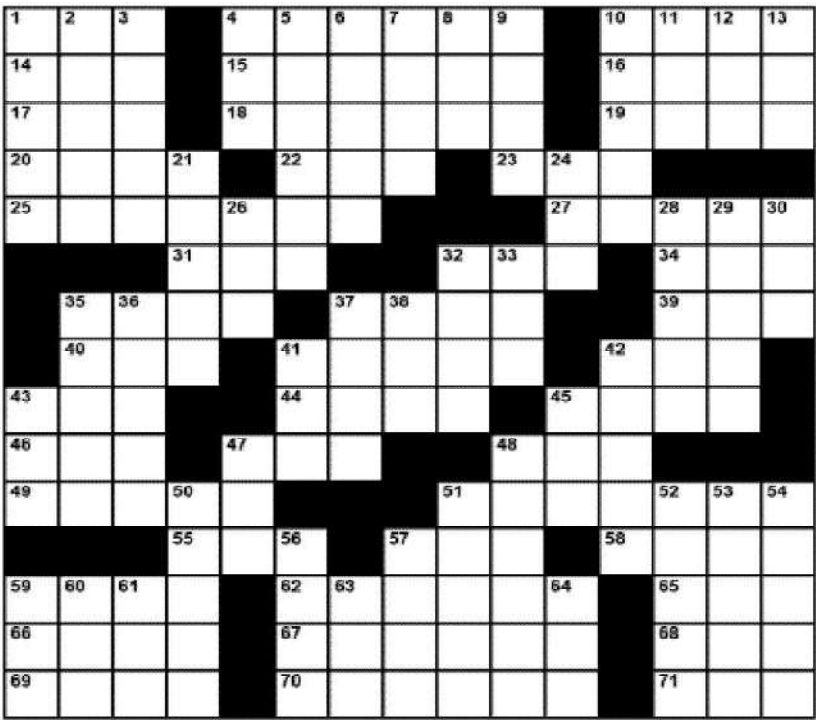
inmune a la acusación de amar demasiado a los negros. Ignorante ante el sufrimiento causado por las ejecuciones hipotecarias, reprendió a los afroamericanos, utilizando el lenguaje neoliberal de la responsabilidad individual, por sus fracasos morales como padres, maridos y competidores en el mercado global. Tampoco quería que se le considerara blando con la inmigración; deportó a millones de inmigrantes: Trump está luchando por alcanzar el máximo de 34.000 deportaciones por mes de Obama en 2012. En sus memorias, *Dreams from my Father* [*Sueños de mi padre*], había simpatizado elocuentemente con los marginados y los impotentes. Sin embargo, en el poder parecía esclavo de Larry Summers y otros miembros del establishment de la Costa Este, pareciéndose no tanto al forastero permanentemente alienado sino al hijo

mestizo del imperialismo, quien, como diagnosticó Ashis Nandy en *The Intimate Enemy* [*El enemigo íntimo*], reemplaza a su sentimiento inicial por los débiles con "una búsqueda interminable de masculinidad y estatus". No es sorprendente que este presagio de esperanza y cambio ungiera a un halcón en política exterior y un dinasta amigo de Wall Street como su aparente heredero. Sus movimientos posteriores a la presidencia (practicar kitesurf con Richard Branson en una isla privada, discursos extravagantemente remunerados en Wall Street y bromance con George Clooney) han confirmado que Obama es un caso de identidad equivocada. Como dijo recientemente David Remnick, su decepcionado biógrafo, "No creo que Obama fuera inmune a los atractivos de la nueva clase de riqueza. Creo que está muy interesado en Silicon Valley, las estrellas, el mundo del espectáculo, los deportes y todo lo demás".

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

NEW PUZZLE

Daily Printable Puzzle - 07-25-2024



Across

- 1. Before beginning
- 4. From the stars
- 10. Furnish a lining
- 14. Aries animal
- 15. Bailiwick
- 16. Bookie terms
- 17. \$\$\$ dispenser
- 18. In no time
- 19. Crucifix
- 20. Carnegie Hall feature
- 22. Author's last word
- 23. Convent dweller
- 25. Pledge drive reward
- 27. Summarize
- 31. Glum
- 32. Break up clods
- 34. Cuckoo
- 35. Peruvian plants
- 37. Call up
- 39. Ball park souvenir
- 40. Promise
- 41. Erect
- 42. Automobile
- 43. Former French coin
- 44. Musical medley
- 45. Dive down
- 46. Badly
- 47. Method
- 48. Ante up
- 49. Copland ballet
- 51. Who cares
- 55. Do slaloms
- 57. Cramp
- 58. Hassle free
- 59. Came to earth
- 62. Sings
- 65. Exercise area
- 66. Be gutsy
- 67. Certain neckwear
- 68. Account exec.
- 69. Battle memento
- 70. Threaten
- 71. Antique ending

Down

- 1. Brooklyn school
- 2. Math term
- 3. Irish patriot
- 4. African serpent
- 5. Apply butter
- 6. Beach footwear
- 7. Disrupt
- 8. Actor Carney
- 9. Actor Ames
- 10. Horn-shaped object
- 11. Ancient Tokyo
- 12. Artificial language
- 13. Dr. Tim's drug
- 21. Cut again
- 24. Avail oneself of
- 26. Coll. degrees
- 28. Portuguese province
- 29. Render harmless
- 30. Card marking
- 32. Angel's circle
- 33. Archaic
- 35. Convex molding
- 36. Knew how to
- 37. Fittingly
- 38. Grandson, perhaps
- 41. Animal squeezer
- 42. Bonnie's co-hort
- 43. Address for the general
- 45. Droop
- 47. Cooking pan
- 48. Inge play
- 50. Aromatic chemical
- 51. Flora and fauna
- 52. High wall of water
- 53. Right up to date
- 54. Fluid resembling blood plasma
- 56. S.D.I. target
- 57. Burg
- 59. Billboards
- 60. French lake
- 61. Alternative to 401
- 63. Baby fish
- 64. Behold


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 - 07-18-2024 - Answers







# AMANDALA

www.amandala.com.bz

Belize's leading newspaper

BELIZE

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You can now access Amandala's Mid-week and Weekend issues Online by logging on to our website at <https://amandala.com.bz/news/> and joining our membership portal today!

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amandalapress@gmail.com

**PUBLIC AUCTION SALE: PROPERTIES**  
**BELIZE CHOICE AUCTIONS & REALTY**  
**+501-677-1006**  
**Bz.auctions.realty@gmail.com**

BY ORDER of the Mortgagees, Messrs. National Bank of Belize Limited (NBB), Licensed Auctioneer Jonathan Mulligan, will be selling by way of Public Auction, the following properties:

**BELIZE DISTRICT**



All that piece or parcel of land being Lot No. 53, containing (745 square meters) in a subdivision situated near Mile 8.5 on the George Price Highway, Belize District. This land benefits from a concrete building containing three bedrooms, a bathroom, kitchen, living room and laundry room. **Freehold Property of Tanisha Vaughan.**  
**ON SITE Saturday August 31st, 2024 at 1:00pm.**  
**TERMS: STRICTLY CASH**

**STANN CREEK DISTRICT**

**REGISTRATION SECTION**  
Dangriga South/ Stann Creek District

**BLOCK**  
31

**PARCEL**  
820



Measuring 441.31 Square Meter(s), this property consists of two income generating buildings.  
**Building 1** is an elevated timber post and currently serves as a Pre-School. This building comprises of (558 sf.) of enclosed space with (76 sf.) of open veranda space.  
**Building 2** is a concrete building with galvanized roofing comprising some (726 sf.) of enclosed space, and currently serves as a day care. This building benefits from a large open space, kitchen and bathroom. **Freehold Property of Laurel and Yacira Diego.**  
**ON SITE Saturday August 10th, 2024 at 2:00pm**  
**TERMS: STRICTLY CASH**

## FIRST NOTICE

Pursuant to Section 10 (3) of the Belize Mines and Minerals Act, Chapter 226, Substantive Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2011, Victor Miranda on behalf of Twinkling Assets Ltd., has applied to the Honourable Minister of Natural Resources, Petroleum, & Mining through the Inspector of Mines, Mining Unit, for the renewal of ML No. 2 of 2022 to extract sand from the seabed adjacent to Caye Chapel, Belize District. The area to be mined is bounded between UTM Co-ordinates:

	Easting	Northing		Easting	Northing
1)	388820	1956824	6)	389183	1956045
2)	389187	1956849	7)	389164	1956031
3)	389186	1956616	8)	389168	1956009
4)	389228	1956315	9)	388895	1955998
5)	389210	1956047			

The area to be mined comprises approximately seventy (70) acres.



INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Harris tries to thread the needle on Gaza after meeting with Netanyahu



Days after launching her White House campaign, U.S. Vice President Kamala Harris met with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu in the vice president's ceremonial office. Netanyahu also met with President Joe Biden earlier in the day.

BY CHRIS MEGERIAN  
apnews.com, Updated 10:02 PM CST, July 25, 2024

WASHINGTON (AP), July 25, 2024  
Vice President Kamala Harris, the likely Democratic nominee for president, is attempting to bridge divides within the party over the war in Gaza, emphasizing Israel's right to defend itself while also focusing on alleviating Palestinian suffering.

She delivered remarks after meeting with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on Thursday that reflected a delicate balancing act on one of the country's most divisive political issues. Some Democrats have been critical of President Joe Biden's steadfast support for Israel despite the increasing death toll among Palestinians, and Harris is trying to unite her party for the election battle with Republican candidate Donald Trump.

"We cannot look away in the face of these tragedies," she said. "We cannot allow ourselves to become numb to the suffering. And I will not be silent."

Harris did not deviate from the administration's approach to the conflict, including grueling negotiations aimed at ending the fighting, releasing hostages held by Hamas and eventually rebuilding Gaza. She also said nothing about military assistance for Israel, which some Democrats want to cut.

Instead, she tried to refocus the conversation around mitigating the calamity in Gaza, and she used language intended to nudge Americans toward an elusive middle ground.

"The war in Gaza is not a binary issue," she said. "But too often, the conversation is binary when the reality is anything but."

In addition, Harris made a more explicit appeal to voters who have been frustrated by the ceaseless bloodshed, which began when Hamas attacked Israel on Oct. 7.

"To everyone who has been calling for a cease-fire, and to everyone who yearns for peace, I see you, and I hear you," she said.

Harris' meeting with Netanyahu was private, and she described it as "frank and constructive." She also emphasized her longtime support for Israel, which

includes raising money to plant trees in the country when she was a young girl.

Jewish Americans traditionally lean Democratic, but Republicans have tried to make inroads. Trump claimed this week that Harris "is totally against the Jewish people" because she didn't attend Netanyahu's address to a joint meeting of Congress. The vice president was traveling in Indiana during the speech.

Harris is married to a Jewish man, Doug Emhoff, who has played an outspoken role in the administration's efforts to combat antisemitism.

Netanyahu did not speak publicly after his meeting with Harris. His trip was scheduled before Biden dropped his reelection bid, but the meeting with Harris was watched closely for clues to her views on Israel.

"She is in a tricky situation and walking a tightrope where she's still the vice president and the president really is the one who leads on the foreign policy agenda," said Dearborn Mayor Abdullah Hammoud, a Democrat whose city is home to one of the largest Arab American communities in the nation. "But as the candidate, the presumptive nominee, she has to now create the space to differentiate in order for her to chart a new course."

Protesters gathered outside Union Station on the day of Netanyahu's speech, ripping down American flags and spray painting "Hamas is coming."

Harris sharply criticized those actions, saying there were "despicable acts by unpatriotic protesters and dangerous hate-fueled rhetoric."

"I support the right to peacefully protest, but let's be clear: Antisemitism, hate and violence of any kind have no place in our nation," she said in a statement.

As vice president, Harris has tried to show little daylight between herself and Biden. But David Rothkopf, a foreign policy writer who has met with her, said there's been "a noticeable difference in tone, particularly in regards to concern for the plight of innocent Palestinians."

The difference was on display in Selma, Alabama, in March, when Harris

The day after U.S. president Biden withdrew from the race

BELIZE CITY, Wed. July 24, 2024

The drama of the very consequential U.S. presidential race was dramatically skewed in favor of former president Donald Trump following President Joe Biden's disastrous showing in their debate on June 27, and even more so after Trump survived almost unscathed from an assassination attempt at a Republican rally on July 13; but the gloomy picture took a dramatic turn for the Democrats with Biden's announcement on Monday, July 22, that he would be withdrawing from the presidential race, and endorsing his vice president, Kamala Harris, as the Democratic Party nominee to face Donald Trump in the November 5th U.S. presidential elections.

We thought the creative commentary by Michael Moore, the famous and outspoken director of the documentary movie *Fahrenheit 9/11*, captured the mood of the historic moment and the temperature in the American political climate.

Below is Michael Moore's newsletter of Tuesday, July 23, 2024 at [www.michaelmoore.com](http://www.michaelmoore.com):

What a Difference a Day Makes

One day, Trump's victory felt inevitable. The next day, a woman from Oakland, CA, rode into town...



MICHAEL MOORE  
[www.michaelmoore.com](http://www.michaelmoore.com), Tues. July 23, 2024

Yesterday I began my letter to you with "OK Everyone! It's time to rise out of our despair!" My subject heading was simple: "Now, We Beat Trump." President Biden had just announced he was no longer running for reelection and endorsed Kamala Harris to be the next President of the United States. All of a sudden you could weirdly feel the earth move. Tremors permeated our very being. Millions breathed a sigh of relief. Millions more began texting friends and family like crazy. All of a sudden, the somber, sullen mood Americans had been in since Debate Night was dissipating into thin air. People were elated, ecstatic, bursting at the seams with joy. The neighbors above me started blasting the soundtrack from *Singin' In The Rain*. A flock of seagulls flew by my window, and I swear one of them gave me a thumbs up. Confetti was falling everywhere, and yet there was no parade. Just hordes of Americans who simultaneously knew that we were now going to be all right, that our Democracy would hold, flowers would bloom in the fall, and fear would no longer rule the day, all of us instantly

feeling a warm sense of togetherness and love and hope.

Within 36 hours, this happened:

- \$250 million was donated to the Harris for President campaign — an American all-time one-day record.
- On Sunday and Monday, 28,000 people signed up to be campaign volunteers—knocking on doors, making calls, and registering people to vote. The total number of volunteers nationwide who had signed up on Saturday was 230.
- A conference call to support Kamala Harris organized by Win With Black Women ballooned to over 44,000 Black women joining in on the call, causing Zoom to have to immediately expand the capacity limit before the circuits overloaded. They raised \$1.5 million in just 3 hours.

Nearly every Democratic governor, senator, dog-catcher, fry cook, urologist, Uber driver, botanist, civics teacher, Wordle-player and Swifties everywhere from sea to shining sea were all aboard the Harris Express. Did you feel it? Could you hear it? Did something in your bones just tell you, "Holy Hulk Hogan! We might actually pull this off!"

Trump's campaign staff were in shock. "Why is this happening to us?" They couldn't believe what they were seeing. They had planned, from now until November, to run on a platform that revolved around stories about sharks, boat batteries and Hannibal Lecter. By Monday evening, like something straight out of a Buñuel film, nobody could find their way out of Mar-a-Lago. Nobody could find the campaign. MAGA Nation was dismantled and on its way to being reassembled at DisneyWorld.

As the sun rose on Tuesday morning, just the presence of a possible future President Kamala Harris seemed to fix everything.

Boeing offered every American 2 free flights on a French-made Airbus A320, flown only by Qantas pilots. CrowdStrike suddenly self-corrected and Microsoft lived to see another day. Migrants, long vilified and abused, were now welcomed into the United States, each of them offered one of the 11 million jobs that have been open for the last 5 years. Morning After pills were now available in vending machines all across America. Student debt notices stopped appearing in people's mailboxes. Mitch McConnell spontaneously combusted while appearing on *Celebrity Jeopardy!* — only for the public to learn later that he was safe and sound and working as a greeter at the Louisville Walmart.

Just the thought of Trump not returning to the White House had a miraculous effect on the country. Life improved so greatly that cancer was cured, cauliflower had an actual taste to it, and Ohioans happily walked across the Michigan border and safely drank from the Detroit River.

Yes, all of this in just two days. Sure, some of it might have been a dream. But somewhere deep inside all of us, we knew that America was now, officially, Great Again.



# Belize UNIA-ACL Division 230

## Press Release

BELIZE CITY, Wed. July 24, 2024

“God and Nature first made us what we are, and then out of our own created genius we make ourselves what we want to be.” — Marcus Garvey

UNIA-ACL OFFICERS OF LOCAL DIVISIONS

L. Emerson Guild  
Marcus Garvey Disciple  
One God, One Aim, One Destiny!!!

Section 1. Every chartered division shall elect its own officers with the approval of the President General, with the exception of the President, who shall be appointed by the President General,

“It is by Marcus Garvey’s words and deeds that we know and remember him; it is by our words and deeds Our children shall know who we are.”

[WWW.THEUNIA-ACL.COM](http://WWW.THEUNIA-ACL.COM)

Karen Taylor, UNIA-ACL President Belize Division #230, [unia230bz@gmail.com](mailto:unia230bz@gmail.com), phone: 629-1028

Emerson Guild, UNIA-ACL 3rd Assistant President Gen & Admin for Caribbean, South and Central America, [emersong.oneca@gmail.com](mailto:emersong.oneca@gmail.com), phone: 629-8751

### Press Release:

Allow me to introduce myself and share some very important information with you.

My name is Karen Taylor, I was the Pro Tem President of the Universal Negro Improvement Association – African Communities League (UNIA-ACL), Belize Division #230, up until July 8, 2024 when my position as president of the Belize Division 230 was conformed by the UNIA's high executive council.

Since December of 2023 I have been the Executive Secretary of the Parent Body to Belize Division #230, a title that was bestowed on me by Mr. Cleophus Miller Jr., the President General and Administrator of the UNIA-ACL 1918 and 1929 – Of the World. I am also the current President of the Black Cross Nurses Association, which is a women's health and social services' support arm of the UNIA-ACL, founded in 1920 and still operating right here in Belize.

Mr. L. Emerson Guild, is the 3rd Assistant President General and Administrator of UNIA affairs in the Caribbean, South & Central America. The 3rd Asst. President General of the UNIA-ACL 1918 and 1929 – of the World, along with myself, have been given the mandates of revitalizing the Association first by establishing our office then building the membership to carry out the responsibilities as stipulated in the Constitution in an effort to empower and uplift all people of African Ancestry and Negro Blood and the reacquisition and restoration of the Liberty Hall on Barrack Road in the Old Capital.

To date we have already established an Executive Board confirmed by the UNIA-ACL HEC to assist us in carrying out these responsibilities. We have made several attempts to establish our offices at the Liberty Hall but was met with much hostility.

We humbly ask that anything pertaining to the UNIA-ACL Belize Division #230, including the Liberty Hall be channel through this body and no one else.

If you wish to reach/assist us in any way, kindly contact us via email: [uniabz230@gmail.com](mailto:uniabz230@gmail.com) or cell: +501 629-8751 / 629-1028.

I look forward to fostering a partnership with you, that will enable us to carry out our mandates and contribute towards the uplifting of people and country.

“One God! One Aim! One Destiny!”

— END —

Universal Negro Improvement Association - African Communities League  
Division #230, #86 Barrack Road, Belize City, Belize, Central America, P.O. Box #45

## REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (Individual Consultants)

### Extension of Deadline

Belize  
Resilient Rural Belize Programme  
Assignment title: **Recruitment for RRB Finance Officer**  
Reference no. (as per procurement plan): *RRB.CS.96*

The Government of Belize through the Ministry of Finance, Economic Development and Investment has received financing from the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) towards the cost of Resilient Rural Belize Programme (RRB) and intends to apply part of the proceeds for the recruitment of consulting services provided by an individual consultant as part of the post of Finance Officer.

The use of any IFAD financing shall be subject to IFAD's approval, pursuant to the terms and conditions of the financing agreement, as well as IFAD's rules, policies and procedures. IFAD and its officials, agents and employees shall be held harmless from and against all suits, proceedings, claims, demands, losses and liability of any kind or nature brought by any party in connection with *Resilient Rural Belize Programme*.

The consulting services ("the services") include:

- To coordinate, supervise and evaluate the functioning and operability of the RRB administrative and financial systems in accordance with the standards issued by the national governing bodies and adjusted to the information demands of the multilateral contracting entities;
- To implement and update the financial management guidelines and procedures that apply to programme receipts and payments, establishing control mechanisms for financial funds, bank accounts and deposits while ensuring that the funds are administered and executed for the purposes intended in an open and transparent manner, and ensuring that the Programme Manager (PM) and the PMU are aware of risks arising from any weaknesses in the internal control system, and take steps to minimize these risks.

The duration of the assignment is for a period of one (1) year and may be extended based on performance.

This request for expressions of interest (REOI) follows the general procurement notice that appeared on the IFAD website on August 17, 2023, on UNDB on August 17, 2023 and on Amandala and Belize Times newspapers on August 11, 2023 and August 18, 2023.

The Ministry of Finance, Economic Development and Investment/Resilient Rural Belize Programme now invites eligible Individual consultants ("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 in the form of a curriculum vitae (CV). A consultant will be selected in accordance with the individual consultant selection (ICS) method set out in IFAD's Project Procurement Handbook that can be accessed via the IFAD website at [www.ifad.org/project-procurement](http://www.ifad.org/project-procurement). Interviews will be conducted as part of the selection process.

The shortlisting criteria are:

Item	Criteria
A.	<b>Qualification:</b>
i	At least a Bachelor's Degree in Accounting or Finance
	Above a Bachelor's Degree but below a Master's Degree in Accounting or Finance
	Master or superior studies in accounting, finance, business administration or related studies is preferred
B.	<b>General Experience:</b>
i	At least 3 years' working experience in the donor-funded project accounting field including using Quickbooks or other accounting software
ii	Proven experience in project accounting and financial reporting, including the preparation of project's Financial Statements (minimum 1 year experience)
iii	Proven experience in understanding of external financing procedures of government and donor agencies (minimum 1 year experience)
C.	<b>Specific experience:</b>
i	Having completed at least one similar assignment within the past five (5) years in an IFI-funded project environment
D.	<b>Other Desirable Skills and Personal Qualities:</b>
i	Proficiency in Excel and other Microsoft Office tools such as Word and Power Point
ii	Excellent command of the English language, spoken and written

Applicants interested in receiving the complete **Request for Expression of Interest (REOI)** document should send an e-mail (with subject: **Request for REOI CS.96 Recruitment of Finance Officer**) to the e-mail addresses below.

Any request for clarification on this REOI should be sent via e-mail to the address below no later than August 2, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. local time. The client will provide responses to all clarification requests by August 5, 2024.

Expressions of interest consisting of submission form (EOI-1) and curriculum vitae (CV) (EOI-2) must be delivered via email, in pdf format as a single document, to the address below, by **August 8, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. local time (extended deadline)**. Consultants are reminded to sign EOI-1 (Submission Form) and EOI-2 (CV) to ensure administrative compliance of their submission.

Resilient Rural Belize Programme  
Attn: Lemuel Palacio, Senior Procurement Officer  
Resilient Rural Belize Programme  
National Agriculture Showgrounds  
Belmopan City, Cayo, Belize

Email: [lpalacio.rrb@med.gov.bz](mailto:lpalacio.rrb@med.gov.bz)  
CC: [nvernon.rrb@med.gov.bz](mailto:nvernon.rrb@med.gov.bz)



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



## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

# Noura Erakat: During Netanyahu speech, U.S. lawmakers cheered “what is essentially a war on children”



www.democracynow.org, JULY 25, 2024

We speak with Palestinian human rights lawyer Noura Erakat about Benjamin Netanyahu's address to Congress, in which he defended Israel's brutal war on Gaza, lied repeatedly about the dire humanitarian conditions on the ground and refused to talk about how to reach a ceasefire to end the bloodshed. Although more than 100 Democrats skipped the speech, Erakat says the jubilant reaction from lawmakers in attendance showed U.S. leaders cheering “for what is essentially a war on children.”

Transcript

*This is a rush transcript. Copy may not be in its final form.*

**NERMEEN SHAIKH:** Well, I'd like to bring in Noura Erakat. Noura, if you could also respond to Netanyahu's speech? And what was most striking to you? I mean, the number of times the audience broke into this enthusiastic applause.

**NOURA ERAKAT:** I think that that was probably the most disturbing, because for those of us who have followed this for 292 days now, we have understood the blatant lies that Israel has said, that all of its apologists have made, but to watch U.S. Congress jubilantly, jubilantly cheer on, scramble over one another in order to cheer for, essentially, what is a war on children. When Netanyahu says they want to finish the job, the job is annihilation. It is extermination. It is genocide. They have flattened all of Gaza. It is reported that it will take 10 to 15 years just to clean up the rubble. There are no hospitals. Children cannot be treated. There is now a spread of polio. And U.S. Congress is applauding for this jubilantly, at one point breaking out into a chant of “U.S.A.! U.S.A.!”

And so, as I watch that, one of the things that occurs to me is how the debate within the United States approaching the election in November has taken on the stance that there is a demarcation or a distinction between foreign policy and domestic policy, what happens over there and what happens at home, as if those things are not entwined and imbricated. Right now those chants at home echo an entitlement to kill, echo an entitlement to plunder, to destroy lives that are not seen or deemed worthy, and where racism and colonialism is not a dog whistle but is on full display.

So, for those who are concerned about saving their democracy at home, I want to tell them that there is no democracy to save that manifests itself in ongoing genocide in this way. Consider that your fellow Palestinian Americans, Arab

Americans, American Muslims have been subject to a fascist regime at home already, not only in being forced to watch a genocide for which we are punished for naming, but also to have Antiterrorism Act being leveled against those of us who are protesting U.S. policy, who are entreating the United States to follow its own law, the

National Security Memorandum number 20, the Arms Export Control Act, the Leahy Amendment, insisting that the U.S. cannot continue, even at the bare minimum, to transfer arms to a belligerent state that is violating U.S. and international law. Palestinian, Arab American, American Muslims have been attacked, have been stabbed, have been run over. And yet you are telling us that we have to save a democracy at home? We are not living in a democracy, and the worst is yet to come.

And for those who are watching helplessly because they think Congress is beyond reach and out of hand, this is local, as well. This extends down to your community and your university, where university administrators have called on cops in order to punish students, who are excellent students, who, contrary to what Netanyahu, a foreign agent, is telling the United States — don't know what the River Jordan to the Mediterranean Sea is — have studied it meticulously because of Palestine studies in the United States and the centers for Middle East studies, who understand ethnic studies, who understand global politics, who understand international law.

Because they are meticulous students and who are acting upon their agency, they, too, are being punished by university administrators. This is a problem from the top to the root. If you want to save a democracy, you must enforce a ceasefire now. You must end a transfer — U.S. transfer of weapons now.

**AMY GOODMAN:** Professor Erakat, I wanted to go to Netanyahu's speech where he praises President Biden for providing military support for Israel after October 7th.

**PRIME MINISTER BENJAMIN NETANYAHU:** I thank President Biden for his heartfelt support for Israel after the savage attack on October 7th. He rightly called Hamas “sheer evil.” He dispatched two aircraft carriers to the Middle East to deter a wider war. And he came to Israel to stand with us during our darkest hour, a visit that will never be forgotten. President Biden and I have known each other for over 40 years. I want to thank him for half a century of friendship to Israel and for being, as he says, a proud Zionist. Actually, he says a

proud Irish American Zionist.

**AMY GOODMAN:** And this is the Israeli prime minister addressing Congress about the protesters outside.

**PRIME MINISTER BENJAMIN NETANYAHU:** Well, I have a message for these protesters: When the tyrants of Tehran, who hang gays from cranes and murder women for not covering their hair, are praising, promoting and funding you, you have officially become Iran's useful idiots.

**AMY GOODMAN:** “Useful idiots.” Noura Erakat, Palestinian American attorney, if you could comment on his comments? And also, you know, it's not just Fox — it's MSNBC, it's CNN — when castigating the protesters outside. There was also — I was watching a debate between a Democratic representative and a Republican representative on CNN, talking about why Kamala Harris wasn't there. While the Republican said it was unforgivable, the Democratic representative didn't say, “Well, she was taking a stand and didn't want to preside over Netanyahu addressing Congress.” He said, “She simply had another engagement. Don't worry. She's meeting with him today.” Your overall response?

**NOURA ERAKAT:** I have two overall responses. The first is shame. Shame, shame, shame on the Democratic Party for allowing a president, that they didn't trust to enter into a debate or to make a comment without misnaming world leaders, to make policy on the lives of Palestinians and their futures for 292 days. They are more worried about the optics in this election than they are about the lives of Palestinians, which indicates very well that they are deriving their power from the slaughter of Palestinians, that this machine is functioning on those campaign donations, on those weapons manufacturers, on those Islamophobic institutions who are fomenting this, so that 67% of the Democratic base cannot be represented adequately by their leadership.

My second reaction to that is salute, salute to the protesters who continue to risk their bodies, who risk their reputation, who risked time and being attacked by police and police brutality. They are the kernels. They are the seed now that can grow, that can ripen into something worth living for in the future. This does not bode well for our future. This is what's on offer for the rest of the world as we see climate catastrophe being imposed upon us, where the only thing on offer is that only a few shall live. And the model that Israel is creating here is that the racist supremacists, that the colonialists, that they will live and that others must die. And we see in these protesters an alternate future, one that screams we have safety in solidarity, one that says that it is all of us or none of us.

Enough with the Islamophobic tropes. Netanyahu does not care about homosexual communities, about LGBTQIA communities. Many of them live in Gaza. Those bombs have not spared them. Those buildings have fallen upon them. There is no concern for those lives. And yet Islamophobia and anti-Palestinian racism is so endemic that it can be passed along and even echoed by

so-called liberal media in this moment.

**NERMEEN SHAIKH:** And, Noura, you've said — you know, we are in this election year. You said that by not distinguishing themselves from Republicans, by not making Gaza a partisan issue, the Democratic Party is basically delivering Trump to the White House. Now, there are people in the Biden administration who resigned in protest against Biden's Gaza policy, who have suggested that they're cautiously optimistic that Harris might take a different position. Your response?

**NOURA ERAKAT:** Look, I'm with the uncommitted campaign that is asking the Democrats to impose an embargo on arms transfer and that is asking them to impose a permanent ceasefire right now. They have a chance. They, at the 11th hour, replaced the presidential candidate. Surely, they have the agency to make this shift, too. Although, that said, I want to point out to listeners that when Biden came into office, he had the opportunity to reverse Trump's disastrous policies, that were very explicitly racist, from the apartheid plan, which he called “the deal of the century,” to the annexation of the Golan Heights, sovereignty over all of Jerusalem in contravention of the U.N. Charter, of occupation law. The ICJ decision just confirmed that this is all illegal, that Israel's presence is unlawful. And yet the Democrats did not reverse any of those policies, but to reinstate UNRWA funding.

Netanyahu, in this moment, was the lowest-hanging fruit for the Democrats. He has been, since — since his ascendancy, made his primary goal in office the torpedoing of a Palestinian state, which the United States says is a policy priority for it. What are they doing? What are they doing? He has made clear that there will never be a Palestinian state. We protested him 24 years ago in Berkeley and prevented him from speaking then. And that continues today. One has to ask: Is it that Americans aren't learning, or is it that it just doesn't matter, that they are going to support Netanyahu, whatever he does?

Recall also that in 2012 it was Netanyahu that oversaw a commission that resulted in the Levy Report, that said that, in fact, there was no occupation, and they retroactively legalized outposts. In 2017, they passed the Regularization Law, which allowed Israel an order to retroactively legalize the confiscation of private Palestinian land. These are very — you know, the nuances within Israeli law. But they have basically paved that path. More recently, in 2018, they passed the Nation-State Law, which says that only Jewish Zionists have the right to sovereignty in historic Palestine, which was a nail in the coffin that said there was no Palestinian state. And if there was any confusion, just last week the Knesset passed a law that said that there would be no Palestinian state. You are literally hosting a man that is the lowest-hanging fruit that you could have plucked to continue to speak out of both sides of your mouth, and failed to do even that. So, I am putting a challenge to all those who are worried about our democracy, who





## Port Layola FC at the 2024 Concacaf Central American Cup



Port Layola FC

BELIZE CITY, Wed. July 24, 2024

Next week Tuesday, July 30, Premier League of Belize 2023-24 national male football champions, Port Layola FC will take on CD Antigua of Guatemala at the FFB Stadium in the Group Stage of the 2024 Concacaf Central American Cup tournament.

Here are some background notes to the tournament, gleaned from Concacaf.com:

There are 20 clubs from the 7 Central American countries participating in the tournament, with the highest ranked country getting the most clubs, and lowest ranked getting the least, as follows: Costa Rica (CRC)—4 clubs; Honduras (HON) – 3; Panama (PAN) – 3; Nicaragua (NCA) – 3; Guatemala (GUA) – 3; El Salvador (SLV) – 3; Belize (BLZ) – 1.

In a draw conducted on June 6 in Miami, the 20 participating clubs were separated into 4 groups of 5 clubs each for competition in the Group Stage. Thus, 3 of the groups have more than 1 club from the same country; only Group C has 1 club from each of 5 Central American countries. Belize’s only club in the tournament, Port Layola FC, is in Group C. Below is a list of the clubs in their respective groups.

**Group A** — CS Herediano (CRC); FC Motagua (HON); Tauro FC (PAN); San Francisco FC (PAN); Cacique Diriangen FC (NCA).

**Group B** — LD Alajuelense (CRC); Comunicaciones FC (GUA); CD Marathon (HON); Alianza FC (SLV); CD LA Firpo (SLV).

**Group C** — CD Olimpia (HON); Antigua GFC (GUA); CA Independiente (PAN); CD Aguila (SLV); Port Layola FC (BLZ).

**Group D** — Deportivo Saprissa (CRC); CSD Municipal (GUA); AD Guanacasteca (CRC); Real Esteli FC (NCA); Managua FC (NCA).

Competition Format:

**Group Stage**

“In this first round, clubs will play every

club in their group once, for a total of four matches per club (two at home and two away) in the five scheduled weeks” from July 30 to August 29.

According to the Concacaf schedule, Port Layola FC games are as follows:

(\*Kickoff times listed in ET (local) and home club listed first)

Tuesday, July 30, 2024  
18:00 (16:00) Port Layola FC vs Antigua GFC - FFB Stadium, Belmopan, BLZ

Thursday, August 8, 2024  
20:00 (18:00) Port Layola FC vs CD Olimpia - FFB Stadium, Belmopan, BLZ

Wednesday, August 14, 2024  
18:00 (16:00) CD Aguila vs Port Layola FC - Estadio Las Delicias, Santa Tecla, SLV

Wednesday, August 21, 2024  
18:00 (17:00) CA Independiente vs Port Layola FC - Estadio Rommel Fernandez, Panama City, PAN

**Knockout Stage**

“After the Group Stage, each group’s first and second-place finishers will advance to the Knockout Stage. The Knockout Stage will include home-and-away matches, starting with the Quarterfinals, followed by the Semifinals and Play-In, and the Final, where the new champion of Central America will be crowned.

“The Quarterfinal matchups will be determined based on the Group Stage results and the competition’s standings (the highest-ranked group winner will play the lowest-ranked runner-up). For the Semifinals and Play-In, the matchups will be determined based on the competition’s bracket. The highest-ranked club (based on the competition’s standings) will host the return leg matches for all series.

“At the conclusion of the competition, six clubs, including the four semifinalists and two play-in winners, will qualify for the 2025 Concacaf Champions Cup. Furthermore, the champion will receive a bye to the Champions Cup Round of 16.”

Le’s go, Belize - Port Layola FC!!

## Tarique Flowers wins Weekend Warriors’ King of the Mountain race

by William Ysaguirre

THE GAP, Stann Creek District, Sun. July 21, 2024

On Sunday morning, Tarique Flowers won “King of the Mountain” when the Weekend Warriors held its annual King of the Mountain Race, which started at the COURTS store in Belmopan to Middlesex Village on the Hummingbird Highway, and ended at the finish line at “The Gap”, at Mile 27, on Sunday morning, July 21.



Top 3 winners, (l to r) Kenny Gladden 1st “B”; Tarique Flowers 1st “A”; and Juan Medina 1st “C”

A Category – 1st: Tarique Flowers (Team Running Rebels, 1:49:54, trophy); 2nd: Steven Jorgensen (trophy); 3rd: Gabriel Cardozo (Team Santino’s, trophy); 4th: Benito Balam (Team Santino’s, medal); 5th: Preston “Motto” Martinez (M&M Engineering, medal).

B Category – 1st: Kenny Gladden (Team DigiCell, trophy); 2nd: Dwayne Wade (BZ-Boyz, trophy); 3rd: Roque Matus (M&M Engineering, trophy); 4th Daniel Cano (Team Santino’s, medal); 5th Gilberto “Beto” Acosta (Stingers, medal); 6th: Andrew Burgess; 7th: Kenneth Butler.

C Category – 1st: Juan “Chak” Medina (Team Santino’s, trophy); 2nd: Colonel George Lovell (Lovell Cycling Team, trophy); 3rd: Santino “Chief” Castillo (Team Santino’s, trophy); 4th: Isaiah Willacey (Team Santino’s).

The 1st place winners of each category also received a polka dot jersey.

Females – 1st: Kaya Cattouse (Team LA Sweat, 22nd overall).

Other A Category riders – 7th: Jody Williams; 8th: Sydney Belizaire; 10th: Adrian Williams; 12th: Julio Tzul; 13th: Sherman “Pest” Thomas; 14th: Garret Bermudez; 15th: Quinton “Baddest” Hamilton; 17th: Emory Gill; 18th: Richard Vera; 20th: David Interian; 21st: Anthony Tun; 25th: Ryan Bradley.

The Weekend Warriors race again on Saturday morning, July 27, from Old Belize to the junction of the John Smith Bypass and the Philip Goldson Highway, then returning to the 8 Miles roundabout on the George Price Highway, turning west to Hattieville, and returning to finish at Old Belize.

## Terror Squad FC leads NAIC quarterfinals

by William Ysaguirre

SAN PEDRO TOWN, Ambergris Caye, Sun. July 21, 2024

The Terror Squad of San Pedro are leading the National Amateur Interdistrict Championship quarterfinals organized by the Football Federation of Belize, as they annihilated Conquerors FC of San Pedro, 4-0, at the Ambergris Stadium on Sunday evening, July 21. Kenroy Wagner’s brace (21’ & 90+4’) led the assault, and other goals from Kaeyden Shay Bowen (34’) and Angel Burke (52’) completed the rout.

In Belmopan at the Isidoro Beaton Stadium on Saturday night, Jalen Myer’s brace (10’ & 75’) led Napoles FC to a 2-1 win over EZ Griga Conquerors, for

whom Shedrick Swazo (17’) had equalized at 1-1.

At the Isidoro Beaton Stadium on Sunday afternoon, the defending champions, Club Atletico FC salvaged a 1-1 draw with Legends FC of Cowpen, when Tyriq “Hammer” Ciego (25’) equalized, after speed king Jaheim Mena (3’) struck first for Legends.

At the People’s Stadium in Orange Walk on Sunday afternoon, Justin Cardenas’ injury time header (90+3’) saved the day for Mi Gente FC of Guinea Grass in a 2-2 draw with the Calcutta Bulls, who led 2-1 with goals by Jordan August (25’) and Wesley Manzanero (74’), after Erwin Betancourt (52’) had



# Whooping Cough alert

Continued from Page 1

The alert calls for enhanced surveillance and increased vaccination efforts, particularly among young children, to curb the resurgence of this preventable yet potentially deadly disease.

Whooping Cough is a highly contagious respiratory infection caused by the bacterium *Bordetella pertussis*. The disease spreads easily through coughing and sneezing, posing a significant health risk, especially to young children under five years old. If not treated promptly with antibiotics, whooping cough can lead to severe illness and even death. Fortunately, the disease is preventable through effective vaccination programs.

The symptoms of whooping cough typically appear 7 to 10 days after infection. Early symptoms include mild fever, runny nose, and a distinctive “whooping” cough. In severe cases, the cough can lead to complications such as pneumonia, seizures, and brain damage.

According to PAHO, the recent surge in cases is likely linked to a decline in vaccination coverage for diphtheria, tetanus, and pertussis (DTP) during the COVID-19 pandemic.

“One of the proposed causes of the increased cases of pertussis in our region is the fact that during the COVID-19 pandemic, a number of the essential health services like the vaccination programs were impacted. And so, there were children who were not able to complete their schedule or even start their schedule,” stated Dr. Karen Lewis-Bell, PAHO/WHO representative in Belize.

Some of the countries seen to be affected recently by the resurgence include Brazil, Mexico, Peru, the United States, and some parts of Europe. While Belize has not reported a case of

whooping cough for over 15 years, the PAHO alert applies to all countries in the Americas, including Belize.

The country is urged to improve vaccination coverage and strengthen its surveillance systems to maintain its disease-free status. Dr. Lewis-Bell noted that Belize has been recognized for its efforts to vaccinate children, particularly those who missed doses during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Ministry of Health is actively working to identify and vaccinate children who may have missed their doses, ensuring that they are protected against whooping cough and other vaccine-preventable diseases.

Dr. Lewis-Bell stressed that the success of vaccination programs, like Belize’s, which have prevented whooping cough for decades, depends on public participation. Parents are encouraged to ensure that their children receive all necessary vaccines, as these are critical in preventing serious diseases like whooping cough.

“I think a main responsibility lies with the parents of children under five to ensure that their children receive all the vaccines that they need, because it is well known that vaccines do save lives,” Dr. Lewis-Bell added. “Once parents or families become a bit complacent and do not ensure that their children are adequately vaccinated, then it puts them at risk for these diseases should they be introduced,” Lewis-Bell went on to say.

PAHO recommends that countries ensure over 95% coverage for all three doses of the DTP vaccine in children. Special attention should be given to children under five years old and those in population groups with low coverage. Health care workers, particularly those in maternity wards, and pregnant women are also advised to get vaccinated to protect themselves and their newborns.

# NTUCB questions SSB decisions; SSB Chair responds

Continued from Page 3

regulatory legislation. “A tripartite SPV guarantees greater transparency and accountability, which are crucial for the effective management of the social security scheme,” they explained.

The letter also highlights concerns raised by the Christian Workers Union (CWU), an affiliate of the NTUCB, regarding the disregard of policies, procedures, and good practices at SSB, specifically relating to the existing Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA). The NTUCB calls for proper dialogue and quality consultations to resolve these issues swiftly and mutually.

“We believe that a more collaborative approach will lead to better outcomes for all stakeholders and ultimately benefit Belize,” the NTUCB writes.

In response to these concerns, today the SSB Chair, Mrs. Nigeli Sosa replied, firstly explaining that the appointment of a Deputy CEO is established by legislation and is part of the organizational structure of the SSB. She clarified that the position had been budgeted for the fiscal year 2024, with the budget approved by the Board in December 2023. “This position exists within the organizational structure of the SSB and, contrary to the assertions in your letter, has been budgeted for fiscal year

2024,” she stated.

She further explained that the criteria for selecting a Deputy CEO were aligned with those for selecting a CEO, and the recruitment process was thorough and included tripartite representatives. “All current employees and managers at SSB had the opportunity to apply for the CEO position which was publicly advertised,” Mrs. Sosa added.

Addressing the concern about predetermined discussions and decisions, Mrs. Sosa assured that all Board decisions are made in accordance with the Social Security Act. She detailed the process and stressed that decisions are determined by a majority vote of the members present. She noted that the selection and appointment of the SPV was one such Board decision.

Regarding the appointment of external individuals as Directors for the SPV, Mrs. Sosa explained that, while tripartite representation is required on the Board of Directors, it is not mandated for investments made by the Board. The appointment process was therefore compliant with applicable laws and included input from all directors. “The NTUCB proposed a director, and a vote was taken by the board on the matter,” she wrote, denying allegations of predetermined discussions.

# Noura Erakat: During Netanyahu speech, U.S. lawmakers cheered “what is essentially a war on children”

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are pointing fingers worriedly about the Palestinians, who have not had time to mourn the dead, that the responsibility is on you. The DNC has agency. They are meeting. They can impose an arms embargo. They can impose and call for a permanent ceasefire now.

**AMY GOODMAN:** In a moment, we’re going to go to an Israeli and Palestinian peacemaker who addressed a session of a number of the congressmembers who refused to attend Netanyahu’s address. But I just wanted to end by quoting Congressmember Mark Pocan of Wisconsin. He said, “I won’t be attending Netanyahu’s speech to Congress. I only regret that an arrest warrant for his war crimes has not yet been issued by the ICC, as I would have gladly served it to him on the House floor.” The significance of this, Noura Erakat, that the ICC has said it’s going to be issuing an arrest warrant for the prime minister of Israel?

**NOURA ERAKAT:** I think there’s two things here. One is the broader significance of the fact that everything that Netanyahu was saying was contravening and challenging and upending a very tenuous world order, one where ICJ decisions on plausible genocide, on the route of the apartheid wall, on the unlawful occupation are dismissed as being — as the threat to the so-called peace process, where even the ICC is being dismissed and being called — he basically called the International Criminal Court liars that we can’t trust. He contravened the prohibition on the acquisition of territory by force as he celebrated the annexation of the Golan Heights and Jerusalem to a jubilant Congress, which is basically telling the world that the United States also doesn’t believe in this international order. And so, this is what is of primary concern.

The second thing is, I would have loved to see allies alongside Representative Rashida Tlaib, the only Palestinian in

Congress, who basically stood up there in the middle of what felt like a mob, to protect her, to stand by her side, to shut it down as activists have shut it down, to make it clear that there is dissent, not only through boycott, but through an explicit message. The problem in doing that is precisely that this is a U.S. war led by the Democratic Party. This is the U.S.’s genocide. And now the Democrats are finding themselves in a place where they want to be able to protest and also take the reins of power in November. They can resolve that by demanding a permanent ceasefire now, by suspending arm transfers now.

**AMY GOODMAN:** Noura Erakat, I want to thank you for being with us, Palestinian American human rights attorney, professor at Rutgers University, author of *Justice for Some: Law and the Question of Palestine*.

# Harris tries to thread the needle on Gaza..

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commemorated the anniversary of the Bloody Sunday march for voting rights in 1965.

During her speech, Harris said that “given the immense scale of suffering in Gaza, there must be an immediate ceasefire.”

The audience broke out in applause. A few sentences later, Harris emphasized that it was up to Hamas to accept the deal that had been offered. But her demand for a cease-fire still resonated in ways that Biden’s comments had not.

An AP-NORC poll conducted in June found that about 6 in 10 Democrats disapproved of the way Biden is handling the conflict between the Israelis and the Palestinians. Roughly the same number said Israel’s military response in Gaza had gone too far.

Israeli analysts said they doubted that Harris would present a dramatic shift in policies toward their country.

Chuck Freilich, a former Israeli deputy national security adviser and senior fellow at the Institute for National Security Studies, a Tel Aviv think tank, said Harris was from a generation of American politicians who felt they could both support Israel and publicly criticize its policies.

“The question is as president, what would she do?” Freilich said. “I think she would put considerably more pressure on Israel on the Palestinian issue overall.”

Associated Press writers Ashraf Khalil, Aamer Madhani and Amelia Thomson DeVeaux contributed to this report from Washington. Joey Cappelletti contributed from Lansing, Michigan, and Tia Goldenberg reported from Tel Aviv, Israel.

# Terror Squad FC leads NAIC quarterfinals

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equalized at 1-1 for Mi Gente.

Upcoming match on Friday night, July 26:

Conquerors FC vs Terror Squad at Ambergris Stadium

Upcoming match on Saturday, July 27:

Legends FC vs Club Atletico FC at Victor Sanchez Stadium

Upcoming matches on Sunday, July 28:

Calcutta Bulls FC vs Mi Gente FC at Calcutta Football Field

EZ Griga Conquerors vs Napoles FC at Carl Ramos Stadium.

In response to the concerns raised by the Christian Workers Union (CWU), Mrs. Sosa stated that the SSB management continues to maintain an open line of communication with union representatives and has proposed a meeting date to address these issues.

Mrs. Sosa especially acknowledged the

importance of the NTUCB’s role as a key stakeholder and the SSB’s commitment to accountability and collaboration. “As a tripartite stakeholder, your role is indeed crucial and we appreciate your dedication to the principles of accountability and the vigilance you bring to our shared objectives,” Mrs. Sosa wrote.



# Senate considers “more draconian” SOEs

Continued from Page 1

Herrera said, “It’s not something that I think we should take lightly. I mean, in one way, you are talking about preemptively take people who may commit a crime and putting them behind bars or take away their freedom.”

Herrera also described as a larger issue Government’s responsibility to protect law abiding citizens “as priority in this country” in the face of the culture of violence and intimidation that these gangs have created, which have “left a significant physical impact on this country.” Senator Herrera said the toll is not only physical, “there’s also a tremendous psychological effect. People live in fear.” He also pointed to the tremendous cost, particularly in the tourism sector where there is a loss of revenue because some may be turned away by the crime situation in Belize.

Addressing the responsibility of the state and how it has treated with crime in the past, Herrera said, “The state has a solemn duty to do what is necessary to make citizens feel safe. Obviously we don’t have the answers to reform these individuals. I think we have been down this road so many times in so many different forms, but it hasn’t worked. And we’re not talking about individuals here. That’s why they’re called gangs, because they are a form of organized crime.” He then declared, “But if they can’t live among us, then we have to look at options that will have them living apart, and I think that’s what we’re looking at.” He underscored another price he says we have paid as a society “for the freedom of these individuals to be out here trying to reform them, even as citizens of this country have lost their freedom to freely move around at times in certain areas. And I think we have given them many, many, many chances through many SOEs ... and I believe the time has come for us to decide if we’re all in or not.”

Herrera questioned whether two months is sufficient, if what we want to do is to “regain control of a bad situation,” or whether we are trying to “disrupt these activities on a temporary basis.” In wrapping up his contribution, Herrera explained that what he means when he asks if “we’re all in or not,” is for us to question whether it is possible to reform these individuals or not, while contemplating that citizens are living in fear. He concluded by questioning, if the SOEs are the answer, “How far do we go with it? ... and so when I say we go all in, do we do this for the long haul or do we continue to do these couple months as we’re going along? But there’s one thing I think we should not forget in this. We should not forget that we have a real duty to protect citizen safety and security. I think we’ve done a horrible job at it, and we need to do better. And if that means we have to look at this more seriously, probably more draconian, then I believe we should have that conversation.”

Church Senator Alvin Benguche supported the motion and says he has no issue with SOEs, understanding that they target gang members involved in turf wars, and accepting that citizens do live in fear as a result of gang activity. However, he pointed out that he has an issue with the freedom of movement of law-abiding citizens being infringed in the SOE areas. Importantly though, Bishop



Benguche cautioned that SOEs ought not to be the first option to curb crime, and that the Government needs a strategic plan to address crime.

For his part, National Trade Union Congress of Belize Senator, Glenfield Dennison cautioned the Government about constitutional provisions he says are already being violated under the SOE. Dennison stated, “What I’m asking is as it relates to the case law that obtains from countries who have, in fact, gone through litigation with states of emergencies, and have been made to pay significant awards of damages to persons whose liberty were infringed.” He outlined that the Constitution requires that within 7 days, everyone who is detained under an SOE is informed of the reason for their detention. Within 14 days, a publication must be made in the gazette along with the particularization of everyone’s infringement. Dennison pointed out that the blanket statement being used “that they have committed acts prejudicial to public safety and public order ... more specifically, criminal gang activities” does not meet the requirement. Lastly, reported Dennison, the Constitution requires that within one month of a detention, each detainee must be taken before a tribunal to determine the validity of their detention, and the tribunal will then make the decision of whether the “continued detention of that person is warranted.”

In wrapping up the debate, Leader of Government Business, Hon. Eamon Courtenay corrected the record to point out that there is currently no curfew as part of the SOE. We note that there is only a curfew for minors. He then affirmed that, “It is because of the state of emergency in specific targeted areas – parts of Belize City and a part of the Cayo District – that the good people in those areas are now able to walk freely and enjoy the amenities of life, because the gangs in those areas have been taken off the street and incarcerated.” Courtenay insisted that the SOE was intelligence driven. “It was targeted, surgical, to disrupt a turf war that was taking place. The reduction in crime in those areas is proof that the intelligence was right, and the measure was appropriate and proportionate,” he affirmed.

Courtenay declined to address the concerns of Senator Dennison saying, “I will not enter into a legal debate with Senator Dennison with respect to Section 19 of the Constitution, and I will not be here advocating on behalf of the rights of any of those who are incarcerated ...”

# “The Dean Barrow Story,” by Lawrence Vernon

Continued from Page 1

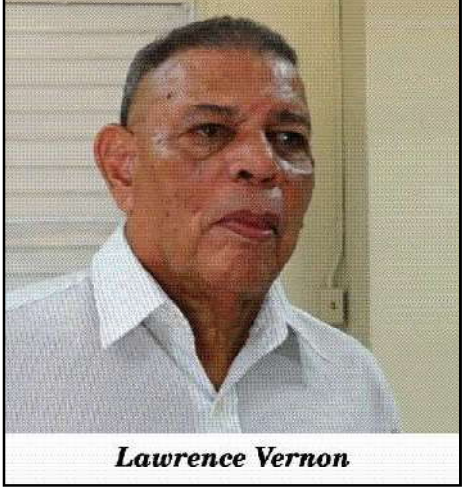
on Dean Barrow. I’m happy to help him join the biographical act of the previous prime ministers,” said Vernon.

Before becoming a three-time prime minister, Barrow entered the political arena as a candidate in the Belize City Council elections in December of 1983. In the early 70s, he went to work at his uncle’s law firm until establishing his own.

The book’s opening chapter, entitled, “Hail and Farewell,” examines Barrow’s final Independence Day speech as prime minister amid the COVID pandemic in 2020, and is used by Vernon to grab readers’ attention.

“His birth and early days are relegated to the second chapter, and the middle chapter is described in formation that the readers might already be acquainted with or want to know more about,” Vernon said. “I try to develop in each chapter following from the previous one to build up a fully rounded, believable person. Central to this, I oftentimes use Dean Barrow’s own words to relate aspects of his story in the book. His mastery of diction and his gracious and universal reading appetite must have been the result of his delving into the realms of classical and contemporary literature, exemplified in his great gift of oratory,” he further mentioned.

While writing the biography, Vernon read the biographies of several influential persons such as George Price, Michael Manley, Nelson Mandela, and others. “In the minds of all those persons’ biographies, there must have been the realization that their heritage had to be preserved and honored. So, in my mind,



it was of utmost importance that I document the nature of Dean Barrow and his contribution to Belize,” he explained.

Vernon is one of Belize’s most prolific writers of his generation and spent the majority of his years as a librarian at the Belize National Library Service from 1956 until his retirement in 1992 as Chief Librarian. In the same year, he joined the University College of Belize (UCB)—now the University of Belize (UB)—and remained there until his retirement in 2003, when he returned to the National Library Service until his final retirement in 2021.

Vernon has a large collection of publications under his name, including books, articles, and book reviews.

According to Vernon, this biography aims to provide an unbiased assessment of Barrow’s life and times,

It is Vernon’s twelfth publication and fifth biography.

The literary piece took two years to complete, and can be bought at the Angelus Press for \$40.

# Crime stats reveal rising murder rate

Continued from Page 1

and compares it with the same period in 2023.

In the period from January to June 2024, Belize recorded a total of 57 murders, up from 44 during the same period in 2023. This marks an increase of 13 murders, translating to nearly a 30% rise year-over-year.

The increase in murders was most notable in the Belize District, where cases rose from 24 in the first half of 2023 to 31 in 2024. Other districts such as Cayo saw murders double from 4 in 2023 to 9 in 2024. In Corozal, although the number increase was smaller, the percentage rise was great, 200%, as the district saw murders rise from 1 to 3. Meanwhile, murders in Orange Walk increased from 1 in 2023 to 6 in 2024, an astounding 500% increase.

In the south, specifically Stann Creek, the number of murders remained stable, with 5 reported in both years; while the

Toledo District experienced a small rise, from 6 murders in 2023 to 7 in 2024, a 17% rise.

While the surge in murders is the most alarming aspect of the report, other categories of crime showed varied trends. For instance, cases of rape showed a slight increase, from 18 in the first half of 2023 to 19 in the same period in 2024, a 6% increase. Meanwhile robbery incidents rose from 76 to 93, indicating a 22% increase.

Conversely, burglary cases saw a significant decrease, dropping from 306 incidents in the first six months of 2023 to 233, a 24% drop, in the same period in 2024. Theft cases also saw a decline from 62 to 47, with a similar 24% reduction in the corresponding period.

The data also highlighted a troubling increase in shooting incidents. The total number of shootings rose from 101 in the first half of 2023 to 128 in 2024. This represents a 27% increase.

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