

Remembrance Day in Belize

The poppy, and the vital role of the Belize Ex-Services League



BELIZE CITY, Mon. Nov. 11, 2024

While some folks are fearful that the simmering regional wars in the Middle East, parts of Africa and the Russian-Ukraine situation could escalate into

global conflict, today, November 11, is being observed as Remembrance Day, a time when many around the world pause to honor the soldiers who lost their lives in the First World War and

subsequent conflicts. One of the most poignant symbols of this day is the red poppy flower, a symbol of remembrance that traces its roots to the fields of Flanders in Belgium. And it is everyone's wish that this remembrance will continue to serve as a deterrent to

nations around the world from even contemplating WW III.



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Senate passes 6 Bills at Special Sitting

by William Ysaguirre



Senator Denfield Dennison

BELMOPAN, Mon. Nov. 11, 2024

The Senate debated and approved the first Supplementary Appropriations Bill of \$106 Million for this fiscal year; passed two new Bills into law; approved amendments to three existing laws after their third readings; and introduced a motion to hire an interim Auditor General on a four month contract, notwithstanding objections raised by the Opposition UDP Senators and the Senators representing the workers' unions and the private sector, at a Special

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Parliament members attend conference in Australia



Senior Clerk Assistant, Eudice Gibson; Minister of Investment, Hon. Jorge "Milin" Espat; President of the Senate, Hon. Carolyn Trench Sandiford; and The Speaker of the House of Representatives, Hon. Valarie Woods

by Charles Gladden

BELIZE CITY, Fri. Nov. 8, 2024

Several members of Belize's parliament traveled to Sydney, Australia to attend the 67th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference (CPC), held between November 3 and 8, under the theme, "Engage, Empower, Sustain: Charting the course for resilient democracy".

The members of Belize's parliament who attended the conference included the Speaker of the House of Representatives, Hon. Valarie Woods; President of the Senate, Hon. Carolyn Trench Sandiford; Minister of Investment, Hon. Jorge "Milin" Espat; and Senior Clerk Assistant, Eudice Gibson.

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Housefire on Freetown Road



Burnt remains of house

by Charles Gladden

BELIZE CITY, Mon. Nov. 11, 2024

A wooden structure that was situated beside Korea Electronics at the corner of Freetown Road and Douglas Jones

Street in Belize City mysteriously caught on fire in the late hours of Sunday night, November 10.

Reports suggest that the fire broke out

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MOHW launches revised Breastfeeding Policy



by Charles Gladden

BELIZE CITY, Mon. Nov. 11, 2024

The Ministry of Health and Wellness (MOHW) officially launched a revised version of its National Breastfeeding Policy 2024-2034 on Monday, November 11.

The official launch replaces the ministry’s previous policy which was instituted nearly 30 years ago – 28 years to be exact, and promotes breastfeeding on demand by increasing the rate of exclusive breastfeeding for the first six months of a child’s life.

“The last time the breastfeeding policy was launched in 1996, it’s 28 years too long,” said the Minister of Health and Wellness, Hon. Kevin Bernard. “In any developing country, in any country, when you set policies, especially health policies, it should be within 10 years, because it has to be reviewed. As time changes, you need to adapt to certain things; you need to adapt to certain conditions,” he added.

“When we look at breastfeeding, we see who is involved in the breastfeeding process. We see nurses; we see

nutritionists; we see health educators; we see our directors in terms of advocacy legislation; and we also have our stakeholders and partners. So, it’s the entire team here today to do this launch,” said Robyn Daly-Faber, Technical Advisor for the Nutrition Unit at the MOHW.

Members of the Ministry of Health and Wellness along with the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) and United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) formulated the policy over three years.

“We were able to develop this new policy. One that is progressive, one that is looking at ensuring that we are reaching our targets,” said Minister Bernard.

He additionally highlighted that Belize stands at 33% when it comes to the percentage of children under the age of 6 months old being breastfed with the implementation of the national policy, which is lower than the 50% target the World Health Organization (WHO) set for countries.

“We need to do more, so it will involve everyone. It will include

education. It will include the human development aspect of our ministry, the Ministry of Health. It will also be our mothers and our children, our fathers, because we need to ensure that from an educational side, people understand that breastfeeding is very critical. It’s important for a child’s growth,” Minister Bernard noted.

According to Daly-Faber, work has been in the pipeline to formalize breastfeeding in the workplace with over 50 different workplaces throughout the country.

“A woman who is breastfeeding goes through a lot, and we advocate and

influence employers to support women who are breastfeeding. So, the support can come in different ways. They can have a space; some places have established an entire room for breastfeeding, and other places have allowed a space where, a private space for a woman [where she] can pump her breast; or the child can be brought to the facility; and then we also have other support that, for example having the woman have time off, flexible work schedule. These are all parts of the support that we ask employers to consider when looking at workplace support for breastfeeding women,” she said.

Murder in Mango Creek

by Charles Gladden

M A N G O C R E E K , Stann Creek District, Fri. Nov. 8, 2024

A man was brutally murdered in southern Belize on Thursday night, November 7. The victim, who was stabbed to death, was identified as 28-year-old Selvin Humes, a construction worker from Independence Village.

According to police reports, Humes’s lifeless body was found with multiple stab wounds in the village around 9:00 p.m. near Southern Corner restaurant, adjacent to the village’s cemetery.

Humes’ body was taken to the Independence Poly Clinic where he was pronounced dead, and then transferred to the Southern Regional Hospital, where a post-mortem examination will be conducted.



(L-R) Selvin Bahadur Humes, deceased and Randell Russell Montero, charged with murder

It was reported that the alleged killer, 22-year-old Randell Montero of Independence Village, became enraged when Humes threw some beer on him, and this led to the stabbing.

Police have detained Montero, who was charged with murder on Saturday, November 9.

Some persons in the community have said that Humes was a calm person and a loner; and that he had decided to move out of his aunt’s home approximately three weeks ago.

Humes is originally from Belize City, but had relocated to Mango Creek to obtain employment with his uncle.

Leeroy Bardalez freed of murder charge

by Roy Davis (freelance writer)

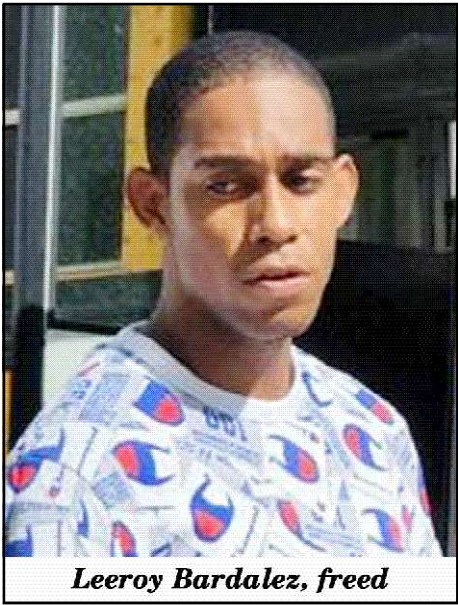
BELIZE CITY, Mon. Nov. 11, 2024

Leeroy Bardalez, 26, who was charged with the murder of Nelson “Ricky” Miguel, walked out of the court of Justice Nigel Pilgrim a free man this morning after the Crown, represented by Senior Crown Counsel Sheneiza Smith, entered a *nolle prosequi*, indicating that the Crown would not proceed to trial.

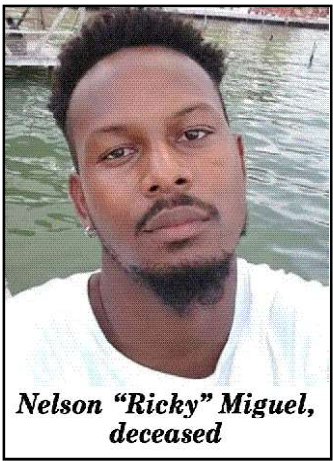
Justice Pilgrim then told Bardalez that he was free to leave the courtroom. Bardalez walked as far as the corner of Treasury Lane and Regent Street, then he sprinted across Regent Street to freedom.

Miguel, a resident of Dangriga, was shot and killed on the night of September 7, 2020, while he and a woman, Thalia Westby, were in a car parked on Fabers Road in Belize City.

The gunman reportedly fired a barrage of bullets into the car from the driver’s side where Miguel was located. Miguel sustained several gunshot wounds



Leeroy Bardalez, freed



Nelson “Ricky” Miguel, deceased

and he died several hours later while receiving treatment at the Karl Heusner Memorial Hospital. Westby was shot in her leg. She was treated and released.

Bardalez had also been charged with attempted murder, but that charge was withdrawn.

Bardalez was represented by attorney Arthur Saldivar.

Man shot and killed in San Pedro

by Charles Gladden

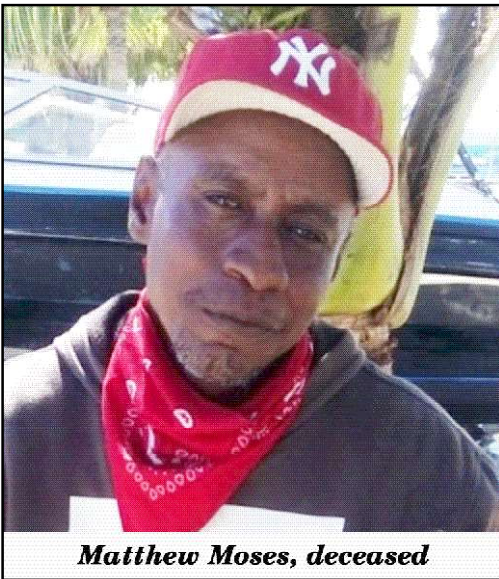
SAN PEDRO, Ambergris Caye, Mon. Nov. 11, 2024

Police currently have in custody a man who is the main suspect in a fatal shooting that occurred in San Pedro Town on Friday, November 8.

The shooting took place at Mile 8.6 in the Secret Beach subdivision of the island after 1:00 p.m. When police later went to the scene, they found the lifeless body of Matthew Jonathan Moses, 46, a maintenance worker from the island, and when they observed his body they saw several gunshot wounds. Also present at the crime scene was Samuel Bolanos, 27, a caretaker.

According to police reports, before the fatal shooting occurred, there had been an argument between Moses and Bolanos, which led to Bolanos pulling out a licensed 9mm pistol and firing multiple gunshots which fatally wounded Moses.

Unconfirmed reports are suggesting that the argument between the two men



Matthew Moses, deceased

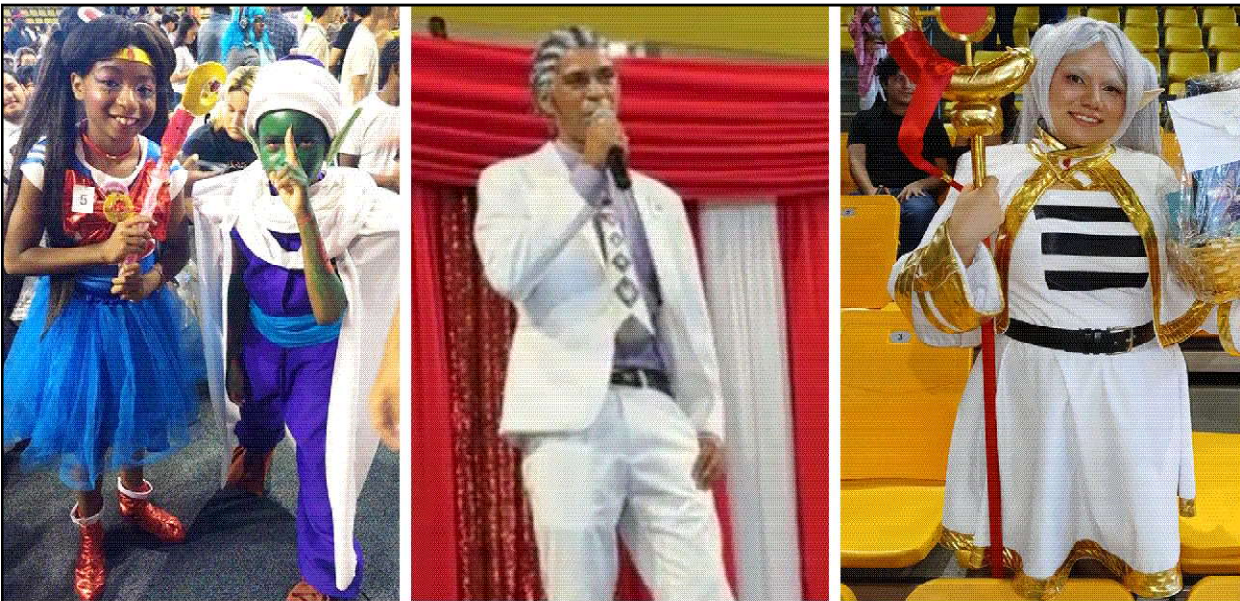
arose due to an issue with a former employer, and Moses had allegedly threatened to kill Bolanos and his family.

Bolanos was detained by police when they arrived at the scene, and his firearm was confiscated along with two magazines. Charges have yet to be levied against Bolanos.

Moses’ body will undergo a post-mortem examination.

Japan Day in Belize

Celebrating Japanese culture and community influence



KIDS COSPLAY: Amara Cheche and Miles Reyes (1st place tie winners); **TEEN COSPLAY 1st Place,** Damien Itza and **ADULT COSPLAY 1st Place,** Megan Williams



Photo: Ginely Novel

Japanese Experience - Wear a Yukata Kimono

BELIZE CITY, Mon. Nov. 11, 2024

On Sunday, November 10th, the 16th annual Japan Day was held at the Belize City Civic Center by the Japanese Community, JICA Belize Office and the Embassy of Japan in Belize. The opening ceremony featured an address by Ambassador Nobuyuki Shirakata and demonstrations of Karate, Aikido, and dance. The event featured traditional music by special guest from Japan, Yosuke Irie, a distinguished Japanese shakuhachi master; Belizean stage performances, Japan Bon Dance, kimonos, sushi, crafts, vendor booths by the Belize and Asian community, and the highlight of the event was the 7th annual

Animeniacs Cosplay Contest.

Japan Day in Belize has become a beloved tradition, celebrating the deepening cultural ties between Japan and Belize. Japan Day was founded by Ms. Asako Solis and Ms. Yumi Guild Saki who were at the time JICA Volunteers on March 2008 at St. Joseph Elementary School & Stella Maris School, and since its inception the event has grown both in size and significance, with multiple editions held to date. Each year, Japan Day offers Belizeans a chance to experience Japan’s vibrant culture through a variety of activities, performances, and exhibitions. From traditional Japanese arts to modern pop

culture phenomena, the event reflects Japan’s diverse influence on the Belizean community. This year, according to the Embassy of Japan in Belize, over 1,500 people were in attendance. During the event special honor was mentioned of both Ms. Solis and Ms. Saki for their

dedication over the past 16 years that



Eden Cruz (Belizean President of Animeniacs Belize) and Asako Solis (Japanese Co-Founder of Japan Day)

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Notice


Our advertisers and readers are advised that there will be no online Tuesday issue of the newspaper next week due to the Garifuna Settlement Day holiday on November 19. There will only be the Friday issue, which will hit the street on **Friday, November 22, 2024**



Happy

GARIFUNA SETTLEMENT DAY!

from the management and staff of Kremandala



"Afeduha waméi wagücha, afareinha waméi wanichigu – Celebrating our roots; sharing our culture!"

PACT awards \$150,000 in grants to tertiary level students from across Belize



Hon. Orlando Habet being questioned by reporters on climate change



Dr. Kenrick Williams, the Chairman of the Board of Directors at PACT, gives his remarks

by Orlando Pulido

SANTA ELENA TOWN, Cayo District, Sat. Nov. 9, 2024
The Protected Areas Conservation Trust (PACT) has almost doubled the



Dr. Vincent Palacio, president of the University of Belize at left with his students receiving grants from PACT



L-R: Doharty Cuc will go to Galen University and Adriana Yanes will attend the University of Belize with the Protected Areas Conservation Trust PACT grants

number of recipients of its award grants—in comparison to last year. On Friday, November 8, nineteen students were awarded a total of \$150,000 in academic grants through PACT’s Youth Academic Support program. The awards were presented at the Ministry of Sustainable Development

headquarters in Belmopan.
In an interview with *Amandala*, Dr. Kenrick Williams, the Chairman of the Board of Directors at PACT, said the grant was “being awarded [to] both Associate and Bachelor degree students from five institutions across the country in various disciplines—business, natural resource management, social work [in] various fields—and so it really provides a cross section of students

resources valuation, so these new and emerging fields in conservation and development.”
In his keynote address, Hon. Orlando Habet, Minister of Sustainable Development and Climate Change, stated that the Youth Academic Support Grant Program is more than a financial contribution. “It’s an investment in the leaders of tomorrow,” he said.
Minister Habet, who has represented Belize at various international climate change fora, told the youths on Friday that their “commitment to education and [the] environment is what makes today possible.”
Hon. Habet continued, “Remember that you carry with you the hopes of a nation ... together we are planting the seeds of our progress.”

One of those recipients is Doharty Cus from the Belmopan Comprehensive High School, who now wants to study at Galen University in Central Farm.
“I feel relieved because there will be less financial stress,” he said.
Adrianni Yanes is another recipient who now wants to go to the University of Belize. “I feel thankful for the opportunity,” she said.
Since its founding, PACT has been at the forefront of conservation in Belize. PACT is a statutory organization established as a Trust Fund under the Protected Areas Conservation Trust Act, Chapter 218 of the Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2020.

Americans: How to save our democracy



(Photo from Pixabay)

Tuesday, November 5 at 5:37 AM
As today is Election Day in the United States, I wrote this:
When I was in the sixth grade at St. Ladislaus Elementary School, the class ate lunch at our desks. Volunteer “lunch mothers” stood sentry in front of the classroom until we finished our meal, lined up and went outside.

One lunch mother at the largely Polish Catholic school in Hempstead, New York, could not talk to us ... or anyone. We learned that her tongue had been cut out when she was in a concentration camp.
It was such a heinous act that we did not question it further. I reasoned that she had threatened to speak or had spoken what was forbidden. In an authoritarian regime, keeping order is paramount at the expense of the individual.
Today, whoever wins the U.S. presidential election — Kamala Harris or Donald Trump — we, as Americans, must speak and listen to each other because the exchange of ideas is the basis of democracy.
When we shirk from our responsibility and embrace self-censorship, we commit a violence against each other and the state.

-FREEDOM WRITER-
Cynthia Adina Kirkwood

(AMANDALA Ed. Note: Belizeans, the same applies.)

Body found near to San Lazaro Village, O.W.

by Charles Gladden

ORANGE WALK, Mon. Nov. 11, 2024
Late this evening, reports emerged of a body being found in the Orange Walk District, and *Amandala* later confirmed those reports with the victim being identified as 48-year-old Julio Carrillo, a resident of San Lazaro Village, Orange Walk District.
At around 4:00 p.m., Carrillo’s lifeless body, which displayed stab wound injuries, was found on the outskirts of his home village.
Authorities from the Orange Walk

District who are investigating what may have happened to cause Carrillo to die suspect that he was placed at the scene and the heinous act was committed elsewhere.
Additional information is that Carrillo was last seen three days ago by his family, but they lost contact with him. However, he was reportedly sighted by several villagers who claimed to have seen him alive as recently as Sunday, November 10.
Two persons who it is believed played a role in the Carrillo’s execution are being sought.



Call us at: 202-4477



The age of misinformation – Fake News

With the explosion of social media in recent years following the internet revolution, the major mass media outlets (radio and television stations) worldwide no longer have a monopoly on the information reaching the ears and minds of citizens worldwide. With Facebook, Instagram, TikTok, and individual podcasts on YouTube, etc., one person can have hundreds, thousands, and even millions of “followers”. The genie is out of the box, so to speak, and things will never be the same again, where information to the public is concerned. And whereas previously we all felt that reports from CNN, NBC, BBC, CBS, etc. were gospel, many people are now tuning in to Al Jazeera and following podcasts on YouTube from *Democracy Now!* as well as reading articles and blogs by a number of independent writers and scholars for information on international issues. And as a nation, it is good for us to become more keenly aware of how information on the global scene could be manipulated for or against us as a people, especially in the light of our approaching destiny with the ICJ. Just like the food we consume could be unhealthy for us, some news sources can be pushing special agendas—thus the need to carefully navigate through them and stay alert to “pick sense from nonsense.”

Interestingly, the winner in the recent U.S. presidential election, whom his opponents had labeled a felon and liar, was among the first to draw national attention to the pervasiveness of “fake news”, as his defense against the plethora of accusations he faced. While the major mass media touted the election as one of the most hotly contested ones in modern times, the result was decisive. The Republican Trump received in 2024 just over a million more votes (75,581,082) than he did in 2020 (74,223,975) according to Wikipedia; meanwhile his Democrat opponent in 2024, Kamala Harris, whose campaign was heavily financed, received almost ten million fewer votes (71,708,435), than Joe Biden did in 2020 when he won with 81,284,666 votes.

There have been all kinds of explanations from the experts at the major American media houses; but in our old Belizean tradition, it appears that Trump

was not necessarily voted in by American voters, but Harris (Biden) was voted out. The question is why.

After being relieved of the burden of the aging Biden and his unpopular “iron clad” stance on the genocide in Gaza, and following his disastrous debate with Trump, there was some relief and new energy inside the Democrats’ campaign behind new presidential candidate Kamala Harris; but the wind was soon knocked out of their sails, when she committed to maintain Biden’s “iron clad” stance, and frustration disintegrated into despair at their national convention when, despite protests, not a single pro-Palestinian speaker was allowed on stage, and the angry backlash was unleashed on November 5.

If the Democrats were listening to the major mass media in the U.S., it is understandable how they could have been fooled. Social media was on fire with the pain and anger of the American voters (many of whom were struggling to make ends meet) against the repeated announcements of billions being sent to Israel to bomb the helpless Palestinians, billions that represented their tax dollars, to kill thousands of innocent children and women and elderly in Gaza, even while the rest of the world and the United Nations condemned the genocide. Talk about the economy, and abortion, and

climate change all they want; the student demonstrations on university campuses across the U.S. were real, and their repression by the police was reminiscent of the 1960’s anti-war fever against the U.S. involvement in Vietnam. The election result therefore seems to indicate a protest vote from those Democrat voters who could not bring themselves to vote for Harris (Biden), but would not vote for Trump.

The reality is that, as activist/educator Sandra Coye said on Krem WUB this morning, people all over the world are fed up with political leadership. And that might be a factor to consider at home, where, in the absence of a credible Opposition at this time, our current PUP government might be tempted toward complacency, and to ride roughshod over all dissident voices. Despite a super-majority in the House, and a string of landslide election victories in village council and town board elections, they may recall that elections in Belize have often been characterized by a focus on the office holders, and voters decide to put them back in, or vote them out, whatever be the credentials or competencies of the replacements. In that light, it is heartening to note that our government seems to be giving pause to acknowledge and value the input and opinions of voices from the community: case in point, responding to the protest from the hospital workers union to have their representative replaced on the board of the KHHM. Every voice counts, and it may be a sign of political maturity and good stewardship that they seem not inclined to make the mistake of taking silence from the electorate to mean enthusiastic support.

For those still not convinced of this very real phenomenon called “fake news” or twisted information, a very good case just occurred a couple days ago in Amsterdam, where some major news sources chose to wrap the facts completely with an Israeli bias, while others looked at the whole picture with greater balance, and fairness to the Palestinians.

It is relevant to us in Belize, because our story might one day be in the news. The problem of fan hooliganism at football matches has long been a concern in Europe, but the media treatment of the recent Amsterdam incident is a revelation. Notably, nobody was killed.

Belizeans, read for yourself, and pick sense from nonsense. And remember the backdrop of this incident: daily bombings and killings in Gaza, while hundreds of Israeli fans traveled by airplane to Amsterdam to support their football team in a town with many resident and grieving Arab Palestinians.

The following are headlines from some “major news media” sources that you can Google:

- Haaretz | Israel News
www.haaretz.com, Nov 8, 2024
U.S. President Biden and Dutch King Condemn ‘Antisemitic’ Attack on Israeli Soccer Fans in Amsterdam
- CBC News – World
www.cbc.ca, Nov. 09, 2024
Dutch PM ‘ashamed’ by Amsterdam attacks on Israeli soccer fans
- CBS News
www.cbsnews.com, November 8, 2024
Israeli soccer fans attacked in Amsterdam, with 5 hospitalized and dozens of suspects arrested
- BBC News
www.bbc.com, Nov. 8, 2024
We must not turn blind eye to antisemitism, says Dutch king after attacks on Israeli football fans
- CNN World/Europe
edition.cnn.com, Sat. Nov. 9, 2024
Amsterdam bans protests for three days following violent attacks on Israeli soccer fans
- NBC News
www.nbcnews.com, Nov. 8, 2024, 1:16 PM
Israeli soccer fans attacked in Amsterdam
- ALJAZEERA
www.aljazeera.com, 9 Nov 2024 05:19 AM (GMT)
Israeli football fans clash with protesters in Amsterdam
- The Associated Press
apnews.com, Nov. 8, 2024
Israeli soccer fans were attacked in Amsterdam. The violence was condemned as antisemitic
- The Star News
www.thestar.com.my, Sunday, 10 Nov 2024
The buildup to attacks on Israeli football supporters in Amsterdam
- ALJAZEERA
www.aljazeera.com, 10 Nov 2024
Israeli football fans, pro-Palestinians attacked in Amsterdam: What we know



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La era de la desinformación – Noticias falsas

Con la explosión de las redes sociales en los últimos años tras la revolución de Internet, los principales medios de comunicación masivos (estaciones de radio y televisión) de todo el mundo ya no tienen el monopolio de la información que llega a los oídos y las mentes de los ciudadanos de todo el mundo. Con Facebook, Instagram, TikTok y podcasts individuales en YouTube, etc., una persona puede tener cientos, miles e incluso millones de “seguidores”. El genio ha salido de la caja, por así decirlo, y las cosas nunca volverán a ser lo mismo en lo que respecta a la información al público. Y mientras que antes todos creíamos que los informes de CNN, NBC, BBC, CBS, etc. eran *la palabra de Dios*, muchas personas ahora sintonizan Al Jazeera y siguen podcasts en YouTube de *Democracy Now!*, además de leer artículos y blogs de varios escritores y académicos independientes para obtener información sobre cuestiones internacionales. Y como nación, es bueno que nos volvamos más conscientes de cómo la información en la escena global podría ser manipulada a favor o en contra de nosotros como pueblo, especialmente a la luz de nuestro destino que se avecina con la CIJ. Al igual que la comida que consumimos puede ser insalubre para nosotros, algunas fuentes de noticias pueden estar impulsando agendas especiales, de ahí la necesidad de navegar con cuidado a través de ellas y estar alertos para “separar el sentido del disparate”.

Curiosamente, el ganador de las recientes elecciones presidenciales de Estados Unidos, a quien sus oponentes habían tachado de delincuente y mentiroso, fue uno de los primeros en atraer la atención nacional hacia la omnipresencia de las “noticias falsas”, como su defensa contra la plétora de acusaciones que enfrentó. Si bien los principales medios de comunicación promocionaron la elección como una de las más reñidas de los tiempos modernos, el resultado fue decisivo. El republicano Trump recibió en 2024 poco más de un millón de votos más (75.581.082) de los que recibió en 2020 (74.223.975) según Wikipedia; Mientras tanto, su oponente demócrata en 2024, Kamala Harris, cuya campaña fue fuertemente financiada, recibió casi diez millones de votos menos (71.708.435) que Joe Biden en 2020, cuando ganó con 81.284.666 votos.

Ha habido todo tipo de explicaciones por parte de los expertos de los principales medios de comunicación estadounidenses; pero en nuestra vieja tradición beliceña, parece que Trump no fue necesariamente elegido por los votantes estadounidenses, sino que Harris (Biden) fue expulsada. La pregunta es por qué.

Después de verse aliviado de la carga del anciano Biden y su impopular postura “férrea” sobre el genocidio en Gaza, y después de su desastroso debate con Trump, hubo cierto alivio y nueva energía dentro de la campaña demócrata detrás de la nueva candidata presidencial Kamala Harris; Pero pronto se les cortó el viento cuando se comprometió a mantener la postura “férrea” de Biden, y la frustración se desintegró en desesperación en su convención nacional cuando, a pesar de las protestas, no se permitió que subiera al escenario ni un solo orador pro palestino, y la reacción furiosa se desató el 5 de noviembre.

Si los demócratas estaban escuchando a los principales medios de comunicación de Estados Unidos, es comprensible que hubieran sido engañados. Las redes sociales estaban en llamas con el dolor y la ira de los votantes estadounidenses (muchos de los cuales estaban luchando por llegar a fin de mes) contra los repetidos anuncios de miles de millones que se enviarían a Israel para bombardear a los palestinos indefensos, miles de millones que representaban sus dólares de impuestos, para matar a miles de niños, mujeres y ancianos inocentes en Gaza, incluso mientras el resto del mundo y las Naciones Unidas condenaban el genocidio. Hablen de economía, aborto y cambio climático todo lo que quieran; Las manifestaciones estudiantiles en los campus universitarios de todo Estados Unidos fueron reales y la represión policial recordó la fiebre antibélica de los años 60, contra la intervención estadounidense en Vietnam. Por tanto, el resultado de las elecciones parece indicar un voto de protesta de aquellos votantes demócratas que no se animaron a votar por Harris (Biden), pero tampoco votaron por Trump.

La realidad es que, como dijo la activista y educadora Sandra Coye en el programa Krem WUB esta mañana, la gente de todo el mundo está harta de los líderes políticos. Y ese podría ser un factor a tener en cuenta en nuestro país, donde, en ausencia de una oposición creíble en este momento, nuestro actual gobierno del PUP podría verse tentado a caer en la complacencia y a pasar por encima de todas las voces disidentes. A pesar de una supermayoría en la Cámara de Representantes y una serie de victorias aplastantes en las elecciones a los

consejos aldeanos y a las juntas municipales, es posible que recuerden que las elecciones en Belize a menudo se han caracterizado por centrarse en los funcionarios, y los votantes deciden volver a ponerlos en el cargo o expulsarlos, independientemente de las credenciales o competencias de los sustitutos. En ese sentido, es alentador observar que nuestro gobierno parece estar haciendo una pausa para reconocer y valorar los aportes y las opiniones de las voces de la comunidad: un ejemplo de ello es la respuesta a la protesta del sindicato de trabajadores del hospital a que se reemplazara a su representante en la junta directiva del KHHM. Cada voz cuenta, y puede ser una señal de madurez política y buena gestión que no parezcan inclinados a cometer el error de interpretar el silencio del electorado como un apoyo entusiasta.

Para aquellos que todavía no están convencidos de este fenómeno muy real llamado “noticias falsas” o información distorsionada, un muy buen caso ocurrió hace un par de días en Ámsterdam, donde algunas importantes fuentes de noticias decidieron envolver los hechos por completo con un sesgo israelí, mientras que otras analizaron el panorama completo con mayor equilibrio y equidad hacia los palestinos.

Es relevante para nosotros en Belize, porque nuestra historia podría algún día aparecer en las noticias.

El problema del vandalismo de los aficionados en los partidos de fútbol ha sido una preocupación durante mucho tiempo en Europa, pero el tratamiento que los medios dieron al reciente incidente de Ámsterdam es una revelación. Cabe destacar que no hubo muertos.

Beliceños, lean por sí mismos y sepan distinguir el sentido de lo absurdo. Y recuerden el contexto de este incidente: bombardeos y asesinatos diarios en Gaza, mientras cientos de aficionados israelíes viajaban en avión a Ámsterdam para apoyar a su equipo de fútbol en una ciudad con muchos residentes árabes palestinos en duelo.

Los siguientes son titulares de algunas fuentes de los “principales medios de comunicación” que pueden buscar en Google:

- Haaretz | Israel News
www.haaretz.com, Nov 8, 2024
Presidente de Estados Unidos, Biden, y el rey holandés condenan ataque “antisemita” contra aficionados israelíes al fútbol en Ámsterdam
- CBC News – World
www.cbc.ca, Nov. 09, 2024
Primer ministro holandés “avergonzado” por los ataques en Ámsterdam contra aficionados israelíes al fútbol —CBS News
www.cbsnews.com, November 8, 2024
Atacan a aficionados israelíes al fútbol en Ámsterdam, con 5 hospitalizados y decenas de sospechosos arrestados
- BBC News
www.bbc.com, Nov. 8, 2024
No debemos hacer la vista gorda ante el antisemitismo, dice el rey holandés tras ataques a aficionados israelíes al fútbol
- CNN World/Europe
edition.cnn.com, Sat. Nov. 9, 2024
Ámsterdam prohíbe las protestas durante tres días tras los violentos ataques a aficionados israelíes al fútbol
- NBC News
www.nbcnews.com, Nov. 8, 2024, 1:16 PM
Aficionados israelíes al fútbol atacados en Amsterdam
- ALJAZEERA
www.aljazeera.com, 9 Nov 2024 05:19 AM (GMT)
Aficionados israelíes al fútbol se enfrentan con manifestadores en Ámsterdam
- The Associated Press
apnews.com, Nov. 8, 2024
Aficionados israelíes al fútbol fueron atacados en Ámsterdam. La violencia fue condenada como antisemita
- The Star News
www.thestar.com.my, Sunday, 10 Nov 2024
La preparación para los ataques a los aficionados israelíes al fútbol en Ámsterdam
- ALJAZEERA
www.aljazeera.com, 10 Nov 2024
Aficionados israelíes al fútbol y pro palestinos atacados en Ámsterdam: lo que sabemos



In March of 1961, the colony of British Honduras held its first national election under a new Ministerial constitution. (British Honduras became self-governing in 1964.) The People’s United Party (PUP) won all 18 seats in the new House of Representatives.

Ever since then, this country has practiced a form of parliamentary democracy which is bastardized, so to speak. For parliamentary democracy to be perfected, again so to speak, the persons in the Cabinet, or executive section of the democracy, must be fewer in number than the non-Cabinet members of the House of Representatives, who constitute what we call the legislature.

Even when the margin of the ruling party’s majority is very narrow, such as the PUP’s 16-14 majority in 1989 and the United Democratic Party’s (UDP) 16-13 majority in 1993, the Prime Ministers of Belize have always made sure that no alliance of the non-Cabinet area representatives can take place with the Opposition area representatives to outnumber the Cabinet, in order to reject any piece of legislation and send it back to Cabinet. In other words, there has never been a functional group of so-called backbenchers in the Belize House of Representatives.

At the beginning of the 1998 PUP government, there was a reform movement amongst influential and informed Belizeans which was pushing for an elected Senate. Strictly speaking, such an elected Senate was to have the power to reject a bill and send it back

to the House.

Such an elected Senate was never introduced into Belize, but at some point a Senate system was established wherein the ruling party appointed the majority of a Senate, but the Opposition party’s appointments could cast a majority vote with the support of the Senators appointed by the churches, the unions, the Chamber of Commerce, and the Non-Government Organizations (NGO’s).

Personally, I have never paid a great deal of attention to the shenanigans involving the discussions about the Senate initiative. I feel that I have been negligent on this score, and my excuse was that the important thing was always to embrace the righteous backbencher aspect of the parliamentary democracy system.

So that, I had to do some consultation before writing this column, because I thought I had heard somewhere that the present Senate, comprised of 13 Belizeans, has in fact sent back a bill to the present House, not to the Cabinet. (The present Senate includes 6 PUP-appointed Senators, 3 UDP-appointed Senators, and Senators from the churches, the unions, the Chamber, and the NGO’s.)

The key thing is that our present Senate cannot send a financial bill back to the House. Now then, it is the case that government (political power) is all about money, or the power of taxation over the citizenry. If you can’t question the money, then you are more cosmetic than powerful. That is why the backbencher system would be more of

a check upon the Cabinet. Or, at least, that is what I believe.

The parliamentary system we have in Belize came from the British, who developed it in the first half of the seventeenth century. In Great Britain, the parliament became so powerful that they beheaded a king in 1649. Kings and queens had ruled Britain for centuries, but today the king is only a figurehead. The power in Britain rests in the House of Commons and its Prime Minister, but the backbencher system is in place so that the Prime Minister and his Cabinet can be checked.

In Belize today, not only has there never been a backbencher system in place, but presently there is absolute chaos amongst the five elected Opposition area representatives. One UDP area rep has never attended a House meeting since being elected four

years ago, and there are two UDP area reps who are quarrelling for leadership on a public stage. At this point, not only does Belize not possess the important backbencher system, but we also do not have a really functional Opposition.

The upshot of this situation is that Belize cannot be considered a parliamentary democracy. You may even say that it never was, a parliamentary democracy, that is, because there have never been backbenchers. But today, November 11, 2024, we do not have an organized, cohesive Opposition, so all we have is a lot of noise in the broadcast and social media.

This is not good. Somewhere, it is said, there are people who are supposed to be preparing a new constitution for Belize. Interesting, beloved, interesting.



En marzo de 1961, la colonia de Honduras Británica celebró su primera elección nacional bajo una nueva constitución ministerial. (Honduras Británica se convirtió en autónoma en 1964.) El Partido Unido del Pueblo (PUP) ganó los 18 escaños en la nueva Cámara de Representantes.

Desde entonces, este país ha practicado una forma de democracia parlamentaria que es bastardeada, por

así decirlo. Para que la democracia parlamentaria se perfeccione, por así decirlo, las personas en el Gabinete, o sección ejecutiva de la democracia, deben ser menos en número que los miembros no pertenecientes al Gabinete de la Cámara de Representantes, que constituyen lo que llamamos la legislatura.

Incluso cuando el margen de la mayoría del partido gobernante es muy estrecho, como la mayoría de 16-14 del PUP en 1989 y la mayoría de 16-13 del Partido Demócrata Unido (UDP en inglés) en 1993, los primeros ministros de Belize siempre se han asegurado de que no se produzca ninguna alianza entre los representantes de área que no forman parte del Gabinete y los representantes de área de la oposición para superar en número al Gabinete, con el fin de rechazar cualquier proyecto de ley y devolverlo al Gabinete. En otras palabras, nunca ha habido un grupo funcional de los llamados parlamentarios de segunda línea en la Cámara de Representantes de Belize.

Al comienzo del gobierno del PUP en 1998, hubo un movimiento de reforma entre los beliceños influyentes e informados que presionaban por un Senado electo. Estrictamente hablando, ese Senado electo debía tener el poder de rechazar un proyecto de ley y enviarlo de vuelta a la Cámara.

BETHEL AME RETURNS TO BELIZE

November 14-18, 2024

A mission team, led by Rev. Mashod A. Evans, Sr. will travel from Michigan, Illinois, and Texas to Belize City for meaningful mission work. During their time they will work to beautify a home for women who are post-incarceration, spend time fellowshiping with children, provide basic medical assessments to the citizens of Belize City, via a health fair, and lift up the Lord through worship, word, and evangelism.



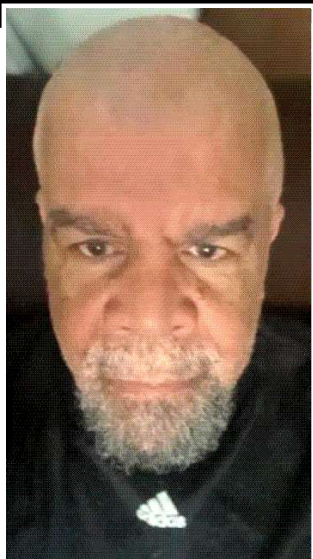
To learn more about the Bethel Belize Mission Trip, tune in to Moments of Inspiration Ministry by Virginia Echols on Sunday, November 10th at 8:00 am EST on Facebook and YouTube.

Rev. Mashod A. Evans, Sr.
Pastor & Trip Leader

Virginia Echols
Belize Liaison & Ministry Host



The rebirth of a nation!



Saturday, November 9, 2024 at 6:02 PM

In 1915, D.W. Griffith made the landmark film, *The Birth of a Nation*, a silent 3-hour film that portrayed the KKK (Klu Klux Klan) as heroes, protecting White America from the degenerate Negro! This film was made 50 years after the ending of the Civil War, and about 15 years after Jim Crow laws went into effect, establishing segregation policies throughout the Southern United States! Jim Crow was another name for “niggers” back then. The laws barred blacks from participating in the political process, among other things. It was the most racist movie ever made, even worse than *Gone With The Wind*, 14 years later! Because of this film, the KKK, which had been more or less moribund since 1875, was revitalized, and became a national organization, no longer confined to the discredited South. It was also at a time when reconciliation and reaffirmation of white rule, throughout the United States, was seen as a good thing. Wat a ting!

This film was made during the presidency of Woodrow Wilson, a Southerner and avowed racist. During his administration, segregation was extended to housing and federal jobs and anything else that they could bar blacks from participating in, including sports, although men like Jack Johnson defied those limitations! Those were dark days

indeed, forgive the pun.

And now, here we are: 109 years after this film was made, America is experiencing another rebirth, another era of concern, uncertainty and instability, although Mr. Trump and his allies will paint a different portrait of the future. One of progress and stability and pure blood for real Americans. Mass deportations and denial of women’s rights and book banning and tariffs and retribution for those who are not in line with the program! And even those of “lesser blood” who voted for him will suffer the consequences of his zealous policies to “make America great again”!

I am going through the grieving process. I grieve for our country, our less fortunate, for Ukraine and Gaza and Taiwan, for NATO and all the fledgling democracies, of which there are only a few left, all over the world! I grieve for our children and grandchildren. I grieve for truth and honor and righteousness! I grieve for the disenfranchised, seniors, our youths and those of different demographics, sexual and religious! I grieve for the loss of any moral compass that might have guided us in the past, held us together. I grieve, I grieve!

We can only hope that the dystopian future I see is only in the bleak corners of my troubled mind, and not a real reflection of the future. A lot can be undone, or accomplished, in 4 years! Our history as descendants of slaves can be re-casted and rewritten, and this new version taught as facts in our schools. Women could be relegated back to second-class status, if we are to believe what some of what his acolytes are saying! With the help of an indebted, transactional, immoral Supreme Court, who knows how many of his egregious pronouncements they would justify, and solidify, into laws!

One can only hope for the best, because he has promised to make America great again! But for whom?

Glen

Bubble boy!

Friday, November 8, 2024 at 12:46 AM

For the entirety of my adult life, I’ve always believed that my political beliefs were righteous, that the other side was wrong and callous and unfeeling and did not represent the will of the majority. I believed that, even when I was in the minority party, the opposition, so to speak. It wasn’t just some bias either; it was my fervent belief that I was in the right and they were wrong, on politics, on economics, on social issues, on everything! My strong-headed convictions were unshakable, immovable; I believed deep down in my soul that I was on the right side of things, of history!

I believed all that until last Tuesday and the elections! I believed that Donald Trump and his followers were the lowest of the lows. I believed that they were heartless and racist and xenophobic and misogynistic! I believed that they could never win a presidential race, except through gerrymandering and the Electoral College. I believed that right would prevail; my right, because I was on the good side, the righteous side.

Well, I was in for a rude awakening

when the results started coming in last Tuesday night! Not only was Trump winning, but winning everywhere and among almost every demographic, including women, although not among black women. His support among minority men and women only helped to solidify his lead over Kamala Harris. It was an outright victory, and a significant achievement for this flawed man. It will go down in history as one of the most consequential wins in a presidential election, I believe, if he carries out all, or most of his campaign promises.

I have always believed that his followers lived in a bubble. I called them lemmings and much more unflattering and denigrating adjectives. I’m not going to name all the unpresidential baggage he carries with him, or his convictions by juries of his peers, or his hawking of Bibles and watches and sneakers while campaigning. His boorish attitude towards women and minorities and the disabled. There are so many disqualifications in his immense repertoire of bad behavior that his victory seemed inconceivable. What a ting!

“Fonto King” found dead in Griga

by Charles Gladden

DANGRIGA, Stann Creek District, Mon. Nov. 11, 2024

The lifeless body of a man was found floating in a body of water in the Riverside area of Dangriga Town on Friday, November 8. The deceased has been identified as 35-year-old Guillermo Martinez of Dangriga Town, who was known as “Fonto King,” because he made a living selling tobacco leaf.

According to reports, authorities found Martinez’s decomposing body floating in the sea after 7:30 a.m. in a face-down position between two fishing boats along the river bank.



Guillermo Martinez, deceased

Unconfirmed reports suggest that Martinez’s body had its left hand detached from the elbow down, and his right foot had three bullet holes. ACP Hilberto Romero, Regional Commander for the Belize Police Department’s Eastern Division, did not confirm those reports when asked by reporters.

Members of the community mentioned that Martinez didn’t socialize much, and have no idea who wanted him dead. However, he had a rap sheet to his name. On November 1st he was released from the Belize Central Prison after spending a year

in jail for a theft charge.

Apart from his latest conviction, Martinez had been charged for the murder of a Honduran national living in Dangriga Town in 2009, but was acquitted of the charge in 2014.

ACP Romero mentioned that Martinez’s body is awaiting a post-mortem examination to determine the exact cause of death.

Martinez was reportedly last seen in the community five days before his death.

Housefire on Freetown Road

Continued from Page 1

at the location around 11:30 p.m., destroying the two-story wooden structure that stood there for over two decades.

“The older the building the faster it burns. Remember, fire doesn’t wait on anyone; it consumes very fast,” said Gladstone Bucknor, Station Supervisor of the National Fire Service.

Bucknor told reporters that the structure was without electricity, thus the theory of electrical failure was excluded. Nonetheless, no concrete evidence has yet been established by those investigating the blaze.

“At this moment, we have a slight idea, but it’s still under investigation to determine the [cause of the] fire ... It seems to me [the fire] may have started in the center of the building,” Bucknor said.

Residents in the area applauded the

fire service’s quick response, and fortunately they were on the scene quickly because there were two butane gas [tanks] inside the charred structure, which if they had blown up would have caused an even more dire situation.

“We always inform the public: Please do not have your butane tank inside the building; it belongs outside. Having it inside poses a threat when it has a leak and causes worse damages than what you can think about,” Bucknor mentioned.

Bucknor noted that the lower flat of the structure was occupied by two persons, but neither was present when the fire occurred. Information to *Amandala* indicates that said persons were tasked to protect the home from being vandalized.

The building was not insured, and the estimated cost of damages is yet to be established, explained Bucknor.

And now, with that irrevocable dispensation given to him by the electorate, of all of his malfeasances, his sins, his corruption, he is free to rule as he likes. He reminds me of Henry VIII. Having total power, petty and vindictive, vainglorious, thin-skinned, and always out for revenge. I can’t see anything positive about his victory; but then again, apparently, I am the one living in a bubble!

What do the almost 80 million Americans see in this man that I failed to recognize? Is it that the values of everyday people have changed so drastically? He was vastly outspent by his rival. He was portrayed in the most negative of ways by his own former colleagues, and yet he prevailed. I must have missed something, because he increased his total votes in almost every

state in the nation!

We can blame Joe Biden, racism, misogyny and all the other negative mindsets for Ms. Harris’s defeat. We can try to find rhyme and reason for this political earthquake; but in the end, it might be me, and those who think like me, who live in the bubble!

So, all of us who are now living in this melancholic bubble, licking our wounds, on the verge of going over to the dark side, must rethink our own politics, see what we missed, or how what we tried to impose upon others, especially socially, backfired in the most profound sense of the word. We didn’t try to understand them, because we were so sure that we were right. There was no bending of the arc, bubble boy!

Glen

Son of Alix Fils-Aimé, interim Prime Minister of Haiti

by Colin Hyde

Harold Isaac, in a November 10 story published by *Reuters*, said, “Haiti will name entrepreneur and former senate candidate Alix Didier Fils-Aime to replace Prime Minister Garry Conille, who was tapped for the role in May, according to a transitional presidential council draft resolution seen by Reuters . . . Didier Fils-Aime is the son of well-known Haitian activist, Alix Fils-Aime, who was jailed under the regime of dictator Jean-Claude ‘Baby Doc’ Duvalier.”

Belmopan knew Alix well. He was a close friend of Ambassador David Gibson, and seemed to share David’s left of center political philosophy. In 1980 Alix got a job at Hummingbird Hershey Ltd., where I worked between 1978 and 1980, so for a time we were work colegas. According to *Le Nouvelliste*, Alix died on May 28, 2019. Of course, I wish Didier has the key to make Haiti great again.

I agree with white conservative woman who said Kamala lost because she was a bad candidate

With so many Belizeans living in the US, and our common histories under the

British, and the fact that we fight alongside their soldiers whenever they go to war, and when they sneeze we kech cold, and their television, sports, and Hollywood dominate our world, we have a lot more than a passing interest in the business of America. Both main parties have a huge wild fringe, but because Belizeans in America overwhelmingly support the Democratic Party, naturally they get my vote.

Ah, a substantial number of Belizeans in Belize were riding with the Republicans in this election. Republican supporters in Belize are more likely to be in the wealthier class, and with their capitalist hard drive, the campaign promise of the Republicans to go wild with deportation didn’t bother them. Aha, what was foremost on their minds when Trump got over was that the devil UNIBAM’s colors will not be flying atop the US Embassy here for the next four years. And the LGBT agenda, which usurped the “disability” classification to make their cause more viable, might have to go on pause.

In a predominantly white country, naturally Kamala’s color didn’t help her. Her absolutely wild positions on gayness and all things LGBT-plus didn’t help her. Bah, Democrats don’t get it that LGBT has gone too far. I’m told she wouldn’t state her position on abortion at 8 months,

which didn’t help her.

The Democrats’ handling of Israel was a disaster. Iran’s Ayatollah Khomeini destroyed Jimmy Carter’s chances at a much-deserved second term in 1980. Israel’s Netanyahu worked off that script to destroy the incumbent Democrats. Even with the hindsight of 1980, the Democrats didn’t have a sufficient response.

Biden thought he would be running again, and what is an 80-year-old man doing being so disrespectful to Father Time? There is luck and there is modern medicine, but do respect the numbers, the odds. For the good of their party I thought Harris—what, you said I forgot Kamala’s gender? Aa heck, what does gender have to do with it? Oh, it does? Okay then, she should have undergone a sex change, macho up.

The white conservative woman said Kamala wasn’t very likeable as leader. A mí, she wasn’t. I found the views of a number of experts in the political field very sound too. James Carville, a former strategist for the Democrats, said, “We had every advantage, but we had the perception of disorder on every kind of level: border policy, foreign policy, economic policy. . . At the end of the day, it seems to me that the operative word here is that people want order, and will pay anything to have order.” (I got that quote from a story by Marco Margaritoff)

Max Zahn, in the story, “Why inflation helped tip the election toward Trump, according to experts”, said, “A surging stock market, low unemployment and robust growth — by just about every measure, the economy stood poised to deliver victory for Vice President Kamala Harris. The exception, of course, was inflation, and it appears to have overshadowed other indicators. More than two-thirds of voters say the economy is in bad shape, according to the preliminary results of an ABC News exit poll.”

You know, when I was younger I thought the American people were smart and all that because they were so wealthy and so successful in many endeavors. And then television came to Belize, and that bubble burst.

In his story, Zahn said Carola Binder,

an economics professor at the University of Texas at Austin who studies the history of inflation in the U.S., in explaining “recent anti-incumbent sentiment” said, “When people are experiencing inflation and suffering from it, they want to have someone or something to blame.” You know, intelligent people aren’t supposed to behave that way.

Filip Timotija, in a story in *The Hill* titled, “Axelrod: Democrats becoming ‘smarty-pants’, suburban, college-educated party,” said David Axelrod, the main political strategist behind the Obama campaigns, said the Democrats had become too much, yes, a “‘smarty-pants’, suburban, college-educated party”, that Biden had done some “good things for working people,” but “the only group that Democrats gained within the election on Tuesday was white college graduates, and among working-class voters, there was a significant decline.”

There’s a lot more to be drawn from those commentaries, but I’ll have to leave off for now because I see moonwalkers are about, and I don’t want anybody to drift off not knowing that we know all about them and what they are up to.

I believe I said they didn’t walk on the moon

I have no doubt I said that. It is the type of thing I would say, because these people who invented those wonderful telescopes that bring us these absolutely fascinating pictures from outer space can’t resist, for their very selfish ends, spoiling it all by writing absolute foolishnis about how far away these magnificent stars are. They aren’t satisfied with talking millions of miles, which no human mind can comprehend; they are into overkill—light years, in ever increasing millions. *EarthSky* said the star Earendel is, get this, 28 billion light-years away from us! Look, if you believe that, keep it to yourself. It’s one plus one that if you can spout such foolishnis, you are fully capable of lying about walking on the moon.

You’ve heard about the race to the moon; well, there are two associated


Please turn to Page 10

STATUTORY NOTICE TO CREDITORS

IN THE ESTATE of **PETRONA HAYLOCK**, deceased of 56 Victoria Street, Belize City, Belize.

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 36 of the *Administration of Estates Act*, Chapter 197 of the Laws of Belize that all creditors and other persons having any claims and demands upon or against the Estate of **PETRONA HAYLOCK**, deceased of 56 Victoria Street, Belize City, Belize, who died on the 3rd day of October, 1997 and in whose estate Grant of Administration has been granted to **LORRAINE GOMEZ** of Burrell Boom Village, Belize District, Belize, should lodge claims or demands with the said **LORRAINE GOMEZ c/o Balderamos Arthurs LLP**, Charter House, Suite 6, 3 ½ Miles Philip Goldson Highway, P.O Box 486, Belize City, Belize on or before the expiration of three months from the first publication hereof **AND NOTICE IS ALSO HEREBY GIVEN** that at the expiration of the said three months the said **LORRAINE GOMEZ** shall proceed to distribute the assets of the said **PETRONA HAYLOCK**, deceased, amongst the beneficiaries entitled thereto, having regard only to claims and demands of which she shall then have had notice.

DATED this 04 day of November, 2024


BALDERAMOS ARTHURS LLP
Attorneys-at-Law for the Estate of
PETRONA HAYLOCK

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

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

Position Name: Economic Commercial Assistant
Vacancy number: Belmopan-2024-18
Closing date: November 24, 2024



ERA

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>



How to Apply

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: 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.

Japan Day in Belize

Continued from Page 3

has transformed Japan Day into a beloved cultural bridge between Belize and Japan.

One of the major contributors to the success of Japan Day is the strong presence of the Japanese community in Belize. With only 40 Japanese residents living in Belize, 4 JICA volunteers and 2 JICA Japanese staff on board, the community has fostered cultural exchange through food, language, and local businesses. Their contributions have been vital in building bridges between the two nations, creating a sense of camaraderie and mutual respect.

A key player in Japan's relationship with Belize is the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). Through its various development projects, JICA has been instrumental in advancing Belize's infrastructure, education, and agriculture. These efforts, particularly in rural areas, have positively impacted the lives of many Belizeans, reinforcing the friendly cooperation between the two countries.

Perhaps one of the most exciting aspects of Japan Day for many Belizeans is the celebration of Japanese pop culture, especially anime, music, and cosplay. With the rise of anime fandom in Belize, Japan Day has become a gathering point for local enthusiasts, particularly through events like cosplay contests and anime screenings. The Animeniacs Belize fan group, led by acting president and co-founder Ms. Eden Cruz, has been active at the event since 2017 as the primary host of the annual Japan Day Cosplay Contest. The group has played a significant role in bringing anime culture to the forefront of the event, organizing activities that attract fans of all ages. For her over six years of service to the Japanese/Belizean community, a special honor of appreciation award was presented to her for her contribution as a member of the Belizean community for making Japan Day as big as it is today due to Anime.

Cosplay, in particular, has become one



Photo: Credit Leon Banks

of the most popular features of Japan Day. Belizean fans, donning elaborate costumes of their favorite anime characters, create an electric atmosphere, while music performances inspired by Japanese pop, J-pop, and anime soundtracks further enhance the festive mood. These elements have sparked a growing interest in Japanese culture among the younger generation in Belize, leading to an appreciation for Japan's creative industries, including animation, fashion, and music.

This year about 36 participants entered the contest, with 10 Kids, 6 teens and 20 Adults! The winners for each category were:

KIDS COSPLAY: 1st Place 3-Way Tie - #5

Amara Cheche (Character: Sailor Moon - Pretty Guardians Sailor Moon)

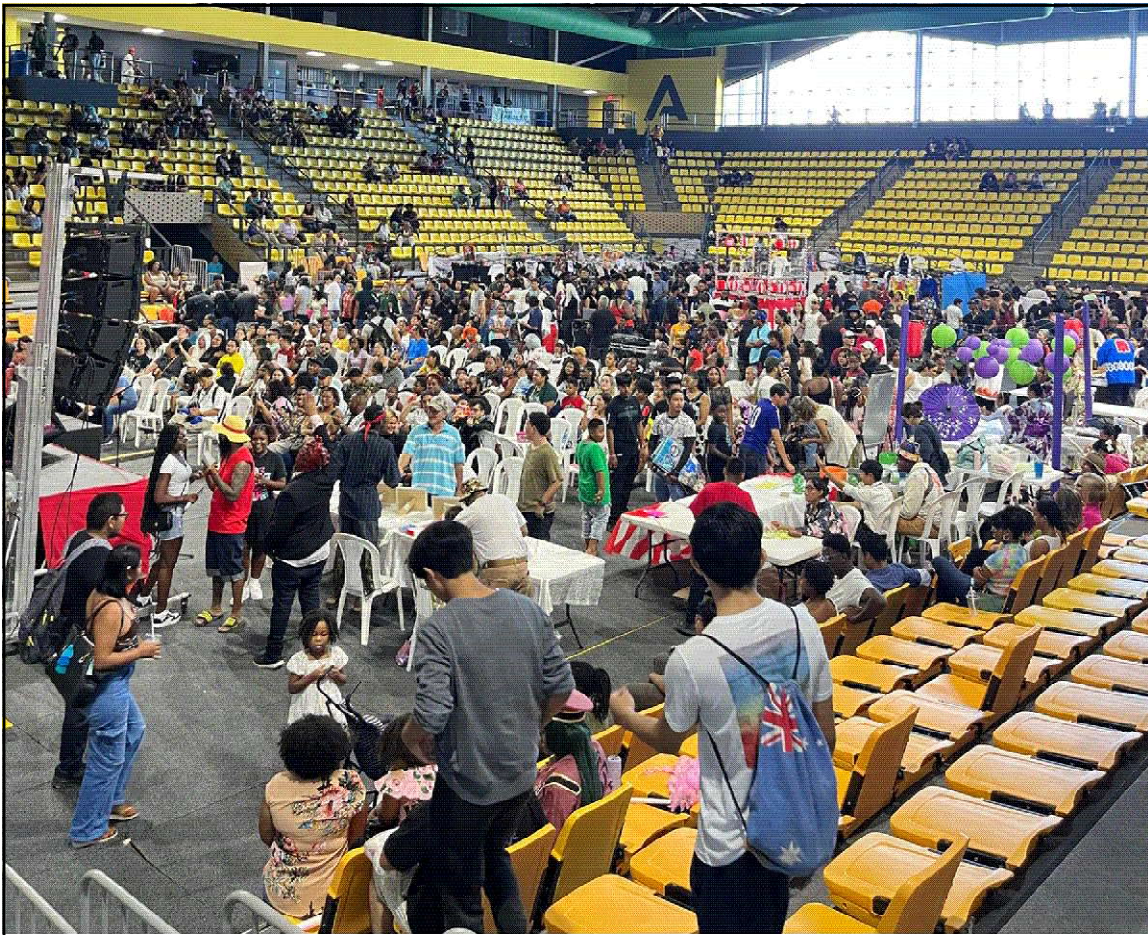
***Special note: This is Amara 4th consecutive win*; #6 Myles Reyes**

(Character: Piccolo - Dragon Ball Z); #7 Ani Caseneda (Character: Nezuko - Demon Slayer).

TEEN COSPLAY: 1st Place - #4 Damien Itza (Diamond Undertaker - Jojo Bizarre Adventures) 2nd Place - #1 Jamiela Ruiz (Character: Ai - Oshi No Koi/MyStar); 3rd Place - #6 Sylvia Godoy (Character: Kakashi Hagate - Naruto Shippuden).

ADULT COSPLAY: 1st Place - #11 Megan Williams (Character: Frieren: Frieren Beyond the Journey) ***Special note: This is Megan's 3rd win, twice in teens category and first in adults*; 2nd Place - #2 Xiomara Bautista (Character: The Almighty Maidan Shougon - Genshin Impact); 3rd Place - #19 Melanie Robateau (Character: Tamari - Naruto Shippuden).**

Overall, Japan Day is more than just a cultural event; it is a symbol of the ongoing friendship between Japan and Belize. Through the contributions of the Japanese community, JICA, and local anime enthusiasts like Animeniacs Belize, the influence of Japanese culture in Belize continues to grow, enriching the local cultural landscape and inspiring future generations to explore new cultural horizons.



Attendees at Japan Day

Son of Alix Fils-Aimé, interim Prime Minister of Haiti

I believe I said they didn't walk on the moon

Continued from Page 9

races on the ground here. Second, it's about people trying to win money to support their programs; and first, it's about selling how much more advanced their hocus pocus is than witchcraft. Prior to 1492, the Europeans were in the dark ages. Okay, I'm being unfair there. Their contact with Asia and North Africa had kickstarted them on the path to their present glory several hundred years prior. But it was 1492 that made them.

Some years ago, while sitting on a stool before the brilliant and legendary Ibrahim Abdullah (Charles X Eagan, aka Justice), I said to the great man, 'well then, why don't we just up and get rid of these ehm, beasts.' And Brother Ibrahim said, no, no, no, we have to understand that it is God that put them there. It is their age. But as surely as the sun gets circled by the earth, their

time will come to be relegated. It is not for man to interfere with the workings of God, Brother Ibrahim said. It's He who has these white blank beasts lording over us.

This story by Michael Richmond of the Rochester Institute of Technology, "What do astronomers say about Moon landing deniers? Batting down the conspiracy theory with an assist from the 1969 Miracle Mets," is aimed at winning over curious kids (all intelligent adults are supposed to have already bought into the claim). They will pull the wool over our eyes if we aren't alert. You know if you capture the minds of the kids then you've won the game, the set, and the match.

Richmond argues that "more than 600 million people around the world watched the Moon landing on TV"; the president of a moon race competitor, the Soviet Union, "sent a telegram to U.S. President Richard Nixon offering his congratulations"; that "the physical evidence for the Moon landings cannot be faked so

easily...first, the Moon rocks brought back by the Apollo astronauts are unlike rocks on Earth"; "Apollo 11 astronauts placed mirrors on the Moon that have been detected for decades by telescopes in the U.S., France, Germany, South Africa and Australia"; dozens of unmanned probes that had gone to the moon before Apollo 11 "built up the technology needed for the landings"; and it is "the universal agreement by scientific and academic institutions around the world for the past half-century that astronauts really did land on the Moon."

You know they're all in cahoots. You think scientists across the globe would spoil their good thing because the US faked a landing? There are bread and butter issues here, Braa, and if you play the game right, you can get a yacht to play in.

Noooooo, I won't seriously say that Buzz Aldrin didn't walk on the moon. But in all seriousness, I will say that these astronomers aren't credible. But thanks for the pictures, they are awesome!



SCA “Seahawks” win 18th consecutive NSSSA volleyball championship



NSSSA 2024 Female Volleyball MVP – Akili Jones

by William Ysaguirre
ORANGE WALK TOWN, Sat. Nov. 9, 2024

The St. Catherine Academy “Seahawks” volleyball girls won their 18th consecutive National Secondary Schools Sports Association (NSSSA) volleyball championship, when the Belize High School of Agriculture hosted nationals at the Orange Walk Multipurpose Complex on Friday and Saturday, November 8-9.

The Seahawks dominated the Western regional championships – the Sacred Heart College girls, 3-0, in the finals on Saturday afternoon. MVP Akili Jones led the attack, hammering 19 kills and serving 3 aces to easily win the 1st set, 25-14. Amayah Lino hammered 12 kills and served an ace, team captain Emma Solano scored 6 hits and served an ace, while Faia Reshetina scored 5 hits and had 2 kill blocks to win the 2nd set, 25-13.

Tyra Thomas rallied the Sacred Heart counterattack with 3 hits, Brianna Labriel scored 2 hits and served an ace, while Nareine Valentine scored 2 hits. Kelly Quintanilla scored 1 hit, and Avery Guzman served an ace. They also profited from SCA’s 11 service faults and 26 errors.

SCA’s rookie Chloe Bowman scored a hit, and Kijana Rose and Sara Safa each served an ace, as they profited from Sacred Heart’s 19 errors and 4 service faults, to win the 3rd set, 25-20.

The Northern regional champions – Orange Walk Technical College girls toughed it out to upset the Southern champions – Toledo Community College girls, 3-2, in the consolation match for 3rd place on Saturday morning. Ahmarri Mutrie led TCC with 14 hits and served 5 aces to win the 1st set, 25-18. Monica Young hammered 10 kills and had a kill block, Melania Ack scored 8 hits, and Arlette Choc scored 4 hits and served 3 aces to win the 2nd set, 26-24. Keyla Ramclam served 3 aces and scored 2 hits, Nuwani Casimiro scored 3 hits, and Emaya Ico served an ace. They also profited from OWTCHS’ 47 errors and 3 service faults.

OWTHS captain Analisa Bolanos turned the tide, as she scored 15 hits and served 2



18x NSSSA 2024 Female Volleyball Champions – SCA “Seahawks”

aces, and Kimora August scored 6 hits and served an ace to win the 3rd set, 27-25. Zurisadai Espinosa scored 4 hits and served 3 aces, Jamirey Moh scored 5 hits and served an ace, Taja Tillett scored a hit and an ace, Vanessa Payne had a kill block, and Nemesis Prado served an ace to win the 4th set, 26-24. They also profited from TCC’s 13 faults and 57 errors to take the 5th set, 15-6.

The Seahawks had also dominated the Orange Walk girls, 3-0, in the 2nd game on Friday evening, led by Akili Jones’ 14 kills. Emma Solano served 7 aces and scored 4 hits to win the first set, 25-5. Kijana Rose served 6 aces and scored 2 hits, Chloe Bowman hammered 4 hits and served 3 aces, Faia Reshetina scored 3 hits, a kill block and an ace to win the 2nd set, 25-9. Amayah Lino scored 3 hits and served an ace, Jaycee Usher and Sara Safa each served 3 aces, and Lissany Castillo served 2 aces. They also profited from OWTCHS’ 5 faults and 11 errors to win the 3rd set, 25-5.

Only Kimora August and Taja Tillett scored a hit each for OWTCHS, but SCA conceded 17 pts by 6 faults and 11 errors.

The Sacred Heart girls had also dominated the TCC girls 25-20, 27-25, 25-21 in the opening match on Friday afternoon.

The NSSSA president, Francis Pascual presented team trophies and individual medals to the champions, sub-champions and 3rd place winners in the awards ceremony after the finals. Akili Jones won the Most Valuable Player award.



NSSSA 2024 Female Volleyball Sub-Champions – Sacred Heart College girls



NSSSA 2024 Female Volleyball 3rd Place – Orange Walk Technical girls

Remembrance Day in Belize



Governor General honoring fallen veterans on Remembrance Day

Continued from Page 1

The poppy became a symbol of Remembrance Day due to its prominence on the battlefields of World War I. After the devastation of war, the once beautiful fields of Flanders were scarred by artillery and bloodshed. But in the spring of 1915, the bright red poppies began to bloom amidst the destruction. This sight deeply moved Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae,

a Canadian physician, who penned the famous poem, “In Flanders Fields”, as a tribute to fallen soldiers. The imagery of the resilient poppy flower growing amid the horrors of war resonated with many, and soon the poppy became a symbol of sacrifice and remembrance.

In 1921, the Royal British Legion in the UK began selling poppies to raise funds for veterans and their families. This initiative quickly spread across the

Commonwealth, becoming an annual tradition on Remembrance Day. The red poppy, with its striking color, became synonymous with the act of remembering the fallen soldiers.

Although Belize is far from the European battlefields, the tradition of wearing a poppy on Remembrance Day has taken root in the country, as it has in many parts of the Commonwealth. Belize, a former British colony, shares a deep connection with the United Kingdom’s military history, and many Belizeans served in both World Wars, including the British West Indies Regiment.

The Remembrance Day Ceremony in Belize was held on Sunday, November 10, 2024, at Memorial Park in Belize City, where citizens gathered to honor the fallen soldiers who served the nation. The official

wreath-laying ceremony took place on Monday, November 11, 2024, at Price Barracks, the Belize Defense Force compound in Ladyville, Belize. Both events marked a solemn tribute to the sacrifices made by military personnel in defense of the country.

The Belize Ex-Services League is a non-profit, non-political, and non-governmental organization, founded by World War II veterans. Established in 1961, the League is governed by a legally binding Act, and operates with the mission of supporting veterans and preserving their legacy.

Approximately 1,500 men from across Belize served during World War II, including members of the British Honduras Forestry Unit and the North Caribbean Force. A small group of women from the British Honduras Red Cross Society also served during the war, contributing to the collective effort.

According to Valerie Richardson, J.P., of the Belize Ex-Services League, a few widows remain alive today, with one World War II veteran having celebrated his 100th birthday this past February. The widows receiving assistance from the League are typically around 94 years old. The funds raised through the sale

of poppies play a critical role in supporting the League’s work, particularly in covering the burial expenses of veterans and widows in urgent need, as the League does not receive funding for such services.

In addition to World War II veterans, the League also includes members from other branches of service, such as the British Honduras Volunteer Guard, the Belize Police Force, and the Belize Defence Force (BDF). Despite the passing of many veterans, the League remains steadfast in its commitment to honoring their memory.

Richardson also highlighted the support the League receives from key benefactors, such as the Royal Canadian Legion, which provides poppies, wristbands, and poppy trays, and the Royal Commonwealth Ex-



Tomb of Fallen Belizean Veterans

Services League, which offers assistance to benefit both veterans and widows. The League also engages in fundraising efforts to cover monthly administrative expenses.

It is important to note that the correct name of the organization is the “Belize Ex-Services League,” as it encompasses both male and female veterans. The League is not an extension of the Belize Defence Force (BDF), but an independent organization dedicated to supporting all veterans who have served in various military and auxiliary roles.

As a small, tightly-knit community, the impact of these commemorations is profound in Belize. They serve as a reminder of the global interconnectedness of wartime sacrifice and the shared duty of remembrance. The poppy remains an enduring symbol that transcends borders, reminding us all of the price of peace and the courage of those who gave their lives for it.

Parliament members attend conference in Australia

Continued from Page 1

This year’s conference was one of the largest gatherings of Commonwealth parliamentarians, with over 700 decision-makers and parliamentary staff from across the world. It was hosted by the Parliament of New South Wales and the CPA New South Wales Branch, and provided an opportunity for the delegates to engage in discussions that will help shape more inclusive and sustainable legislative practices in Belize.

The CPC gave attendees an opportunity to collaborate among themselves on serious issues such as gender equality, disability inclusion, and stronger democratic institutions.

The conference actually consisted of a number of meetings and sub-conferences, which included the 40th CPA Small Branches Conference, during

which Hon. Woods was elected as its chairperson and will serve a three-year term; the 8th CPA Commonwealth Women’s Parliament (CWP) Conference; Meetings of the Commonwealth Parliamentarians with Disabilities (CPWD), the CPA Executive Committee, and the CPA Interim Executive Board; the 67th CPA General Assembly; and the 58th Society of Clerks at the Table (SOCATT) meeting.

The Belize delegation’s participation in the CPC aligns with the country’s commitment to strengthening democracy and parliamentary engagement on both a national and global scale.

They are scheduled to return to Belize on Saturday, November 9.

(AMANDALA Ed. Note: CPA - Commonwealth Parliamentary Association.)

From the Publisher en Español

Continúa de página 7

Nunca se introdujo en Belize un Senado electo de ese tipo, pero en algún momento se estableció un sistema de Senado en el que el partido gobernante designaba a la mayoría del Senado, pero los nombramientos del partido de la oposición podían emitir un voto mayoritario con el apoyo de los senadores designados por las iglesias, los sindicatos, la Cámara de Comercio y las Organizaciones No Gubernamentales (ONG).

Personalmente, nunca he prestado mucha atención a las artimañas que implicaron las discusiones sobre la iniciativa del Senado. Siento que he sido negligente en este aspecto, y mi excusa fue que lo importante siempre fue abrazar el aspecto justo de diputado ordinario del sistema de democracia parlamentaria.

Así que, tuve que hacer algunas consultas antes de escribir esta columna, porque pensé que había escuchado en alguna parte que el Senado actual, compuesto por 13 beliceños, de hecho ha enviado un proyecto de ley a la Cámara actual, no al Gabinete. (El Senado actual incluye 6 senadores designados por el PUP, 3 senadores designados por el UDP y senadores de las iglesias, los sindicatos, la Cámara y las ONG).

La clave es que nuestro Senado actual no puede enviar un proyecto de ley financiera de vuelta a la Cámara. Ahora bien, es el caso de que el gobierno (el poder político) se trata todo acerca del dinero, o el poder de los impuestos sobre la ciudadanía. Si no se puede cuestionar el dinero, entonces es más cosmético que poderoso. Es por eso que el sistema de diputados de segunda línea sería más un control sobre el Gabinete. O, al menos, eso es lo que creo.

El sistema parlamentario que tenemos en Belize proviene de los británicos, quienes lo desarrollaron en la primera mitad del siglo XVII. En Gran Bretaña, el parlamento se volvió tan poderoso que decapitaron a un rey en 1649. Reyes y reinas habían gobernado Gran Bretaña durante siglos, pero hoy el rey es solo una figura decorativa. El poder en Gran Bretaña reside en la Cámara de los Comunes y su Primer Ministro, pero el sistema de diputados de segunda línea está en su lugar para que el Primer Ministro y su Gabinete puedan ser controlados.

En Belize hoy, no solo nunca ha habido un sistema de parlamentarios ordinarios, sino que actualmente hay un caos absoluto entre los cinco representantes de área electos de la oposición. Una representante de área del UDP nunca ha asistido a una reunión de la Cámara desde que fue elegida hace cuatro años, y hay dos representantes de área del UDP que se pelean por el liderazgo en un escenario público. En este punto, Belize no solo no posee el importante sistema de parlamentarios ordinarios, sino que tampoco tenemos una oposición realmente funcional.

El resultado de esta situación es que Belize no puede considerarse una democracia parlamentaria. Incluso se puede decir que nunca lo fue, es decir, una democracia parlamentaria, porque nunca ha habido parlamentarios ordinarios. Pero hoy, 11 de noviembre de 2024, no tenemos una oposición organizada y cohesionada, por lo que todo lo que tenemos es mucho ruido en los medios de comunicación y las redes sociales.

Esto no es bueno. En algún lugar, se dice, hay gente que se supone que está preparando una nueva constitución para Belize. Interesante, queridos, interesante.

Senate passes 6 Bills at Special Sitting

Continued from Page 1

Sitting at the George Price Center in Belmopan on Monday, November 11.

The Movable Property Security Rights Bill is intended to allow small, micro and medium enterprises easier access to finances to grow their business by enabling them to use their movable assets and equipment as collateral for loans to invest, according to the Prime Minister when he introduced the Bill in September. However, Senator Hon. Denfield Dennison was skeptical of the true intent of the Bill, arguing that it may create loopholes in the law for unscrupulous individuals to register movable items of questionable provenance as assets.

The Senate passed amendments to the Customs and Excise Act, the Misuse of Drugs Act, and the Criminal Records Rehabilitation Act to repeal the expungement of convictions for first time criminal offenders, to close a loophole in the law which was being exploited by repeat offenders.

The Senate also approved a Finance Belize Recognition Bill, and the Global Fund Privileges and Immunities Bill, which drew derision from the Opposition Senator, Hon. Michael Peyrefitte. He challenged that the Privileges and Immunities Bill would create a group of people who would be above the law. He also suggested, concerning the bill to create a non-profit private organization to promote investment in Belize, that in effect it would be duplicating the function of BELTRAIDE and other departments of the Ministries of Foreign Trade and Finance, and thus was not really needed.

Peyrefitte dissected the Supplementary Appropriations Bill for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2025, which he said seemed to betray a lack of proper budgetary planning by the government when it first presented its budget for this fiscal year in March. Senator Peyrefitte noted that the Supplementary budget was almost 10 percent of what was approved in March,

that the Ministry of Finance budgeted \$4.5 million in March for the entire year, and has now come back to request an additional \$6.1 million to finance operations for the next four months left in the fiscal year. The Office of the Prime Minister had budgeted for \$1.9 million in March for the entire year, but is now requesting \$.2 million more. The Ministry of Immigration had budgeted for \$750,000 for the year, but is now requesting \$1.9 million more. The Constitutional Review Project began the year with a \$500,000 budget, but is now requesting \$500,000 more. The Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security had budgeted \$220,000 for the entire year, but is now requesting \$3.2 million for the remaining four months. Land Acquisitions had been budgeted at \$21 million, but now the government is requesting an additional \$9 million to pay for acquisitions. The Ministry of Sustainable Development and Climate Change had begun the fiscal year with



Senator Michael Peyrefitte

a budget of \$534,000, but is now requesting \$961,000 more for the remaining four months.

The Ministry of Infrastructure Development and Housing had budgeted \$5.1 million under Cap. II for this year, but now is requesting \$13.7 million more. In March, MIDH had only budgeted \$127,000 to pave the San Estevan road, when it is well recognized that it costs \$1 million per mile to build a good road. Now MIDH is asking for \$3



Senator Chris Coye

million more for the project.

Similarly, the Ministry of Rural Transformation and Community Development began the year with a budget of \$200,000, but is now requesting \$8.4 million more! Some \$3.0 million was budgeted for Groceries and Food Assistance to the needy, but now an additional \$2.5 million has been requested. One million dollars was budgeted for capital subscriptions to international financial institutions, but now the government is asking for \$2.02 million more for these payments. Peyrefitte suggested that all these adjustments betray a lack of proper planning and would seem to indicate that the Prime Minister, who is also the Minister of Finance, does not know how to manage finances.

Senator Hon. Mark O'Brien also questioned the lack of planning evidenced by the request for a supplementary \$106 million to the government's budget for this year, that \$43 million was budgeted for Cap. II projects but now needs another \$55 million. He asked the government senators to explain the reason for the unexpected spending spree, and said it demonstrates poor, poor planning.

Managing the country's debt has always been a top priority for the New PUP government since it took office, Minister of State for Finance, Senator Hon. Chris Coye argued, and the government's prudent fiscal

management has brought down the ratio of debt to Gross Domestic Product, and these policies have achieved a fiscal surplus. Some \$20 million of the supplementary budget is money from grants, from Taiwan and other international funding agencies. He explained that the appropriations bill was, in effect, the government asking the people's permission to spend this money, but this is only an estimate and not what will actually be spent. Often as not, the ministries do not spend the full amount approved in the budget.

By comparison with previous supplementary budgets, in 2020-21 the supplementary was 13 percent of the budget. In 2021-22 it was 16.5 percent of the budget, in 2022-23 it was 17.8 percent, in 2023-24 the supplementary was only 10 percent of the March budget, and this year is the smallest supplementary, only 6.6 percent of the original March budget.

The investments in infrastructure and roads have become necessary as a result of recent but unexpected weather events, Coye explained, something no one could have foreseen. The increase in agricultural spending is for fertilizer to support the citrus and sugar cane industries, and a \$1 million is needed to fight the new threat of New World Screwworm, which poses a serious danger to the cattle industry. This pest is already detected in Guatemala, and the threat alone is endangering Belize's export market for cattle to Mexico.



Seantor Mark O'Brien

Belize buys catastrophe insurance against natural disasters, but with the increase in violent storms, the increased risk has driven up the insurance premiums. So, the government has to pay more to the financial institutions that offer this risk insurance. Payments for land acquisitions are also to settle court judgments of past land acquisitions of past administrations, even before the past UDP administration.

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

RE: US authorities probe text messages invoking enslavement of Black people

by Marie-Therese Belisle Nweke

Saturday, November 9, 2024 at 3:46 PM

Yessir, Blacks in America are being commanded to return to the plantations. Meanwhile, internet searches for how to move abroad are up by more than 1000% since Trump’s election win. The searches are for “move to Canada”, Australia and New Zealand. None so far are to Belize!!!

US authorities probe text messages invoking enslavement of Black people

Texts telling recipients to go to ‘nearest plantation’ prompt alarm across US states.



The seal on the J Edgar Hoover FBI Building is seen June 9, 2023, in Washington [Alex Brandon/AP Photo]

www.aljazeera.com, 8 Nov 2024

Authorities in the United States are investigating reports of Black people across the country receiving text messages invoking slavery following Donald Trump’s victory in the presidential election.

The racist text messages have been reported by people in more than a dozen US states, including California, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Michigan, North Carolina, Virginia and Alabama.

The wording of the messages varies, but follows the same basic script of telling the recipient they have been “selected to pick cotton at the nearest plantation”, according to local news reports and social media posts.

Some of the texts were labelled as coming from a “Trump supporter” or included the hashtag, #MAGA.

Frances Carmona, a Native American woman in Grand Rapids, Michigan, told local media that her 15-year-old niece had received one of the messages, which said she should be ready to be “searched and patted down once inside of the plantation”.

“Upset is an understatement,” Carmona was quoted as saying by NBC affiliate WOOD-TV.

“I don’t know what’s happening. I knew things were going to happen after the election, but not the day after. You know, it is kind of scary. It’s frightening.”

The FBI said on Thursday it was aware of the messages and was in

contact with the Justice Department and other federal authorities.

“As always, we encourage members of the public to report threats of physical violence to local law enforcement authorities,” the agency said in a statement.

The Federal Communications Commission said it was investigating the texts in conjunction with federal and state law enforcement.

Attorneys general in a number of states also confirmed that they were looking into the matter.

“These messages are horrific, unacceptable, and will not be tolerated,” Maryland Attorney General Anthony Brown said.

“If you have been sent one of these texts, I am asking for you to please come forward and report it. I am committed to protecting the rights of all Marylanders. There is no home for hate in Maryland.”

The NAACP, one of the largest Black civil rights organizations in the US, condemned the messages.

“The threat – and the mention of slavery in 2024 – is not only deeply disturbing, but perpetuates a legacy of evil that dates back to before the Jim Crow era, and now seeks to prevent Black Americans from enjoying the same freedom to pursue life, liberty, and happiness,” NAACP president and CEO Derrick Johnson said.

“These actions are not normal. And we refuse to let them be normalized.”

SPORTS, SIN AND SUBVERSION

Evan X Hyde

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Check this!

by Marie-Therese Belisle Nweke

Monday, November 11, 2024

Belizean VS American Parents:

- US Parent: "if someone hits you, tell the teacher"
- Bze Parent: "if somebody nak u, nak deh back"
- US Parent : "go in ur room n think about what u've done"
- Bze Parent : "Go ina ur room n get redy fu wa assing"
- US Parent: "Good morning, time for school"
- Bze Parent : "Hall yo rass da school b4 u get lash up"
- US Parent : "I'm going to the store. You can have anything you want"
- Bze Parent: " I gwen da shop, noh ask fu nuthing"
- US Parent : "Please stop crying "
- Bze Parent: " You betta stop cry b4 I give you something fu cry bout"
- US Parent : " You embarrassed me when u fight at achool"
- Bze Parent: "who win di fight?"
- US Parents: " I'm sending you to therapy"
- Bze Parent: "I wa nak som sense ina ur big head"



American parents no longer behave like this. This went out of the window longest time. They are more likely to tell their children to “stand your ground”, if someone hits or fights them; and to shoot him or her dead, since the “stand your ground” law absolves them of any crime and enables them to go scot free. The one about therapy is even more in vogue these days. Almost every American glorifies on being on some form of therapy - all, except Trump.

Meanwhile, Belizean parents haven’t changed, in fact even getting more “ignaraaant” by the day.

The Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC), another civil rights organization, also expressed condemnation, describing the messages as a “public spectacle of hatred and racism that makes a mockery of our civil rights history”.

“Leaders at all levels must condemn anti-Black racism, in any form, whenever we see it – and we must follow our words with actions that advance racial justice and build an inclusive democracy where every person feels safe and welcome in their community,” Margaret Huang, SPLC president and CEO, said in a statement.

About one-fifth of the hate crimes reported in major US cities in 2022 were targeted against Black people, according to police data analyzed by the Center for the Study of Hate and Extremism at California State University San Bernardino.

From the border...

to the Boulevard;

From the Hondo... to Mahogany!

Sugar and Cream

Corozal Town - Orange Walk Town - Belize City

New Year's Day

2025



Who will win?

34th Annual kreniFM

CYCLING CLASSIC

New Year's Day 2025!!



1991	Michael Lewis (first)	2010	Carlos Hernandez (first)
	Ernest Meighan (second)		Carlos Manuel Hernandez (second)
1992	Francisco Flores (first)	(Ladies)	Shalini Zabaneh (first)
	Fitzgerald Joseph (second)		Anthea Sutherland (second)
1993	Derrick Mahler (first)	2011	Marco Salas (first)
	Orlando Chavarria (second)		Juan Rojas (second)
1994	Douglas Lamb (first)	(Ladies)	Shalini Zabaneh (first)
	Ronald Sutherland (second)		Patricia Chavarria (second)
1995	Robert Mariano (first)	2012	Geovanni Choto (first)
	Gustavo Carrillo (second)		Byron Pope (second)
1996	Nigel Matus (first)	(Ladies)	Kaya Cattouse (first)
	Ian Smith (second)		Shalini Zabaneh (second)
1997	Fred Usher (first)	2013	David Henderson (first)
	Michael Lewis (second)		Gregory Lovell (second)
1998	Francisco Flores (first)	(Ladies)	Shalini Zabaneh (first)
	James Frampton (second)		Patricia Chavarria (second)
1999	Ernest Meighan (first)	2014	Byron Pope (first)
	Skip Spangenburg (second)		Carlos Lopez (second)
2000	Ariel Rosado (first)	(Ladies)	Shalini Zabaneh (first)
	Quinton Hamilton (second)		Gabrielle Lovell (second)
2001	Miguel Perez (first)	2015	Hector Rangel (first)
	Shane Vasquez (second)		David Santos (second)
(Ladies)	Karen Rosito (first)	(Ladies)	Alicia Thompson (first)
	Amilita Knowles (second)		Kaya Cattouse (second)
2002	Barney Brown (first)	2016	Joel Adan Borland (first)
	Hugo Rostrain Monterosa (second)		Gregory Lovell (second)
(Ladies)	Ann Marie Bennett (first)	(Ladies)	Alicia Thompson (first)
2003	Douglas Lamb (first)		Kaya Cattouse (second)
	Frank Cannon (second)	2017	Ron Vasquez (first)
(Ladies)	Fiona Humes Gonzalez (first)		Brandon Cattouse (second)
2004	Marlon Castillo (first)	(Ladies)	Alicia Thompson (first)
	Mateo Cruz (second)		Kaya Cattouse (second)
(Ladies)	Fiona Humes-Gonzalez (first)	2018	Giovanni Lovell (first)
	Claudett Maheia (second)		John DeLong (second)
2005	Michael Lewis (first)	(Ladies)	Alicia Thompson (first)
	Shane Vasquez (second)		Kaya Cattouse (second)
(Ladies)	Marinette Flowers (first)	2019	John DeLong (first)
2006	Scottie Weiss (first)		Clayton Travis (second)
	Marlon Castillo (second)	(Ladies)	Kaya Cattouse (first)
(Ladies)	Alicia Thompson (first)		Nicole Gallego (second)
	Marinette Flowers (second)	2020	Oscar Quiroz, Jr. (first)
2007	Shane Vasquez (first)		Joslyn Chavarria, Jr. (second)
	Marlon Castillo (second)	(Ladies)	Alicia Thompson (first)
(Ladies)	Gina Lovell (first)		Nicole Gallego (second)
	Shalini Zabaneh (second)	2021	NO RACE (DUE TO COVID)
2008	Neo German Camacho Villegas (first)	2022	Brandon Cattouse (first)
	Reyes (second)		Derrick Chavarria (second)
(Ladies)	Shalini Zabaneh (first)	(Ladies)	Gabrielle Gabourel (first)
	Alicia Thompson (second)		Kaya Cattouse (second)
2009	Marlon Castillo (first)	2023	Derrick Chavarria (first)
	Gregory Lovell (second)		Jyven Gonzalez (second)
(Ladies)	Lori Harkey (first)	(Ladies)	Kaya Cattouse (first)
	Shalini Zabaneh (second)	2024	John Delong (first)
			Cory Williams (second)
		(Ladies)	Kaya Cattouse