

# STAR

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## SERIOUS TRAFFIC ACCIDENT IN SAN IGNACIO

**SAN IGNACIO TOWN, Thursday, April 17, 2008:**

Today, 25 year old **Kenworth Anthony Mendez**, the victim of a traffic accident, lies in a critical condition at the Medical Associates Hospital in Belize City.

San Ignacio police reports that it was shortly after 2 o'clock on the evening of Saturday, April 12, when a report was received of a traffic accident in the area where the Bullet Tree Road crosses Joseph Andrews Drive in San Ignacio Town.

The male person, suffering from severe head and body injuries, was placed in the back of a pickup truck and rushed to the nearby San Ignacio Town Hospital for emergency medical treatment.

Upon arrival at the hospital the



**Photo: Courtesy AMS**

**Moments after the accident - The victim in the back of a pickup truck for the trip to the San Ignacio Hospital - The motorcycle in the middle of a section of the double carriage-way on Joseph Andrews - Note the plants in the middle divider**

injured person was identified as **Kenworth "Ken" Anthony Mendez**, 25, Belizean laborer of a Blue Hole Street, Cahal Pech Area address.

Mendez' condition was stabilized at the San Ignacio Town Hospital after which he was rushed by ambulance to the Karl Heusner Memorial Hospital in Belize City and



**Kenworth Anthony Mendez, 25**

later transferred to the Medical Associates Hospital also in Belize City where he remains in a critical condition.

On the scene police came upon a brown Toyota pickup truck, bearing license plates CY-C 26347, with a smashed windshield and the passenger side front fender extensively damaged. Also on the scene was an extensively damaged black and red Kawasaki Street Bike.

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## Verdes Returns Football Championship To The West

**NORMAN BROASTER STADIUM, San Ignacio Town, Cayo District, Sunday, April 13, 2008:**

After 22 long years of football drought, the highest level of national achievement in the sport was today returned to Cayo, more specifically to the westernmost part of the district. It was the same Verdes in 1986 that brought the championship to Cayo and it is Verdes again in 2008 that has returned the honors.

What a joyous and festive occasion it was as the feeling of victory erupted simultaneously with the blowing of the long whistle and the music from the Succotz marching band inside the Norman Broaster



**Hankook Verdes' #9 Orlando Jimenez scored the singular winning GOAL!!!!**

Stadium as the jubilation overflowed onto the streets of San Ignacio all the way to the site of the victory celebration.

The occasion this past Sunday evening was the second encounter in the RF&G Insurance Cup playoff game between San Ignacio's Hankook Verdes Football Club and Belize City's Belize Defence Force squad.

The action began promptly at the stroke of the 4 pm hour inside San Ignacio's Norman Broaster Stadium.

The FIFA certified referee in charge of the action in the center of the field was Orange Walk's **Romel Carballo** along with 1<sup>st</sup> assistant **Armando Chirinos** and 2<sup>nd</sup> assistant **Earl Trapp Jr.** flagging the sidelines. **Gerald Henry Jr.** was the fourth

**Please Turn To Page 11**



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## Editorial



### Imagine The Possibilities - Everyone Would Be Happy

This week's news about the new government successfully enlisting financial assistance from traditional lending institutions like the IDB and the World Bank is good news for Belize.

This is a clear indication that within such a short time in office, the new government has successfully reopened the doors of these international financial institutions (IFI's).

These are the very same doors that were slammed shut in the face of the self professed financial genius of the previous administration.

When he was locked out by these IFI's, and in a desperate hunt for new loans, this individual was left with no other alternative than to seek out the *"loan sharks"* in the international financial marketplace resulting in the nation being saddled with a 3 Billion dollar debt the domino effect of which was the crushing defeat of his party at the polls; his losing the once secure constituency that he carved out for himself, the implosion of his Peoples United Party and ultimately his being booted out of the powerful executive position he once held in the party.

Now that a new government is in office, we hear charges and counter charges of victimization against the new administration by some elements of the disgraced former administration as they hope and pray for their moles to remain in the government service so that they can sabotage the new administration while providing the PUP with insider information to be twisted into the usual propaganda.

Do these people really expect, for example, that the driver/mechanic in the Ministry of Education would have remained on government's payroll for another five years while this individual who resides in Belize City had never once set a foot in the Ministry of Education? With the full blessing of the minister of course, this individual continued to collect a fat salary for five years, right up to April 15 when the shameless scheme was uncovered and rightfully terminated. And there are many, many, many more such cases in every department of government that flourished under the corrupt previous administration.

We hear them crying about victimization and spitefulness. Have these people really forgotten that immediately upon assuming office in 1998 Said Musa's wave of victimization touched from the highest to the lowest levels in government. Have they forgotten the instant firing of **Chief Justice Manuel Sosa**?

Have they forgotten those hundreds of hospital attendants, office cleaners, postal workers and Community Development Officers, among others, who were sent home within days of

the Musa administration coming to office in 1998. These same people, branded as UDP supporters, could **NEVER** get a job in the government service for all those 10 long years.

Have these people forgotten that it was **Said Musa**, who within days of being sworn in as the Prime Minister of Belize, in 1998, ordered Transport and Customs Officials along with the police to break into Dean Barrow's private garage and take away his private vehicle? Have these people really forgotten this vindictive action on the party of their disgraced former leader?

It is common knowledge that on their way out of office, several ministers of government and their cronies, including some former CEO's, made off with almost all government vehicles for a minuscule fraction of their value. Have we seen **Prime Minister Dean Barrow** ordering the Police, Transport or Customs officials to break into these peoples' garages to bring back these public properties that they shamelessly acquired?

**Johnny Briceño** might have won a convention, but he lost the government. This is not stopping Johnny from cleaning house. He has gotten rid of **Ralph Fonseca, Francis Fonseca, Yasser Musa, Samira Musa, Vildo Marin, Lisa Shoman** as well as most of the Musa appointed senators. Other heads will

## SERIOUS TRAFFIC ACCIDENT IN SAN IGNACIO

### From Front Page

Police investigation revealed that Mendez was riding the motorcycle up Joseph Andrews Drive from the direction of Sacred Heart College towards the Benque Viejo Road while the Toyota was coming in the opposite direction. According to the police, the Toyota pickup truck changed direction by turning into Bullet Tree Road causing the motorcycle to ram into it on the passenger side. Police suspect that Mendez was not wearing a protective helmet at the time of the accident.

The driver of the Toyota truck reportedly fled the scene and police suspect that he was the only person inside the vehicle as the front passenger side seat was loaded with chips which they suspect could have obstructed the driver's view of the approaching motorcycle.

A search of the vehicle produced a Guatemalan passport issued on January 24, 2008 in the name of **Necio Orlando Cuyuch Sica, 36**, who police suspect was the driver of the vehicle at the time of the accident.

As part of the investigation, police removed a valid insurance sticker, expiring on June 21, 2008 as well as a license sticker expiring at the end of July 2008 from the remains of the

soon roll including that of Secretary General **Henry Charles Usher**, among others. Is this victimization? You be the judge.

While on the topic of **Johnny Briceño**, and without questioning the wisdom of our brilliant Governor General: How did Johnny Briceño emerge as Leader of the Opposition? On March 30 those 600+ PUP delegates elected Johnny Briceño as their Party Leader, they cannot elect a Leader of the Opposition as this appointment is constitutionally vested only in the Governor General of Belize. Therefore, to be appointed as Leader of the Opposition, does Johnny Briceño actually *"command the support of a majority of the members of the House who do not support the government"* as per Section 47 (2) of the Constitution?

The last time we checked, **Johnny Briceño** and **Francis Fonseca** each had two of the remaining four opposition representatives supporting them.

Then again maybe it would *"appear"* to the GG, in his wisdom, that it would be much easier to get **Florencio Marin Jr.** to support Johnny Briceño than to get **Cordel Hyde** to support Francis Fonseca as Mark Espat's support for Francis Fonseca is out of the question, while Said Musa's support for Johnny Briceño is likewise next to impossible and Cordel Hyde would not be too enthusiastic about supporting Francis Fonseca as he is still feeling the pain of being shoved aside, by Said Musa, from the lucrative Ministry of

Education portfolio, to make way for Francis Fonseca the newcomer.

If Said Musa and Ralph Fonseca are serious about picking up their marbles, then they could take back their headquarters, radio station and newspaper from Johnny. They could even take back the PUP name as there is a high possibility that the party is registered in the name of **Hamid Musa** who just happens to be Said Musa's father.

If Musa and Fonseca would take back their marbles **EVERYONE SHOULD BE HAPPY** as follows:

a) Said Musa and Ralph Fonseca would have effectively expelled Briceño, Espat and Hyde from the PUP.

b) Johnny Briceño would have formed a viable third party and, with the rug dragged from under his feet, when the big boys take back their marbles, he would hardly want to be a party leader without a party for much too long.

c) **Mark Espat** and **Daniel Silva** would have seen the realization of their long awaited dream to jump start and hold senior positions within a new party.

d) Said and Ralph would be happy as they would get back their PUP and maybe eventually succeed in anointing Francis Fonseca as their party leader which in turn would make Francis a happy person.

e) The UDP would be happy as the PUP and Briceño's new party would be sharing their 49,500 voters among themselves while the UDP will remain stronger than ever with its 68,200 voters.



**Necio Orlando Cuyuch Sica, 36, The suspected driver of the pickup truck, who fled the scene**

shattered windshield.

The Toyota pickup truck was towed to the San Ignacio Police compound and the damaged motorcycle was delivered to Mendez' parents at their Blue Hole address in San Ignacio Town.

Relatives informed that the medical examination revealed that Ken sustained a broken skull, broken left and right wrists, a broken right arm and a broken right foot.

Police are asking the driver to the Toyota pickup truck to come forward thereby enabling the investigation to proceed.



**The damaged Toyota pickup truck at the police compound**

Residents in this area of town report that this junction has been the scene of an increasing number of traffic accidents with no less than three of them involving motorcycles over the past two weeks. Drivers attribute this hazardous condition to the existence of ornamental shrubs planted in the divider between the two carriage-ways of the boulevard which tend to obstruct vision of approaching traffic on Joseph Andrews Drive.

While these plants will eventually grow into trees thereby reducing the hazard, the authorities are advising motorists, especially those traversing Joseph Andrews Drive heading in the direction of Bullet Tree Village, to exercise extreme care as they move across Joseph Andrews Drive.

The prayers of the community is with the Gibbs/Mendez family during these difficult times for the recovery of their loved one.



## THE CARPENTER

It was a simple way of earning a living, all that was necessary was a few nails, a hammer and some lumber. But also a lot of experience and patience. That which is made to last is not "completed" over night, Jesus knew that.

I have also asked myself, how many days did He have to work to finish a piece of furniture, carefully forming each part so that when it was put in its proper place it would fit perfectly.

And when it was finally complete and He was satisfied that each detail was perfect, He would observe His work and say, "It is Finished!"

I was a simple way to die, about all that was needed was a few nails, a hammer and some lumber. But also necessary was a lot of hate... and Love. That which is made to last is not completed over night, Jesus knew that.

But Jesus constructed His gift of

By: Brother Ananiah  
(editorial\_ananiah@yahoo.com..mx)

Salvation for humanity so that it would stand the test of time. And when it was completed, after He was satisfied that all the details had been made, He look upon those for whom He had labored and said, "It is Finished!"

Finally, eternal life is available! The extremely high price was paid by the Son of God. But this gift beyond price is only for those who ask for it.

Beloved reader, oh what peace we

have in the mind and heart when we are finally reconciled to God! Amigo, if you are young or old have you gone personally to the foot of the cross of Jesus? Why not go to Him today, so that you too can speak those sweet, eternal words: "Now it is Finished!"

No one took the life of Christ, my Lord; He gave it freely, as a

holy sacrifice for me. And, no one took my life; I choose to give it freely, as a holy sacrifice to Christ. I

### My Prayer

*JESUS, forgive me for the years that I did not take seriously Your sacrifice for me on the Cross. I don't understand why You love me so much, I am not worthy. LORD, help me to change my life. I want to give myself completely to You, and live for you, walk with you each day. I want to love others like You love me, give me a new heart, new thoughts and a new purpose to live.*

*JESUS, I cannot save myself, please be my personal Savior and my Lord. Take my hand now and guide me in the correct path for the rest of my life. Thank you JESUS, amen.*

was buried with Christ, so I could be resurrected to a new life with Him. Now I celebrate Christ in my heart, and sing to Him the new song of a life devoted to His word.

### Daily I confess:

Lord I will love You, with ALL my heart! Lord I will follow You, with ALL my heart! Lord I will praise You, with

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## Crimes Committee Donates Motorcycle To Police

BY: John Acott

CAYO, Wednesday, April 9, 2008:

The recent familiarization visit of the **Hon. Carlos Perdomo**, the new Minister of National Security, to the Police Formation of San Ignacio, was an opportune moment for members of the Twin-Towns Crime Committee to present a new motorcycle to the police.

The motor cycle was purchased with funds raised by the committee from local businesses and 'Dalla Day' donations.

In accepting the donation, Minister Perdomo thanked the committee, remarking that they are the most active police support committee in the country, and hoping that they will continue to be so. He assured them that the motorcycle will be put to good use and Senior Superintendent



**PHOTO: Crime Committee chairman, John Acott, handing over the motorcycle keys to Minister Carlos Perdomo.**

David Henderson the Cayo police commander, echoed the minister's

words in saying that the cycle was much needed and is ideal for dealing

## US Embassy Celebrates Earth Day 2008

BELMOPAN, Thursday, April 10, 2008:

*U.S. Embassy Plants Trees and Presents Green Technology Poster Show to Recognize Earth Day.*

Beginning Monday, April 14, at the George Price Centre for Peace and Development, the U.S. Embassy will contribute a poster show on "Green

Technology" in recognition of Earth Day.

To commemorate the opening of the show and contribute to a "greener" Belize, the U.S. Embassy will donate and plant trees at the University of Belize Pre-School at 9:00 AM on April 14th.

The 38th anniversary of Earth Day

will be celebrated on April 22 and promotes and encourages ways to protect our environment.

This year's poster show focuses on how corporations can develop and implement greener, more environmentally friendly technology.

The public is invited to learn more about green technology through this

with incidents in the very large area for which he is responsible.

The Twin-Towns Crime Committee consists of members of the general public who have regular meetings to decide how best they can provide assistance to the local police. The committee has been in existence for over 7 years and is responsible for many support donations to the police.

The members of the committee would like to thank all in the community who made the donation possible by their generosity and also to **Mr. Norman Dueck** of Universal Hardware in Spanish Lookout, who provided the motorcycle at a much discounted price.

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event from Monday, April 14 to Friday, April 25 at the George Price Centre for Peace and Development in Belmopan.



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PUBLIC UTILITIES  
COMMISSION

## **PUBLIC NOTICE**

**IT IS HEREBY NOTIFIED FOR GENERAL INFORMATION** that on this day, April 2, 2008, the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) in accordance with the Electricity (Tariffs, Charges and Quality of Service Standards) Byelaws, 2005 commences an Annual Review Proceeding for Belize Electricity Limited (BEL). The ARP enables the PUC to review the company's operations for the past year to ensure that the objectives set out in the 2005 Full Tariff Review Proceeding (FTRP) are achieved.

### **The Process**

- The PUC will accept comments from the public until April 22, 2008
- The PUC will deliver its Initial Decision no later than May 2, 2008
- Interested Parties have 10 days after the Initial Decision to comment in writing to the PUC
- The PUC makes its Final Decision which adopts the Initial Decision if there are no objections
- If the Licensee or an interested party objects, the PUC must appoint an Independent Expert to review the Initial Decision within 10 days
- The Independent Expert is to deliver a written report no later than 20 days after appointment
- Then the PUC makes its Final Decision not more than 15 days after the submission of the Independent Expert's report

The PUC will issue a final decision in the proceeding no later than June 26, 2008. Any adjustments will take effect on July 1, 2008 which is the start of the 2008/2009 Annual Tariff Period (ATP).

### **Public Access to Information**

A summary of BEL's submission is available at BEL's Corporate Headquarters located at 2 ½ miles Northern Highway, Belize City, and at branch offices countrywide, and at PUC Headquarters, and from the PUC website [www.puc.bz](http://www.puc.bz).

Interested parties are invited to submit written comments and information to the Public Utilities Commission, #41 Gabourel Lane, P.O. Box 300, Belize City or by e-mail to [info@puc.bz](mailto:info@puc.bz).

*The Public Utilities Commission encourages the public to take advantage of the opportunity to participate in the BEL ARP.*



## Letters to the Editor

### Central Cayo Roads Being Graded

One sees some streets down in both Santa Elena Town and San Ignacio with new asphalt patches.

To me, the most obvious improvement under the UDP and our local area representative, **Rene Montero**, has been assigning grading of the entrance road from the Western Highway and past Eden High School to the T junction in the Hillview area of Santa Elena.

I was even able to get my pickup truck out of first gear into second and third gear it was so smooth.

Yesterday, I see that the grader had also widened some roads in the Santa Cruz suburb, which winds in and over a number of building suburbs in hills and valleys.

There is a lot of house construction going on back here. To the left from the T junction of the side road from the Western Highway, into the Hillview area, the main Hillview street has been graded up to the crest of the ridge.

The village down on the slope hasn't been touched yet, but my mason Antonio, said he saw our area representative walking the streets on our slope and village yesterday.

This morning I got a call from **Rene Montero** our area representative, to advise that he has given instructions that the grader was to go over the hill ridge and do the Hillview streets as well.

### Major Works On Road And Streets In The Twin Towns

**SANTA ELENA TOWN, Cayo District, Monday, April 14, 2008:**

The benefits that can be derived from the cooperative efforts between local and central governments are indeed amazing.

Such was the revelation this week with the unprecedented amount of civil works taking place in Santa Elena Town.

*"It is indeed a pleasure to see our workers laboring side by side in a harmonious manner with employees from the local branch of the Ministry of Works"* said Mayor John Francis August. *"This is a situation that we have not experienced in many, many years as we have always had a hard time to get the previous Central Government to honor our smallest requests for assistance. With this new found cooperation, the San Ignacio/Santa Elena Town Council, with assistance from Minister of Works Hon. Anthony "Boots" Martinez and with the valuable cooperation on the part of Area Representatives Rene Montero, Elvin Penner and Salvador Fernandez, we intend to deliver more and better services to residents of the Twin Towns of Santa Elena and San Ignacio"*

There are some very impassable corners in places, due to washouts and lack of culverts.

This is dry season, so any grading will not last, but 2008 is a year that is going to be scarce for government spending funds. I don't need to wait until June to hear the Prime Minister's

### Six New Vehicles For The Police Twenty More To Come

**BELMOPAN CITY, Friday, April 11, 2008:**

The Police Press Office today informed of the receipt and handing over of six diesel powered Great Wall Turbo charged SUV type four door vehicles for use by the Police Department.

The vehicles were purchased at a cost of over one hundred and ninety thousand dollars from Caribbean Traders of Spanish Lookout, Cayo.

National Security Minister **Hon. Carlos Perdomo** informed that this is the first assignment from a total of 26 new vehicles earmarked for the police. According to retired BDF General **Lloyd Gillett**, Chief Executive Officer in the Ministry of National Security, three of the new vehicles were assigned to Eastern Division in Belize City and one each to police stations in Belmopan, San Ignacio and Benque Viejo Town.

San Ignacio police now has two vehicles at their disposal, this latest

budget to know that.

I think if the UDP can find the money to pay for the diesel to run the grader every working day, in each district, until next January; that would do a lot to pacify voters and show the UDP government cares about us.

Rain of course is going to wash out the dirt streets again around June and July and especially in September.

If the grader can keep running the rest of the year, if supplied with diesel

fuel; that to me, seems the best thing for the political party to do, to cement good will. Cayo District basically only has the asphalt paved Western highway to the frontier border and all other streets and roads are dirt.

There are lots of projects need doing by the government for infra-structure, but diesel fuel for the grader seems to me, to be the most economical show of action.

**Ray Auxillou, Santa Elena, Cayo**



**San Ignacio Police now has two vehicles in top shape - The new Great Wall 4 door Truck (L) and the relatively new D-Max (R) both seen here parked on the compound at the San Ignacio Police Station**

brand new acquisition and another one that was received also brand new only a few months ago.

We trust that with this additional vehicular resource, the police will be better able to respond to the calls of

the community in a more timely manner as well as dispensing with that LARGE amount of warrants held up in the police station under the excuse of the lack of transport to execute this essential police duty.



**Working in harmony, like the way it should be -Ministry of Works & Town Council employees repairing streets in Santa Elena Town**

Mr. Garbutt informed that the ministry will soon be applying that long overdue second surface dressing to Liberty Street in Santa Elena, as well of to Joseph Andrews Drive, Benque Viejo Road and around the Columbus Park/Town Hall and Police Station in San Ignacio Town.

*"We have the capacity to do works in the Towns while still taking on our responsibility for maintaining the major highways"* said Mr. Garbutt. *"The Ministry has a very pragmatic Minister in the person of the Hon. Anthony Martinez and so I see good happening in our towns under Minister Martinez"* said Mr. Garbutt

Unfortunately this was not the case under the previous administration as the Ministry of Works was strictly confined to maintenance of the

Highways as it was the preferred practice for Ministry of Works employees to linger for days on the compound doing nothing instead of dispatching them to assist with the deterioration condition of town street.

As one resident of San Ignacio Town commented this past Tuesday morning, *"Its a strange sight to see Ministry of Works Roller in town especially in front of Bismillah Store in the Burns Avenue/Savannah area of the town. This is something we are not accustomed to seeing"* concluded the observer.

Mr. Garbutt also informed that the Ministry will likewise be undertaking a major street pavement project in Benque Viejo Town which will result in the paving of several streets in the western quadrant of Benque Viejo Town.



## The Price Of Four Going Up But Bread Prices Remain Unchanged

**BELMOPAN CITY, Cayo District, Monday, April 14, 2008:**

A release from the Ministry of Economic Development, Commerce, Industry and Consumer Protection in conjunction with the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries today informed that negotiations between the Government of Belize, local flour producers (ADM-Belize Mills) and

## Tour Operator's Association For San Ignacio Recommended

**By: Ray Auxillou, SAN IGNACIO TOWN, Cayo, Friday, April 13th, 2008:**



*The Auxillou Tourist Group of Belize, have been in the tourist business, since pioneering tourism in 1964.*

A father and four daughters run condos, suites, guest house and two hostels inside Belize.

Mostly we are on the beach at Caye Caulker serving the daily tourist trade and out in Western Belize in Santa Elena Town, with a BACKPACKERS ADVENTURE HOSTEL now in it's second season.

We've had a lot of experience in Belize Tourism. We've been running tourists up Xununtanich since it was covered with jungle trees and you climbed the ruin by pulling yourself up by trees, shrubs and roots.

One of the problems we are having in our Western Belize Adventure Tourism is the ripoff, hustler, con man mentality found down in the center of San Ignacio Town and across the river.

We ran through these same hustling problems a few decades ago on Caye Caulker and it was found that both Water Taxi and Golf cart type taxi associations led to better tourist service, better world wide tourist reputation and increased numbers of tourist arrivals.

In today's world, where bad experiences by tourists are instantly posted on the internet message forums, bulletin boards and instruct the tourist to avoid an area, the downtown San Ignacio area is killing the through flow transient visitor numbers with bad tourist experiences.

In Caye Caulker the average daily, slow season flow of transient backpacker tourist is around 300 persons per day. In Western Belize, the hustlers, con men and rip off artists, limit tourist visitors flow through, to about a dozen a day, or less; because of the bad reputation of SAN IGNACIO TOWN This amount could easily be 300 tourists daily as well.

It behooves TOUR OPERATORS in SAN IGNACIO downtown area who organize day trips, to get themselves organized into an

the Baker's Association have resulted in a decision to adjust the control price of flour while keeping the cost of white packed-bread at the current price.

The release informed that the need for the adjustment was brought about by the fact that to date the controlled price for flour in Belize has not been reflecting the steady increase

ASSOCIATION, like we have successfully done on Caye Caulker; so that organization, rules, fees and reputation provides each tourist visiting Western Belize for adventures, an ensured good quality service.

There have been five TOUR OPERATORS whos services we have used in SAN IGNACIO TOWN, three of these now have INTERNET WARNING ADVISORIES against them for RIP OFFS against tourists visiting Western Belize.

This sort of bad experience discourages visitors from coming to Western Belize and kills the development of the TWIN TOWNS AREA as a tourist hot spot.

In recent weeks, we had two female guests hustled and ripped off by a downtown San Ignacio Tour Group. The posted price for horse-back riding was \$40 per person and they got overcharged at \$60 USA each, and lied to, that the price was raised; when in fact it was not. Sunday the 12th, of April, another female tourist guest had arranged a TIKAL TOUR, all inclusive for \$90 over the internet with DAVID TOURS and the operator, ran her over to Melchor for the \$90 USA from our HOSTEL and then made her hire a mini-van to take her and him to TIKAL and FLORES and charged her another \$300 usa for it and his expenses for the day as well. These bad experiences come out on the internet forums, chat rooms and bulletin boards and turn off tourist visitors to Western Belize. MAYA WALK is still infamous for the alleged RAPE CASE when the tour guide is supposed to have raped three teenage tourist British girls and the mental instability violence of the owner. Of the five TOUR OPERATORS left in the WESTERN TWIN TOWNS, we have used; we can only recommend to guests, PACZ TOURS and MAYA MYSTIC TOURS for giving honesty, reliability and safe operations. The first three TOUR OPERATORS mentioned, have to be banned to our customers, if we are going to keep serving a growing tourist volume of visitors. We are only as good as our reputation in this business. A new tour operator has opened, called Culture History Tours and we dropped in this morning still irate over the rip off, of our guest at Davids Tours. Talked to the girl at the new desk and they don't seem to be well organized

in acquisition costs on the world market for wheat.

Additionally, as a result of the price control, flour produced in Belize is being sold at a significant loss to the producer and at a lower price than neighboring Guatemala and Mexico where prices have steadily increased as world market prices of wheat spiral upwards.

The release goes on to inform that given the existing price differential, couple with the fact that there are no

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yet, with price sheets. The TWIN TOWNS is wide open to PROFESSIONAL HONEST PUNCTUAL TOUR OPERATORS, it is a lot like Caye Caulker of 30 years ago, out Western Belize here. There is ample room for new TOUR OPERATORS as visitor tourism grows, but it will only grow if tourists are pampered and treated with honesty and good service. REPUTATION is everything to make TWIN TOWNS tourism boom.

Tour Operators in the Twin Towns, need to form an ASSOCIATION like done on Caye Caulker and police yourselves. You can compete with better service, quality, honesty, promptness and by reputation. Believe me, the TOURISTS compare their experiences these days on the internet daily and if you have a bad reputation; both YOU as a TOUR OPERATOR and this area of WESTERN BELIZE will suffer from a drastic drop in tourist visitors.

TOUR OPERATORS supply a needed middle man service to the small guest accommodations around the area. They are the link between individual tour guide speciality services and the small hotel guest accommodations. As suppliers of accommodations and logistics to visitor guests, we need TOUR OPERATORS to fill out our happiness quotient for adventures for our overnight guests, on tight day scheduling. The thing is; if a TOUR OPERATOR is not honest, or does not supervise his business strictly, he damages our business, his own business and the tourist reputation of our Western Belize Adventure area. We could certainly use some fresh professional faces in the Tour Operator business to make tourism grown in Western Belize.

restrictions to prevent the export of flour from Belize, Belizean flour is being sold to merchants in Guatemala by traders for a handsome profit.

The Government of Belize anticipates that the current price trend for wheat is expected to continue with prices tapering off at higher levels than desirable in the near future, the effects of which will inevitably lead to a continued increases in the cost of producing flour in Belize.

The factors contributing to the increase in wheat prices include:

1. Rapid escalation in world market price for fuel
2. All time low levels in global wheat stocks/inventories driven partly by severe drought experienced in Australia
3. Export restrictions imposed by top major wheat exporters, such as Russia and Argentina
4. Increased demands for alternative energy sources has spurred a shift in production from wheat to crops such as corn, sugarcane, and rapeseed that can be converted into bio-fuels, namely ethanol

In spite of the increase in the controlled price of flour, which would normally have resulted in an increase in the price of bread, an agreement has been reached between Government and the Bakers' Association with the collaboration of Belize Mills to maintain the current control price for the 16 oz. un-sliced and sliced bread at \$1.25 and \$1.50 respectively.

This will be done by a special arrangement with Belize Mills to sell bakers flour to members of the Bakers Association at the old price. This undertaking is pending a review of prices by the Association in direct consultation with Government at the time of the next shipment of wheat to Belize.

In addition to preventing an increase in the price of bread the GOB is committed to:

- a) Increase market surveillance by strengthening institutional capacities particularly in Consumer Protection. Efforts are ongoing to improve on the functions of the Bureau of Standards through the recruitment of new staff and increased mobility to respond to consumer complaints in a timely manner.
- b) Complement market surveillance by networking with relevant ministries, agencies and statutory bodies to enforce and uphold the price control regime.
- c) Introduce a Consumer Hotline to be housed at the Bureau of Standards.
- d) The GOB will keep the acquisition cost of wheat under constant review in an effort to assess any future changes in the controlled price as may be appropriate while at the same time protecting the interest of the consumer.



## ★ STAR HUMOR ★

### Look At Them Running For Cover

Grampa Joe owns a large farm in Santa Familia, Cayo. At the back of the farm he has a large pond ideal for swimming. The pond is fixed up really nice, along with some picnic tables, some orange, mango and berry trees.

One evening Grampa Joe went down to the pond for a stroll. He grabbed a bucket to bring back some oranges and mangoes.

As he neared the pond, he heard voices shouting and laughing with glee. When he came closer, he

### Suzy's Not Thinking Rationally

**Suzy** suspects her boyfriend **Brian** of cheating on her.

In a fit of anger she gets possession of a pistol.

She shows up at Brian's apartment unexpectedly, slams open the door, and sure enough finds Brian in the bedroom in the arms of a young redhead.

Suzy is fuming. She is angry. She is

realized it was a bunch of young women skinny-dipping in his pond. He made the women aware of his presence and they all went to the deep end to shield themselves.

One of them shouted to him, *"We're not coming out until you leave!"*

The old man frowned and replied, *"I didn't come down here to watch you ladies swim naked or make you get out of the pond naked."* Holding the bucket up he said, *"I'm here to feed the alligator."*

furious. She can no longer control her emotions. She opens her purse and pulls out the gun.

As she takes aim, grief overcomes her and she points the gun at her own head.

*"No, honey, don't do it!"* yells Brian.

*"Shut up you bloody cheat,"* she says. *"You're next."*

### What would you like to hear them say about you?

**John, James and Jason** died in a car crash and are standing before **St. Peter** who asks all three of them the same question:

*"When you're lying in your casket, and friends and family are mourning over you, what would you like to hear them say about you?"*

John was the first to go *"I would like to hear them say that I was one of the great doctors of my time and that I was a great family*

*man."*

Next it was James, *"I would like to hear that I a wonderful husband and school teacher I was and that I made a huge difference in the lives of so many innocent children."*

*"And what about you Jason"* said St. Peter *"What would you like them to say about you?"*

Jason was quick to respond *"I'd like to hear them say, look he is moving."*

### "Parents Should Support And Encourage Their Children To Become A Scout" says Shalue Butcher

#### CONTRIBUTED

**AGUADA HOTEL, Santa Elena Town, Monday, April 14, 2008:**

With much pomp and circumstance, the Santa Elena Jaguar Scouts celebrated another milestone with the Investiture and Bridging Ceremony that was held on the grounds of the Aguada Hotel on Sunday, April 13, 2008.

With a crowd in attendance of 150 guests, **Mr. Hilberto Riverol**, National Scout Executive and **Mr. Orlando Garcia**, Senior Field Executive and Director of training, were present to invest 26 new members to Troop #27.

Other scouts that were invested years prior were bridged to a higher level in the organization.

Highlights of the evening included the presentation of special pins and badges to members of the scouting community in recognition of their many years of involvement and dedication Belize's scouting movement.

Founding members of Troop #27 were also recognized for their continuing effort to strengthen the

movement in their community and country.

A short reception hosted by parents of the scout troop followed the event.

**"It is a truly special moment when we see families gather together to encourage their child to become active and concerned member of the community. I see a lot of dedicated Verdes fans at the ceremony and it's great to know that they can prioritize what's truly important in their lives. It's not a closed organization. Parents should encourage and support their children to become a scout."**, said **Shalue Butcher**, mother of a founding member, **Tarun**.

**Cecila Neal Flowers** and **Tiffany Pitts**, Troop Leaders, take this opportunity to thank The Santa Elena and San Ignacio Town Council, The Aguada Hotel, Sacred Heart Junior College Tourism Students, STAR Newspaper, Cayo Adventure Tours, Cayo Cargo, Nelita Castillo and all the parents and family members that gave unselfishly of themselves to make this a successful and memorable event.



### Vacancy Notice

Petroleum Accountant

Geology and Petroleum Department

Ministry of Natural Resources and the Environment  
Government of Belize

Applications are invited from suitable qualified persons for the post of **Petroleum Accountant** in the Geology and Petroleum Department, Ministry of Natural Resources and the Environment. The qualification requirement for appointment to the post and its associated duties and responsibilities are as follows:

**Position:** Petroleum Accountant

**Qualifications:** Bachelor's Degree in Accounting or alternately in Economics with a minor in Accounting or a Bachelor's Degree in Business Management with a major in Accounting. Training and experience in petroleum accounting would be an asset.

**Skills for the post:** Supervisory skills, familiarity with standard computer applications, good communications, writing and interpersonal skills.

**Experience:** 3 years in accounting field

#### Duties/Responsibilities:

- Auditing the petroleum accounts of contractors
- Auditing and monitoring of Government petroleum revenues including:- Royalties, Petroleum Shares and Revenues from Government's participation in commercial fields.
- Evaluate oil/gas field economics.
- Assist the Income Tax Department in the auditing of the petroleum accounts of contractors.
- Other duties relating to petroleum accounting, economics and finance.

**Salary:** Pay Scale 16 of \$25,584 X \$1,104 - \$46,560

#### Deadline for application:

Interested persons in possession of the requisite qualifications are to submit their applications to the Chief Executive Officer, Ministry of Natural Resources and the Environment, Market Square, Belmopan City no later than April 30, 2008.

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**Wednesday: Margaritas  
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**Thursday: Piña Colada  
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# PUBLIC NOTICE

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Vacancy exist at Sacred Heart College for the post of  
**Principal/Chief Administrative Officer**



The Board of Governors of Sacred Heart College invites applications from suitably qualified persons for the full-time post of  
Principal/Chief Administrative Officer. The position will be effective July 1, 2008.

The Principal/Chief Administrative Officer has oversight for the academic and administrative affairs of the College (high school and junior college divisions). He or she has the ultimate responsibility for general administration, the relationship between the school and its public, and overseeing the implementation of the policies and programs of the school in cooperation with the Board of Governors and Ministry of Education. He or she reports to the Sacred Heart College Board of Governors and is an ex-officio member of the Board. SHC is a Catholic institution and such its academic and administrative practices are molded by Catholic traditions

The Principal/Chief Administrative Officer will be a person who: is familiar with and supportive of the mission of Sacred Heart College;

Is capable of working as part of the College's senior management team which includes the Dean of the Junior College and the

Associate Principal of the High School; Is accessible and consultative when making decisions; Has excellent communication and interpersonal skills;

Has the ability to articulate effectively the school's mission to the College community, alumni and to the public-at-large; and

Possesses leadership and management skills.

Education and Experience: Preference will be given to applicants who possess a Master's Degree in Educational Administration (or related field) from an accredited institution, and a minimum of five years experience in teaching or administration in the Belizean educational system. Fluency in Spanish will be an asset.

Remuneration: In accordance with salary scales approved by the Ministry of Education.

**Application Deadline: May 16, 2008.**

Send or deliver completed application along with resume to:

**The Secretary  
Board of Governors  
Sacred Heart College  
P.O. Box 163  
San Ignacio, Cayo**



**SAN IGNACIO/SANTA ELENA TOWN COUNCIL  
MUNICIPAL EASTER FAIR REPORT**

**INCOME:**

STALLS	7,226.50
COLLECTION BOOTHS	22,495.75
BAR AND DANCE	3,250.00
DONATION FOR BANNERS	300.00
TRAFFIC	1,125.00
MECHANICAL RIDES	9,000.00
DISCO	3,030.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME:</b>	<b>\$46,427.25</b>

**EXPENSES:**

	3,270.00
	1,542.50
ADVERTISEMENT	5,370.79
ENTERTAINMENT	4,678.00
WORKERS	600.00
POLICY SECURITY	769.90
RENTAL OF PARTABLE TOILETS	4,341.80
MISCELLANEOUS	1,725.00
ETRECTRICAL MATERIALS & LABOUR	540.00
STALLS - MATERIALS & LABOUR	5,400.00
RENTAL OF CHAIRS & TABLES	
MUSIC - 2 BANDS/DISCO BOX	
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>28,237.99</b>
<b>NET PROFIT</b>	<b>18,189.26</b>

**\$46,427.25**

The San Ignacio/Santa Elena Town Council takes this opportunity to thank everyone who assisted in making this year's Municipal Fair the success it was.

The Council hereby informs that all profits derived from the event will be used for the construction of three NEW PARKS: one in the Santiago Juan Layout Area, the other in the Hillview Area and the third at the corner of Flamingo/I8th Street.

The Council will be spending \$8,000 for each of the three parks for a total of \$24,000. The Council will therefore make up the almost \$6,000 shortfall from its other resources.

Mayor John Francis August and the Council extend a heartfelt Thank you to everyone for coming out and for making this year's Annual Municipal Fair a success. ---Thank You---



# Report On Neighborhood Watch Monthly Meeting



**BY: Joshua Mckoy**  
**SANTA ELENA TOWN, Cayo District, Thursday April 10, 2008:**

The Zone 10 Neighborhood Watch Committee today held its monthly meeting at the Salazar Street residence chairperson **Desol Neal** with over a dozen members in attendance.

The meeting began at 7:45pm with a prayer after which the Officer Commanding Cayo (Police) District Senior Superintendent **David Henderson** updated the committee

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## LIQUOR LICENSE NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Chapter 150 of the laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2000, that **CARLOS TZIB** is applying for the renewal of his **PUBLICAN SPECIAL LIQUOR LICENSE** for the year 2008 to operate **AMIGOS BAR** located in San Antonio Village in the Cayo District.

Notice is hereby given that under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Chapter 150 of the laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2000, that **JAIME REQUENA** is applying for the renewal of his **MALT & CIDER LIQUOR LICENSE** for the year 2008 to operate **ARIS BAR** located at 2nd Street, San Ignacio Town in the Cayo District.

Notice is hereby given that under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Chapter 150 of the laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2000, that **MERVIN ESCALERA** is applying for a **RESTAURANT LIQUOR LICENSE** for the year 2008 to operate **CHACHALACA INN** located in the village of Bullet Tree Falls in the Cayo District.

on the following points:

- \* A perceivable reduction in crime within the community over the last two months.
- \* The tremendous cooperation that he is receiving from schools in helping to combat crime
- \* Increased mobile patrols with an additional vehicle now assigned to the San Ignacio Police Station. Supt. Henderson also took the opportunity

to encourage the group to continue working hard and to be extra vigilant especially with the presence of new faces in the community particularly when these strange faces appear to be up to no good.

Also discussed during the meeting were the following:

- \* The upcoming Mother's Day program
- \* Better street lighting within the

community

- \* Stray horses in the community running rampant
- \* Abandon houses used as safe havens by drug users
- \* Establishing a program to keep the community.

Refreshments were then served members were told that next meeting will be announced at a later date. The meeting ended at 9:00 pm. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 8.

# Verdes Returns Football Championship To The West

**From Front Page**

official in charge.  
The game got off to an exciting start as both teams, after coming off a 1-1 draw at the MCC Grounds in Belize City seven days earlier, were anxious to be the first to shake the net.

It was 9 minutes into the game when **#9 Orlando "Leech" Jimenez** placed his Verdes team on the score card.

The stats for the first half of the action shows almost equal plays by both teams as Verdes was charged with 14 fouls while the BDF registered 10.

There was 1 offside call against Verdes and 2 against the BDF team.

Each team took one corner kick and each got a yellow card.

While it was Verdes that capitalized with Leech Jimenez' 9<sup>th</sup> minute goal, the stats show that the BDF created excitement with 4 close calls on the Verdes goal as compared to only 2 such excitements created by the Verdes team.

The second half of the game began at the stroke of the 5 pm hour with the BDF team pressing for the equalizer while the Verdes team, insisting in protecting its lead, curtailed its offensive maneuvers while concentrating more on the defense.

The Verdes team was placed at a worrying disadvantage at the midway point in the second half when in the 22<sup>nd</sup> minute of play, **#20 Jose Rodriguez** was red carded for unsportsmanlike conduct and ejected from the game. Notwithstanding the obvious disadvantage, the Verdes team solidified its defense while sacrificing its chances at increasing the 1-0 lead.

The stats for the second half shows 7 foul charged to the Verdez and 9 for the BDF.

There was 1 corner kick for the Verdes team and 5 for the BDF which was pressing for the equalizer.

The Verdes team had 2 offside calls while there was 0 such calls against the BDF thereby confirming that during the last quarter of the game, the ball was mostly concentrated in the Verdes goal area.

The half also recorded 3 exciting shots by the BDF to the Verdes goal while there was none at the BDF goal which was evident as BDF goalkeeper Charlie Slusher was



**Hankook Verdes Team with their hard earned Championship Trophy**

frequently venturing far outside his goal area.

In the end, Verdes' coordinated defense and the skills of goalkeeper **Jamie Brooks** saved the day and solidified the big 1-0 victory for the homeboys, Verdes team.

The official awards took place immediately after the game with **Maito Perdomo** from the Belize Premier Football League on hand to issue trophies along with Insurance Agents, **Jonathan Lohr** and **Abel Simpson** representing RF&G Insurance Company, the primary sponsors of the tournament.

The Verdes Football Club consequently crowned champions for the 2007-2008 RF&G Insurance Cup Tournament while the BDF settled for the title of sub-champions.

The following individual awards were presented:

- 1. Daniel Jimenez (Verdes Forward)** – MVP, for the Regular Season
- 2. Jamie Brooks (Verdes) Goalkeeper** – MVP for the Playoff



**Jamie Brooks (Verdes Goalkeeper) Most Valuable Player (MVP) and Best Goalkeeper for the Playoff**

**3. Jamie Brooks (Verdes) Goalkeeper** - Best Goalkeeper for the Playoff

**4. Jeremy James (Verdes) Most Goals**

**5. Jeremy James (Verdes) – Best Forward**

**6. Shamir Pacheco (Verdes)- Best Midfielder**

**7. Albert Thurton (BDF)- Best Defender**

**8. Charlie Slusher (BDF) – Best Goalkeeper**

**9. Phillip Lewis (Wagia)- Rookie of the Year**

**10. Marvin Ottley (BDF)- Coach of the Year**

**11.Sergio Chuc (Verdes) - Manager of the Year.**

**Sergio Chuc**, Manager of Hankook Verdes, informed that with this championship under its belt, the team now qualifies to represent Belize in the upcoming CONCACAF regional football tournament which begins in August 2008 and runs up to May-June 2009. We wish the team every success.



**RF&G Insurance Agent, Jonathan Lohr, presenting "Manager Of The Year" award to Hankook Verdes' Manager, Sergio Chuc**

**CONGRATULATIONS Hankook Verdes!!!!!!**

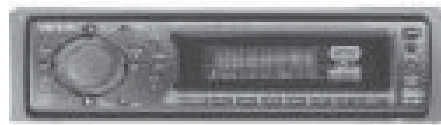


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