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Sunday, July 4, 2010

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EMPTY GUN CONNECTED TO A SANTA ELENA YOUTH

Belize Telemedia Limited First To Answer The Call

From Front Page

were unfolding across the nation, the people of Benque Viejo Town naturally felt short-changed when, between 2001 and 2003, they began to experience the closing down of utility branch offices in their community. This phenomenon was unfolding while no one seemed to care about the resultant negative effects of this roll back in services to the people of this western most municipality.

Then three things happened; First there was a change of government in February 2008 followed by the March 2009 election and elevation of then Councillor **Nicholas Ruiz**, a young, energetic and dynamic individual to the post of Mayor of Benque Viejo Town and then there was the August 2009 repatriation of Belize Telemedia Limited.

Immediately upon assuming command of municipal affairs in Benque Viejo Town, Mayor Ruiz embarked on the mission to restore the direct provisions of goods and services to the municipality. He began knocking on doors including that of **Prime Minister Dean Barrow**.

Today Mayor Ruiz proudly stood before his people to announce that, with the reopening of Telemedia's branch office in Benque Viejo, his efforts and the wishes of the people are finally beginning to bear fruits.

Officials from Telemedia in attendance for today's inauguration of the company's branch office in Benque Viejo Town included **Mr. Nestor Vasquez**, Chairman of the Board of Directors, **Mr. Anwar Barrow**, Member of the Board of Directors; **Mrs. Dionne Miranda**, General Manager for Customer Services; **Mr. Rafael Marin**, Chief Information Systems Officer; **Mr. Liston Hall**, Districts Manager for Customer Services and **Mrs. Lynette Canto**, Director of Public Relations as well as several other officials and members of staff including **Mr. Michael Augustus**.

Other dignitaries in attendance included members of the Benque Viejo Town Council as well as

members of the local business community.

The program of events began promptly at 2:00 pm with **Mr. Rafael Marin** serving as Master of Ceremony while **Mr. Efrain Medina** led the gathering in the singing of the National Anthem.

The opening prayer was delivered by **Fr. John Robinson** while the welcome address was delivered by **Mrs. Dionne Miranda** who proceeded to introduce the staff of the new branch office.

Next at the podium was Chairman Nestor Vasquez, who expressed the company's commitment for the expansion of customer services while addressing the growing telecommunication needs of its valued customers. Chairman Vasquez ended his remarks by informing the gathering that *"We are counting on the support from the public and private sector to remain the #1 telecommunication company in Benque Viejo Town, as we are in the rest of the country."*

In delivering the keynote address Mayor Nicholas Ruiz expressed gratitude to the Board of Directors, Management and Staff of Belize Telemedia Limited for blazing the trail as the municipality progresses on the journey of reasserting its rightful national position. Speaking directly of the people to Benque Viejo and surrounding communities, Mayor Ruiz informed that *"Now we will not have to travel to San Ignacio to get a simple PIN code, to do a reconnection, or get internet services, you will now be able to do this in your own town."* Mayor Ruiz also expressed gratitude to Area Representative, **Hon. Erwin Contreras** and **Prime Minister Dean Barrow** for heeding the community's call for its own utility branch offices. *"Make no mistake"* said Mayor Ruiz *"a change of Government has spelled a change of fortune for our town, and I take this opportunity, therefore, to publicly thank the Prime Minister for assisting in the re-acquiring of our rightfully deserved Telemedia branch office, thank you Prime."*

Mayor Ruiz continued by thanking the *"new Telemedia*



The new BTL bus stop at the town entrance

leadership and management for being bold and doing the right thing. The reopening of the Telemedia branch office in Benque is a clear indicator of your commitment to your Benque customers"

"Customer service, I gather, is obviously one of the operating principles of the new, unshackled Telemedia." said Mayor Ruiz. He concluded by issuing a challenge to other utility companies and the banks *"It took a bit of time, but Telemedia is back in Benque. I hope that BWS, BEL and Social Security will follow*

Telemedia's example. Now, we go after the banks" concluded the Mayor.

The thank you address was delivered by Mr. Liston Hall who expressed the company's *"Muchas Gracias"* for welcoming Telemedia back into the community as the company is now better positioned to provide a much increased level of service to the community.

The ceremonial cutting of the ribbon was done by Chairman Nestor Vasquez and Mayor Nicholas Ruiz followed by Mrs. Miranda inviting attendants to tour the refurbished facility which comes equipped with a customer service counter and show room, staff offices, kitchenette, exchange equipment room and bathroom facilities.

Guests in attendance were treated to refreshments and entertainment by one of the local marching bands.

Prior to the official inauguration ceremony for the new branch office, Mayor Ruiz, accompanied by Telemedia Directors and Executives participated in the official opening of a new bus stop located at the entrance of the town on George Price Boulevard. The construction cost was financed by Belize Telemedia Limited.

Santa Elena Man Goes To Jail On Allegations Of Carnally Engaging With A Female Child Two Times

SAN IGNACIO TOWN, Cayo District, Tuesday, June 29, 2010:

A Santa Elena man was today arrested and charged for two counts of carnal knowledge reportedly committed against the same 13 year old Guatemalan child residing also in Santa Elena Town. The first count was allegedly committed sometime during the month of December 2009 and the second instance allegedly committed on Saturday, June 26, 2010.

Police reports that on Sunday, June 27, 2010, the girl accompanied by her father visited the police station where a formal report was lodged. In a statement to the police, the child informed that at around 11:00 a.m. the previous day, Saturday, June 26, she arrived at the home of an 18 year old female acquaintance on Carillo Puerto Avenue in Santa Elena to assist with house cleaning chores.

The child further alleges that about an hour and a half later, at round 1:30 p.m, a male person, whom she knows as “Humes”, arrived at the house and shortly thereafter he reportedly gave the 18 year old female a

\$5 bill with instructions to purchase a fry chicken. The child informed that while this person was exiting the house on the errand, she reportedly got up and was about to leave when “Humes” reportedly closed the front door. The child informed that she wanted to leave because about six months earlier, in the month of December 2009, this individual reportedly had sex with her against her will and that more recently, in fact three days earlier, while she was the same house, this same individual reportedly offered her \$50 for sexual favors. On this second encounter the girl reportedly refused, she immediately left the house and returned home.

On this third occasion however, the child informed that after closing the door “Humes” reportedly grabbed her hands, pulled her to a nearby bedroom and proceeded to have sexual intercourse with her against her will. The child further reported that after the forced sexual encounter, “Humes” reportedly placed a cellular telephone on the bed and told her that she could have it and that she should not tell anyone about the encounter and that



**The Accused,
Timothy Humes, 35**

if she did, he would kill her and her father. On Tuesday, June 29, the suspect identified as Timothy Humes, 35, Belizean laborer of a New Area address in Santa Elena Town was formally arrested and charged for the crime of carnal knowledge. He appeared before San Ignacio’s Magistrate Anna Rachel Montejo, that same day, where no plea was taken. He was denied bail and remanded to the Hattieville prison and is scheduled to be brought back in court on Tuesday, August 31, 2010.

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Drug/Gang Violence Casts Shadow Over Upcoming Elections In Mexico

BY: Julian Miglierini
BBC News, Mexico City

Rodolfo Torre was killed as he campaigned to be governor in Tamaulipas

Sunday is election day in more than a dozen Mexican states, with voters set to choose governors, state deputies and mayors.

Attention will not just be on the results but on how polling day unfolds given the wave of violence that has marred campaigning in some areas.

Mexico's powerful drug gangs have been blamed for much of the violence, a sign, according to some, of the growing influence of organised crime in the country.

For months, candidates in many of the 14 states holding elections have complained of intimidation by alleged criminal gangs that has forced them to adopt special security measures and limit their campaigning in high-risk areas.

In areas of the country worst-hit by the drugs conflict, which has left some 23,000 people dead since late 2006, political parties admit they have found it hard to find citizens willing to run for office.

One person ready to stand was **Rodolfo Torre Cantu** of the Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI), who was favourite



to be elected governor in the north-eastern state of Tamaulipas.

Mr. Torre had spoken about his priority, if elected, to boost security in Tamaulipas, a key battleground between two powerful gangs, the Gulf Cartel and the Zetas, over drug-smuggling routes into the US.

But on 28 June, gunmen ambushed a convoy carrying Mr Torre and his team, shooting him and four of his aides dead.

Mr Torre's murder - the highest-profile political killing in Mexico since the assassination of presidential candidate **Luis Donaldo Colosio** in 1994 - has deepened concerns over how Mexican democracy is suffering at the hands of organised crime. Violence has started to form part of the daily landscape of Mexico

Lorenzo Cordoba Electoral expert, UNAM
"There is an escalation in the influence of the drug cartels in Mexican politics," says **Lorenzo Cordoba**, electoral expert from the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM).

Many see the threats and intimidation of this year's election campaigns as evidence of how Mexico's drug conflict has permeated into the political system.

"Almost all members of my campaign team have received dozens of calls," **Xochitl Galvez**, a candidate for governor of the state of Hidalgo, told the BBC recently.

The callers *"identify themselves as members of organised crime"*, she added.

The head of the National Action Party (PAN), **Cesar Nava**, also said recently that many of his party's candidates had received threats which he attributed to the Zetas.

announce we are heading for one place and then carry it out it another," he told the BBC.

Alex Lebaron, a fellow candidate in Nuevas Casas Grande, Chihuahua, told the BBC that his team had decided not to hold rallies during the evening and that they kept a low profile when canvassing some areas.

Disruption

Many in Mexico think that local elections are the perfect chance for the drug gangs to flex their muscles - mayors control local police forces and, by being in charge of specific territory, are valuable targets for the cartels' pressure tactics.

Concern is now focused on how violence could disrupt election day and dissuade voters from going to the polls.

The federal authorities say they will deploy extra security forces to make sure the election goes according to plan and that safety for voters can be guaranteed.

Electoral officials sound optimistic.

"Many said we wouldn't find enough people to man the ballot stations around the state," says **Fernando Herrera Martinez**, president of the Chihuahua electoral institute. *"But we are ready, 100%, to hold the election."*

But the violent campaign, electoral expert **Lorenzo Cordoba** believes, shows how Mexicans citizens have become all too used to news of drug-related crime.

"It's a regrettable scenario, in which the violence has started to form part of the daily landscape of Mexico," he says.

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Hon. Rene Montero Is The New Pro-Tempore President of CAC And OSPESCA

BELMOPAN CITY, Cayo District, Wednesday, June 30, 2010:

Belize's Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, **Hon. Rene Montero**, will be serving as the Pro-Tempore President of the Central American Council on Agriculture (CAC).

The appointment was

announced on Friday, June 25, 2010 and will run six months from July 1 to December 31, 2010. Minister Montero will simultaneously be serving as the Pro-Tempore President of the Central American Council for Fisheries (OSPESCA)

With these two appointments, Belize, through the Ministry of

Agriculture and Fisheries, will be hosting all regional meetings for the next six months while Minister Montero serves as the Pro-Tempore President of these two regional bodies. It is anticipated that all such signed projects and agreements will be of benefit to all countries in Central America.



Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, Hon. Rene Montero

Belize Represented At The 2010 International Food Show In Taiwan

TAIPEI, Republic of China (Taiwan), Tuesday, June 29, 2010:

A three-member delegation returned to Belize on Tuesday, June 29, 2010 after attending the 20th International Food Show held in Taipei, Republic of China (Taiwan).

The Belizean delegation included **Mr. Brian Lin**, Investment Promotion Officer from BELTRAIDE (Belize Trade and Investment Development Service; **Mrs. Marie Sharp** from Marie Sharp's Fine Foods and **Mr. Mervin Skeen** from Bel-Mer Winery.

During the four-day exposition, the Belizean delegation participated in various activities organized by the Embassy of Belize to the Republic of China (Taiwan) and the Central America Trade Office (CATO).

The activities included meetings with local trade and business representatives to discuss business opportunities for Belizean exporters: Official sampling of Marie Sharp's pepper sauces at a cooking show as well as the sampling of Bel-Mer wines by local wine connoisseurs. The delegation also participated in a radio

interview.

The event afforded Belize the opportunity to showcase an array of local products which included, among many others, Marie Sharp's fine peppers, jellies and BBQ sauces as well as Hot Mama's pepper sauces, Traveller's Liquors products, L&R Lemonades, Gallon Jug's Organic Coffee and Maya Coffee Liquor.

Belize's participation was made possible through the sponsorship of the Government of the Republic of China (Taiwan).

For further information on the

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Belize delegation's participation at the 2010 Taipei International Food Show, please contact the Belize Embassy in the Republic of China (Taiwan) at email novelo.efrain@yahoo.com.

CATO is a local Commercial Office that assists the Embassy of Belize with its trade and investment promotion efforts in the Republic of China (Taiwan).



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Junior Management Trainees

BWS is seeking a limited number of bright young individuals willing to undergo training, development and hands-on experience for a **one-year programme** as Management Trainees in the areas of Engineering, Operations, Customer Services, Finance and Administration.

Applicants should have a Bachelors Degree in an appropriate discipline, and exhibit good aptitude, attitude and leadership potential. Trainees will receive a reasonable salary and a variety of training, both practical and theory. No previous management or supervisory experience is necessary. A good working knowledge of computer software will be an asset. Applicants must be willing to travel and be posted in different district branches during the programme.

If you are interested please send your application letter quoting "**Junior Management Trainee**" along with your résumé and three references by June 30, 2010, to:

Human Resources Manager
Belize Water Services Limited,
P.O. Box 150, Central American Boulevard,
Belize City,
Belize

E-mail : HR@bwsli.com.bz

NB: Only a short list of qualified candidates will be notified for interview.

The Ruling On The Maya Land Case Can Produce Severe Consequences On Belize

By: Wellington C. Ramos



The Mayas are the indigenous people of southern Mexico, Belize, Guatemala Honduras and El Salvador numbering about seven million people with cultural differences such as the; Yucatec, Kekchi and Mopan. These differences led to several conflicts and division of land and territories in the region.

Belize is a small country located between Mexico and Guatemala both populated with millions of Maya Indians.

Guatemala has a long history of human rights abuses against these people leading to thousands of Mayas migrating from Guatemala to Belize establishing new settlements even up current times.

While the Mexican government is not as harsh towards these indigenous people, the relationship between these people and the Mexican government is strained especially with those who live in the province of Chiapas.

Centuries ago, the Mayas in Mexico and the Aztecs fought against each other and after the Mayas were defeated many of them fled to Belize adopting Belize as their new homeland.

I am afraid that the recent Supreme Court ruling in Belize will open the flood gates for more Maya Indians to come from Guatemala, El Salvador and Mexico into Belize eventually over populating the country of Belize at the expense of the other Non Maya Belizeans who are still trying to get a small house lot or farm land but are being denied daily.

When the British occupied Belize in 1638 they fought against the Spaniards in several battles which ended with the Battle of St. Georges Caye on the 10th day of September 1798. In

the days of colonialism the game was that if you lost the war you lost the land and everything on it hence the reason why colonized countries are experiencing today's challenges.

As a Garifuna, I will urge my people to seriously consider a class action law suit against the Government of St. Vincent & the Grenadines and Great Britain for forcefully occupying and removing our ancestors from our native homeland St. Vincent on the 11th March 1797 to other islands and the island of Roatan in Honduras.

Not only were our people forced from their homeland but they were packed on several

ships like cargo and dropped off on several other islands along the way unknown to them and separated from their families. Their original names were changed to Spanish names to avoid any trace of their relatives and they carry these label titles up to this day. Hence the reason why Garifuna people today carry surnames like Gonzalez, Nunez, Ramirez, Martinez, Bermudez, Chavez, Gutierrez, Rodriguez, Flores, Garcia and others,

The British encouraged the Garifuna to inhabit southern Belize which at the time was sparsely populated by the Maya Indians. They gave the Garifuna people large parcels of land


which they called "*Carib Reserves*".

With this recent ruling the Mayas can now question the legality of this action on the part of the British as a test case. If the court rules that the British occupied Belize unlawfully and had no right to grant land to the Garifuna people then the "*Carib Reserves*" could be given back to the Maya people.

This ruling is taking the country and people of Belize backwards rather than forward and it will benefit those Mayas who were not even born in Belize.

Externally, this ruling plays right into the hands of the Guatemalan government with its long standing territorial dispute with Belize. Guatemala


Please Turn To Page 12



PUBLIC UTILITIES
COMMISSION

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Utilities Commission (PUC)



PUBLIC UTILITIES
COMMISSION

In exercise of the powers conferred upon it generally by Sections 3, 6, 7 and 22 of the Belize Telecommunications Act, No. 16 of 2002, and Sections 32 and 48 of the Public Utilities Commission Act, Chapter 223 of the Laws of Belize, and all other powers thereunto enabling, the Public Utilities Commission (hereinafter referred to as "the Commission") hereby serves Notice this day, June 30, 2010, to the general public that the Commission intends to make certain amendments to the *Belize Telecommunications General Order (Interconnection, Infrastructure Sharing, International Access) No. 1 of 2010*, and the *Belize Telecommunications Interconnection and Infrastructure Sharing Regulations Order, 2010* that were issued by the Commission on February 12, 2010.

Reasons for Intended Amendments:
The Commission intends to make the proposed amendments to provide for the better implementation of the objectives of the Belize Telecommunications Act and for better regulation and control of the telecommunications sector in the public interest.

Intended Amendments:
The Commission intends to make amendments to the Orders to the following effect:

- a) To provide that no Licensee shall be allowed unrestricted access to any network or facility for the provision or receipt of international telecommunications services, in order to prevent the provision of telecommunications services in Belize by persons or companies not licensed to provide such services in Belize.
- b) To clarify various sections or provisions in the said Orders which, according to comments received from interested persons, have been a source of confusion or misinterpretation.
- c) To expand and clarify the rate setting methodology or methodologies for the fixing of charges related to interconnection and infrastructure sharing.

Comments:
The deadline for comments to be received from members of the general public, including licensees, is July 7, 2010.

Comments may be made:

- a) in writing and delivered to the PUC at:
Public Utilities Commission
41 Gabourel Lane, Belize City
P. O. Box 300
- b) by email to the PUC at:
info@puc.bz

Intended Date of Intended Amendments:
The Commission intends to make the amendments to the Orders on July 12, 2010.

Issued by the Public Utilities Commission on June 30, 2010.



MINISTRY OF HEALTH

Reports on activities for June 2010



Belize's Minister of Health attends the signing of Mesoamerican Health Initiative



Minister of Health, **Hon. Pablo Marin** attended the launch of the Mesoamerican Health Initiative 2015 held in Mexico City on June 16th, 2010.

Belize has an opportunity to benefit from a combined donation of \$150 Million dollars donated by the Spanish Government and the Carlos Slim and Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to benefit people in Central America threatened by preventable or curable diseases.

Mexican President, **Felipe Calderon** commented at the official launch that this initiative will also compliment the fulfillment of the Millennium Development Goals.

The event was attended by **Bill Gates**, of Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation; among others including the Ministers of Health of Panama and Costa Rica.

The Mesoamerican Health Initiative will finance five projects focused on vulnerable groups.

Ministry of Health, Belize Natural Energy and Project C.U.R.E. donates to the Western Regional Hospital



(L-R) Ministry of Health, CEO, Dr. Peter Allen, Mrs. Kim Simplis-Barrow along with C.U.R.E Representative

Official opening ceremony for the new Emergency Wing of the Western Regional Hospital in Belmopan was held on Monday June 14, 2010.

The Ministry of Health and Belize Natural Energy teamed up with Project C.U.R.E. to ship BZ\$800,000 in medical supplies to Belmopan's Western Regional Hospital.

Project C.U.R.E.'s Philanthro Travel Program visited Belize as part of the initiative whose main patron is the Global Ambassador for Special Olympics and Special Envoy for Women and Children, **Mrs. Kim Simplis-Barrow**.

The initiative stems from a partnership created between Ministry of Health and Project C.U.R.E. in 2005 to deliver containers of medical supplies and equipment to Belize. Project C.U.R.E. has reached more than 120 countries worldwide.

The New Emergency Wing consist of a "state of the Art" Accident & Emergency Department and two new operating theatres.

Since 2005, Project C.U.R.E. has been working with health partners in Belize and has delivered an estimated BZ \$9 million in supplies and other medical equipment to hospitals throughout the country.

MOU signed to establish Haemodialysis units at KMH and La Loma Luz Hospital

Soon after Cabinet gave approval for the Ministry of Health to enter into an Agreement with the World Organization of Renal Therapies (**WORTH**) to establish dialysis units, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed on June 3rd, 2010 at the Lion's Den in Belize City between WORTH, the Ministry of Health and the Karl Heusner Memorial Hospital and La Loma Luz Adventist Hospital.

The signing of the Memorandum of Understanding will launch a series of historic activities leading up to the establishment

of haemodialysis services at the Karl Heusner Memorial Hospital in Belize City and at the La Loma Luz Adventist Hospital in Santa Elena, Cayo.

Through the collaboration of WORTH, a total of eight (8) haemodialysis machines will soon be brought into the country.

A task force has been established to follow through on the establishment of the units at both hospitals. A timeline has been developed to this end with the official opening of the units in September 2010.



Minister of Health, Hon. Pablo Marin (L) Signing the MOU

Senior Steps Program Launched

The Ministry of Health along with the National Council on Ageing launched its "Senior Steps: Dancing for Health Project" on Tuesday June 1st in Belmopan.

The Senior Steps programme aims to promote active and healthy lifestyles for older persons. It will not only involve dancing, but also educational sessions on nutrition and healthy eating practices, which together will help to improve the quality of life for all participants.

The project hopes to encourage older persons to take better control of and maintain good health.

It will encourage them to understand and apply health information, be self-motivated, have a desire to improve their own health and also actively participate in programs through dancing.

The Program was officially launched in Belmopan City and Corozal where the pilot project will be running simultaneously.

Current Status of Dengue Cases in Belize

As the rainy season approaches, there is an expected increase in the number of Dengue cases throughout the country.

Current statistical information compiled at the Ministry of Health shows that since January of this year there have been a total of 28 dengue cases confirmed. However, throughout the country a total of 240 persons consulted and were classified as suspect cases, a significant decrease compared to last year when for the same period (January to June) 1,457 suspected cases were recorded.

This year, of these suspect cases 60% correspond to Belize District. The Cayo District accounts for 25%

of the suspected (clinical) cases this year. The other districts have just reported sporadic cases.

In the month of April the Belize District experienced an increase of suspect dengue cases but the weekly number has tapered off.

Of all the suspected clinical cases that attend the public health facilities 70% get tested.

It must also be noted that of the samples tested, 16.5% are reported as positive for dengue.

The public is being requested to make every effort to reduce the breeding sites around the home.

**Ministry of Health
Belmopan
822-2363 / 2325**

★ STAR HUMOR ★

She Did It

A woman was telling her friend
"It was I who made my husband a millionaire after I married him."

"And what was he before you married him?" asked the friend.

The woman replied, "A multi-millionaire".

Madly In Love

After a lengthy quarrel, Jane turned to her husband and said, "You know, I was a fool when I married you."

Without missing a beat the husband replied: "Yes, dear, but I was so in love that didn't even notice it."

Money Talks

Shortly after the wedding rehearsal, John the groom approached the pastor with an unusual offer:

"Look, pastor, I'll give you this \$100 if you'll change the wedding vows. When you get to the part where I'm supposed to promise to LOVE, HONOR, OBEY and BE FAITHFUL to her FOREVER' I'd appreciate it if you'd just leave that out." He gave the pastor the \$100 bill and walked away satisfied.

On the day of the wedding, when it came time for the groom's vows, the pastor looked

John in the eye and said: "Will you promise your undying LOVE, total HONOR and that you will OBEY your Wife's every command and wish, serve her breakfast in bed every morning for the rest of your life and swear eternally before God, this entire Church and your lovely Wife, that you will not ever even look at another woman for as long as you both shall live?"

John gulped, looked around, and said in a tiny voice, "Yes"

"Say it louder so that the entire church can hear you"

demanded the pastor.

"YES, I WILL" shouted John.

John then leaned toward the pastor and hissed: "I thought

Dearest Wife

There was this couple from Canada, who decided to go to Miami Beach for a few days to thaw out during one particularly cold winter.

The airlines have crazy frequent flyer rules, and the wife ended up on a flight the day after her husband.

The husband made it down to Florida and arrived at his hotel. Upon getting to his room, he decided to open his laptop and send his wife back in Canada an email. Unfortunately, he didn't notice he had misspelled his wife's email address.

In South Carolina, a widow had just returned from the funeral of her husband, a Methodist pastor of many years, who

we had a deal."

The pastor put a \$100 bill into the John's hand and whispered: "She made me a better offer."

had been called to glory just a few days earlier. She decided to check her email because she was expecting to hear from relatives and friends.

Upon reading the first email, she let out a loud scream, fainted and fell to the floor.

The woman's son rushed into the room and found his mother on the floor.

He glanced up at the computer screen and saw the following email message: **To My Loving Wife: I've just been checked in. Everything has been prepared for your arrival here tomorrow. Looking forward to seeing you then. Your Devoted Husband.**

P.S. It sure is hot down here.

Belize Coalition To Save Our Natural Heritage Forms Executive Council

Submitted By: Candy Gonzalez
SAN IGNACIO TOWN, Cayo,
Thursday, July 1, 2010:

This week, members of the Belize Coalition to Save Our Natural Heritage met to elect an Executive Council and formulate outreach plans.

The Coalition's first priority is to ensure that people are informed about the issues associated with offshore oil drilling and oil exploration and exploitation in protected areas as well as to keep the members engaged and informed.

The ultimate goal of the Coalition is to get a ban on all offshore oil drilling and a ban of all oil exploration and exploitation in protected areas.

Thus far, over forty groups have joined the Coalition. Coalition members have been traveling to different places to give information on the scientific, socio-economic and legal issues involved.

Petitions are being signed, online surveys are being filled out and t-shirt sales are raising awareness and needed funds for the coalition (**T-shirts are now available at Oceana, Healthy Reefs Initiative, and Program for Belize offices in Belize City**). Out-district sales will follow soon.

You can help by making

sure you have filled out the online survey at: www.surveymonkey.com/s/MC2W9ND and by signing the petition and reviewing the information on at: http://groups.google.com/bz/group/belize_coalition

Those elected to the Executive Council are:

Chairperson: Giovanni Brackett, (COLA)

Co-Vice Chairpersons: Audrey Matura Shepard, (OCEANA) and Edilberto Romero, (APAMO)

Secretary: Candy Gonzalez
Belize Institute of Environmental Law and Policy (BELPO)

Treasurer: Anna Hoare,
Belize Audubon Society (BAS)

Other Executive Council members include: Belize National Trade Union Congress, Belize Tourism and Industry Association, Healthy Reefs Initiative and the World Wildlife Fund.

For more information or to request a presentation contact the Coalition at:

**664-3771 (COLA),
223-7266 (APAMO) or
227-2704 (Oceana).**

Honoring Celeste Sanchez



While she is still alive, we would like to honor a very special lady and, at the same time, let the community know that she needs our assistance.

Dedicated and very caring, these are two of the many outstanding qualities of **Celeste Sanchez**. Because of her great love for young people, Celeste dedicated 25 years to a career in psychiatric therapy and teaching children with learning problems, special needs and retardation.

Celeste, who grew up in Cuba, became a Belizean citizen after falling in love with Belize. She dedicated some time as a volunteer at San Ignacio General Hospital providing therapy for children, often giving free service for those of modest means.

Known to many for the wonderful bread she sold and for the children and junior youth classes she taught at the Santa Elena library, she made friends with many people.

Unfortunately, our dear friend now has kidney failure and is in **URGENT** need of a kidney transplant. The good news is that she has someone willing to donate a kidney to her. In order to save this precious life, more funds need to be raised for the operation, medical expenses including the operation. Any caring person wishing to contribute to these expenses may do so by depositing to the account # **1832479** of Scotiabank. Such contributions, small or large, will be graciously received with prayers for blessings of the donors and many thanks to all. **Only \$4,000. more is needed!!**

Sacred Heart College Celebrates 50th Anniversary



SANIGANCIO TOWN, Cayo, Wednesday, June 30, 2010:

Sacred Heart College in San Ignacio, Cayo is celebrating her 50th anniversary under the theme: ***HONORING OUR PAST – INSPIRING THE FUTURE!***

It is recalled that Sacred Heart College was the first secondary institution established in western Belize on the 1st of July 1960 by its founders, **Bishop Robert Hodapp** and **Rev. Fr. Facundo Castillo** of the Roman Catholic Church. Also playing a key role in the expansion of the institution was the **Most**

Reverend Osmond Peter Martin, retired Bishop of Belize who was instrumental in the relocation of the school to its present location in 1972.

Over the last 50 years, the college has produced 3,750 High School graduates and 805 Tertiary level or 6th Form graduates. The Associates Degree Programme was introduced in 1999.

The mission of the institution is: ***“To develop the intellectual, physical, moral and spiritual values of students regardless of race, color, creed or sex.”*** The guiding motto of the school is:

“Heart of Jesus - fount of knowledge.”

Sacred Heart College is managed by a Board of Governors whose Chairman is **Mr. Daniel Guttierrez** and administered by a President, **Dr. Cynthia Eve Aird**.

The 50th Anniversary will be commemorated by a special Mass of Thanksgiving on July 1, at 6:00 pm on the grounds of the campus. The mass will be celebrated by the **Most**

Reverend Dorrick Wright, Bishop of the Diocese of Belize and Belmopan and the **Reverend Fr. Noel Leslie, Vicar General**.

An Anniversary Ball (*with music provided by Gilharry 7 and Sonido Magico*) will be held on Saturday, July 3 at the San Ignacio Resort Hotel.

For more information please call Dr. Eve Aird at Telephone 824-2758.



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www.belizebotanic.org 824-3101 info@belizebotanic.org

TEACHING VACANCIES AT SACRED HEART COLLEGE, SAN IGNACIO



Vacancies exist at **Sacred Heart College in San Ignacio, Cayo** for the following seven teaching positions both at the High School and Junior College Levels:

HIGH SCHOOL DIVISION:

- 2 Math Teachers
- 1 Biology/Integrated Science Teacher
- 1 Principles of Accounts/Principles of Business Teacher

Minimum Qualification: **Bachelors Degree in Subject Area with a Background in Education. Teaching experience would be an asset.**

JUNIOR COLLEGE DIVISION

- 1 Business Lecturer
- 1 Social Science (Psychology/Sociology and Belizean History) Lecturer
- 1 Tourism Lecturer

Minimum Qualification: **Bachelors Degree in Subject Area. Teaching experience would be an asset.**

Deadline for Application: **July 9, 2010.**

Remuneration: Based on qualifications and experience, and in accordance with salary scales approved by the Ministry of Education.

Interested persons should send application letters along with an updated resume, and the names and contact information (email addresses and phone numbers) of 3 references. Applications should be sent to:

The Secretary (President's Office)
Board of Governors
Sacred Heart College
P.O. Box 163
San Ignacio, Cayo

Your Horoscope & Lucky Numbers



ARIES:

March 22- April 20

The coming week could be a tough one for you. You may have to fight tooth and nail to maintain semblance at work. Staff, subordinates may appear argumentative and unhappy. This is one good phase if you want to make a fresh clean start with respect to your personal life. **Lucky Numbers: 03, 24, 51.**



TAURUS:

April 21 to May 21

You work towards enhancing positive aspects of your personality and personal grooming. Success at work gives you a sense of satisfaction. Don't bank too much on any travel or a higher studies related opportunity abroad as it may not work out. **Lucky Numbers: 16, 44, 72.**



GEMINI:

May 22 to June 21

You will have to deal with a formidable opponent and will have a tough time handling him/

her. Assess the situation realistically and then respond. Expenses will be many and will keep you on your toes. Keep long-term goals in mind while interacting with people in authority. **Lucky Numbers: 05, 27, 95.**



CANCER:

June 22 to July 23

You are likely to take on all aspects of life with vigour as you are now seeking tangible results. You also have a more practical edge to your efforts. Be cautious as life often throws surprises when we move with outcomes predetermined in our heads. **Lucky Numbers: 18, 32, 78.**



LEO:

July 24 to August 21

Solving a financial riddle seems to be your priority. You seek new avenues of income generation and possibly take a re-look at old projects that you had given up on. Expenses also mount. Keep your expectations from people real and don't judge people by their success in terms of money.

Lucky Numbers: 10, 63, 84.



VIRGO:

August 22 to September 21

It is likely to be a good week ahead. You could be in a pleasant frame of mind, which results in increased productivity at work and better creativity. This ensures that you make rapid strides at work and your reputation raises a notch higher. Those looking for better opportunities could get lucky. **Lucky Numbers: 04, 33, 69.**



LIBRA:

September 22 to October 23

You can strike gold if you realise that it is best to work with available resources than to wait for things to work out according to you. You will stand to gain if you reach out to other people genuinely. Not only does it earn you goodwill, you will establish life-long associations with some people. **Lucky Numbers: 28, 47, 62.**



SCORPIO:

October 24 to November 21

You get ample opportunities to rejuvenate yourself. Many mentally challenging situations have left you drained out over the last few weeks. At work, focus on your strengths and not your rivals. Those working in the field of art, cinema, beauty and poetry will do well. **Lucky Numbers: 08, 50, 98.**



SAGITTARIUS:

November 22 to December 21

The coming week will require you to be sharp, focused and be objective in your approach.

You will charming in your interactions with people. Be flexible about partnership terms and be willing to talk things over. Avoid overconfidence and arrogance. **Lucky Numbers: 07, 54, 76.**



CAPRICORN:

December 22 to January 20

Now is the time when you strike back and take on work-related changes head-on. Your competitors could lose sorely as you are quite determined. You may start learning something you are passionate about. Travel is on the cards. Health-related worries might bother you. **Lucky Numbers: 02, 45, 81.**



AQUARIUS:

January 21 to February 19

Things at work may not be to your liking but you are not unhappy altogether. Look at this as a learning phase while you think of a prospective job change. Make sure that your language is not abrasive while interacting with people, especially with loved ones. Interest in spirituality may increase. **Lucky Numbers: 15, 49, 82.**



PISCES:

February 20 to March 21

The coming week brings with it company of people who are warm and give you that much required emotional support. Take a break from everyday monotony. You are able to detach from your personal problems, at least for the time being. Work is engaging and you surge ahead. **Lucky Numbers: 53, 88, 96.**



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Service Station on
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in San Ignacio Town.**



A FORTIS COMPANY

July 1, 2010

BEL Responds to *Amandala* Editorial on Illegal Electrical Connections

The June 27, 2010 edition of the *Amandala* Editorial titled "**Profits & People**" discusses Belize Electricity Limited (BEL) not doing "business with Kremandala" and the recent electrocution of a Belize City resident. BEL finds it very disappointing that the Publisher of *Amandala* would use the tragic and unfortunate death of a citizen to try to stir public sentiment against the company, because *Amandala* is not happy with the medium that BEL uses to advertise.

The tragic electrocution that occurred was seemingly a result of an **illegal electrical connection** in an unplanned part of Belize City that has no roads or infrastructure.

Illegal connections are an unsafe practice and as this case showed, it can be deadly. The company is very concerned about the safety of the public and repeatedly advises of the dangers of illegal connections.

Within the past year, BEL has spent over \$5 million on projects to extend power to areas such as the CET Site and Belama Phase IV areas in Belize City. These projects are scheduled for completion by the end of 2010 and in 2011, respectively. BEL continues to work with the Government to extend power to several other communities across the country. However, before BEL can install electrical infrastructure, there must already be roads in a properly surveyed area. The Government of Belize has been doing its part to complete these activities.

It should also be noted that BEL offers a social rate for low income families. BEL is the only utility in Belize that offers such a rate. Over 6,800 customers are benefiting from this lower electricity rate with bills of less than \$11 per month.

In its editorial, *Amandala* explained and we quote **"At Kremandala we have to pay our bills or we will cease to exist. We have to seek profits, so that we can obtain the technology to make us competitive."**

Kremandala is right.

No business can survive by losing money. BEL is an essential service, and perhaps even more than Kremandala, the management of BEL has a responsibility to ensure that the company can pay its bills and make a profit to be able to continue to improve its technology and provide an acceptable level of service.

As a responsible company, BEL will continue to discourage illegal connections and encourages *Amandala* to do the same. BEL will also continue to work with the Government in extending safe power supply to as many communities as possible.

END

www.bel.com.bz

Remembering The First Graduating Class Of Sacred Heart College, 1964

*Let Them Who Have Won the Palm Bear It
palmam qui meruit ferat*

BY: **Hernan Ochaeta Sr.,
Hangout El Che, Coronation
Park**

**SAN IGNACIO TOWN, Cayo
District, Thursday, July 1,
2010:**

Sacred Heart College, with its humble beginnings on Hudson Street in San Ignacio in 1960, is now closing its anniversary celebrations.

Now secure in its present location, it begins its next 50-year cycle at the end of which, it is hoped, it will have made significant and positive contributions towards the economic and social liberation of the human person, instilling and insisting in all those with whom it comes in contact the values of self-help, hard work, fairness and the ever elusive social justice. In this regard, our most sincere best wishes will be part of this important journey.

The year 1964 was most crucial and decisive in the life of Sacred Heart. It was the year when the first class would be graduating after sitting the all-important overseas examinations, at that time the General Certificate of Education (GCE).

Four years had gone into the preparation of the first graduating class for the GCE. The results of these examinations, it was confided, would determine whether the school qualified for government assistance – or not. Teachers, especially Belizean, were aware of the challenge. And they did not possess any fancy degrees. They were three in number earning at the most \$110.00 monthly.

One of those three prepared the Fourth Formers in Latin and Spanish, the other did Mathematics and for a short period English History and the third was responsible for English Language, English Literature and ended with the English History course. The Pastor taught the Scripture course, assisted by a Papal Volunteer.

The results rendered by that first Fourth Form gave the school the recognition it needed to earn government's financial assistance. And what a group they were! A small class consisting of great individuals.

Their graduation was held at the now demolished Continental Theatre in San Ignacio, attended

by parents, relatives and other family guests and school invitees.

Another significant event in 1964 was that it was the year when our country attained Self Government.

The first graduating class was addressed by **Premier George Price**. Present for the happy occasion were Cayoan Chief Broadcasting Officer **Everal**

Waight and Chief Information Officer **Rudy Castillo**.

Apart from preparing for graduation, of course, and GCEs, the class of 1964 had taken part in sporting activities, especially football, volleyball and basketball as well as elocution and oratorical contests held at the former Sacred Heart School and the traditional retreats.

At some point in the life of

Catholic high schools in Belize, activities such as elocution and oratorical contests went national. Great and high were the expectations when Sacred Heart travelled to Corozal for one of these and returned noisy and jubilant when the school won the oratorical contest with **"Government Is Everybody's Business"**. Such was life in the early years.

Recognition is deserved by –and owed to– the first graduating class of 1964.

The Ruling On The Maya Land Case Can Produce Severe Consequences On Belize

Please Turn To Page 11

and Mexico will never allow any court in their country to rule like this because that would create havoc in their countries, due to the fact that both places have more Indians than any other race of people.

The Guatemalan soldiers continue to stop native born Maya Indians from establishing villages in their own country as was confirmed by the United Nations Commission for Human Rights and that is why they are crossing the border into Belize to establish new villages.

Unlike the difference between Creoles and Garifunas although both are of African descent, the Mayas and Mestizos in Belize see themselves as one people despite the fact that they are from different countries in Central America.

The black population in Belize is dwindling fast because of migration to the United States and the Maya and Mestizo population is growing rapidly as they continue to cross the border.

The government of Belize still have the option to consider allowing Haitians to relocate to Belize as a humanitarian gesture to balance the races but that idea is not even being advanced up by anyone in the media because of fear of being attacked.

The Haitian presence would contribute to the development of Belize in the areas of agriculture and race balance. Belize have vast amount of lands and would receive funding from various international funding agencies for this worthy cause.

In the 1980's Belize made a similar offer to the government of El Salvador which led to the granting of amnesty to thousands

of people from El Salvador and many of them eventually become naturalized Belizeans.

I am yet to see a Maya or a Mestizo demonstration against the establishment of unlawful Maya villages in the country of Belize.

If the Mayas do not see borders as differences between the countries in Central America and continue to cross them as they please then the Government of Belize will be disrespected by Guatemala, Mexico and other Central American countries.

With the discovery of oil in Belize recently, this issue has become a major one for the Maya Indians. Their concern is that the drilling for oil will cause serious environmental problems that could lead to the disruption of life in their communities. Also, that the government of Belize will make oil deals against their wishes without consulting them and in the end giving them an unfair profit sharing of the revenues.

People who have purchased private lands from the government of Belize in one of these villages could also be affected by this ruling. If their land tiles are in the areas detailed in these villages, their land tiles may have to be voided and be given land elsewhere. If they insist that they want to retain these lands, then they will have to appeal against this court ruling.

It refreshing to know that the Government of Belize has expressed its intention to appeal this ruling and as such every non-maya and even some of the very same Mayas, who do not agree with this position, should get up and rally behind their

government.

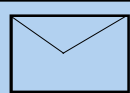
The Government of Belize should take this matter all the way up to the Caribbean Court of Justice if necessary because of the long term repercussions this judgement will have in the country when it comes to land issues.

If the shoe was on the other foot, how would the Maya feel if, on the basis of this recent ruling they are denied the right to own land anywhere else in any part of Belize except on their traditional lands and that any one of them owning land anywhere should forfeith that land and return to their traditional lands.

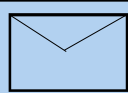
I am in favor of the native Belizean Mayas asserting their rights to their ancestral lands but not at the expense of the other Non Maya Belizeans and private owners of land who obtained their properties through legitimate means.

The Belize government must now start the dismantling of all these villages that were established by Guatemalan Mayas in Belize before they start claiming lands on ancestral grounds later. Their immigration status should also be examined and if they cannot produce Belizean birth certificates and other documents they should be sent back to their countries of origin.

A case in point is that new settlement of Guatemalan Maya Indians found to be encroaching 35 miles inside Belizean Western Territory as reported on the front page of the recent Amandala newspaper of June 27, 2010. The Government of Belize should move post haste to dismantle this settlement and send those people back from whence the came.



Readers Write



FREE Diabetes Educational Session

Dear STAR;

Please allow me a space in your newspaper to publish the following announcement:

The Diabetic Association San Ignacio Branch will be having another educational session:

Time: 3:00 p.m

Venue: Sacred Heart College

Date: Saturday, 3rd July 2010

Topic: Diabetes and Massage

Presenters: **Mr. and Mrs. Mark Mondier** - Massage Therapist

All diabetics, supporters and interested persons are encouraged to take advantage of this offer free of cost.

For more information please contact us at:

sidiabetics@gmail.com

Yours in Health

Nurse Ciego Gordon

Pedestrian Crossing On Main Bridge Needs Urgent Attention

Dear Colleagues;

There is imminent danger on the Hawkesworth Bridge as a section of the pedestrian crossing is visibly corroded.

There is no support under this highly corroded metal plate. Should anyone fall in it, the results would be fatal.

Mr. Garbutt, District Supervi-

sor from the Ministry of Works (Tel:824-2077) has been informed on this grave situation.

This bridge connects the Twin Towns of San Ignacio and Santa Elena. Hundreds of persons cross this bridge daily.

Orlando Pulido

Santa Elena,

Cayo

Congrats To The Graduating Class Of Destiny Preschool in Georgeville, Cayo

Dear Editor;

I need to place a special congrats to the graduating class of Destiny Preschool in Georgeville.

We have the greatest group of little people at this school and we want everyone to know just

how proud we are to be a small part of their lives.

Congratulations graduates! and God bless you.

From Owner, Staff & Management of Destiny Preschool.

Thanks,

Rose Fairweather

Interesting STAR Articles

Dear STAR;

There was quite a number of interesting articles in last weekend's edition of your newspaper.

First of all I am happy to know that two-time accused murderer **Dionicio Salazar** was captured and is now in jail.

I also found interesting the article about escaped prisoner **Efrain Santiago** and the comparison drawn about the manner in which **Garry Seawell** is treated with all the chains and shackles complete with paramilitary heavily armed escorts while a three time accused murderer like Efrain Santiago is transported to court in such a carefree manner.

What I find further amazing is that in the aftermath of Santiago's escape, there seem to be not much effort aimed at recapturing this dangerous prisoner.

I am yet to see the issuing of a wanted poster. Are we going to wait until he strikes a fourth

time?

I am a serving member of the Belize Police Department. I found Mr. Wellington Ramos' article on the subject of "**The challenges of producing competent and qualified Commissioners of Police in Belize and the Caribbean Region**" very interesting indeed. His article was right on target. It shows that since his time in the service in the 1970's, apart from a name change, not much else has changed within this arm of Belizean law enforcement.

Please express my appreciation to **Mr. Wellington Ramos** for his informative articles.

Thank you for keeping us informed.

Please do not publish my name.

FOR SALE

**Commercial Building
On Burns Avenue,
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Of Venus Hotel
Call: 824-2101**



Ministry of Education

NOTICE

Government of Belize

Professional and Technical Scholarship Awards 2010

The government of Belize (GOB) is offering Professional and Technical Scholarship Awards for the 2010 Academic Year. These scholarships are tenable ONLY at the University of the West Indies, the University of Technology in Jamaica, and the University of Guyana.

Limitation of the Awards

The Scholarship award is limited to Bachelor's Degree Program only and is applicable for a maximum of three (3) consecutive academic years of study in so far as students remain in good standing for the duration of the program. Only in exceptional cases will the Ministry of Education consider Post Graduate Programs.

Coverage of the Awards

The Scholarship will normally cover tuition (including Economic Cost), and allowances for Room and Board, Books, and Incidental Expenses. The quantum of such allowances will be based on recommendations obtained by GOB from respective Universities. Airfare and matriculation will NOT be covered under the scholarship award.

Eligibility

1. Applicant must be a citizen of Belize
2. Applicant must gain acceptance into the respective Faculty of the University at which he/she proposes to attend
3. Consideration will primarily be given to those courses of study that are among the following national priorities, which are not listed in order of preference.

- a. Agriculture Economics
- b. Agriculture Marketing/Trade
- c. Chemical/Civil/Electrical/Mechanical Engineering
- d. Human Resource Management
- e. Curriculum Development and Planning
- f. Economics
- g. Geology
- h. Early Childhood Education & Development
- i. Special Education
- j. Counseling (Primary, Secondary School)
- k. Hospital Management
- l. Finance
- m. Psychiatry
- n. Nursing
- o. Public Administration
- p. Labor and Employment Relations
- q. Transport Technology
- r. Physical Therapy
- s. Speech Therapy
- t. Petroleum Geoscience

(Please note that Law and Medicine are not included in the list of National Priorities)

Other Conditions of the Scholarship Award

Each scholarship recipient will be required to return to Belize whenever he/she successfully completes his/her course of study and to serve the Government of Belize (or with the permission of the Government of Belize serve in the private sector in his profession or calling) for a period of four years commencing from the date of employment in Belize. Applicants will be required to sign a Bond Agreement with the Government of Belize in this respect.

The scholarship is normally for the duration of the program of studies and requires that the scholarship holder maintain passing grades at the University where he/she is enrolled.

Application Forms can be obtained from the District Education Centers or at the Ministry of Education in Belmopan.

All completed forms must be filled out in duplicate and reach the Ministry of Education in Belmopan no later than July 5, 2010.

Mexican Ex- Police Commander Suspected In Michoacan Ambush

BY: Tracy Wilkinson, Los Angeles Times MEXICO CITY, June 30, 2010 / 7:47 p.m.

Mexican authorities Wednesday announced the arrest of a key suspect in the attempted assassination of a state security chief whose convoy was attacked with grenades and more than 2,000 rounds of ammunition.

The suspect until recently was a police commander who also worked for the notorious drug cartel known as *La Familia*, authorities said.

Minerva Bautista Gomez, security chief for the state of Michoacan, survived the April 24 ambush. Two of her bodyguards and two passing motorists were killed.

Ramon Pequeno, head of the anti-narcotics unit of the federal Public Security Ministry, said in a news conference in Mexico City that **Miguel Ortiz Miranda**, alias “**El Tyson**,” had been arrested Tuesday in Morelia, the capital of Michoacan. Ortiz directed operations in Morelia for the Michoacan-based *La Familia*, Pequeno said, including attacks

on public officials, kidnappings and extortion.

Pequeno said the suspect also participated in a June 14 ambush outside Zitacuaro that killed at least 10 federal police agents, as well as the 2009 assassination of a senior public security official and decapitation of a state prosecutor.

In one of the most brazen attacks on a public official, Bautista was ambushed as her entourage left a state fair. The assailants used a truck to block a narrow highway passage and opened fire from two sides. Investigators recovered 2,700 spent shells and said 350 high-caliber bullets had hit her heavily armored SUV.

Ortiz told interrogators that the attackers left the scene believing that Bautista was dead.

“Tyson indicated that the attack was in response to changes made within the ministry that went against the interests of La Familia,” Pequeno said.

Authorities’ contention that Ortiz worked for *La Familia* while a member of the state security forces illustrates how



Former Police Commander, Miguel Ortiz Miranda, alias “El Tyson,” had been arrested Tuesday in Morelia, the capital of Michoacan

deeply traffickers have penetrated regional governments. Bautista told The NY Times in a recent interview that as many as 100 police agents have been interrogated as possible suspects in the attack on her.

Ortiz joined the Michoacan police in 1999 and became commander of a special operations unit before retiring in 2008 after a murder warrant was issued against him, Pequeno said. Ortiz began working for *La Familia* in 2005, Pequeno said, after accepting a large bribe to release a detained gang member. He provided information to the cartel, alerting it to police movements and offering protection.

La Familia is a ruthless gang dedicated to the trafficking of methamphetamine. The gang has evolved in recent years as its leaders have tried to create a quasi-religious aura around the group. Pequeno said Ortiz described five days of indoctrination when he joined *La Familia* that included Bible-reading, self-help seminars and weapons training.

Ortiz also told authorities that *La Familia* recently joined forces with the Gulf cartel and other

smaller gangs to fight the paramilitary Zetas. The Zetas were once allied with Gulf traffickers but are now battling them in several parts of Mexico, including the northern border state of Tamaulipas, where presumed drug hit men this week assassinated the leading candidate for governor.

On Wednesday, officials with the Institutional Revolutionary Party in Tamaulipas named the slain candidate’s brother, Egidio Torre Cantu, to run in his place in Sunday’s election.

FOR SALE BY ORDER OF THE MORTGAGE

The Belize National Building Society, a society duly formed and registered under the Laws of Belize with registered office situate at #40 Will & Sharper Street, Belize City, hereby gives notice of its intention to exercise its Power of Sale as mortgage under Deeds of Mortgage or Charge between those hereinafter named and the said society which mortgages are recorded at the General Registry or the Lands Registry in Belmopan, and the said Belize National building Society will at the expiration of two months from the date of the publication of this notice, sell the properties described in the schedule hereto.

All offers to purchase the said properties must be made in writing to and full particulars and conditions of sale may be obtained from the Belize National Building Society.

THE SCHEDULE

One incomplete concrete bungalow dwelling house situated on land being lots numbers 250 & 251 located in Fresh Pond Development, Boom Pine Ridge Area on the Boom/Hattieville Road, Belize District, being the property of John Meggs.

Venus Photos & Records

#6 Hudson Street, San Ignacio
Telephone: 824-2101

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BELIZE TOURISM BOARD

TOURISM NEWS

Tourism Management Programs

The Belize Tourism Board is offering tuition scholarships to interested applicants for Tourism Management Programs to commence August 2010 for the following degrees:



1.) Associate Degree in Tourism Management
Requirements: Applicants must have a minimum of a High School Diploma and have been accepted into the Tourism Management Program at ANY of the following institutions:

San Pedro Junior College
Ecumenical Junior College

Sacred heart Junior College
St. John's Junior College

2.) Jean Shaw Tourism Scholarship (Two Year)
Requirements: Applicants must be a female Belizean citizen who has a minimum of an Associate's Degree who has been accepted into the Tourism Management Program at the University of Belize (UB) and wishes to pursue a bachelor's degree in Tourism Management.

The Jean Shaw Tourism Scholarship has been established in memory of the late Jean Ursilla Shaw, a renowned female tourism pioneer who played an integral part in the development of Belize's tourism industry in her lifetime. The Fund was established by the BTB in collaboration with its private sector counterparts to support the development of qualified Belizeans pursuing a career in tourism.

Application forms are available at the BTB Office on Regent Street or ONLINE at www.belize tourism.org.

Application Deadline: Friday, July 16, 2010

For more information, please contact: Mrs. Keesha Young-Flowers (Training Officer)
Telephone: 227-2420 Ext. 259 E-mail: keesha@travelbelize.org

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