

What Form Will Reparation Take?

CONTRIBUTED

They told us so, and we did not listen. **Candy and George Gonzalez** two “foreigners” were like a duo crying in the wilderness – “A dam on the Macal” they said “would raise the mercury level in the fish population to the point where the fish will not be fit for

human consumption.”

Those with vested special interest said “Pay no mind to those two foreigners for they know not what they say. Their utterances are saturated with rubbish.”

We have gone full circle and the chickens have come home to roost. It has now been officially

confirmed that fish from the Macal River is not fit for human consumption.

They are telling us that it’s only the base-snook. That is what Becol/Fortis would want us to believe. The sad reality however is that, in confirmity with the river food chain, ALL fish from the Macal River is not fit for human consumption - punto final - case close - end of

story.

The time has now come for us to talk about reparation – Many are the families who depend on the fish from the Macal for either their daily menu or for much needed money to pay the bills and maintain the family.

This important source of sustenance has effectively been destroyed, wiped away, obliterated, by Becol/Fortis.

The question now is, what form will reparation from Becol/Fortis take? Will we wait for Candy and George Gonzalez to lead the reparation charge for us?

Becol/Fortis did not listen to Candy & George the first time around – what makes us believe that they will listen to them now.

It’s time for us to get up off ourselves and do things for ourselves.

Full Weight Of The Law Crashes On Santa Familia Marijuana Trafficker



Abel Merino, 28

Belizean Laborer Of Santa Familia Village

A Belizean laborer from Santa Familia Village, Cayo was fined and confined when he plead guilty marijuand Trafficking.

Benque Viejo Police reports that at around 12 noon on Monday, July 4, 2011, a team of alert policemen on mobile patrol on George Price Boulevard spotted a a male person emerging from the Old Border Road onto the Western Highway with a knapsack on his back.

The man was discretely followed and was allowed to enter a Chinese Restaurant on George Price Boulevard. By the time the police entered the restaurant he was no longer in possession of the bag and when he was confronted about the bag, before he could answer, the Chinese owner of the restaurant pointed out the bag on top of a Coca Cola crate.

Police retrieved the bag and

question the suspect about its contents. The suspect reportedly told them that it contained “herb”.

When the bag was opened in his presence it was found to contain three parcels wrapped in black plastic bags. All three parcels were opened in his presence and were instantly suspected to be marijuana.

The male person later identified as **Abel Merino, 28**, Belizean laborer of Santa Familia village was instantly detained and transported to the police station in Benque Viejo Town .

The drugs was weighed tipping 1,041.3grams. The suspect was consequently arrested and formally charged for drug trafficking .

He appeared before Magistrate **Linbert Willis** in Benque Viejo’s Magistrate Court on

Wednesday, July 6 where he pled guilty to the charge.

Magistrate Willis wasted no time in imposing the maximum ten thousand dollar fine and additionally sentence him to spend the next three years in jail.



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New Assistant Coordinator At The House Of Culture

SAN IGNACIO TOWN, CAYO, Thursday, July 13, 2011:

There is a new Assistant Coordinator in charge of the San Ignacio/Santa Elena House of Culture. Her name is **Xunan Quetzal** from Belmopan.

Ms. Quetzal's first day on the new job was Monday, July 11. She holds a Bachelors of Science Degree in Interdisciplinary Social Sciences from the University of West Florida, USA.

She was previously employed as an Executive/Training Assistant with the US Peace Corp in Belmopan.



The New Assistant Coordinator at the House of Culture, Xunan Quetzal

Ms. Quetzal replaces former Assistant Coordinator **Vanessa**



The Former Assistant Coordinator at the House of Culture, Vanessa Chan

Chan who, after about seven months on the job, has since moved on to pursue other interests.

The Destruction Of Public Property Continues

SANTA ELENA TOWN, Cayo, Friday, July 15, 2011:

There are still a few irresponsible persons among us who insist on vandalizing public property.

Last week we listened as Belize City Councilor **Wayne Usher** pleaded for vandals to show civic by ceasing and desisting for vandalizing recently installed name plates for new street names in Belize City.

This irresponsible behavior is not only confined to Belize City as we witness our share of



similar such behavior.

We reported a few weeks ago

about the breaking of the lights in the Macal River Park and this week we came upon the spray painting of traffic signs one of which is located at the corner of Bishop Martin and Perez Streets in San Ignacio.

It takes a real irresponsible person to be walking around with a tin of spray paint intentionally vandalizing public property specifically installed for the safety the vehicular as well as pedestrian traffic.

Bet this individual would never dare risk personal liberty by pulling this kind of behavior

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across either the northern or western borders of Belize. Why then do they insist in defacing that which is ours?

Such behavior is a clear indication of a society that lack discipline. It demonstrates lawless and antisocial behavior.

Like councilor Wayne Usher all we can do is to ask those responsible for such action to take pride in our public property and to cease and desist from the wanton destruction and defacing of the community's infrastructure.

SMART! Supports Local Rotary Efforts

BY Cynthia Reece

SAN IGNACIO TOWN, Cayo, Thursday, July, 15, 2011:

SMART! phone service has adopted two Rotary sponsored parks, one each in San Ignacio and Santa Elena, to show their support for the community.

The JC Park in San Ignacio and the Santa Elena Park both sport SMART!colors and will soon be painted with the smiley SMART! logo.

SMART's contribution of monthly mowing and maintenance helps keep both parks looking well-kept and inviting.

The JC Park is just off the Western Highway in San Ignacio, surrounded by Coral Street.

A visitor can get there from Blue Bird Street, Philip Goldson Street and Teodocio Ochoa Street.

This park is equipped with a



playground, a band stand, picnic tables, walkways and lovely trees for shade. It also receives regular attention from the Interact Club of Sacred Heart. The high school students clean the park on a weekly basis

as one of the Club's community services.

With plenty of parking around the perimeter, this is a great place to play, walk, entertain, rest and picnic.

The Santa Elena Rotary Park

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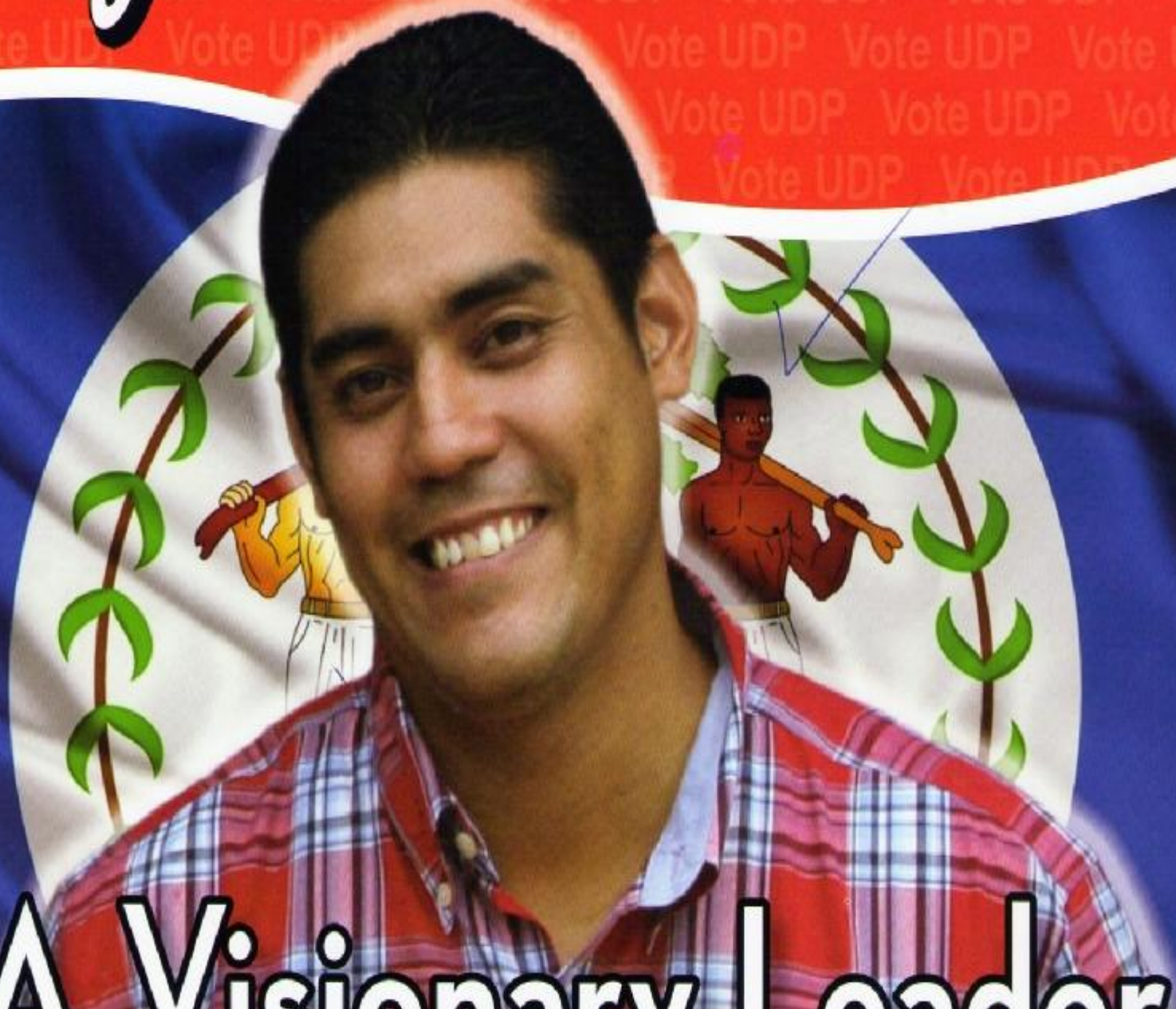
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is located on La Loma Luz Boulevard just off the Western Highway. It was refurbished by the Rotary Club of San Ignacio twelve years ago and is a great neighborhood gathering place for all ages.

The park offers seating and parking along with plenty of playground equipment and space to play.

The Rotary International symbol of the wheel with cogs sits prominently as a monument to the Club's efforts within the Santa Elena community.

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AUGUST 14th, 2011

Dengue Hemorrhagic Fever

What is dengue hemorrhagic fever?

Dengue hemorrhagic fever is a serious complication of dengue infection, a viral infection transmitted to humans by mosquitoes. Although dengue infections are rare in the United States, they are a leading cause of illness and death in the tropics and subtropics. Approximately 50 to 100 million infections occur globally each year, of which 500,000 people develop dengue hemorrhagic fever and 22,000 die (*Source:WHO*).

Worldwide, most of the cases of dengue infection occur in children. In the continental United States, the majority of cases are in people who have traveled to other countries. The majority of U.S. citizens who have dengue infections live in Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Samoa, and Guam. Dengue is endemic in those

areas.

Dengue hemorrhagic fever is characterized by a fever that lasts from two days to a week and is accompanied by symptoms seen in the milder dengue infection known as dengue fever. These include headache, eye pain, musculoskeletal pain, and easy bleeding or bruising. As the fever goes away, fluid begins to leak from the tiny blood vessels known as capillaries. The fluid can collect in the abdominal cavity or around the lungs. Intravenous fluids are then needed to support the circulatory system.

There are no specific treatments for dengue hemorrhagic fever other than relieving symptoms and replacing fluids and blood as needed.

Dengue hemorrhagic fever is a life-threatening emergency. **Seek immediate**

medical care if you have been to an area where dengue is endemic and you have symptoms such as the sudden onset of a high fever, severe abdominal pain, persistent vomiting or vomiting blood, bleeding from the nose or gums, red to reddish-purple spots or patches on the skin, stools that are black and tarry, skin that is cold and clammy, and unusual tiredness or irritability. Also seek immediate care for confusion, loss or change in level of consciousness, or seizure.

SYMPTOMS

What are the symptoms of dengue hemorrhagic fever?

Initial symptoms of dengue hemorrhagic fever include high fever, headache, eye pain, musculoskeletal pain, and easy bleeding or bruising. Later symptoms include rash, restlessness, sweating, red to reddish-purple spots or patches on the skin, and cold, clammy

skin.... Read more about dengue hemorrhagic fever symptoms

CAUSES

What causes dengue hemorrhagic fever?

Dengue hemorrhagic fever is caused by a dengue virus, specifically known as DENV-1, DENV-2, DENV-3 or DENV-4. The virus is transmitted to humans by mosquitoes. There have been reports of transfer of the virus through organ transplants and blood transfusions, as well as transfer from a pregnant mother to her baby, but these cases are rare.... Read more about dengue hemorrhagic fever causes

TREATMENTS

How is dengue hemorrhagic fever treated?

Currently, no medications are available to treat dengue hemorrhagic fever. The goal of care is to provide comfort and support during the crisis phase of dengue hemorrhagic fever.

Treatment for dengue hemorrhagic fever

Treatment for dengue hemorrhagic fever involves replacement of fluid and blood products as needed and comfort care. *It includes:*

- Admission to an intensive care unit
- Bed rest
- Intravenous fluids and electrolytes
- Oral fluids as tolerated
- Oxygen therapy
- Transfusions of blood and platelets as needed

What are the potential complications of dengue hemorrhagic fever?

Dengue hemorrhagic fever is a serious disease that, left untreated, can be life threatening. You can help minimize your risk of serious complications by following the treatment plan you and your health care professional design specifically for you. Complications of dengue hemorrhagic fever include:

- Brain damage
- Encephalitis (inflammation and swelling of the brain due to a viral infection or other causes)
- Liver failure
- Seizure
- Shock

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Bidding Farewell To A GREAT Man

BY Alberto August, STAR Publisher

SANTA ELENA TOWN, Cayo, Friday, July 15, 2011:

It is with profound sadness that the passing of a revered step father is recorded.

Daniel Obediah Dougall Sr., 92, passed away quietly at exactly 6:50: am (7:50 am Belize time) on Wednesday, July 13, 2011, at his home in Los Angeles, California, USA.

It can, with all confidence be said that Pa Dan, as he was affectionately known, lived a full life, and like Frank Sinatra's song says: He did it HIS way. It is in this light therefore that instead of mourning his passing, we are compelled to celebrate his life as we embrace the memory of all he did for us through the many years.

Pa Dan was born on June 10, 1919 in the southern village of Sittee River in the Stann Creek District. In his life he was many things. He often recounted those days, way back then, as a young man in his early 20's when he served, at the order of the Her Majesty the Queen, in Panama during World War II where he got his financial start in life.

After serving in the war effort, he returned to Belize and wisely invested his savings in a sawmill thereby becoming an instant employer. He eventually evolved into Belize's number one millwright. There was not a sawmill anywhere in the country that Pa Dan could not repair or operate.

His business in the sawmill operation took him from north to south, east to west and everywhere else in between across Belize. He operated his sawmill on the Northern Highway, then in Bomba, Maskall, in Rancho Dolores, Lemonal, Flowers Bank, Silk Grass, Cockscomb, Never Delay, Succotz, Arenal and many other places in between.

He provided employment for many including fellow villagers from Sittee River many of whom today thank him for bringing them out of Sittee River and many of whom started new lives all across Belize.

For us, my brother and two sisters, Pa Dan, our step father, was the only father we knew. He raised us, cared for us and loved us just as much as he loved and



cared for his other five children that he would later share with our mother.

Pa Dan taught us the true value of hard work as, on every school vacation, he would tag us along to work wherever in the country his sawmill was working at that time.

Ever the person to take chances, in the early 70's Pa Dan risked his investment by entering into a partnership which promised to expand his operation and increase employment. That partnership somehow went terribly wrong. It eventually resulted in him losing his entire investment to a ruthless partner. That was the lowest point in Pa Dan's life.

Nevertheless, blessed with the skills he acquired over the many years of hard work, he quickly rebounded this time however as an employee instead of an employer.

Being the senior employee always, he was consoled with the vested authority to employ the sawmill crew of his desire. He therefore found much satisfaction in the ability to offer employment to those in need whenever he could. He worked for a major sawmill operation in San Luis in the Mountain Pine Ridge area. He later moved to

Quam Bank in the Cockscomb mountain range.

He also worked for **Joe Mena** near mile 46 on the Western Highway and later for **David Shaw** at the same location when Mena sold out to Shaw.

After a few years as an employee, he rebounded with a small sawmill he could once again call his own. What a wonderful day it was for him to have shed the shackles of an employee and resurface once again as an employer.

He operated his small sawmill for several years. His last private engagement was in Banana Bank cutting lumber for **John Carr**. When that contract ended in 1983 he said good bye to all the hard work that sawmilling entails. Nearing 65 years of age, he was ready to call it quits and to retire from that line of strenuous and intensive labor.

Pa Dan migrated to Los Angeles, California in the latter part of 1983 and has since resided in LA. Over the years he has made frequent trips back home. His final visit was during the Easter break last year. During that two week stay, at his request, we made the pilgrimage to Sittee River, his home village, where he spent an entire day

meeting old friends and relatives. He also made a stop in Silk Grass where he spent time with his brother **Cecil "TT" Reynolds** and his family.

Daniel Obediah Dougall Sr. is predeceased by two sons: **Sullivan "Sally" Dougall** and **Daniel Obediah Dougall Jr.**

He is survived by his wife **Alice Eleanor Burke Dougall** and two brothers: **Cecil "TT" Reynolds** residing in Silk Grass Village, Stann Creek District and pastor **Gerald Deshield**, residing in Los Angeles, California.

He is also survived by several children including:

Sons, **John, Clyde, Dean, Demery, Fredrick, Jason** and **David Dougall**.

Daughters, **Gwendolyn, Arita, Yvette, Jacqueline, Salome, Dona, Joan**, and **Deborah Dougall**.

He is also survived by a host of step children residing in Belize and in Los Angeles as well as by numerous grand children, great grand children, other relatives and many friends.

The body will lay in state for viewing between 3 and 8 pm on Wednesday, July 20 at the Inglewood Mortuary in Inglewood, California followed by a wake at his residence.

Funeral services will be held at 11am on Thursday, July 21, at the Grace Chapel, Inglewood Cemetery, 720 East Florence, Inglewood, California where the body will be interred.

We bid a final farewell to a great man indeed. We are eternally grateful that Pa Dan came into our lives when we were vulnerable children and needed him most – We are comforted in the knowledge that he is now resting in eternal Peace. Good Bye Pa.... Good Bye, Rest In Peace.

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Your Weekly Horoscope & Lucky Numbers



ARIES:
March 22 to
April 20

Contentment is real wealth and you realize this as you find comfort with loved ones and see the futility of fretting over worldly desires. If you now move from this balanced state, it will be easier for you to work towards your aims. However, do not confuse contentment with smugness. **Lucky numbers: 07, 58, 85.**



TAURUS:
April 21 to
May 21

You have the support of your loved ones and this helps you gain more confidence. You have many people who bank on you and look up to you for motivation and support. Do justice to this responsibility. You are rewarded for your knowledge and skills at work. **Lucky numbers: 22, 40, 67.**



GEMINI:
May 22 to
June 21

You could be looking out for a loan to set in motion a veritable task. It will be in your best interest to keep the terms and details of an important deal to yourself. It is also a phase where you are immensely drawn to your partner and would like to spend more time with him/her. **Lucky numbers: 10, 25, 78.**



CANCER:
June 22 to
July 23

You seem to have many tasks this week. You have a tremendous urge to make some sweeping changes in your wardrobe. It is alright to give into your urges sometimes, but see to that you don't overspend. Don't be slack in financial matters. **Lucky numbers: 18, 73, 92.**



LEO:
July 24 to
August 21

Difficult situations are encountered by everybody. Difference lies in the approach adopted to deal with them. You may astonish yourself with how far you have come as you display calmness and maturity in a volatile situation. **Lucky numbers: 36, 66, 94.**



VIRGO:
August 22 to
September 21

The coming week is packed and you could be heading in the direction of a burn out, if you don't stand back and prioritise things in terms of what matters most to you. Work will take up a sizable chunk of your time. You will be showered with care and attention and that makes up for all your problems. **Lucky numbers: 29, 45, 56.**



LIBRA:
September 22
to October 23

It is a week of absolute peace and bliss. Your sign is a master of balance and it will be a tremendous advantage as you are able to keep your poise and your emotions in balance, even as people around you lose theirs! A special relationship brings you much joy. **Lucky numbers: 28, 47, 89.**



SCORPIO:
October 24 to
November 21

This is a phase when the pressure mounts at work. You are in a responsible position and this requires you to take some decisions that entail risk. Just be very clear about the objectives you are trying to achieve and go for it. Self-doubt is your biggest enemy. **Lucky numbers: 05, 33, 90.**



SAGITTARIUS:
November 22 to
December 21

The coming week may see you working extra hard to relaunch yourself in a new venture. This could be an uphill task but could bring great success if you keep at it consistently. Your advantage lies in your way of looking at things unlike others. **Lucky numbers: 11, 37, 70.**



CAPRICORN:
December 22
to January 20

It is time for love but unlike romantic relationships, this time you realize what your family means to you. You have not been giving them adequate time and therefore you will plan a getaway with them. Money matters still trouble your mind, but this week promises to be a little better in terms of digging your way out. **Lucky numbers: 14, 69, 83.**



AQUARIUS:
January 21 to
February 19

This is a phase of self-expression. You like to live well and require your surroundings to reflect the same. Some purchases of art might be made. Difficulties with your partner may arise if you get too rigid about your likes and dislikes. **Lucky numbers: 19, 49, 98.**



PISCES:
February 20
to March 21

You will be motivated to make rapid strides in terms of self development and also your professional standing. Life, however, has its own flow. Don't be too distracted by other people's problems. Continue along your path. When you do something worthwhile, jealousy does tend to raise its head. **Lucky numbers: 16, 27, 95.**

Vaccination Campaign

Santa Elena Library

16th July, 2011

9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

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Age range : 6—12 years

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Guatemalan Suspected Of Illegal Logging

SAN IGNACIO TOWN, Cayo, Wednesday, July 13, 2011:

A Guatemalan was today detained, from among a group caught illegally cutting mahogany trees near the Caracol Archeological Site in the Cayo District.

The report coming out of San Ignacio police informed that at around 4:00 pm today, a joint team comprising personnel from the Police Department / Forestry Department/ Belize Defense Force and Friends for Conservation and Development were on patrol in an area about a mile from the Caracol Archeological Site when they came upon a group of male persons with chainsaws cutting mahogany and cedar trees deep inside Belizean territory. Whilst in the process of rounding up the suspected illegal loggers, the patrol was



Jairo Orlando Ariel Mejia Motta

distracted as a boy in the group yelled "*Negrito*" (little black one) accompanied by the firing of several gunshot. The patrol

instinctively dashed for cover and in the process, the two adult male persons and the boy ran towards others who were in nearby bushes with all escaping into the forest. Notwithstanding, the team continued searching in the bushes resulting in the detention of an individual identified as Jairo Orlando Ariel Mejia Motta, 20, Guatemalan from the Guatemalan Barrio of La Rejoia. The patrol also found a total of fifty six freshly cut mahogany and cedar slabs along with eight horses, several machetes, several containers with gasoline and other items suspected to be linked to the illegal logging trade.

The detainee, along with the items found on the scene, was transported the Police Station in San Ignacio pending charges.

Youth Empowerment Camp 2011

By: Ciriaco Medina

In an effort to engage young persons in constructive and positive alternatives during the Summer vacation, the **San Ignacio Community Policing Unit** in collaboration with Community bases organizations

and government departments such as **Youth for the Future, Sports Council, Education Department, Human Services, National Drug Abuse Control Council, Belize Family Life Association, Pro- World, Cornerstone Foundation** and

the **National Emergency Management Organization** will be hosting a two week summer program from July 18 - 29, 2011, at the Cultural Center in San Ignacio.

This year's Camp is being held under the name "*Youth*

Empowerment Camp 2011" and is targeting 100 to 150 youths in San Ignacio and Santa Elena Towns ranging from age eight to eighteen years.

Registration forms are available in all above mentioned offices and it is free of cost, Snacks, water, and Lunch will be provided daily to all participants.

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Teacher George O'Brien Laid To Rest

SANTA ELENA TOWN, Cayo, Wednesday, July 13, 2011:

Despite prior rainy conditions, the weather held up perfectly today for the funeral service of Santa Elena's *"Dedicated Educator and Family man"* teacher **George Wendell O'Brien Jr. JP** who passed away quietly and peacefully at around 7:00 am on Monday, July 10, at his home on the Western Highway in Santa Elena, Cayo.

Teacher OB, as he was affectionately known, was born on May 5, 1944 in Belize City. He grew up in Blackman Eddy Village, Cayo. He was only 14 years of age when he entered the teaching profession as a volunteer teacher at Norland School near Central Farm, Cayo. He collected his first paycheck two years later at the age of 16 and so began a dedicated and unbroken forty year career of steadfast service to the profession he dearly loved.

During his teaching career Master O'Brien educated students in Norland, Augustine, San Luis in the Mountain Pine Ridge, Teakettle Village, Unitedville, Santa Elena RC and at Sacred Heart RC in San Ignacio. His last years was spent as a Teaching Principal at St. Francis Xavier in Esperanza Village. He retired from the teaching profession at the age of 54 in 1998 on medical grounds due to a back injury he suffered in a traffic accident.

On May 28, 1966, exactly 23 days after his 22nd birthday George tied the knot in holy matrimony with Santa Elena's beauty, **Romelia Cruz** with whom he would spend the next 45 years in marriage. The union produced four sons and three daughters in order of their birth: **Hugh, Leroy, Steven, Shirlene, Karen, Mark** and the baby of the family, **Stephanie**.

Teacher O'Brien is predeceased by his parents **George Sr.**, and **Agnes O'Brien**; Sisters, **Maude Humes** and **Linda Ford**; Brothers, **Lloyd** and **Teddy O'Brien**.

He is survived by his wife, **Mrs. Romelia Cruz O'Brien**; brothers, **Charles O'Brien** residing in New York and **Godfrey O'Brien** residing in Belmopan and **Maurice Stevens**



Teacher O'Brien And His Wife Ms. Romelia

residing in Miami USA; Sisters, **Anna O'Brien Aleman** and **Gwendolyn Zetina** both residing in Belmopan; Sons, **Hugh, Leroy, Steven and Mark O'Brien**; Daughters, **Shirlene O'Brien Minge** residing in RivertonWyoming

USA, **Karen and Stephanie O'Brien**. He is also survived by a host of grandchildren, nieces and nephews, other relatives, colleagues in the teaching profession including Maestro **Hernan Ochaeta** and **Luis "Gig" Gentle** who read the

eulogy in church, other associates and many friends.

It is often said that we should not wait until a man is gone to sing his praises. In recognition of his greatness, his colleagues in the teaching profession awarded him with many certificates of appreciation during his teaching career including a Long Service Award presented by the Belize National Teachers Union on May 15, 1998. His service to the community was also recognized when in 1994 he was appointed as a Justice of the Peace.

The 2:00 pm funeral service, on Wednesday, July 13, was held at St. Ignatius Church in Santa Elena, and the body was laid to rest inside the Carmen Memorial Cemetery also in Santa Elena, Cayo.

We join the community in expressing deepest sympathies to Ms. Romelia and the entire O'Brien family at the passing of their loved one.

We pray for the eternal resting of the soul of **Teacher George Wendell O'Brien Jr. JP, 67**.

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Serious Problems Developing Between The Villages Of Seine Bight And Placencia In Southern Belize

BY: Wellington C. Ramos



Seine Bight village is located in the Stann Creek District in southern Belize where the Garifuna people have resided since they first landed in Belize.

This village was founded by a group of Garifuna people, who migrated from Honduras in the mid 1800's because of their involvement in the Revolutionary War for Honduran independence where many of them were slaughtered.

The village was named after the combination of the net that the Garifuna people make to catch fish and the geographical location where it exist.

The Garifuna people are a mixture of African and Carib Indian from the Island of St. Vincent who fought against Spanish, French and British troops that were trying to take away their territory.

On March 11, 1797 the British succeeded in conquering the Garifuna people and they were assembled and imprisoned on the island of Baliceaux before they were deported to Roatan, Honduras where they arrived on April 12, 1797.

South of Seine Bight village is Placencia village a peninsula made up mostly of people of European ancestry.

Placencia village was founded by a group of British Puritans who migrated from Nova Scotia,

Canada to Belize in the 1600's when the British took Belize from Spain and started to bring their citizens to occupy the new British territory.

The Spaniards that travelled the southern coast of Belize gave Placencia its name. During that time Placencia was called Placentia, with the point being called Punta Placentia or Pleasant Point. The name Placentia eventually evolved into Placencia.

This settlement died out during the Central American war for independence in the 1820's.

Up to the 19th century Placencia was primarily a fishing village but with the approach of the 20th century, the village has been attracting a large number of tourist because of its beautiful beaches and adjacent cayes.

Commercial activity has also stepped up and the population is growing fast with the influx of new residents mainly from North America and Europe. The demand for land is becoming a problem for Placencia residents because most of it towards Seine Bight and nearer to the Southern Highway.

Here we have two villages with different cultures wanting to live independently of each other. The Garifuna people are beginning to suspect that since the people of Placencia are economically better off than them, the Belize government will be more prone to side with the people from Placencia in terms of the acquisition of land for village expansion.

Historically, the people from Placencia have always supported the reigning United Democratic Party (UDP) while the people from Seine Bight

more favored the opposition People's United Party (PUP).

The younger generation of Seinebightians are however, not loyal to the PUP like their ancestors so the UDP should move cautiously with their expansion plan.

The PUP has been in government much longer than the UDP and may have favored Seine Bight over Placencia for political support.

In 1962 shortly after hurricane Hattie, **Prime Minister George Price** was serious about relocating the Garifuna people from Dangriga Town, Seine Bight and Hopkins to new inland communities. The two inland villages created for this purpose were Georgetown, named after him for the people of Seine Bight and Silk Grass for the people from Dangriga and Hopkins.

Some Garifuna families took the bait moved from Seine Bight to Georgetown but no one moved from Dangriga Town or Hopkins Village to Silk Grass.

The Garifuna people were of the firm opinion that George Price was more interested in relocating them inland in order to deprive them of their valuable prime coastal land which would be sold to rich investors and this would have had a severe impact on their culture because they are attached to the sea.

Also, Silk Grass at the time was infested with sandflies. The infestation was so bad that we the children of Dangriga Town referred to Silk Grass village as Sandfly village.

Recently, it was brought to my attention by a Belizean American woman serving in the United States Armed Services, she purchased a property in Seine Bight. To her surprise, when she received Title to this property, the Conveyance was referred to as Northern Placencia. How can there be a Northern Placencia in the village of Seine Bight?

I can more understand that in the description of the property the location could read north of Placencia which is completely different from what the document says.

I was told that there is a proposal to change the name of

Seine Bight. If the government of Belize or a group of people are planning on doing so, I would strongly advise them to bring that proposal to the Garifuna people residing in Seine Bight to decide. Such a proposal should be agreed upon at a village meeting and by way of a referendum by the people of Seine Bight before any further action is taken on this very serious matter.

Any attempt by any government of Belize or any group to try and change the name of Seine Bight, without going through this process, will lead to retaliation from the Garifuna community in Belize and worldwide.

I am not convinced that this government, under **Prime Minister Dean Barrow**, will engage itself in such a foolish political exercise.

I am now calling on the Garifuna people from Seine Bight to take this issue seriously and start to ask some questions.

They should also request from the government, through the ministries of natural resources and rural development that the boundaries of Seine Bight and Placencia villages be clearly defined in law.

If the Government of Belize is planning to exercise its right to Eminent Domain on the citizens of these two villages, that it be exercised fairly through consultations with the residents of both villages.

Seine Bight residents might be forced to sell their lands due to their economic conditions but they better make sure that they obtain the real value for their properties.

While Placencia is attracting tourist and Seine Bight has the Garifuna culture to display, both villages can benefit from this relationship.

The Garifuna people in Seine Bight must now organize themselves to market their culture while their neighbors in Placencia do likewise with their beaches and cayes.

With an international airport coming in that area soon, the value of properties will certainly increase so it would not be wise to hold off and not rush and sell your properties now.

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★ STAR HUMOR ★

Antonio's Infated Ego

Antonio is laying in bed with his wife when he noticed she bought a new book entitled, *"What 100 thousand Belizean Women Want."*

He grabbed the book out of her hands and started thumbing

A Sure Kiss For Granny

A young man in the neighborhood sneaked up behind a much older woman, covered her eyes with his hands, and said, *"I'm going to kiss you on the lips if*

Anything For The Right Reason

A lady walks into a pharmacy last Saturday morning and asks the pharmacist for some of the strongest he has.

The pharmacist asks *"Ma'am, what do you want with strong poison?"*

The lady says *"To kill my husband."*

Youth Leadership Camp 2011

BY: Morecia Gentle
Youth Empowerment Coordinator,
Cayo

SAN IGNACIO TOWN, Cayo, Thursday, July 14, 2011:

Youth for The Future (YFF) is hosting a Youth Leadership Regional Camp 2011 under the theme *"Our Year Our Voice"*.

The Regional Leadership Camps are expected to draw over four hundred young persons throughout Belize.

The camps will be divide into the following four regions: 1) Northern Region comprising the Corozal and Orange Walk Districts.

2) Central Region being the Belize District including the islands of San Pedro Town and Caye Caulker Village.

3) Western Region, the Cayo District to include towns of San Ignacio, Santa Elena and Benque Viejo as well as the city of Belmopan.

4) Southern Region incorporating the Stann Creek and

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through the pages.

His wife, a little annoyed, asked, *"Hey, what do you think you're doing?"*

He calmly replied, *"I just wanted to see if they spelled my name right."*

you can't tell me who I am in three guesses."

She quickly answered, *"Jim Reeves, Elvis Presley! Michael Jackson!"*

"I can't sell you any for that reason," says the pharmacist.

The lady then reaches into her purse and pulls out a photo of her husband in bed with the pharmacist's wife.

He looks at the photo and says *"Pardon me, I didn't realize you had a prescription."*

Toledo Districts.

This year's Regional Leadership Camps will be headed by Camp Marshall, **William Swan**; Manager of the National Youth Cadet Service Corp. The Marshall's will be responsible to oversee the camps country-wide.

Campers in the Western Region will converge at the Mountain Pine Ridge for a period of seven residential days commencing on Sunday, July 24 right up to Saturday, July 30, 2011.

Over one hundred young persons, both male and female between the ages of 15-24, will participate in each of the four

The King Of The Jungle

A lion woke up one morning feeling really rowdy and mean.

He went out and cornered a monkey, and roared, *"Who is mightiest of all jungle animals?"*

The trembling monkey says, *"You are, mighty lion!"*

Later, the lion confronts a fox and fiercely bellows, *"Who is the mightiest of all jungle animals?"*

The terrified fox stammers, *"Oh great lion, you are the mightiest animal in the jungle!"*

On a roll now, the lion prances up to an elephant and roars,

"Who is mightiest of all jungle animals?"

Fast as lightning, the elephant snatches up the lion with his trunk, slams him against a tree half a dozen times leaving the lion feeling like it'd been run over by a safari bus.

The elephant then stomps on the lion till it looks like a corn tortilla and rambles away into the sunset.

The lion lets out a moan of pain, lifts his head weakly and hollers after the elephant, *"you didn't have to get so upset about it, just because you don't know the answer,*

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regional camps.

This year's camp is geared towards affording campers the opportunity to receive training in positive leadership skills and other life skills.

Participants will also receive instructions in the areas of

Leadership Advocacy, National Youth Development Policy and Council, Health and Family Personal Development, Youth in Governance, Youth in Advocacy, Community Service, First Aid and Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR).



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Argentina Singer, Facundo Cabral, Shot Dead In Guatemala City

JULY 10: Tributes are being paid to **Facundo Cabral**, the Argentine folk singer, who has been shot dead in Guatemala.

Cabral, 74, was heading from his hotel to the airport in Guatemala City when he was reportedly ambushed.

He was one of Latin America's most famous performers, and his killing has prompted a wave of reaction.

Guatemala's leader said early investigations suggested Cabral was not targeted but the attack was aimed at a music promoter travelling with him.

President **Alvaro Colom** said he was *"dismayed by this cowardly act"* and decreed three days of mourning.

Cabral had performed in the city of Quetzaltenango, 200km (120 miles) west of Guatemala City, on Thursday. He was heading to Nicaragua for more concerts.

'Adios amigo!'

Police said Cabral's vehicle, which was accompanied by another carrying bodyguards, had been hit by a number of rifle bullets and the singer died at the scene.

His most famous song was *No Soy de Aqui ni Alla (I'm Not From Here or There)*, which was recorded in a number of languages.

Argentine Foreign Minister **Hector Timerman** tweeted his *"profound sadness"* at the news, adding: *"Adios amigo!"*

Meanwhile President Colom told Argentine radio he had called his counterpart, President Cristina Fernandez, to tell her the news and said that it *"seemed to hit her hard"*.

"We will find these criminals and bring them to justice," he said.

The president's office said police were investigating whether the shooting was an attempted robbery or a targeted attack.

Guatemalan Nobel Peace Prize winner, **Rigoberta Menchu**, wept at the scene

The presidents of Colombia, Ecuador and Venezuela were among those sending condolences.

"What pain! We cry with Argentina and all of our great fatherland," tweeted President **Hugo Chavez** of Venezuela.



Facundo Cabral, 74

Guatemalan Nobel Peace Prize winner, **Rigoberta Menchu**, travelled to the scene of the killing and openly wept. *"For me, Facundo Cabral is a master,"* she said. *"He loved Guatemala greatly."*

Local media said the vehicle carrying Cabral tried to escape

into a fire station. Police said one of the attackers' vehicles was later found abandoned on the road to El Salvador. It had bullet holes and contained spent cartridges.

Cabral's representative, David Llanos, told reporters: *"I don't know how and why this happened, because Facundo is well-known around the world and I don't see why anyone would be interested in killing him."*

Guatemalan fan **Edgar Palacios**, 54, told Reuters the singer would not be forgotten.

High murder rate

"Facundo Cabral died but his music will never die, just like John Lennon died but his music never died. Cabral wasn't just from one country. He was a universal man."

Cabral became famous in the



A Tearful Rigoberta Menchu

early 1970s as a protest singer in Argentina.

His wife and baby daughter died in a plane crash in 1978.

In 1996, Unesco declared him a *"world messenger of peace"*.

In an interview with Associated Press in 2008, he said: *"I love life so much because it cost me so much to enjoy it. From the cradle to the grave is a school, so if what we call problems are lessons, we see life differently."*

Guatemala has one of the highest murder rates in Latin America.



Facundo Cabral's Coffin On Display In Buenos Aires, Argentina

Two Arrested For The Murder Of Facundo Cabral

JULY 12: **Elgin Vargas Hernandez** was one of two suspects held in Guatemala City. Police in Guatemala have arrested two men over the killing of Argentine singer **Facundo Cabral**.

Cabral - one of Latin America's most respected folk singers - was being driven to the airport in Guatemala City when his car was ambushed on Saturday.

He was shot dead and the music promoter travelling with him, **Henry Farinas**, was seriously injured.

Police say the suspects were caught after being identified from hotel surveillance videos.

Prosecutor **Claudia Paz y Paz** said the two - named as **Elgin Vargas Hernandez** and **Wilfred Stokes Arnold** - had



One Of The Accused Elgin Vargas Hernandez

been following Mr Farinas and probably did not know who Cabral was.

They were arrested on separate raids in Guatemala City on Tuesday. Police are continuing to search for others believed to have been involved in the attack. Guatemalan President Alvaro Colom said the evidence

suggested Mr Farinas was the target of the attack.

Cabral's coffin was put on display in Buenos Aires

"It's evident that the attack came from organised crime and that's what we are investigating," he told Mexican Radio.

Mr Farinas, a Nicaraguan national, remains in hospital. Prosecutors say he has no criminal record and the motive for the shooting remains unclear.

Earlier on Tuesday, the body of Facundo Cabral was flown back to his native Argentina, where he became famous in the early 1970s as a protest singer.

His widow and nephew were accompanied by Argentine Foreign Minister **Hector Timerman** to receive his coffin.

He was due to be cremated on Wednesday.

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