



Readers Write



Godsman C. Ellis - Is Now At Rest

Dear Editor;

We take this opportunity to express deepest sympathy to the Ellis family on the passing of Mr. Godsman Ellis.

Mr. Ellis was indeed a pioneer in several aspect of Belizean life.

He was instrumental in agriculture,

tourism and the Garifuna council among several other undertakings.

He lived a fruitful life. Mr. Ellis has now gone to rest. May his soul now rest in eternal peace.

Santa Cruz Neighborhood Watch Group.

Looking For Mr. Hilary Wade Delmar

Dear Editor,

I am the younger Brother of **Mr. Hilary Wade Delmar.**

On June 12th, 2011 your paper reported on an American by the name of Hilary Wade Delmar arrested by local police.

Mr. Delmar was arrested and in custody, awaiting charges for being in the possession of excess ammunition and a contraption suspected to be used for smoking marijuana.

The article in your newspaper stated that Mr. Delmar appeared in court on Friday, June 10th to answer these

two charges.

Sometime around July 20th, 2012 Mr. Hilary Wade Delmar returned to Belize from Mabalacat, Pampanga, Philippines.

His wife in Mabalacat, Pampanga has not heard from him.

Could you please assist us with any information of his whereabouts in Belize.

Any help with this matter would be greatly appreciated,

Sincerely

Ollie Dunn Dellmar

Is An Accused Drug Trafficking Policeman Shielded By The Police?

From Front Page

Benque Viejo sub-formation rushed to area near the western border station. Upon arrival they were informed that the person wearing a blue t-shirt and blue ¾ pants boarded a taxi cab heading into Benque Viejo Town.

The team proceeded to the area of the bus terminal in town and, through the rear door a member of the team boarded the green bus parked at the terminal where a male person fitting the description was seen seated inside the bus. The suspect, with a knapsack on his back reportedly stood up and began walking towards the front of the bus. He was ordered to stop but refused to do so. He reportedly removed the knapsack and walked out of the bus and into the arms of other policemen waiting at the front entrance of the bus where he was detained. The detainee refused to re-enter the bus. While he was held outside the bus, a policeman entered the bus and retrieved the knapsack from the seat where the detainee sat prior to exiting the bus. The bag was reportedly handed to the detainee and was asked if he had anything to declare to which he reportedly responded "yes, weed".

The knapsack was searched in the presence of the detainee and was found to contain suspected marijuana inside a transparent plastic bag.

The detainee was informed of the offence committed. He was cautioned and placed under arrest. In an attempt to get a "run" the detainee reportedly informed that he was a policeman and as proof thereof he produced an identification in the name of PC #940 Virgil Perez.

Notwithstanding, the detainee and the weed were transported to the Benque Viejo police station where the weed was weighted tipping the scale at 4,547 grams (10.02 pounds).

The incident led to the arrest of **Virgil Perez**, 31, Belizean police officer of Santa Barbara Street, Belize City address. He was instantly charged for drug trafficking. He was held in custody overnight and on the following day, Wednesday, January 16, he was transported to San Ignacio where he was brought before **Magistrate Narda Morgan**. He pled not guilty to the charge and was offered and met bail in the sum of eight thousand dollar. The case was adjourned to Thursday, March 7, 2013.

If the name Virgil Perez rings a bell, it is because on February 26 last year he was detained in Belmopan along with a colleague constable inside a reported stolen green Toyota Hilux.

The Hilux was reportedly stolen earlier that Sunday morning, February 26, from a car lot located behind the Texaco Gas Station at Mile 1 on the Northern Highway in Belize City.

The report indicate that around 9:00 am that same Sunday morning, Belmopan police on patrol on the Caribbean Investors Road in Belmopan City, stopped a green Toyota Hilux, with its glass from the right rear door shattered, was driven at the time by police constable **Virgil Perez** with constable **Dwayne Salgado** in the front passenger seat.

Perez, 30, at the time, was attached to the Belize City's Patrol Branch and Salgado, 23, was attached to the Mahogany Precinct. Perez is currently

FOR SALE BY OWNER

NEW ! 7 + acs at Monkey Falls, Cristo Rey Road, 2 miles from the George Price Hwy. 1500 ft frontage on Macal River plus creek and small waterfall, huge trees, Santa Elena town limits and on grid. Has final approval for subdivision into 17 riverfront lots.

Priced to move at 225k USD.

NEW! 181 Acs, Mile 1 1/2 Cristo Rey Rd. High wooded bluffs overlooking Macal River, \$199k USD, 2 yr financing 8%.

**663-6777 or 668-0749
roberson.elizabeth@gmail.com**

The Fee Is Optional

From Front Page

example has been charging drivers in excess of the stipulated fee for several years.

Mayor August informed that the council is of opinion that the increase fee for drivers permit was a reasonable one given that the new version is a major improvement from the previous laminated card. He said that the new permit is of an international standard with various security features and therefore more difficulty to falsify.

Mayor August further informed that approximately five hundred satisfied drivers have already acquired the new permit which is done in-house with the process taking only about fifteen

minutes.

The Mayor informs that in compliance with statutory instrument #182 of 2003, the council will refrain from making the increased fee mandatory and that drivers will be afforded the option to acquire the new permit or remain with the old one. In this regard the council will continue to distribute the laminated version of the permit while simultaneously continuing the issuance the new version both of which will be honored by the transport officials countrywide.

The new permit does not require for the applicant to bring in a photograph as this is incorporated into the permit, it also carries a photo of the applicant's signature and fingerprint.

SHOPPERS' CHOICE

**Corner Hudson St. San Ignacio Town, Belize C.A. Tel: 824-4971
Cell: 610-3503. E-mail: pradeep@btl.net**

Electronics. Digicell & Smart phones. Kitchen Appliances. Cosmetics. Furniture (wardrobes, kitchen cabinets, bed & mattress, chest of drawers, entertainment center. LCD TV'S. Window & Split AC units. washing machine. Refrigerators. Stoves. Bicycles. Motor Cycle. ETC...



on interdiction in this incident.

As is usual, his colleagues in the Police Department, including those in senior command gave every excuse not to provide photograph

neither of PC Perez nor of the over 10 pounds of weed, a service which they are only too willing and quick to provide in those cases involving non-colleagues.



BLUE ANGELS NIGHT CLUB

San Ignacio's hottest Nightclub, full service bar and a friendly staff ready to serve you.

We guarantee you'll have an experience like no other!

***TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS----- KARAOKE!!**

***FRIDAYS-----LATINO NIGHT**

***SATURDAY----- PARTY NIGHT.... DANCE TILL YOU DROPI**

***SUNDAY-----COME IN FOR BRUNCH!! *SUNDAY NIGHT----- 80'S AND 90'S NIGHT**

DONT FORGET ABOUT HAPPY HOUR EVERYDAY FROM 5PM-9PM!

Great Prices on LOCAL RUM N' COKE - only \$2.00 - DRAFT BEER-only \$2.50 FREE BOCAS!!!

Check out our FACEBOOK page: Blue Angels Email: Blueangelsnightclub@yahoo.com

Cuba Confirms 51 Cholera Cases In Havana

Cuba's health ministry has confirmed a cholera outbreak in Havana with 51 people infected - the biggest incidence of the disease there in decades.

An official statement said health workers had detected an increase in **"acute diarrhoea"** in some districts, which has been established as cholera.

The source has been identified as a foodseller who caught cholera during a previous outbreak in eastern Cuba.

Doctors have been going house to house in Havana areas, checking for symptoms.

The official confirmation follows several days of speculation about an upsurge in diarrhoea in the capital,



where the BBC understands a 46-year-old man died of suspected cholera earlier this month.

In the central Havana district of Cerro, where the outbreak is believed to have begun, cafes and restaurants

have been closed and only the sale of sealed food and drink is permitted.

The outbreak was detected on 6 January. According to the health ministry, measures taken since then mean the disease is in its **"extinction phase"**.

People are being urged to take care with hygiene and in the preparation of food.

Cholera is carried by contaminated water or food. It causes severe dehydration through diarrhoea and can prove fatal if untreated.

Until last July, Cuba had not experienced any significant outbreak since well before the 1959 revolution.



Descuento Especial para socios nails club

20 & 21 Enero 2013

Trae para ti hasta la ciudad de Belize

Manolo Rosas

Promáster Organic Nails

CONTEMPO DESIGN & RUSSIAN ENGRAVING

Lugar: Princess Hotel & Casino Cd. Belize

Hora: 10 a.m. a 5 p.m.

Costo: 200 Bn

Informes: 6239923 / 6102324

nailsclub5@yahoo.com




MEXICAN TACO FACTORY

Located across from the STAR Newspaper Office in Santa Elena Town

Come taste Belize's best Quesadillas or our famous Beef, Pork or Pastor Tacos & Pollo Brujo

Come in today and try our homemade style tacos with only the freshest ingredients & handmade corn tortillas always!



Real Mexican Flavour
Salsa, Fresh natural
juices & Sodas

Opening Hours:
Monday - Saturday

10 am - 10 pm

Sunday

12 noon - 9 pm

Prepared Fresh

Te Garantizamos Frescura

BARACK II TRADING CENTER

P.O. Box 621

107 George Price Highway
Santa Elena, Cayo District
Belize C.A

facebook
FOLLOW US ON



We offer the best
quality and prices on
all your home
furnishing needs!!!

Tel: 824-3099
Cell: 652-0123

Visit us today and see our wide
variety of stoves, beds, chest of
drawers, mattresses,
refrigerators, LCD TVs, fans,
beach cruiser bicycles, dinning
tables and so much more.....

Pleasures

Boutique

13 Tenth Street, San Ignacio, Cayo

Office : 824-2357 Cell: 632-9349/633-8684

Accessories

Blouses

Cosmetics

Purses

Shoes

Dresses



Male Clothing

Ask Us About Decorative Interiors



"like" us on
facebook



! A New Year, A New You!



~ Make Life Beautiful ~

Be a part of the largest recruiting drive in Belize!
Join us on our **Say Yes to Avon Campaign!!**

- Yes to Financial Independence
- Yes to Owning your business
- Yes to Working your own hours

!!Come out & sample our newest 2013 fragrances!!

**Say Yes to Avon from January 24th—
Jan. 26th at the following locations.**

10:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.

Thursday Jan. 24th — Hode's Place, San Ignacio

Friday Jan. 25th — Sunbreeze Hotel, San Pedro

Saturday Jan. 26th — ITVET, Belize City

Confirm attendance

Ph# 223-0293 Text—622-9877

Email : rialtocaribe@gmail.com



RUNWAY SHOW

JANUARY
26TH



Mission
Catwalk
FINALIST

BELIZEAN DESIGNER

REBECCA
STIRM

FEATURING

JEWELRY COLLECTION
BY

BELIZEAN JEWELRY DESIGNER

Khadija Assales

Miss Belize World

2012-2013

CHANTAE GUY

&

Miss Belize / Miss ETHNIC World

2012-2013

DESTINEE ARNOLD

ON THE RUNWAY

LIVE PERFORMANCES

PRINCESS HOTEL

- KINGS ROOM -

SEATING AT 6:30 PM

Gold \$50

Silver \$35

Bronze \$25

Platinum
(Runway Seating)

\$60

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT

Eye Candy (Belize City)

Formosa (Belmopan)

Greedy's Pizza (Cayo)

Your Weekly Horoscope and Lucky Numbers

ARIES:

March 22 to April 20

This week you could look in the mirror and be appalled by what you see, activating your insecurity about the way you look. This could send you looking for various treatments. Go ahead if you want but your impressions are clouded right now and you probably look far better than you think. If you get together with a love partner, this person's reaction should give you the reassurance you need. **Lucky numbers: 08, 40, 67.**

TAURUS:

April 21 to May 21

Artistic or spiritual inspiration could come your way although it might be muddled and you could be perplexed about how to deal with it. Don't try to force the issue. Write down your ideas and return to them later. Someone close might feel unwell, and you may want to spend some time with him or her. This might take some effort, but it won't go unappreciated. **Lucky numbers: 03, 80 99.**

GEMINI:

May 22 to June 21

This week you may spend some time by yourself working on your own projects. The desire to spend time alone with a special someone may also interfere with plans you have already made to attend a social gathering or event involving a lot of people. You won't want to give up either, so you might try to find a compromise of some kind. Think about it. **Lucky numbers: 04, 28, 53.**

CANCER:

June 22 to July 23

Various personal issues might be on your mind this week. You could want to work them all out without distractions, so you may decide to spend part of the day alone. Responsibilities from the outside world might make it impossible for you to take as much time as you would like. Don't let it get to you. Work out the matters that seem most pressing and save the rest for later. **Lucky numbers: 16, 44, 65.**

LIQUOR LICENSE NOTICES FOR THE YEAR 2013

Notice is hereby given that under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Chapter 150 of the Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2000, that **LISA SILVA FERNANDEZ** is applying for the renewal of a **CONVENIENCE STORE LIQUOR LICENSE** for the year 2013 to operate **Inez Fernandez & Son** located at # 11 George Price Avenue, Santa Elena Town in the Cayo District.

LEO:

July 24 to August 21

You could be expecting an important letter, call, or email this week and sit on the edge of your chair waiting for it. This might be from a friend or lover. It could be delayed, and this might get you flustered. Distract yourself and do something else while you wait. If you make good use of the hours, the time will fly by. **Lucky numbers: 24, 55, 94.**

VIRGO:

August 22 to September 21

Worries about money could plague you this week. Someone close may have given you some incorrect information, perhaps about your financial situation, but more likely regarding trends in the economy that could affect your finances. Check out the facts before driving yourself crazy. You will probably find that you've been misinformed. **Lucky numbers: 12, 47, 75.**

LIBRA:

September 22 to October 23

Insecurity may arise about a partnership. This might be a current or potential romantic relationship. Perhaps there has been little if any communication between you and your insecurity is coming to the forefront. Don't let fear or shyness keep you from meeting this person halfway. Your insecurities are probably unfounded. **Lucky numbers: 37, 59, 70.**

SCORPIO:

October 24 to November 21

Worries about health and work might be on your mind this week. You could be stressed out over whatever you are doing, and this might have you feeling

LIQUOR LICENSE NOTICES

Notice is hereby given that under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Chapter 150 of the Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2000, that **NIGEL RICHARDS** is applying for the renewal of a **RESTAURANT & BAR LIQUOR LICENSE** for the year 2013 to operate **Gaia River Lodge** located in the Mountain Pine Ridge in the Cayo District.

Notice is hereby given that under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Chapter 150 of the Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2000, that **EMILIANA SANTOS** is applying for the renewal of a **MALT & CIDER LIQUOR LICENSE** for the year 2013 to operate **Emilia's Shop** located in the Santa Cruz Area, Santa Elena Town in the Cayo District.

less energetic than usual. It is a good idea to work a little to lessen the stress in your life. This feeling is going to pass whatever you do. Try to rest a little and have some fun in spite of the stress. **Lucky numbers: 32, 83, 97.**

SAGITTARIUS:

November 22 to December 21

This week you might concentrate on projects. These could be related to your personal relationships. Whatever the nature of your tasks don't be surprised if you find them confusing. You might be tempted to chuck it all and go out, but this isn't a good idea. Better to try to make sense of the confusion than put it off. It won't get any better with time. **Lucky numbers: 30, 46, 79.**

CAPRICORN:

December 22 to January 20

This week you may want to set aside some time to spend with close friends or a love partner. Other responsibilities could have you on your own, taking care of errands and other important matters. You may have the feeling of being lonely in a crowd. Don't waste time feeling sorry for yourself. Take care of business and get back to your loved ones. **Lucky numbers: 06, 34, 77.**

AQUARIUS:

January 21 to February 19

Making or receiving an important letter or call regarding money might be on your agenda this week, but circumstances beyond your control could delay it. This could prove frustrating. Take care of whatever you have to do. Distract yourself if you have to sit and wait. Nothing is worth stressing over. The call will come in time, so just relax. **Lucky numbers: 10, 35, 63.**

PISCES:

February 20 to March 21

Worries about money might plague you this week. They might have little, if any, basis in fact, as you are probably fretting over possibilities that aren't likely to ever manifest. A little caution with regard to budgeting and spending this week certainly won't hurt you. It is best to be objective and see the situation as it really is. Otherwise, you could make yourself crazy over nothing. **Lucky numbers: 14, 58, 86.**

LIQUOR LICENSE NOTICES

Notice is hereby given that under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Chapter 150 of the Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2000, that **CARMELLA DAWSON** is applying for the renewal of a **BEER LIQUOR LICENSE** for the year 2013 to operate **Kriol Tuch Dong** located on the George Price Highway, Santa Elena Town in the Cayo District.

Notice is hereby given that under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Chapter 150 of the Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2000, that **ANA WILLIAMS** is applying for the renewal of a **RESTAURANT & BAR LIQUOR LICENSE** for the year 2013 to operate **A & M BAR** located on the Georgeville Village in the Cayo District.

Notice is hereby given that under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Chapter 150 of the Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2000, that **ORLANDO MADRID** is applying for the renewal of a **MALT & CIDER LIQUOR LICENSE** for the year 2013 to operate **Sandals Restaurant & Bar** located in Cristo Rey Village in the Cayo District.

WESTSIDE SHOPPING CENTER

You Always Get The Best When Shopping With Us!



Visit us For High Quality

Custom Made Furniture: Beds, Chest Of Drawers, Tables, Entertainment Centers, Flat Scree TV, Stoves, Cell Phones, Clothing, Microwaves, Refrigerators, Boxers, Shoes, Bicycles, Lawn Mowers, Clothing and so much more.

5A Burns Avenue, San Ignacio Cayo.
Tel: 824-3665 Best In Quality, Prices & Service



Over 450 primary school students in Toledo receive new school furniture



Belmopan City, Wednesday, January 16, 2013 –Over 300 students and 17 teachers of the San Luis Rey RC School in San Antonio Village, Toledo and over 100 students of the PG Methodist School in Punta Gorda Town are the proud recipients of new school furniture. In October 2012, the **BELIZE Natural Energy Charitable Trust approved a total of \$35,921 to cover the manufacturing cost of 489 pieces of new furniture for over 472 students and 28 teachers of two schools in the Toledo District.** The students of these two schools will now have furniture that is safe to sit in, enabling an environment that is more conducive to learning. The locally made furniture were completed over a five week period and in time for the start of the new term. These two projects are two of fourteen projects selected from among a total of 135 applications received in response the Trust's call for proposals to the 2012/2013 project cycle. The Trust also approved two other grants to partners in Toledo. These two grants will be inaugurated in Toledo in the next few weeks and include a grant to the Forest Home Village Council to upgrade the Forest Home Park and a grant to the Corazon Creek Technical High School to electrify the High School through Solar Energy.

Since the Trust was established in 2008, a total of \$487,917.69 has been invested in projects and programs to support advancement of education and improvement in the social environment in Toledo. These grant investments and partners include the New Covenant Trade Center for the renovation of the roof for the Center, the Punta Gorda Town Council for the Hopeville Neighborhood Park and shipping cost for mobilizing the two garbage trucks for the Council and over \$200,000 invested in the Toledo Teachers Credit Unit to facilitate student loans as part of the Trust's Student Loan Program. The Trust takes this opportunity to applaud the students, principals, teachers and staff of these two educational institutions for their dedication and commitment to continuously improve the learning environment at their school.

The Belize Natural Energy Charitable Trust (BNECT) is a partnership between the Government of Belize and Belize Natural Energy Limited, established by Deed of Trust dated February 25th 2008. The Trust was established to make a difference in the lives of Belizeans and thus seeks to empower people and communities to thrive in a harmonious, socially and environmentally responsible manner so that they can be the conscious architects of their own future. The Trusts mission is to serve as a catalyst for people and communities to believe in themselves so they can achieve their full potential. Opportunities for development are provided through grants for educational-related projects, capacity building programs and initiatives that support the social environment. For more information on the BNECT, visit www.bnetrust.org



A PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN
THE GOVERNMENT OF BELIZE & BELIZE NATURAL ENERGY LTD.
WWW.BNETRUST.ORG



Guatemala Shock As Two Murdered Girls Found On Street

GUATEMALA CITY, Thursday, January 17, 2012:

Guatemalan police are investigating the murder of two girls aged six and 12 whose bodies were found dumped on a street in the capital, Guatemala City.

The girls, who were wearing pyjamas, appeared to have been strangled, officials said.

Police are trying to establish whether their deaths are linked to the murders of two women found with gunshot wounds in the same district.

Some 700 women were killed in Guatemala in 2011, according to official figures.

The bodies of the two girls were found in the early hours of Wednesday on a street in Zona 11, a southern district of Guatemala City.

Two murdered women, thought to be aged between 20 and 35, were discovered in the same neighbourhood. One had been shot in the face.



Residents Lighting Candles For The Slain Young Girls

It is not clear whether they were victims of domestic violence or murdered by criminal gangs.

"Guatemala awoke in mourning," women's rights group Survivors' Foundation said in a statement. *"We demand these crimes be solved."*

'Culture of impunity'

Two other women were killed

overnight in the town of La Union, in eastern Zacapa province.

They were shot dead outside a school, the authorities said.

Legislation against domestic violence was introduced in 2008, but campaign groups say very few are held to account for these crimes.

President **Otto Perez Molina**, who took office a year ago, has

launched a campaign to curb domestic violence.

In his state-of-the-nation address on Monday, he hailed Guatemala's *"historic decline in violence"* in 2012.

Murders were down by some 10%, he said.

According to government figures, there were 5,174 violent deaths in Guatemala last year.

In recent years, Guatemala has had one of the highest per capita murder rates in the world, according to the United Nations: 40 homicides per 100,000 inhabitants in 2010.

The country has struggled to cope with an increase of violence generated by drug gangs operating throughout Central America, such as the Zetas from neighbouring Mexico.

From 1960 to 1996, Guatemala was engulfed in civil war between left-wing guerrillas and the government. Rape was widely used as a weapon of war to intimidate opponents.

AMS

Art's Mobile Service

#54 George Price Avenue

Santa Elena, Cayo

Tel: 804-2659 - 630-3019

*Welding

*Repair

*Fabrication

We AMS To Please

CAYO RENTALS

TEL: 824-2222

We are the #1 supplier for the rental of ALL the chairs, tables and Tents you need for any occasion. We offer the BEST prices in town!!!

We Are Located at The San Ignacio UNO Service Station on Beque Viejo Road in San Ignacio

Public Utilities Commission

Public Notice

The Public Utilities Commission (PUC) hereby notifies the public that, pursuant to Section 33(2) of the of the ELECTPICITY (TARIFFS, FEES AND CHARGES) BYELAWS, on January 11, 2013, it made an Order titled **Amendment to 2012 Annual Review Proceeding (ARP) Final Decision for Belize Electricity Limited (BEL)**.

BEL made a submission for amendments to 2012 ARP Final Decision on December 10, 2012, for increases in the Mean Electricity Rate (MER) and previously approved tariffs due to unexpected increases in the cost of power.

The **Amendment to 2012 Annual Review Proceeding (ARP) Final Decision for Belize Electricity Limited (BEL)** provides for an approximate average increase of 16.87% to the Mean Electricity Rate (MER) and previously approved tariffs, to be applied during the period January 1 to June 30, 2013. This represents an increase in the Mean Electricity Rate (MER) from 41.810¢ to 48.86¢.

The **Amendment to 2012 Annual Review Proceeding (ARP) Final Decision for Belize Electricity Limited (BEL)** maybe viewed in its entirety at the offices of the Public Utilities Commission at 41 Gabourel Lane, Belize City, or on its Website at www.puc.bz.

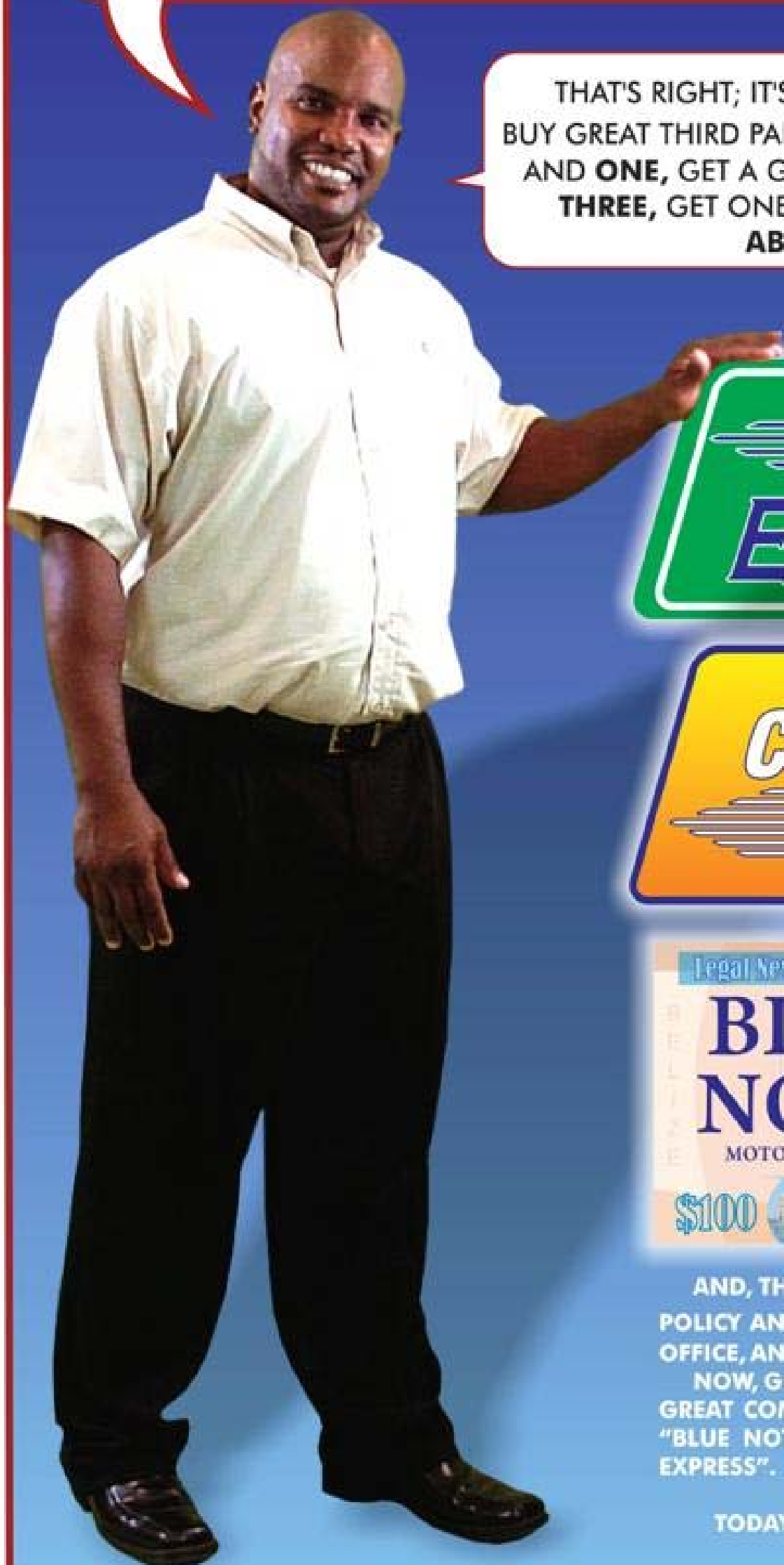
Summary of Amendments to the 2012 ARP Final Decision

Approved Mean Electricity Rate — January to June, 2013: 48.86¢

Customer Class	Service Type/ Consumption Block	Rate/Tariff \$/Mth; \$/KVA; \$/KWhr
Social	0 - 60 KWhrs Minimum Charge	0.29 5.00
Residential	0 - 50 Whrs 51 - 200 KWhrs > 200 KWhrs Minimum Charge	0.39 0.49 0.52 6.00
Commercial 1	0 - 50 Whrs 51 - 200 KWhrs > 200 KWhrs Minimum Charge	0.39 0.49 0.52 6.00
Commercial 2	Service Charge 0 - 10,000 KWhrs 10,001 - 20,000 KWhrs > 20,000 KWhrs	125.00 0.50 0.49 0.47
Industrial 1	Service Charge Demand (KVA) Energy	125.00 39.00 0.37
Industrial 1	Service Charge Demand (KVA) Energy	125.00 24.00 0.32
Street Lights	Energy	0.55

WOW! RF&G HAS BIG NEWS FOR YOU ...

GET AN EXTRA WEEK OF INSURANCE ABSOLUTELY **FREE** WHEN YOU BUY A
"BLUE NOTE", "TAXI EXPRESS" OR "COMMERCIAL EXPRESS"
3 MONTH MOTOR INSURANCE POLICY FROM RF&G.



THAT'S RIGHT; IT'S AS EASY AS ONE-TWO-THREE!
BUY GREAT THIRD PARTY ACT INSURANCE FROM **RF&G**
AND **ONE**, GET A GREAT PRICE, **TWO**, BE LEGAL AND
THREE, GET ONE EXTRA WEEK OF COVERAGE...
ABSOLUTELY FREE!



AND, THE BEST THING IS THAT YOU CAN GET YOUR
POLICY AND A FREE EXTRA WEEK FROM ANY **RF&G**
OFFICE, ANYWHERE IN BELIZE.

NOW, GREAT THIRD PARTY ACT INSURANCE FROM A
GREAT COMPANY IS AVAILABLE FOR EVERY VEHICLE.
"BLUE NOTE", "TAXI EXPRESS" AND "COMMERCIAL
EXPRESS".

TODAY, MOTOR INSURANCE IS AS EASY AS...

For more information contact an
RF&G agent in your area.

 **RF&G**
INSURANCE
"It Pays to Get It Right"

★ STAR HUMOR ★

Life At Work

A young computer technician and his boss board a train headed through the mountains. They can find no place to sit except for two seats right across the aisle from a beautiful young woman and her grandmother.

After a while, it is obvious that the young woman and the young tech are interested in each because they are giving each other "looks." Soon the train passes into a tunnel and it is pitch black. There is a sound of the smack of a kiss followed by the sound of the smack of a slap. When the train emerges from the tunnel, the four sit there without saying a word.

The grandmother is thinking to herself: *"It was very brash for*

that young man to kiss my granddaughter, but I'm glad she slapped him." The boss is setting there thinking: *"I didn't know the young tech was brave enough to kiss the girl, but I sure wish she hadn't missed him when she slapped and hit me!"* The young woman was sitting and thinking: *"I'm glad the guy kissed me, but I wish my grandmother hadn't slapped him!"*

The young tech sat there with a satisfied smile on his face. He thought to himself: *"Life at work is good. How often does a guy have the chance to kiss a beautiful girl and slap his boss all at the same time!"*

Marriage & Hobbies

Mark decided to tie the knot with his long time girlfriend.

One evening, after the honeymoon, he was assembling some bullets for an upcoming hunt.

His wife was standing there at the bench watching him. After a long period of silence she finally spoke.

"Honey, I've been thinking, now that we are married I think it's time you quit hunting, shooting, hand-loading, golfing, and

fishing. And maybe you should sell your guns, boat & airplane as well."

Mark got a horrified look on his face.

She says, *"Darling, what's wrong?"*

"There for a minute you were sounding like my ex-wife."

"Ex wife!", she screams, *"I didn't know you were married before!"*

"I wasn't."

STERLINGS \$ MEATS D-BEST

Ask About The Affordable Apartments We Offer For Rent



Offering BEST QUALITY Meats in the West:

- *T-Bone Steak
- *Round Steak *Sirloin
- *Pork Chops *Pork Steak
- *Pork Ribs
- *Grind Meat
- *Soup Meat and more.

We are located Western Highway, Santa Elena just across from the Ministry Of Works Compound.
Contact Ismael Sansores at : 601-6025



54 Burns Avenue, San Ignacio, Cayo istrict, Belize C.A

"Your One Stop Construction & Home Improvement Shop"

Phone: 824-2572/3494 - Fax: 8243240

E-mail: westernhardware@hotmail.com

Western Hardware has all your Plumbing, Electrical & Construction supplies under one roof at reasonable prices.

Ask for what you do not see, we can find those hard to get items. Why travel out of town to buy your supplies when Western Hardware can satisfy all your

Plumbing, Electircal & Construction Needs.

Now offering Professional Building Maintenance Services

New Tires 4 SALE



We are your best choice for Plumbing & Electrical Building Maintenance Services.

Visit us today!!!!

Taxi Operators Buying Tires Will be Offered A Special Discounted Rate

HODE'S PLACE

Hode's Place, where Taste, Quality and Comfort makes the difference!!

Open Daily from 10:00 am



Bar

Grill

Welcome to the Hode's Place the Restaurant in San Ignacio Cayo that prides itself on the quality of its food and the attentiveness of its staff. At Hodes you will experience fresh local Belizean, sea-food and other tantalizing dishes.

We Are Located In The Savannah Area of San Ignacio Town in the Cayo District. We Cater For Large & Small Groups as Well as for private functions, parties and meetings. For more Information and for deliveries within town limits, please call us at: 804-2522

Thank You For Your Support

Contributed by:

**Vilma Stewart
President, KNWA**

I would like to start by saying thank you for promoting the Kontiki Family Fun Day and apologies for the tardiness of this letter. The reason for this tardiness is because in an effort to sell a few more raffle tickets we postponed the raffling date for November 30th, 2012.

The purpose of this article is to thank all the kind and generous hearts who gave freely, thank you to all the people of Kontiki and surrounding areas who attended the event and all those who contributed to make this day a success. We want to thank our sponsors and would also appreciate

if their names can be included:

Mr. Ainsley Leslie, Mayor John August, Bowen and Bowen Ltd., Cayo Steel Works, Windy Hill Resort, San Ignacio Hotel, Mr. Joseph Mahmud, Venus Photos & Records, Cayo Rentals, Ms. Melody Frutos, Mr. Villanueva, Mr. Lenny, Mr. and Mrs. Reyes, Mr. and Mrs. Robinson, Mr. Freddy Lopez, Mr. and Mrs. Uck, Mr. and Mrs. Marin, Mr. and Mrs Jones, Ms. Layla Foster, Oye F.M., Maximus Radio, Mr. Lobos and his football team and all the numerous donors of used clothing, stuffed toys, books and last but not least, all those people who cooked, sold and organized the event.

STAR Newspaper

Publisher: **Nyani K. August**
Editor: **Albert Nigel August**
#42 George Price Highway,
Santa Elena, Cayo, Belize, CA
Tel: 6268822 - 6268841

Visit Us On Line @ belizenews.com/thestar

belizenorth.com/TheStar.htm

www.guidetobelize.info/star

MONEY LENDERS APPLICATION

Notice for the publication in newspaper of application for a moneylender's certificate

I, **NADYA J. NAL**, hereby give notice that I have applied to the Magistrate Court, at one of its sittings in San Ignacio Town during the month of January 2013, for a certificate to be granted to me under the Moneylenders Act, Chapter 260 to authorise me to carry on business as a moneylender in the name of **Cash Genie Quick Loans, Located at # 1 George Price Avenue, Santa Elena Town, Cayo.**

(20 January 2013 - 2nd publication)

Notice is hereby given that under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Chapter 150 of the Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2000, that **GINA TILLET** is applying for the renewal of a **BAR LIQUOR LICENSE** for the year 2013 to operate **Caribeña** located at 25 Bullet Tree Road, San Ignacio Town in the Cayo District.

Notice is hereby given that under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Chapter 150 of the Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2000, that **SERJIO CHUC** is applying for the renewal of a **PUBLICAN SPECIAL LIQUOR LICENSE** for the year 2013 to operate **The Spot Bar** located on Bullet Tree Road, San Ignacio Town in the Cayo District.

Notice is hereby given that under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Chapter 150 of the Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2000, that **HUIMING TAN** is applying for the renewal of a **CONVENIENCE STORE LIQUOR LICENSE** for the year 2013 to operate **JERRY'S STORE** located on the Benque Veijo Road, San Ignacio Town in the Cayo District.

Notice is hereby given that under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Chapter 150 of the Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2000, that **THEO COCCHI** is applying for the renewal of a **MALT LIQUOR LICENSE** for the year 2013 to operate **Parrot's Nest Lodge** located in Bullet Tree Village in the Cayo District.

Notice is hereby given that under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Chapter 150 of the Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2000, that **BING HUI ZHU** is applying for the renewal of a **CONVENIENCE STORE LIQUOR LICENSE** for the year 2013 to operate **New Yang Supermarket** located Bella Vista Street, San Ignacio Town in the Cayo District.

Notice is hereby given that under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Chapter 150 of the Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2000, that **ALLAN SPRING** is applying for the renewal of a **RESTAURANT LIQUOR LICENSE** for the year 2013 to operate **Table Rock Jungle Lodge** located in Cristo Rey Village in the Cayo District.

Notice is hereby given that under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Chapter 150 of the Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2000, that **XUDONG DENG** is applying for the renewal of a **BEER LIQUOR LICENSE** for the year 2013 to operate **Highway Restaurant** located on the George Price Highway, Santa Elena Town in the Cayo District.

LIQUOR LICENSE NOTICES

Notice is hereby given that under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Chapter 150 of the Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2000, that **LEWIS MENDOZA** is applying for the renewal of a **MALT & CIDER LIQUOR LICENSE** for the year 2013 to operate **Abby's Fast Food** located in Unitedville Village in the Cayo District.

Notice is hereby given that under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Chapter 150 of the Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2000, that **RUBY SABALA** is applying for the renewal of a **MALT & CIDER LIQUOR LICENSE** for the year 2013 to operate **Campari Bar** located on the George Price Highway, Santa Elena Town in the Cayo District.

Notice is hereby given that under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Chapter 150 of the Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2000, that **EMELU SANCHEZ** is applying for the renewal of a **PUBLICAN SPECIAL LIQUOR LICENSE** for the year 2013 to operate **Xunan Bar** located in San Jose Succotz Village in the Cayo District.

STAR Newspaper

"The Newspaper that cares and dares to bring out the truth"

#42 George Price Highway,
Santa Elena, Cayo,
Belize, CA

Publisher:

Nyani K. August

Editor:

Albert Nigel August

Visit Us On Line

@

belizenews.com/thestar
belizenorth.com/TheStar.htm
www.guidetobelize.info/star

Office Tel: 804-4900

Cell: 626-8822

and 626-8841

starnewspaper@gmail.com

albert.starnewspaper@gmail.com

VENUS Photos & Records

Passport and
Drivers License
Photos

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



We carry a large assortment of **TOYS** for Boys & Girls at the best prices in town.

Visit us today for ladies & gents watches in brand names such as Casio, Guess, Seiko, etc.. Other gift items includes fashion jewelry, games & games accessories.

We offer the best & latest in music CD & DVD Movies

Our sales assistants are always ready and willing to help.



Jose Orellano

Mile 65 on the George Price Highway
Esperanza Village, Cayo, Belize C.A.
Tel: 824 - 0484 / 667 - 7624
US Tel: 254-709-7864

Email: joseorellano004@gmail.com
Web: www.travisforwarding.com

Freight Services from the USA to Belize



Lubricants Tools Dry Goods Cosmetics



Specials!
Weed Eaters
\$150

Detergents Dog Food



**All Boxes Of
Cereals only \$20**

Mile 65 Western Highway Esperanza Village,
Cayo District
Tel: 824-0484 / 667-8685 / 667-7624 / 661-9557



Kitchen Supplies, Gardening Tool,
Lawn Mowers, Dining set, car
accessories, truck & car batteries,
clothing, bed sheets, computer
printers and so much more



LOCAL KNOWLEDGE INTERNATIONAL CONSCIOUSNESS

PROPERTIES@CEIBAREALTYBELIZE.COM

WWW.CEIBAREALESTATEBELIZE.COM

FEATURING BEAUTIFUL PROPERTIES
ALONG THE SHORES OF THE
CARIBBEAN SEA TO PRISTINE
JUNGLE HIDEAWAYS IN THE
MAYA MOUNTAINS.

***We have this and so much more
at a price you can afford!***

161 WESTERN HIGHWAY, SANTA ELENA, CAYO, BELIZE
PHONE: 001. 501. 824. 4050 | CELL: 001. 501. 610. 4458 | US FAX: 1. 831. 854. 5983

Early HIV Drugs 'Slow Virus Down'

By James Gallagher
Health and science reporter, BBC News

Giving a patient HIV drugs as soon as they are diagnosed could be the future of treatment, say researchers.

Currently, antiretroviral therapy is given only once the immune system has been seriously weakened by infection.

A trial, in the New England Journal of Medicine, showed that a year-long course of therapy after diagnosis helped preserve the immune system and keep the virus in check.

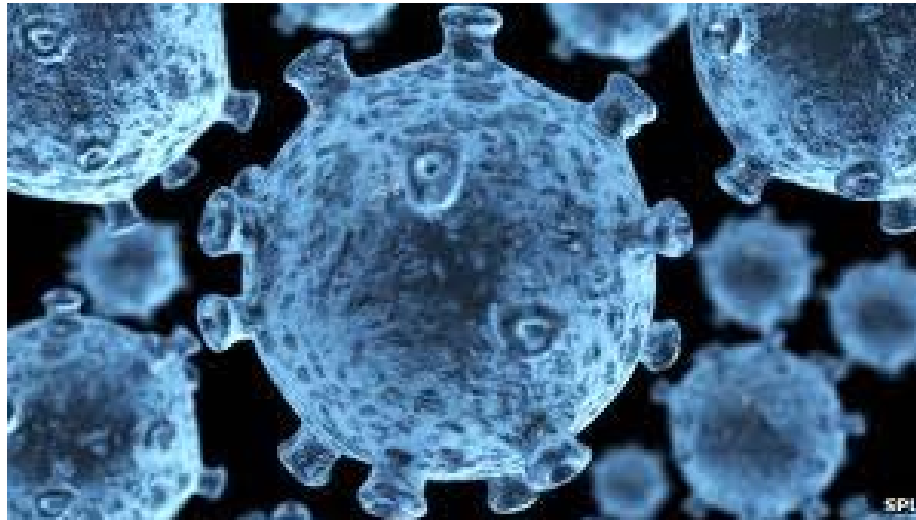
It is thought that early treatment may also reduce the spread of HIV.

The virus is no longer a death sentence for patients who get the best care and drugs. Treatment is given once their CD4 T-cell count, a part of the immune system, falls below 350 cells per cubic millimetre of blood.

However, there has been some speculation that starting as soon as a patient is diagnosed may be more beneficial.

The Spartac study, which involved 366 patients from eight countries around the world, tested the theory.

Some patients were given 12 weeks of drugs after being diagnosed, another group had drugs for 48 weeks



The human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) Attacks The Immune System

after diagnosis and a third group were given no drugs until they reached the 350 level.

Prof **Jonathan Weber**, from Imperial College London, said those on the 48-week regime *"end up with much higher CD4 cell count and a much lower viral load"*.

"Also, the benefit persists after you've stopped treatment," he added.

Who pays?

Keeping a strong immune system is important for preventing other *"opportunistic"* infections, such as tuberculosis, taking hold.

Prof Weber acknowledged that cost was a **"massive question"** that

would represent **"a real problem"** in poorer parts of the world.

However, in richer countries it would mean **"only a few extra years"** on a lifetime of medication.

Dr **Sarah Fidler**, also from Imperial, pointed to the benefit of keeping levels of the virus low.

"This could be very important for helping reduce the risk of passing on the virus to a sexual partner," she said.

Dr **Jimmy Whitworth**, from the Wellcome Trust, which funded the study, said: "This study adds to increasing evidence that early initiation of HIV treatment is of benefit to the individual in preventing

severe disease and in reducing infectiousness to his or her partners.

"Questions remain about whether a longer course at an early stage could be more beneficial or whether early treatment should be continued for life."

However, one of the biggest problems remains identifying people who have been infected. In the UK, one in four people with HIV are thought to be completely unaware they have the infection.

WHAT!
You don't have a BlackBerry?

OMG! No Way!


BlackBerry App World™
Facebook
Messages
Twitter
Browser

Join the **Digicell** Family and get your BlackBerry® Service for only **\$65 monthly**

Ask about billing BlackBerry PrePaid service to your account.
- Some Conditions Apply - Available to Digicell Premier Customers - Sign up at any Digicell office countrywide

LIVE the journey!

BlackBerry. Digicell



KARL HEUSNER MEMORIAL HOSPITAL


PUBLIC NOTICE

**The National Spine Program
in collaboration with
Karl Heusner Memorial Hospital
will be conducting a Pre-screening Clinic
for persons with major spinal problems who may benefit from surgery**

Condition includes:

1. Severe Scoliosis (abnormal curvature of the spine)
2. Spinal Stenosis (progressive weakening and pain of arms and legs due to narrowing of the spine)
3. Spinal instability (need for implants to be placed to stabilize the spine and minimize pain)

TIME: 8:00 AM – 12:00 NOON
DATE: MONDAY, 28th JANUARY, 2013
PLACE: KARL HEUSNER MEMORIAL HOSPITAL
COST: \$15.00
CONTACT PERSON: 501-620-5739 (Dr. Joel Cervantes) or
Email: neurosurgical_spinalservices@yahoo.com



“Karl Heusner Memorial Hospital...On the cutting edge of ADVANCED tertiary Care”

New Belize High Commissioner to Canada Meets Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper

His Excellency **Nestor Mendez**, Ambassador of Belize to the United States of America and Permanent Representative of Belize to the Organization of American States, yesterday presented his Letter of Introduction to the Right Honorable **Stephen Harper**, Prime Minister of Canada, accrediting him as Belize's High Commissioner to Canada.

The meeting took place in the Office of the Prime Minister in Ottawa, Canada, where High Commissioner Mendez discussed with the Canadian leader issues of prominence in the Belize -Canada bilateral relationship.

During his visit to Canada, High Commissioner Mendez also met and had discussions with senior officials of the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, officials of the Department of National Defense, and



**His Excellency
Nestor Mendez**

representatives of the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA).

The discussions touched on issues pertaining to the cooperation between

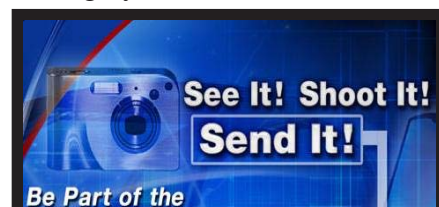


**Canadian Prime Minister
Stephen Harper**

Canada and Belize, Canada's support for the ongoing process between Belize and Guatemala, Canada's ongoing support in the fight against transnational organized crime, violence

and drug-trafficking, as well as security related challenges in the region.

Throughout the visit to Canada, High Commissioner Mendez was accompanied by Mr. **Bob Dhillon**, Honorary Consul General of Belize in Calgary, Canada.



**STAR NEWSPAPER
TEAM!**

starnewspaper@gmail.com

Tel: 626 -8841 or 626-8822

**Send us your;
Articles
Ads
Press Release
Humor
Photos**

**“When your
life flashes
before your
eyes, make
sure you’ve
got plenty to
watch.”**



24 Crenshaw St. San Ignacio
Tel: 824 -2730



**Happy New Year to all
our friends & Customers**

**The Home Of
MARGARITAS
SPECIALS**

Mexican and Belizean Menu

Monday:

Draft Beer \$3.00

Tuesday:

Local Rum \$3.00

Wednesday:

Panty Ripper \$3.95

Mondays to Fridays:

Regular Margaritas: \$6.95

Straberry Margaritas: \$7.95

Blue Margaritas: \$8.95

**Visit us for breakfast on
Sundays!!!**



Belize Water Services Limited

Corporate Communication Office

7 Central American Boulevard, PO Box 150,

Belize City, Belize. Tel: +501-222-4757

Website: www.bws.bz

Contact: corporate.communications@bws.com.bz

PRESS RELEASE

Water Rates to remain unchanged

BWS requests no Annual Review Proceeding (ARP)

January 9, 2013

Belize Water Services Limited (BWS) has informed the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) that the company is not requesting an Annual Review at this time, which dependent on the PUC's concurrence, will result in no change to the current water rates.

BWS is cognizant of the constantly increasing cost of living to the public and the important social impact of the essential services that the company provides. Given the recently announced almost 17% increase in electricity rates, BWS recognizes that an increase in water rates, although necessary for the continued sustainability of the company, would create an added financial burden to consumers. After consultation with the Government, which has now committed further financial support to the company, BWS is seeking the PUC's approval for the current rates to remain unchanged by way of the postponement of the Annual Tariff Review Proceeding.

The Government has committed to assist BWS with the following:

1. Government and Municipal Infrastructure projects requiring significant asset replacement and repair works
2. Expansion in furtherance of the Millennium Development Goals for water and sewerage expansion countrywide
3. Special water and/or sewer expansion projects for the Belize River Valley, Ambergris Caye and Placencia Peninsula.

While BWS is committed to keep rates as affordable as possible to consumers, the need may arise to request a rate review in the future to ensure financial viability and in order to maintain the world-class level of service the company provides, as well as to continue to expand services to reach everyone in its ever expanding service areas.

BWS – Delivering Water and More ...

For more information regarding this or any other BWS Release, please contact:

Corporate Communications at Tel: 222-4757 Ext. 317 or 281

or via e-mail at corporate.communications@bws.com.bz

Venezuela Vice President Faces Leadership Test

As ailing President Hugo Chavez's successor, Vice President Nicolas Maduro is in charge. But he faces hurdles in solidifying support in a post-Chavez Venezuela.



Supporters gather in Caracas, Venezuela's capital, in tribute to their cancer-stricken president, Hugo Chavez, who is in Cuba recovering from surgery. The president's inauguration was to have been Thursday. (Leo Ramirez / AFP/Getty Images / January 10, 2013)

By Chris Kraul and Mery Mogollon, Los Angeles Times
CARACAS, Venezuela — Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez has kiddingly called Nicolas Maduro "the bus driver" in reference to his former role as a union leader and mocked his voracious consumption of submarine sandwiches.

But the cancer-stricken Chavez, flush from his resounding reelection victory last year, clearly thought highly of Maduro, naming him vice president in October.

Now, with Chavez recovering from surgery in Cuba, Maduro in effect must be taken seriously as the president's anointed successor.

Thursday was to have been Chavez's inauguration day, the beginning of his fourth term. Instead, it was a coming-out of sorts for Maduro, 50, who finds himself at least temporarily in charge of this nation of 29 million people.

Tens of thousands of red-shirted Chavez supporters gathered in downtown Caracas for a "non-inauguration" ceremony and heard from the vice president.

"Last night I couldn't sleep. From 3 or 4 in the morning until daybreak," Maduro told the crowd, saying one word kept echoing. "Chavez. Chavez. Chavez."

A succession of foreign leaders, including Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega and Bolivian President Evo Morales, paid homage to Chavez — and pledged support for Maduro.

Maduro's position as vice president

was confirmed in a Supreme Court ruling Wednesday amid the constitutional uncertainty caused by Chavez's extended absence in Cuba, where on Dec. 11 the president underwent his fourth surgery for cancer. The National Assembly has granted Chavez an unlimited medical leave.

Maduro has risen steadily through the ranks. The former congressman and National Assembly president is both foreign minister and vice president, as well as Chavez's designated successor, and in charge of the government at least until the president recovers, resigns or dies.

Maduro, a follower of Indian mystic Sai Baba, has an agreeable personality that has served him well as foreign minister. He has earned a reputation for being open and pragmatic, and helped repair relations with Colombia after the Venezuelan military briefly mobilized border forces during one 2008 dispute.

In November, U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Roberta Jacobson contacted Maduro about the Obama administration's willingness to reopen relations with Venezuela and received a receptive hearing, according to U.S. government sources.

Maduro and his longtime partner, Atty. Gen. Cilia Flores, who helped spring Chavez from prison after he unsuccessfully led a 1992 coup attempt, make a prominent power couple.

But Maduro is also a committed socialist who shares Chavez's

reverence for the Cuban revolution and its role in Latin American social and political history.

For now, analysts see Chavez supporters falling in behind Maduro in unity and sympathy with their stricken leader and because, in the words of analyst Manuel Sierra, the party has every incentive to stick together. "Things are going so well for the Bolivarian Revolution," Sierra said.

But challenges lie ahead. Economists say debt-laden Venezuela must devalue its currency and cut federal spending that Chavez jacked up to win votes in October. That could cause friction with the impoverished support base accustomed to heavy government subsidies.

Then there are the May mayoral elections in which Maduro will have to decide whether to continue Chavez's practice of choosing local candidates from "the top down,"

something that chafed local Chavistas no end, said Webster University political scientist Dan Hellinger.

Maduro may also find it difficult to sustain Venezuela's support for Cuba, which in free oil and commissions could amount to \$6 billion a year, according to some analysts.

Retired brigadier general and analyst Francisco Uson said Maduro's pro-Cuba stance will be weakened by his "lack of standing" with Venezuela's military, which he described as the "wild card" in any post-Chavez government.

"Cuba's interference in Venezuela's affairs doesn't sit well with the armed forces, and only Chavez with his immense power and prestige could make it tolerable," Uson said. "So I am pessimistic that Maduro, if he continues with the current policy, can maintain himself."

Maduro's chief opponent for power will be Chavez's former army colleague and now National Assembly President Diosdado Cabello, who because of his strong military connections, will be the "strong man" in Chavez's absence, Uson said.

Hellinger, however, believes Maduro's close identification with social welfare programs called Missions and Chavez's "project to create a communal state" will win him the grass-roots support he needs to keep the reins of power.

Another test that Maduro will face if Chavez dies or resigns is a presidential run against an opposition candidate, most likely Henrique Capriles, who lost to Chavez by a wide margin in October, but who may fare better against either Maduro or Cabello, some pollsters say.

Central University of Venezuela professor Luis Lander said Maduro has yet to prove himself. "How will people react when Chavez is not there to lead? It's impossible to say. Up to now, Chavismo has been all Chavez."

Clean Master

We Specialize In:

Car Detailing
 Carpet & Upholstery Cleaning
 Car Polishing
 Wash, Vacuum, Armorall & Engine Wash

Our Home Services Include:

Tile Cleaning & Polishing
 Sofa Cleaning

As Well As Pressure Washing Outside of Houses

We are located off Joseph Andrews Drive, near the Falcon Field in San Ignacio Town. Call us at 824-2076 or 610-0408.

E-mail: cleanmasterbz@yahoo.com



Lance Armstrong: How It Feels To Lose Faith In Your Favourite Sport

A Fan's Lament: By Catherine Wynne

Bitter, angry, disappointed, but hopeful. As a lifelong cycling fan, that's how I feel after Lance Armstrong's confession - and now that, maybe, a line can be drawn under years of lies and deceit.

Imagine how you would feel if you discovered that there had been so much cheating at such a high level across the sport you love, that a decade's worth of results could no longer be relied upon.

What would you think if the sport could no longer say with any great certainty who had won the Premiership, or the World Cup? That is effectively what has happened in cycling.

And as a dedicated fan, I can tell you that it feels like you have been betrayed. It is as if a good friend that you trusted and shared good times with turned out to be a big fat liar.

It hurts to hear **Lance Armstrong**, who won the sport's biggest race the Tour de France more times than any other rider, confessing that his seven victories between 1999 and 2005 came with the aid of performance enhancing drugs and blood transfusions.

Taking into account those who cheated before and after him, it means that only one rider who won the Tour de France between 1996 and 2010 is now thought to be clean - Spanish rider **Carlos Sastre**, who won in 2008.

The US Anti-Doping Agency report on Lance Armstrong, published in October last year, left little room for



doubt. He had been a "serial cheat", it said, perpetrating a "massive fraud".

But now we have it in his own words. Ending years of vehement denials, he told **Oprah Winfrey** that it had all been "one big lie".

This was a man who had helped make cycling a global sport, rather than a primarily continental European one.

And it was during the Armstrong era that I first travelled to France to watch the Tour.

Friends were often bemused about why I would bother to make the effort and spend all that time at the roadside only to have a group of men on bikes ride by in a flash.

A bike race is a complex and exciting mix of strategy and strength. It is on the mountain stages where the three-week races are won and lost. As a spectator they are also the most rewarding as you get closest to the riders and can enjoy stunning scenery while you wait.

People pick their spots hours - and

even days - before the race is due to arrive, setting out their picnics by the side of the road. In those pre-Twitter days, fans would gather around pocket radios, sharing news of attacks or crashes further down the road, and discussing teams' tactics. As anyone who goes to watch a match, a game or a race will know, there is a special atmosphere when like-minded people get together for a big event.

A stage of the Tour lasts all day, with the sense of excitement and anticipation building until the sound of helicopters signals the imminent arrival of the noisy, travelling beast that is a professional bike race. Then for an all-too-brief moment, you are part of it, urging the riders on. And it is thrilling.

In 2001 I saw Armstrong attack his now also disgraced main challenger, **Jan Ullrich**, on the slopes of Alpe d'Huez, one of the most famous and toughest climbs in the race.

His successful move, and the way he nonchalantly looked back at former winner Ullrich as he rode away, became one of the Texan's most famous moments, dubbed "the look".

Armstrong's dominance in the long, hot arduous Alpine stages that year, earned him the headline L'Homme de Fer - Iron Man. I still have a framed copy of that front page, although it is no longer on the wall.

When last year's Usada report said his victories in those years were based on "the most sophisticated, professionalised and successful doping program the sport has ever seen", I felt like a fool.

I cancelled my Eurosport subscription - just two months after the immense pride I had felt as a cycling fan, when **Bradley Wiggins** became the first British winner of the Tour.

However, it was not what the Usada report revealed about Armstrong that I found most worrying. A cloud had hung over him and his achievements for years, so when it was finally officially confirmed it was hardly a shock.

What has rocked my faith in the sport I had travelled across Europe to see a dozen times over the years, was the US Anti-Doping Agency's

comments on how widespread cheating had been.

The Usada report talked about the "culture of silence" about drug use that had existed not only within Armstrong's team, but across the sport as a whole.

It even called for a Truth and Reconciliation Committee, where cyclists could come forward and admit the extent of their doping. This "may be the only way to truly dismantle the remaining system that allowed this 'EPO and Blood Doping Era' to flourish," the US anti-drugs authority said.

What added to the sense of humiliation was the suggestion that, of course, "everyone knew" that cycling was riddled with cheats.

It was true that individual riders had failed tests and were chucked out with regrettable regularity, but these were isolated cases, surely. Denial? Maybe. But unless you think that what you are watching is believable, there is no joy in it and you may as well give up. It comes down to a matter of faith and trust.

There is still more to do. And it is this is where the regulators come in. Rabobank, the Dutch company who had sponsored a cycling team for 17 years, pulled out of the sport after the Usada report.

"Enough is enough", it said. "We are no longer convinced that the international professional world of cycling can make this a clean and fair sport."

"And we are not confident that cycling will improve in the medium term."

Now that Armstrong's confessional session with **Oprah Winfrey** is over, the focus must shift from what the cyclists did to the regulators, whose job it was to stop it happening, through rigorous testing and controls.

He told Oprah he didn't think it was possible to win the Tour clean and that he didn't fear getting caught. That is not good enough.

There are some reasons for optimism, though.

I believe that the success of **Bradley Wiggins** and Team Sky in the past year shows that a rider can now win a three-week race clean, or "on bread and water" as the professionals call it.

Also, former dopers such as rider David Millar and Armstrong's former teammate Jonathan Vaughters, who now runs his own professional team, are working to change the culture which led them all to think they had no choice but to cheat to stand a chance.

But only when we know more about the role of the governing body, the International Cycling Union, in the deception that now characterises the Armstrong years, can we have complete faith in the sport.

IF YOU'RE HAPPY
and you know it!

BTL's HighSpeedInternet
SERVICES

Customers get

DOUBLED INTERNET SPEEDS AT SUPER AFFORDABLE PRICES.

128Kbps was \$49 NOW \$25 49%	256Kbps was \$100 NOW \$56 44%	512Kbps was \$179 NOW \$88 51%	1Mbps was \$380 NOW \$140 53%	2Mbps was \$580 NOW \$240 52%	4Mbps was \$850 NOW \$390 54%	NEW 8Mbps \$700	Modem Rental was \$30 NOW \$10!
---	--	--	---	---	---	-------------------------------------	---

Sign up today & enjoy the internet!

*Note that speeds are subject to availability in your area. *Customers with EVDO service will not receive double the speeds.

0-800-CALL-BTL **www.belizetelemedia.net**

DigiCell 4G

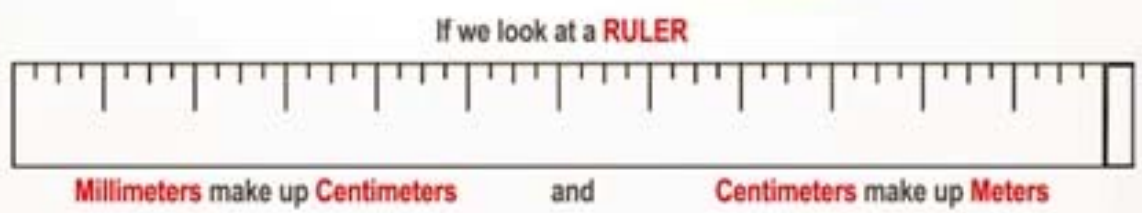
4G Plans and Data Allowances

simplified

The facts:



The example:



You purchase **Gigabytes** in your **DigiCell 4G Plans**

This plan represents 2 sacks, let's see what you can get



Multimedia	Data Allowance	Access Fee
Basic Plan	2 GB	\$49



- 1,000** emails
- 1,000** web pages
- 1,200** social media post
- 4** hours of streaming video
- 15** downloaded apps

- approximately

NOW THAT'S PRETTY AWESOME!

For more information
stop by an office near you or follow us on Facebook