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Sunday, March 24, 2013

nvicted Guatemala

SAN IGNACIO, Cayo, Monday, March 18, 2013:

While San Ignacio police remained tight lipped, as has now become the rule rather than the exception, reliable reports reaching us indicate that a gun charged convicted Guatemalan man disappeared from the cell block in the middle of the evening hours on Monday, March 18, 2013.

The embarrassing incident is being kept hush hush as no one is saying anything not even if any of the cameras in the area of the cell block captured the escape as it unfolded.

Reports are that Walter Leonel Boteo Ralda, 22, Guatemalan male of a Belize Central Prison address in Hattieville where he is spending a five year sentence on a firearm



The Escaped Convict Walter Leonel Boteo Ralda, 22

possession charge, was brought from



Langlois' Licensed Black **Glock Pistol With Serial** Number PEM275

prison on the Monday morning run although he was not slated to appear in court, on other charges, until the following day, Tuesday, March 19,

No one is saying what transpired from the time Ralda was placed inside the holding cell that Monday morning until shortly before the 3:00

pm shift change, when the retiring shift could not hand him over to the incoming shift.

It is therefore left to be seen if anyone will face disciplinary charges for this latest escape from police custody.

The initial arrest of Walter Leonel Boteo Ralda stems from a February 24, 2012 report made by Alian Langlois, a retired Canadian businessman, residing in Santa Elena Town.

Langlois told the police that his house was burglarized and that he suspected Ralda to be the person who broke into his house and stole his black Glock pistol and over ten thousand US dollars in cash.

After evading the police for almost three months, Ralda was spotted on May 15, 2012 as he was strolling down Joseph Andrews Drive in San Ignacio Town. Upon seeing the

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Three Small Weed Trees In Blackman Eddy Village

SAN IGNACIO TOWN, CAYO, Monday, March 18, 2013:

San Ignacio police returned to their base station with three five inch marijuana plants, the product of an early Saturday morning anti-drug operations in Blackman Eddy Village on the George Price Highway.

Police reports that during the early morning hours on Saturday, March 16, whilst on an anti-drug operation, they visited the Blackman Eddy Village home of **Henry Gordon**. Present at the time were Gordon and his common-law-wife. A detailed search of the house produced nothing of an incriminating nature.

The search continued outside the house where, in the yard near an outhouse the police is said to have

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Accused Of Cultivating Weed In Blackman Eddy **Henry Gordon**



Hon. Rene Montero Working For Cayo Central



Photo (L-R) Works and Transport Minister, Hon Rene Montero; Works Supervisor, Ben Rodas

SANTA ELENA TOWN, Cayo, Thursday, March 21, 2013:

Keeping true to his promise to address the needs of his constituency, Minister of Works and Transport, Hon. **Rene Montero** has undertaken the refurbishment of the basketball court in Santa Elena.

Minister Montero informed that this latest project will entail a total transformation of this important sporting facility in Santa Elena.

"The works," explained Minister "encompasses the replacement of the perimeter fence, the filling of the grounds around the court, behind and between the bleachers, the bathrooms and the vending house as well as the construction of a cement walkway linking the court to the nearby Carmen Street"

Minister Montero additionally informed that the facility will get a

complete facelift which includes the painting of the bleacher, bathrooms and other facilities as well as the installation of new bathroom fixtures and new backboards as well as the handing over of a dozen basketballs to teams participating in the inaugural games.

"Providing proper sporting facilities will help to keep our young people out of drugs and crimes" said Minister Montero.

"It is my firm intention of continue working on other sporting facilities within the Cayo Central Constituency so as to afford our young people an alternative to keep out of trouble."

Works supervisor **Ben Rodas** informed apart from being used for basketball games, the facility will also be adapted for us as a volley ball court.



Atlantic Bank Easter Holiday Opening Hours

The public is advised that all Atlantic Bank branches will be opened for normal business hours from 8:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. on Holy Thursday, March 28th, 2013.

Offices will be closed for business from Friday, March 29th to Monday, April 1st, 2013 for the Easter Holidays.

All Atlantic Bank offices will reopen for business at 8:00 a.m. on Tuesday, April 2nd, 2013.



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Another Chopping Incident in Santa Famila Village

SAN IGNACIO, Cayo, Saturday, March 16, 2013:

An arrest is yet to be made in the latest violent machete confrontation in Santa Familia Village, Cayo.

San Ignacio police reports that, responding to a call from the San Ignacio Community Hospital, on Saturday, March 16, 2013 at about 11:15 pm the team of policemen rushed to the emergency ward where they encountered a male patient undergoing emergency medical treatment for chop wounds to the left side of the head as well as to the middle, ring and small finger of the right hand.

Preliminary police investigations revealed that the patient, later

identified as **Kent Rivera**, 22, Belizean labourer of Santa Familia Village, was socializing at a Chinese restaurant in the village when an altercation erupted between the victim and a male Hispanic person who the victim identified as **Cain** "Chino" Quewell.

In a statement to the police, the victim informed that Quewell was the person who chopped him before fleeing the scene and disappearing into the darkness.

As we go to press this Thursday morning, the accused, Cain Quewell, remains at large as the investigation continues. The public's assistance is requested for the apprehension of the accused.

Convicted Guatemalan Man Vanishes

From Front Page

police vehicle, he reportedly ran into 11th Street and then to Guadalupe Street where he was eventually captured.

The bag he was carrying was searched resulting in the discovery of a Glock brand 9mm pistol fitted with an empty magazine. Ralda and the firearm were transported to the police station where the gun was found to be an exact match of Langlois' licensed black Glock pistol with serial number PEM275.

He was formally arrested and charged with keeping an unlicensed firearm.

The following day, he appeared in the San Ignacio courtroom of Magistrate Narda Morgan where he wasted no time in pleading guilty to the charge. He was slapped with an instant 5-year prison sentence

As a new manhunt continues for the escaped convict, San Ignacio police believe that he might have fled across the border and into his home country, Guatemala

Three Small Weed Trees In Blackman Eddy Village

From Front Page

found a plastic vase filled with earth in the middle of which stood a 5 inch suspected marijuana plant.

Further checks around the yard yielded an additional two suspected marijuana plants of similar height. As a result of the find, Gordon and his common-law-wife were detained and transported to the police station in San Ignacio where they were jointly arrested and charge for the offence

of cultivating marijuana.

The couple was arraigned in the San Ignacio Magistrate courtroom of Narda Morgan on Monday, March 18, 2013, where the joint charge of cultivating marijuana was read to them. Pleading not guilty to the charge, bail was offered to the duo in the sum of 2,500 dollars, which they met. They were ordered to re-appear before magistrate Morgan on Tuesday, June 25, 2013.



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Medical Training For San Ignacio Hospital Staff

OCTAVIA WAIGHT CONVENTION HALL, San Ignacio, Cayo, Tuesday, March 19, 2013:

A group of forty members of staff of the San Ignacio Community Hospital today participated in a basic life support training seminar conducted by members of the Belize Emergency Response Team (BERT).

Dr. **Misael Ramirez**, medical chief of staff at the San Ignacio Community Hospital, informed that the one day basic life support training involved the participation of several departments of the hospital including doctors, nurses, pharmacists, lab technicians, drivers, dentists and dental assistants.

The overall goal of the training said Dr, Ramirez, is to ensure that each member of staff can identify and assist the general public with basic life support techniques which may prove invaluable in times of emergency.



San Ignacio Community Hospital Staff Learning CPR

American Heart Association certified trainer and veteran BERT first responder, **Javier Canul**, was the main facilitator of the seminar. He was assisted by **Darryl Spencer** and **Chris Curby.**

Canul informed that the importance of the cardio pulmonary resuscitation (*CPR*) course is to ensure that all medical professionals, working at the San Ignacio Community Hospital, are

trained to international standards on the same level with those working in other districts.

In this classroom-style course, healthcare professionals were instructed on the recognition of several life-threatening emergencies, the administration of CPR to victims of all ages, the use automated external defibrillator (AED), and the relieve of choking conditions in a safe, timely and effective manner.

At the end of the course participants were evaluated based on theoretical and practical skills. Those who met the standards of the American Heart Association were awarded an internationally accredited certificate.

Dr. Ramirez additionally informs that an advance life support training course will be conducted in April solely for nurses and doctors working at the San Ignacio Community Hospital who are the main care providers in the health care system in the community and the only medical professionals who are responsible to carry out such advance and complex life support techniques.

Bullet Tree Family Fun Day

The Bullet Tree Neighbourhood Committee will be having it first family fun day on March 23th 2013 at bullett tree football field.

PC. Jason Jones informs that the "main purpose of this funfilled day is for the bullett tree committee to raise much needed funds

and also to bring the residents of the village together and enjoy a day full of fun for the entire family".

There will be lots to eat and drink. Come and bring the whole family and support the Bullet Tree Neighborhood watch committee.



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Wish all Belizeans

A Safe and Blessed Easter



All of our offices countrywide will closed during the Easter Break as follows:

CLOSED	RE-OPEN
Holy Thursday March	Tuesday April 2 nd , 2013
28th, 2013 at 1:00 p.m.	Belize City: 7:30am
, <u> </u>	All Others: 8:00am
NB: All offices will be	
open through the lunch	
hour	

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Thank You, Palloting Sisters

BY: Hernan Ochaeta,

With very grateful hearts and nostalgic memories, we have begun the celebrations marking the one hundred years of service by the Pallotine Sisters to the people and country of Belize.

It was on June 2, 1921 that the first four Pallotines arrived in San Ignacio, known then as El Cayo. These four German nationals were Sisters Dominica, Radigundis, Sebastiana and Veronica. They had left their families, homes and country to serve us, mainly as teachers in our primary schools of San Ignacio and Santa Elena. Over the years, these four pioneers were joined and succeeded by others, including our own Belizean Pallotines.

Hundreds of us – our sons and daughters, our brothers and sisters, our aunts and uncles, our cousins and friends, our own parents and grandparents – were touched by the positive influence of these committed followers of Vincent Pallotti.

And they knew so much!

They taught the traditional classroom subjects. They taught

vegetable gardening behind the convent. The girls learned sewing and other related skills. The boys learned woodwork and the making of statues and figurines. They encouraged

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the arts – dancing, drawing, painting, singing, acting and public speaking.

And for the majority of students in the 30's, 40's and 50's, the formal academic training received from the Pallotines may have been the only one in their lifetime. But it was exceptional!

In the pre-Hawkesworth Bridge and pontoon days, with the flooded Macal River during the rainy season, those assigned to the Santa Elena School braved the risen waters in wooden dories to comply with their teaching duties.

And with their wise, professional

guidance and strong commitment to education, their equally dedicated classroom aides emerged – Juanita Saldivar, Ruth Ochaeta, Rosalia Awe, Dalila and Hilda Bejos, Marcelina Castillo, Julia Requena, Laures Llinas, Teresita Harrison, Julia Rodriguez, etc.

They and their aides taught in the days and years when teaching was a vocation – not an occupation.

Words are too pale and too poor to thank the Pallotine Sisters adequately for all their work and their sacrifices in the western vineyard of San Ignacio and Santa Elena, as well as our entire Belize.

May God reward them!

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Launch of BRDP II Project, "Making Tourism Benefit unities Adjacent to Archaeological Sites''

The Belize Tourism Board, along with the National Institute of Culture and History, are proud to announce the launch of a European Union s upported Action entitled, "Making Tourism Benefit Communities Adjacent to Archaeological Sites." The launch took place at 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, March 20th, 2013, at the House of Culture in Belize City.

The BTB received a grant from the European Union in November 2012, for BZ\$2.75m for a project with a total estimated cost of \$4 million BZD. The project, scheduled to be implemented over 24 months, seeks to improve economic opportunities in rural communities and contribute to the reduction of poverty by enhancing the overall tourism experience through improvements to tourism infrastructure and the services offered. The tourism experience will be enhanced at the archaeological sites of Xunantunich, Barton Creek, Actun Tunichil Muknal, Caves Branch, Altun Ha, Lamanai, Nim Li Punit, Lubaantun, and Blue Creek.

The main activities undertaken include the gazetting and introduction of health and safety measures,

associated infrastructure improvements, and training of personnel in health and safety. In addition, the project foresees the introduction of a system to improve the quality and certify the provenance of Belizean souvenirs and other services offered to tourists.

For more information, please contact:

Project Coordinator, Ian Morrison at 610-1912 or ian.morrison@brdpIItourism.bz Administrative Officer, Rubiceli Bradley at 660-0352 or

rubiceli.bradley@brdpIItourism.bz

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Rotary Convention Held In San Ignacio

Recently 245 Rotarians, from as far away as Canada, the U.S.A. and Panama and as close as Belize converged on San Ignacio to celebrate the 18th Rotary International Conference of Belize, Guatemala and Honduras. This prestigious four day event which takes place every third year in Belize, was the foremost Rotary event of the year.

This yearly Rotary International Conference has always been held in a major city of the host country i.e., in Guatemala it is always held in Guatemala City, in Honduras it alternates between Tegucigalpa and San Pedro Sula, and in Belize—Belize City. However, this year's District Governor, **Andre Lopez**, chose to break tradition and hold the Conference in his home town of San Ignacio.

District Governor, André Lopez, chose two themes for the four day Conference: the first was to celebrate the good and often times difficult work that Rotarians do in their communities, entitled "Attempting the Absurd and Achieving the Impossible." As of today, the Rotarians of Belize, Guatemala and Honduras currently have more than five million U.S. dollars worth of community service projects underway in our three countries. The second theme was "Honoring 25 years of women in Rotary" and each day a pioneer woman Rotarian from each of our three countries was honored. It is interesting to note that the first woman Rotarian of our three countries is Belizean, Mrs. Sandra L. Bedran, Managing Director of Atlantic Bank, Belize.

This historic four day conference began on Wednesday February 27 and was held at the San Ignacio Resort Hotel with **René Villanueva** as the Master of Ceremonies. The Conference was opened with a welcome address by His Excellence, the Governor General of Belize Sir Colville Young, who thanked Rotarians for "Service Above Self". His Lordship the Mayor John August, Jr., then gave a special address welcoming the visiting Rotarians to the Twin Towns of San Ignacio and Santa Elena. A third address was delivered by Rotary International President Sakuji Tanaka's personal representative to the Conference, Ms. Carolyn Jones of Alaska, U.S.A. Ms. Jones' shared with us the dream of President Sakuji Tanaka, of "Peace Through Service." Immediately following the opening ceremonies a reception and cocktail party was held poolside with entertainment provided by the Steel Band of Belmopan.

The business end of the Conference, the plenary sessions, began on Thursday February 28, with a talk by Fredy Compean about the founder of Polio-Plus, Rotarian Carlos Canseco of Mexico,. It was his idea to rid the world of the scourge of POLIO. Because of his dream and leadership, and the efforts of Rotarians world-wide, there are today only three countries in the world that still have POLIO- and millions of children can run and play free of disease. This session was followed by a discussion of three very large dollar projects entitled "The Good, The Bad and The Ugly" wherein we discussed what went right and, what went wrong and how we can avoid the pitfalls and dangers that lurk in very large, complicated projects. A special fund-raising luncheon was held at Hode's Place for the First Lady, Kim Simplis Barrow, who spoke eloquently about her charity. A

total of \$2800 was raised for her charity, The Inspiration Center.

Thursday afternoon's plenary was given by **David LaMotte**, a Rotary Peace Scholar and a member of a 'Nobel Peace Prize" nominating committee. As you might have guessed David spoke to us about the wonderful opportunity that Rotary provides to individuals who chose to do graduate work in "Peace and Conflict Resolution." Every year Rotary awards 50 complete scholarships. We have never had a Rotary Peace Scholar from Belize and I think it time we find a suitable candidate.*

The evening's entertainment was a Belize Cultural Night held at Cahal Pech Archeological site. The rain held-off, the moon was bright and the entertainment was wonderful featuring, Jankunu Dancers and drummers from Dangriga, an East Indian dance troup from Punta Gorda, a Maya musical quartet from Toledo that featured a Harp/Drum, Violin, Guitar and dancers and a special performance by **Titiman Flores**.

Friday's main guest speaker was a young woman from Canada, Katie Ehlis, who helped us to understand that the future of Rotary belongs to a new generation. A generation of young men and women sho are eager to serve, they are dynamic and energetic, but have different needs and expectations than the older generation of Rotarians. She taught us that even though change is difficult, it is not necessarily bad, and that if we are to keep our Clubs vital and attract new and younger members we need to consider new ways of thinking. Friday afternoon we all loaded onto buses and went to Franks Eddy for a cowboy BBQ featuring Angus Beef, a Marimba Band, and where

every Rotarian was invited to either go Zip-Lining or Cave-Tubing.

Saturday morning all were up early and ready for the last plenary session and the closing of the Conference. Rotary International's personal representative, Carolyn Jones, presented a wonderful speech entitled "Women in Rotary" which was followed by a women's forum hosted by Carolyn Jones. After this talk and forum, I believe that we are going to have more women invited to join Rotary. After all, I am told that only women can multi-task and it is no secret that we need more hands in Rotary.

The official closing of the Conference was Saturday noon, where District Governor **André Lopez**, handed out special awards and certificates. But the Conference truly ended with a Gala Dinner and Dance at Bedran Hall with music by Jade Band, which lasted into the early morning.

In the end, it was a small team of Conference Committee members: John Acott, Abdala Bedran, Melanie Danilczyk, Pia Durham, from San Ignacio and Saira Mahabir, Luis Alpuche, Marcello Blake and Francis Woods from Belize City, who worked together with the San Ignacio Hotel, and made San Ignacio and Belize proud.

Canadian Rotarian, Wendy Andrews, said to me, that "this was the best District Conference that she has ever attended!" And many other comments ranged from "...a job well done (Mexico)", "... the Conference has been phenomenal ...(Belize)", "...we really had a blast (Guatemala)", "... thanks a lot for all your hard work to make the Conference a huge success! (Honduras)" and "...thanks for inviting us to a wonderful Rotary event—you guys know how to do a Conference! (U.S.A.)".

Well, enough is enough, you get the idea: it was both enjoyable and interesting and everyone left with a great impression of our twin towns. Rotary District 4250 Governor, André Lopez

*For information on how to apply for a "Rotary Peace Scholarship" please write to

rotarybelizeconference2013@gmail.com Respectfully, Yours In Rotary

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Your Weekly Horoscope and Lucky Numbers

ARIES:

March 22 to April 20

This week you might concentrate on some very close work, perhaps a drawing or painting, sewing, jewelry making, or creating a new recipe. You may take longer to do this than you normally do, probably because there are a lot of details involved. This is good, because you will be happy with what you do. Take occasional breaks or you could strain your eyes. Lucky numbers: 06, 15, 24.

TAURUS: April 21 to May 21

This week you could see nothing but piles of papers that you have no use for. You might go through them like a house afire, wanting to clear out as much clutter as you can. This is always good. A cluttered house parallels a cluttered mind. However, make certain you at least scan each thing before you discard it. You don't want to throw something out you may need later. Lucky numbers: 37, 51, 72.

GEMINI: May 22 to June 21

A study of a philosophical or metaphysical concept or perhaps an ancient or foreign culture could take up a lot of your time this week. Your mind is especially sharp and penetrating now, so you should notice more, learn more quickly, and retain more of what you read. The only downsides are possible eyestrain and a buzzing mind. Take a walk before you go to bed. Lucky numbers: 18, 40, 69.

CANCER: June 22 to July 23

This week you might decide to host an impromptu party and a lot of merry and interesting people could attend. You will have a lot of fun, blow off steam, and feel pleasantly exhausted

when it's over. Go for it! The only problem is one member of your household might not be up for too much noise. Try to make certain everyone keeps their voices down and don't play any loud music. Lucky numbers: 07, 48, 95.

LEO: July 24 to August 21

A long phone conversation could take place between you and a romantic partner. You could discuss philosophy, current events, the weather, and your opinions. The only thing you probably won't touch on is the status of your relationship, which could be frustrating for you. Nonetheless, you will learn a lot about your feelings that will enable you to understand each other better. Lucky numbers: 12, 33, 60.

VIRGO: August 22 to September 21

Creative work could require more focus and concentration than usual. You might need to do some in-depth research, intricate detail work, or another type of intense process that could strain your eyes and overstimulate your mind. Take breaks. Lie back and close your eyes now and then. Remember to keep your body well nourished By the end of the week you should be pleased with what you have done. Lucky numbers: 23, 44,

LIBRA: September 22 to October 23

Some young visitors may come to your home this week. You could unexpectedly find yourself called upon to entertain them. You don't usually like to be the center of attention, but both you and your guests should have a great time. Enjoy your day. Lucky numbers: 02, 41, 86.

SCORPIO: October 24 to November 21

This week you might receive intense telepathic communications from someone you don't know very well. This might be symptomatic of strong ESP abilities, or it might be that this person is sending out distress signals to everyone he or she knows. If you feel comfortable with the idea, you might try to get to know the person a little better. This person could need a friend right now. Lucky numbers: 20, 55, 91.

SAGITTARIUS: November 22 to **December 21**

Some intense work you have done in the past that you might have forgotten about could have caught the attention of someone in authority. Some long-overdue rewards for that work might come your way. This should definitely prove a very pleasant and welcome surprise. It could have your mind reeling for a while. Come back down to Earth and then go out and celebrate! Lucky numbers: 11, 38, 74.

CAPRICORN: December 22 to January 20

A strange conversation could take place with someone you don't know well. He or she could be an acquaintance from work or someone who is just arrived from far away. The talk could outline new career possibilities

that you have never considered but find appealing. You might spend time thinking about it. This may be different, but these are strange times. If it feels right, look into it! Lucky numbers: 29, 50, 76.

AQUARIUS: January 21 to February 19

Learning is apt to be your primary concern this week probably metaphysics, philosophy, history, or some other division of the humanities. You might spend a lot of time in libraries or bookstores or perhaps attend a lecture or workshop. Discussions are likely to follow, and the exchange of ideas will prove stimulating. Take copious notes and enjoy your week. **Lucky numbers: 31, 67, 83.**

PISCES: February 20 to March 21

Some intense conversations could take place between you and a group of friends. These people may not be close friends when you meet up with them, but by the end of the day some of them certainly could be. You share a lot of interests with these people, you think along the same lines, and you enjoy each other's company. You will definitely see them again. Lucky numbers: 30, 57, 93.

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Grandparents 'May Relay Autism Risk To Grandchildren'

By Smitha Mundasad Health reporter, BBC News

The risk of developing autism may be passed on through - and not just to - future generations, researchers say.

The international study suggests older fathers are more likely to have grandchildren with autism than their younger counterparts.

The mechanism is unclear but it is thought they may transmit "**silent mutations**" to their grandchildren.

But experts have urged caution, stressing autism is the result of many different factors.

The study, looking at almost 6,000 people with the condition, is published in the journal Jama Psychiatry.

According to the National Autistic Society, more than one in every 100 people in the UK have the condition.

Previous studies suggested older fathers may be at greater risk of having children with autism than younger dads.

But the team of UK, Swedish and Australian researchers say this is one of the first pieces of evidence to show the risk can be passed on through rather than just straight to - future generations.

The "silent mutations" - changes in genetic material - are likely to have no obvious impact on older fathers' own children, but they may build up



through subsequent generations, or interact with other genes and environmental factors, to increase the chance of their grandchildren developing the condition, the researchers say.

Using national databases from Sweden they studied almost 6,000 people diagnosed with the condition and more than 30,000 without, tracking their parents' and grandparents' ages.

They found men who had a daughter when aged 50 or older were 1.79 times more likely to have a grandchild with autism, compared to men who fathered children when aged between 20-24.

And those who had a son when 50 years of age or older were 1.67 times more likely to have a grandchild with the condition.

'Complex causes'

But they say this study should not discourage older people from having children as though the risk is increased, it still remains small.

Co-author of the study, Dr Avi Reichenberg from King's College Institute of Psychiatry, told the BBC: "It is about choices. If you choose to have a child at an old age there might be consequences. This is something everyone should consider.

"Unfortunately we can't put exact figures on this risk yet. But most children born with older fathers and grandfathers grow up fine.

"And as scientists this type of information helps open doors to understanding more about the condition."

Caroline Hattersley, of The National Autistic Society, said: "While this research is useful in aiding our understanding of autism's complex causes, it should be treated with caution.

"Autism is thought to be the result of many different underlying physical and genetic factors." The study is not definitive, as we

know that many people who had children at a young age also have grandchildren with the condition. We therefore urge parents and those thinking of starting a family not to be concerned about the findings."

Dr **Terry Brugha**, professor of psychiatry at the University of Leicester who was not involved in the study, said: "This is a solid piece of work and the findings are plausible. But as a grandparent or parent-to-be this is not something to be overly concerned about.

"We are at the early stages of research and this study gives us a slightly deeper understanding of what is going on in the background."

STAR Newspaper

The Newspaper that cares and dares to bring out the truth" #42 George Price Highway, Santa Elena, Cayo, Belize, CA

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STAR HUMOR

Three Parrots

One day a man goes to a pet shop to buy a parrot. The assistant takes the man to the parrot section and asks the man to choose one. The man asks, "How much is the yellow one?"

The assistant says, "\$2000." The man is shocked and asks the assistant why it's so expensive. The assistant explains, "This parrot is a very special one. He knows typewriting and can type really fast "

"What about the green one?" the

man asks.

The assistant says, "He costs \$5000 because he knows typewriting and can answer incoming telephone calls and takes notes."

"What about the red one?" the man asks.

The assistant says, "That one's \$10,000."

The man says, "What does HE do?"

The assistant says, "I don't know, but the other two call him boss."

The Devil Goes To Church

One Sunday morning, Satan appeared before a small town congregation. Everyone started screaming and running for the front church door, trampling each other in a frantic effort to get away.

Soon, everyone was gone, except for an elderly gentleman who sat calmly. Satan walked up to the man and said, "Don't you know who I

am?''

The man replied, "Yep, sure do."
Satan asked, "Aren't you going to run?"

"Nope, sure ain't," said the man.
Perturbed, Satan asked, "Why
aren't you afraid of me?"

The man calmly replied, "Been married to your sister for over 48 years."

Married For Far Too Long

A funeral service is held for a woman who just passed away. As the pallbearers carry the casket out, they accidentally bump into a wall.

They hear a faint moan. They open the casket and find that the woman is actually alive. She lives for 10 more years and then dies. They have another funeral for her. At the end of the service, the pallbearers carry out the casket.

As they are walking, the husband cries out, "Watch out for the wall!"

Forget About It

An elderly husband and wife visit their doctor when they begin forgetting little things. Their doctor tells them that many people find it useful to write themselves little

When they get home, the wife says, "Dear, will you please go to the kitchen and get me a dish of ice cream? And maybe write that down so you won't forget?"

"Nonsense," says the husband, "I can remember a dish of ice cream."

"Well," says the wife, "I'd also

like some strawberries and whipped cream on it."

"My memory's not all that bad," says the husband. "No problem -- a dish of ice cream with strawberries and whipped cream. I don't need to write it down."

He goes into the kitchen; his wife hears pots and pans banging around. The husband finally emerges from the kitchen and presents his wife with a plate of bacon and eggs.

She looks at the plate and asks, "Hey, where's the toast I asked for?"

Who Doesn't Like A Good Blonde Joke?

A blonde walks into a bank in Belize City and asks for the loan officer. She says she's going to Europe on business for two weeks and needs to borrow \$5,000. The bank officer says the bank will need some kind of security for the loan, so the blonde hands over the keys to a

new Rolls Royce. The car is parked on the street in front of the bank; she has the title, and everything checks out. The bank agrees to accept the car as collateral for the loan. The bank's president and its officers all enjoy a good laugh at the blonde for using a \$250,000 Rolls as collateral

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against a \$5,000 loan.

An employee of the bank then drives the Rolls Into the banks underground garage and parks it there. Two weeks later, the blonde returns and repays the \$5,000 and the interest, which comes to \$15.41.

The loan officer says, 'Miss, we are very happy to have had your business, and this transaction has

It Pays To Drive Safe

A police officer pulls over a driver and informs him that he has just won \$5,000 in a safety competition, all because he is wearing his seat belt.

"What are you going to do with the prize money?" the officer asks.

The man responds, "I guess I'll go to driving school and get my license."

steak," says the husband.

over the border yet?"

"But sir, what about the mad cow?" asks the waiter.

worked out very nicely; but we are

a little puzzled. We checked you

out and found that you are a

multimillionaire. What puzzles us

is - why would you bother to

The blond replies "Where else in

Belize City can I park my car for

two weeks for only \$15.41 and

expect it to be there when I

His wife says, "Officer, don't

listen to him. He's a smart aleck

The guy in the back seat pops up

out from under the blanket and says,

"I knew we wouldn't get far in

Just then a knock comes from the

trunk and a voice calls out, "Are we

borrow \$5,000?'

when he's drunk."

this stolen car."

return?"

"Oh," says the husband, "she'll order for herself."

Mad Cow Concern

A husband and wife go to a really fancy restaurant. The waiter approaches the table to take their order.

"I'll have your biggest, juiciest

Poor Hearing

An old man goes to his doctor and says, "I don't think my wife's hearing is as good as it used to be. What should I do?"

The doctor replies, "Try this test to find out for sure. When your wife is in the kitchen doing dishes, stand 15 feet behind her and ask her a question. If she doesn't respond keep moving closer, asking the question until she hears you."

The man goes home and sees his wife preparing dinner. He stands 15 feet behind her and says, "What's for dinner, honey?" No response. He moves to 10 feet behind her and asks

again -- no response. Five feet, no answer

Finally, he stands directly behind her and asks, "Honey, what's for supper?"

She says, "For the fourth time, I SAID CHICKEN!"

"A day without laughter is a day wasted"

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MONEY LENDERS APPLICATION

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

I, Werner Urs Kolliker, hereby give notice that I have applied to the Magistrate Court, at one of its sitting in San Ignacio Town during the month of March 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 SWITA at #7 Simpson Street, San Ignacio, Cayo. Third Publication March 24, 2013

International Red Parpet Affair Paribbean Style

This year's International Red Carpet Affair Caribbean Style will be an exciting one, and most anticipated event for year. It's set to one of the best!!! there is a star lineup with some of the most influential individual from Belize that has done some outstanding jobs through-out the years both in US and back home. They have served on committee's and have been supporting several organization in Belize and the United States. The event will be held at the Hollywood Park Casino on April 20th 2013. It's the 3rd annual and is sure to be on of the best event for 2013.

The night will start off with a Waltz and Return of the Mac contest followed by the Life time Achievement Award presentation. Those receiving awards that night will be **Prof. Drummonds, Mr. Jose Moreno, Mr. Ray Gongora, Mrs. Martha Martinez, Mr. Ellis Cayatano, Mr Fred Dixxon, Mr. Harry Shaw Sr., Pelle Ellis, Guwie Posse and Daddy Tracey**.

The night continues with a star lineup of entertainment performing live all the way from Cayo will be Mr. Jose Moreno from Los Angeles King Rancho and the New Wave Band, Jack Arzu, Guwie Posse special performance from Mr. Fred Dixxon & Mr. Harry Shaw and a very very long awaiting performance by the one and only {TREVOR AKA ENGLISH} who will give you a star performance. The night would not be completed without LA's number one DJ's Belizean Vibes Crew and two of the best MC's Fred Dixxon and DJ Roc from KJLH. You can purchase Tickets at your local Caribbean outlets Adv:\$25 Door:\$30. So, save the date April 20th get you shoes for the Waltz contest and your Mac Daddy hats & suit just like old times!!!! Please share with all your family and friends come out and support this event..

Joe Moreno was born on February 20th 1939 To Parents Eghinia Matella Matute Moreno & Wilfredo Moreno a wonderful music teacher and an artist himself.

1949 –Mr. Joe Moreno was taught the marimba by his father at an early age. At the tender age of 10 years, he debuted on his Father's marimba band, Western Melody. They entertained the town with music and dance.

1950- At the age of 11 years, he performed at courthouse terrace. He was not only great at playing the marimba and guitar; he also had a wonderful talent. **Joe Moreno** had his unique voice that would grow with the years to come.

1954- He began performing, expressing his music and his singing talent at the age of 15 years. He had joined Los Tres M's (Mahler, Mendez



The Legendary Joe Moreno

and Moreno at the time.

1957- At 18 years of age **Joe Moreno** formed Trio San Ignacio. His performances were accompanied by his friends, Mendez and Cruz.

1959- Joe Moreno created the band los tres Cupidos with Joe Moreno, Federico Salazar and Abilio Cruz.

1960- **Concepcion Arguelles** (Moreno) joined Los tres Cupidos. Three years later, she became Joe Moreno's wife.

1963- Joe Moreno went on tour in Honduras with Glen Bood.

1966- In the town of San Ignacio, his home town, he joined the United Nations Band. The owner was Mr. **Bertie Wagner.**

1968- This was the year where **Joe Moreno** was recognized and honored. He joined los Atlanticos one of the most favorite and popular bands of that time.

1969- Los Atlanticos won the battle of the bands.

1973- After the break- up of los Atlanticos, **Joe Moreno** joined **Jesus Acosta** and the Professionals.

1974- Perdoname los Celos was a hit song in Belize. Mr. Joe Moreno recorded perdoname los celos, with The Professionals in New York.

1975- Joe Moreno migrated to Orange Walk, for a season and joined up with Mauro y Los Profetas.

In the years to come, Mr. Joe

Moreno worked with other bands. They were the Hill Toppers, Los Belicenos **Pops Acosta** & **Ainslie Lesley**. Then it was Bel-view 5 with **Manuel Acosta** at the Charmers at the Old Stork Club, Earthquake and then the Hurricane band.

1995- Joe Moreno travelled abroad for some time and worked with Belizean Gold. A band located in Los Angeles, California.

1998- Joe Moreno returned home and joined Jose Magana y su Organo Melodico.

2001- Mr. Joe Moreno reached his climax when he united himself with Grupo Jade. This band was and is special as it includes his children, **Jose**

V. Moreno Jr. (Pete), Sandro Moreno, Iliana Moreno and Conchita Moreno plus two friends, Joe Obando and Roni Hernandez working along with them.

2011- Mr. Moreno is still performing together with his children and their band Grupo Jade.

Jose Victor Moreno (Joe Moreno), is a legend. He is an artist and icon of Belize. He is still performing overseas and in the Caribbean to this day. Mr. Moreno enjoys performing at venues, Dances, weddings and special occasions. The Legendary Joe Moreno has just completed a song that he has written and arranged which will be release on the debut album of Grupo Jade, El Barrendero, together with his children.

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Guatemala Ex-ruler Rios Montt On Trial For Genocide

The trial of the former military ruler of Guatemala, Efrain Rios Montt, for genocide and crimes against humanity has begun in Guatemala City.

During Mr Rios Montt's 17-month rule in the 1980s, more than 1,700 indigenous people are thought to have been killed.

The UN says it is the first time a former head of state has faced a national court for such crimes - rights activists say the trial is "historic".

The former general denies the charges. The trial is expected to last months.

Shortly before the start of the trial, the defence team of 86-year old was

His new lawyers filed motions which could have delayed the proceedings, but were rejected by the court.

Gen Rios Montt faces charges of crimes against humanity in connection with the killing of 1,771 indigenous Mayans during his rule in 1982-1983.

'First time'

"This is the first time, anywhere in the world, that a former head of state is being put on trial for genocide by a national tribunal," said the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Navi Pillay, in a statement.

Prosecutors said Gen Rios Montt wanted to wipe out the indigenous group, which he suspected of supporting rebel fighters.

The proceedings could last months, with hundreds of witnesses, since the prosecution admits there is no evidence directly linking Mr Rios Montt to the killings.

Their strategy will be to use testimonies to prove that there was an established chain of command.

The former general abandoned politics in 2012, after a number of mandates in Congress.



Former Military Ruler Of Guatemala, Efrain Rios **Montt**

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Gen Rios Montt will also face charges over the forced displacement of 29,000 indigenous Guatemalans as part of what human rights groups have called his "scorched earth" policy. An estimated 200,000 people were killed or went missing during Guatemala's 36-year civil conflict, which ended in 1996.

Gen Rios Montt's 17 months in power are believed to have been one of the most violent periods of the war.

Week 20



Rotaract – A Way of Life!

From March 11-17, 2013, Rotaract Clubs around the world celebrated World Rotaract Week 2013 in commemoration of the first Rotaract Club that was chartered on March 13, 1968. The Rotaract Club of San Ignacio planned a week's worth of activities in lieu of this grand event. These included the launching of the Club's official logo, presentations on recent projects from the Rotary & Rotaract Clubs of San Ignacio, a quiz night for club members and community service projects.

The Rotary and Rotaract Clubs of San Ignacio embarked on a joint Gift (Food) Baskets Project that was carried out on Saturday, March 16, 2013 in Benque. In collaboration with the Help Age Center and Mount Carmel Primary School in Benque Viejo, the Rotary and Rotaract Clubs of San Ignacio partnered together, and went from home to home distributing the 20 food baskets to the elderly, single mothers and other deserving families. Part 2 of this project will take place in Santa Elena Town.

The Rotaract Club organized a Red Carpet Affair event which was a Valentines Dance organized jointly

with Rotaract Belmopan on February 16, 2013 at Meluchis in San Ignacio to raise funds to assist with this project and an upcoming river cleanup campaign. The Club expresses its heartfelt gratitude to everyone who supported this event, to Grace Kennedy Belize Limited for donating 20 boxes of baking powder, to Ms. Loida Pinelo for donating 20 bottles of Dilmah Tea, and to the Rotary Club of San Ignacio who is a partner in this project.

As its closing activity for World Rotaract Week 2013, the Rotaract Club of San Ignacio participated in the Cover with Care project, which is a Global Rotaract Project whereby clothing is distributed to deserving families in the Community. This was launched during World Rotaract Week 2012 in Nepal in partnership with the Nepal Mother Foundation. Club and community members donated used clothes in good conditions towards this cause. This was then donated Mary Open Doors in San Ignacio on March 17, 2013.

Rotaract is a Rotary-sponsored service club for young men and women ages 18 to 30 that are committed to service and leadership in their communities and abroad. However, the Rotaract Club of San Ignacio welcomes everyone who wants to make a difference in their Community. We meet every Wednesday at 7p.m. at Hodes Place in San Ignacio. You can also follow us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/ RotaractClubofSanIgnacio or email us at sanignaciorotaract@gmail.com. Rotaract can change your life. Rotaractors can change the world!



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Pope Francis In Plea For Poor As Inauguration Mass Held

Pope Francis has inaugurated his papacy at a Mass in Rome, calling on global leaders and all the people of the world to defend the poor and the weak.

Up to 200,000 people attended the Mass in St Peter's Square.

His homily focused on protection of the environment, children, the elderly and those in need, who he said were "often the last we think about".

Francis was elected by a conclave of cardinals last week to take over from Benedict XVI.

Benedict became the first pontiff in 600 years to abdicate last month. Citing his age, 85, he said he could no longer continue in the post.

Papal ring

Pope Francis, formerly Argentine Cardinal Jorge Mario Bergoglio and now the first pontiff from the Americas, has since his election called for a "Church for the poor" and has struck an informal and spontaneous tone.

His chosen name, Francis, honours St Francis of Assisi, the 13th-Century son of an aristocrat who spurned a life of luxury to live with and for the poor.

Pope Francis' homily at the Mass began by focusing on Joseph and his role as protector - of Mary, Jesus and the Church.



Francis, 76, expanded the image, referring to Francis of Assisi and saying that the role of protector was not just a Christian one.

He said: "It means protecting all creation, the beauty of the created world... It means respecting each of God's creatures and respecting the environment in which we live." It means protecting people, showing loving concern for each and every person, especially children, the elderly, those in need, who are often the last we think about."

Francis called on "all those who have positions of responsibility in economic, political and social life" to be protectors of creation.

"To protect creation, to protect every man and every woman, to look upon them with tenderness and love, is to open up a horizon of hope," Francis said.

Without care for the environment and fellow humans, "the way is opened to destruction and hearts are hardened", he said.

"Let us not allow omens of destruction and death to accompany the advance of this world."

Francis said the pope himself must be inspired by the lowly - "the poorest, the weakest, the least important, those who Matthew lists in the final judgment on love: the hungry, the thirsty, the stranger, the naked, the sick, those in prison".

A new look Pope

Francis had begun the day by touring St Peter's Square in an open-topped Popemobile.

At one point he stepped down from the vehicle and approached the barriers to bless a disabled man.

Francis spent 20 minutes touring the square, waving to the pilgrims who flew flags and shouted: "Long live the Pope!"

Isaac Adroamabe from Uganda, said: "My first impression is that the Pope is very humble, and has taken the Church in his heart."

Seven-year-old **Pietro Loretti**, from Italy, said: "I like him because he loves the poor."

As the Mass began, Francis was presented with his papal pallium made of lambs' wool - symbolising his role as shepherd of his flock - and the fisherman's ring bearing the image of St Peter holding two keys.

Communion was distributed by some 500 priests throughout the crowd.

The Mass was co-celebrated by around 180 clergymen, including Adolfo Nicolas, the superior general of Pope Francis' Jesuit order.

They erupted in joy as a call from the Pope, made an hour before his Mass, was played via loudspeakers.

He said: "My dear children, I know you're in the plaza. I know that you're making prayers. I need them very much."



Information Technology Vacancy

Belize Water Services Limited (BWS) invites dynamic professionals who possess the requisite education, analytical skills, attitude and aptitude to indicate their interest in filling the following position.

POSITION:	Database/Application Support Specialist – I.T. Department The application support technician will serve as the in-house database specialist and provide support for the core business applications. This role includes providing on-going support to users and being the focal point for Vendors, Management and users with regard to these applications.
KEY RESPONSIBILITIES:	 Administration of company's databases. Administration of company data storage, backup and disaster recovery planning. Liaising with Software Vendors regarding technical issues, modifications and upgrades. Assisting the Business process by identifying business needs and offering solutions and initiatives. Provide employees with instruction and support in software applications (both customised and off-the-shelf).
REQUIREMENTS:	 Associates Degree in Information Technology and 2 years experience in a similar position Experience in Administering MSSQL server databases. Sound working knowledge of T-SQL; knowledge of UML and XML would be an advantage. Working knowledge of MS Server architecture. Working knowledge of .Net and HTML would be an asset. Ability to write business reports and communicate well Ability to work as part of a team and on own initiative Willing to travel; must possess valid driver's license and be able to drive a standard geared vehicle.
SALARY:	Negotiable based on qualifications and experience.

Interested individuals should submit their application including a résumé listing references and clearly indicating qualifications and experience by Monday March 25th addressed to Human Resources Manager, Belize Water Services Limited, #7 Central American Blvd., PO Box 150, Belize City, Belize or via e-mail to hr@bwsl.com.bz with subject "Application for IT Vacancy".

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The ICJ Referendum Appears To Be Dead In The Water

Contributed byt: Charles Trew Of Washington USA:

In remarks delivered Wednesday evening at the George Washington University's Ambassador Series forum in Washington, DC, Belizean Ambassador to the U.S. and O.A.S., Nestor Mendez, made clear that the Belizean government is "frustrated" and "upset" with recent actions by the Guatemalan government. His comments and answers to questions from the audience indicate the whole ICJ referendum process is now in serious jeopardy. Furthermore, Belize clearly feels while it has acted in good faith, the Guatemalans have let them down and even disrespected them during this last week in particular.

I've known Ambassador Mendez for several years now and the always unflappable diplomat showed clear signs of frustration and even said at one point, "I'm sorry if I seem upset but it's not the first time our neighbors have bowed out. It's not helpful."

This was a special night for the Ambassador as he returned to his alma mater to deliver an address at one of the George Washington University's most distinguished forums.

Ambassador Mendez received a Master's Degree in International Policy & Practice from the Elliott School of International Affairs in 2006. He was accompanied by his wife Elvira and several members of his staff. He spent 45 minutes of informal discussion with the audience at a reception in his honor before delivering prepared remarks for another 45 minutes. He then took questions from the audience.

Ambassador Mendez opened with what he called a "commercial" for Belize and praised the agricultural and tourist sectors for their contributions to the Belizean economy. He noted 5.8% growth for the first three quarters of 2012 and record tourism numbers. He also mentioned new investment in the sugar industry by Domino and said that their new facilities are the most modern in Central America.

He also had words of praise for the Organization of American States and said it should be strengthened, not eliminated as some have suggested. I was not surprised to hear these remarks since the Ambassador is expected to be a candidate for Assistant Secretary General of the OAS in 2015. He said the organization is underfunded and this, along with ideological issues, has hobbled the effectiveness of the organization. He would like to see more action and less talk from the OAS, noting there needs to be implementation of programs and agreements already made, as opposed to simply



Belizean Ambassador to the O.A.S, His Excellency Nestor Mendez, Speaking At The George Washington University

generating more agreements. He half jokingly suggested an OAS "Year of Implementation."

As the evening went on, however, it became clear that two issues are occupying a large amount of his time these days and both are a source of continuing difficulty and frustration: the illegal drug trade and Guatemala.

Ambassador Mendez described Belize as "under siege" by the drug cartels and their money and financially pressured by demands of the United States. There is some clear resentment towards drug consuming nations and he said he believes consumers bear responsibility for the problem just as producers do. The situation is particularly deviling to Belize because the country is not a large producer or consumer, just a small country sitting "in the middle of the street." With scarce resources, Belize is forced to spend money on the problems created by others when it would rather use its money for schools and other domestic concerns. He made it very clear that Belize needs more financial assistance if it is expected to be a reliable partner in fighting illegal drugs on behalf of drug consuming nations.

The issue that many in the audience were interested in, however, was Guatemala, particularly with the recent controversy over possibly delaying the October 6th referendum as suggested by Guatemala. Belizean Foreign Minister Elrington returned to Belmopan from Washington Wednesday afternoon a few hours before Ambassador Mendez gave his talk. The Foreign Minister went out of his way to tell Jules Vasquez of Channel 7 that he was "absolutely not" offended at being snubbed by the Guatemalan Foreign Minister Fernando Carrera on Sunday. Carrera was a last minute "no-show" at an emergency OAS meeting Sunday to discuss the referendum because he decided to jet off to Rome and meet the new Pope instead. Since he could not participate in the meetings, neither could Belizean Foreign Minister Elrington, since the only available Guatemalans were below ministerial rank. So he returned to Belize empty handed, without having even discussed the issue with Guatemala. Ambassador Mendez described this snub as similar to a fiancé being left at the altar, so you can bet, in fact, the Belizeans do feel slighted, despite Minister Elrington's denials.

Ambassador Mendez noted the request to delay the vote for a year is itself contrary to all previous preparations with the Guatemalans.

The original date was carefully chosen to fit into a rotating 24 month window where neither country has other elections scheduled. This was to keep the issue isolated from any particular candidate or competing issues on either side. So asking for the delay is yet another diplomatic disrespect from Guatemala because they already know that date is outside the carefully agreed upon "window." He also questioned Guatemala's concern over the 60% threshold and said that he had little doubt that such an important vote would draw the needed 60%. As for Guatemala's request to change the 60% requirement, he labeled it "ridiculous - why should we change our law?"

So this is where it stands. There has been no further word from Guatemala at this time. The Belizean cabinet is to discuss the issue this coming week. But unless Guatemala sticks to the original agreement of October 6th – highly unlikely based on what we now know – there is likely to be no ICJ vote in October, not one that will count, anyway, should Belize hold the referendum by itself.

The behavior of Guatemala raises a concern voiced by many in Belize

that have been concerned about the ICJ and questioning the participation of Belize – can Guatemala even be trusted? After carefully agreed upon procedures going back years suddenly Guatemala has decided to back out for reasons still not clear. Would they suddenly back out from the ICJ if Belize were to win the ruling? There is no question that the Belizean government has gone out on a limb with this whole ICJ process and now it seems Guatemala is going to saw that limb off. That's clearly the feeling in Belmopan right now.

I asked Senator Lisa Shoman, a supporter of going to the ICJ, some months ago why this process was necessary at all. She said that the process must be done under this legality so that the issue will truly end once and for all. This has been the feeling by many. Her uncle, Assad **Shoman**, wrote the much the same in his "13 Chapters in the History of Belize." Belize can never truly move forward until this issue is "solved" once and for all. Ambassador Mendez said that the Belizean government came to the conclusion some time ago that no negotiated settlement with Guatemala could ever be achieved so the ICJ was necessary. But now it seems this "solution" has run into a dead end as well. This raises the question as to whether accommodation with Guatemala will ever be possible. As the Ambassador himself noted, it's not the first time Guatemala has bowed out. So the questions must be asked. Can Guatemala ever be considered a reliable partner? Will Belize ever be able to trust them again?



What Will Happen If Belizeans Vote Against Going To The ICJ



By: Wellington C. Ramos

If the people of Belize vote "NO" to take the Guatemalan dispute to the International Court of Justice (*ICJ*), then the agreement signed between Guatemala and Belize will be fulfilled.

This will also happen if the people of Guatemala were to vote "NO" in their Referendum which is scheduled to take place simultaneously in both countries on October 6, 2013. I have read carefully the Anglo-Guatemalan Treaty signed between Great Britain and Guatemala in 1859 and based on that I am fully confident that the court will rule in favor of Belize.

In this treaty Guatemala accepted and acknowledged the boundaries of Belize which exist up to this day. If the Government of Guatemala did not like anything that was contained in that document then they should not have signed it.

Guatemala had more than enough time to bring Great Britain to the International Court of Justice to seek redress so that they could comply with the terms of the treaty. Yet, Guatemala failed to act and has engaged in all type of propaganda and threats to frighten Belizeans. I hereby encourage Belizeans to read the 1859 Treaty to reduce their fears and stop listen to gossip, rumors and other propaganda.

Since Guatemala signed the treaty, it appears to me as if they regret doing so because they are claiming territory that they had already acknowledge in the document that did not and does not belong to them.

There is a provision in the treaty clearly stating that Britain must grant Guatemala access to the high seas through Belize's territorial waters and both Britain and Belize have been complying with that provision of the treaty since it was signed. Not only has Guatemala maximized their access through Belize to the high seas but they have been occupying some of our Cayes and even unknowingly to us lay claim to our cayes.

This area is critical because it borders Belize, Honduras and Guatemala which under International Law will require a Trilateral Agreement between these three countries. Honduras has made it clear that if Belize cedes anything to Guatemala they will have to also get. This is the same thing with Mexico that had already signed an agreement with Great Britain relinquishing their claim to our country all the way up to the Sibun River in the 1800's.

I am against ceding any land to

Honduras, Mexico, Guatemala or any other country because that will not solve the problem but just make it worst. I am convinced that they do not have the right to any land that Spain obtained through the use of military force against the indigenous Maya people who have been living in Belize centuries before Spain and Great Britain came to colonize these territories that did not belong to them. It baffles me how seemingly intelligent people can engage in these unjust exercises.

The Government of Belize cannot tell Belizeans how to vote on this issue because it is delicate and controversial to most Belizean citizens. I myself am grappling with this issue because I am not convinced that even after we win this case in the International Court of Justice we can go to the United Nations to seek enforcement of the court ruling.

The United Nations is an undemocratic institution because five nations possess veto powers in the UN Security Council which are; China, Russia, the United States of America, France and Great Britain. I can see Belize getting votes from Russia, Great Britain and France but not from China and the United States. Belize can get China vote in its favor if we agree to severe our ties with Taiwan and I am not sure if Belize will be willing to do so because of the money we have been getting from Taiwan over the years. China now has

more money to give Belize than Taiwan. The United States had already promised Belize to Guatemala in the 1960's as they have vital interest in trade and commerce with Guatemala as opposed to Belize.

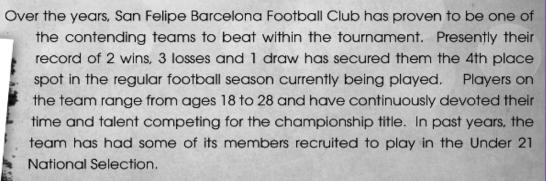
There are some Belizeans and Guatemalans who are opposed to taking this matter to the ICJ but for different reasons. The Belizeans who are opposed believe that there is no need to go to a court to prove anything. I do not subscribe to that thought because even if a person knows that something belongs to them, if another person is claiming their property only a court can determine the true owner of the property in dispute.

In the absence of a court there will always be a dispute and the possibility of a serious confrontation with the person who is claiming your property will always exist. Belize cannot fight Guatemala in a war because it does not have the resources to match them. But in a court of law might and strength does not always prevail.

The Guatemalans who have been saying for centuries that Belize belongs to them are beginning to believe that they will lose this case if it goes to the International Court of Justice. I now urge my fellow Belizeans to conduct their own research on this dispute and read other people's opinion on this matter before we vote on October 6, 2013.



In BIL's ongoing pleage to support the development of Belizean football, the company is proud to announce its recent sponsorship of the San Felipe Barcelona Football Club located in the Orange Walk District. BTL's generous sponsorship of \$5,000 will be used to purchase new football jerseys and equipment along with registration fees for team participation in the 2013 football season.



BTL takes this opportunity to congratulate the team manager and players of the San Felipe Barcelona Football Club for their unrelenting perseverance towards success. We wish the team the very best for the 2013 football season.



