Garcia was undergoing treatment for Melhado Street in San Ignacio, 52, Belizean taxi driver of #7 Garcia where they came upon the San Ignacio Community Hospital summoned to the emergency room at August 27, 2012, police were arrested and charged for robbery and Gaboure, 20 at the time, was On August 27, 2012, Garcia told the police that about two hours earlier he was at the taxi stand in front of Courts Store, in the center of San Ignacio, when he was approached by two male persons, one of dark complexion and the other of lighter complexion, requesting a ride to Esperanza Village. The men boarded Garcia’s Honda Civic car with San Ignacio/Santa Elena taxi license plates D-00293 for the ride to Esperanza. Garcia said that as he slowed down to cross the first speed bump at the entrance of the village, he was struck to the back of the head with a metal object which later turned out to be the handle of the jack of his car. He was forced to stop the car. Garcia said that he was attacked and in the process he was relieved of a yellow Alcatel brand cellular phone valued at $125.00 and all the money he had earned up to that point amounting to $130.00. The men exited the car and disappeared into the darkness. Garcia drove himself to the hospital.

Errol Gabourel, 20 a large cut wound to the back of the head, a smaller cut wound to the top of the head as well as several cuts and bruises to the face, left eye and the lower lip.

Bicycle Thief Sent To Jail

SAN IGNACIO TOWN, Cayo, Monday, July 15, 2013: A bicycle snatcher was today denied bail and remanded to jail for three months.

A man from Red Creek, Cayo accompanied his son to the police station in San Ignacio where the minor reported that at around 9:00 pm on Sunday, July 14, 2013, he was riding his twenty four inch black beach cruiser bicycle near Lin’s Superstore on the George Price Highway in Santa Elena Town to his home in Red Creek when he was attacked from behind by a man. The minor told the police that the man choked him from behind causing him to fall to the ground after which the man took possession of the bicycle. The man was riding off when a policeman intervened. The

Unitedville Robber Sentenced To Five Years In Jail

SAN IGNACIO TOWN, Cayo, Wednesday, July 17, 2013: The trial of a man from Unitedville ended today with the handing down of a guilty verdict and a five-year term of imprisonment for two crimes he committed over ten months ago.

On August 27, 2012, Errol Gabourel, 20 at the time, was summoned to the emergency room at the San Ignacio Community Hospital where they came upon Oscar Garcia, 52, Belizean taxi driver of #7 Melhado Street in San Ignacio. Garcia was undergoing treatment for five-year term of imprisonment for two crimes he committed over ten months ago.

Errol Gabourel, 20 the time, was arrested and charged for robbery and grievous harm committed against a 52 year old taxi driver from San Ignacio, Cayo. At around 2:45 am on Monday, August 27, 2012, police were summoned to the taxi stand in front of Courts Store, in the center of San Ignacio, when he was approached by two male persons, one of dark complexion and the other of lighter complexion, requesting a ride to Esperanza Village. The men boarded Garcia’s Honda Civic car with San Ignacio/Santa Elena taxi license plates D-00293 for the ride to Esperanza. Garcia said that as he slowed down to cross the first speed bump at the entrance of the village, he was struck to the back of the head with a metal object which later turned out to be the handle of the jack of his car. He was forced to stop the car. Garcia said that he was attacked and in the process he was relieved of a yellow Alcatel brand cellular phone valued at $125.00 and all the money he had earned up to that point amounting to $130.00. The men exited the car and disappeared into the darkness. Garcia drove himself to the hospital.

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Our Community Years
For Competent Human Services

Being in the news business for several years, we have witnessed as male minors graduated from petty criminal activities into the major crime leagues.

While we have previously written on this reality, the trend continues as these identified troubled children, either ends up in jail or in the grave.

Government intervenes in curbing this troublesome trend through Human Services personnel posted in every town across the country. In the San Ignacio/Santa Elena scenario, however, this intervention is either weak at best or nonexistent at worst, it is way off track as those charged with this important responsibility either do not understand their role, lack the capacity to effectively address the situation or their performance is simply not being evaluated by those charged with supervising and evaluating them.

In this community, several years ago we identified at least five such minors committing crimes. These minors are now of age and are either in jail or in the grave. The two most recent ones, clients of the local Human Services, were recently gunned down in front of a Chinese shop as they attempted to rob the establishment. Another one of these minors, now of age, was recently acquitted, with an accomplice, of the brutal murder of his girlfriend. While the accomplice is now free, this minor then, who is now of age, remains in jail serving time for the brutal beating and attempt to murder of his girlfriend. While we have brought it to this officer’s attention, we continue to witness that this individual is more interested in ensuring that the names and photographs of these minors are not published in the newspaper instead of seeking employment or educational opportunities for these at risk minors in the absence of which they continue down that troubled path of crime or death.

The time has come for Human Services to seriously address the situation or their performance for meaningful intervention from competent public officers.

Unitedville Robber Sentenced To Five Years In Jail

Tuesday, September 4, 2012 where he pled not guilty to both charges. On the basis of strong objection to the granting of bail presented by prosecutor George Garcia, the accused was remanded to jail with the next court date set for Thursday, September 27, 2012. The other individual who boarded the taxi with Gabourel first agreed to testify for the prosecution but later refused to do so. He eventually came around and testified against the accused.

The trial ended today with the conviction of Errol Gabourel in the San Ignacio Town courtroom of magistrate Narda Morgan. He was found guilty on both charges and was sentenced to concurrent one year imprisonment on the grievous harm charge and five years on the robbery charge for a total of five years in jail.

Vacancies exist at Mopan Technical High School for Temporary Teaching Posts in the following areas:


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Address Applications to:
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Board Management
Mopan Technical High School
Benque Viejo Del Carmen
Cayo District
SAN IGNACIO TOWN, Cayo, Monday, July 15, 2013:

San Ignacio police is this week reporting the interception of another movement of weed suspected to be coming out of the far west.

Just four days ago an 18 year old Guatemalan male was busted on a bus, in San Ignacio Town, with a little over 17 pounds of weed.

This time around it’s a Belizean male, also 18 year of age, also busted on a bus likewise in San Ignacio Town with a little over four and a half pound of weed found inside the trademark knapsack.

Acting upon information received, San Ignacio police, on Saturday, July 13, 2013, stormed a green and white West Line bus as it came to halt at the Welcome Center on its way to Belize City from Benque Viejo Town.

Seated at the back of the bus, near the rear door, was a male Hispanic person with a red knapsack at his left foot on the floor of the bus.

The police first conducted a search of the person and found nothing incrimination on him. Just as they moved to the take possession of the knapsack the suspect reportedly blurted out “dat da no fu me”. Notwithstanding, police proceeded to search the knapsack inside which they found two parcels of suspected marijuana, one wrapped in a black plastic bag and the other in a yellow plastic bag.

The suspect was instantly detained, removed from the bus and escorted to the nearby police station where he was identified as Christian Otto Petersen, 18, Belizean laborer residing in Camalote Village, Cayo District. The weed, weighed in the presence of the accused, tipped the scale at exactly 2,100 grams (4.6 pounds.)

The suspect was later formally arrested and issued with a drug trafficking charge. He appeared in the San Ignacio courtroom of magistrate Narda Morgan on Monday, July 15, 2013, where he pled not guilty to the charge. He was offered and met bail in the sum of four thousand dollars and ordered to return to court in three months time, on Thursday, October 17, 2013.
CENTRAL FARM, Cayo District, Wednesday, July 17, 2013:

Ground breaking ceremony took place today on Government land near the ferry in Baking Pot, Central Farm, Cayo for the construction of a fully equipped, five million dollar Tilapia Hatchery to be funded by the Republic of China on Taiwan.

Present for the historic occasion was Deputy Prime Minister, with responsibility for Agriculture, Hon. Gaspar Vega in the company of His Excellency David Wu, Ambassador of the Republic of China on Taiwan. In delivering the keynote address, Deputy Prime Minister Vega told the gathering that the hatchery is a collaborative effort between the government of Belize and the Republic of China on Taiwan.

In his address Ambassador Wu informed that the Taiwanese Technical Mission in Belize will be overseeing the realization of the facility. He said that the hatchery is a part of the 5-year Aquaculture Project which began in February 2012 running up to 2017. Ambassador Wu additionally informed that the hatchery will include eighteen earthen ponds, a reservoir, a sedimentation pond, twelve nursery tanks and sixteen fry concrete tanks all of which will provide small tilapia farmers with fingerlings at a reduced cost in an effort to make their backyard ventures more economically viable.

He informed that at peak production, the hatchery will “produce one million, all male, high quality tilapia fingerlings to assist the development of the on-growing small-scale tilapia farming operations in Belize.” It will also “promote the use of modern tilapia culture technology, increase the annual tilapia production and gradually decrease price in fingerling production”, said Ambassador Wu.

Deputy Prime Minister Gaspar Vega explained that tilapia farmers have been complaining of the high cost of feed and that the aquaculture project will, according to its stated objectives, “promote the use of alternative feed to reduce the cost of commercial feed by as much as 35%.”

Construction of the facility should commence immediately and is expected to be completed by the middle of January, 2014. It will immediately translate into the creation of new jobs in the community.
BY: Denese Enriquez
Ag. Festival Development Officer
Institute of Creative Arts
National Institute of Culture & History
BELIZE City, Thursday, July 18, 2013:

Belize is planning to participate in this year Caribbean Festival of Arts (CARIFESTA). The Festival will be held Suriname from August 16th - August 26th.

Participants will include a cross-section of artistic disciplines from CARICOM and UNASUR member states as well as Diaspora nations (Africa, Asia and Europe). Please visit their website at http://www.carifesta.net/ for more information.

In keeping with the objectives of the Festival, Belize is hoping to make representation in several artistic disciplines including the Visual Arts. This entails the main Visual Arts Exhibition, catalogue and showcasing Belizean artists and art pieces.

Belize’s Institute of Creative Arts (ICA) is seeking to take 30 pieces from Belizean artists, preferably five pieces from each District. These can include drawings, paintings, sculpture, photography etc.

Submissions should reflect the vibrancy, diversity, originality and creativity of the Artist and of course, the BELIZE experience. At this point, ICA is in the process of identifying artists who have excelled in these areas. Artists are advised to contact ICA immediately about providing pieces to exhibit at this year’s festival.

ICA is also asking the public’s kind assistance in identifying artists/artwork for selection for the Belize Exhibit at CARIFESTA XI. All artwork will be collected by July 27th to facilitate the selection process.

Please note that all logistical costs relating the pieces will be assumed by the Government of Belize through the National Institute of Culture and History (NICH).

ICA will keep you informed on the status of the planning and subsequent terms and conditions under which the artists and their pieces will be showcase while in the care of ICA.

We thank you in advance for your contribution and we look forward to hearing from you.
Dear Editor,

I was so pleased to see your front page story revealing the true motivation of the “constitutional” marches calling for withdrawal of the revised Gender Policy written by the Belize National Women’s Commission. The Belize Action organizers of these marches have duplicitously denied the anti-homosexuality purposes of the march repeatedly and loudly. In fact, their sole (at least originally) dispute with the Gender Policy is the following section:

“Respect for Diversity: Men and women in Belize are not a homogeneous group.

Rather, the population is comprised of persons of all ages who come from diverse races, cultures, ethnicities, faiths, sexual orientations, socio-economic situations and behavioural lifestyles. All policies and programmes must therefore reflect this reality of diversity among the Belizean populace.”

And that small section of the 52 page document is only objectionable to them for the inclusion of “sexual orientations” and “behavioral lifestyles,” because they recognize in an official way that homosexuals exist in Belize. Whatever one thinks about the morality and propriety of homosexuality, few Belizens would deny that homosexuals indeed form a part of the broad diversity of Belizean society. These Belize Action leaders, yoked to their Dominionist agenda to establish control over the totality of Belizean society by their “brand” of Christian belief, want to deny Belizenzian LGBT citizens the right to be included in any description of Belize, to be excluded from the grand fundamental rights guaranteed by the Constitution of Belize, indeed to demand that they be entirely invisible to the culture and laws. It is but a small step to move from this demand to one that LGBT citizens cease to exist. These mendacious leaders even publicized an early draft of the Gender Policy, knowing that it had been superseded by a later edition, because the earlier one had more items to which they could object with impunity, refusing for some time to post on their publicity pages links to the actual draft. One cannot blame the marchers; they are dazzled by the Belize Action leaders’ appeal to Jesus and the Father, and they endorse the balance of the agenda much as we technical types click “accept” to software “terms of usage” without reading any of them, let alone the fine print.

Your front page piece, along with your report of Senator Alamilla’s concern about the effects of such actions as the marches, does a service first to the nation of Belize, second to the women of Belize, and finally to the LGBT citizens of Belize. All Belizens should be asking themselves, “What is next after all of this struggle and strife? How will we all live together in mutual tolerance and peace and respect?”

It takes reporting like yours to assist your readers in arriving at thoughtful, legal, constitutional, and decent answers to that question. You are to be applauded for that, and Belize is to be warned that their country is being quietly attacked on all levels by people who want to take over in the name of a Dominionist God.

Contributed by: Asa DeMatteo
San Francisco CA

Dear Editor,

I am a die hard fan of team Belize (Jaguars) and still very proud of them. In retrospect there will always be something that we might feel could have been done differently or better but in the end those guys gave it their all.

I was/am very proud to be Belizean especially seeing all the support and patriotism of the Belizeans fans that attended the Gold Cup games to support their team. Hearing our national anthem so loud and clear gave me goose bumps as I watched the games on television. Even though the outcome was not as I’d hoped and prayed for those players on the team deserves much respect and love from our fellow countrymen.

As to the FFB I only wished that when Coach Sherrier left suddenly, then Asst. Coach Slusher being fired the day before they left to the US, and finally the issue with the players contract. How we start is how we’ll finish. Hopefully in the future the FFB will be better organized and ready because in the end it’s our country reputation that is at stake.

Thank you,
Elga S.

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Thank you,
Elga S.

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1 Spanish teacher (Full Time)
1 Bible teacher (Full Time)
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Salary is based on qualifications and in accordance with government payscale.

Interested persons are asked to submit letter of application, resume, two recommendations, certified copies of transcripts and diplomas, and copy of teaching license to the address below by Wednesday July 29, 2013:

The Chairman
Eden SDA High School Board
P.O. Box 68
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We AMS to Please
ARIES: March 22 to April 20
You probably aren’t going to feel like socializing even though friends want you to go out with them. Your patience could be worn a bit thin, Aries, and you may get annoyed at incidents that normally wouldn’t bother you. This isn’t a good day for group activities or parties. It might be best to get a good workout and then rest. You will feel much better afterward. Lucky numbers: 17, 60, 96.

TAURUS: April 21 to May 20
Uptight is the mood for today. You might be the center of attention at some point. While you normally wouldn’t mind, Taurus, today it might make you nervous. When everyone looks at you and expects you to say something, say it. Keep it short and then withdraw. You aren’t in the mood. Walk to the library and throw away any past transactions. Don’t worry. All you need to do is check your records to shed light on why. The reason? The planets. You might feel a bit preoccupied. You might feel a bit tense, Pisces, and you probably won’t understand why. The reason? The planets. You might jump at unexpected noises or take offense where none is intended. Relations with others might be a little strained, necessitating some communication about how you’re feeling. Try to work off the tension by taking a brisk walk or perhaps working out at the gym. Lucky numbers: 05, 48, 99.

GEMINI: May 21 to June 20
Today you may want to be left alone with your thoughts. Relaxing with a good book could be at the top of your agenda, Gemini, and you aren’t likely to want to be interrupted. Noise and requests that don’t usually bother you might irritate you, so it’s best to spend some time alone and make the effort to be your usual considerate self when with others. Take a brisk walk to relieve the tension. Lucky numbers: 08, 66, 93.

CANCER: June 21 to July 22
Money worries might have you more on edge than usual, Cancer. While you may be doing well, you could still be insecure enough to think that your funds might not stretch far enough. Consider the situation objectively. You will probably be relieved by what you find. Others’ demands on your time might irritate you more than usual. The best way to relieve the tension is to work out or take a walk. Lucky numbers: 03, 21, 40.

LEO: July 23 to August 22
More than usual, you’re probably craving solitude today, Leo. Although you may have committed to attending a party or get-together, now the idea may seem irritating. You might rather work on some tasks or projects, or you might want to go for a workout and release some of the tension you feel. The latter idea is good. If you exercise early, you might feel like going out later. Lucky numbers: 37, 52, 90.

VIRGO: August 23 to September 22
Although you’re normally a sociable person who feels most comfortable in the company of others, Virgo, today you may prefer to be alone. You could feel a little under the weather, or you could be stressed from job-related worries. You probably need rest, but you might also benefit from taking a walk to work off some tension, get the endorphins going, and help you feel like yourself again. Lucky numbers: 10, 25, 71.

LIBRA: September 23 to October 22
You tend to enjoy solitude, Libra, but today you might feel more reclusive than usual. Friends could invite you out, but you aren’t likely to accept the offer. You might even feel a little irritated. This is a great day to work out or throw yourself into your own projects. Your concentration is good and the physical activity will get relieve the stress. Lucky numbers: 39, 75, 98.

SCORPIO: October 23 to November 21
There might be tension in the air for no discernible reason today. Family members might seem preoccupied with problems they can’t define. Your natural inclination could be to try to cheer them up, Scorpio, but it probably won’t work. Don’t be annoyed if they don’t respond. It isn’t them. Blame the planets. This is a great day to jog, take a cardio class, or otherwise work off stress. Lucky numbers: 11, 27, 70.

SAGITTARIUS: November 22 to December 21
Some mysterious telephone calls might come your way - wrong numbers or hang-ups. Other people might seem less communicative than usual. Sagittarius, and you may be preoccupied. You might feel a bit more nervous than usual, but that should go away if you take a walk or get some other exercise. If you have been thinking about doing some writing, this is the day to start. Lucky numbers: 32, 63, 54.

CAPRICORN: December 22 to January 19
Confusion over money matters might arise, Capricorn. You may need to check your records to shed light on past transactions. Don’t worry. All should be well once you ascertain the facts. You might have some intense dreams tonight. Write them down. You will want to remember them later, because they might reveal a lot about your current situation. They may also inspire future projects. Lucky numbers: 15, 50, 73.

AQUARIUS: January 20 to February 18
Someone close to you might seem more preoccupied than usual, Aquarius, and perhaps a bit difficult to deal with. Don’t take this personally. It has little, if anything, to do with you. This person has troubles of their own that they don’t want to share. You might be feeling a bit tense and jumpy, but again, this is nothing to worry about. Take a walk or work out at the gym. Lucky numbers: 23, 47, 81.

PISCES: February 19 to March 20
You might feel a bit tense, Pisces, and you probably won’t understand why. The reason? The planets. You might jump at unexpected noises or take offense where none is intended. Relations with others might be a little strained, necessitating some communication about how you’re feeling. Try to work off the tension by taking a brisk walk or perhaps working out at the gym. Lucky numbers: 05, 48, 99.

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Panama has charged the crew of a North Korean ship detained in Panama after it was found to be carrying weapons.

Prosecutor Javier Caraballo accused the 35 crew members of endangering public security by illegally transporting war material.

The charges came just hours after North Korea urged Panama to release the ship and its crew without delay.

Police found the weapons under bags of sugar. Cuba has said it had sent the weapons to North Korea for repairs.

'Hidden load'

Panama has asked the UN to investigate whether there has been a breach of the sanctions against North Korea.

The UN sanctions prohibit the supply of arms to Pyongyang in the dispute over its controversial nuclear programme.

"According to its declaration, the ship only carried 10,000 tonnes of sugar, it never declared war material and that in itself is a violation of the rules and a grave danger for the transit through the Panama canal," Mr Caraballo said.

He said the crew had remained silent when the charges against them were brought.

They will remain in detention while Panamanian security forces continue to unload the cargo under which the weapons were hidden.

Panama's Security Minister Jose Raul Mulino said the ship and its cargo had broken Panamanian and international law.

"This is not an official or military ship belonging to the North Korean government."

"It's a commercial ship which wanted to pass through the Panama canal with a [cargo] declaration which failed to reflect what it was carrying, turning a blind eye to the fact that its cargo could be violating UN resolutions," he said.

According to the security minister, the search could take days.

"This ship was loaded in a way to make it hard to unload; the effort is enormous," he said.

On Wednesday, North Korea asked Panama to release the ship.

"This cargo is nothing but ageing weapons which are to be sent back to Cuba after overhauling them according to a legitimate contract," the North's foreign ministry was quoted as saying by the state-run Central News Agency.

Cuba had earlier admitted being behind the stash of weapons found on board the ship. It said they were Soviet-era arms from Cuba headed for repair in North Korea.

The ship disappeared from satellite tracking systems after it left the Caribbean side of the canal, resurfacing on 11 July.

Experts say this may indicate that the crew switched off the system which automatically communicates details of their location.

Panama says it is awaiting the arrival of experts from the United Nations Security Council to inspect the weapons.

The Chong Chon Gang left Russia's far east on 12 April and travelled across the Pacific Ocean before entering the canal at the start of June, with Cuba as its stated destination.

It was stopped near Manzanillo on the Atlantic side of the canal last week, but Panama only released details of the find on Tuesday.
Hon. Saldivar and Mayor Lopez open Belmopan Youth Summer Camp

BELMOPAN City, Cayo, Tuesday, July 16, 2013:

A Youth Summer Camp for a total of over 350 students was officially opened this morning in Belmopan. The Summer Camp is co-sponsored by Minister of National Security and Belmopan Area Representative Hon. John Saldivar; Mayor Simeon Lopez and the Belmopan City Council; and the Belmopan Sports Council.

Official ceremonies to open the summer camp were held this morning at the Hilltop Basketball and Tennis Court in Belmopan. Speakers included Hon. John Saldivar, Mayor Simeon Lopez and Belmopan Sports Coordinator Angelica Reyes. Master of Ceremonies was Deputy Mayor Joel Westby and the Vote of Thanks was delivered by City Councilor with responsibility for events Victor Perdomo.

The Summer Camp involves sports in six disciplines: Tennis, Football and Softball are running for the first two weeks, from July 15 to July 26; Basketball, Volleyball and Chess will run for the next two weeks, from July 29 to August 9.

The participants in the summer camp are mainly Primary Schools students, but also include High School and Junior College students. The Belmopan Summer Camp is an annual event that is now running for five years consecutively. Its purpose is to keep the young people positively and meaningfully occupied during the summer holidays and help identify potential athletes in the various sports disciplines.
Blowing The Cow

One day, a farmer was tending to his cows when he noticed that one of them was completely cross-eyed. He called up a veterinarian friend who told him to bring in his cow.

The vet took one look at the cow, stuck a tube up the cow’s butt, and blew into the tube until the cow’s eyes straightened out. The vet charged the farmer a hundred bucks, and the farmer went home happy.

About a week later, the cow’s eyes were cross-eyed again, but this time the farmer figured he could probably take care of it himself. So he called his worker over, and together they put a tube up the cow’s butt.

The farmer put his lips to the tube and started to blow. Strangely, nothing happened, so he asked the worker hand to give it a try. The worker pulled out the tube, turned it around, put the other end in the cow’s butt and started to blow.

“What are you doing?” asked the farmer, horrified.

“Well, I wasn’t gonna use the side that YOU had put your lips on.”

You Asked For It

A man runs into the vet’s office carrying his dog, screaming for help. The vet rushes him back to an examination room and has him put his dog down on the examination table.

The vet examines the still, limp body and after a few moments, tells the man that his dog, regretfully, is dead. The man, clearly agitated and not willing to accept this, demands a second opinion.

The vet goes into the back room and comes out with a cat and puts the cat down next to the dog’s body. The cat sniffs the body, walks from head to tail, and finally looks at the vet and meows.

The vet looks at the man and says,

“I’m sorry, but the cat thinks that you’re dog is dead, too.” The man is still unwilling to accept that his dog is dead. So the vet brings in a black Labrador retriever. The lab sniffs the body, walks from head to tail, and finally looks at the vet and asks how much he owes.

The vet answers, “$650.”

$650 to tell me my dog is dead?” exclaims the man.

“Well,” the vet replies, “I would only have charged you $50 for my initial diagnosis. The additional $600 was for the cat scan and lab tests.

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Bicycle Thief Sent To Jail

policeman regained possession of the bicycle and detained the man.

The man was transported to the police station in San Ignacio where he was identified as Herman Flores, 23, Belizean unemployed of a Hillview Area address in Santa Elena. He was subsequently arrested and charged for robbery.

Flores appeared in the San Ignacio Town courtroom of magistrate Narda Morgan on Monday, July 15, 2013, where he pled not guilty to the robbery charge. Magistrate Morgan concurred with Prosecutor George Gomez' objection to the granting of bail resulting in the accused being remanded to prison. The case was adjourned to Thursday, October 17, 2013.

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