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No. 375

Sunday, Setember 1, 2013

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Thomas Caretella Jr. Chopped In San Ignacio

San Ignacio Town, Cayo, Sunday,
August 25, 2013:

Thomas Ivan Caretella Jr., 28, one of two men acquitted in June 2012 of the September 1, 2007 murder of San Ignacio taxi man, Leopoldo "Polo" Waight, is today in critical but stable condition at the Karl Heusner Memorial Hospital in Belize City, the victim of a chopping incident in San Ignacio.

San Ignacio police reported receiving the 911 call at around 12:30 am on Sunday, August 25, 2013 of a bleeding man on the ground on Independence Street, San Ignacio.

A team of policemen rushed to the



Thomas Caretella Jr, 28

scene where they encountered the victim with chop wounds to both arms and feet lying in a pool of blood. The bleeding man was rushed to the San Ignacio Community Hospital for emergency medical treatment. He was later transported to the Karl Heusner Memorial Hospital for further medical treatment.

The preliminary investigation revealed that the victim was walking on Independence Street in San Ignacio when he was attacked by a group of male persons who after chopping him fled the scene.

While an arrest in this latest chopping incident is yet to be made, police investigation continues.

Mexican Doctor Drowns In Belize

San Ignacio Town, Cayo, Satur-
day, August 24, 2013:

The body of Mexican veterinarian, Dr. Macelino Sosa, has been returned to his home country for funeral services, the latest victim of a drowning incident in the Mountain Pine Ridge.

San Ignacio police reports that Gabino Canto, Belizean Field Director for the National Cattle Sanitary Plan Project informed that at around 4:30 pm on Friday, August

friends and elements of the security forces.

At the time of the tragic incident, the deceased was employed by the Belize Agriculture Health Authority (BAHA), in the cattle sweep project to test cattle for Brucellosis.

The body of the 28 year old Mexican veterinarian was transported to the Karl Heusner Memorial Hospital in Belize City, for the legally required post mortem examination which was conducted by Forensic



Dr. Macelino Sosa, 28

23, 2013 the deceased, along with a group of Mexican veterinarians, was taking photographs near a waterfall at the Rio On Pools when he reportedly slipped and fell off a twenty foot high cliff.

A search for the body was immediately mounted but it was not until eighteen hours later when the body was discovered by relatives,

Specialist, Dr. Mario Estradabran, who certified the cause of death as asphyxiation by drowning due to mild head trauma due to an incidental consequence.

The body of Dr. Marcelino Sosa was subsequently released to the family and will be returned to Mexico where he will be laid to rest.

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Ministry of Health to Implement Dengue Control Campaign in San Pedro Town

Belmopan City, Thursday, August 22, 2013:

As a part of its ongoing country-wide Dengue Prevention Campaign, the Ministry of Health is introducing an operation in San Pedro Town.

The campaign includes ultra-low volume (ULV) spraying, thermal spraying of houses, premises inspections, spraying of drains and issuing of bed nets to homes in high-risk areas for dengue.

A team of personnel from the Vector Control Unit was dispatched to San Pedro Town on Tuesday, August 20, to investigate and assess suspected cases of dengue that were reported in areas such as DFC, Boca del Rio and San Pablo.

The issuance of chemically-treated bed nets has proven to be the most effective form of personal protection to reduce dengue transmission. This initiative is free of cost to the residents and is being carried out in close collaboration with the San Pedro Town Council.

The public is encouraged to take every precaution necessary to combat the breeding sites for the Aedes mosquitoes. Eliminate the places where the mosquito lays her eggs, such as containers that hold water in and around the home. In addition, clean water containers at least week, such as animal feeding bowls and flower pots, and cover water storage barrels.

For personal protection use repellent and when possible, wear long sleeves and long pants. Residents are also advised to keep house windows open whenever the Ministry of Health is conducting spraying activities in order for the insecticide to reach mosquitoes inside the home.

Interventions will be employed on the island from August 26-30. The Ministry continues to take an integrated approach on the prevalence of dengue in order to control and reduce further cases. This is a health and wellness message from the Ministry of Health.

World Bank and Ministry of Health Implement Japanese Social Development Fund Child Health Project in Toledo

Belmopan. Friday, August 23, 2013:

The Ministry of Health (MOH), the World Bank and the Japanese Social Development Fund (JSDF) continue to work closely together to promote better health for women and children in communities of the Toledo District.

This week, members of the World Bank Team are in Belize meeting with officials from the Ministry of Health to monitor the implementation phase of the JSDF Grant which funds the "Improving Children's Health and Nutrition" project. The project is being implemented by the Toledo

District Health Council (TDHC) with the Ministry of Health providing oversight of the process.

Working sessions to share the results and progress of this project are being held throughout the week facilitated by technical advisors of the Ministry of Health and members of the World Bank team led by Senior Operations Manager for the Grant, Carmen Carpio.

Carpio said, "The project focuses on pre-natal care, nutrition monitoring in the critical window of opportunity and school health interventions at the primary



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school level. We are hopeful that through strong community engagement the project will have a positive impact at the local level in strengthening the quality and access to health services in Toledo District and that our experience in that area serve as a model in good nutrition monitoring practices for the country."

This week the team will make field visits to schools in the southern districts and also facilitate workshop

sessions with Ministry of Health representatives and community leaders of the south.

Cupertino Pulcheria Teul, project coordinator, stated, "The support mission led the revision of the project operational documents, this exercise resulted in prioritizing a list of activities to be implemented in the last quarter of 2013. The project has now led into the implementation of assessing

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Readers Write

Greetings Editor:

Twice per month, **Francine Sabal** (2013 MDP, Belize) leaves the Korean Development Institute (KDI) School of Public Management and Policy campus and makes her way to the Dongdaemun Welfare Center where, for an hour, she teaches English to third graders,

"I strongly believe that whatever knowledge was passed on to us by others we owe it to others to pass it down to them too."

Francine is one of nine devoted students participating in the Volunteer English Program run by the KDI School Library.

The volunteer program, which started in 2009, provides Korean teens from low-income families the opportunity to improve their English and be exposed to diverse cultures.

At the start of the Spring Semester, the library sends out the call asking for students with a proficiency in English, enthusiasm and love for children to sign up. Nine students from Bangladesh, Belize, Iran, Egypt, Belarus, Algeria, Colombia and Nigeria answered that call and in return are rewarded with the opportunity to make a difference in the life of a child.



Courtesy of KDI's newsletter
– The Globe

The program runs from April to December and currently enrolls 25 eager teens and 9 dedicated student-

teachers. At the end of the program, the teachers each receive a Voluntary Community Service Certificate and memories to last a lifetime.

Francine graduated from the University of Belize with a Bachelor Degree in History with Magna Cum Laude distinction in January, 2012. She is currently pursuing a Masters degree in Public Policy with a concentration in International Relations and Political Economy at the Korean Development Institute in South Korea.

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2013 Belizean Youth Ambassadors Dine at the U.S. Ambassador's Residence Before Travel to the U.S.

Diana Castillo (Santa Elena), Justin Ford (Benque), Emily Gutierrez (San Ignacio), Katherine

Press Release From The US Embassy in Belmopan, Belize.

U.S. Embassy's Chargé d'Affaires, a.i. **Margaret D. Hawthorne** and Mrs. **Barbara Thummalapally** hosted a luncheon for Belizean Youth Ambassadors at the Ambassador's residence on August 12, 2013.

The youth are part of the U.S. State Department's Central American Youth Ambassador Program, sponsored this year by Georgetown University in Washington, D.C. and coordinated through the Belize Family Life Association.

The program offers three groups of Central American youth from Belize, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, and Panama the opportunity to experience and expand their knowledge of U.S. culture, society, and education by traveling to the U.S. for three weeks and visiting several destinations during this time.

The goal of the program is to increase cross-cultural understanding and unity throughout the Americas. The participants have gone through a rigorous selection process and have been selected from a competitive pool of applicants for community involvement, leadership potential, and



(L-R top row) Alternate Chaperone Ms. Odette Palacio, Public Affairs Intern Alicia Krueger, Mrs. Barbara Thummalapally, Marilyn Mora, Jose Montes, Sherrie Perriott, Vinnessa Reneau, Chargé d'Affaires Margaret D. Hawthorne, Katherine Martinez, Geana Hanson, Emily Gutierrez, Alexis Jones, Diana Castillo, Chaperone Ms. Nadia Martin-Caliz, Ms. Melanie Montero of the Belize Family Life Association, Chaperone Ms. Tarah Sabido, (L-R bottom row) Justin Ford, Darren Jacobs, and Erwin Wills.

good scholarship.

At the casual luncheon, Ms. Hawthorne chatted with the youths

about their expectations of their visit to the U.S., while Mrs. Thummalapally entertained her guests by playing songs on the piano.

The Youth Ambassadors who will be traveling this September are

Martinez (San Ignacio), and Erwin Wills (Belmopan). The adult chaperone is Ms. **Tarah Sabido** from Sacred Heart College. They will be visiting Tennessee, Alabama, and Washington, D.C.

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'Inspirational Corner'

Thank you so much for allowing me this privilege of sharing this *"inspirational corner"* in your newspaper. The following paragraphs ends the first chapter. I pray they will be uplifting, spiritually educational and interesting to your readers. Especially considering the times we are living in. I am opened to constructive criticisms and appreciate corrections as this is a first time experience for me. My objective, with God's help, is to make this newspaper the best by providing the kind of spiritual knowledge that will encourage not only the citizens of Santa Elena & San Ignacio, but the whole country of Belize to want to purchase it in anticipation. As the bible declares in Hosea 4:6 and I quote- *"My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge"* (end of quote). It is my intent by God's grace to be able to provide this spiritual knowledge that is needed for this end time. God continue to bless and keep you, your loved ones and your enterprise. Yours in Christ, **Sista B.**

Instead of educated weaklings, institutions of learning may send forth men strong to think and to act, men who are masters and not slaves of circumstances, men who possess breadth of mind, clearness of thought, and the courage of their convictions. {Ed 17.2}

Such an education provides more than mental discipline; it provides more than physical training. It strengthens the character, so that truth and uprightness are not sacrificed to selfish desire or worldly ambition. It fortifies the mind against evil. Instead of some master passion becoming a power to destroy, every motive and desire are brought into conformity to the great principles of right. As the perfection of His character is dwelt upon, the mind is renewed, and the soul is recreated in the image of God. {Ed 18.1}

What education can be higher than

this? What can equal it in value?

*"It cannot be gotten for gold,
Neither shall silver be weighed
for the price thereof.*

*It cannot be valued with the
gold of Ophir,*

*With the precious onyx, or the
sapphire.*

*The gold and the crystal
cannot equal it*

*And the exchange of it shall
not be for jewels of fine gold.*

*No mention shall be made of
coral, or of pearls:*

*For the price of wisdom is
above rubies."* Job 28:15-18. {Ed 18.2}

Higher than the highest human thought can reach is God's ideal for His children. Godliness--godlikeness--is the goal to be reached. Before the student there is opened a path of continual progress. He has an object to achieve, a standard to attain, that includes everything good, and pure, and noble. He will advance as fast and as far as possible in every branch of true knowledge. But his efforts will be directed to objects as much higher than

mere selfish and temporal interests as the heavens are higher than the earth. {Ed 18.3}

He who cooperates with the divine purpose in imparting to the youth a knowledge of God, and molding the character into harmony with His, does a high and noble work. As he awakens a desire to reach God's ideal, he presents an education that is as high as heaven and as broad as the universe; an education that cannot be completed in this life, but that will be continued in the life to come; an education that secures to the successful student his passport from the preparatory school of earth to the higher grade, the school above. {Ed 19.1} (TO BE CONT'D IN NEXT EDITION)

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Ministry Of Energy, Science And Technology And Public Utilities Rejects SATIIM Accusing The Government Of Belize Of Engaging In Illegal Activities In Southern Belize

Belmopan, Thursday, August 29, 2013:

The Ministry of Energy, Science and Technology and Public Utilities (MESTPU) notes with regret a recent press release by Sarstoon-Temash Institute for Indigenous Management (SATIIM) in which the organization continues to erroneously accuse the Government of Belize of engaging in illegal activities on their customary lands as it relates to the issuance of oil concessions and accompanying permits in southern Belize.

While the Ministry respects SATIIM rights to espouse their views regarding its interpretation of the Court of Appeal ruling, the Ministry must reject as irresponsible the insistence by SATIIM in misinforming the public regarding the ruling of the Court of Appeals as it relates to oil exploration in southern Belize. The Court of Appeal in its ruling, expressly refused to uphold the order issued by the then Chief Justice Conteh that required the Government of Belize to “abstain from issuing any concessions for resource exploitation, including conces-

sions, permits or contracts authorizing logging, prospecting or exploration under the Forest Acts, Mines and Mineral Act, the Petroleum Act, or any other Act” Furthermore, the Court of Appeal agreed with the Government of Belize that the learned Chief Justice Conteh erred in law in failing to take judicial notice of the Petroleum Act which vests property in petroleum in the State and of the Sixth Amendment Act which, for avoidance of any doubt, exclusively vests the owner-

ship of petroleum and other minerals in the Government of Belize.

Consequently, the GOB reiterates its position that its decision to issue licenses, concessions and all necessary permits as required by law is completely legal and consistent with the decision of the Court of Appeal. As such, the MESTPU calls on SATIIM to fully ventilate and explain the significance of the Court of Appeal ruling to its stakeholders, particularly as it relates to the Government of Belize’s rights, under

law, to issue concessions, licenses and permits for oil exploration in southern Belize. An explanation that is focused on facts will serve to educate all stakeholders and minimize the intentional rhetoric and sensationalism surrounding this national issue.

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2013 Village Arts and Craft Expo

**Wednesday, August 28, 2013-
Belize City:**

The Belize Tourism Board (BTB) invites you to the 2nd Annual Village Arts & Craft Expo, on Saturday, August 31st, at the Fort Point Pedestrian Walk at the Memorial Park in Belize City.

Over one hundred and twenty artisans will treat patrons to an exhibition of craftsmanship through local souvenirs, carving, clothing, jewelry, and packaged foods. The BTB recognizes the importance of locally made arts and craft in promoting Belize, and, as a result, over the past three months, BTB’s Destination Planning Department has been working with artisans from across the country on how to better package, present, and market their products to a local market. The Village Arts and Craft Expo is a result of the Village Outreach Program outlined in the Tourism Master Plan, which Destination Planning Coordinator, **Clive Myers**, said, is set to create useful

ties and provide income generating opportunities, “*The objective of the event is to encourage local production and increase the visibility of brand Belize, and, by extension, strengthen the tourism product. We believe that aside from providing these talented craftsmen and women with the opportunity to promote their offerings, they will also be able to sell their work, network with local buyers and build relationship with other creatives in the business.*”

The Village Expo is an all-day event which takes place between 9:00 am -4 p.m, which the public will be able to access for free. The booths will be divided according to districts, making it easier to identify crafts by their respective areas. The event is the result of the collaborative efforts of the BTB, Beltraide, SBDC Belize, NAVCO/ DAVCO, Ministry of Labour, Local Government, and Rural Development & NEM.

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Your Weekly Horoscope and Lucky Numbers

ARIES:

March 22 to April 20

Aries, your intuition is increased today to the point where you feel like a mind reader, like you could deduce the thoughts and motives of people you've never met before. Reading about news events might bring sudden insights as to how they are going to turn out. You could decide to put this ability to work advancing your financial condition. Do this if you can, within reason. Your insights are probably correct! **Lucky numbers: 12, 52, 67.**

TAURUS:

April 21 to May 21

You should be feeling especially passionate at this time, especially regarding partnerships. Romantic partnerships definitely call for an evening together! Professional and creative partnerships call for a new project that you believe in strongly. Look to events in other states or foreign countries for inspiration. Something begun in places far away could capture your imagination. **Lucky numbers: 23, 45, 89.**

GEMINI:

May 22 to June 21

If you have been feeling less like yourself lately, Gemini, a surge of inner power could push you over the top and make you feel strong and healthy again. You could decide to finish the unfinished tasks around you today. You might get most of them done by day's end. Don't forget to enjoy yourself, however. You will want to make the most of your newfound energy. **Lucky numbers: 05, 38, 93.**

CANCER:

June 22 to July 23

A surge of passion could dominate your day unless you find an outlet for

it, Cancer. An intimate evening with a lover would be a good idea. Creative passion is also strong, and you could be hit with sudden inspiration, perhaps influenced by distant places. Don't be afraid to take time out from your mundane chores to pursue this inspiration. Creativity is as important as anything else. **Lucky numbers: 50, 65, 72.**

LEO:

July 24 to August 21

A romantic evening at home with your partner could bring the two of you closer, Leo. Your emotions are intense right now, so you need to use your intuition to judge exactly how much of your feelings you should reveal. An intellectual passion could also come your way. You might discover a new field of interest and you will want to bury yourself at home studying it for hours. **Lucky numbers: 19, 58, 70.**

VIRGO:

August 22 to September 21

Information received from far away could excite your passion to learn more about a subject, Virgo. You might be inspired to use your new knowledge in a project that includes a partner. Your mind is extremely insightful at this time, so if you face decisions, this is the day to follow your heart. Don't be surprised if you find your telepathic abilities expanded as well! **Lucky numbers: 02, 35, 79.**

LIBRA:

September 22 to October 23

Money matters are likely to be advanced today through your intuition and inner power, Libra. You may get a hunch that your idea for bringing in some extra money just might work. At least look into it. Don't let anyone

talk you out of it until you know the facts. You might also rediscover a neglected talent that you could find quite useful at this time. **Lucky numbers: 15, 48, 92.**

SCORPIO:

October 24 to November 21

A surge of inner power could have you feeling like you can move mountains, Scorpio. If you have been contemplating a course of action that others believe impossible, this is the time to get it going. Career matters, romance, and creative projects could all be advanced considerably by careful effort on your part. Give it some thought, write down your ideas, consider all contingencies, and move ahead! **Lucky numbers: 10, 43, 98.**

SAGITTARIUS:

November 22 to December 21

Memories from your past could resurface, Sagittarius. You might wonder why you are suddenly thinking about them, but they probably represent a release of old emotional hang-ups that have been holding you back. By midafternoon you should feel more focused, determined, and ready to take on just about anything. This is definitely a great day to start new projects or complete old ones. **Lucky numbers: 17, 61, 94.**

CAPRICORN:

December 22 to January 20

Today represents a beginning in many ways. A friend from the past could reappear in your life, Capricorn, and bring up memories both pleasant and disconcerting. Don't worry too much about it. This probably represents a much-needed release. You

might also become involved with a group that embodies goals about which you're passionate. New friends could also come your way. Expect a few surprises from all sides! **Lucky numbers: 33, 56, 90**

AQUARIUS:

January 21 to February 19

Emotions could be running high today, Aquarius. Someone in your entourage may have a problem with an authority figure, and political issues could come up. You may feel powerful right now and tempted to throw your hat into the ring. However, it is best to stay out of anything political and channel that power and passion into your own project. That's far more likely to bring positive results. **Lucky numbers: 03, 57, 68.**

PISCES:

February 20 to March 21

Heightened mental powers might have you spending a lot of time reading or doing research of some kind, Pisces. Your curiosity is especially high right now. You might even consider advancing your education in some way, especially since new interests have been stimulating you for some time. New friends in fascinating fields might have started you thinking. This is a good time to look into this. **Lucky numbers: 22, 83, 99.**

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Queen of the Bay Talent Competition
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August 27th - 29th
Carnival Mas Camp (Juniors & Seniors)
Venue: Various Mas Band Camps | 7:00 PM | FREE

August 30th
Queen of the Bay Pageant
Venue: Bliss Centre for the Performing Arts | 7:00 PM | PAID

August 31st
2nd Annual Patriotic Paddle
Venue: Flowers Bank to Belize City | 8:30 AM | FREE

St John's Cathedral 16th Annual International Food Fest
Venue: Anglican Cathedral College (ACC) Grounds | 11:00 AM

Little Independence Day Junior Miss
Venue: Bliss Centre for the Performing Arts | 7:00 PM | PAID

UWI Open Campus Gala Scholarship Fundraising Banquet
Venue: Belize Biltmore Plaza | 7:00 PM | PAID

September 1st
Flag Monument Ceremony
Venue: Flag Monument - Freetown Rd. & Princess Margaret Dr. 5:30 AM | FREE

14th Annual Lionman Triathlon
Venue: Sandlighters Promenade | 6:30 AM | FREE

St. George's Caye Battle Regatta
Venue: St. George's Caye | 9:00 AM | FREE

Official Launch of Sept. Celebrations 2013
Venue: St. George's Caye | 11:00 AM | FREE
(Departure to SGC begins at 9:00 AM - Radisson Marina Pier) | Boat Ride PAID

September 2nd
6th Annual Evening of Patriotic Songs & Poems
Venue: Wesley Methodist Church | 7:00 PM | FREE

September 5th
Sir Barry's Belikin Bash
Venue: Memorial Park | 6:00 PM - 12:00 AM | FREE

September 6th
Carnival Motorcade
Venue: Principal Streets of Belize City | 4:00 PM | FREE

Sir Barry's Belikin Bash
Venue: Memorial Park | 6:00 PM - 12:00 AM | FREE

Francis Reneau: Mass in Blues Concert
Venue: Bliss Centre for the Performing Arts | 8:00 PM | PAID

September 7th
Allied Sports Club Open Track Meet
Venue: Marion Jones Stadium | 8 AM | FREE

Sir Barry's Belikin Bash
Venue: Memorial Park | 6:00 PM - 12:00 AM | FREE

Carnival King & Queen Competition
Venue: Roger's Stadium | 7:30 PM | PAID

September Homecoming Bram in Belize
Venue: Brick Oven Bar and Grill (13 King Street near Albert) | 9:00 PM | PAID

September 8th
Francis Reneau: Mass in Blues Concert
Venue: Bliss Centre for the Performing Arts | 8:00 PM | PAID

September 9th
Fire Engine Parade
Venue: Principal Streets of Belize City | 6:00 PM | FREE

9th Night Soca Concert
Venue: To be announced | 9:00 PM | PAID

September 10th
Official St George's Caye Day Ceremony
Venue: Memorial Park | 9:00 AM | FREE (arrivals begin 8 AM)

St George's Caye Day Citizens Parade
Venue: Principal Streets of Belize City | 10:00 AM | FREE

10th Bram & Multi-Cultural Fair
Venue: ITVET Compound | 11:00 AM - 9:00 PM | PAID

September 12th
Tribute to Belizean Patriots- National Honours & Awards Ceremony
Venue: Bliss Centre for the Performing Arts | 7:00 PM | FREE

Garifuna Fashion Show
Venue: Holy Redeemer Parish Hall | 7:00 PM | PAID

September 13th
School Children's Rally
Venue: Bird's Isle | 9:00 AM | PAID

12th Annual Sound Fest 2013
Venue: Bird's Isle | 9:00 PM | PAID

Jouvert Splash Down
Venue: Hard Rock | 10 PM - 5 AM | PAID

September 14th
Carnival Jouvert
Venue: Starting at San Cas Plaza - Streets of Belize City 5:00 AM | FREE

BCCI Expo 2013
Venue: ITVET Compound | 8:00 AM - 6:00 PM | PAID

XV Central American Masters Table Tennis Championships
Venue: Belize Elementary School Auditorium | 9 AM | FREE

Carnival Road March
Venue: Yaborough to BTL Park | 1:00 PM | FREE

September 15th
XV Central American Masters Table Tennis Championships
Venue: Belize Elementary School Auditorium | 9 AM | FREE

Belize City Council / Leslie's Imports Cycling Criterion
Venue: Albert & Regent Streets | 11:00 AM - 6:00 PM | FREE

BCCI Expo 2013
Venue: ITVET Compound | 8:00 AM - 6:00 PM | PAID

National Day Of Prayer - Ecumenical Service
Venue: Wesley Church | 7:00 PM | FREE

September 18th
Special Forum - Belize/Guatemala: Ending the Age Old Dispute
Venue: Bliss Centre for the Performing Arts | 8:00 PM | FREE

September 19th
National Service Day - In Memory of Rt. Hon. George C. Price & National Colours Day
Venue: Countrywide | All Day Event | FREE

Pan Yoad Steel Bands Concert
Venue: House of Culture | 8:00 PM | PAID

September 20th thru 21st
"Legacy of our Ancestors" Cultural Extravaganza
Official Flag Raising Ceremony
Fireworks Display / Musical Entertainment
Venue: Memorial Park | 9:00 PM - 1:00 AM | FREE

Reggae/Soca Fest Concert
Venue: Princess Hotel & Casino Poolside | 9:00 PM | PAID

September 21st
Belize City Independence Day Ceremony
Venue: Memorial Park | 8:00 AM | FREE

Belize City Uniform Parade
Venue: Principal Streets of Belize City | 9:30 AM | FREE

Independence Day Street Fete
Venue: Albert & Regent Streets | 11 AM - 6 PM | FREE

September 22nd
Journey on the Sea
Venue: Bannister Island | 9:00 AM | PAID

El Salvador Military Symphonic Orchestra Concert
Venue: Bliss Centre for the Performing Arts | 6:00 PM | FREE

BELMOPAN CITY

September 6th
Opening of Belmopan September Celebrations Calendar
Venue: Independence Plaza | 6:30 PM | FREE

September 8th
Meso-American Grand Cultural Festival
Venue: Governor General Field | 5:00 PM | FREE

September 9th
Kids Bicycle Decoration
Venue: Belmopan Fire Station | 4:00 PM | FREE

Fire Engine Parade
Venue: Move off from Belmopan Fire Station | 7 PM | FREE

September 10th
St. George's Caye Day Ceremony (Parade Follows)
Venue: Independence Plaza | 10:00 AM | FREE

Sporting Day / Jump Up
Venue: Mae Gordon Park | 10:00 AM | FREE

September 13th
Children's Rally
Venue: UB Gymnasium | 9:00 AM | FREE

September 19th
National Service Day - In Memory of Rt. Hon. George C. Price & National Colours Day
Venue: Countrywide | All Day Event | FREE

September 20th
Take Back the Land Parade
Venue: Roaring Creek to Independence Plaza | 6 PM | FREE

El Salvador Military Symphonic Orchestra Concert
Venue: Independence Plaza | 10:00 PM | FREE

September 21st
Official Independence Day Ceremony
Venue: Independence Plaza | 10 AM (Arrivals begin at 9 AM)

Citizens' Parade
Venue: Ring Road to Devon Beaton Park | 11:00 AM | FREE

Jump Up
Venue: Devon Beaton Park | 1:00 PM - 12:00 AM | FREE

BENQUE VIEJO DEL CARMEN

September 2nd
Art Competition Launch
Venue: Mount Carmel Primary School | 10:00 AM | FREE

September 6th
Focus & Development of Benque Viejo Exhibition Launch & Lecture
Venue: Benque Viejo House of Culture | 7:00 PM | FREE

September 9th
Battle of St George's Caye Motorcade
Venue: Principal Streets of Benque Viejo Del Carmen 7:00 PM | FREE

September 10th
Battle of St. George's Caye Day Ecumenical Service
Venue: Templo Evangelico Iglesia Del Nazareno 9:00 AM | FREE

Battle of St George's Caye Day Ceremony
Venue: Marshalllock Cancha | 2:00 PM | FREE

Battle of St. George's Caye Day Parade
Venue: Principal Streets of Benque Viejo Del Carmen 4:00 PM | FREE

Jump-Up
Venue: Marshalllock Cancha | 7:00 PM | FREE

September 14th
House of Culture 12th Anniversary Celebration "Arts Fair"
Venue: Centennial Park | 2:00 PM | FREE

September 19th
National Service Day - In Memory of Rt. Hon. George C. Price & National Colours Day
Venue: Countrywide | All Day Event | FREE

Cleaning Campaign
Venue: Streets of Benque Viejo Del Carmen
All Day Event | FREE

George Price "Man of Purpose & Vision" Documentary "Road to Independence"
Venue: Benque Viejo House of Culture | 7:00 PM | FREE

September 20th
Independence Eve Ceremony
Venue: Marshalllock Cancha | 11:00 PM | FREE

Independence Fireworks Display
Venue: Marshalllock Cancha | 12:00 AM | FREE

September 21st
Independence Day Ecumenical Service
Venue: Mount Carmel Parish | 9:00 AM | FREE

Independence Day Ceremony
Venue: Marshalllock Cancha | 2:00 PM | FREE

Independence Day Parade
Venue: Principal Streets of Benque Viejo del Carmen 4:00 PM | FREE

Independence Day Jump-Up!
Venue: Marshalllock Cancha | 7:00 PM | FREE

COROZAL

August 10th
Art in the Park
Venue: Central Park | 5:00 PM | FREE

August 31st
Queen of the Bay Pageant
Venue: Andres Campos Civic Center | 7:00 PM | PAID

September 1st
Opening of September Celebrations /DJ's Faceoff Competition
Venue: In Front of the Corozal Town Hall | 6:00 PM | FREE

September 2nd
Matinee "Under the Stars"
Venue: Seaside Amphitheatre | 7:00 PM | FREE

September 8th
Day of Prayer
Venue: Church of Choice | All Day Event | FREE

Sports Day
Venue: Andres Campos Civic Center | 10:00 AM | FREE

September 9th
Fire Engine Parade
Venue: Starting at Miami Beach | 7:00 PM | FREE

Jump Up / Dance
Venue: Miami Beach | 10:00 PM | FREE

Fireworks Display
Venue: Miami Beach | 12:00 AM | FREE

September 10th
Sounding of the Siren
Venue: Fire Station | 6:00 AM | FREE

St. George's Caye Day Ceremony
Venue: In Front of Library | 10:00 AM | FREE

Parade
Venue: In Front of Library | 11:00 AM | FREE

Beach Party
Venue: Miami Beach | 12:00 PM | FREE

September 11th
Children's Night
Venue: Andres Campos Civic Center | 4:00 PM | FREE

September 12th
College Night
Venue: Andres Campos Civic Center | 6:00 PM | FREE

September 13th
Pre-School Rally
Venue: Corozal Central Park | 8:00 AM | FREE

Children's Rally
Venue: Andres Campos Civic Center | 9:00 AM | FREE

Prayer Vigil
Venue: Andres Campos Civic Center | 8:00 PM | FREE

September 14th
Carnival Parade and Judging
Venue: In front of Bus Terminal 7th Ave - Ricalde Stadium 1:00 PM | FREE

Art in the Park (Anniversary Edition)
Venue: Corozal Central Park | 5:00 PM | FREE

September 15th
Christian Band Concert
Venue: Andres Campos Civic Center | 6:00 PM | FREE

September 16th
Local Talent Festival
Venue: In Front of Town Hall | 6:00 PM | FREE

September 17th
Literacy Carnival Parade
Venue: Central Park | 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM | FREE

September 18th
Military BDF, Police & Fire Tattoo
Venue: Andres Campos Civic Center | 5:00 PM | FREE

September 19th
National Service Day - In Memory of Rt. Hon. George C. Price & National Colours Day
Venue: Countrywide | All Day Event | FREE

Battle of the Bands
Venue: Andres Campos Civic Center | 7:00 PM | FREE

September 20th
Cultural Presentations
Venue: Andres Campos Civic Center | 8:00 PM | FREE

Flag Raising Ceremony
Venue: Andres Campos Civic Center | 10:00 PM | FREE

Fireworks and Dance
Venue: Andres Campos Civic Center | 12:00 AM | FREE

September 21st
Sounding of Siren
Venue: Andres Campos Civic Center | 6:00 AM | FREE

Independence Day Ceremony
Venue: Andres Campos Civic Center | 10:00 AM | FREE

Citizens Parade
Venue: Main Streets of Corozal | 11:00 AM | FREE

Citizens Dance
Venue: Miami Beach | 1:00 PM - 12:00 AM | FREE

DANGRIGA

August 30th
September Celebrations Launch Motorcade
Venue: Drums of our Fathers Monument to BTL Princess Royal Park | 5:30 PM | FREE

September Celebrations Opening Ceremony
Venue: BTL Princess Royal Park | 6:30 PM | FREE

September 5th
Seonagers Day
Venue: Helpage Center Building | 2:00 PM | FREE

September 9th
Decorated Bicycle & Fire Engine Parade
Venue: Principal Streets of Dangriga | 7:00 PM | FREE



Block Party
Venue: St Vincent St. (In front of Immigration Dept.)
9:00 PM | FREE

September 10th
St. George's Caye Day Ceremony & Citizens Parade
Venue: BTL Princess Royal Park | 10:00 AM | FREE

10th Day Block Party
Venue: BTL Princess Royal Park | 1:00 PM | FREE

September 12th
Read-a-Book to a Child Day
Venue: All Primary Schools | 2:00 PM | FREE

September 13th
Unsung Heroes/Heroines Award Night
Venue: Town Hall | 7:00 PM | FREE

September 14th
Culture Day
Venue: Open Lot (across from Drums of our Fathers Monument)
| 6:00 PM | FREE

September 19th
National Service Day – In Memory of Rt. Hon. George C. Price & National Colours Day
Venue: Countrywide | All Day Event | FREE

Karaoke Competition
Venue: Illagulei Sports Bar | 8:00 PM | PAID

September 20th
Flag Raising Ceremony
Venue: BTL Princess Royal Park | 10:00 PM | FREE

Fireworks Display
Venue: BTL Princess Royal Park | 12:00 AM | FREE

September 21st
Independence Day Ceremony
Venue: BTL Princess Royal Park | 10:00 AM | FREE

Citizen Parade
Venue: Principal Streets of Dangriga | 11:30 AM | FREE

Jump Up - after the Citizen Parade
Venue: BTL Princess Royal Park | 1:30 PM | FREE

ORANGE WALK

August 31st
Launch of Sept. Celebrations & Fiesta FM 9th Anniversary
Venue: Fort Cairns Plaza | 6:00 PM | FREE

September 7th
Miss Orange Walk Pageant
Venue: Multipurpose Complex | 7:00 PM | PAID

September 8th
Karaoke Competition Night
Venue: Fort Cairns Plaza | 5:00 PM | FREE

September 9th
Siren Parade
Venue: Main Street of Town ending at Fort Cairns Plaza
7:00 PM | FREE

September 10th
St. George's Caye Day Official Ceremony
Venue: Central Park | 3:00 PM | FREE

Uniform Parade
Venue: Central Park | 4:00 PM | FREE

Block Party
Venue: Central Park | 5:00 PM | FREE

September 12th
Central Drum Core Drum Fete
Venue: Fort Cairns Plaza | 7:00PM | FREE

September 13th
Children's Rally
Venue: People's Stadium | 9:00AM | FREE

September 14th
Rock Concert
Venue: Fort Cairns Plaza | 7:00 PM | FREE

September 15th
National Day of Prayer
Venue: Church of Choice | All Day Event | FREE

September 19th
National Service Day – In Memory of Rt. Hon. George C. Price & National Colours Day
Venue: Countrywide | All Day Event | FREE

Banquitas House of Culture 11th Anniversary
Venue: Banquitas House of Culture | 10:00 AM | FREE

El Salvador Military Symphonic Orchestra Concert
Venue: People's Stadium | 6:00 PM | FREE

September 20th
Touch Run
Flag Raising Ceremony
Fireworks Display / Block Party
Venue: Central Park | 7:00 PM - 3:00 AM | FREE

September 21st
Independence Day Ceremony
Citizens Parade
Block Party
Venue: Central Park | 2:00 PM - 3:00 AM | FREE

PUNTA GORDA

August 17th
Launching of September Celebrations & Presentation of Candidates for Queen of the Bay
Venue: Sports Complex | 7:00 PM - 2:00 AM | PAID

August 24th
Queen of the Bay Pageant
Venue: Sports Complex | 7:00 PM - 11:00 PM | PAID

August 30th
Queen of the Bay Pageant (National)
Venue: Bliss Centre for the Perf. Arts | 7:00 PM | PAID

September 2nd
Presentation of Flags, Maps & Constitution of Belize to School
Venue: Conference Room | 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM | FREE

September 3rd
Panel Discussion on Independent Belize by Present & Past Representatives
Venue: UB Toledo Campus | 7 PM - 10 PM | FREE

September 5th
Clean Up Campaign / Beautification of the Streets
Venue: Principal Streets of Punta Gorda | 8:30 PM | FREE

September 6th
Literacy Day
Venue: Sports Complex | 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM | FREE

Judging of Best Decorated Government Office, School, Business & Residence
Venue: Streets of Punta Gorda | 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM | FREE

September 7th
Cultural Expo & Carnival
Venue: Central Park | 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM | FREE

September 9th
Fire Engine Parade
Venue: Principal Streets of Punta Gorda | 7:00 PM | FREE

DJ Competition & Dance
Venue: Sports Complex | 7:00 PM - 3:00 AM | PAID

September 10th
Sounding of the Siren
Venue: Principal Streets of PG Town | 6:00 AM | FREE

St. George's Caye Day Ceremony
Venue: Central Park | 10:00 AM | FREE

St. George's Caye Day Parade
Venue: Principal Streets of Punta Gorda Town 11:00 AM | FREE

Block Party
Venue: Central Park | 12:00 PM - 6:00 PM | FREE

September 11th
Children's Talent Show
Venue: Central Park | 6:00 PM -10:00 PM | FREE

September 12th
Tribute to Belizean Patriot & Senior Citizens
Venue: Conference Room | 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM | FREE

September 13th
School & Youth Rally
Venue: Sports Complex | 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM | FREE

September 14th
Run for Jesus
Venue: Central Park | 6:00 AM - 7:00 AM | FREE

Karaoke Finals Competition
Venue: Sports Complex | 7:00 PM - 2:00 AM | PAID

September 15th
Ecumenical Service
Venue: Church of Choice | 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM | FREE

Family Day
Venue: One Mile Beach | 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM | FREE

September 16th
Essay Competition on Theme
Venue: Conference Room | 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM | FREE

September 17th
University of Belize Forum
Venue: UB Toledo Campus 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM | FREE

September 19th
National Service Day – In Memory of Rt. Hon. George C. Price & National Colours Day
Venue: Countrywide | All Day Event | FREE

Dedication of Independence Torch
Venue: Central Park | 7:00 PM | FREE

September 20th
Eve of Independence:
Sounding of Siren
Fire Engine Parade
Torch Run
Flag Raising Ceremony
Fireworks Display
Venue: Central Park
7:00 PM - 3:00 AM | FREE

September 21st
Independence Day Ceremony
Uniforms Parade
Block Party
Bicycle Race
Venue: Central Park
10:00 AM - 6:00 PM | FREE

SAN IGNACIO/SANTA ELENA

August 17th
Queen of the West Pageant
Venue: Perla Bar & Grill Princess Casino 10:00 PM | PAID

August 18th
Western Regional Cycling Association / Football Tournament
Venue: Broaster Stadium | FREE

Mayor & Councillors Visit Octavia Waight
Venue: Octavia Waight Center | 10:00 AM | FREE

August 24th
Queen Of West Presentation
Venue: Cayo Welcome Center | 7:00 PM | FREE

August 31st
Queen Of The West Pageant
Venue: Octavia Waight Conventional Hall | 7:00 PM | PAID

September 1st
Day Of Prayer
Venue: Macal River Park | 6:00 PM | FREE

September 4th
Historical Video Show
Venue: Cayo Welcome Center | 6:00 PM | FREE

Clean-up Campaign
Venue: Principal St. of San Ignacio & Santa Elena | 7 AM | FREE

September 6th
Children's Talent Show
Venue: Cayo Welcome Center | 7:00 PM | FREE

September 9th
Siren & Motorcade Parade
Venue: Principal St. of San Ignacio/Santa Elena | 8 PM | FREE

Eve of Tenth Ceremony
Venue: In front of the Administration Building 10:00 PM | FREE

September 10th
St George's Caye Day Ceremony
Venue: In front of the Administration Building 2:00 PM | FREE

St George's Caye Day Parade & Jump-Up
Venue: In front of the Administration Building 3:00 PM | FREE

September 11th & 12th
Historical Videos On Big Screen
Venue: Cayo Welcome Center | 6:30 PM | FREE

September 13th
Cayo's Got Talent Youth
Venue: Cayo Welcome Center | 7:00 PM | FREE

September 14th
Grand Musical Concert
Venue: Cayo Welcome Center | 7:00 PM | FREE

September 15th
Fire Engine, BERT, Police, BDF Military Tattoo
Venue: Victor Galvez Stadium | 9:00 AM | FREE

Riverside Bash
Venue: Santa Elena Riverside | 1:00 PM - 6:00 PM | FREE

Little Miss Pandi Queen Pageant
Venue: Cayo Welcome Center | 5:00 PM | FREE

September 16th
Cayo's Got Talent (Adults)
Venue: Cayo Welcome Center | 7:00 PM | FREE

September 18th
Clean Up Campaign
Venue: San Ignacio/Santa Elena Towns | 7:00 AM | FREE

September 19th
National Service Day - In Memory of Rt. Hon. George C. Price & National Colours Day
Venue: Countrywide | All Day Event | FREE

1st Historical School Competition
Venue: Octavia Waight Center | 9:30 AM | FREE

September 20th
School Rally
Venue: In Front of Administration Building | 9:00 AM | FREE

Siren & Motorcade Parade
Venue: Principal Streets of San Ignacio/Santa Elena Towns
7:00 PM | FREE

Independence Eve Celebration – Entertainment & Fireworks
Venue: In Front of Administration Building | 7:00 PM | FREE

September 21st
Independence Day Ceremony Parade & Jump Up
Venue: In Front of Administration Building 2:00 PM | FREE

September 23rd
El Salvador Military Symphonic Orchestra Concert
Venue: Broaster Stadium | 6:00 PM | FREE

SAN PEDRO

September 1st
Miss San Pedro Pageant
Venue: Saca Chispas Football Field | 7:00 PM | PAID

September 10th
Miss San Pedro Coronation
Venue: Central Park | 10:00 AM | FREE

St George's Caye Day Celebration
Venue: Central Park | 10:30 AM | FREE

September 13th
Children's Talent Show
Venue: Central Park | 6:00 PM | FREE

September 14th
Central American Night
Venue: Central Park | 7:00 PM | FREE

September 17th
Spelling Bee Contest
Venue: Central Park | 7:00 PM | FREE

September 19th
National Service Day - In Memory of Rt. Hon. George C. Price & National Colours Day
Venue: Countrywide | All Day Event | FREE

Social Studies Competition
Venue: Central Park | 7:00 PM | FREE

September 20th
Independence Eve Ceremony / Block Party
Venue: Central Park | 6:00 PM | FREE

September 21st
Independence Day Ceremony & Celebrations
Venue: Central Park & Beach | 10:00 AM | FREE

El Salvador Military Symphonic Orchestra Concert
Venue: Central Park | 8:00 PM | FREE

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS



NICH
national institute of culture and history



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★ STAR HUMOR ★

Sweet Cheeks

A married couple was in a terrible accident where the woman's face was severely burned. The doctor told her husband that they couldn't graft any skin from her body because she was too skinny.

So the husband offered to donate some of his own skin. However, the only skin on his body that the doctor felt was suitable would have to come from his buttocks. The husband and wife agreed that they would tell no one about where the skin came from, and requested that the doctor also honor their secret. After all, this was a very delicate matter.

After the surgery was completed,

everyone was astounded at the woman's new beauty. She looked more beautiful than she ever had before! All her friends and relatives just went on and on about her youthful beauty!

One day, she was alone with her husband, and she was overcome with emotion at his sacrifice. She said, *"Dear, I just want to thank you for everything you did for me. There is no way I could ever repay you."*

"My darling," he replied, *"I get all the thanks I need every time I see your mother kiss you on the cheek."*

The Tough Teacher

A school teacher injured his back and had to wear a plaster cast around the upper part of his body. It fit under his shirt and was not noticeable at all. On the first day of the term, still with the cast under his shirt, he found himself assigned to the toughest students in school.

Walking confidently into the rowdy classroom, he opened the window as wide as possible and then busied himself with desk work. The classroom became a bit unruly and he admonished them. This happened

several times.

When he would do work at his desk, the strong breeze from the window made his tie flap annoyingly. He kept rearranging and rearranging the tie as the class raised it's level of unruliness.

Finally, becoming disgusted with the wayward tie, he stood up and took a big stapler off his desk and stapled the tie to his chest in several places.

Discipline was not a problem from that day forth.

Breaking Bad News

A bachelor who for companionship, had a beloved cat for over 10 years, plans a vacation to Paris and entrusts the cat with his brother. As soon as

he arrives in Paris he calls his brother and asks how his cat is doing without him. "Oh, the cat? He's dead." said the brother bluntly. *"I can't be-*

lieve this!" yells the bachelor. *"How could you tell me he's dead like that?"*

"How else was I supposed to tell you?" the brother asked.

"Well you could have broke it to me gently." the brother went on. *"When I called today you could have said he is up on the roof but the fire department is getting him down. Then tomorrow when I called you could have said that he fell while they were trying to rescue him and broke his back but,*

Little Johnny At Test Time

In class one day, Mr. Johnson pulled Johnny over to his desk after a test, and said, *"Johnny I have a feeling that you have been cheating on your tests."*

Johnny was astounded and asked Mr. Johnson to prove it. *"Well, said Mr. Johnson, I was looking over your test and the question was, 'Who was our first president?', and the little girl that sits next to you, Mary, put 'George Washington,' and so did you."*

"So, everyone knows that he was

don't worry, the best vet in town was doing the surgery to repair it. And then when I called the third day you could have said they did all they could do but they couldn't save him."

The brother thought about this and says, *"That does sound better than the way I said it."*

"Never mind," says the bachelor exasperated, *"How's mother?"*

The brother says *"She's on the roof but the fire department is getting her down."*

the first president."

"Well, just wait a minute," said Mr. Johnson. *"The next question was, 'Who freed the slaves?' Mary put Abraham Lincoln and so did you."*

"Well, I read the history book last night and I remembered that," said Johnny.

"Wait, wait," said Mr. Johnson. The next question was, *"Who was president during the Louisiana Purchase?"* Mary put *"I don't know,"* and you put, *"Me neither."*

Big Family

Flying home from France on a recent trip I noticed a rather haggard looking mom walking into the customs area with eight children-- all under age 10. Collecting their many suitcases, the nine of them entered the cramped customs area. A young customs official watched the large entourage in disbelief, *"Ma'am,"* he said, *"do all these children and this*

luggage belong to you?"

"Yes, sir," the lady said with a sigh, *"they're all mine."*

The customs agent began his interrogation: *"Ma'am, do you have any weapons, contraband or drugs in your possession?"*

"Sir," she calmly answered, *"if I'd had any of those items, I would have used them by now."*

Really Good Intentions

The preacher just finished his sermon for the day and proceeded toward the back of the church for his usual greetings and handshaking as the congregation left the church. After shaking a few adult hands he came upon the seven year old son of one of the Deacons of the church.

"Good morning, Jonathan," the preacher said as he reached out to shake Jonathan's hand.

As he was doing do he felt something in the palm of Jonathan's

hand. *"What's this?"* the preacher asked.

"Money," said Jonathan with a big smile on his face, *"It's for you!"*

"I don't want to take your money, Jonathan," the preacher answered.

"I want you to have it," said Jonathan. After a short pause Jonathan continued, *"My daddy says you're the poorest preacher we ever had and I want to help you."*

Mr. Obvious

A woman was shopping at her local supermarket where she selected a half-gallon of 2% milk, a carton of eggs, a quart of orange juice, a head of romaine lettuce, a 2 lbs can of coffee, and a 1 lb package of bacon.

As she was unloading her items on the conveyor belt to check-out, a drunk standing behind her watched as she placed the items in front of the cashier.

While the cashier was ringing up her purchases the drunk calmly stated, *"You must be single."*

The woman was a bit startled by this proclamation but she was equally intrigued by the derelict's intuition since she was indeed single.

She looked at her six items on the belt and saw nothing particularly unusual about her selections that could have tipped off her drunken observer as to her marital status.

Curiosity getting the better of her, she said, *"Well, you know what, you're absolutely correct. But how on earth did you know that?"*

The drunk replied, *"Cause you're ugly."*

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France's Hollande backs US on Syria action

France is still ready to take action in Syria alongside the US, despite UK MPs blocking British involvement, President **Francois Hollande** has said.

He told Le Monde newspaper a strike within days could not be ruled out.

The US says it will continue to seek a coalition, and President Barack Obama is meeting his national security team.

The UN is investigating claims that the Syrian forces of President **Bashar al-Assad** used chemical weapons. Mr Assad denies the claims, blaming rebels.

UN chemical weapons inspectors visited a hospital in a government-controlled area of Damascus on Friday.

The UN says the whole team will leave Syria on Saturday, and Secretary General **Ban Ki-moon** says they will then brief him on their preliminary findings.

Syrian officials say they will reject any **"incomplete report"** from the UN before the results of laboratory tests are known.

Mr Ban is scheduled to meet the five permanent members of the Security Council in New York later.

They have held talks twice already this week, but after the last meeting on Thursday, diplomats said they were **"far apart"**.

Mr Hollande said the UK vote, in which parliament rejected a government motion supporting the principle of military action, made no difference to France's position.

"Each country is sovereign to participate or not in an operation. That is valid for Britain as it is for France," he said.

He said that if the UN Security Council was unable to act, a coalition would form including the Arab League and European countries.

"But there are few countries which can have the capacity of enforcing any sanction through the appropriate measures," he said.

"France will be part of it. France is ready."

He ruled out strikes while the UN inspectors were in Syria. However he did not rule out the possibility that military action could be taken before next Wednesday, when the French parliament is due to debate the issue.

Neither France nor the US need parliamentary approval for action, and Secretary of State **John Kerry** said the US could not be held to the foreign policy of others.

The UK vote was welcomed in Russia, Syria's main international ally.

Moscow said it reflected a growing public understanding of the dangers of an attack.

And the BBC's **Jeremy Bowen** in Damascus says Syrian MPs are de-

lighted with the UK vote.

He says they believe a letter they sent to the UK parliament inviting their British counterparts to inspect the evidence of chemical attacks had helped sway the vote against military action.

China, which has vetoed previous UN Security Council resolutions against Syria, reiterated on Friday that no action should be taken until the UN inspectors have reported on their findings.

And Germany said of military action that **"such participation has not been sought nor is it being considered"**.

Officials in the US and UK had been insistent throughout the week that the Assad regime had carried out a poison-gas attack in eastern Damascus on 21 August in which hundreds were killed.

However British Prime Minister

David Cameron told parliament on Thursday he could not be 100% sure.

In the US, government officials briefed a Congressional committee on the case for launching action against Mr Assad's forces.

Eliot Engel, the top Democratic member on the House Foreign Affairs Committee, told reporters after the briefing that officials had said it was **"beyond a doubt that chemical weapons were used, and used intentionally by the Assad regime"**.

Mr Engel said officials had cited evidence including **"intercepted communications from high-level Syrian officials"**.

Reports in the US media this week described Syrian officials suggesting in phone conversations that the chemical weapons attack had been more devastating than was intended.

More than 100,000 people are

estimated to have died since the conflict erupted in Syria in March 2011, and the conflict has produced at least 1.7 million refugees.

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Press Release from: **Belize Olympic And Commonwealth Games Association**

It has been announced by Mr. **Charles Bartley Hyde**, President of the Belize Olympic Committee's Fair Play Commission, and other members; Mr. **Raymond Lashley**, Ms. **Hadie Gomez**, Mrs. **Yolanda Fonseca** and Mr. **Edward Pitts**, and with the consent of Mr. **Hilly Martinez**, President of the Belize Olympic & Commonwealth Games Association, in concurrence with His Excellency, **Sir Colville Young**, Patron of the Belize Olympic Committee that the Gilmore Henkson Fair Play Trophy has been awarded to Mr. **Woodrow West** and Mr. **Ian Gaynair** for their outstanding honesty & patriotism during their participation in the Gold Cup Tournament in the U.S.A. Their character exemplifies the aims and objectives of the International Olympic Committee.

The Gilmore Henkson Trophy was established some years ago by the Belize Olympic Committee in memory



of Mr. Gilmore Henkson who was a diligent and excellent secretary of the Belize Olympic Committee for many years. He was an outstanding Football, Softball & Cricket

player.

The Trophy will be presented to the recipients on the 6th of August at Government House in Belmopan by

Association contributed the sum of \$30,000.00 towards the team's expenses for their attendance at these prestigious games.

Colombia Troops To Patrol Bogota After Protests

Colombia is to deploy troops in the capital, Bogota, following violent protests in support of a strike by small-scale farmers.

Colombian President **Juan Manuel Santos** said the troops were needed *"to assure normality"*.

Clashes with police broke out after thousands of people took to the streets in support of the farmers.

The farmers say the government's agricultural policies are driving them into bankruptcy.

"It's unacceptable that the ac-

tions of a few impact the lives of the majority," President Santos said after an overnight cabinet meeting.

He had earlier said that the protests were valid, but urged demonstrators to keep them peaceful.

Police fired tear gas in central Bogota overnight, and a curfew was imposed in three areas to control outbreaks of violence.

Interior Minister **Fernando Carrillo** said that those who had resorted to violence were *"vandals, not farmers"*.

Back To School Week: 7 Teacher Tips To Get Your Kids Back Into School Mode

Sleep Time

This is easily the issue that parents are dreading the most. We all know that our kids need to get back into the habit of going to bed at 8 and waking up by 6am. That doesn't make it any easier after the bedtimes have been creeping backwards over the summer. It wasn't your fault, it was still sunny at 6pm!

"But it really is going to be difficult for students those first couple of weeks if you don't get them used to it," multiple teachers warned me. *"There's so much going on in the beginning, you don't want them to be exhausted and falling asleep on their desks after lunch."*

So a couple of pro tips? Make the transition gradual, don't just try to plop them into bed an hour earlier the week before school and expect a miracle. And enforce the morning wake-up time too. After a couple of early mornings on little sleep, your kids will want to go to bed at a normal time.

Reading

The other biggie that I know I don't actually have to tell you. *"It's just amazing how you can tell the kids that have been reading during the summer versus the kids who haven't,"* one elementary school teacher confided. *"I know it seems simple, but it just has such an impact."*

And don't let reading be the end of it. For younger kids, journaling and math skills are also important things to catch up on. Take a look at last

year's academic markers and make sure your kids haven't forgotten things they already knew over the summer. *"If you still have end of the year assignments or tests to look back over, those are great resources,"* we learned.

Honestly, one month of reviewing a small amount each day can help your kids be more confident and secure once the school year starts. Give positive incentives to help motivate your little ones to get back into the habit.

Morning Routine

"You know the parents who practiced their morning routine ahead of time," one teacher warned, *"because they're the only ones who make it on time! The others come rolling in fifteen minutes late for the first couple weeks."* And walking in to a classroom that's already in full swing can make the first week of school even more intimidating for little ones.

I know that the morning routine is not easy. It was the hardest part of working motherhood to adjust to for me. Getting up at 5am so I can make sure lunches are packed, hair is brushed and socks are matching for the entire family has never particularly fun. Over the summer, it's so nice to see the little ones lounging at home as I take the time to do my make-up and iron my clothes.

Now, it's back to the grind. Try to make time to let kids wake up slowly and get in a good sit-down breakfast before rushing off to school.

Please Turn To Page 13

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Back To School Week: 7 Teacher Tips To Get Your Kids Back Into School Mode

Everyone's day will go better.

Socialize

If your kids have been hanging out at home with no friends but the babysitter all summer long, they could have a hard time readjusting to the social world of school. *"If you know a couple friends in your kid's class, it's a great idea to get them together for a playdate before the first day of school,"* another teacher suggested. *"When kids walk into the room and see a familiar face, we lose so much of the beginning-of-the-year jitters."*

Especially for younger kids who might be nervous about their classes or new friends, calling up friends from last year can remind them how much fun school is!

My daughter spends the summer with family members, cousins and her sitter. That's a bit different from the social world of school. But just one birthday party with an old school friend had her right back in the swing of things and excited to get back to school. Plus, moms can start working out volunteer schedules and carpools before the year even starts.

Meal Times

Have your little ones been grazing all summer long as well? I feel like we have one meal a day at my house. Aside from family dinner, it's snacks and picking a yogurt here or an apple there. Unfortunately, that lax eating schedule just doesn't translate for the school year. Kids are going to have a very defined breakfast, lunch and dinner now that their back to the books.

"It seems simple, but when a child wants a snack at 10am and then another around 2pm, it's hard for them to focus," one teacher told me. *"Just like sleep and morning routine, you want to help your kids get used to the schedules that go with school. That includes mealtimes."*

It's an easy thing to overlook, because we don't often realize just how out-of-hand it gets when the fridge is just a few feet away. So I did a little experiment with my own munchkin. Without a normal school schedule, she's gotten to snacking about 4 or 5 times a day, then just having a big meal for dinner. Those little snacks won't work so well she heads to the classroom, so it's time to remember that lunch is an actual meal that happens in the middle of the day.

Goodbye Screen

I know, I said that I wasn't too worried about a little extra screen time in the summer. But that doesn't mean that kids aren't going to need to tone it down now that the school year has come back around.

"It's amazing to see the number of kids who seem to be going through screen withdrawal once the school year comes around," remarked a middle school teacher. *"The ones hiding their cell phones under their desks. The ones who say that want to use iPads to take notes as if I'm not aware what's really going on. It's odd, but parents really need to start weening that stuff down a little before back-to-school,"* she suggested.

The beginning of the school year is always a good time to go over rules about cell phones and screen time in general. It's also a good time for parents to take stock of their children's screen time usage and how controlled it's been. While every other part of the schedule is shifting, why not use

this time to make sure that your tech-obsessed child isn't going a little overboard?

Downtime

Remember that half hour after recess when your teacher made you lay your head on your desk and listen to a chapter book? That was a great half hour. And kids always needed it.

Your children are going to need it too. And with all the rush of the school supplies and new clothes and new friends, it's easy to let them get overwhelmed. It's easy to forget that relaxation is important, even for little ones.

"Try to have a little time each day where your kids sit down and take a breather. Let them relax, empty their kids, maybe do a little reading on their own," one teacher suggested. Sounds like something

that all of us could benefit from.



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BTB Stands Willing & Ready to Support Guests, Staff and Management of Ramon's Village Resort

Wednesday, August 28, 2013- Belize City:

Minister **Manuel Heredia Jr.**, Minister of Tourism & Culture and Area Representative, Board of Directors and Staff of the Belize Tourism Board express deepest regret at this most unfortunate occurrence to hit Ramon's Village Resort. On Tuesday, August 27th, around eight p.m., Ramon's, one of the island's oldest and iconic resorts, located on Coconut Drive in San Pedro, Ambergris Caye, was gutted by fire.

While preliminary reports indicate that more than thirty cabanas, restaurant, gift shop, and other facilities were destroyed, and the island was without electricity for an hour due to an emergency power interruption which was needed to mitigate damages from the fire to nearby transmission lines, we are happy to report that there were no casualties nor injuries. All twenty-five guests staying at the resort at the time of the fire have been accounted for and relocated to nearby hotels. The safety and well-being of these guests remain the priority and concern of Belize Tourism Board and Ramon's Village Resort, and, as a result, we have ensured that they will not incur any cost for their new accommodations, and we have provided them with care packages. Furthermore, our thoughts

and support are with the employees and management of Ramon's Village Resort, as they embark on a difficult and painful task to pick up the pieces from last night's devastating loss. We stand ready and willing to assist them as they start rebuilding. While the resort was significantly damaged, forty of its cabanas and dive shop facility that weren't affected by the fire are fully functional and open for business. The BTB recognizes that this is officially a police matter, and asks that everyone affected or involved fully cooperate with the police. The BTB's Quality Assurance Department, which is tasked with ensuring that industry partners are in compliance

with established standards of safety and quality, has reported that on December 16, 2012, the Quality Assurance Inspectors conducted a full inspection of Ramon's Village Resort and found them to be in full compliance and up to standards. Members of the Board of Directors, Executive Management Team, and Staff of the Belize Tourism Board are on the ground in San Pedro assisting with a rapid assessment of last night's damage. We are extremely grateful to the San Pedro Fire Station, San Pedro Police, Management & Staff of the resort, BEL and the many San Pedranos whose quick thinking and actions prevented what could've

been worse. As demonstrated during the fire on Tuesday night, the San Pedro community sprang into action-assisting with evacuation and forming bucket brigades to put out the blaze. A community galvanized by loss, we are confident that Ramon's Village Resort will bounce back from this rather unfortunate and unforeseen incident with the help of residents and other local tourism partners.

Ramon's Village Resort is one of the oldest resorts on the island and has been in operation since 1982. In 2002, Ramon's was named Hotel of Year at the BTB's Annual Tourism Awards. Later, in October 2010, founder of the resort, Ramon Nunez, was awarded with BTB's Lifetime Achievement Award for his contribution of over forty years to the tourism industry.

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How To Be A Good Listener

Continued From Last Week's Edition

5. A good listener uses positive body language; leaning forward and showing an enthusiastic, relaxed nature. They don't fidget, cross arms, look elsewhere or express inappropriate shock or disbelief at what's shared.

6. A good listener does not hurry somebody, but asks good questions to guide the sharing. They guide and help shape what's being shared, but if the other person feels cut off or squashed they've failed.

7. A good listener does not approach a conversation with prejudice, expecting to know what's going to come out of the speaker's lips.

They don't listen with a pre-formed opinion but attempt to have an open mind to what's being communicated. It's amazing how much time is wasted with the belief that people understand what someone means without taking the effort and time to listen.

8. A good listener cares. They show empathy for what the other person has to say. It's genuine, authentic and comes from a place of truthful concern.

9. A good listener identifies areas of agreement with the speaker whilst avoiding the cliché statement: *"I know exactly how you feel."* Because you don't. It ends up sounding insensitive, trite or self centred. Everyone loves to be truly

understood. No one likes to be patronised.

10. A good listener remembers. They remember and follow up conversations wherever possible. They treat what is shared with respect and where appropriate ongoing interaction.

11. A good listener knows how to treat what is shared with confidentiality. They are trustworthy and sensitive with information and never look to use anything that is shared for any purpose other than good. Good speakers don't always make the best listeners. But a speaker who knows

how to be a good listener, has a profound impact on someone who simply likes the sound of their own voice. Good listeners earn the right to speak, because they are sharing more than their own experiences.

As a result of listening to others and hearing different stories, good listeners often become great in communication. They join the dots for people, and end up being great questioners. What have you discovered makes a good or bad listener? What approaches to you use? I'd love to hear your thoughts?

World Bank and Ministry of Health Implement Japanese Social Development Fund Child Health Project in Toledo

Continued From Page 2

the environmental and structural conditions of School sanitary facilities, including the community health posts. Training of Community Health Workers is in progress. Toledo teachers and schools are also benefiting from health and nutrition workshops."

The project seeks to promote healthier lifestyles in communities in the south and dramatically improve the health and development of our Belizean children over the next two years. This has been a health and wellness message from the Ministry of Health.

For more information contact:

Dr. Natalia Beer
Maternal and Child Health
(MCH)
Ministry of Health
822-2325/2363

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