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STAR

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No. 421

Sunday, November 9, 2014

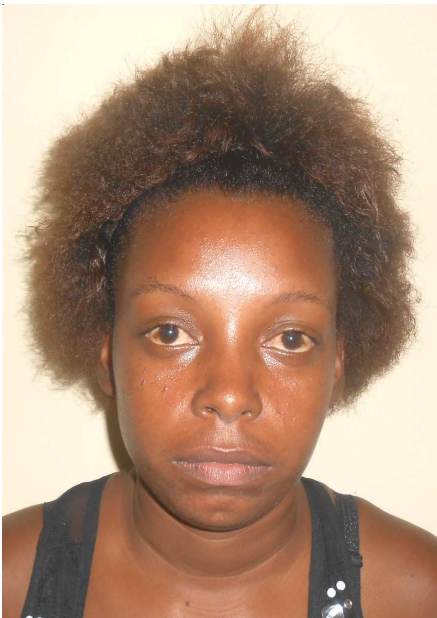
Price \$1.00

Accused Female Crack Peddler Arrested

SAN IGNACIO TOWN, Thursday, October 30, 2014:

A female villager of St. Mathews village, Cayo, was found in possession of 14.4 grams of suspected crack cocaine, was formally arrested and charged for possession of a controlled drug with intent to supply.

Acting upon information received on Thursday, October 30, a female was escorted into the police station in San Ignacio Town where she was told that she would be searched for drugs. Telling the police that a search would be unnecessary, the detained reached into the left side of the brassier she was wearing and pulled out a



The Accused
Jennifer Soto, 28

transparent plastic bag containing 14.4 grams of suspected crack cocaine. She was further searched by a female police corporal who found nothing else incriminating.

The detained was booked as **Jennifer Soto**, 28, Belizean domestic residing in St. Matthews Village, Cayo. She was later arrested and charged for the possession of illegal drugs with intent to supply.



The crack cocaine

Man Charged For 0.8 Grams Of Weed

SAN IGNACIO, Cayo, Tuesday, November 4, 2014:

A Santa Elena man was arrested and formally charged for the possession of less than a gram of weed.

On Tuesday, November 4 at around 10:50 am, a team of San Ignacio policemen, on routine foot patrol in San Ignacio, came upon a male person in conversation with three Caucasian males on Burns Avenue.

The male person was approached and informed that he would be searched for drugs. In his right front pocket, police found a transparent zip lock bag containing what appeared to be marijuana.

The man was instantly detained and escorted to the San Ignacio police station where he was identified as **Edric Alexander Cruz**, 38, Belizean laborer who gave his address as Carillo Puerto Avenue, Santa Elena.

When placed on the scale in the



Edric Alexander Cruz, 38

presence of the accused, the suspected weed moved the digital recording mechanism slightly to 0.8. That's right not even a gram. Edric Alexander Cruz was arrested and charged for the offence of possession of a controlled drug.

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STAND UP FOR DEVELOPMENT AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

Let us all converge in Belmopan on Tuesday, November 18, 2014 to show our support for better standards of living for all!



Editorial



The Time To Stand Up For Your Nation is NOW!!!

The trumpet of the nation has sounded, heed the call. We are all invited to descent upon Belmopan on Tuesday, November 18 to show our support for the unprecedented development taking place across the nation.

National development occurring for the first time in Belize include the first National Bank of Belize, a revived Development Finance Corporation of Belize as well as the many social justice programs benefiting tens of thousands of Belizeans in the form of School Subsidies, Food Pantry, Boost, Christmas and other Cheers as well as the housing loan write offs and the announced December mortgage payment for all Belizeans with housing loans up to one hundred thousand dollars held at all financial institutions in Belize.

National development combined with providing that personal financial touch to the people wins elections. This is what the United Democratic Party is doing. The more the UDP

government undertakes and intensifies these programs, the harder it becomes for the opposition to attain political victory. This they know only too well and so they are running scared.

Fueled by funds from the Petro Caribe Initiative, the national development and social justice programs of the United Democratic Party government must be halted, it must be halted at any cost and so the opposition People's United Party has embarked on a mission to throw a monkey wrench into the works. Stop the Petro Caribe program, stop the social programs, halt the national development, bring our first nation bank to its knees; curtail available funds in the DFC. Such is the agenda of the opposition PUP.

In pursuit of their selfish political agenda, the leadership of the opposition PUP wants to see the Belizean people suffer. In advancing this agenda the PUP has proceeded to file for an injunction to bring Petro

Caribe to a screeching halt.

The PUP secretly operated the very same funds for two years during which they did absolutely nothing for Belize and Belizeans. While the formula of the arrangement has not changed, the leader of the PUP, when questioned during a press briefing this week told the nation that his party when in government collected a PITTANCE from the Petro Caribe initiative.

While almost eighty million dollars might seem like a pittance to the leader of PUP; the funds derived for the Petro Caribe arrangement by the Dean Barrow lead UDP Government is doing wonders for the nation and its people.

When asked if he has sought to bring to the attention of the Venezuelan Embassy, his party's opposition to the way in which Government is utilizing Petro Caribe funds, the opposition leader craftily dodged the question. The reality is that, given the PUP track record in the handling of all funds, the Venezuelans might not want to see any of them not even in photographs as they are the same faces who were in

government when the Petro Caribe initiative was mismanaged, misused and abused. They were also still in office when Venezuelan housing grants were used to pay the debt of a private medical institution while needy Belizeans, the intended beneficiaries, were shafted.

On Tuesday, November 18, come to Belmopan, bring your relatives, your friends and your neighbors, jump on a bus and let us all converge at the foot of the national assembly building in Belmopan at 10:00 a.m. for the special sitting of the House of Representatives when the Petro Caribe matter will be debated.

Thousands of new jobs have been created. Workers on the various development projects are now earning an honest living. They are living in pride as they provide for their families. The time to stand up for marked improvement in our standard of living and for the development of our nation is now. Belizeans, Stand Up and Be Counted! The trumpet of the Nation is Sounding, Answer to the call! The time to stand up for your Nation is NOW!!!!



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The Belize Chamber of Commerce & Industry's 3rd Annual Christmas Expo Extravaganza!

December 6th and 7th should already be locked on the calendars of everyone looking for good deals and merry steals this Christmas season! Kick off

December with the Chamber as we host our 3rd annual Christmas Expo Extravaganza at the Ramada Belize Princess Hotel Kings Room on

Newtown Barracks in Belize City. Festivities start at 9:00 am and go straight through to 6:00 pm on both days.

The event has been completely booked with over 29 homegrown businesses offering locally made hams, wines and spirits, crafts, chocolate and more! Come and get the perfect gift for your loved ones as you enjoy a variety of special offers on Christmas decorations and home supplies. Visit our Christmas Expo with your family! Purchase adult tickets for just \$3 at our office on 4792 Coney Drive, but don't forget children 11 and under enter for absolutely free! Start the holidays with the Belize Chamber of Commerce & Industry.

Event Sponsors include The Belize Chamber of Commerce & Industry's Western Union, Multimedia Systems (Love FM, Estereo Amor, and More FM) and Image Pro. Gate prize sponsors include United Airlines, Grace Kennedy Belize, Running W Meats, Comex Paints, Southside Meats, and James Brodie & Co Ltd.

Waitress Allegedly Held At Gunpoint

SAN IGNACIO TOWN, Cayo, Tuesday, November 4, 2014:

Two men are in police custody pending investigation into a robbery report which occurred on Tuesday, November 4, in the Santiago Juan Layout area of San Ignacio.

Acting on information received police visited J and K Restaurant on Flamboyant in San Ignacio, where **Martha Pineda**, 21, waitress, reported that at around 10:00 p.m., while she was alone in the restaurant,

an unmasked male person of dark complexion, slim built, about five feet five inches in height, wearing a black sweater and black short pants, entered the restaurant and held her up with what appeared to be a pistol. The complainant informed that the man placed the gun to her neck and led her to the bathroom and locked her up therein.

A neighbor is said to have later unlocked the bathroom door and the waitress was reportedly

released. The waitress's first action was to check the cash drawer which she reported being emptied of the day's sale amounting to about three hundred dollars. Also missing she said was her cellular telephone valued at one hundred seventy five dollars.

The complainant informed that while she does not know the man who placed the gun to her neck, she can positively identify him if she sees him again.

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at work in the
normal course"*
Hon. Dean
Barrow,
Prime Minister
of Belize



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Ringworm

Ringworm is a skin infection due to a fungus. Often, there are several patches of ringworm on your skin at once.

Causes

Ringworm is common, especially among children. However, it may affect people of all ages. It is caused by a fungus, not a worm like the name suggests.

Many bacteria and fungi live on your body. Some of these are useful, while others can cause infections. Ringworm occurs when a type of fungus called *tinea* grows and multiplies on your skin.

Ringworm can affect the skin on your:

- * Beard -- *tinea barbae*
- * Body -- *tinea corporis*
- * Feet -- *tinea pedis* (*also called athlete's foot*)
- * Groin area -- *tinea cruris* (*also called jock itch*)
- * Scalp -- *tinea capitis*

Ringworm can spread easily from one person to another. You can catch ringworm if you touch someone who has the infection, or if you come into contact with items contaminated by the fungus, such as combs, unwashed clothing, and shower or pool surfaces. You can also catch ringworm from

pets that carry the fungus. Cats are common carriers.

The fungus that causes ringworm thrive in warm, moist areas. Ringworm is more likely when you are often wet (*such as from sweating*) and from minor injuries to your skin, scalp, or nails.

Symptoms

Symptoms of ringworm include:

- * Itchy, red, raised, scaly patches that may blister and ooze.
- * The patches tend to have sharply-defined edges.
- * Red patches are often redder around the outside with normal skin tone in the center. This may look like a ring.
- * If ringworm affects your hair, you will have bald patches.
- * If ringworm affects your nails, they will become discolored, thick, and even crumble.

Exams and Tests

Most of the time, your health care provider can diagnose ringworm by looking at your skin. The fungus may glow when your skin is examined with a blue light (*called a Wood's lamp*) in a dark room.

Tests to confirm the diagnosis may include:

- * KOH exam

- * Skin biopsy
- * Skin culture
- * Treatment

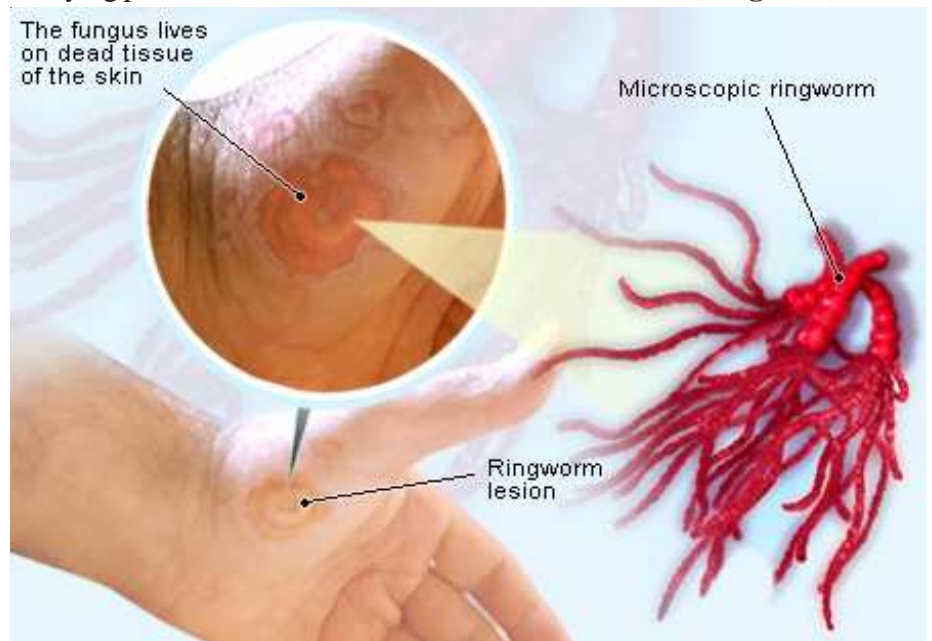
To care for ringworm:

- * Keep your skin clean and dry.
- * Apply over-the-counter antifungal or drying powders, lotions, or creams

ketoconazole, which are stronger than over-the-counter products. You may also need antibiotics to treat skin infections from strep or staph that are caused by scratching the area.

Infected pets also should be treated.

Outlook (Prognosis)



that contain miconazole, clotrimazole, or similar ingredients.

- * Don't wear clothing that rubs against and irritates the area.
- * Wash sheets and nightclothes every day while you are infected.

Your health care provider may prescribe pills to treat the fungus if you have:

- * A severe case of ringworm
- * Ringworm that keeps coming back or that lasts for a long time
- * Ringworm in your hair

You may need medicines such as

Skin medicine usually treats ringworm within 4 weeks. If your ringworm infection is severe or it does not respond well to self-care, it will usually respond quickly to antifungal pills.

When to Contact a Medical Professional

Call your doctor right away if you have any signs of a bacterial infection, which can result from scratching. These signs include swelling, warm skin, sudden worsening in redness of

Continues From Page 14

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GOB Signs Grant

The Government of Belize and World Bank Sign Grant for *“Management and Protection of Key Biodiversity Areas in Belize”* Project

Belmopan. November 6, 2014:

The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (*World Bank*) and the Government of Belize signed a Grant Agreement on November 5, 2014 for US\$6.9 million. The grant is provided by the Global Environment Facility and is being administered by the World Bank. This large grant was approved for a five-year project entitled *“Management and Protection of Key Biodiversity*

Areas in Belize”, which will be executed by the Ministry of Forestry, Fisheries and Sustainable Development.

The Project aims to strengthen natural resource management and biodiversity conservation in Key Biodiversity Areas (*KBA*s) of Belize by supporting Sustainable Forest Management activities in six Key Biodiversity Areas, and institutional strengthening for enhanced enforcement of Environmental Regulations. The target sites are Freshwater Creek Forest Reserve in the north, Spanish Creek Wildlife Sanctuary in the Belize District, Vaca Forest Reserve and Chiquibul

National Park in the west, and Maya Mountain North Forest Reserve and Columbia River Forest Reserve in southern Belize, a total of 535,000 acres. The project is expected to increase the area under sustainable forest management and biodiversity conservation, while at the same time partnering with the people in targeted forests and 48 adjacent communities to increase their involvement and benefits from sustainable livelihood opportunities offered by the forests.

Also included in the project are activities for revisions to the Forests Act, the Wildlife Protection Act and the Environmental Protection Act, as well as the establishment of a national Forest Information System, a Forest Monitoring and Compliance Unit and regional Forest Fire Brigades, all

aimed at increasing institutional capacities to improve forest and protected areas management in Belize.

Ms. Sophie Sirtaine, Country Director for the Caribbean Countries, signed on behalf of the World Bank. Ms. Sirtaine is visiting Belize this week on a familiarization tour and will visit with various government entities and private sector representatives. These meetings form a critical part of the country diagnostic leading to the development of a new country partnership strategy. Ms. Sirtaine and her team will also be touring ongoing activities funded through the Belize Municipal Development Project, which is currently being executed by the Social Investment Fund.

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Sacred Heart College

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Vacancy exist at **Sacred Heart College** for the post of:

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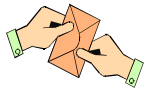
Remuneration is commensurate with MOE approved salary scales. Successful applicants should have a Teacher's License.

Application packages should include the following: a signed letter of application, a copy of a university diploma showing the highest earned degree, certified or official university transcript(s), two named referees, and a copy of a valid Teacher's License.

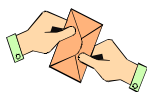
Completed application packages can be dropped off at the College, emailed to president@shc.edu.bz. Or mail to:

**Secretary
Board of Governors
P.O. Box 163
San Ignacio Town
Cayo District**

Deadline for Application: **November 10, 2014**



Readers Write



Dear Editor,

Allow me a space in your newspaper to respond to *"letter to the Editor"* reference religious discrimination. As a resident of the San Ignacio and Santa Elena, I want to agree that **Mr. Juan** is all the good things that was said in the letter. It seems, though, that the person who wrote is privy to a lot of information if he/she can attest that it was the only application submitted. If so it should be that he/she should know that the criteria that (*I would assume*) the Board of Governors (*BOG*) was looking for was not only religious status of the candidate. It was mentioned that Mr. Juan was very instrumental in the realization of the Auditorium but the hard work of previous teachers and entities must not be forgotten.

This being said, we must understand and realize that SHC IS a Catholic Institution. There are many other institutions for example, Eden High School, Alvin Young Nazarine High School and many others in the country whereby if

you are employed you must comply with their Religious practices. Even the students are taught that institution's specific belief and the students must attend their church services. It is only Sacred Heart College, which is a Catholic Institution, that is not imposing its Faith on the students.

Sacred Heart College should be on it's guard otherwise it can loose all its Catholic roots from the inception of education in the country and the High School which was through the great efforts of **Monsignor Facundo Castillo** and other priests. If I may make mention here, there had already been *"rumours"* of wanting to take out the crucifixes from the classrooms.!

All the best to whosoever the post was granted to and I pray that that person knows to Trust in the Lord with all his/her heart and lean not unto their own understanding and acknowledge the Lort that He may direct the paths of Sacred Heart College!.

Prefer to have name withheld

Dear Editor;

My child is currently in Standard 4 at one of the leading primary institutions in San Ignacio, an institution that is known for its commitment to excellence. However, since my child entered this Standard 4 class in September, her experience thus far can only be described as absolutely hellish leaving much to be desired!

The principal of the primary school, a dedicated educator, recognizes the problem but says that she is handicapped as the school is deficient in teaching capacity for the upper classes.

This teacher lacks the capacity to handle the simple day to day running of a classroom. Her methods seem to be outdated and archaic. Her ability to reach the students entrusted in her care seems non-existent as the results of several tests clearly show that she is simply not getting through to students in her classroom. To compound this matter, she threatens the children when a parent dares to visit the principal to voice their discontent. Children do not respond well in an environment where the

authority figure is deemed as a threat.

My child has all the necessary support to achieve academic excellence, yet with each given day, her attitude toward school and learning is becoming more and more negative. My child is no longer eager to go to school as was the case in the first five years of her school life. We spend long hours after school waiting for her to be dismissed because it seems this specific teacher even has a problem with time management.

Given that Standard 4 is a critical stage in a child's educational formation I am hoping that the administration of this primary school will sooner, rather than later find a solution to this challenge which, with every passing day continues to be a source of frustration to students and parents alike.

We acknowledge that this Anglican school has always maintained a level of academic excellence well above many others. If this prevailing situation is allowed to fester without attention, the results we have come to expect from this school will be seriously affected in years to come. (Please do not print my name)

Words are Weapons: Handle with Care

By: Holley Gerth

Contributed by: Janice Swift

"Reckless words pierce like a sword" (Proverbs 12:18).

Words can be weapons

A careless remark. A bit of gossip. A little less sensitivity in a stress-filled moment. Do we know what we do to our sisters?

I sit alone and pray about this one day. I've become afraid of words—of what they can do. And it seems in the dark I sense a whisper, **"Daughter, words can defend and protect too."**

It's right there in our armor: *"The sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God"* (Ephesians 6:17).

We must choose how we wield our words.

Will you join me?

A Commitment of Words

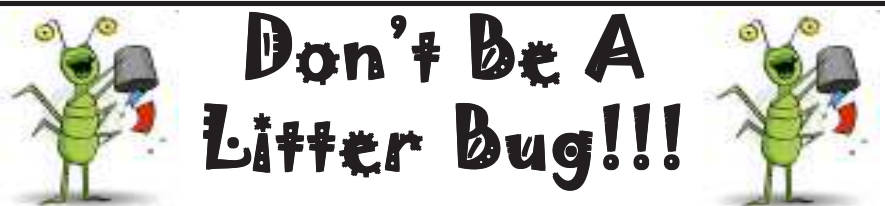
* We commit to using our words to defend and heal, not to harm.

* We will not gossip.

* We will not belittle.

* We will guard our sisters by always speaking the best about them, encouraging them into all God would have them to be, and offering grace instead of condemnation.

* We will be loyal and loving, remembering that even if we disagree we still fight on the same side—never against each other.



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Ride for Octavia Waight Center

Challenge Gobie Foundation – Charity Bike Ride for Kitchen Expansion Project, Octavia Waight Centre, home for the elderly in Belize – November 23, 2014

The Octavia Waight Centre, a non-profit organization and home for the elderly, in San Ignacio, Belize is in need of a new kitchen. The Centre’s mission is to provide the elderly with an environment that enhances dignity and self-esteem, as well as, physical and mental well-being.

The home currently houses 28 senior citizens, whose ages range from 60 to 106 years old and two days per week they provide meals (*on-wheels*) for 24 senior citizens who live in the communities of San Ignacio and Santa Elena. With an expanded and upgraded kitchen the Centre will be able to provide more options for nutritious meals to the in-house residents and expand the meals-on-wheels service to 5 days per week and for more persons.



The Octavia Waight Centre

Belize’s National Council on Aging notes *“there are certainly many abandoned older people that do need care and attention”* and the Octavia Waight Centre is doing its part in the West of the country. The staff of professional caregivers honour and respect those in their care and treat them with dignity and compassion, and they look forward to the potential for growth when the Centre is able to reach out

to more of the elderly in the community through the meals-on-wheels programme.

The Challenge Gobie Foundation is excited to partner with the Octavia Waight Centre to raise BZ \$100,000.00 which will provide for all the kitchen expansion construction and commercial appliances costs. Challenge Gobie is organizing a 16-mile charity bike ride on Sunday November 23, 2014 from San Ignacio to Benque Viejo Border and back.

While one of the main reasons for the bike ride is to increase community awareness for the Octavia Waight Center, we will also take the opportunity to kick-start the fundraising.

The bike ride will start at 9:00 a.m. from the San Ignacio Hotel parking lot. We will ride all the way to the Benque Viejo Border where we will take a short break and then return to San Ignacio. The ride will end at the Octavia Waight Center around 11:30 a.m. where there will be food and drinks on sale – available to the entire public. If you are not participating in the ride please come out to buy lunch for your family and support the Octavia Waight Center. Riders will be asked to pay a very minimal fee of \$5 per person and T-Shirts will also be on sale.

Please note that while this ride is intended for participants with Mountain Bikes we will allow Road Bikes provided the riders stick with the group.

We hereby challenge businesses from around Belize and from within the Cayo Community especially, to get a team together to join us on the ride but also to do their own fundraising so that they can present a company check or donation on November 23, 2014 toward this great project.

We welcome any person or entity who wishes to be a sponsor of our bike ride and/or the Octavia Waight Centre kitchen expansion project. Please join us and support this very worthy cause!

Email us at: challengegobiefoundation@gmail.com or call us at 627-5206.



“Courage doesn’t always roar. Sometimes Courage is the little voice at the end of the day that says I’ll try again tomorrow.”
- Mary Anne Radmacher

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★ STAR HUMOR

A Sincere Apology

A man received a message from his neighbor...

Sorry Sir, I am using your wife... day and night... when you are not present at home... In fact, much more than you do. I confess this now because I am feeling very guilty. Hope

you will accept my sincere apologies.

The man is down with a heart attack!

Few minutes later he receives another message:

Sorry Sir, a spelling mistake... I meant WIFI.

Just One Wish

Three guys are convicted of a very serious crime, and they're all sentenced to twenty years in solitary confinement. They're each allowed one thing to bring into the cell with them.

The first guy asks for a big stack of books. The second guy asks for his wife. And the third guy asks for two hundred cartons of cigarettes.

At the end of the twenty years, they open up the first guy's cell. He comes out and says, *"I studied so hard."*

I'm so bright now, I could be a lawyer. It was terrific."

They open up the second guy's door. He comes out with his wife, and they've got five new kids.

He says. *"It was the greatest thing of my life. My wife and I have never been so close. I have a beautiful new family. I love it."*

They open up the third guy's door, and he's slapping at his pockets, going *"Anybody got a match?"*

A Bad Move

A fellow bought a new Mercedes and was out on an interstate road for a nice evening drive. The top was down, the breeze was blowing through his hair and he decided to open her up. As the needle jumped up to 80mph he suddenly saw a flashing red and blue light behind him.

"There ain't no way they can catch a Mercedes," he thought to himself and opened her up further. The needle hit 90, 100 110 and finally 120 with the lights still behind him.

"What am I doing?" he thought and pulled over.

The cop came up to him, took his license without a word and examined it and the car.

"I've had a tough shift and this is my last pull over. I don't feel like more paperwork so if you can give me an excuse for your driving that I haven't heard before you can go!" Said the officer.

"Last week my wife ran off with a cop," the man said, *"and I was afraid you were trying to give her back!"*

"Have a nice night", said the officer.

Walking Naked

I wanna get a dog and call her Naked so that I can tell people I

have to go walk Naked down the street.

Fishing Licence

One day two men were fishing, when a Game Warden slipped up on them and asked to see their fishing licences.

One of the men took off running. So the warden started chasing him. He ran after the man up and down the side of the river, thru the swamp, up the side of a mountain, the man swam across the river with the warden right behind him. Then he swam back across the river with the

warden still right behind him.

Finally after about three miles of chasing the game warden caught up with the man, bleeding and out of breath the warden asked to see his fishing licence. The man reached in his pocket and pulled out his licence and handed it to the warden.

The warden asked why did you run? The man just looked at the warden and smiled and said: *"my friend doesn't have a licence!"*

Desperate Measures

Little Johnny went to his mother demanding a new bicycle. His mother decided that he should take a look at himself and the way he acts.

She said, *"Well Johnny, it isn't Christmas and we don't have the money to just go out and buy you anything you want. So why don't you write a letter to Jesus and pray for one instead."*

After his temper tantrum his mother sent him to his room. He finally sat down to write a letter to Jesus.

Dear Jesus,

I've been a good boy this year and would appreciate a new bicycle.

Your Friend,
Little Johnny

Now Little Johnny knew that Jesus really knew what kind of boy he was (Brat).

So, he ripped up the letter and decided to give it another try.

Dear Jesus,

I've been an OK boy this year and I want a new bicycle.

Yours Truly,
Little Johnny

Well, Little Johnny knew this wasn't totally honest so he tore it up and tried again.

Dear Jesus,

I've thought about being a good

boy this year and can I have a new bicycle?

Signed,
Little Johnny

Well, Little Johnny looked deep down in his heart, which by the way was what his mother was really wanting. He crumpled up the letter and threw it in the trash can and went running outside.

He aimlessly wandered about; depressed because of the way he treated his parents and really considering his actions. He finally found himself in front of a Catholic Church.

Little Johnny went inside and knelt down, looking around not knowing what he should really do. Little Johnny finally got up and began to walk out the door and was looking at all the statues. All of a sudden he grabbed a small one and ran out the door. He went home hid it under his bed and wrote this letter.

Jesus,

I've broken most of the Ten Commandments; shot spit wads in school, tore up my sister's Barbie doll and lots more. I'm desperate. I've got your mama. If you ever want to see her again, give me a bike.

Signed,
You know who

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History of the Garifunas

As a true melting pot of various cultures, Belize has woven bits and pieces of many ethnicities to make what we know as our beautiful country. With many cultures coming in, tradition and custom sometimes disappear as the days go by. However, a group that is not going silently is the Garifuna. With November 19th, being their special day and designated a national holiday, Garifunas countrywide live up to this year's theme of Proudly empowering

The Flag

Any country or entity has a flag which symbolizes their history and what they stand for. The Garifuna have their own with a black strip, which is located at the top. This black band represents the black ancestry of the Garifuna people. The people have always acknowledged the African input into what became the Garifuna people, a phenomenon that occurred in St. Vincent starting in the seventeenth Century.



Reenactment of the Arrival of the Garifunas in Belize

our children in their Garifuna heritage. On May 18th, 2001, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (**UNESCO**) proclaimed the Garifuna language, music and dance a masterpiece of the oral and intangible heritage of humanity. Belize's very own **Andy Palacio**, celebrated musician and singer was honored with the title of Artist for Peace by **UNESCO**. With much history, culture, tradition, song, food, religion, the Garifunas have certainly left their mark in Belize. For that, we feature them in this week's Our Belize Community.

Grappling with the ramifications of the end of slavery, a new ethnic group, the Garifuna appeared. In the early 1800s, the Garifuna, descendants of Carib peoples of the Lesser Antilles and of Africans who had escaped from slavery, arrived in the settlement. The Garifuna had resisted British and French colonialism in the Lesser Antilles until they were defeated by the British in 1796. After putting down a violent Garifuna rebellion on Saint Vincent, the British moved between 1,700 and 5,000 of the Garifuna across the Caribbean to the Bay Islands (**present-day Islas de la Bahía**) off the north coast of Honduras. From there they migrated to the Caribbean coasts of Nicaragua, Honduras, Guatemala, and the southern part of present-day Belize. By 1802 about 150 Garifuna had settled in the Stann Creek (**present-day Dangriga**) area and were engaged in fishing and farming.

This colour, at another level, recognizes the hardships and injustices that the people have had to endure, their struggles for survival and the odds that they have had to overcome in the course of their history. As tough as these experiences have been, they helped to strengthen the Garifuna spirit and shaped their spirituality which is based on the principle of reciprocity, mutually beneficial two-way relationship between individuals or nations.

The yellow strip at the bottom of the flag symbolizes the other half of the ancestry of the Garifuna – the Amerindians or Yellow Caribs as they were referred to by Europeans. These were actually a mixture of Caribs and Arawaks and formed the host community in which the fusion of Africa and South America took place to give rise to the emergence of the Garinagu as a distinct group indigenous to the circum-Caribbean region.

In contrast to the hardships experienced in the course of history, the yellow symbolizes the hope and prosperity. Yellow is the color of grated cassava, which is further processed to make ereba, one of the Garifunas' staple foods. It is the color of cassava juice, a color that is further brought out in the process of turning it into dumari, an additive for enhancing sauces, soups and stews. Yellow is also the color of the rising sun, which brings new promise and much hope for a better life. Yellow, therefore, represents hope, plenty and prosperity, as well as the Carib/Arawak input into the Garifuna identity.

The white strip, located in the middle between the black and the yellow, reminds them of the role of the white man (**Europe**) in the history and formation of the Garifuna people – the forcible removal and enslavement of the African, the seizure of Garifuna land, which precipitated the Garifuna resistance, and the forcible removal of the people from St. Vincent. Even after the arrival and dispersal in Central America, it was still necessary to deal with the white man.

At another level, white symbolizes the peace that has eluded the Garifuna people for most of their turbulent history - the peace for which they continue to yearn.

Garifuna culture

Garinagu are a resilient tribal people who have survived many years of extreme hardships. Despite these, ethnological studies show that they are the only black people in the Americas to have preserved their native culture. Because their ancestors were never slaves, they have been able to preserve their rich and unique Afro-Caribbean heritage. Also, the Garifunas traditions, deep sense of kinship and participation in community cultural activities have provided them with a sense of solidarity and cultural identity during times of turmoil.



Garifuna drummers

Religion and spirituality

Garinagu are a proud people devoted to their roots and their religion consists of a mix of Catholicism, African and Indian beliefs.

Belief in and respect for the ancestors is at the very core of their faith. The Garifuna believe that the departed ancestors mediate between the individual the external world. If a person behaves and performs well then he will have good fortune. If not, then the harmony that exists in relationships with others and the external world will be disrupted leading to misfortune and illness.

The religious system thus implies

certain responsibilities and obligations between the living and deceased. Food and drink should occasionally be laid out for the ancestors who may also appear in dreams. A spiritual leader, a "**Buyei**" leads the contact of a family with the deceased. In preparation of these spiritual gatherings with healing, drumming and dancing, a feast of seafood, meat and cassava bread is prepared.

Garifuna spiritualism is creatively expressed through music, dancing and other art forms.

Food

Traditional Garifuna foods are based around fish, chicken, cassava, bananas, and plantains. Most of the meals are rich and hearty.

One of the staples of the diet is cassava. Cassava is made into a bread, a drink, a pudding, and even a wine! The cassava bread is served with most meals. The process of making the bread is very labor intensive and takes several days.

Hudut is a very common traditional meal. Hudut consists of fish cooked in a coconut broth (**called sere**) and served with mashed plantains or yams. Dharasa is the Garifuna version of a tamale made with green bananas. It can be made either sweet or sour.

The foods are very labor intensive and used to be cooked over an open fire hearth. Today, stoves save time, but some families still prefer the taste of the fire hearth.

Music

Garifuna music is similarly different from the rest of Central America; the most famous form is punta. An evolved form of traditional music, still usually played using traditional instruments, punta has seen some modernization and electrification in the 1970s; this is called punta rock. Traditional punta dancing is consciously competitive. Artists like **Pen Cayetano** helped innovate modern punta rock by adding guitars to the traditional music, and paved the way for later artists like Andy Palacio, Children of the Most High and Black Coral. Punta was popular across

Continues On Page 14

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Your Weekly Horoscope and Lucky Numbers

ARIES:

March 22 to April 20

The more you try to assert yourself at the beginning of the week, the more muddled things get. Try directing your energy toward a volunteer project, a team endeavor or helping someone else. And listen up. Much better stuff comes your way around Wednesday and Thursday. You look terrific in the spotlight, though it may have a hard time keeping up with you! From Friday through the weekend, couple your natural enthusiasm with thinking things through, especially when it comes to expressing yourself. Well-chosen words (with heart!) find their mark now. **Lucky numbers: 76, 85, 98.**

TAURUS:

April 21 to May 21

Get together with others early in the week, whether it's gathering input and expertise in a meeting at work, or seeing friends to laugh and talk things over. The more you open up, the better. Wednesday is good for starting something new, what with the surge of energy you've got coming. Just have a plan and stick to it somewhat! The days around Friday are all about you. You're highly productive in all areas of life, and if you've got love on your mind, now's the time to go for it — you're hot. On Sunday, though, take a second look at something or someone. **Lucky numbers: 33, 62, 90.**

GEMINI:

May 22 to June 21

Someone's not saying exactly what they mean as the week gets going, and that someone might be you. Instead of hedging, don't be afraid to let someone know that you don't know — yet. You'll probably develop a better idea around Wednesday and Thursday, perhaps on the strength of some good advice or even an unmistakable sign. Moreover, what you say, even on the spur of the moment, has deep meaning. Friday and the weekend are more about questions than statements. Ask (and answer) some serious ones first, and things could get flirty on Sunday. **Lucky numbers: 52, 71, 88.**

CANCER

June 21 to July 21

Your responses are right on target early in the week. Let your mind and heart both weigh in, and you'll be golden. (The way you say things is great, too — you have a way with words.) Then, before you get bent out of shape on Wednesday or Thursday, ask yourself if you might just be taking things a little too seriously. A further inquiry might reveal a lot and be a big relief, too. From Friday through the weekend, your unique charms are getting noticed. You're the star at a party, delightful on a date and generally wonderful (and wonderfully unpredictable) in any and all circumstances. **Lucky numbers: 79, 82, 95.**

LEO:

July 24 to August 21

Save the drama as the week gets started. Instead of engaging in it, try a little more research to develop a better understanding. A partner's in the picture around Wednesday and Thursday, and two heads (or is it hearts?) are definitely better than one. Introduce a new idea to the two of you and see what happens. It's liable to be a great time. Around Friday and Saturday, you might be in a rebellious mode. Just consider carefully who or what you're challenging now — and why. You're low-key on Sunday, and a tete-a-tete looks to be very productive. **Lucky numbers: 19, 23, 47.**

VIRGO:

August 22 to September 21

Relationships might need a little breathing room at the beginning of the week. Instead of pushing an agenda, step back and see the real potential. If money's involved, it's very important to nail down the details around Wednesday and Thursday. Yes, it's a sensitive issue, but if you don't address it now, there could be trouble later. Looks like you're ready to branch out from Friday through the weekend, maybe solo, or perhaps with a partner in crime. Make a plan that allows for the random factor that's coming your way. **Lucky numbers: 02, 17, 29.**

LIBRA:

September 22 to October 23

It looks like something or somebody might throw you off early this week, but getting too riled up about it isn't the most appropriate response. If it's relationship related, there may be a way to find a compromise, and Wednesday and Thursday are prime for such discoveries. You can perceive new levels when it comes to situations, and you can also locate common ground now. Gratitude and smooth sailing are your reward, and from Friday through the weekend, your natural grace looks great. Romance is favored, too. **Lucky numbers: 06, 11, 30.**

SCORPIO:

October 24 to November 21

An element of surprise works in your favor as the week gets started. Use that impeccable sense of timing to show just how jaw-droppingly great you can be. Then, around Wednesday or Thursday, it may be tempting to get into a tangle with someone. But what do you have to gain? It could get way stickier than you think. Expect some excitement on Friday or over the weekend. If you want things to get even more intense (and knowing you, you do), let your real feelings be known. Be a little vulnerable — and be ready for just about anything! **Lucky**

SAGITTARIUS:

November 22 to December 21

You'll need a serious kick-start if you want to get anything accomplished at the beginning of the week. Get the blood pumping with exercise and eat right for energy, and you might just be able to concentrate. When Wednesday and Thursday come, though, you're on fire — thinking fast, making the right moves and wowing anyone and everyone. Fanning the flames of romance is favored now, too. Duty of some sort calls this weekend, and if you get right on it, you might just be surprised by the pleasure you'll take in getting it done. **Lucky numbers: 01, 14, 21.**

CAPRICORN:

December 22 to January 20

If you're going to email someone early in the week, call instead. Or, better yet, say it face-to-face. Your personal touch is terrific now, whether it's work related or personal. Expect some static around Wednesday or Thursday. Someone or some issue may be stressing you out, or your carefully planned schedule may get all mucked up. Just do your best and wait for things to smooth out, which should happen around Friday. Fun and love are highlighted through the weekend, with your powers of attraction seriously magnified. Sweet! **Lucky numbers: 38, 66, 73.**

AQUARIUS:

January 20 to February 18

What do you really want — and what's not going to cut it? It's heavy stuff for the beginning of the week, but don't get sidetracked from core values and goals. You'll be in a fine position to think bigger around Wednesday and Thursday, when your personal possibilities suddenly expand exponentially. Keep your schedule open now! Something that seems mundane on Friday or over the weekend has an odd element, one that demands attention. And starting Sunday, that odd element may have everything to do with love. **Lucky numbers: 07, 49, 57.**

PISCES:

February 20 to March 21

Your generosity with affection and your honesty regarding emotions has enormous ripple effects as the week gets started. Dreams can come true now, perhaps in particularly unexpected ways! Life and love are a bit of a puzzle, though, around Wednesday and Thursday, and you might be missing a key piece. The person or occurrence you think has the answer probably doesn't. Look within, and get ready for things to make a lot more sense starting Friday. You can write your own ticket now. So where do you want to go? **Lucky numbers: 27, 34, 44.**



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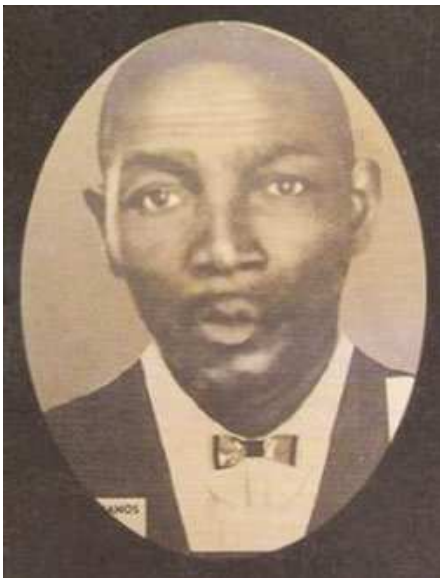
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Did you know...

The Garifuna Settlement Day holiday was created by **Thomas Vincent Ramos** in 1941?

Thomas Vincent Ramos lived from September 17, 1887 to November 14, 1955 where he passed away in his Stann Creek home at the age of 68. Ramos was born in Puerto Cortes, Honduras but later moved and spent most of his life living in Belize.

He worked as a school teacher and was known for being a Civil Rights Activist with primary concern being the lack of health and financial facilities to aid the



Thomas Vincent Ramos

Garinagu living in Dangriga. He



Alberto August Jr. at T.V. Ramos Monument in Dangriga

formed the Carib Development Society as a way to help the sick and render financial aid to bury their dead.

Ramos also fought against the discrimination of the Garifuna people. His most well-known effort was when he lobbied the Governor to establish a Public and Bank Holiday to commemorate the arrival of the Garifuna in Belize. His request was granted and Garifuna Settlement Day, which was first known as Carib Disembarkation Day, was first celebrated on November 19, 1941 only in Stann Creek District, then later in Punta Gorda and Toledo in 1943 then country-wide in 1977.

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History of the Garifunas

Continued From Page 10

the region, especially in Belize, by the mid-1980s, culminating in the release of Punta Rockers in 1987, a compilation featuring many of the genre's biggest stars.

Other forms of Garifuna music and dance include chumba and hunguhungu, a circular dance in a three beat rhythm, which is often combined with punta. There are other songs typical to each gender, women having eremwu eu and abaimajani, rhythmic a cappella songs, and laremunu wadauman, men's work songs. Other forms of dance music include matamuerte, gunchei, charikawi and sambai. Paranda music developed soon after the Garifunas arrival in Central America. The music is instrumental and percussion-based. The music was barely recorded until the 1990s, when **Ivan Duran** of Stonetree Records

began the Paranda Project. In the Garifuna culture, there is another dance called Dugu. This dance is a ritual done for a death in the family to pay their respect to their loved ones.

In 2001, Garifuna music was proclaimed one of the masterpieces of the oral and intangible heritage of humanity by UNESCO.

Steeped in rich traditions and amazing ancestry, we join the Garifunas in celebrating Garifuna Settlement Day. They have joined our country and formed part of it; integrating themselves to our roots and have grown to prominent businessmen, entrepreneurs, teachers and have joined our Belizean workforce with such strength. Their music, their dance, stories, food, history – it all makes them a proud and much welcome addition to **“Our Belize Community.”**

Liquor License Notice

Notice is hereby be given that under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Chapter 150 of the Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2000, **CARLOS TZIB** is applying for a **PUBLICAN SPECIAL** liquor license for the year 2015 to operate **Amigos Bar** located in San Antonio Village, Santa Elena, Cayo District.

Notice is hereby be given that under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Chapter 150 of the Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2000, **FRANCIS FORD COPLA** is applying for a **PUBLICAN SPECIAL** liquor license for the year 2015 to operate **Blancaneaux** located Mountain Pine Ridge, Cayo District.



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Ringworm

Continued From Page 4

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Prevention

- To prevent ringworm:
- * Keep your skin and feet clean and

dry.

- * Shampoo regularly, especially after haircuts.
- * Do not share clothing, towels, hairbrushes, combs, headgear, or other personal care items. Such items should be thoroughly cleaned and dried after use.
- * Wear sandals or shoes at gyms, lockers, and pools.
- * Avoid touching pets with bald spots.

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- * Dermatophytid
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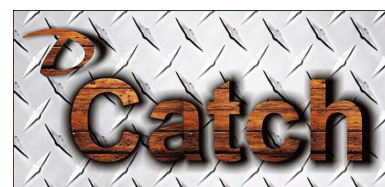
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Brazilian Footballer Adriano Charged with Drug Links

Former Brazilian football international Adriano has been charged with links to a drug lord in Rio de Janeiro.

Prosecutors said that Adriano gave a drug dealer a motorbike that was used in criminal activities.

The Brazilian striker had a successful career in Italy, winning titles with Inter Milan. But off-field problems and injuries cut his career short.

Adriano, 32, had been negotiating a comeback with second division French club Le Havre.

The allegations first emerged in 2010.

Brazilian police said Adriano had



Adriano played for the Brazilian national team in the 2006 World Cup

bought a motorbike in 2008 and registered in the name of the mother of a known drug dealer - Paulo Rogerio de Souza Paz, known as Mica.

The bike was used for drug trafficking in one of Rio's shanty towns, or favelas, then controlled by a powerful criminal gang - Comando Vermelho (*Red Command*).

Adriano denied at the time the allegations.

Brazilian media say they have not been able to contact Adriano, who was due to fly back to Rio de Janeiro on Tuesday night.

Prosecutors have not requested an arrest warrant against Adriano, but have asked for his passport to be seized.

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Deadline for applications is Wednesday, November 12, 2014. Submission of Application Letter, Curriculum Vitae, two (2) references and copies of qualifications should be addressed to:

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Bul Under Canto's Bed

SAN ANTONIO VILLAGE, Cayo, Saturday 1 November, 2014:

A man from San Antonio Village, allegedly caught hiding under a bed, was today arrested and charged for burglary.

On Monday, November 3, 2014, **Rosarita Canto**, 53, Belizean domestic residing in San Antonio Village, reported to police that at about 9:30 pm on Saturday, November 1, 2014, she encountered a man hiding under a bed in her room.

In a statement to the police Canto informed that, accompanied by her daughter and son-in-law, she was in

the lower flat of her two storey wooden house in San Antonio Village, Cayo. She told the police that when she stepped outside to brush her teeth, she saw, in the darkness, the figure of a person going up the stairs to the upper level of the house. They reportedly proceeded to investigate the matter and upon searching upstairs she came upon a male person hiding under the bed inside her room. When the person emerged from under the bed, visibly under the influence of alcohol, he was recognized fellow villager **Rogelio Bul**. The 40 year old Belizean mason was later arrested and charged for burglary.

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