Trio Charged For Murder

SAN IGANCIO WELCOME CENTER, Cayo, Saturday, 4 April, 2015:

A man was found beaten at the Welcome Center in San Ignacio.

Police received reports that on Saturday, 4 April, 2015, at about 1:27am, of a male person who got beaten. Upon arrival police saw a male person dressed in short blue jeans pants and beige T-Shirt, unconscious with an injury to the right side of the head and was bleeding from the mouth.

He was transported to the San Ignacio Community Hospital,

Continues On Page 15

Deceased, Aurelio Montero, 23

Saul Ortiz, 23

Wendel Kurt Obando 21

Remembering Peter Tonti

In Remembrance of Peter Tonti - May He Rest In Peace.

It is with tremendous sadness that we inform you of the passing on April 16, 2015, of Mr. Peter Tonti. Mr. Tonti was the CEO of Cahal Pech Village Resort and former 2nd Vice President of the Belize Tourism Industry Association (BTIA).

Mr. Tonti arrived in Belize in the late 1970’s as a Peace Corps Volunteer.

Continues On Page 15
Belize Not Ready For An Oil Spill!

"Belize does not presently have the capacity to address a large oil spill!" Commander Paul Lattanzi of the Regional Activity Centre/Regional Marine Pollution Emergency, Information and Training Centre RAC/REMPEITC succinctly stated the situation of Belize's lack of preparedness to address oil spills. The comment emanated from a discussion at the Oil Spill Preparedness Sensitization Workshop being held today by the Department of the Environment. It is clear that Belize is not ready for an oil spill from existing threats such as tankers, therefore extremely far off from being prepared for an oil spill from oil exploration in sensitive areas including in watersheds, protected areas and the offshore.

While the DOE was quick to note that Belize Natural Energy (BNE) has an oil spill contingency plan and that the planning process to complete the National Oil Spill Contingency Plans ongoing, the fact remains that Belize does not have a comprehensive overarching National Oil Spill Contingency Plan to allow for adequate response to an oil spill. In addition, the current incomplete draft of the National Oil Spill Contingency Plan has been in its draft form for the last 8 years and the current exercise to revise and complete the Plan appears bogged down due to lack of financial resources and political will.

In light of existing threats from oil concessions in sensitive areas, including the offshore, it is clear that the decision to issue oil concessions in these areas were made without sound scientific analysis of risks using tools such as site specific oil spill modeling. Such risk assessment would help to identify the impact of an oil spill to the economy (industries such as tourism, fisheries and marine aquaculture), environment and cultural/traditional resources use. As the oil industry continues to operate without an overarching National Oil Spill Contingency Plan and proper risk assessment, the Government is pushing forward the Petroleum Exploration Zonation and Exploration Guidelines that has key sensitive areas including protected areas, watersheds and the entire offshore as opened for oil exploration.

As we approach the 5th anniversary of the Deep Water Horizon disaster, on April 20, it is undeniably clear how unprepared Belize is to take on oil and oil spills, especially in sensitive areas. After five years, the U.S. Government is still trying to address the operational problems that caused the disastrous oil spill by introducing new regulations. The Deep Water Horizon Oil Spill is a reminder that oil spills are not a matter of "if" but "when" and their impacts are long-term and far reaching.

The Coalition recognizes the importance of the National Oil Spill Contingency Plan to address existing threats such as from tankers, fuel installation and storage sites, onshore (outside of sensitive areas) oil exploration, etc. It is clear however, that presently Belize does not have the capacity and resources to adequately address an oil spill.
Man Charged for Grievous Harm

SANTA ELENA TOWN, Cayo, Thursday, 2 April, 2015:
A Santa Elena man is in the hot seat as he is faced with a grievous harm charge.

On Thursday, 2 April, 2015, Darryl August, 23 year old Belizean Tour Guide reported to police that around 1:15 am, after socializing with family and friends, dropped off his brother at home on the George Price Highway in Santa Elena near the Hawksworth Bridge.

August exited the vehicle to urinate and notice a white pickup truck pulled up and two male persons exited. August recognized one as Leal and the other as Francis. Francis walked towards him and at about 15 feet away he threw a bottle of rum at him which caught August on his right hand and left side of his chest area.

August received multiple cut wounds on his right hand and chest area. A medico form was issued where the medical officers classified injuries as grievous harm.

Police then arrested and charged Francis Gorozica, 22 year old Belizean labourer of Neal’s road Santa Elena, with Grievous harm.

Budna Stabbed

SAN IGNACIO TOWN, Cayo, Saturday, 4 April, 2015:
The San Ignacio Police are investigating a stabbing incident that happened a popular night club in the area.

Police was called out to an accident that happen only a stone’s throw away from the San Ignacio Police Station.

Upon arrival on Buena Vista Street in San Ignacio, the noticed a female laying on the left hand side of the street with cut wounds on her left foot and on both knees.

Police investigation revealed that He Yue Li, 39 year old business man of Hudson Street, was driving his white 2005 Ford Ranger pickup on Buena Vista Street heading towards Benque Viejo. As he was reaching the Belize Electricity Limited (BEL) office, he started experiencing mechanical problems and noticed that his steering wheel was locked. Li tried to take control of the vehicle and noticed a female and a male person and noticed that he hit the woman.

The victim identified as Gudrun Stengel, German Scientist of San Diego, was taken to the to the KHMH where she was treated for broken ribs on both sides, abrasions to both hands, cut wound to the chin, right eye and both legs below the knee. The other victim Byron Purse was also complaining of body pains as he said that he was also hit.

Li was later seared with a notice of intended prosecution.

Vacancy exists at Arms of Love Evangelical Primary School for;
(1) Teacher

The teacher will serve as the administrative head of the school, and will be responsible for all aspects of the school which includes but is not limited to: instruction, curriculum, staff supervision and evaluation, staff development, student discipline, record keeping, public relations, and maintenance of building and grounds.

PREFERRED SKILLS AND ATTRIBUTES
- Proven ability to have positive interactions with teachers, students and patrons.
- Strong communication skills including listening, advocacy, and mediation.
- Ability to foster a positive and collaborative work environment.
- Demonstrate leadership, ethics, and change management skills.
- Knowledgeable in Curriculum development and integration of technology in delivery and assessment.
- Able to teach a diverse population including differing races, cultures and religions.
- Attend a Bible-believing Christian Church and demonstrate Christian values and principles.
- Work effectively with a team, collaborate and communicate with various individuals.

Training and Experience:
- Bachelor’s degree or equivalent Training in Education
- Hold a valid Teacher’s License
- Minimum three years teaching experience

Salary:
- In accordance with GOB pay scale.

Please submit your application to:
Pastor Dale Hulse
Acting Manager
P.O. BOX 608
Belmopan, Belize

Deadline for application is April, 24th, 2015. Email missionbelize@gmail.com
Application Package should include:
1. Cover Letter and resume
2. Two recent letters of recommendation (Professional & Character Reference)
NEBL Hosts First Ever All Star Game

BY: Karim Juan

The NEBL resumed after the Easter Break with some key games that had significant playoff implications. Fans are reminded that all games have a live webcast, where the play-by-play, along with box scores, are available for all games. Fans can follow every game live on the internet, as scores are in real time, at nebl.sportingpulse.net

San Pedro Tiger Sharks handed Cayo Western Ballaz their first loss of the season

The once undefeated Cayo Western Ballaz (7-1) were handed their first loss by the defending champs, San Pedro Tiger Sharks (6-2) on Saturday night at San Pedro High School in San Pedro Town. The home team was able to secure a 79-75 huge victory, reclaiming their repertoire of being a fourth quarter team who displays a great degree of confidence and clutch performance down the stretch. Trail by 10 in the fourth quarter, San Pedro Tiger Sharks were able to mount a huge comeback, sending the game to over-time, where they were able to secure the victory. The leading scorer for the home team was Darwin "Puppy" Leslie who finished with 22 points, 5 rebounds, 3 steals, while drawing 13 fouls in the game, where he shot 18 free throws. Milton Jones finished the night with a double-double, with 16 points and 10 rebounds, while Ashton Edwards had 15 points and 4 steals and Douglas Valley netted 11 points. In a losing effort, Cayo Western Ballaz was led by Richard Troyer who had the game high with 33 points and 9 rebounds, while Akem Watters finished with 17 points and 5 rebounds and Kurt "Chengo" Burgess scored 9 points to go with 4 rebounds and 5 steals. Dangriga Warriors gets a huge win in Orange Walk

The Dangriga Warriors (3-5) got a much needed victory against Orange Walk Running Rebels (2-6) at the Orange Walk Multi Purpose Complex on Saturday night, maintaining a tie for the fourth and final playoff spot with Belize City No Limit. Dangriga was able to pull away in the fourth quarter, securing the 70-55 victory, as they were led by Daniel Nolberto who scored the game high 25 points. Edgar Mitchell had 13 points with 2 assists, while Janie Flores sank 12 points. Orange Walk Running Rebels was led by Randy Usher who tallied 24 points with 3 rebounds, while Ian Carcamo had 7 points with 4 boards. With the loss, Orange Walk Running Rebels is 1 game back in the loss column, for the fourth and final playoff spot.

Belize City No Limit got revenge against their city rivals, as Chippy Rudon scored 38

Belize City No Limit (3-5) got a huge win Saturday night at Bird's Isle, as they narrowly edged the Belize Hurricanes (2-6), after they were trailing by 9 points in the fourth quarter, to come back and secure a 59-56 win. Belize City No Limit was led by Gregory "Chippy" Rudon who had the game high 38 points, to go with 2 assists and 2 rebounds, on 71% shooting from the field. Lennox Bowman finished the night with 8 points, 4 rebounds, 2 assists and 3 steals while Brandon Rodgers had 6 points with 7 rebounds. In a losing effort, Belize Yellow Pages Hurricanes was led by Brian White who tallied a double-double with 10 points and 11 rebounds, while Akeem Trapp finished with 10 points, 5 rebounds, 4 assists and 3 steals. Ervin Orosco netted 8 points and Leon Williams scored 6 points while grabbing 9 boards. With the loss, Belize Yellow Pages Hurricanes is now 1 game back in the loss column, for the fourth and final playoff spot.

Upcoming Games

All games will be played this coming Friday night at 9 p.m., due to All Star Night on Saturday. Belize City No Limit (3-5) will travel north to take on the Orange Walk Running Rebels (1-6) at the Orange Walk Multi Purpose Complex in Orange Walk Town. This is a must win for Orange Walk Running Rebels, if they want to keep their playoff hopes alive. San Pedro Tiger Sharks (6-2) will travel to Belize City to take on Belize Yellow Pages Hurricanes (2-6) at the Belize Elementary Gym. The last game of the night will see Belmopan Red Taigaz (5-2) head down south to take on the Dangriga Warriors (3-5) at the Ecumenical College, while Cayo Western Ballaz will get a bye this coming weekend.

All Star Night

On Saturday, the All Star Night will be held at the Sacred Heart College auditorium in San Ignacio Town, with tip off of the Smart All Star Game being at 8 p.m. Opening ceremonies and the introduction of players will be at 7:45 p.m. The All Star Game will be followed by the Scotia Bank Three Point Shootout, with the night ending with the much anticipated Mek Mi Rich Slam Dunk Contest. This will be one of the biggest basketball events held in Belize for the past decade, so fans are reminded to make sure they make it to this much anticipated basketball event.

Game Scores

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team</th>
<th>GP</th>
<th>W</th>
<th>L</th>
<th>Pts</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cayo Western Ballaz</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Pedro Tiger Sharks</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Belmopan Red Taigaz</td>
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<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Belize City No Limit</td>
<td>8</td>
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<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dangriga Warriors</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>14</td>
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<tr>
<td>Belize Yellow Pages Hurricanes</td>
<td>8</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Orange Walk Running Rebels</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

GP- Games Played, W - Won, L - Loss and Pts. - Points
Ministry Of Health To Officially Inaugurate The National Vaccine Storage Facility

Belmopan, April 14, 2015:

The Ministry of Health in partnership with the European Union and the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) will be conducting a short ceremony on Wednesday, April 15, 2015 at 3:00 pm to officially inaugurate the National Vaccine Storage Facility at the Western Regional Hospital Compound.

The Ministry of Health is proud to boast that over the last ten years, through our partnerships, we have continued to maintain a minimum of 95% vaccine coverage. While the priority groups for immunization are pregnant women and children under five years of age, all age groups are covered by the expanded program on immunization. Vaccination services are provided countrywide at both public and private health facilities.

Following two recent evaluations of the existing National Vaccine Storage Facility conducted by officials of PAHO, recommendations were made to construct a new facility that would be used primarily for the storage, unpacking and packing of vaccines and other immunization supplies. Recommendations were also made to relocate to higher grounds for better management in the event of a natural disaster or in the event of an emergency high demand situation.

Under the grant, titled “Strengthening of Critical Maternal and Neonatal Services in Belize”, signed on July 30, 2013, approximately BZ$1,042,000.00 was used to construct the current facility which was completed in mid-January 2015.

This facility is a pre-requisite for continuing with the prevention of outbreaks of vaccine-preventable diseases, especially in vulnerable populations such as children, pregnant women and non-immunized population groups.

The inauguration ceremony will include keynote remarks by the visiting Ambassador of the European Union to the Caribbean, H.E. Paola Amadei and Minister of Health, Hon. Pablo Marin.

This event will also include a health fair at the same location from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm on Food Safety in conjunction with World Health Day celebrated on April 7th under the theme, “From Farm to plate, make food safe.”

Ends
By: Chrystal Evanshurst

"We love because he first loved us." 1 John 4:19 (ESV)


Dear Editor,
The current PUP leadership makes the Belizean people feel a bit like Cassandra, the mythological Greek daughter of the king of Troy who could see the future – most famously, her city-state’s doom – but was cursed such that no one would listen to her. This is a bit of an exaggeration some may say, but is it? The current leadership of the PUP can see that with names such as Fonseca, Musa and Julius Espat as its voice and face, the people of Belize will not vote PUP anytime soon, and hence, the party is headed for another resounding defeat at the polls and apparent doom, but they are cursed to the point where they will not listen to reason.

The polls, though not scientific, speak clearly to the voters’ fear, fatigue and downright frustration at the national foremen – Espat. One must also consider the kind of love you become unwilling to consistently offer.

Why? Because sometimes loving others hurts.

As I stood there and pulled out my wallet to purchase the simple yet beautiful print, I realized that great love comes at a great cost — as evidenced by the example of Jesus Christ and His sacrifice for our sins, which we see in today’s key verse.

I remembered His illustration of love for me and recalled His command that I follow in His steps: “A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another” (John 13:34, ESV).

Now, let me concede this. I am completely aware that everyone who causes us pain should not be an automatic recipient of our deepest love and sacrifice. However, I am acutely aware of my own need to assess my willingness to love like Christ loves me and to sacrifice for those to whom I am called.

What I know for certain is this: There are times when the love I have for others is not a matter of feeling, but rather a matter of my decision to be obedient to Him — and it won’t feel good.

The question is, when real love results in my personal discomfort or even a heart-wrenching level of pain, am I willing to love well anyway?

Father, thank You for Your love — a love that never fails and never gives up on me. You are the perfect example of a great love — a love that is offered full-strength even when love is not given in return. Help me to love like You. I want to honor You by doing my best to love others in the way You have loved me — even when it hurts.

In Jesus’ Name, Amen.

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Don’t Be A Litter Bug!!!

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By: Collet Montejo

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"Real love bleeds." I bought it. Loving people can be hard work. It can be even harder when the love you give requires the very essence of who you are to flow through wounds inflicted by the ones your heart beats for.

When I read these three small words penned by this artist-turned-missionary, I stopped in my tracks because I knew I had been doing exactly the opposite in my life. Instead of being willing to “bleed” for the ones I loved the most, I had slipped into full-on apathy.

Why? Because sometimes caring for and loving others doesn’t feel good.

Sometimes, it’s easier not to love. Over time, and unbeknownst to me, I had become an expert at self-preservation and pain avoidance. Anything that hurt, I didn’t touch — including the people I loved the most. I grieved as I realized that the very love Jesus continually offered me — the same love that came at His own great personal discomfort and eventual agony — was unfortunately the kind of love I become unwilling to consistently offer.

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Don’t Be A Litter Bug!!!

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By: Collet Montejo
Brazilian workers have removed more than 33 tonnes of dead fish from the 2016 Olympic rowing and canoeing venue in Rio de Janeiro.

A team of more than 60 people have been working since last week to clear the remains from Lagoa Rodrigo de Freitas.

Scientists said the fish were starved of oxygen because of pollution.

Water quality has also been a major concern for organisers in Guanabara Bay, where Olympic sailing events are due to be held.

The overwhelming smell at the lagoon has led to complaints from residents and members of local rowing clubs.

Rio’s environmental secretariat said on Thursday that the deaths were the result of a sudden change in water temperature, but scientists rejected that explanation.

Paul Rosman, an oceanographer who works at the lagoon, told Reuters that a rise in algae blooms had led to a build up of carbon dioxide in the water.

Dead fish are pictured next to a rowing athlete, as his coach helps him to clean up his paddle.

The fish are a small silvery species called twaite shad.

"There was a big effort to stop sewage and we removed everything possible," he added.

"But reducing the sewage doesn’t mean you have reduced the algae blooms. That happens because of the excess of nutrients in the water."

Tonnes of dead fish have appeared on the surface of the lagoon before.

Mr Rosman said successive state and city governments had ignored proposals to improve water quality by dredging canals that lead into the sea.

RIO ORANGE CREEK VILLAGE, Cayo, Saturday, 4 April, 2015:

Jermaine Welcome and Allen Garbutt were shot early Saturday morning.

At about 1:30 a.m. the men were in Roaring Creek Village. While socializing amongst a group, a gunman opened fire and bullets caught both men. Welcome was killed and Garbutt is in critical condition.

The official report stated that on Saturday, 4 April, 2015 at about 1:30 a.m., police responded to a shooting incident in Roaring Creek Village and visited the Western Regional Hospital where they saw 24-year-old Allan Garbutt of Roaring Creek Village being attended to suffering from apparent gunshot wounds to the right hip and shoulder. The other victim was 24-year-old Jermaine Welcome also of Roaring Creek Village, who received a gunshot to his lower back and had passed away while undergoing surgery. Initial investigation revealed that at about 1:26 a.m. Allan Garbutt and Jermaine Welcome were outside on a verandah of a residence, when a lone gunman opened fire at them from outside of the yard injuring both men. Jermaine Welcome was pronounced dead at 2:30 a.m. and his body lies at the WRH Morgue awaiting a postmortem examination. Allan Garbutt was transferred in a serious condition to the KHMH.

Who Jah Bless No Man Curse
Three Bears Story

Baby Bear goes downstairs and sits in his small chair at the table, he looks into his small bowl. It is empty.

"Who’s been eating my porridge?!!!", he squeaks.

Papa Bear arrives at the big table and sits in his big chair. He looks into his big bowl, and it is also empty.

"Who’s been eating my porridge!?!?", he roars.

Momma Bear puts her head through the serving hatch from the kitchen and yells, "For Pete’s sake, how many times do we have to go through this?

It was Momma Bear who got up first, was Momma Bear who woke everyone in the house, it was Momma Bear who made the coffee, it was Momma Bear who unloaded the dishwasher from last night, and put everything away, it was Momma Bear who went out in the cold early morning air to fetch the newspaper, it was Momma Bear who set the table, it was Momma Bear who put the cat out, cleaned the litter box, and filled the cat’s water and food dish, and, now that you’ve decided to drag your sorry bear-butt downstairs, and grace Momma Bear’s kitchen with your grumpy presence, listen good, cause I’m only going to say this one more time...

"I HAVEN’T MADE THE PORRIDGE YET!!"

Selling a Car

A blonde tried to sell her old car.

She was having a lot of problems selling it, because the car had 250,000 miles on it.

One day, she told her problem to a friend she worked with at a salon.

"A blonde tried to sell her old car."

Her first pregnancy. The doctor asks her if she has any questions.

"Yes. Does that hurt?"

"Did you sell your car?"

"No," replied the blonde. "If only I can sell the car."

"Okay," said the blonde's friend. "Here is the address of a friend of mine. He owns a car repair shop. Tell him I sent you and he will turn the counter in your car back to 50,000 miles. Then it should not be a problem to sell your car anymore."

The following weekend, the blonde made the trip to the mechanic. About one month after that, the friend asked her, "Did you sell your car?"

"No," replied the blonde. "Why should I? It only has 50,000 miles on it!"

Childbirth

A woman goes to her doctor who verifies that she is pregnant. This is her first pregnancy. The doctor asks her if she has any questions.

She replies, "Well, I’m a little worried about the pain. How much will childbirth hurt?"

The doctor answered, "Well, that varies from woman to woman and pregnancy to pregnancy and besides, it’s difficult to describe pain."

"I know, but can’t you give me some idea?" she asks.

"Grab your upper lip and pull it out a little..."

"Like this?"

"A little more..."

"Like this?"

"No. A little more...

"No. A little more...

"No. A little more..."

"Yes. Does that hurt?"

"A little bit."

"Now stretch it over your head!"
Notice to Customers

New Tariffs effective April 01, 2015

Belize Water Services Limited (BWS) informs customers that, effective April 01, 2015, new tariffs as approved by the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) have come into effect. Customer bills issued in April 2015 covers consumption which spans March through to April and will therefore have the old and new tariffs applied on a pro-rata basis.

The bills issued in April will show two billing lines with the same bill date. The first line shows the pro-rated March consumption using the old tariffs. The second line shows the pro-rated April consumption using the new tariffs.

The main section of a bill is shown below. Please note the reading date is April 03, 2015 (03/04/15) and the billing cycle is for 30 days, therefore in this specific example, 27 days represents March consumption and the remaining 3 days represents April's consumption.

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NB: Customers should note that increases in their water usage due to onset of the dry season and the Easter Holidays will cause increases in their monthly bill which is not necessarily a result of the tariff change.

BWS – Delivering Water and More ...
A brain tumor or intracranial neoplasm occurs when abnormal cells form within the brain. There are two main types of tumors: malignant or cancerous tumors and benign tumors. Cancerous tumors can be divided into primary tumors that started within the brain and those that spread from somewhere else known as brain metastasis tumors. This article deals mainly with tumors that start within the brain. All types of brain tumors may produce symptoms that vary depending on the part of the brain involved. These may include headaches, seizures, problem with vision, vomiting, and mental changes. The headache is classically worst in the morning and goes away with vomiting. More specific problems may include difficulty in walking, speaking and with sensation. As the disease progresses unconsciousness may occur.

The cause of most cases is unknown. Risk factors that may occasionally be involved include a number of inherited conditions such as neurofibromatosis as well as exposure to the industrial chemical vinyl chloride, the Epstein-Barr virus, and ionizing radiation. While concern has been raised about mobile phone use the evidence is not clear. The most common types of primary tumors in adults are: meningiomas (usually benign), and astrocytomas such as glioblastomas. In children the most common type is a malignant medulloblastoma. Diagnosis is usually by medical examination along with computed tomography or magnetic resonance imaging. This is then often confirmed by a biopsy. Based on the findings the tumors are divided into different grades of severity.

Treatment may include some combination of neurosurgery, internal radiation therapy and chemotherapy. Anticonvulsant medication may be needed if seizures occur. Dextemethasone and furosemide may be used to decrease swelling around the tumor. Some tumors grow slowly requiring only monitoring and possibly needing no further intervention. Treatments that use a person’s immune system are being studied. Outcome varies considerably depending on the type of tumor and how far it has spread at diagnosis.

Glioblastomas usually have poor outcomes. Nevertheless, certain patients have good outcomes. The average five-year survival rate for brain cancer in the United States is 33%.

Secondary or metastatic brain tumors are more common than primary brain tumors, with about half of all metastases coming from lung cancer. Primary brain tumors occur in around 250,000 people a year globally, making up less than 2% of cancers. In children younger than 15, brain tumors are second only to acute lymphoblastic leukemia as a cause of cancer. In Australia the average economic cost of a case of brain cancer is $1.9 million, the greatest of any type of cancer.

Signs and Symptoms

Signs and symptoms of a brain tumor mainly depend on the size of the tumor and its location. The symptom onset—in the timeline of the development of the tumor—depends in many cases on the nature of the tumor (as to it being benign or malignant), and in many cases is also related to the change in the nature of the neoplasm, from slow-growing, late-symptom-onset benign to faster-growing, early-symptom-onset malignant.

Symptoms of both primary and secondary brain tumors can be divided into three main categories:

* Symptoms as consequences of increased intracranial pressure (often first noticed): Large tumors or tumors with extensive swelling (edema) inevitably lead to elevated intracranial pressure which translates clinically into headaches, vomiting (with or without nausea), altered state of consciousness (somnolence, coma), dilation of the pupil on the side of the lesion (anisocoria), papilledema (prominent optic disc at the funduscopic eye examination). However, even small tumors obstructing the passage of cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) can also present such symptoms. Increased intracranial pressure may result in brain herniation (i.e. displacement) of certain parts of the brain, such as the cerebellar tonsils or the temporal uncus, resulting in lethal brainstem compression. In very young children, elevated intracranial pressure may cause an increase in the diameter of the skull and bulging of the fontanelles.

* Dysfuction: depending on the tumor location and the damage it may have caused to surrounding brain structures, either through compression or infiltration, any type of focal neurologic symptoms may occur, such as cognitive and behavioral impairment (including impaired judgment, memory loss, lack of recognition, spatial orientation disorders), personality or emotional changes, hemiparesis, hypophonia, aphasia, ataxia, visual field impairment, impaired sense of smell, impaired hearing, facial paralysis, double vision, impaired sense of smell, impaired hearing, facial paralysis, double vision, or more severe symptoms such as mood swings, headache, speech problems, cognitive decline, seizures, memory loss.

location of the lesion and the functional systems (e.g. motor, sensory, visual, etc.) it affects. A bilateral temporal visual field defect (bitemporal hemianopia—due to compression of the optic chiasm), often associated with endocrine dysfunction—either hypopituitarism or hyperproduction of pituitary hormones and hyperprolactinemia is suggestive of a pituitary tumor.

* Irritation: abnormal fatigue, weariness, absences and tremors, but also epileptic seizures.

A benign brain tumor may present for some years and be asymptomatic. Others might present with signs and symptoms like headaches and vomiting or weariness and so be mistaken for gastrointestinal disorders. In these cases secondary symptoms need to be looked into.

Causes

Aside from exposure to vinyl chloride or ionizing radiation, there are no known environmental factors associated with brain tumors. Mutations and deletions of so-called tumor suppressor genes, such as P53, are thought to be the cause of some forms of brain tumor. Inherited conditions, such as Von Hippel–Lindau disease, multiple endocrine neoplasia, and neurofibromatosis type 2 carry a high risk for the development of brain tumors.

Although studies have not shown any link between cell phone or mobile phone radiation and the occurrence of brain tumors, the World Health Organization has classified mobile phone radiation on the IARC scale into Group 2B – possibly carcinogenic.

Diagnosis

The majority of the brain is separated from the blood by the blood-brain barrier (BBB), which exerts a restrictive control as to which substances are allowed to pass. Therefore many tracers that reach tumors in the body very easily would only reach brain tumors once there is a disruption of the BBB. Thus the disruption of the BBB, which can be detected by a MRI and CT, is regarded as the main diagnostic indicator for malignant gliomas, meningiomas, and brain metastases.

Although there is no specific or singular clinical symptom or sign for any brain tumors, the presence of a combination of symptoms and the lack of corresponding clinical indications of infections or other causes can be an indicator to redirect diagnostic investigation towards the possibility of an intracranial neoplasm. Brain tumors have similar characteristics and obstacles when it comes to diagnosis and therapy with tumors located elsewhere in the body. However, they create specific issues that follow closely to the properties of the organ they are in.

The diagnosis will often start with the patient to get a clear view of his medical antecedents, and his current symptoms. Clinical and laboratory investigations will serve to exclude infections as the cause of the symptoms. Examinations in this stage may include the eyes, otolaryngological (or ENT) and/or electrophysiological exams. The use of electroencephalography (EEG) often plays a role in the diagnosis of brain tumors.

Swelling, or obstruction of the passage of cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) from the brain may cause (early) signs and symptoms like headaches and vomiting or weariness and so be mistaken for gastrointestinal disorders. In these cases secondary symptoms need to be looked into.

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ARIES: March 22 to April 20
Monday and Tuesday are ‘watching the paint dry’ days: slow, meditative, odd. Lift your gaze from your navel as necessary, but don’t expect to be shaken out of this state until Wednesday. The start of the week, in a way, is like the slowly ticking buildup to a roller coaster’s highest drop, and Wednesday is the exhilarating beginning of a three-day-long rush. You’re in the front car of the coaster, but each turn still surprises you. This weekend, the ride might change, but you never actually slow down. Your friends and your career change, but you never actually slow down.

LEO: July 24 to August 23
What’s apparent to everyone, what’s happening on the surface, doesn’t exactly add up on Monday and Tuesday. Because you have reason to suspect something weird is afoot, either in your family life or your work life, you’re on guard. By Wednesday, though, the weirdness sorts itself out or (even better) becomes irrelevant, and the part of your brain that was focused on wording things off concentrates instead on drawing someone close (possibly a romantic interest). Oh, happy day! The romance theme persists through Friday. Your weekend is about helping others.

VIRGO: August 22 to September 21
The secret to becoming brilliant in a certain field is never to be embarrassed about what a dork the subject turns you into. Monday and Tuesday: devote your mind to what you love. If that’s quantum physics, by all means, wear your quantum physics nerdiness proudly. Talk about nothing else. On Wednesday you could give over the whole week to what you care about! A family obligation gets in the way of that on Wednesday, and a host of responsibilities frustratingly distracts you on Thursday and Friday. But this weekend? This weekend can be quantum physics all day, if that’s what you want. Ambition is good. Lucky numbers: 23, 36, 47.

LIBRA: September 22 to October 23
You’re constantly reaching into your pocket on Monday, in a way that makes you nervous. Where is all of your money going? Can the leak in this dam be plugged? Yes, it can, and on Tuesday, you set about doing just that. A finger plugging the hole isn’t going to cut it. It’s time to consider anew what you value. Wednesday through Friday is a wonderful, happy period -- you’ve found a way to express yourself, and it’s liberating. But this weekend, you’re beset by a case of bluesy nostalgia. Try to avoid your more domineering acquaintances. Lucky numbers: 41, 66, 79.

SCORPIO: October 24 to November 22
You feel, on Monday and Tuesday, like a baby chick just breaking out of an egg. You’re at the edge of a whole new world. The exact nature of this rebirth is unclear, but it’s safe to say that it produces a vertiginous feeling in you on Wednesday. Though you’re not radder, this odd sensation makes you feel as if you’re wandering aimlessly. Then, on Thursday and Friday, you’re especially susceptible to other people’s crazy ideas. You begin to sort out what it all means. This weekend: Make plans, and then take steps toward implementing them. Lucky numbers: 09, 17, 34.

SAGITTARIUS: November 22 to December 21
Your dreams are a major preoccupation on Monday and Tuesday, but rather than thinking of them as a distraction from the narrative of your life, imagine them to be enriching, valuable and instructive. An extremely active subconscious is in the stars for you, as is the desire to be alone. That works out beautifully, because Wednesday through Friday, you’re the polar opposite of alone. You have to hold your hands above your head because so many people are crowding around you. On Saturday and Sunday, strive to let your creative impulses take priority. Lucky numbers: 39, 45, 63.

CAPRICORN: December 22 to January 20
Not only are you on good terms with all of your friends, you’re in a good position professionally and financially. From where you stand, you can see a great future ahead of you. Monday and Tuesday are good days to make major decisions. Then comes Wednesday, which is the beginning of full-tilt madness. Your mind is racing, and discipline, which is absolutely necessary, doesn’t come easily. Expect this to last until Friday. The weekend returns you to that ‘standing on a hilltop’ mood. You’ll have the stamina and drive to achieve what you want. Lucky numbers: 50, 75, 91.

AQUARIUS: January 21 to February 18
You’re in first gear all day Monday and well into Tuesday. A connection to your deeper self is slowing you down, mostly because it’s making you feel a bit vulnerable, although there’s no reason why it should. It might be helpful to do something sociably useful. Wednesday through Friday, the anxiety drops away, and what you’re left with is a beautiful sense of your own talents and goals. Plus, it just so happens that you’re in a crowd of people who would be happy to discuss these things with you. This weekend, however, it’s back to first gear. That’s totally normal. Lucky numbers: 26, 32, 43.

PISCES: February 19 to March 20
Rather than swim into dark waters where sharks could be lurking beyond your field of vision, how about opting for the kiddie pool on Monday and Tuesday? Stick to what you know. This whole week requires your attention and focus -- Wednesday through Friday, a difference of opinion is not the end of the world, it’s just an opportunity to articulate your way of looking at something. However, this weekend is easy. A friend does a favor for you that you barely have to ask for, which demonstrates both their virtues and yours. Lucky numbers: 10, 15, 52.

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HIV: New Approach Against Virus 'Holds Promise'

The first human trial of a new type of HIV therapy suggests it could be a promising weapon in the fight against the virus.

Reports in the journal Nature show infusions of so-called broadly neutralising antibodies could suppress the amount of HIV in a patient's blood.

The approach uses clones of immune proteins taken from a rare individual who has natural control of the disease.

Scientists hope with further work this could bolster current treatments. 'Profound effects'

People naturally mount a defence against the virus by producing an army of protein based weapons - antibodies. But in most cases these are not powerful enough to defeat it.

The international research team harvested copies of unusually potent ones, capable of neutralising many different strains of HIV.

Patients given the highest concentrations were able to fight the virus for some time, dampening the replication of HIV in their blood.

The strength of this protection varied - in some it lasted more than four weeks.

In the journal the authors said: "Our data establish that passive infusion of single broadly neutralising antibodies can have profound effects on HIV viremia in humans."

But because of the virus's ability to mutate rapidly, in some patients it was able to outwit the therapy by changing structure over time.

To overcome this scientists suggest using this treatment alongside current drugs or together with other antibodies.

'Immune jolt'

Prof Michel Nussenzweig of the Rockefeller University in New York, told BBC News: "This is different to treatment out there already on two counts."

"First because it comes from a human - so it is natural in that respect."

"And secondly it opens up the possibility of giving the patient's own weakened immune system a jolt."

"One part of the antibody could act as a red flag - pointing out to the body where the virus is hiding and sending signals to kill it."

They are now exploring whether the infusion could shield people from getting the disease in the first place.

But he cautioned that studies into the antibody are still small and at an early stage.

"We have shown the approach is safe and effective."

"What this trial is telling us is that it is now time to look at the possibilities - from prevention and treatment to even cure," he said.

Commenting on the findings, Prof Vincent Piguet from Cardiff University, said: "This exciting novel study shows for the first time that antibodies may have a place in the line of therapies directed against HIV."

He described it as an "important development in the fight against HIV" but said the costs of antibody therapy and the emergence of resistance must be taken into account.
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Brain Tumor

Continued From Page 10

seizures in a patient with a negative history for epilepsy, should raise the possibility of a brain tumor.

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- Bob Marley
Trio Charged For Murder

Continued From Front Page

where the doctor admitted him in a stable condition. No means of identification was found in his possession and so far no missing person report has been filed. He was later transferred to KHMH where he died.

A picture of the John Doe was posted in social media and with the assistance of Coast Guard Personnel; the body was identified as AURELIO MONTERO 23yrs Belizean Coast Guard Officer of Bullet Tree Village.

Investigation into the matter resulted in the detention, on Wednesday, 8th April, 2015, of Wendel Kurt Obando 21 years D.O.B 28/10/1993 Belizean of Kontiki area, San Ignacio Town and a 15 years Belizean student of, San Ignacio town and Police were looking for the third suspect, Saul Ortiz, 23 year old of Maya vista drive, San Ignacio Town who later turned himself in on Tuesday, 14 April, 2015 accompanied by his attorney.

Police formally arrested the trio for the crime of murder and were later remanded to the Belize Central Prison until Wednesday, 8 July, 2015.

Cruz Brutally Chopped

SAN IGNACIO TOWN, Cayo, Sunday, 5 April, 2015:

A San Ignacio man was brutally chopped near his home in San Ignacio Town.

Police responded to a machete fight near Marrianna’s bar at the corner of Blue Bird and 23rd street. Upon arrival no one was in the area so they visited the San Ignacio Medical Hospital.

Police notice a Hispanic male person identified as Steven Cruz, 20 year old Belizean labourer, with multiple chop wounds to the back of the head, right wrist and lower foot.

Initial investigation revealed that Steven Cruz was socializing with his friends on a veranda at the home of Alejandro Galvez. Whilst they were there a minor came to Galvez, however, while the minor departed the yard he was upset because Galvez didn’t want to lend him two shirts. Upon departing the minor uttered the words “All ah una wa get it!”

The group of men didn’t pay attention to him. However, ten minutes later, Steven and Alejandro were standing against the veranda when the minor and his brother walked into the yard and approached them. They both then pulled out machete from their pants lashing Alejandro to the side with the machete and inflicting the chopping wounds to Steven. Steven began to bleed from his right foot and other parts of his body. The two men then made good their escape.

Steven Cruz was then taken to the San Ignacio Hospital but was later transported to the KHMH where he was later released. Police investigation continues as they looking for two suspects.

Sunday, April 19, 2015 - STAR - Tels: 626-8822 & 804-4900 - Email:starnewspaper@gmail.com Page 15

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