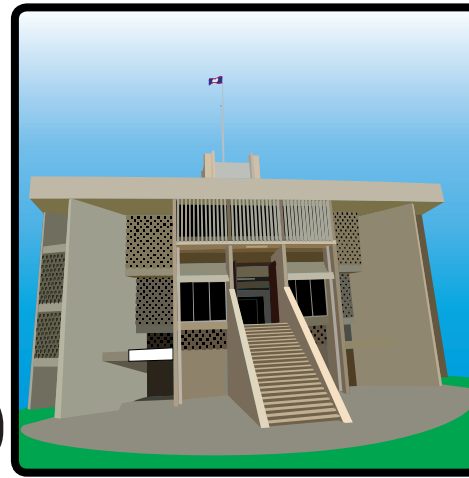




Capital Weekly



From the Heart of the Nation to the Soul of the People

No. 040

Sunday, September 22, 2013

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Special Feature on Tribute to Belizean Patriots 2013

Corruption Rears its Ugly Head Prime Minister Barrow Chops It Off!

“But I tell you, any UDP government that I lead will never be engaged in corruption. As soon as it rears its ugly head, I personally will cut it off. And I will tell you, I will sharpen a special machete with blades on two sides so that every time it springs up, right so, I will chop it off. And if it means the government has to fall, then so be it. Let the consequences be damned, the people of this country deserve better and I am determined to give them better.”

Those were the words of Hon. Dean Barrow, declared at a town hall meeting way back in November, 2004; and by all accounts, it's a promise he and his government are keeping.

This past week, the Board of the Social Investment Fund, with the full blessings of the Prime Minister and his Cabinet, moved swiftly to terminate top level executives at the Social Investment Fund following the Contractor General's report on a probe conducted into a Million



Hon. Dean Barrow - Prime Minister of Belize

Dollar project to build a new Market in Dangriga Town.

The September 17th Press Release announcing the Board's swift action, reads as follows: “The Social Investment Fund's (SIF) Board of Directors has made the decision to dismiss four members of staff based

on findings documented in a Contractor General report. The Board of Directors convened an emergency meeting in Belmopan and as a result four employees of SIF were dismissed and the Executive Director, Mr. Daniel Cano, has resigned.

In February of 2013, al-

legations of corruption were levied against the Social Investment Fund, prompting the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development to request an investigation led by the Contractor General. The findings of the investigation were presented to the Board of Directors who acted swiftly by immediately convening an emergency board meeting. After reviewing the Contractor General's report, the board determined that four members of staff were complicit in activities which merited termination. In view of the Contractor General's report and acting in the best interest of the organization, the Executive Director tendered his resignation effective immediately.

The Social Investment Fund has made arrangements for temporary management until a new Executive Director is hired.”

Indeed there is only one effective way to deal with Corruption - Chop It Off!

Patriotism Alive at University of Belize!



Wednesday, September 18 was Annual Patriotic Day at the University of Belize. The Photograph to the right is that of the ladies who won First, Second and Third Place in the Patriotic Dress Competition. Kudos to the University of Belize. Happy Independence, Belize!

Dominica's PM Joins Belize's PM Barrow for Independence



Story on Page 7

From the Desk of the Chairman



Delroy Cuthkelvin
Chairman, Editorial Board

The biggest day of the season is here. The climax of it all. Independence Day, that is.

There is something about this season that inspires each and every true Belizean to dig deep within ourself and find our most creative way of expressing our love and devotion to our Nation and Homeland.

Like romance, Pat-

riotism is an uplifting thing. As difficult and demanding as life might be, it picks us up, gives us wings and allows us to soar above our trials and tribulations. And, of course, it adds true meaning and purpose to our existence. Something to live for, something to strive for, something to die for.

One Independence Eve, over a decade ago, in one of our own moments of inspiration, ignited by Patriotism, immersed in the love and devotion to our Nation, we penned the following words, in a poem titled, **Let's Build a New Belize.**

For what its worth, please allow us this space and time to share it with you. Indeed, Let's Build a New Belize! Happy Independence, Every One!

Let's Build a New Belize

**Now, all Belizeans, young and old
Listen up and learn
In Nineteen Hundred Eighty One
A new Nation was born**

**That day, September Twenty-First
Was like the break of dawn
Independence here at last
Colonialism gone**

**Our flag flew proud, our Anthem rang
Belize, "Land of the Free"
Its territory all intact
From mainland out to sea**

**Since then we've come a long, long way
Belize is on the map
But still there's much we must achieve
This is no time to stop**

**The new millennium brought with it
New challenges to face
We all must be prepared to change
To keep up with the pace**

**Storms and tribulations come
They surely set us back
But we must pick ourselves up fast
And get right back on track.**

**With all the turmoil in the world
We've surely felt the squeeze
But don't give up, don't falter now
Let's build a New Belize**

Capital Weekly

*From the Heart of the Nation
To the Soul of the People*

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Belize & Guatemala - Food & Agriculture

DPM Gaspar Vega addresses Guatemalan Livestock Fair

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Natural Resources and Agriculture Honourable Gaspar Vega recently concluded a working visit to Petén, Guatemala as guest of the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Food of Guatemala.

The Minister attended and addressed the First National Livestock Fair held in Petén where contacts with several private sector livestock, equipment and service providers were made.

The Guatemalan Minister of Agriculture Elmer Lopez, the Governor of Petén and the Congressman for Petén were among many distinguished Guatemalan officials addressing the fair.

Bilateral meetings were held between the two ministers who focused principally on cross border collaboration in particular efforts to eradicate the Mediterranean Fruit Fly.

Both the Petén and Belize are considered med fly free and it was agreed that efforts



Hon. Gaspar Vega
Deputy Prime Minister
Minister of Natural Resources
and Agriculture

would be increased to control the spread of this pest that put at risk our ability to export many fresh produce including papaya.

The Guatemalan Minister agreed to move their quarantine control post to better protect Belize and the Petén.

It was also agreed that a joint cross border project in the Jalacte/Santa Cruz Fronteras area would be proposed to EC-

ADERT for funding. Minister Vega also visited Pilonas de Antigua, a commercial nursery, producing fruit and forestry seedlings using advanced technology.

Deputy Prime Minister Vega was accompanied by

the CEO in the Ministry of Agriculture, the Chief Agriculture Officer, The Managing Director of BAHA, General Manager Central Farm and a Senior Cooperative Officer.

(PRESS RELEASE)

SPECIAL EFFECTS
AUTO PARTS + AUDIO + ACCESSORIES
1903 Constitution Park, Belmopan

Happy Independence Day

*To All Residents of Belmopan
and All Belizeans Countrywide.*

Have a Happy and Safe Independence Day



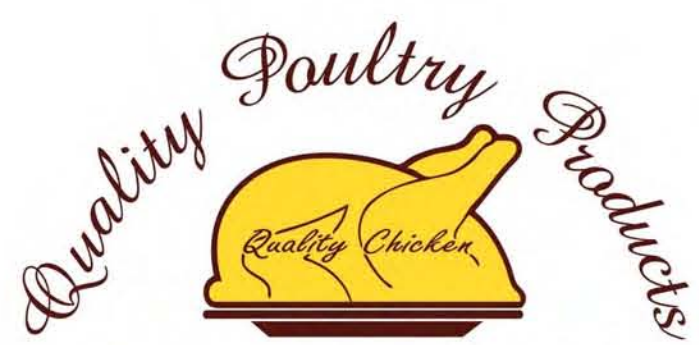
Happy Independence Day

BELIZE

The Management
and Staff of
Quality Poultry Products
(Belmopan Branch)
Congratulate all residents
of the Capital City and
the entire country
of Belize
as we celebrate
the 32nd Anniversary of
Our Nation's Independence



**SUPPORT QUALITY
& EAT BELIZEAN!**



DIS DA FI WI CHIKIN
www.qualitypoultryproducts.com





*From Mayor Simeon Lopez and your Bemopan City Council
to All Residents of Belmopan, Surrounding areas and
Belizeans Countrywide*



HAPPY 32nd BIRTHDAY BELIZE



*Congratulations on the
32nd Anniversary of Our Nation's
INDEPENDENCE*



*To All Residents of Belmopan and All Belizeans Countrywide
Have a Happy and Safe Independence Day*

Happy 32nd Birthday Belize!

from the Management and Staff of Belize Roadway Construction Ltd.



2013

KUMHO TIRES
LET'S GO!
SPECIALS

For the ENTIRE Month of
SEPTEMBER

15% OFF
all KUMHO
Truck Tires



Caribbean
Tire

Happy Independence

To Our Customers in Belmopan, Surrounding Areas and All Around the Country...

To All Belizeans Everywhere & to Our Beautiful Homeland by the Caribbean Sea

Happy 32nd Birthday

Caribbean Tire

KUMHO TYRES



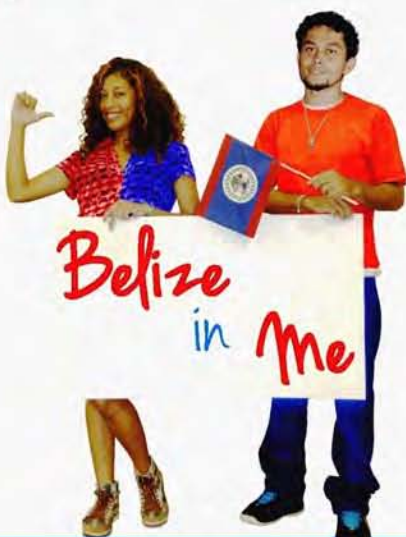
THE MANAGEMENT, STAFF AND STUDENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF BELIZE TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO WISH

215TH
BATTLE OF
ST. GEORGE'S CAYE
ANNIVERSARY

ALL BELIZEANS AND BELIZE
A HAPPY



32ND
INDEPENDENCE
ANNIVERSARY





By Zelda Hill

Our Creator, God, has blessed our homeland "with wealth untold" as described in our National Anthem, written by Samuel Haynes.

The magnificence of the abilities of our indigenous Maya people and their will to persevere in spite of all the odds, continue to amaze humanity. Our cultural diversity reveals God's providence in leading our forefathers to this ideal spot, a land that still abounds with the resources we need to work, to live and to raise our families.

While other nations around us endure succeeding conflicts, severe calamities and major civil unrest, Belize has been spared through the labor and prayer of those who acknowledge the might of truth and the grace of God, by which we continue to exist.

We are indeed favored to have had noble and god-fearing patriots who defined our identity by framing our Constitution and documenting their thoughts and aspirations for our country in our national anthem, national prayer and patriotic songs.

And as we grow familiar with our country's history and culture and participate in preserving its dignity, we find even more reasons to rejoice!

As an independent

and maturing nation at thirty-two years, we march full speed ahead into an expectantly glorious future. However, we must from time to time reflect on our past to determine why we have existed as a blessed and coveted nation.

While other nations have encoded non-ethical and anti-God values in their Con-

moral and spiritual values, which reflect the principles of the Holy Scriptures.

The "grace" of God and the "angels" we often sing about in our National Anthem are religious realities and symbols of the Christian faith.

The author of one of our renowned patriotic songs, Edward P. Yorke, admitted

person, regardless of his prominence, who desires to desecrate the landmarks that define our faith and values, neither understands nor appreciates Belize's godly heritage.

We the people of Belize must guard our landmarks, the physical and the spiritual, at all costs. We cannot flourish and remain free without God's continuous protection and preservation of our beloved country. These times demand that our Belizean government and people be guided and assisted by the Holy Spirit with His counsel and fortitude, which our forefathers desired for us.

Our people and Government must be convinced of the need to know, love and observe God's most Holy Law for only then we will be able to attain our "just objectives" and be preserved in union with each other. No other person, country or system can give us what only God can.

The celebration of our Independence is a time for rejoicing. When we celebrate it is not because we are denying our dismal realities; we rejoice because God still reigns supreme over our beloved nation and we will never surrender that reality. Happy Independence Day, Belize!

"While other nations around us endure succeeding conflicts, severe calamities and major civil unrest, Belize has been spared through the labor and prayer of those who acknowledge the might of truth and the Grace of God, by which we continue to exist. We are indeed favored to have had noble and god-fearing patriots who defined our identity by framing our Constitution and documenting their thoughts and aspirations for our Country in our National Anthem, National Prayer and patriotic songs....The celebration of our Independence is a time for rejoicing. When we celebrate it is not because we are denying our dismal realities; we rejoice because God still reigns supreme over our beloved Nation, and we will never surrender that reality."

stitution and laws and would oblige us to do the same, we can never acquiesce. Our divinely inspired Constitution, as defined in its preamble, affirms that our nation, Belize, shall be founded upon principles which acknowledge the supremacy of God.

We affirm that as a people we have been endowed by our Creator with "equal and inalienable rights" as every member of the human family has been. It recognizes that we can only remain free "when freedom is founded upon respect for moral and spiritual values".

Rejoice, Belize, for many will be repulsed by our godly heritage and identity. We should never feel "pre-historic" as we are frequently labeled for having

that God in His goodness is the designer of this beautiful homeland by the sea, which He had entrusted to us. And just in case the future would have revealed dissenters to the identity of the god who is sovereign over Belize, our National Prayer identifies Him.

He is the God who through, His Son, Jesus Christ has revealed His glory, not just to Belize but to all nations of the world. Therefore, any institution or

Capital Weekly

*From the Heart of the Nation
To the Soul of the People*

**Dominican PM
To Belize for
Independence**



*Honorable Roosevelt Skerrit
Prime Minister of Dominica*

Honorable Roosevelt Skerrit, Prime Minister of Dominica, will be hosted by the Government of Belize as the Guest of Honor during Belize's Independence Day festivities.

Hon. Skerrit will arrive in Belize on Wednesday, September 18, 2013, accompanied by Hon. Dr. Collin McIntyre, Minister of Trade of Dominica.

After arrival, Hon. Skerrit will make a courtesy call on Prime Minister of Belize, Hon. Dean Barrow. During his stay, Prime Minister Skerrit will be a guest at all official ceremonies commemorating Belize's 32 years of Independence.

He will also visit two of Belize's many natural tourist attractions. Hon. Roosevelt Skerrit's visit will conclude on Sunday, September 22nd, 2013, when he returns to Dominica.

NOTICE
Belize to host 6th Regional Meeting of the
Caribbean Network Operators Group (CaribNOG)

Belize will host, for the first time, the Sixth Regional Meeting of the Caribbean Network Operators Group (**CaribNOG**) at the Radisson Fort George Hotel from **23–27 September 2013**.

The event, which is being organized locally by the Public Utilities Commission, (PUC Belize), is aimed at advancing the technical skills of ICT professionals in Belize who design, manage or secure their network infrastructure.”

CaribNOG 6 will include a mix of lectures and hands-on technical workshops delivered by regional and international technology experts. Topics to be covered over the five-day event include cybersecurity, Internet Exchange Point implementation, IPv6 deployment and VoIP design, routing and DNSSEC implementation techniques.

The five-day event will be jointly hosted by the Public Utilities Commission (PUC), BELIZE; the Caribbean Telecommunications Union (CTU); and Packet Clearing House (PCH). Also supporting the event are the Internet Society (ISOC), the Latin American and Caribbean Internet Addresses Registry (LACNIC) and the American Registry for Internet Numbers (ARIN).

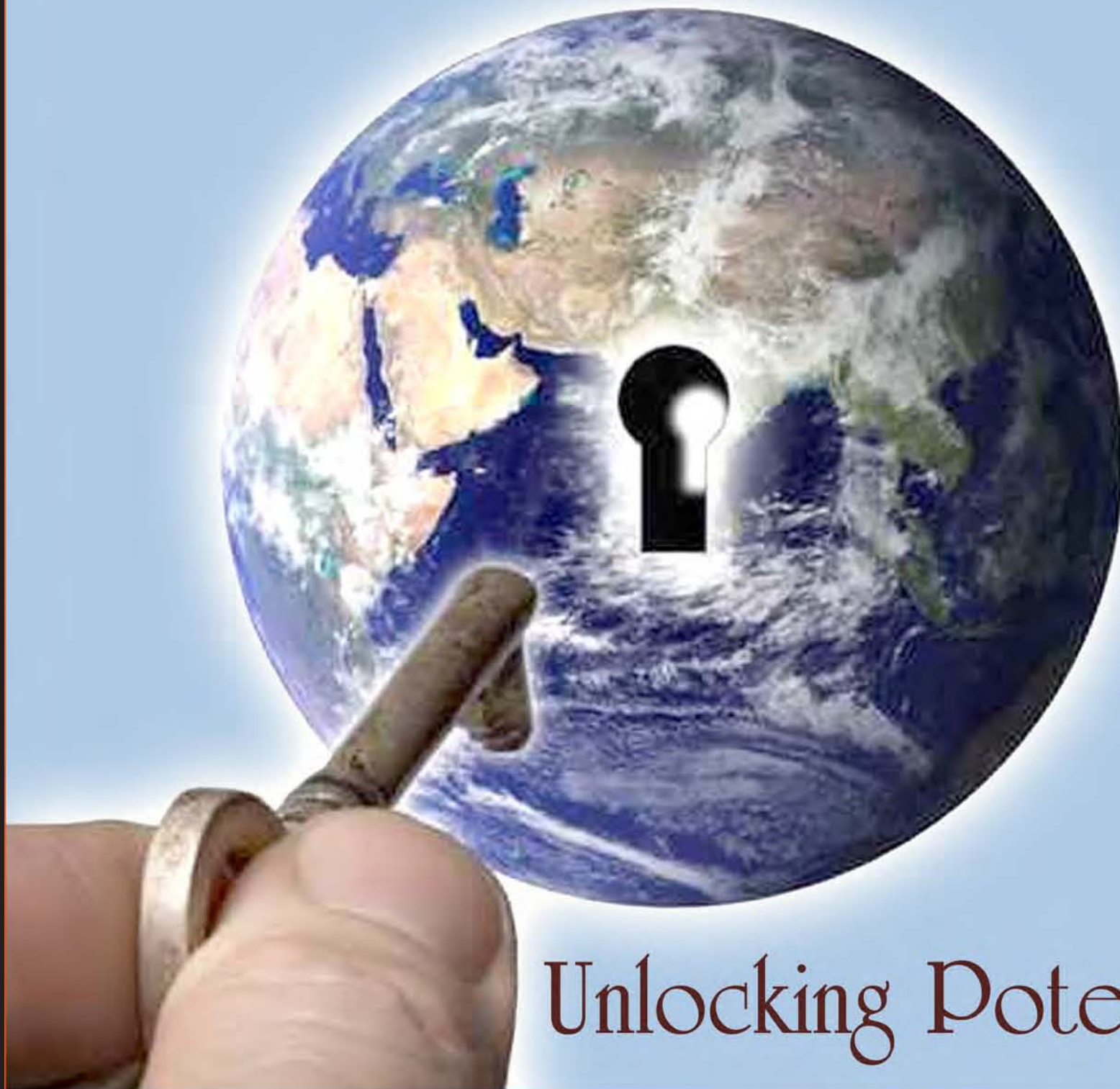
For more information or to participate in the meeting, you may contact the PUC at 223-4938 or email info@puc.bz.



The BELIZE NATURAL ENERGY CHARITABLE TRUST

Wishes all Belizeans a happy and safe 32nd Anniversary of our Nation's Independence.

The Trust is a partnership between the Government of Belize and Belize Natural Energy Ltd.



Unlocking Potential

Empowered people and communities thriving in a harmonious, socially and environmentally responsible manner, who are conscious architects of their own future

Belize Natural Energy Charitable Trust, 3401 Mountain View Blvd.,
 P.O. Box 43, City of Belmopan, Cayo District, Belize, C.A.
 Tel: 822-2440 / 2441 E-mail: info@bnetrust.org Web: www.bnetrust.org

HAPPY INDEPENDENCE

*To Belize and All
Belizeans Countrywide*

Happy 32nd Birthday



From Deputy Prime Minister
Hon. Gaspar Vega

Minister of Natural Resources and Agriculture





THE
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION (PUC)

*wishes all Belizeans
at home and abroad a safe and enjoyable...*

*32nd. Anniversary
of Belize's Independence!*

September 21, 1981 - September 21, 2013



PUBLIC UTILITIES
COMMISSION

Belize in You.
Belize in Me.
LAND OF THE FREE.

Happy Independence Day to All Belizeans



From Hon. Erwin Contreras

Minister of Trade, Investment Promotion,
Private Sector Development & Consumer Protection.





“Building on Enduring Friendship”

British High Commissioner meets National Security Minister

The new British High Commissioner to Belize, H.E. Peter Hughes made a courtesy call on Minister of National Security Hon. John Saldivar last Friday September 13, 2013 in the Minister’s office at the Ministry of National Security Headquarters in the Curl Thompson Building in Belmopan.

The British High Commissioner’s visit is part of his familiarization tour, having recently taken up his new position after presenting his credentials to Governor General



Hon. John Saldivar Meets H.E. Peter Hughes

Sir Colville Young.

His Excellency Mr. Peter Hughes started his diplomatic

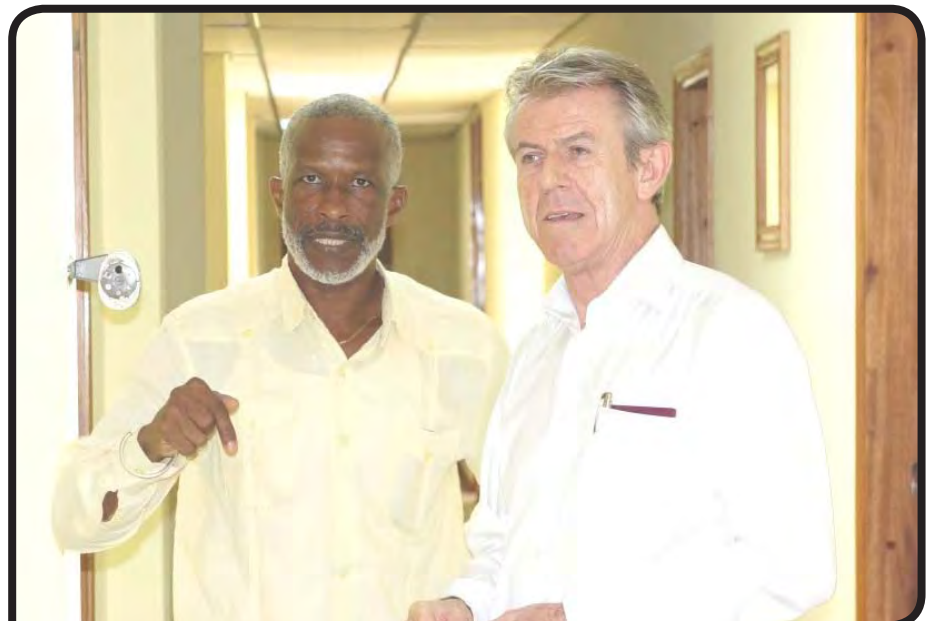
career as Desk Officer in the British Defense Department and has since served oversees

in Australia, the Caribbean, Asia and Afghanistan. Upon his appointment to Belize, Mr. Hughes was quoted as saying he hopes to build on the enduring friendship between the United Kingdom and Belize.

His Excellency Peter Hughes takes over from former British High Commissioner H.E Pat Ashworth who, upon leaving Belize, reiterated the British Government’s commitment to continue its support to the Belize Government, and the British Army Training Support Unit’s pledge to continue standing shoulder to shoulder with the Belize Defense Force.



H.E. Peter Hughes and Hon. John Saldivar conversing inside the Minister’s Office at the Curl Thompson Building in Belmopan



CEO Colonel George Lovell gives H.E. Peter Hughes a brief tour of the National Security Offices at the Curl Thompson Building in Belmopan



Superintendent Howell Gillett with BDF Commander David Jones

Police Liaison Officer in UK for International Leadership Program

Police Liaison Officer in the Ministry of National Security, Superintendent Howell Gillett is in the United Kingdom attending an International Leadership Program held at the College of Policing, Bramshill.

Superintendent Gillett left the Country last Saturday, September 7, 2013 and will return in Six Weeks. The course started

on Monday September 9 and will conclude on November 1, 2013.

As part of the program, Superintendent Gillett will be expected to complete 50 hours of self-study, and he will eventually earn a Chartered Management Institute (CMI) and Bramshill Certificate.

He will return to his desk at the Ministry of National Security in Belmopan in early November.



Major Crimes Trended Downwards in August

Western Zone and Benque Sub-Formations Performed Best

Crime Statistics for the Month of August, 2013 show an overall continuing trend in reduction of Major Crimes committed Countrywide. The statistics were released on Wednesday, September 18, 2013.

There were only 3 murders countrywide in August 2013, compared to 9 murders in August 2012. From January to August of 2013, there were a total of 70 murders, compared to a total of 97 for the same period of 2012. Minister of National Security Honorable John



Mr. Allen Whyllie
Commissioner of Police



Hon. John Saldivar
Minister of National Security

perintendent of Police Dinsdale Thompson.

The Minister of National Security presented the awards Wednesday Afternoon at the start of his monthly meeting with zone, formation and branch commanders from around the country, conducted at the National Police Training Academy in Belmopan.

The meeting was chaired by Commissioner of Police Allen Whyllie, who also gave a summary of the latest Statistics on Crimes that have been released.



Senior Superintendent Aaron Guzman receives \$1,000 Cheque



Asst. Supt. Dinsdale Thompson receives Certificate of Recognition



Deputy Commissioner of Police
Elodio Aragon Jr.

Saldivar this week presented his monthly awards for the zone and formation that performed the best in reducing major crimes during that month.

The Zone with the best performance in reducing major crimes in the month of August was the Western Region, headed by Senior Superintendent of Police Aaron Guzman.

The Formation with the

best performance in August was the Benque Viejo Sub-Formation, headed by Assistant Superintendent of Police Dinsdale Thompson.

As reward for the performance by their respective zone and sub-formation the Minister handed over a cheque of \$1,000 to Senior Superintendent Guzman and a Certificate of Recognition to Assistant Su-



Superintendent Marco Vidal
Head of Special Branch



Zone and Formation Commanders



Zone, Formation and Branch Commanders

Honouring Heroes Past & Present

Tribute to Belizean Patriots - September 12, 2013



Honouring Heroes Past & Present

Tribute to Belizean Patriots - September 12, 2013



Honouring Heroes Past & Present

Tribute to Belizean Patriots - September 12, 2013

Message by Prime Minister Dean Barrow



*Hon. Dean Barrow
Prime Minister of Belize*

Each September Belizeans from every community in our nation come together to commemorate and celebrate the historical milestones that helped to shape our Belizean identity, our democratic way of life and our Belizean

sovereignty. Our annual traditions thus transform September into a colourful, exciting and festive time in our country.

It is always a matter of great satisfaction that in the middle of the festivities we take time out to honour Belizean men and women – past and present – whose service to their fellow Belizeans has been exemplary.

Each of the honourees tonight has, in their own unique way, risen above personal interest to serve the people; to serve their communities; and to serve our nation with dedication and self-sacrifice.

It is meet and right that we pay tribute to them as we enjoy our September.

God bless Belize!

The Order of Distinction

Donald Norman Albert Fairweather was born in Belize on December 27, 1899 and died on May 2, 1985. In 1915 he joined the British Honduras Territorial Force and became Commandant of the British Honduras Volunteer Guard from 1948 to 1963. He entered the civil service in 1916. In 1937 he established the first radio station (ZIK2). He was made Director of Telecommunications in 1948.

An Anglican, he was made chairman of the corporate body of the Anglican Diocese in 1951. Other such positions of responsibility include Chairman of the festival of the arts, Chairman of the Public Service Commission, Chairman of the Belize Ex-Servicemen League and Representative of the Marconi Company of London.

This husband of Ethel Payne and father of twelve is the author of two seminal pieces of literature in their



*Colonel Donald Fairweather
(Posthumously)*

fields, namely The Handbook of Wireless Telegraphy and A Short History of the British Honduras Volunteer Forces.

Donald firmly believed in the statement “ask instead what you can do for your country”. For such work and community involvement, Mr Fairweather has previously been awarded the M.B.E, O.B.E. and the C.B.E.

The Order of Distinction



Rev. Charles David Goff

Rev. Charles David Goff was born in Dangriga Town to Rev. Charles and Mrs. Alice Goff.

He received his early education in Belize and completed his studies in Jamaica, where his father was relocated.

After leaving school, Rev. Goff worked for two years for the Government of Jamaica.

While there he responded to the call of God and offered himself as a candidate for the Methodist Ministry.

He graduated with his Diploma in Ministerial Studies in 1982 and was ordained to the Christian Ministry in 1985.

He returned to Belize in 1992 where he has served in various capacities in the Methodist Church.

In 2002, he was made a Member of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (MBE) for his service to the community and in 2010, was made an Officer of the same order (OBE) for his service in the field of religion.

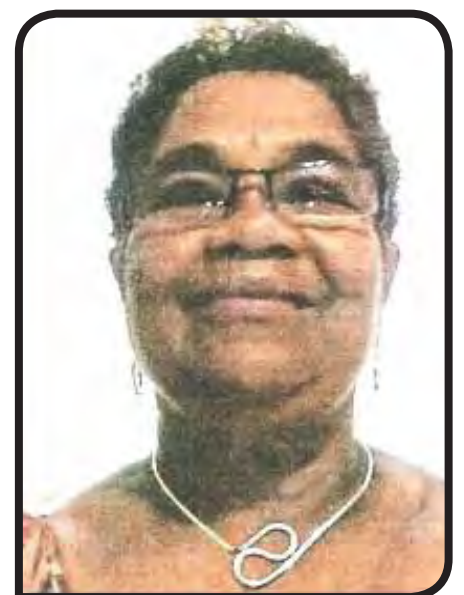
Meritorious Service Award

With a Belize Trained Teacher's Certificate and a Bachelor's Degree in Secondary Education in English, Ms. Alma Eiley has contributed a great deal to the youths, teachers and country of Belize.

Beginning her career as a teacher in 1964, Ms. Eiley taught at almost every level of education – preschool to high school – during her twenty-six year tenure. Thereafter, she served in several capacities within the education system and has worked as a consultant with organizations such UNESCO and Peace Corps Belize.

Ms. Eiley's contributions in the area of Early Childhood Education are numerous and include publications such as the Child Development Module – Positive Discipline, the National Preschool Curriculum and the Preschool Teachers' Resource Manual to name a few.

Additionally, Ms. Eiley has been actively engaged with the community doing voluntary work. She has acted in nu-



Alma Eiley, B.Ed

merous capacities as a volunteer leader with the Scout Association and is the present chairperson for the St. Ignatius Church Parish Council and Coral Grove Neighbourhood Organization.

Presently, Ms. Eiley is the Director of Education at Eglah's Training Center for Women and Families, a non-profit organization that provides training in literacy and other life skills.

Honouring Heroes Past & Present

Tribute to Belizean Patriots - September 12, 2013

Meritorious Service Award



Altagracia Dienela Alvarez

Altagracia Dienela Alvarez, better known as Mrs. Gingie, was born in San Antonio Village in Orange Walk.

As a young woman, Altagracia was hired as a shelf clerk at the People's Store in Orange Walk and displayed passion and skills that earned her several promotions.

Mrs. Gingie went from shelf clerk to her final position as assistant manager. No one could talk about People's Store without mentioning Mrs. Gingie.

Mrs. Alvarez was active in organizing Queen of the Bay Pageants, spearheading La Immaculada charismatic, prayer and choir groups, and lending a helping hand to people in need.

Now retired, Mrs. Alvarez continues to demonstrate a passion and love for life through her involvement in her community.

Meritorious Service Award



Raymond Lashley

On May 13, 1941, Ms Leolin Staine and Mr. Reginald Lashley welcomed their son Raymond Lashley.

He Began his education at Wesley Primary School, and after his graduation from the Belize Technical College, he studied to be a pharmacist at the Old Belize City Hospital.

During those days, he was also involved in Sports - Basketball, Cricket, Softball and Baseball.

After being transferred to the San Ignacio Hospital in 1966, Raymond Lashley's involvement in sports took off. Alongside Bishop O.P. Martin, he organized an annual

basketball tournament and he also formed the female softball team, Stork Club.

When he returned to Belize City that same year, he the Hoover Female Softball Team, and in that same year he was elected as the coach, and eventually manager of the National Team, which travelled to Jamaica for the C.A.S.T Tournament. Belize was victorious.

With Lashley as its manager for almost 20 years, the Belize National Women's Team won seven medals: two Gold, three Silver, and two Bronze.

His contribution and dedication to the development and growth of World Softball led to his recognition and honour by the International Softball Federation.

Then in 1988, he was bestowed the Title of M.B.E by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth 11 for his outstanding and distinguished performance; and in 1997, he was elected into the International Softball Hall of Fame.

He also served as President of the Football Federation, Chairman of the Belize Basketball referees and Chairman of the National Sports Council.

Meritorious Service Award



Woodrow West

Woodrow Wilson West was born to Joe and Elma West on September 19, 1985 in Corozal Town.

At an early age Woodrow displayed athletic talent as he engaged in school sporting events at Libertad Methodist Primary School; but born into a family of footballers including his father, there was no surprise that he had an inclination for the sport.

With his father as his personal coach, Woodrow spent quality hours training in his front yard. His father's encouragement, knowledge and Woodrow's dedication showed quickly when Woodrow was named MVP Forward for the Primary School Football Nationals. This would only signal the beginning of his football journey.

It was in High School that Woodrow made the comfortable move to goalkeeper, successfully playing in that capacity on every team until he landed himself a position of the U-21 National Selection. Since becoming of member of the Belize National Football A-Team in 2005, Mr. West has

competed in fifteen international matches including the 2013 UN-CAF Nations Cup in Costa Rica; there he assisted the Belize Jaguars to qualify for the first time to the Gold Cup.

On July 28, 2013, Woodrow and teammate Ian Gaynair received awards of honour for rejecting a match-fixing bribery during the Gold Cup. Such a show of honour and integrity is a reflection of Woodrow's commitment to team, country and the sport he loves and has dedicated tremendous time to - football.

Meritorious Service Award



Ian Gaynair

Lydia Jones-White and Steve Gaynair welcomed their third child, Ian Elvis Gaynair - or "Yellow" as he is better known - on February 26, 1986.

Most of Ian's time was spent playing football on Berger Field; he took it upon himself to learn the sport which he had a natural ability for. At age nine, he played with the U-10 Raptors team where he remained until he was able to join the U-17 National Team. Thereafter, he was drafted for the Kremandala team where he played in the semi-pro league; he then FC Belize winning two championships.

At age twenty, Yellow was selected as a member of the National A-Team that advanced to the CONCACAF Gold Cup after qualifying at the Copa Centro-Americano Games in San Jose, Costa Rica this year, a first in Belize's football history. In Belize's first Gold Cup match against the United States, Gaynair scored what was our only goal throughout their three matches.

Ian presently plays with the Belmopan Bandits Football Team and is dedicated to his full-time position at the Vital Statistics.

He is also devoted father to his daughter and to the many children who look to him as a father figure. He often visits his where he grew up and organizes summer programs for the neighbourhood children.

Ian wishes to continue teaching youths to be humble and just dream big.

Honoring Heroes Past and Present

Tribute to Belizean Patriots - September 12, 2013

Meritorious Service Award



Rafael Contreras

Alberto "Chapay" Rafael Contreras, J.P. was born in Benque Viejo Del Carmen on January 16, 1939.

He attended St. Joseph School, now Mount Carmel Primary School.

Always passionate about the development of his home town, Rafael entered politics under the United Democratic Party in 1978 and

served as a member of the Benque Viejo Town Board and served as Mayor of Benque Viejo from 1984 to 1986.

But his mark on Belizean history goes beyond politics.

He coached the Mount Carmel School Football Team from 1970 to 1995 and led them to many victories.

The Verdes Football Club was born in 1980 and Rafael would be known to play a significant role in its success. Verdes represented Belize at the CONCACAF stage several times.

In 1985, Rafael Contreras was awarded National Coach of the Year, and in 1987, he got second place for the same award.

Though he officially stopped coaching the Verdes Football Club in 1995, he was never far from Football, his life-long companion.

Meritorious Service Award



Mary Eleanor Tillett

Born in 1934 in the small community of English Town in Southern Belize, Mary Eleanor Tillett nee Anderson would grow up to be a dedicated educator to thousands of Belizean students.

Not entering school until the age of eight, Eleanor embarked on her journey of

education throughout which she acquired a love of learning.

After graduating as valedictorian from St. Hilda's College at age 17, she began her teaching career.

Eleanor taught at seven primary schools in the country, guiding students through their formative years of education.

She retired from teaching in 1993, but couldn't stay away from the classroom. Eleanor continued to teach until 2006 and also served in several consultative capacities for the Ministry of Education and the Anglican School Management.

Her dedication has resulted in her students saying that she gave them the "courage to try and the wings to fly".

Meritorious Service Award

A teacher for forty-three years, Mrs. Angela Therese Casey has touched the lives of over five thousand children from Belmopan and surrounding areas.

Her journey as a teacher began after receiving her Teacher's diploma from the Belize Teachers' College, starting her career as a teacher at the Roaring Creek Roman Catholic Primary School and thereafter various schools throughout Belize.

Mrs. Casey's legacy, however, is best credited to the Belmopan Community Preschool which she founded in 1983 and for which she was appointed Principal in 1984.

A desire to give younger children an advantage before enrolling in primary school and one year leave without pay is all it took to start the school. With overwhelming response, the school relocated from its small Corozal Street location to a newly-constructed building funded by USAID. The school opened its doors in October 1987.

With a passion for teaching, Mrs. Casey returned



Angela Therese Casey

to her post as principal at the Belmopan Community Preschool only four years after her retirement in 2000.

She has served many years as a Cayo Preschool zone leader, as a member of the Cayo District Preschool Association, a Sunday school teacher and a leader of her church ladies' group.

Wife to Mr. Simon Casey and mother to sons, Evan and Paul, Mrs. Casey remains actively involved with education and her community.

Meritorious Service Award

Mrs. Lauren Burgess-Eagan is a graduate of the Belize Technical College, class of 1973.

She has been no stranger to the Belizean public due to her work as a radio and TV host on the "Laaren da Mawnin, Laaren Again and Laaren Boil Up" show.

She has served several times as a mistress of ceremony and showcasing her comic monologue work at many events for over 35 years.

Ms. Lauren has served as a teacher and counsellor to the youth. She is a member of the board for Hand in Hand Ministries; the founder, organizer and trainer of Ms. Plus Belize Pageant; founder and director of the Port Loyola Organiza-



Lauren Burgess-Eagan

tion for Women; and has assisted in numerous outreach programs.

All her achievements and experiences leave no question to her personal objective, which is "to empower, educate, encourage and enlighten women of our society".

Honoring Heroes Past and Present

Tribute to Belizean Patriots - September 12, 2013

Meritorious Service Award



Victoria Adelia Cunningham

On January 25, 1950, Madge Belisle and the late Herbert Pratt welcomed their daughter, Victoria Adelia Cunningham. She began her education at Wesley Primary School where she also entered the teaching profession in 1968. With a knack for teaching, she enhanced her skills earning first and second class teacher's certificates and then earning her Teacher's Di-

ploma from the Belize Teachers' College in 1979.

Even with twenty-five years in the classroom, 'Teacher Vic' as she is affectionately known, is better known for teaching music. At age 7, Victoria started playing the piano and successfully sat theory and practical music examinations from the Royal Schools of Music right through to Grade 7. Thirteen years of teaching music, she sees learning music and learning to play an instrument as essential components of young people's educational and social life; she continues to inspire and encourage young people to do just that.

Formerly the pianist and organist at the Wesley and St. Luke's Methodist Churches, Ms. Cunningham continues to serve as the official organist at Trinity Methodist Church where she has been for the last twenty-six years. Today, she continues to share her talent in the service of her church, community and country.

Meritorious Service Award



Louis Antonio Garbutt (Posthumously)

Better known as "the Mugger" and "Bembe", Louis Antonio Garbutt is considered one of Belize's greatest football legends.

At the age of six, a young Louis - born on September 19, 1940 - migrated from his birthplace in Puerto Cortez, Honduras to Belize City where he attended Ebenezer School.

Louis developed his talent as a footballer and passion

for the sport as a young boy, playing at the Barracks at every chance he got.

He soon joined the Dunlop Junior Team that won then reigning senior champions, Diamond - A, in a dramatic and historic post-season match in 1958.

Next, he joined BEC where he played one season before forming his own team with sponsorship from then Premier, George Price. The team was named Independence and was best known for their 4-1 win over a visiting Mexican team that had beaten all other teams including the reigning champions.

Though he is best known as a legendary footballer, he was also an outstanding basketball player. It is unfortunate that younger generations in Belize know little of "the Mugger" who lived for sports.

Meritorious Service Award



Jesse Young

Edward and Millicent McKoy welcomed Jessie Young to their Big Falls, Belize District family in 1960.

Though spending seven years at St Paul's Roman Catholic School and passing an entrance exam to attend high school, Jessie never did due to financial constraints.

This fact did not prevent her from becoming a pupil teacher at the Sand Hill Primary School in 1976-78 with her husband, the late Fallet Young, who she married some years before.

Mrs. Young continued her career with stops at Williamson Industry and Radisson Fort George and Biltmore.

Her largest imprint is felt in helping to establish the world famous Community Baboon Sanctuary and organising women from stakeholder villages to manage the sanctuary.

Never losing sight of her primary interests in education and nature conservation, Jessie has served on various boards such as PACT, Association of Protected Areas Managers, Bermudian Landing Village coun-

cil, Belize Rural High School, Harmony Pre School and the Community Baboon Sanctuary Women's Conservation Group.

Jessie Young, no stranger to receiving awards, is particularly proud of her 2010 Women's Department Woman of the year award and the BTB Lifetime achievement award received earlier this year.

She currently works at the Belize Red Cross where she has been a volunteer for the past thirty four years.

Mrs Young is blessed with six children.

Meritorious Service Award



Raymond A. Gongora

Having been made a Member of the Order of the British Empire in Belize in 2011, it is only fitting that the Land of the Free honour this son of the soil for his tireless contributions to education and the arts in Belize and the wider Belizean diaspora.

Raymond A. Gongora's educational and professional experience cover the areas of Theatre arts and Drama in education, advanced youth work, customer service supervision, quality as well as production and direction in the arts.

He has been a board member with diasporic organisations such as the Greater Caribbean American Cultural Coalition and the Belizean Consortium for Development

to name just two.

Raymond and his wife Veronica share three children. His goal remains to "Organise the Diaspora to become a vibrant arm in our societies emerging as an active and strong voice on behalf of and for all Belizeans".

Honoring Heroes Past and Present

Tribute to Belizean Patriots - September 12, 2013

Meritorious Service Award



Gwendoline Zetina

Born on October 10th, 1935 was proud resident of the Garden City, Mrs. Gwendoline Zetina, or as most people know her, 'Mrs. Zet'.

Though she calls the City of Belmopan home, Mrs. Zet hails from Banana Bank in the Cayo District where she was born. It was not until 1981 that she moved to the Capital City when her husband retired

from the government service. There was no doubt that from the time she saw Belmopan, she loved it – its peace, tranquillity, greenery, and residents.

In her early years, Mrs. Zetina sewed for her family and many others. Her great love for plants and gardening, led to her involvement with flower booth at the Agricultural Show.

She once made funeral wreaths, but now she uses her love for plants and her talent to create beautiful floral arrangements for friends and charitable organizations.

Ms. Gwen remains active as a Lay Minister at Our Lady of Guadalupe Cathedral where she is also a choir member. She is also an active member of the Belmopan Lion's Club, Help Age, the Cancer Society and the Senior Steps Dance Group.

Meritorious Service Award



*Herbert Nathaniel Eiley
September 1914 - January 1996
(Posthumously)*

Herbert Nathaniel Eiley was born in Placencia Village to John and Trelatha Eiley.

He displayed a love for sports from a young age and grew up to be a well-known pioneer in sports in Placencia.

He was the captain of the Invincible Cricket Club of

Placencia and led the team to many victories. He had a great rapport with his team and instilled in them a discipline in their performance.

Mr. Herbert was well-liked and people looked forward to seeing him at the games. For him, every game, win or lose, was an enjoyable experience.

He also loved football and softball and supported the local teams. His passion for sports has trickled down into his children and grandchildren.

His son Lester Eiley, represented Belize on the National Cricket Team in Mexico. His granddaughter Kerah Eiley has made her mark in Women's Cycling and his grandson Dalton Eiley Jr. is the captain of Belize National Football Team.

Meritorious Service Award

Victorino C. Chin was born in Orange Walk Town to Eustaquio Chin and Teodocia Chin. He is a Justice of the Peace and retired teacher in Orange Walk.

Chin has been active in his community as a teacher, personnel in the Ministry of Education and as a resident of Orange Walk.

He held workshops to train teachers in different areas, started the formation of a new teachers' union, an NGO called Friends of Fresh Water Creek Forest Reserve, co-founded the Association of Justices of the Peace in Orange Walk and organized artists of Orange Walk to paint and mount a painting exhibition in



Mr. Victorino C. Chin

Orange Walk.

Chin continues to serve his community with his best intentions, talents and love for all Orange Walkenos and for the country of Belize.

Meritorious Service Award

Andrew Wigmore, married to Cath and father of Evie and William, is Founder and Managing Director of Wigmore Media Group, a leading international consultancy in marketing and communications. For the last 15 years this holder of Belize and Britain dual citizenship has been advising prominent individuals and companies on strategy, media, crisis management and engagement with legislators and regulators. He holds numerous directorships and vested interest in healthcare and insurance businesses he was instrumental in creating. These business leanings merge with the charities he supports including HRH Prince Harry's Well Child Charity and the Belize Children's Trust. Other pursuits include, politics and journalism which have seen Andrew work extensively as a producer/journalist with SKY News, Channel One and British Forces Radio in Berlin and London to mention a few in addi-



Andrew Wigmore

tion to covering US politics and from 1990-94. For the last ten years he has also been part of the Ministry of Justice Regulatory Advisory Group in the UK. Closer to home, this keen sportsman has represented Belize at numerous international events, 2012 alone saw him being appointed as a Senior Justice of the Peace for services to the Belize Olympic and Commonwealth Games Association such as being an Attaché for Belize at the London 2012 Olympic Games.

(Information and Pictures from Government Press Office)

Happy Independence Day BELIZE



*Minister of National Security
Hon. John Saldivar
and the Ministry of National
Security Congratulate
BELIZE and ALL Belizeans
on the 32nd Anniversary of
Our Nation's
INDEPENDENCE*



Carnival in the Old Capital

Organizers “Do NOT Encourage Indecent Behaviour”

Last Saturday, September 14, 2013, the streets of the old capital, Belize City, were vibrating and glowing with the sound and color of Carnival.

According to a press release from the Belize National Carnival Commission, six bands registered and competed in the Junior Band Category. First Place

was taken by Pickstock Carnival Band who will receive a prize of \$7,000. In Second Place was Jump Street Posse. And Third Place was taken by Sunshine Masqueraders.

In the Senior Band Category, Five bands registered and competed. First Place was taken by Mother Nature’s Creation who will receive a cash prize of \$10,000. In Second Place was Belizean Jewel; and in Third Place, Soca Warriors.

Winners will receive their

prizes at the annual Pan Yard Steel Band Concert at the House of Culture on Thursday Night, September 19. All judges’ scores were final.

In its Press Release the Belize National Carnival Commission (BNCC) stated, “Carnival is a time for fun and freedom of expression through dance, costume and reveling. BNCC does not encourage or support indecent behavior or disrespect to others.

The Belize National Carni-

val Commission says it thanks all those who made this year’s carnival a success, and Congratulates all bands, kings, queens, revelers, band leaders, costume designers, sponsors, carnival supporters, carnival marshals, the Police Department and fans who made this year’s Carnival 2013 safe and successful. They extend special thanks to the Grand Marshall for the Parade, Mr. Stanley Lizama, former Mayor of Belize City.



Winners in Annual September Criterium

Albert & Regent Circuit, Belize City, Sunday September 15, 2013

Sponsored by Belize City Council - Leslie's Imports - Bowen & Bowen



Oscar Quiros - Xibalan Team
First Place - Junior Category



Kirah Eiley - BECOL Team
First Place - Female Category



Giovanni Lovell - Belize Telemedia Team
Second Place- Junior Category



Byron Pope - Benny's Megabytes Team
First Place - Elite Category



Barney Brown,, Jose Choto & Dwight Lopez
Second, First and Third in Masters Category



Kirah Eiley & Patricia Chavarria
First and Second Place- Female Category



Prosser Fertilizer & Agrotec Co. Ltd. Belmopan Branch

**Congratulations BELIZE,
especially residents of BELMOPAN,
on the 32nd Anniversary of
Our Nation's INDEPENDENCE.**





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