



**Celebrating the
Chocolate Heritage
of the Mayas**

From the Editor *Tamara Sniffin*

One thing is for sure here in Belize...we are ALL about celebrating! And, isn't that a grand way to live? Like other countries, we have our share of celebrations that mark our Independence or events of historical significance, but we also celebrate the little things...well, little in size may be but huge in culture! Many of our celebrations revolve around marine and terrestrial harvests, like the opening of the lobster season while other events celebrate the cashew, coconuts and even bananas! We try not to play favorites, but we must admit we are partial to chocolate and mangoes!



With the Chocolate Festival of Belize held the weekend of May 18th in the Toledo District and the Mango Festival in Hopkins in the Stann Creek District the weekend of June 2nd it goes without saying that both these gifts from the gods deserve their own festival! Although you will indulge in deliciousness, there's so much more to the experience! Have you ever been part of a conversation where people talk about the best mango tree in the village or boast that their granny made the best mango chutney? Or, have you ever met someone whose family has been harvesting cacao for five generations? It's unique opportunities like this that bring even more flavor to every bite!

We hope that during your visit you have the chance to partake in one of these annual celebrations. Of course, there's no reason why you can't make your own little festival with these delicious Belizean treats and invite them all! Regardless of how you celebrate our Belizean bounty, we welcome you and your taste buds to My Beautiful Belize!

About the cover: Dressed in Maya attire, a young woman demonstrates how roasted cacao seeds are crushed using a traditional stone grinder called a 'mano y matate' at the annual Chocolate Festival of Belize in the Toledo District.

www.mybeautifulbelize.com

Important Information

Belize Tourism Board - 227-2419.
Belize Tourism Industry Association (BTIA) - 227-5717.
Belize Hotel Association - 223-0669, bha@btl.net
San Pedro Tourist Guide Association 226-2391.
Dr. Otto Rodriguez San Pedro PolyClinic II: 226-2536
AA Meetings: Monday – Saturday, 6PM, #5 Boca Del Rio. 226-2020. Every Tuesday & Friday, 12 noon at the Catholic parish hall. Front street, 630-0752.
Al-Anon Meetings: Wednesdays, 5:30PM, SP Catholic Church Hall. 608-3924 / islabon-itaalanan@yahoo.com
Narcotics Anonymous: By request at 623-0316.
Emergency veterinarian care: 610-3647
American Crocodile Education Sanctuary/ACES – Don't take matters into your own hands. Call 623-7920 for crocodile problems.
Saga Society A non-profit "humane society" to address the stray cat and dog population in San Pedro. Phone 226-3266.
SP Town Library - 206-2028.
SP Post Office - 206-2260.
National Aids Commission Island Committee (NACIC) - HIV Testing/ Treatment/Stigma and Discrimination and Pre and Post Test Counseling. 650-7021.



IN THIS ISSUE:

Time to get chocolate wasted!

The annual Chocolate Festival of Belize draws near, and you are invited to indulge in what was once a royal Maya treat! P. 3

Saving the rainforest with chocolate:

Juan and Abelina Cho believe that chocolate can save the rainforest. Their family chocolate business strives to preserve heritage and culture. P. 5

Iguana Juan's is a rocking good time:

Conveniently located upstairs of an old building, on a back street, on an island, in Central America - Iguana Juan's brings a new level of entertainment to the island! P. 11

Annual Lagoon Reef Eco-Challenge is back!

A 2-day race around the island via the lagoons and reef-side will test paddlers' endurance as they promote the protection of our mangroves and reef. P. 12

Those tasty mangoes deserve celebrating:

Hopkins is making sure we know just how precious and delicious mangoes in Belize are with a fabulous 2-day festival dedicated to the fruit! P. 13

For ad rates and story opportunities, email us at : hello@mybeautifulbelize.com

For detailed stories and many more beautiful photos, visit www.mybeautifulbelize.com

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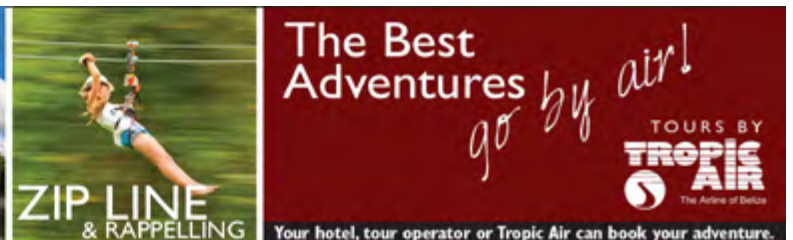
Where in Belize...
April's location revealed



Pueblo Nuevo Ferry on the Corozal Progreso Road

Getting to and from places around Belize can be a challenge, especially when you're looking at places divided by a body of water, and a simple canoe ride won't do. Tomas Gongora Sr. travels all over the country, and he sent us this photo of the Pueblo Nuevo Ferry on the Corozal-Progreso Road. There are still several functional ferries in Belize, and the adventure of travels in Belize can often include time aboard one.

To join our guessing game, follow us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter @mybeautifulbelize, using the hashtag #whereinbelize. You can also send us your images of mystery locations to add to our guessing game! Send them to hello@mybeautifulbelize.com and join the fun!





The sweet celebration of chocolate in southern Belize

By Tamara Sniffin

Humble in appearance yet heavenly in flavor, cacao AKA chocolate, has been celebrated in the Toledo District since 2007. This southern area of Belize is recognized for its superior cacao beans that are not only a significant export product for the area but a national treasure when it comes to Belizean chocolatiers. Always held over the Commonwealth Holiday weekend (mid-May), what began as the Toledo Cacao Festival later evolved into the Chocolate Festival of Belize. This funky looking pod that almost resembles a squash and yields flavors that only dreams are made of is more than worthy of the three-day celebration in Punta Gorda Town!

Each year this delicious festival grows and attracts hundreds of visitors from around Belize and beyond. This year, the event committee is changing things up a bit with a Pre-Chocolate Bash on the evening of May 18th with the energetic music of the X-Band.

The following day is the Taste of Toledo Street Fair held along front street which is closed to traffic during the day. With live music, cultural booths featuring local crafts and unique products and of course a variety of foods and chocolate to sample, the day is well-spent wandering the street and taking in the bounty of fun. That evening their signature Wine & Chocolate evening will be held at Garbutt's Marine where

Continued on Page 4



May 2018



My Beautiful Belize, A Visitor's Guide - San Pedro, Ambergris Caye, Belize Page 3

Chocolate Festival of Belize

Continued from Page 3

guests enjoy a night of socializing while sampling a wide variety of chocolate delicacies along with fine wines. Lively music by the Pandemonium Steel Orchestra adds to the festive ambience and is sure to get you dancing off some of those chocolate calories you've indulged in!

The festival ends with a grand finale at the nearby Nim Li Punit site Maya archaeological site. The family fun day includes performances featuring Maya harp groups, Marimba music and Maya dance groups.

If you plan to attend this festival it is recommended you book your accommodations sooner than later, as local establishments are usually full during that weekend. While there why not that the opportunity to explore the Toledo District? Perhaps a visit to a local cacao plantation, the Maya House of Cacao and Chocolate Museum, nearby Maya archeological sites and impressive waterfalls? The area is beautiful and rural Belize at its most authentic.

Festival Events Calendar:

Friday, May 18th:

Pre-chocolate Bash featuring the X-Band. Civic Center @ 10PM – 4AM

Saturday May 19th:

Taste of Toledo Street Fair @ Front Street 9AM – 5PM

Wine & Chocolate Night @ Garbutt's Marine 7PM

Sunday May 20th:

Grand Finale @ Nim Li Punit Maya Site



Photo by Juan Cho

For more information about the Chocolate Festival please visit their Facebook page at www.facebook.com/BelizeChocolateFestival

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Juan and Abelina Cho believe that chocolate will save the rainforest

By Tamara Sniffin



Juan Cho



Abelina Cho



Educational tour of the farm creates new fan of chocolate!

Across the globe, there are non-profit organizations that are dedicated to conservation. Powered by selfless individuals who are dedicated to the cause nearest and dearest to their hearts, there are shining stars within the constellation of people who work hard to make a difference in this troubled world. Be it the preservation of endangered flora and fauna, to keeping native languages, cultures, music and the arts alive, each person is an essential cog in the wheel of conservation.

Belize is blessed with many such organizations, and although it takes a collective group to accomplish the many challenges before them, often there are those who inspire others to share the same commitment. In this monthly series, we spotlight one of these outstanding individuals.

I think it is safe to say that there's not many people on the planet who really appreciate how chocolate is made. As is the case with many agricultural foods we enjoy, the process from crop to table can be a complicated one, and when it comes to the transformation of the cacao pod to delectable chocolate, the procedure it is nothing short of magic. Ingrained within the Maya culture, and once a revered delicacy that only the privileged hierarchy of the Maya civilization could indulge in, thankfully chocolate is now a sweet treat even we common folks can enjoy! One couple, Juan and Abelina Cho have not only embraced their Maya heritage of producing fine chocolate in the Toledo District of Belize but are dedicated to preserving the rich culture that surrounds it through conservation, education and organic crops.

Both from families who have produced cacao to chocolate for generations, Juan is of Mopan and Kekchi Maya descent, and was born in the beautiful village of San Pedro Columbia amongst cacao trees and a creek called Creek Cacao. Home to the Lubaantun Archeological Site, Juan's grandparents and family still live there. Abelina hails from the village and archeological site of Nim Li Punit in Indian Creek. Their royal roots could not be more appropriate for the "Chocolate Queen and King"! This dynamic duo is honored to continue the

Continued on Page 6

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Save the rainforest with chocolate Continued from Page 5

cacao tradition, and over the years, their tireless work and dedication has grown from modest beginnings to the very successful Ixcacao Maya Belizean Chocolate Company in the village of San Felipe.

It's been a journey of many challenges, and Juan recalls, "My grandfather says cacao is my blood, so it is how I feel likewise, however growing up in a family of six it was very challenging for one to experience satisfaction in life. While my parents till the soil early morning to late evening, it was still not enough to sustain themselves or us for the rest of the year. However, growing up on a cacao farm, eating and drinking cacao and vegetables coming from the garden is much more than I can ask for. At the end of each season in September I would be treated with a chocolate ice cream and father would treat himself to an ice-cold beer. We also planted rice and I used to sneak inside the big trucks to see where the rice would end up. I learned that there must be a way forward out of the challenges of this hard work, and I loved the farming methods too, so how would you separate yourself from something you love but was not satisfied with when growing up? That gave me



Juan (far left) and Abelina (far right) with her family in Indian Creek.



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the answer, and at the age of 12 I immediately went to my garden after school, planting the soil with various vegetables and I would sell my harvest to the teachers."

For years Juan, who claims that the rainforest has been his classroom, worked for the Sustainable Harvest International (SHI) program, promoting sustainable and organic farming methods to farmers in Belize, and other countries in Central America. "I loved what I was doing, so much of the program gave me opportunities I am forever grateful of. The challenge was being away from my family and giving my all to the program. I really couldn't make Ixcacao bigger; nonetheless, with no funds to rely on, my job was to generate my weekly income into what I love so much. I resigned in 2011 and sadly SHI in Toledo no longer exists. However the experience I got was of a life time, which is what drove me into a sustainable program for my family without any foreign investments or investors," says Juan.

Their family business is more than chocolate, it's a way of life. Everything they make is with organic cacao beans which are grown and harvested on their farm and processed without the use of artificial flavoring or synthetic stabilizers. Proud to be the only Maya owned and operated business in the world, Ixcacao Chocolate hosts tours of their property and engages guests in the traditional process of using a stone "mano y matate" tool that has been passed down from five generations. The cultural heritage experience may even include some of Abelina's magical cooking skills, treating guests to traditional meals like Chocolate Chicken or Chocolate Pork and Fish. Incorporating fresh organic vegetables from their garden and a dash of her amazing charm, she is a master of Maya flavors. It's no wonder her family regards her as Ixcacao - "Queen of Cacao, Goddess of Fertility and Happiness!" They also have onsite accommodations where guests can experience an unforgettable night in their chocolate community.

This family is not only dedicated making chocolate products, but to education, organic agriculture, agro-forestry and archaeology and anthropology. Proclaiming that chocolate will save the rainforest, Juan explains, "Chocolate does not come out of a candy bar wrapper, it comes from a tree. In Belize, the motto on our national flag is "under the shade of the tree I flourish". Our national tree is the mahogany tree – and our cacao trees require shade from other trees like the mahogany tree...75% [shade] in higher elevations and 50% in low lying elevations. Why would I want to slash and burn? Instead, plant according to nature amongst other trees respectively."

Juan reflects on the growth of the family business. "The birth of Ixcacao is of a lifetime involvement, between me and Abelina, and today our son Henry and daughter Lucresha are a huge force in the promotional markets and online marketing. I am happy to be my own boss, and thankful to be able to give to my community an employment opportunity that they too can be happy as I am. I am grateful for all the support I get from the hotels, restaurants, tour guides and tour operators in Belize, throughout Belize and around the world. Giving back to my community is at my top priority, educating students in primary school to the university level."

Be sure to look for the Ixcacao Maya Belize Chocolate booth at the Chocolate Festival of Belize during the weekend of May 18th and if you have the chance a tour of their farm it's a must! For more information please visit their website at www.ixcacaomayabelizeanchocolate.com

North Ambergris Caye

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EAT



PIRATE'S TREASURE - A unique dining experience with their Chef's Table. Watch as Chef Mar prepares a fresh 3-course Belizean meal over a coconut-husk fire while you enjoy refreshing cocktails and island vibes. Regular Menu always available without reservations. 4PM to 10PM. 668-2156.



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SuDoku Time! Answers on Page 15

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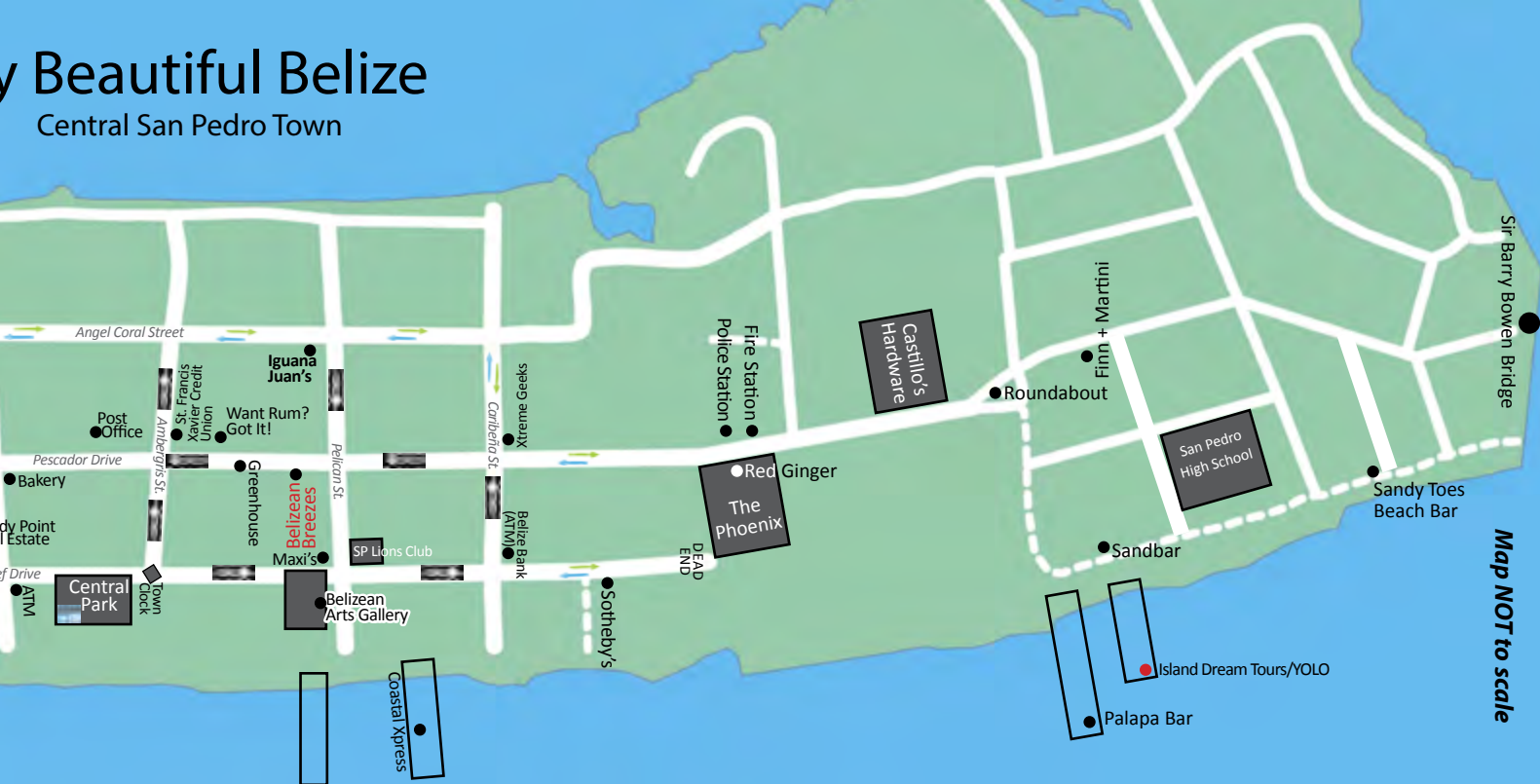
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www.blackorchidrestaurant.com.



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REAL ESTATE

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UNIQUE OFFERINGS



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Iguana Juan's Restaurant & Bar brings the laughs and tasty treats to the island

By Mary Gonzalez

Ambergris Caye has a lot to offer in terms of dining and entertainment, and new businesses certainly have much to live up to. With their witty slogan, eclectic vibe and great menu, Iguana Juan's made their debut in style. Oh yes, let's not forget their cool factor: Comedy Night! Owners Brad and Shannon Reeder had one of the top comedy clubs in the U.S., along with two restaurants in their hometown of Raleigh, North Carolina, and so their move to Belize clearly would be a combo of the two.

Iguana Juan's is the very definition of: "Conveniently located upstairs of an old building, on a back street, on an island, in Central America". Its open air setting on the second floor of the 'old building' makes for a very pleasant dining and drinking experience. With the level of heat we're experiencing these days, sitting at a table and feeling a cool breeze is practically a religious experience.

Delicious burgers, vegetarian options and fabulous fresh salads made fresh in-house can sate even the pickiest of appetites. If you're looking for fun appetizers, go for the trio of dips – they've paid homage to the Belizean cheese dip in a most delicious way. The Three Little Piggies are also quite the hit – three spicy pulled pork sliders topped with a special Iguana sauce and a slice of avocado, alongside a refreshing pineapple-jalapeño salsa. Wash it all down with mixed cocktails, or if you're adventurous, go for the big one: Bar in a Jar! A 32oz Mason jar contains three liquors, two juices and lots of fruit – you could share it, or call it your one and done drink. They also have a variety of specials, like their "Burgers, Beers and Beats" on Fridays, celebrating the weekend. The melodious sounds of Terry Godoy (Man at Work) from 6pm-9pm are coupled with a \$25 special menu that includes any craft burger from their menu (the BBQ Bacon is soooo good), a side and a Belikin Beer. How can you beat that?! Well, Sunday Funday sure tries to do so with their half-priced appetizers and Bar in a Jar. In fact, it's easier to keep up with their specials when you follow them online (Facebook: @IguanaJans).

And once a month, comedy is the name of the game. We may have a lot of options on the island, but comedy is a new one. Owner Brad Reeder is a professional comic, having opened for Jay Leno and Jerry Seinfeld, appearing on TV's Comedy Central, Evening at the Improv and Last Comic Standing. Alongside local comedians, the show brings the laughs as the jokes extend



Back Street view of Iguana Juan's



Delicious eats



Professional Comic Brad Reeder

from quirky local traditions and island mannerisms to the hilarious observations of the daily island life. With dinner and drink specials to go along with the show, Iguana Juan's has quickly garnered a fan club.

Join them for some food and drinks, laughs and a great island experience. They are open from 11AM through 10PM Tuesday through Sunday.



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Raising Environmental Awareness via the Lagoon-Reef Eco-Challenge!

The brain child of Elito Arceo, island businessman and staunch environmentalist, the Lagoon-Reef Eco-Challenge has evolved over the years, but always held true to its original goal: raising awareness of our fragile ecosystems. Paddlers battle their way through lagoon waterways, an overnight camp and a grand finale that takes them along the eastern shore of Ambergris Caye.

Arceo was inspired by his memories of frolicking in the leeward side of our mangrove lagoons while growing up, and he noticed development threatening their existence. Mangroves are vital to the health of our marine eco-system, as they serve as a nursery for young marine life, filtering salinity and protecting us during hurricanes and strong storm surges. Arceo wanted to remind people of this, to teach them to appreciate the beauty and importance of the area.

The eco-challenge is a 42-mile race in which paddlers navigate lagoons and mangrove channels on the first day. Kayakers spend the night inside the Bacalar Chico Marine Reserve, and when day two dawns on the east shoreline, they race down along the stunning Barrier Reef to the finish line at Central Park, hoping to capture the top finish and major bragging rights.



Facilitated by sponsors, volunteers and lots of hard work, the Eco-Challenge is a community effort that raises awareness of our fragile eco-system and pushes for the preservation and protection of our waters for our children and grandchildren.

The 2018 Lagoon-Reef Eco-Challenge takes place on Saturday, May 26th and Sunday, May 27th.

Those interested in taking on the challenge can find our more via email: eco_challengeinfo@yahoo.com



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The Hopkins Mango Festival is coming!

By Mary Gonzalez

In an ideal world, I would subsist on mangoes for every meal, in every which way. Ripe ones only... don't give me the green stuff – they're too sour and I indulged enough in my youth. My dream world sees a breakfast of mango coffee cake, with a side of fresh slices of mango and perhaps a mango smoothie to wash it down. At lunchtime, perhaps some delicious tacos with a mango pineapple slaw. Second lunch would be a couple fresh ones just because, and then dinner would be more of the same. Sadly, my dream can only come true for a few weeks out of the year.

You see, Belize still follows the rule of seasonal eating...we do not force fruit before its time. The hot summer months are some of the best times for us. Childhood memories are full of us running around half naked, climbing trees to pluck succulent plums and mangoes from the branches. Small children working together to pull watermelons almost as big as their bodies, warm and ready to burst with sugary goodness straight from their vines. I remember my cousins and I poking large sticks up trees to hit custard apples before the birds ate them all at once. Yes, from April through June or July, it's the time to eat every possible fruit in sight. And for me, May brings my favorite time of the year: Mango Season!

As if thoroughly understanding my complete and utter devotion to the delicious fruit, one of my favorite destinations in Belize has even come up with a festival celebrating all things Mango. Known



Photo Courtesy of Hopkins Mango Festival Committee

as Mangu in the Garifuna language, the fruit is the center of attention in Hopkins, Stann Creek. Eight miles south of Dangriga and four miles off the highway, Hopkins is referred to as the top cultural destination in Belize, and with good reason. Its approximately 1,500 inhabitants are warm and friendly, their vivacious personalities just embracing visitors to Hopkins' shores.

This year, hundreds of Belizeans and visitors alike descend to the seaside village on June 2nd and 3rd, ready to indulge in the over twenty varieties of mangoes that grow in the area. With names such as blue, Julie, Harry, #11 (a personal favorite), thunder shock, white, slippers, black, common, belly full, apple, and more, the fun is discovering new favorites and flavors.

June 2nd will see Floyd Arana's dory fishing contest starting at 6AM. The festival itself is officially slated to start at 11AM, with live cultural music playing as around 40 gaily decorated booths present their wares to those eager to enjoy every bit of Mango goodness

and culture that Hopkins has to offer. From jewelry to arts and crafts, wood works and paintings, as well as prepared mango items, there will be tons to choose from! As we all know, being out in the hot sun imbibing and eating can be pretty exhausting, and well, festival organizers have thought of everything for this year. "Spa booths" offering massages or pedicures will be just the escape needed for those weary tootsies!

While the first day of the festival ends at 8PM that night, local restaurants and watering holes will be open and welcoming visitors to enjoy good food and live music.

The second day of the festival will feature more deliciousness and entertainment, including a cocktail contest hosted by Travelers Liquors. Organizers are excited to promote Hopkins as a destination, focusing on its uniqueness and rich Garifuna culture. Everyone is invited to enjoy a great weekend of fun for the entire family. For more details, follow the festival committee's page at www.facebook.com/HopkinsMangoFest

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Exciting News in Conservation!

BEFORE



* CLEAN-UP EFFORT REMOVES TONS OF TRASH FROM OUR MANGROVES

When a group of concerned citizens gathered with boats, snorkel gear and lots of energy, it was in an effort to clean up the lagoon waters of Ambergris Caye. Around 40 people, from all walks of life, made sure they did an excellent job of cleaning our all-important mangroves. 5000 pounds (yes, FIVE THOUSAND!) of trash later, and the mangroves are breathing easier, ready to become proper nurseries for young marine life. Awesome job everyone, and thank you for helping to clean our environment!!

AFTER



* TWO NEW PRE-SPAWN SITES DISCOVERED IN NORTHERN BELIZE



Led by Addiel U. Perez, a Ph.D. student of El Colegio de la Frontera Sur and a BTT research associate, a research team recently identified bonefish pre-spawning activity in two sites in Northern Belize. This discovery represents a major step forward in bonefish research along the Belize-Mexico border, as it is the first time pre-spawning behavior has been documented in the region.

Since 2015, Perez alongside Roberto Herrera and Belizean guides Omar Arceo and Jose "Chepe" Polanco have tagged over 8,550 bonefish, recovering 650 in southern Mexico and northern Belize. By working with local, traditional fishermen, seasonality as well as local movement/migration could be tracked. However, Arceo's veteran years in the fishing industry led him to personally witness pre-spawning activity in two new sites in northern Belize. The findings will be published in Environmental Biology of Fishes 2018, and the team hopes more sites will be reported and monitored so that better management can lead to conservation of bonefish and their habitat.

* ALREADY REAPING BENEFITS OF THE NEWLY DESIGNATED NORTH EAST CORRIDOR!



Wildtracks Belize was super excited to share some exciting news about the newly designated North East Corridor – in particular, Fireburn. Fireburn is 1,818 acres of protected forests and mangrove savannas managed through an agreement between Wildtracks and the Fireburn Community. The protected area supports wide-ranging species such as white-lipped peccary and jaguar that cannot exist when forests become patchy and fragmented. Birds of prey are also lucky to count on Fireburn, and one was caught nesting high in the canopy. A young Ornate Hawk Eagle was photographed by Rudy Castellanos as he and his post-release tracking team was out keeping an eye on reintroduced howler monkeys in Fireburn. Just another awesome reminder that when we protect our forests, they give back in abundance! (Follow Wildtracks on their Facebook page for more cool photos and stories like this! @wildtracksbelize)



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May 5th: Cinco De Mayo Beach Party at Crazy Canuck's
May 5th – 6th: Cinco De Mayo WEEKEND bash at Sandy Toes Beach Bar

May 10th: Reef Fair at Central Park, San Pedro Town starting at 9:30AM

May 11th to 13th: Cashew Fest at Crooked Tree Village, Belize District
May 11th: Lionfish Tournament and Cook-off at Estel's Dine by the Sea, San Pedro Town starting at 2PM

May 12th: Ole Skool Kite Competition at Governor General Field, Belmopan City starting at 2PM
 – Mother's Day Extravaganza at Honorable Louis Sylvestre Sports Complex, San Pedro Town starting at 7PM

May 17th to 20th: Parrothead Beach Bash at the Belize Ocean Club, Placencia Peninsula (more info at <https://www.parrotheadbeachbashbelize.com>)

May 18th to 20th: Chocolate Festival of Belize in Punta Gorda Town, Toledo District (more info at www.facebook.com/BelizeChocolateFestival)

May 19th to 20th: 4th Annual Frenchie's Offshore Open at Lazy Lizard Beach Bar, Caye Caulker Village
May 19th: 3rd Annual Forward Movements Street Festival at Arthur Street, Orange Walk Town starting at 4PM
 – 4th Annual Road Warrior Bike Show at Sir George Brown Field, Belmopan City starting at 10AM

May 26th: Pink Ribbon Gala at George Price Center, Belmopan City starting at 7PM

May 26th to 27th: Lagoon Reef eco-Challenge starting at the Sunset Boardwalk, San Pedro Town at 6AM

Wolfe's Woofers Griddle Clock



By Dennis Wolfe

"Hey, Mr. Dennis! Hey, Mr. Dennis!"
 I slowed down at the sound of the familiar voice and looked back. Mario and Vernon stumbled around the corner with Mario trying to keep Vernon upright.
 "I see you guys have had some liquid refreshment tonight," I remarked, as they climbed onto my golf cart.
 "Oh, yeah. We're drunk," Mario said, "if that's what you're trying to say. What about you? What are you doing out at this time of night?"
 "I had to go to a wedding up the coast and the party broke up late."
 "Will you take Vernon home after you drop me off?" Mario asked. "He's too drunk to walk."
 At Vernon's apartment I helped him out of the golf cart and struggled to get him up to his room. Vernon is fat, with the basic body shape of an egg with legs and arms so it wasn't an easy job.
 "Thanks, Mr. Dennis," he said, once we got inside. "Don't hit your head on the clock."
 He pointed to a huge, round cast-iron griddle the size of an extra large pizza hanging from a hammock hook.
 "Clock? It looks like a cooking griddle to me," I said. "One of the big ones used for cooking tacos."
 "That's because it used to be a griddle. Now, it's a clock. It's a griddle-clock."
 "I don't understand how it works," I said, as I examined it. "I don't see any numbers or hands on it."
 "That's because it's a talking grid-dle-clock."
 He picked up a huge wooden mallet leaning against the wall and whacked the griddle as hard as he could.
 "Boi-i-ng!"
 From the other side of the wall a voice screamed, "Stop that, you idiot! It's two-thirty in the morning!"

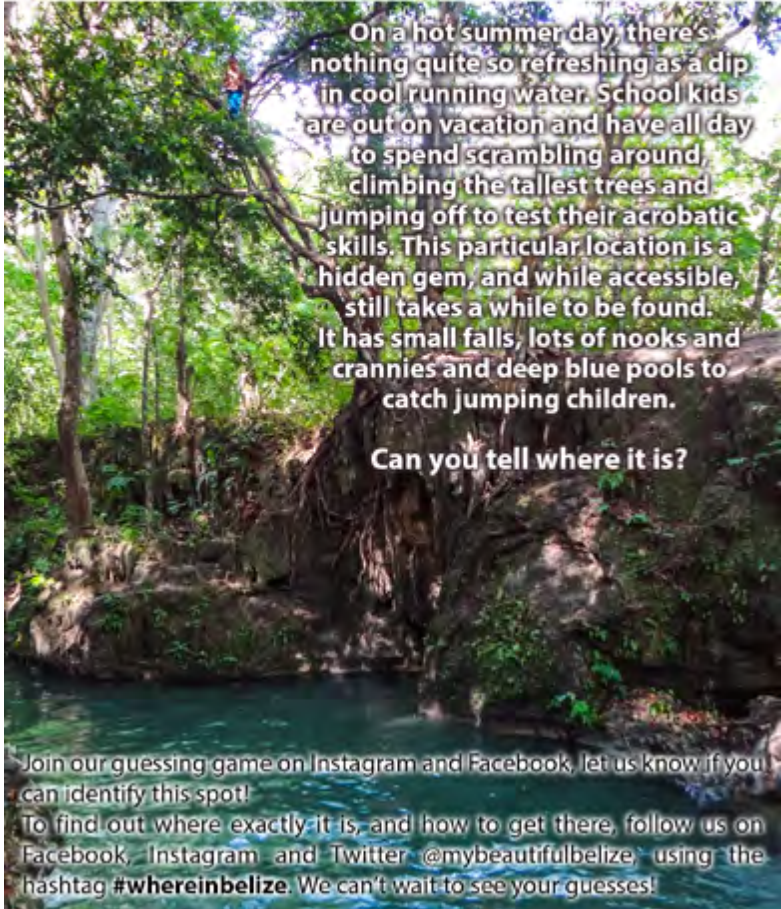
Sudoku Answers

Puzzle on Page 7

5	4	2	1	6	9	8	7	3
1	3	9	7	8	2	5	6	4
6	8	7	4	5	3	9	1	2
3	6	5	2	9	7	1	4	8
9	7	4	3	1	8	6	2	5
2	1	8	6	4	5	7	3	9
7	9	6	5	3	4	2	8	1
4	5	1	8	2	6	3	9	7
8	2	3	9	7	1	4	5	6

Where in Belize...

Despite its relatively small square mileage, a lot of Belize remains a mystery. There are so many hidden nooks that may never be discovered by all. We can't tell you how often it is we take the wrong turn down a dirt road, only to find ourselves feeling like we're in a whole new world. It's the beauty of exploring a place that remains relatively undeveloped, and if you're up for the adventure, who knows where you'll end up!



On a hot summer day, there's nothing quite so refreshing as a dip in cool running water. School kids are out on vacation and have all day to spend scrambling around, climbing the tallest trees and jumping off to test their acrobatic skills. This particular location is a hidden gem, and while accessible, still takes a while to be found. It has small falls, lots of nooks and crannies and deep blue pools to catch jumping children.

Can you tell where it is?

Join our guessing game on Instagram and Facebook, let us know if you can identify this spot! To find out where exactly it is, and how to get there, follow us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter @mybeautifulbelize, using the hashtag #whereinbelize. We can't wait to see your guesses!

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