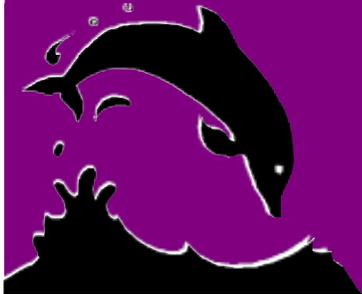


THE SAN PEDRO SUN VISITOR GUIDE



November 10, 2005

FREE

The Island Newspaper
Ambergris Caye, Belize
Central America

Casa Picasso: Fodor's 2006 World Choice!



San Pedro's Casa Picasso restaurant was named one of the best in the world by Fodor's Travel Guide. Pictured are the staff (l-r): Samuel Zetina, Trevor Del Valle, James Johnston, Chanon Popper, Denton Banner and Justin Daniels. Seated are owners Jennifer and Chris Eager.



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Where did you take your *San Pedro Sun & Visitor Guide*? Take a photo of you and the paper and send it to us at: spsun@sanpedrosun.net.



Ken Osterman reading The San Pedro Sun at the Great Wall near Beijing, China. The Great Wall of China, one of the greatest wonders of the world, winds up and down across deserts, grasslands, mountains and plateaus stretching approximately 4,163 miles from east to west of China.

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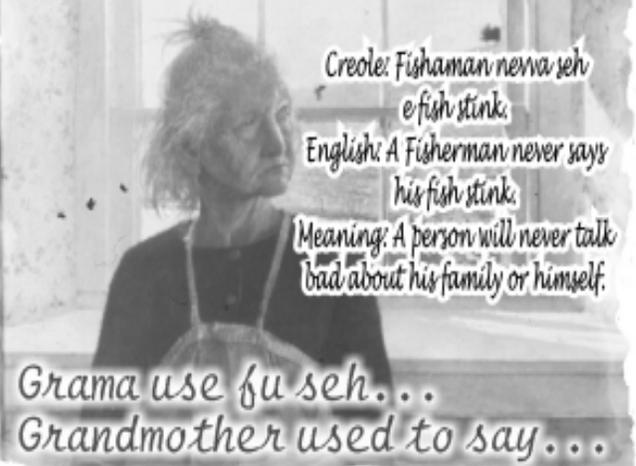
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Belizean Proverbs



Language can link us with other cultures, no matter how foreign the tongue may be. In an effort to share this form of communication with our audience, *The San Pedro Sun* proudly presents its newest



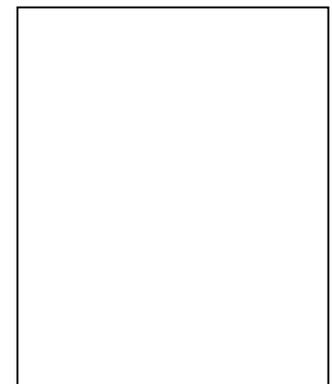
addition to the weekly paper – Words of the Week. This week, we will present a few phrases in English and give you their Creole & Spanish translations. Special thanks to Sylvana Woods for her help with the Creole translations. Enjoy!!!

| | |
|---------|---------------------------------------|
| English | I cannot find all my luggage. |
| Creole | Ah kyaahn fain aal mi bag dehn. |
| Spanish | No puedo encontrar todo mi equipaje. |
| English | All this is for personal use. |
| Creole | Aal a dehnya da weh Ai wahn yooz. |
| Spanish | Todo esto es para uso personal. |
| English | Do I have to pay duty on this? |
| Creole | Ah hafu pay jooti fi dis wan ya? |
| Spanish | ¿Tengo que pagar impuestos para esto? |

Greetings to my visiting friends

On behalf of the people of San Pedro Town, I extend a warm welcome to all visitors arriving to our shores. I assure you that your trip to "La Isla Bonita" will be no ordinary vacation. Our island is famous for its rich cultural diversity, where Mestizos, Creole and Garinagu blend to form a unique encounter. While here, I encourage you to explore the Caribbean Sea and find Belize's abundant treasures. Hol Chan Marine Reserve and Shark-Ray Alley are just two of the many spots where you can enjoy our coral reef formation and abundant and breathtaking sea life. San Pedro is also home to world-class fishing and scuba diving.

For the more adventurous, "La Isla Bonita" offers a wide array of water sports and for those looking to get a glimpse of the mystical world of the Maya, these historical ruins are just a short expedition away. You will also be able to discover Belize's vast cave systems and many natural sanctuar-



ies that are home to our country's unique flora and fauna.

Whether you are spending your honeymoon at an exclusive resort or looking for an adventurous, yet romantic escape, San Pedro is surely the place to be. I invite you to explore our home and see the many wonders it has to offer.

We welcome you with open arms. Bienvenidos a San Pedro!

*Elsa Paz, Mayor,
San Pedro Town*

Casa Picasso puts Belize on the Culinary Map

Beaming like two kids on Christmas morning, Casa Picasso owners Chris and Jennifer Eager were delighted, and surprised to learn that their modest, self-proclaimed "Mom and Pop" restaurant has just received the prestigious Fodor's Choice 2006 semi-annual winter award for being one of the world's best restaurants. "We were just stunned," exclaimed Chris, who learned about the accolade while reading the Ambergris Caye Message Board on November 1st. Apparently San Pedro resident, Simon Backley, posted the Fodor's press release on the message board and from there the news spread like wild fire. Chris told *The San Pedro Sun* that after reading the news he first woke Jen and then called his father. Bearing in mind that it was the day before his father's birthday, and that he is a restaurateur as well, Chris considered the call a very special birthday gift. After reading the dozens of congratulations that were posted on the message board Chris finally responded to all with, "Simply stunned here. After calling my mom & dad, I have to thank my fantastic staff and of course my amazingly talented wife, our chef Jennifer. [She's wandering around the house muttering, "I'm on a webpage with Thomas Keller...I'm on a webpage with Thomas Keller..."] Thanks so much to everyone who has made this restaurant what it is, and we look forward to seeing all of you soon!"

It was just three short years ago that Chris and Jen opened Casa Picasso. Like many Ex-pats that live on "La Isla Bonita," their first visit to Ambergris Caye in 1999 (on their honeymoon) was a life changing experience, and it wasn't a year later that they moved to the island. Chris, who grew up in the Virgin Islands, has always been an "island boy," and according to Jen, who grew up in Kansas, she was always an island girl "wannabe." After a year of working on the house that is home to Casa Picasso (and for them as well, they live upstairs), they opened the doors to their dream in May 2002. Since then, their humble, yet eclectic restaurant has earned quite a name for itself, and has been recognized in many travel publications. Just last year Casa Picasso, along with Ambergris Caye's own Capricorn Resort, were the only two restaurants in the entire country to receive the Fodor's Choice nod in the 2005 Belize and Guatemala travel book.

Continued on Page 12

What makes Casa Picasso so special? Well, it goes without saying that behind every "world class" restaurant is the chef! The San Pedro Sun chatted with Jennifer Eager, the Casa Picasso culinary "artist" who creates delicious memories at this critically acclaimed island restaurant.

So Jen, who was the first person you called when you learned about the Fodor's

Choice award? Both my parents are gone, so my brother was the first one I called, I was so excited!

Have you always wanted to be a chef? I have always had a passion for food (you would never know from her trim figure)

and I love to eat! About ten years ago I started cooking, holding dinner parties for friends. The parties grew larger and eventually I started doing some catering as well.

I see you eating at other restaurants on the island. Do you sometimes need a break from cooking, are you checking out the competition, or do you just like their food? I love to eat out,

and especially when I do not have to do the clean up afterwards! When we are traveling I am always sampling what is out there, but here on the island I just enjoy the many great places to eat.

If I came in today and told you I wanted the perfect romantic dinner for two, what would you serve me? First I would find out if you had any dietary needs, like if you are a vegetarian or have any food allergies. I would serve a seafood dish, like the stuffed lobster, and my Caesar Salad, which I am par-

ticularly proud of. I would also serve the marinated flank steak and a pasta dish.

Dessert is a tough call, because they are all so good! I suppose I would want you to have something unique to Casa Picasso, so I would serve the Cracked Coconut.

What is your favorite junk food? McDonald's French fries!

I understand you are a self-taught chef, did you have an Easy Bake oven as a kid?

No, but I always wanted one! Instead I spent many hours in the kitchen whipping up cupcake masterpieces and making my brother clean up after me!

Do your dogs eat as well as your guests?

No doubt; the leftovers and scraps are enjoyed by the dogs. Our one dog, who is a native San Pedro "potlicker" thinks he has died and gone to heaven!

You seem to have a great sense of humor; do you think that is a secret ingredient? Absolutely, humor is so important! Things can get SO stressful in the kitchen and you have to be able to laugh. We always have some kind of joke going on in the kitchen that really helps!

So, now that you are recognized as one of the best restaurants in THE WORLD ... what's next? The Universe!!!

The San Pedro Sun Q & A with: Jen Eager



From Everyone at Sueño Del Mar, Congratulations to:



Chris & Jen Eager of Casa Picasso Restaurant, named one of the "Best Restaurants in the World" Fodor's Choice 2006!



What's New? - Belize Shores Realty!

San Pedro has seen its share of ambitious investors willing to add to our community's value and appeal through their form of trade. Ambergris Caye is an idyllic and laidback town, quite happy to take each day as it comes. It is just this attitude that drew new Real Estate expert Mickey Blowitz to our charming "Isla Bonita." Since his arrival to San Pedro in early May, Mickey has worked hard to establish a highly visible and professional real estate business on Ambergris Caye.

Raised in Malibu, California, Mickey was always a high energy achiever, constantly looking to better himself. So much so that when he graduated from UCLA with a degree in Computer Programming, he quickly carved a niche for himself as one of the top programmers in the country, creating fantastic programs that revolutionized banking and hospital efficiency. His web hosting company, Touch Advertising, gained suc-

cess and created highly specialized programs that even the US government had to have. This expertise in computer programming made him rise to the top ten of 100 top programmers in the Palm Beach area within four years. Following the string of successes in his life, Mickey seemed to have it all.

Sadly, his mother passed away seven months ago, and he found himself reevaluating the path his life was taking. Knowing that he wanted to enjoy his life to the fullest, but not wanting to keep running the rat race that he had for so long, Mickey decided to look elsewhere for a change in pace and attitude. Taking the advice of an uncle that had been traveling to San Pedro over the past ten years, Mickey took the plunge and made the move. Having heard only good things about Ambergris Caye, he knew he had found the place where he could live and relax.

However, being the kind of person



Mickey Blowitz, pictured in front of his office on Barrier Reef Drive, has brought a new level of technology to San Pedro's real estate market with virtual tours, and one stop business help, including highly qualified architects and contractors to get your home built from the land up.

that he is, Mickey could not possibly retire fully, even though he had suc-

ceeded enough in the U.S. to afford retirement quite easily. It was an easy transition to real estate in Belize, as it was clear that business on the island was booming, and he simply had to apply the philosophies he'd lived by before to create a one-of-a-kind, one stop high class real estate business in San Pedro. Upon arrival, Belize Shores Realty took up residence on Barrier Reef Drive, directly across from Fido's, and in the heart of all activities in San Pedro.

Mickey, who is full of energy and

Continued on Page 6

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SOLO ACOUSTIC

TUESDAY- THE RIDDIM SECTION

R&B/REGGAE/ROCK/BLUES AND "SPECIAL EVENTS"

WEDNESDAY- 20/20

CLASSIC ROCK/ROCK/BLUES

THURSDAY- THE CREW

REGGAE

FRIDAY- THE RIDDIM SECTION

R&B/REGGAE/ROCK/BLUES

SATURDAY- 20/20

CLASSIC ROCK/ROCK/BLUES

SUNDAY- "SPECIAL EVENTS" or RECORD SPIN



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HABANEROS BEACH FRONT 2000 X 400 FEET 20 ACRES. ONE OF THE LARGEST BEACH FRONT LOTS LEFT. ACT NOW AS THIS WILL GO FAST. 10 MILES NORTH \$5,500,000

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CONDOMINIUMS

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Belize Shores Realty

Continued from Page 4

ambition, aims to set himself apart from the other real estate businesses in San Pedro. Currently Belize Shores Realty is the only real estate company that offers virtual tours of homes and land online. The website, www.belizeshoresrealty.com is innovative and informative for potential buyers and sellers. His full service company offers it all: real estate, building services, property management, among many other projects. To help him create such a first class establishment, he has hired Sonny Berry as office manager. Mr. Berry brings with him 20 years experience in sales and development, and he has been instrumental in the further development of the office and company in general. Belize Shores Realty also has on board the finest architects and contractors Belize has to offer.

When asked why real estate, Mickey answers, "It is something I have done in the past, and I saw the need for a first class real estate service that offered exactly what clients needed." Truly, when a client walks in, he can enjoy the great office, the warm hospitality extended to him by both Sonny and Mickey, and in the process, he can buy land, have an architect draft up plans and hire a contractor from one place. Belize Shores Realty looks to help clients in their quest to build their dream home and/or business, without all the hassle and runaround that usually takes up so much time and energy. Instead, Belize Shores Realty is making the entire process easier and quicker, ensuring that clients get to enjoy the process, not regret it. Already, his aggressive marketing campaign and in-

novative ideas have brought success. During a time when everything on the island slows down and businesses take a toll from the "slow season", Belize Shores Realty has already had four sales during October, the slowest month!

Mickey is quick to point out that his intentions are not to take over the real estate business. He simply has set his standards and is doing what he does best. Adding to his repertoire, he's now also creating a Web Hosting service that will offer up to 22 websites for the island. The sites, ranging from www.ambergriscayetours.com to www.ambergriscayehotels.com are expected to generate much more "e-traffic" for San Pedro, and hotels, tours and everyone else in between will be able to benefit from a boost in tourism. Mickey states that he considers himself part of the community, and he looks forward to his services being a benefit to the island.

The San Pedro Sun joins the rest of the San Pedro community in welcoming Mickey Blowitz and the Belize Shores Realty team to the island and wishes them success in their future business endeavors.

WHAT'S IN A NAME? YUMIL



"Belize and especially San Pedro has such a rich Maya Heritage and I personally am a raving fan of the Maya culture. When we started to listen to restaurant name suggestions everyone seemed to rally around the Yacht and Marina themes but I could not let slip by the opportunity to celebrate Yumil, the Maya god of maize and agriculture. The name encompasses and celebrates all the elegance, mystique and fascination surrounding the Maya and their god, Yumil!"

Sergio Torres, CEO, The Belize Yacht Club and Marina.

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Reef Brief

By Green Reef Peace Corps Volunteer Nicki Vassak

Black Grouper Spawning Aggregations in Belize



The Black grouper is one of the primary grouper species harvested by anglers and fishermen. In this Reef Brief, the intention is to increase our understanding of their biology in preparation for a future stock assessment. Spawning aggregations are of utmost importance in the life cycle of many commercially valuable reef fish, and frequently represent the total annual reproductive output from these species.

The largest, oldest individuals of some species are selectively removed from fished stocks both because they are the target of more intense fishing and because they frequent (at least seasonally) habitat that fishers can locate with relative ease, such as high-relief reefs and shelf-edge outcrops. Many species like Nassau and Black groupers, gag, scamp, tiger grouper (*M. tigris*), red hind (*E. guttatus*), and jewfish form consistent aggregations (always containing the largest, oldest individuals in the population) only during the spawning season. They are also particularly vulnerable to overexploitation because large numbers of reproductively viable individuals congregate at predictable times and locations. Despite this information spawning aggregations are rarely man-

aged or considered in the design of marine protected areas. Considering that aggregations are often the only reproductive means for many commercially important species, their losses or declines can have detrimental impacts on stock viability. For this reason, the staff of Green Reef Environmental Institute, Hol Chan Marine Reserve, and the Bacalar Chico National Park and Marine Reserve have planned a project to prevent further decline and eventual collapse of the Black Grouper stocks of the Caribbean and Western Atlantic.

Due to biological characteristics including slow growth rate and delayed maturation, groupers have consistently proven highly vulnerable to anything other than light levels of fishing pressure (Sadovy, 1997; Coleman et al., 2000). The Black Grouper (*Mycteroperca bonaci*) is no exception. It is a commercially and recreationally important species of the Caribbean and Western Atlantic, and has been declining throughout its range for at least the past decade. There is an acute absence of knowledge concerning the Black Grouper, which is shocking since this species can account for 40% of the grouper catch by weight in some com-



The black-tailed grouper is high on the endangered list of national reserves in Belize.

mercial vessels operating in the Northern Caribbean (Colas-Marrufo et al. 1998). It is also currently on the shortlist for IUCN Red List of Threatened Species assessments and is listed as a Data Deficient species.

Fishing is becoming an increasingly difficult way of living throughout Belize as species numbers continue to drop. This causes conflicts between conservation organizations, the government, and fishers. In this study, the effectiveness of having spawning aggregation sites be protected and declared no-take zones will be showed by conducting a population assessment, improving local management actions, and developing of local/national outreach programs. The knowledge acquired from the study will be essential to creating more effective management plans for spawning aggregation sites in

Belize, and will serve as an example to other nations.

Although the population of the Black grouper has significantly decreased due to over-fishing the past fifteen years, it is still not protected in Belize. In areas such as Glovers Reef and Bacalar Chico, where spawning aggregations are known to occur, there are seasonal fishing closures, but this is not always enforced. Belize is one of the few Caribbean countries that still allow for these species to be fished, but the population of the grouper is severely being threatened. If the country of Belize does not wish to completely over-exploit the black grouper population, a management plan needs to be implemented and enforced now. In the meantime, fishermen should continue to abide by regulations set in place at the specific spawning aggregation sites.



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Selected as one of the "20 Best Escapes of the Winter" by *Travel & Leisure* magazine, November 2005.

For more information, please contact us at 226 4012 or e-mail info@azulbelize.com

THE SAN PEDRO SUN VISITOR'S GUIDE

Tourist Information

Belize Tourism Board - 223-1910.

Belize Tourism Industry Association (BTIA) - 227-5717.

San Pedro Tourist Guide Association 226-2391.

Church Services

San Pedro Roman Catholic Church
Sun. Mass: 9 a.m. English; 11 a.m. Children's; 7:30 p.m. Spanish; Sat.: Confessions 5-7 p.m.; Mass or Communion Service every night at 7:30 p.m.

Living Word Church Service Sun. 10:45 a.m. Bible study Mon. 7:30 p.m. We do Christian charity work. 226-2950.

Assembly of God Church on Angel Coral St. T-W-Sat.-Sun. at 7:30 p.m. Christian Radio FM 101.3.

IMPORTANT #s

Emergency 911
Crimestoppers 800 922-TIPS
Police 226-2022
Fire 226-2372
Wings of Hope - Medical emergency air ambulance. Phone: 223-3292.
Lions Health Clinic - 226-4052; emergencies 600-9071 or Hours: Mon.-Fri., 8am to 8pm; Sat., 8am - noon.
Los Pinos Clinic 602-6383 and 226-2686.

San Pedro Chiropractic Clinic 226-4695

Hyperbaric Chamber - 226-2851, Dr. Otto Rodriguez - 600-0287 or 226-2854. Antonia Guerrero - 600-5475 or 206-2152. Eleazar Portillo - 610-4560 or 226-3195.

San Pedro Polyclinic II - 226-2536. 8-12 and 2-5, Mon. to Fri. Emergencies 226-2555/2918 or 606-3864.

Ambergris Hopes Clinic - 226-2660, Emergencies: 606-2316

US Embassy - 227-7161

Canadian Consulate - 223-1060

Mexican Embassy - 223-0193

Guatemalan Embassy - 223-3150

Honduran Embassy - 224-5889

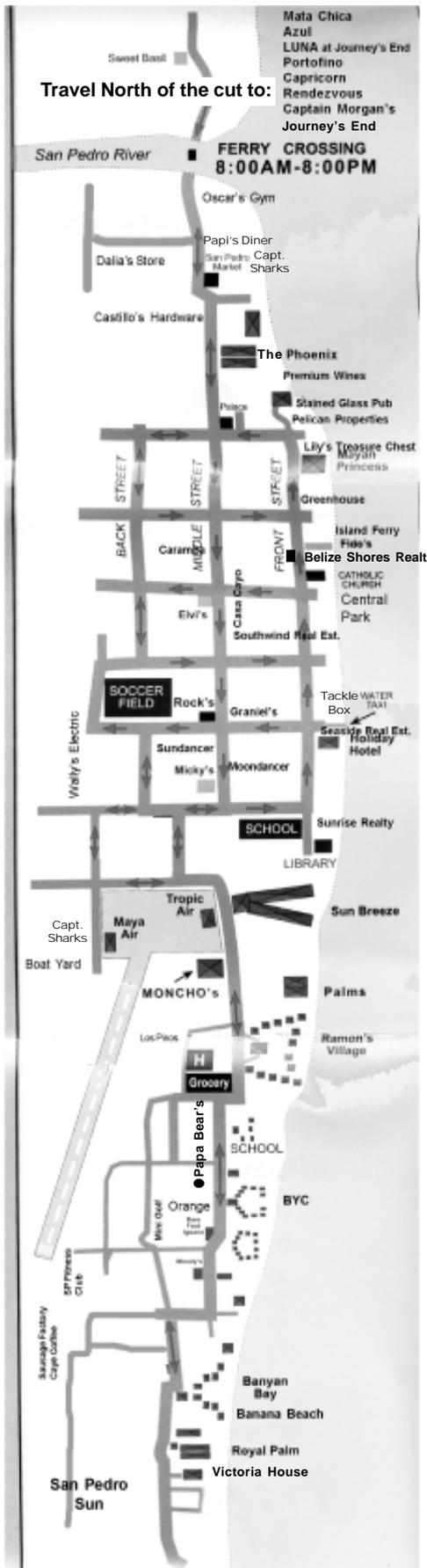
Miscellaneous

The Lions Club of San Pedro relies on income from its Friday and Saturday Night BBQ to support the needy community. Help a great cause - have dinner with us!

Green Reef A non-profit organization dedicated to the promotion of sustainable use and conservation of Belize's marine and coastal resources. greenreef@btl.net

San Pedro AA - 226 4464, 600 9061

Saga Society A non-profit "humane society" to address the stray cat and dog population in San Pedro. Phone 226-3266.



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SAILSPORTS BELIZE - Windsurfing, kite sailing and sailing. The latest equipment and expert instruction makes it easy to learn. 226-4488 info@sailsportsbelize.com.

SEADUCED - River cave tubing, manatee watch, Robles Beach BBQ, Mayan ruins and more adventures. 226-2254.

SEADUCTION SAILING - First class Day Cruises to Caye Caulker or Mexico Rocks. Beach BBQ or Sunset Cruise. Charters also available. Phone Seaduced at 226-2254.

Real Estate...

BELIZE SHORES REALTY & CONSTRUCTION "SERVICES" - Your One Stop Real Estate Company. We are the only real estate company in Belize with virtual tours of our listings on our website. Homes, Condos, Land, Commercial. 501-226-2825, www.belizeshoresrealty.com

SEASIDE REAL ESTATE - Many listings, from raw land to beautiful beachfront homes. We can help you own a piece of paradise. Call 226-4545 or E-mail ambergris@btl.net

SUNRISE REALTY - Land, homes, businesses, condos and investment properties. Call 226-3737, fax 226-3379 or E-mail: info@SunriseBelize.com

CASA CAYO REAL ESTATE - Serving Belize from the mountains to the reef. Phone 226-2791. www.casacayo real estate.net

SOUTHWIND PROPERTIES - For all your Real Estate needs. Call 226-2005 or 226-2060 for information or E-mail: southwind@btl.net for current listings.

PELICAN PROPERTIES LTD. - Fine properties on Ambergris Caye. E-mail: info@pelicanbelize.com or phone 226-3234.

BELIZE REALTY & BUILDING SERVICES - From raw land to dream home - we're there every step of the way!

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MONCHO'S GOLF CART RENTALS - Four & Six seater golf carts available. Open daily 8 a.m. - 8 p.m. We deliver to your room. 226-3262 or 226-4490.

CRYSTAL AUTO RENTAL - Largest fleet in Belize. Offices at International Airport and Belize City. 223-1600, 0-800-777-7777

Services...

KRYSTAL SHIPPING CO./MASH CO. - We deliver construction supplies all the way to Robles Point! Phone 226-2089 or E-mail: mashco@btl.net

CASTILLO'S HARDWARE - Storm supplies, electronics, household appliances, tools, home repair items and a wide variety of paints, stains and varnishes. Pescador Drive. Phone 226-2302.

Party...Party...Party

THE HOLIDAY HOTEL - Every Wednesday, live music and a fabulous Beach Barbeque 6:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Barrier Reef Dr. 226-2014.

PIER LOUNGE - Home of the "World Famous Chicken Drop" every Wednesday night. Daily drink specials and two-for-one happy hour. Located beachfront in the Spindrift Hotel. Phone 226-2002.

THE TACKLE BOX - come rock da box out over the water! Every Tuesday, Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday (starting @ 9:00PM) we have amazing live bands ranging from Reggae to Punta to old school Rock-n-Roll. We'll have prizes, specials and always that breath-taking Tackle Box ocean view! Located off the San Pedro Water Taxi Pier at the end of Black Coral St. 226-4313.

FIDO'S RESTAURANT & BAR - Dine under the largest Palapa in San Pedro! Enjoy a full lunch & dinner menu with live beachfront entertainment all night.

THE SAN PEDRO SUN VISITOR'S GUIDE



Dining Out...



MATA CHICA - Mambo Cuisine - for food lovers. Homemade pasta, shrimp paté, bruschetta, charbroiled seafood and much more! Call 220-5010/5011.

ROJO LOUNGE - Enjoy tropical lounge cuisine in one of the most beautiful beachfront settings in all of Belize - Azul Resort. 226-4012.

ELVI'S KITCHEN - serving the finest food since 1977. Located in the heart of San Pedro Town on Pescador Drive. Daily Lunch and Dinner Specials. Terrific Key Lime Pie. Caribbean Night on Thursday with Wil & Dale. Mayan Fiesta every Friday-come try our Maya Buffet while listening to Mayan music. Open Monday - Saturday. Lunch: 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Dinner: 5:30 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. Call us for group reservations. Ph 226-2404/2176 "Where something good is always cooking!"

CELI'S RESTAURANT ON THE BEACH at the San Pedro Holiday Hotel, serves Great

Fajitas, salads and local dishes for LUNCH. **DELECTABLE SEAFOOD SPECIALTIES** for dinner. **OUTDOOR & INDOOR DINING** 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. 5:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Beach barbeque every Wednesday night with live music.

LILY'S TREASURE CHEST RESTAURANT - On the beach behind Lily's Hotel. Join us for a cool breeze and the best seafood or USDA beef on our veranda by the sea. 226-2650.

RAMON'S VILLAGE - Enjoy breakfast, lunch and dinner in a Mayan atmosphere or on the veranda overlooking the Caribbean Sea. Coconut Drive. Phone 226-2071.

LUNA at Journey's End Resort - Experience fine dining on the beach north of San Pedro. Visit our tropical bar featuring karaoke, dance and fun music. Phone 226-2173.

RICO'S SURFSIDE RESTAURANT - A

truly unique dining experience on the beach at Banyan Bay. Serving breakfast, lunch and dinner daily. Phone 226-3739 ext. 135.

PAPI'S DINER - The place for fine food at diner prices. Taste the Caribbean. Call 226-2047.

MICKEY'S PLACE - Open daily 6:30 a.m. - 10 a.m. for breakfast, 11:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. for lunch and 6 - 10 p.m. for dinner. Burritos on Wednesdays. Pescador Drive. Call 226-2223.

BLUE WATER GRILL - Island cuisine with a twist! Wood-fired Oven Pizzas, Sushi & more! Open daily. Happy Hour 4 to 6 p.m. 226-3347.

EL DIVINO RESTAURANT at BANANA BEACH - Serving breakfast, lunch and dinner from 6 a.m - 10 p.m. Book your party or banquet today! Phone 226-2444.

PORTOFINO'S own "LE BISTRO" - One of the newest & most talked about restaurants on the island. Meet our boat at 6:30 p.m. at Fido's Dock for a complimentary ride to one of the best culinary experiences you will have while in paradise. For reservations, call 220-5096.

RENDEZVOUS RESTAURANT AND BAR - The most romantic spot in town featuring award winning chefs. Thai and French cuisine blended to make paradise taste like heaven, or so our customers say. Free Rendezvous Wine tasting from 11:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Fermented, blended and bottled here on the property. Open for lunch and dinner. Call 226 3426 for reservations and transport options.

VICTORIA HOUSE - International and Island-Style cuisine by Executive Chef Amy Knox. Open for breakfast, lunch & dinner. Reservations recommended, call 226-2067.

CASA PICASSO TAPAS + MARTINIS - Small plates, big pastas and fantastic desserts! "Hippest martini spot"-*Frommer's*. Nightly 5:30pm, closed Sundays. reservations 226-4507.

THE TACKLE BOX BAR & GRILL - whether it's a little break from the beach or a whole night out the Tackle Box is just the place. The kitchen serves a wide array of affordable fresh comfort foods ranging from our big Tackle Box Burgers, special fried chicken, to some of our more local fare and seafoods. And what a better place to enjoy our dishes, than our back porch out over the water.

Unique Offerings...

ISLAND MINI GOLF & ICE CREAM - Sea Grape Drive (1 block W of Barefoot Iguana). Open Mon.-Thurs. 12 - 9 p.m.; Fri. - Sun. 12 - 10 p.m.

SAN PEDRO FITNESS CLUB - A/C Gym at Belize Yacht Club, Fully-equipped. Open to the public. Tennis Courts, Lap and Family pools, Aqua Fitness and Toning Classes. Open 7am Daily, 8am Sundays. 226-2683

CAYE COFFEE - Take a taste of our locally roasted fresh coffee back home. A wonderful cup of coffee makes such a great difference in your day. Try it and ask for more. 226-3568.

WINE de VINE - Fine imported wines and cheeses. Olive oils, vinegars and specialty items. Located in the Vilma Linda Plaza on Tarpon St. Phone 226-3430.

OSCAR'S GYM - Free-weights, Pilates, basic Yoga, Balance Ball, Tae Bo and more. Affordable daily, weekly and monthly fees. Located in Boca del Rio 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. daily 226-2239.

BIG TREE PRODUCE - Fresh Local & Imported Fruits & Vegetables. Seafood, meats, juices & milk shakes. Pescador Dr. 226-2322.

PAPA BEAR'S - Full Service, Internet Access. Pastries, coffee and deli sandwiches. Open 7 a.m.

to 10 p.m. daily. Located on Fairdale Plaza, on Coconut Drive

THE GREENHOUSE - Fresh Produce & Seafood. Belizean and imported speciality. Fresh herbs, cold cuts, chilled goods plus an exciting selection of groceries. A/C local on Barrier Reef Dr. 226-2084.

THE SAUSAGE FACTORY - Largest selection of smoked meats and sausage on the island. One mile south of town. 226-2655.

CAYE INTERNATIONAL BANK - Offering Demand Deposit Accounts, Loans, Savings Accounts, etc. cibl@bt.net or phone 226-2388.

PROVIDENT BANK & TRUST - Offering a full range of International Banking Services. phone 223-5698 services@providentbank.bz

GRANIEL'S DREAMLAND - Locally made furniture & accessories from all Belizean exotic hardwoods & Mahogany. On Pescador Drive, opposite Rock's, Call 226-2632, ext. 18 or 226-2938. Open Mon-Sat 8:30-12:00 noon & 1:00 to 9:00 p.m. & Sun 10-12 noon.

BAREFOOT BOOKS - Features a huge selection of new and used books. Gorgeous greeting cards and gift items. Located at the southern end of Middle Street (Pescador Drive) across the courtyard from Mickey's. 206-2577.



The San Pedro Sun Visitor Guide

EVERY WEEK we print a new edition covering the "good news" about San Pedro and Belize!

Contact the San Pedro Sun for more information.
spsun@sanpedrosun.net
(501) 226-2070
www.sanpedrosun.net

Windsurfing races at SailSports!



This past Saturday, windsurfers took to the seas in a fun race being held the first Saturday of every month. The six participants gamely fought for the win, but in the end, it was Junior in the lead, with 8 points total. Another race is scheduled for the Saturday December 3rd. Entry for this upcoming race is free. Interested persons can sign up for the races at the SailSports office located on the beach at the Holiday Hotel. Basic Windsurfing skills are required.

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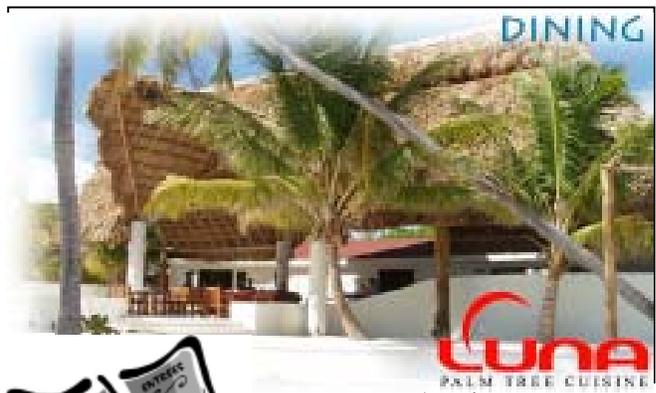
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Blue Water Frappuccino
Open 7 am- 9:30 pm
On the Beach across from the airstrip
At the Sunbreeze Hotel
Phone: 226-3347



Appetizers

Pork & Shrimp Pot Stickers with Habanero Dipping Sauce
Brie Phyllo Tart topped with Walnuts & Papaya
alsamic Glaze

Sesame Crusted Seared Tuna, wet Polenta and Sun dried Tomato Tapenade
Thai Curry Shrimp with Bamboo Shoots & Egg noodles
Lobster Rundown in mild Spiced Cilantro Coconut Reduction
New Special Items samples

Appetizers

Tempura Lobster & Rice Noodle Roll
Jerk Scallops with Wilted Spinach and diced Cantaloupe

Entrees

Braised Lamb Shanks with Honey Lentils
Tortilla Crusted Snapper with Andouille and Orange Butter
Also Daily & weekly pasta, fish, poultry and meat specials

Belizean Style Friday night BBQ with a spectacular Fashion show to be included.
Watch for it in December!

Southwind *Serving San Pedro since 1980!*
PROPERTIES

We at Southwind Properties specialize in the listing & sale of fine island properties - Homes, Condos, Hotels, Commercial, Income-Producing Properties & Land for homes or large parcels for development. Be sure to meet with Marianne, Lori or Claudio to discuss your particular needs. Southwind Properties prides itself in being there full-time for full service and full disclosure for all your real estate needs. Call 226-2005/2060 or E-mail southwind@bti.net for more information.

Condos/Homes & Commercial Property

Perla Escondida (C45) - 2 bdrm/2 baths 2nd level condo, fully furnished. Good income producer. \$179,000US.

Vista Del Mar Apartments (C44) Vista del Mar - Located south of town, this is an excellent investment property with (4) 1 bdrm/1 bath apts. and an owners 2 bdrm/2 bath apt, all fully furnished. Not many properties built to the standard of this one. Call Agents for full details of this excellent opportunity. Excellent investment at \$665,000US.

High-Quality Commercial & Residential (L12) Commercial, rental and residential property with highly visible location now available. Three story building with 3,200 sq.ft. on each floor. Large owners apartment, five rental apartments and a full floor of commercial space. \$995,000US. Qualified and serious inquiries only please.

Secluded piece of Paradise (R40) 2.6 acres with more than 435' of beachfront and another 458' of lagoon water frontage on the western coast of Ambergris Caye. Price \$600,000US.

Residential home at Spanish Reef (D18) Two storey concrete house with 3 bedrooms/2 baths apartment upstairs and one bedroom apartment downstairs. Home sits on a large lot 2 rows off the beach. \$298,000US.

Raw Land

Santa Paula (L19) - Secluded lot in the Santa Paula area. 80' x 80'. \$60,000US.

Boca Ciega (G31) Beachfront acreage in Boca Ciega, 3.5 miles south of town. 175' beach frontage and 60' lagoon frontage. \$348,000US. Cash only.

Ambergris Bay (G30) 65' of beachfront and 150' depth on the west coast of Ambergris Caye. Price \$60,000US.

Palm Bay Club (C41) Lot #111 - 4th row lot, 100' x 100'. Only \$18,000US.

Corozal Town Center (R31) 7½ Acres of prime real-estate, road accessible on 3 sides, beautiful mature trees, cleared & ready to develop all amenities available. \$110,000US.

San Marcos (R29) 50 X 90 - Price is Right at \$38,000US.

Eden Isle (R27) Caye Caulker Lot #407 - 75' x 90' - 4th row lot, but only 285' off

Boca Del Rio (P42) 3 connecting lots located on the waterway just before you cross the river cut. \$210,000US.

Robles (S54) Lot #14a - Drive your boat up to your doorstep to this beautiful beachfront lot, lush with vegetation. Lot measures 80' x 204' & is priced to sell at \$160,000US.

Robles (D17) Lot #31A measuring 75' of beach front x 300' & 31B measuring 150' x 300'. Terms available. Asking price for both lots only \$149,000US.



“Wish-Willy”

Ctenosaura similes,
spiny-tailed iguana

The Spiny-Tailed Iguana (*Ctenosaura similes*) is also known as ctenosaurs or locally as “Wish Willy.” It is found throughout Mexico, large areas of Central America and islands adjacent to Panama. These lizards are great diggers and baskers. They are found around ruins, stone walls, rocky open slopes and branches of large trees along the open borders of the forests. They generally live in dry, arid, open terrain.

The ctenosaurs are large, bulky lizards with adult males reaching up to 18 inches long with an 18-inch tail. They are predominantly black, but the dorsal surface may show black bands on a grey background. Most have black mottling on their backs. The color may also lighten after basking in the sunlight with yellow and orange markings becoming evident along the sides. Juveniles tend to be olive-green becoming tan and then finally grey as they grow. Adult males and females are dimorphic (existing or occurring in two distinct forms.) Adult males have well developed dorsal crests and small dewlaps. The dewlap, the crescent

of skin that can be extended under the throat, is not inflated. A small bone bows out to extend the dewlap during times of threat, courtship, or while defending territory. Females lack obvious crests. There is considerable variation with age and sex and therefore identification may be difficult. The lizards have tails ringed with rows of sharp, curved spines, hence the name spiny-tailed iguana. The spines down the back are short.

This species of iguana can be belligerent, and may bite or wound an aggressor with their spines. More terrestrial than arboreal (living in trees), they can run in a bipedal (moving on two feet) fashion. Highly gregarious and territorial, these iguanas live in colonies, ruled by a strict pecking order. One male in the colony is dominant, and although the other males hold territories, they will only defend them against one another and not against the leader. Territorial displays involve color changes, body inflation, jaw-gaping, “push-ups” or rapid nodding of the head, and sometimes, biting and tail thrashing battles. Larger males usually hold bigger and better territories and they mate more often. Combat often occurs when iguanas are attaining or defending a territory or a mate.

The ctenosaur is generally herbivorous, particularly feeding on legumes and fruits, but is also known to have a diverse carnivorous diet that consist of small animals. Ctenosaurs are known to eat rodents, bats, frogs, small birds and a variety of insects. They have even been noted to eat eggs of their own young, and in one case, the tail of a juvenile was found inside an adult male, suggesting cannibalism. Youngsters are primarily insectivorous, switching into herbivorous



It is not unusual to find the Wish Willy sunning itself lazily on fences or in a yard.

habits as adults.

Juvenile iguanas often emerge together from the nest-hole, an anti-predator strategy in which many eyes are better than two and large numbers make individual capture less likely. Young iguanas often remain in groups with one of them temporarily behaving as the leader. They engage in mutual tongue-licking and grooming, body and chin rubbing. At night they often sleep together on branches.

The spiny-tailed iguana is edible and is a popular food for much of the rural population of Central America. In some areas, eating their flesh is considered potent “medicine”, with the person deriving the iguana’s strength after eating it. Also, the spiny-tailed iguanas are supposed to be a cure for impotence. Their flesh is relished in many parts of the world but it is not overly exploited. In parts of South America iguanas are hunted by

men imitating the screams of hawks. The iguanas’ reaction to the cries is to “freeze” and they are then easily caught.

Although these prehistoric looking creatures are quite common on Ambergris Caye, large-scale hunting and egg-collecting activities threaten wild iguana populations. The biggest threat to the wild existence of these lizards is habitat loss. Man and his domestic animals are inevitably destroying the iguanas’ environments and their species. Domestic animals, such as cows devour most of the vegetation, which are the food sources for the iguanas. Although they are not currently listed as threatened or endangered, they are certainly at risk, along with all the other inhabitants of these forests.

Membership With Even More Benefits!

San Pedro Fitness Club is expanding and opening a San Pedro Fitness and Oasis Spa center at the Belize Yacht Club. We invite everyone to come and see our new center on the second floor of the Belize Yacht Club admission office. Membership still includes use of the amenities at the San Pedro Fitness Club and members are invited to use the amenities at the Belize Yacht Club as well.

San Pedro Fitness Club
Open 7:00 am to 7:00 pm seven days a week.

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Casa Picasso

Continued from Page 3

In a phone interview with Rachel Lieberman, Fodor's Publicity Assistant, *The San Pedro Sun* asked just what it takes to earn such recognition. According to Ms. Lieberman, the Fodor's Choice winter 2006 list is the annual round up of the Fodor's editors' and writers' top picks for hotels, restaurants and sites/experiences that receive the Fodor's Choice designation in their Gold Guides. The editors and writers (all 600 of them) are asked to rate the establishment on individuality and uniqueness. There are ten chosen from each category, i.e. ten hotels, ten restaurants, ten sights/experiences. *Casa Picasso* was one of the ten restaurants chosen for Fodor's Choice 2006. Lieberman went on to explain that they do not rank within each category, just list the ten. This designation is reserved for hotels, restaurants, sights and experiences so wonderful and so special that words don't do them justice — you just have to experience them to know. The editors cull through thousands of picks to come up with this list of their top choices for winter travel. The selections are unique, unusual, and not-to-be-

missed; and you're sure to have a one-of-a-kind experience.

When we asked Chris and Jen why they thought their restaurant met these high standards they were quick to credit their staff. Their top sous chef, Sam, first started at *Casa Picasso* as a dish washer three years ago, and all of the staff add their unique talents and friendly personalities to providing exceptional service. Chris and Jen have taken care to every detail, creating an environment that speaks "dine artfully," which is the *Casa Picasso* motto. Just what does that mean? To Chris the layout of the room, the way the table is set, the colors and music all combine to create a memorable atmosphere. Jen explains that dining should excite all of the senses. How the food looks, the music, lighting, colors, it is all orchestrated to make a whole, exciting experience. Together their vision is a perfect complement to one another. It is not just the fantastic food that makes the entire experience fun and unexpected, but the surroundings and presentation as well.



Signature desserts such as the cracked coconut have put *Casa Picasso* on the map as a one-of-a-kind restaurant you must visit when in Ambergris Caye.

Chris and Jen are honored to receive such recognition, but are quick to mention that they are in good company, as many restaurants on the island are excellent and help to set high standards for all. They sincerely appreciate their loyal customers and the community that frequents them through out the seasons. Not only does their recognition help Ambergris Caye but the entire country as well. "I think this sets the stage for a whole

new level of tourism, aside from the more rustic eco-tourism that attracts people to Belize," stated Chris, "people can come here knowing we have world class restaurants as well."

The Eager's believe in doing it right by creating a memorable dining experience, and *The San Pedro Sun* congratulates them on this prestigious recognition. We could not agree more...*Casa Picasso* is a master piece!

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Tuesday Nights...

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- Music by Wil and Dale

Friday Nights...

- Ramon's Caribbean Fiesta From 6:00 pm to 10:00 pm
- Seafood Kabob
- Live Music

Sunday Mornings...

- Breakfast Buffet on The Veranda From 7:00 am to 11:00 am
- Music by Barbara Alfonso Brown
- Incredible View of The Beach From Your Table

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Fodor's choice 2006

Press Release - Fodor's - November 1st, 2005 - Fodor's list answers the question - What makes a truly unique winter travel experience?

When asked to name the world's best hotels, restaurants and experiences, travelers almost reflexively name the world's most expensive lodgings, restaurants owned and operated by famous chefs, and traditionally popular tourist destinations. One can hardly begrudge the status and grandeur of the world's Four Seasons, the 21 Club or the Eiffel Tower - But does being luxurious and popular necessarily make an experience the best? Or the best choice for you?

The Fodor's Choice winter 2006 list is the annual round up of the Fodor's editors' and writers' top picks for hotels, restaurants and sites/experiences that receive the Fodor's Choice designation in our Gold Guides. This designation is reserved for hotels, restaurants, sights and experiences so wonderful and so special that words don't do them justice - you just have to experience them to know. The editors culled through the thousands of picks to come up with this list of their top choices for winter travel. The selections are unique, unusual, and not-to-be-missed; and you're sure to have a one-of-a-kind experience.

Unlike the many "best-of" lists top-heavy with the ostentatious, the expensive and the familiar, this winter's Fodor's Choice list offers travelers a variety of options in a variety of price ranges. If dining on a cliff at sunset overlooking the waves of the Pacific.

The San Pedro Sun Virtual Taste Trip - Thanksgiving Special

Deep-Fried Turkey

Deep-frying a whole turkey is a Cajun tradition that produces sensation-ally juicy meat and delightfully crispy skin. An added advantage of cooking a turkey this way is that it takes less than an hour to cook the whole bird! Devotees of this Thanksgiving tradition swear that once you try a deep-fried turkey, you'll never cook your holiday birds any other way! You can deep-fry the turkey in either peanut or vegetable oil, your choice. Use a 26-quart aluminum pot with a drain basket. Original recipe yield: 1 (12 pound) turkey.

Ingredients: *3 gallons peanut oil for frying, or as needed *1 (12 pound) whole turkey, neck and giblets removed *1/4 cup Creole seasoning *1 white onion

Directions:

*In a large stockpot or turkey fryer, heat oil to 400 degrees F (200 degrees

C). Be sure to leave room for the turkey, or the oil will spill over. Layer a large platter with food-safe paper bags.

*Rinse turkey, and thoroughly pat dry with paper towels. Rub Creole seasoning over turkey inside and out. Make sure the hole at the neck is open at least 2 inches so the oil can flow freely through the bird.

*Place the whole onion and turkey in drain basket. (A whole peeled onion is used to keep the three gallons of oil from scorching.) The turkey should be placed in basket neck end first. Slowly lower basket into hot oil to completely cover turkey. Maintain the temperature of the

oil at 350 degrees F (175 degrees C), and cook turkey for 3 1/2 minutes per pound, about 45 minutes.



*Carefully remove basket from oil, and drain turkey. Insert a meat thermometer into the thickest part of the thigh; the internal temperature must be 180 degrees F (80 degrees C). Finish draining turkey on the prepared platter.

Slow Cooker Stuffing

This is an easy way to make 'extra' stuffing for a large crowd, saving stove space because it cooks in a slow cooker. It is also very tasty and moist.

Ingredients:

*1 cup butter or margarine *2 cups

Continued on Page 14

kayaking in a bio-luminescent lake in the moonlight or staying in a private bungalow nestled between a beautiful beach and a tropical jungle sounds appealing, then this list is for you.

Fodor's Choice 2006 List:

Hotels:

- * Blue Jay Lodge, Malpais, Costa Rica
- * Chakrabongse Villas, Bangkok, Thailand

Continued on Page 14

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The San Pedro Sun Virtual Taste Trip

Continued from Page 13

chopped onion *2 cups chopped celery
*1/4 cup chopped fresh parsley *12
ounces sliced mushrooms *12 cups dry
bread cubes *1 teaspoon poultry sea-
soning *1 1/2 teaspoons dried sage
*1 teaspoon dried thyme *1/2 tea-
spoon dried marjoram *1 1/2 tea-
spoons salt *1/2 teaspoon ground black
pepper *4 1/2 cups chicken broth, or
as needed *2 eggs, beaten

Directions:

*Melt butter or margarine in a skil-
let over medium heat. Cook onion,
celery, mushroom, and parsley in
butter, stirring frequently.

*Spoon cooked vegetables over bread
cubes in a very large mixing bowl.

Season with poultry seasoning,
sage, thyme, marjoram, and salt and
pepper. Pour in enough broth to
moisten, and mix in eggs. Transfer
mixture to slow cooker, and cover.

*Cook on High for 45 minutes, then

reduce heat to Low, and cook for 4 to 8
hours.

Banana Cranberry Bread

Perfect for leftover cranberry sauce
after Thanksgiving, this recipe yields
a very moist, delicious bread.

Ingredients: *2 1/2 cups white
sugar *1 cup shortening *3 eggs *3
mashed bananas *1 cup cranberry
sauce *1/2 cup milk *1 teaspoon vani-
lla extract *4 cups all-purpose flour
*1 1/2 teaspoons baking soda *1 1/2
teaspoons /baking powder *1 teaspoon
ground cinnamon *1/2 teaspoon
ground nutmeg *1/2 cup chopped wal-
nuts

Directions:

*Preheat oven to 350 degrees F (175
degrees C). Lightly grease two 9x5
inch loaf pans.

*In a large bowl, cream together the
sugar and shortening until light and
fluffy.

*Beat in eggs, and mix in bananas,
cranberry sauce, milk, and vanilla.

*In a separate bowl, mix together
flour, baking soda, baking powder,
cinnamon, and nutmeg. Gradually
blend flour mixture into the banana
mixture. Fold in walnuts. Pour into
the prepared loaf pans.

*Bake for 50 to 60 minutes in the
preheated oven, or until a toothpick
inserted in the center comes out
clean. Cool in pan for 10 minutes,
then turn out onto a wire rack, and
cool completely.

Apple Pie Shot

*This is a mouth watering vodka
shot that tastes just like mom's apple
pie. Put entire shot in your mouth
and swish back and forth a few times
before swallowing.*

Directions:

*In a 2 ounce shot glass, combine
vodka and apple cider.

*Top with a dollop of whipped cream
and a pinch of cinnamon.

Fodor's Choice 2006

Continued from Page 13

- * Coral Reef Club, St. James, Barba-
dos
- * Esperanza, Los Cabos, Mexico
- * Faena Hotel + Universe, Buenos
Aires, Argentina
- * Ho'oiolo House, Maui, Hawaii
- * Mala Mala, Mpumalanga, South Af-
rica
- * Morgan's Rock Hacienda and
Ecolodge, Playa Ocotol, Nicaragua
- * Parador de Malaga Gibralfaro,
Malaga, Spain
- * Red Setter Inn, Greer, Arizona

- * Kayaking in Bahia Mosquito, Vieques,
Puerto Rico
- * Mardi Gras, New Orleans, Louisiana
- * Poas Volcano National Park, Costa
Rica
- * Recoleta Cemetery, Buenos Aires,
Argentina
- * Skiing at Cortina d'Ampezzo, Cortina
d'Ampezzo, Italy
- * Stargazing atop Mauna Kea, Big Island,
Hawaii
- * Uluru & Kata Tjuta, Red Centre, Aus-
tralia
- * Valley of the Temples, Sicily, Italy

Sights/Experiences:

- * Carnaval de Quebec, Quebec City,
Canada
- * Diving in St. Eustatius, St. Eustatius,
Caribbean

Restaurants:

- * Bukhara, Delhi, India
- * Casa da Feijoada, Rio de Janeiro,
Brazil
- * Casa Picasso, Ambergris Caye,

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Green Reef – A non-profit organization dedicated to the promotion of sustainable use and conservation of Belize's marine and coastal resources. Contact greenreef@btl.net

Lions Club of San Pedro – Relies on income from its Friday and Saturday Night BBQ to support the needy community. Help a great cause. Contact President Isela Graniel – 226-2064.

Saga Society – A non-profit "humane society" to address the stray cat and dog population in San Pedro. Contact 226-3266.

Alcanzando a los inalcanzables – Helping the youth of San Pedro against the battle with drug addiction. Contact Virginia Wallace at 226-3018.

San Pedro High School – Helping students "Anchor in Success." Contact Principal Angel Nuñez or Chairper-

son Mrs. Martha Guerrero at 226-2045/2010/2043.

SP AIDS Commission – A non-profit organization that helps educate and inform the society in ways to help AIDS victims and their families.

San Pedro Public Library – A public service that helps promote the importance of literacy and education for the betterment of lives and the community. 206-2028.

The Governor General's Music in Schools Program, San Pedro Chapter – c/o San Pedro Town Council, P.O. Box 54, 226-2198, g_gmusicinschoolssp@yahoo.com

An organization created to develop and promote the love of music and the practice of the arts throughout Belize.

The San Pedro Foundation – An organization created to help students with furthering or completing their education. Donations or queries can be directed to Herman Penland 226-2005.



Wolfe's Woofers by Dennis Wolfe

Prayer

"If I miss that boat I am in deep trouble," Dulce said. "Can't this golf cart move any faster?"

"Any other time you would be complaining about how fast I'm driving," I said. "These potholes are slowing me down."

"All I know is that if I don't get these flowers on that ferry boat going north I am going to lose a lot of money. I'll not only lose the money I was going to make on the wedding decorations but the flowers will be ruined. It will cost me a fortune."

I drove as fast as I could but by the time we reached the grammar school we were already five minutes late and I knew we were going to miss the boat.

"Dear God..." I heard Dulce say and then she started mumbling.

"Hey, are you praying?" I asked. "I didn't even know you believed in prayer."

"It's just this one time," Dulce said. "I don't believe in bothering God for a lot of little things but this one is pretty important."

I heard her say, "If you will help me out of this jam, I will never put another nickel in a poker machine. I will cook and clean without complaining. I will..."

I turned the golf cart down the alley where we were supposed to meet the ferry and unbelievably, it was still tied up to the dock as they loaded boxes on to it.

"Never mind, God," I heard Dulce say. "We managed to catch the ferry in time."

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Trivia Tidbits

*Plain old vanilla is the favorite flavor of ice cream, accounting for 29 percent of all sales.

*Penicillin causes about 300 deaths in the United States every year.

*The longest word in *Webster's International Dictionary* is a 45-letter word connoting a lung disease: **pneumonoultramicroscopicsilicovolcanoconiosis**. The longest word in the *Oxford English Dictionary* means the act of estimating as worthless - **floccipaucinihilipilification**, which has 29 letters.

*here are 63,360 inches in a mile.

*Sweet onions, which include Vidalias and Maui varieties, must be at least six percent sugar to be called "sweet."

*So as to cut short - or all together avoid - time-consuming encounters with the press. U.S. President Ronald Reagan often took reporters' questions with his helicopter roaring in the background.

*Of all professionals in the United States, journalists are credited with having the largest vocabulary - approximately 20,000 words.

*Studies show that the typical vacation spot for Americans averages 160 miles from home.

*The armor of the armadillo is not as tough as it appears. It is very pliable, much like a human fingernail.

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❖ **Laguna Estates** commercial tracts & islands Inquire!

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