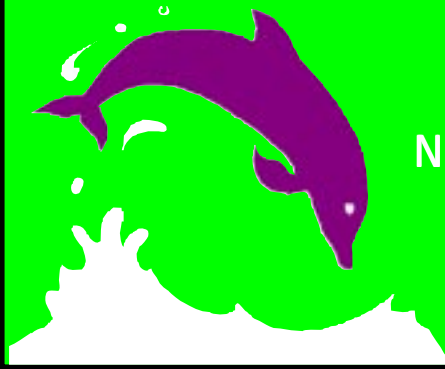


THE SAN PEDRO SUN VISITOR GUIDE



The
Island
Newspaper

Vol. 19
#20

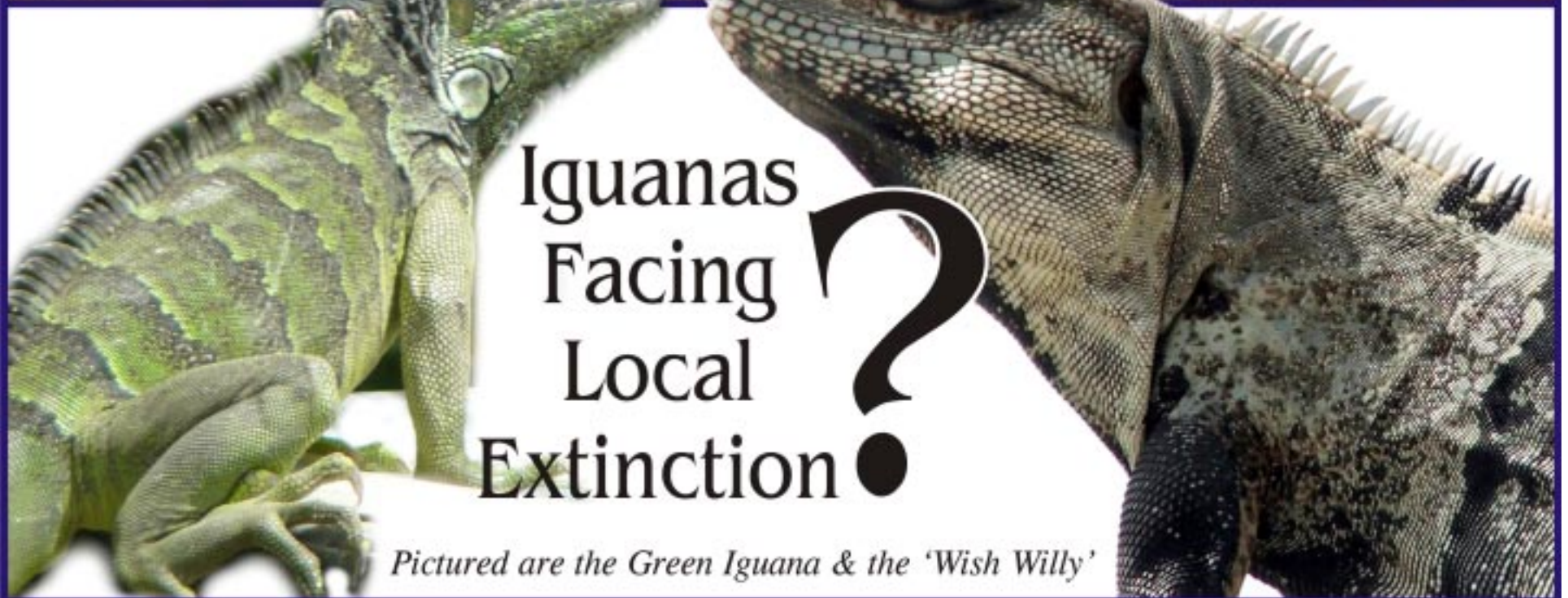


May 21, 2009

FREE

Ambergris Caye, Belize
Central America

Carolyn Carr's "Art Expressions"



Iguanas
Facing
Local
Extinction ?

Pictured are the Green Iguana & the 'Wish Willy'



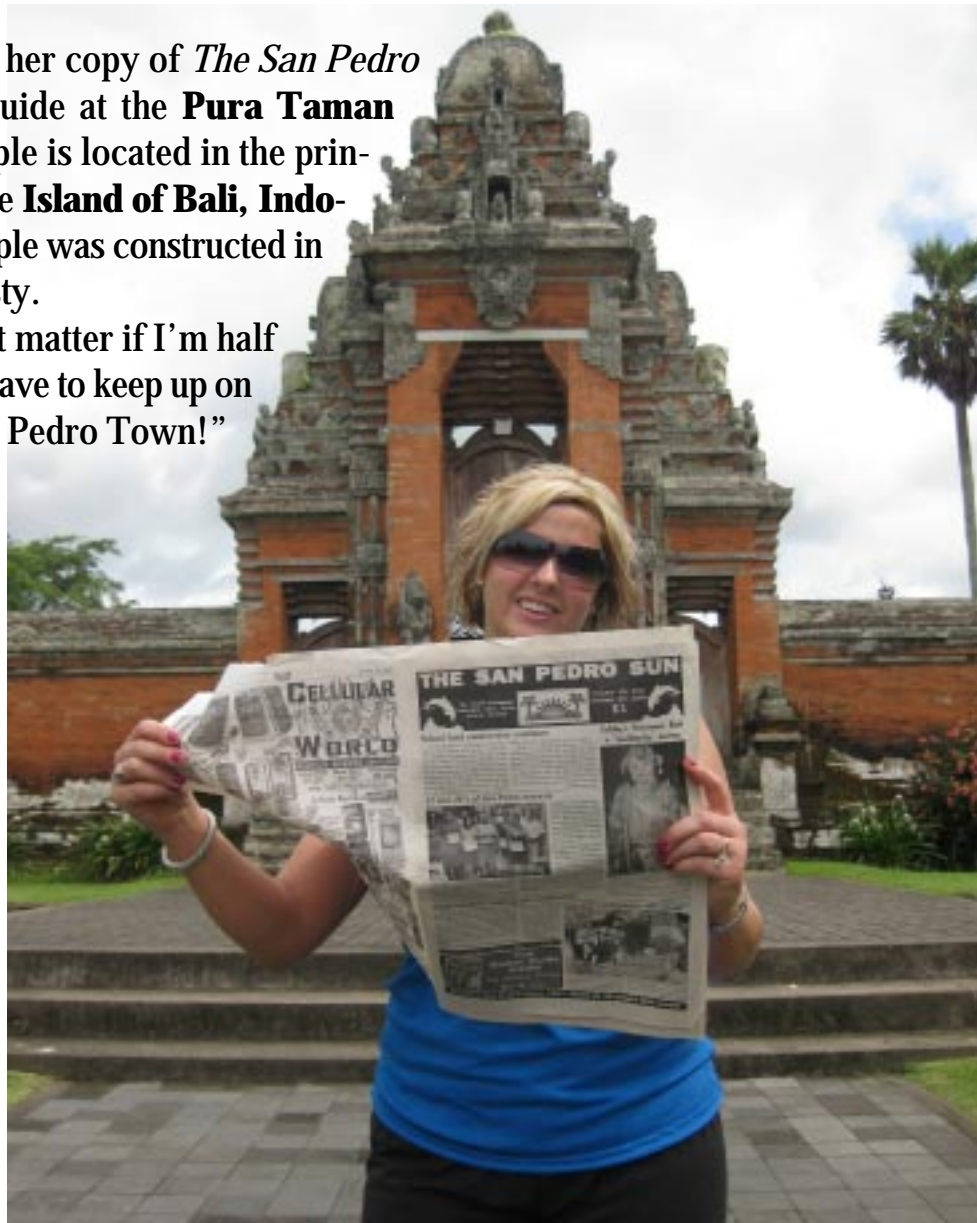
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Where did you read your *San Pedro Sun*?

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

Molly Vanek reading her copy of *The San Pedro Sun* while waiting for guide at the **Pura Taman Ayun Temple**. The temple is located in the principality of **Mengwi** on the **Island of Bali, Indonesia**. This beautiful temple was constructed in 1634 by the Gelgel dynasty.

Molly says, "It doesn't matter if I'm half way around the world, I have to keep up on what is happening in San Pedro Town!"



Photos taken in unique and unusual places are preferred. Be sure to identify who is in the photo and where the photo was taken. Don't forget to include your names and what you were doing.



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SuDoku! Level: *Difficult Answers on Page 11

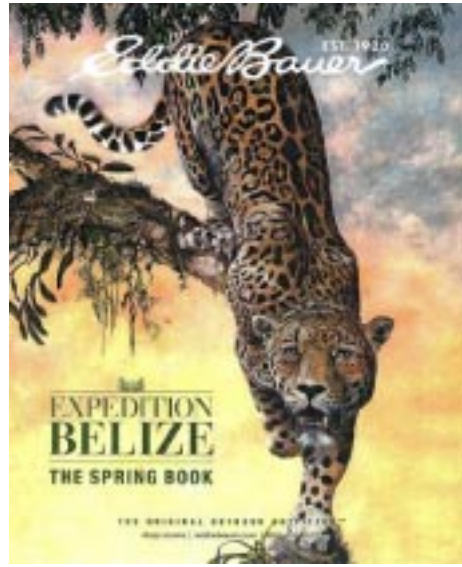
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Carolyn Carr's Artistic "Expressions"



Carolyn Carr is one of Belize's most dynamic artists. A resident of Belize since 1977, Carolyn has been exhibiting her highly recognizable artwork since 1989. Her significant contributions to the Belizean art community have been critically regarded for years and her newest painting "Meh Han Ful" which is Kriol for "My Hands are Full," is featured on the cover of the 2009 Telephone Directory for Belize Telemedia Limited (BTL). Playfully deemed by her family as the "2009 Cover Girl," Carolyn's famous painting, titled "Jaguar at Dawn," graces the front cover of the well known

apparel company Eddie Bauer for their Spring 2009 catalog as well!



Carr's artwork can be seen at fine galleries around the country but visiting her personal studio at the family owned Banana Bank Lodge near Belmopan offers a rare opportunity to meet the artist and see her work in progress. Inside the

large and open studio you will find finished and framed oil paintings and other paintings in various stages of completion. It is extraordinary to see how a painted creation can unfold and a special treat to visit with this respected artist about her works. Carolyn has embraced the Belizean culture vividly in her paintings by recreating common scenes that are anything but common in her colorful, textured depictions of busy market places, sidewalk scenes and even a day at the horse race. Each scenario stimulates your imagination, reliving that moment in time all over again. In her detailed portraits of ethnic individuals she sees the beauty in the faces of the Belizean people and replicates their features with intense detail, each telling a story of their own.



She also demonstrates a keen eye for the tropical wildlife of Belize and her jaguar paintings seem to come alive leaping off the canvas, while her bird paintings all but take wing from the branch they are perched on. Whatever the subject might be it is full of life and character with new detail each time you gaze upon it.

Collectors may purchase prints that are available in three mediums, offset lithograph, giclee and enhanced giclee on authentic artist's canvas. If you don't have the opportunity to purchase a print while you are there, you can always acquire one from her website at www.carolyncarrbelize.com.

Continued on Page 4

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The Story behind "Meh Han Full"

written by grandson **Adriel Cenna**

Continued from Page 3

With great fervor, Roseline stirs the pot that contains the future meal of her family, composed (for now) of herself, her son and daughter. However, to keep the little girl from getting into mischief, she holds her up with her strong, thin arms. The little girl watches the steam rise up as the water boils. Roseline reaches for the other ingredients, the carrots and seasonings that go into the soup. Once the broth becomes flavored, Roseline tosses in the cow foot that is the centerpiece of the meal under the suspicions of her young son. She stirs it slowly, sweat building in her brow, her one-room shanty house a wooden hollow. She stops only momentarily both to cool of her burning hand as well as to calm the uneasy, unborn boy in her stomach. She takes a deep breath and proceeds with the task at hand.

The evening slowly goes by as she looks down on the meal she has worked so hard to prepare. She may be alone, but she is certainly not helpless. Smiling and praying a blessing



over the meal, Roseline watches contently as the hungry children accept the food without complaint. Giggling a little, her daughter is picked up by her mother and hugged tenderly. Roseline practically dances as she holds up the laughing infant, but is forced to stop when she feels a slight cramp building up along her sides. Her baby boy was also dancing with her, it seemed, and wanted some attention. Roseline sat down on her bed and pointed to her children's own corner. Obediently, the children walk over to the makeshift mattress on the ground and curl up. Roseline got up, holding her stomach up to avoid further pain, and covers up the snoozing children, giving them a goodnight kiss before heading to her own sleeping place in the other corner.

Roseline struggled throughout the day, alone. Her sweat and blood were pooled out as she strove to provide the needs of her babies. She does not regret the mental strain nor the sore muscles that will eventually calm and relax once more. She does not regret, for it is effort well-spent. She gives a wide smile as she watches over the children, happy to have been near them, and lets her pride be shown in the grin she carries for her yet-to-be-born son. They, likewise, watch their mother with high hopes and an innocent, joyful face. The baby gave a slight but energetic kick, making Roseline once again put her hand on her stomach to let him know she is there. All of these small gestures of gratitude ensured that she knows the sacrifice of her daily life was not forgotten or in vain.

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Are Iguanas on the way to Local Extinction?

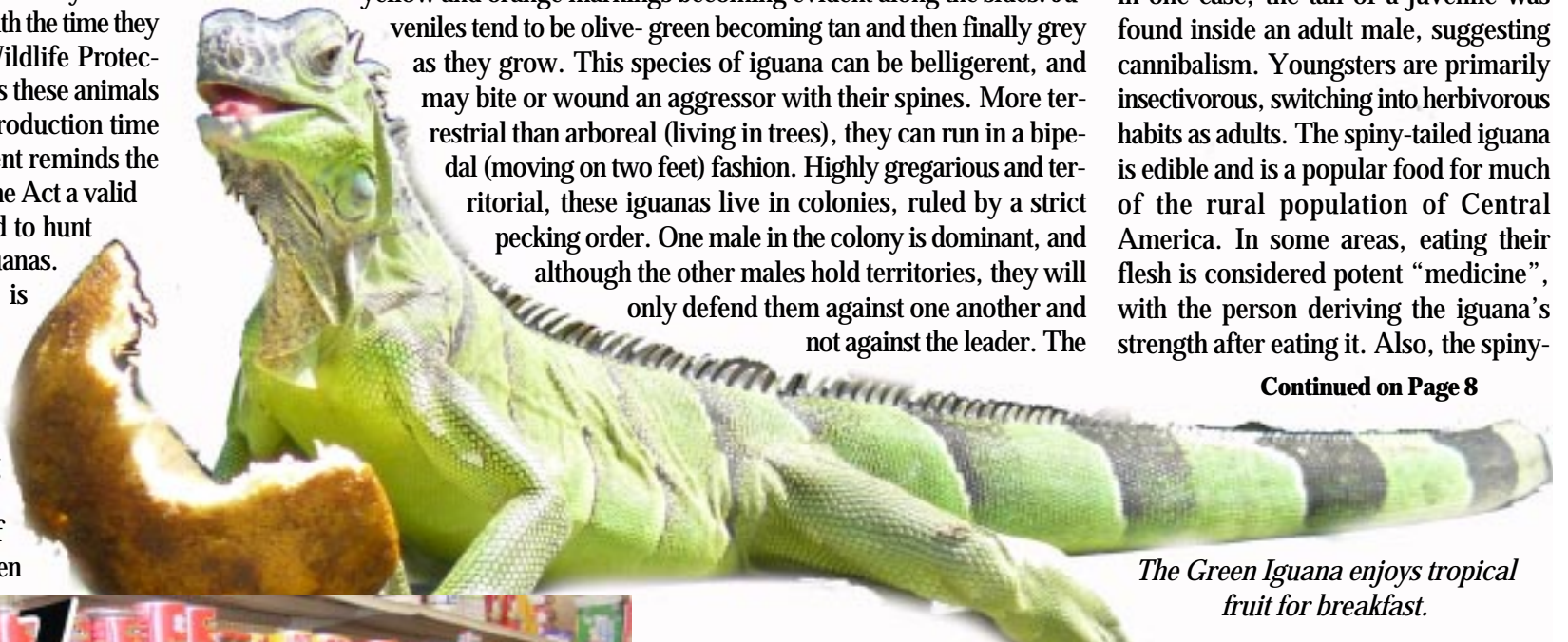
Chances are you see them often, but recently the Forest Department, under the Ministry of Natural Resources and the Environment reported that iguanas in Belize have suffered localized extinction due to overhunting. Iguanas breed during the months of January and May which unfortunately coincides with the time they are most hunted. The Wildlife Protection Act of Belize protects these animals during breeding and reproduction time and the Forest Department reminds the public that according to the Act a valid hunting license is needed to hunt all wildlife, including iguanas. The Forest Department is currently engaged in iguana breeding and reintroduction programs and needs the assistance of the general public in making their efforts successful.

There are two types of iguanas in Belize, the Green

Iguana and the Black Spiny Iguana. The Black Spiny Iguana, also known as ctenosaurs, or locally as "Wish Willy" is often seen on top of fences basking in the sun. They generally live in dry, arid, open terrain and 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. 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. 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 habits as adults. 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-

Continued on Page 8



The Green Iguana enjoys tropical fruit for breakfast.

7-11 A convenience store!
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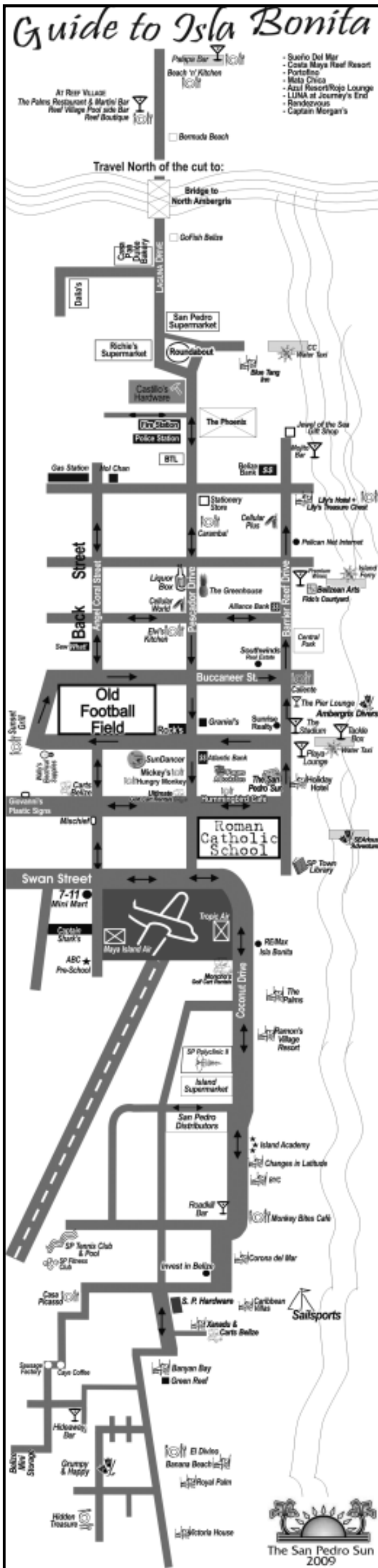
Police 226-2022
South Police Sub-Station - 610-4911
Fire 226-2372
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Emergency 911
Crimestoppers 800 922-TIPS
Los Pinos Clinic 602-6383 and 226-2686.
Dr. Lerida Rodriguez: 226-2197 or cell 620-1974.
San Pedro Chiropractic Clinic 600-7119
Hyperbaric Chamber - 226-2851 or 226-3195, Dr. Otto Rodriguez - 604-7599 or 226-2854. Antonia Guerrero - 628-3828 or 226-4501.
San Pedro Polyclinic II - 226-2536. Dr. Zuniga: 670-8755 and Dr. Otto Rodriguez: 604-7599.
Ambergris Hopes Clinic - 226-2660, Emergencies: 606-2316
US Embassy - 822-4011
Labour Office - 226-2700 (Open 8am - 5pm, Mon. - Fri.)
Canadian Consulate - 223-1060
Mexican Embassy - 223-0193
Guatemalan Embassy - 223-3150
Honduran Embassy - 224-5889
San Carlos Medical (MD & Dentist Services) - 7:30am - 9:00pm, 226-2918

Church Services

San Pedro Roman Catholic Church
 Sunday Mass: (English) 8am & 10am & Baptism: 11am; Spanish: 7pm; Mass or Communion Service every night at 7pm.
 Saturday evening: Anticipated Sunday Mass: 7p.m. Daily Masses 7am & 7pm.
Living Word Church Service Sun. 10:45 a.m., Youth Meetings on Sundays at 7:30p.m., Women's meetings on Wednesday at 7:30 p.m., and Men's meetings on Thursday at 7:30 p.m. We do Christian charity work. 226-2950.
Assembly of God Church on Angel Coral St. T-W-St.-Sn. at 7:30 p.m.
Lighthouse Christian Radio - 101.3 FM. 226-4673, Cor. Buccaneer & Pescador Drive.
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints - Sunday Service: 9:30 am, Wednesday Scripture Study 7:00 pm. 17 Lagoon St. (between the bakery and the bridge).
San Pedro Community Church - meets Sundays at 10a.m. at the Ambergris Elementary School. All Are Welcome.

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 /226-2833
San Pedro AA - 226-4464, 600-9061, 624-7705.
Saga Society A non-profit "humane society" to address the stray cat and dog population in San Pedro. Phone 226-3266.
CARE BELIZE - Children's Specialist, San Pedro. 622-8200
SP Town Library - 206-2028



Tourist 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.

Water, Sports & Tours

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RE/MAX Isla Bonita, located at 10 Coconut Drive, San Pedro. 226-4400 e-mail: info@owninbelize.com or visit our website at www.owninbelize.com

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Iguanas Overhunted Continued from Page 5

Old Man of the Mangroves!
Adult Green Iguanas can reach a bright orange color when fully mature.



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.

Green iguanas live in tropical rainforest areas, generally in lower altitudes in areas near water sources, such as rivers or streams. They spend most of their time high in the forest canopy, about 40-50 feet above the ground. The green iguana, known locally as "bamboo chicken", is the largest lizard in Belize and one of the largest in the world. Full-grown green iguanas are usually between four and six feet, although they have been known to grow up to seven feet long. This includes the tail, however, which can make up about half the body length and, in addition to its green color, has black stripes. Green iguanas, not surprisingly, are green in color, but can be found in many different shades ranging from bright green, to a dull, grayish green and even bright orange. Their skin is rough,

Continued on Page 10



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| | |
|-----------------|--|
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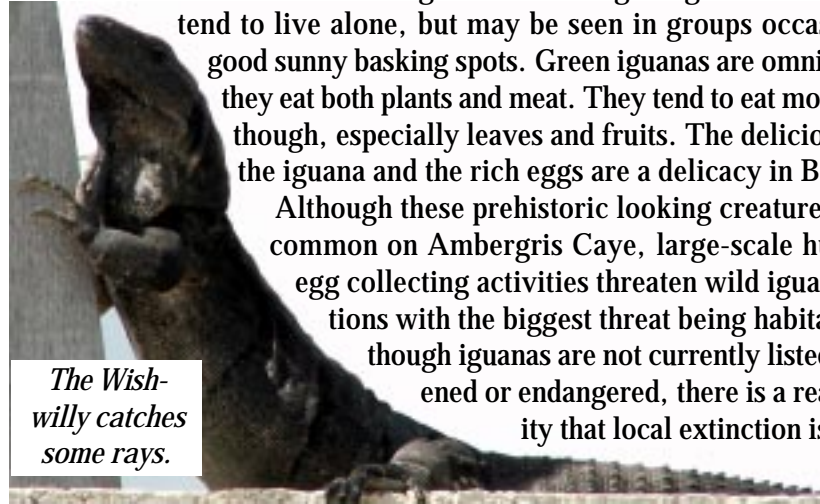
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Iguanas Overhunted

Continued from Page 8

with a set of pointy scales along the iguana's back. Green iguanas have long fingers and claws to help them climb and grasp. Besides their long fingers and claws, green iguanas have many interesting adaptations. Green iguanas have good senses of hearing, smelling and superb vision. Their long tail is also quite sharp, and is snapped in the air as a defense mechanism. The tail can also break off if caught by a predator, but grows back without permanent damage. Green iguana skin is very water resistant, and tough to avoid cuts and scratches. The coloring of the skin helps camouflage the green iguana, which means that they blend in easily to their surroundings to remain undetected by predators. If they are detected however, and need to escape quickly, these iguanas can dive from trees into water, and swim well. Green iguanas are quite sturdy—they can fall 40-50 feet to the ground without getting hurt! Green iguanas tend to live alone, but may be seen in groups occasionally in good sunny basking spots. Green iguanas are omnivorous, so they eat both plants and meat. They tend to eat mostly plants, though, especially leaves and fruits. The delicious flesh of the iguana and the rich eggs are a delicacy in Belize.



The Wish-willy catches some rays.

Although these prehistoric looking creatures are quite common on Ambergris Caye, large-scale hunting and egg collecting activities threaten wild iguana populations with the biggest threat being habitat loss. Although iguanas are not currently listed as threatened or endangered, there is a real possibility that local extinction is eminent.

Trivia Tidbits...

- *According to "The Farmers Almanac," to test your love, you and your lover should each place an acorn in water. If they drift together, your love is true; if they drift apart, so will you.
- *In Syria, Christmas gifts are distributed by one of the Wise Men's camels. The gift-giving camel is said to have been the smallest one in the Wise Men's caravan.
- *Wine will spoil if exposed to light; hence, tinted bottles.
- *The average speed of an avalanche is 22 miles per hour.
- *An ant can lift 50 times its own weight, which is equivalent to a human being pulling a 10-ton trailer.

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Wolfe's Woofers by Dennis Wolfe

Hunh??

"Bernard! Bernard Pedersen!"

No matter how much I yelled Bernard didn't turn around. Why? Because he's deaf and he never turns his hearing aid on.

I ran up behind him, tapped him on the shoulder and he turned around and grabbed me in a bear hug yelling, "Dennis! Dennis!"

He took me to the deck at the Holiday Hotel where we sat with a lovely lady named Helen.

"This my new girlfriend," Bernard said. "She not Danish like me but she pretty enough to be."

"He's right about one thing," I told her. "You're very pretty. Where did you meet this old deaf Dane?"

"I met him in Cancun at a support group for deaf people. It turned out that we live right around the block from each other."

"Oh, my God!" I said, embarrassed. "So you're deaf, too? I would have never known"

"Yes," she said, "but I can read lips as well as Bernard does, so it doesn't bother us."

"How was the bus ride from Cancun?" I asked.

"Oh, we drove my truck," Bernard said. "The ride was pretty good except for one thing. I forget to bring my hearing aid and Helen forgot hers, too."

"The only kind of problem we had was at that motel in Chetumal," Helen said to Bernard.

"Oh, yeah," Bernard said. "We were running late at night and that motel was so packed that we got the very last room. She woke up in the middle of the night with the headache from hell. The only aspirins were in a bottle in my truck."

Helen said, "Bernard is my hero. He volunteered to go get the bottle of aspirin."

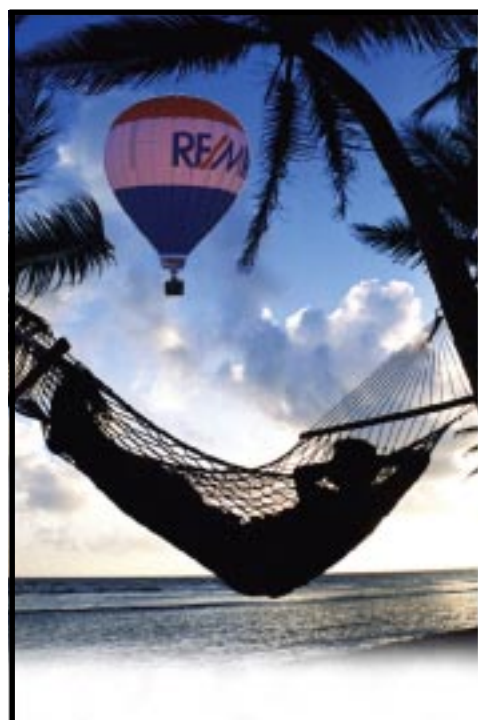
"Yeah, but when I got the aspirin and started to come back in I couldn't remember the room number. I got the key with no number. I'm thinking, this is so stupid that maybe I'm really Swedish, not Danish. What I'm going to do?"

"Boy, that's a tough spot to be in," I said. "What did you do?"

"Was easy," Bernard said. "I just start honking the horn until all the lights in the motel rooms started coming on except for one window. I just headed for that window."

SuDoku Answers! Puzzle on Page 2

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



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Riddle Me This:

Q: Part carbon, part water, I am poison to the fishes. Many have falsely claimed my name, for I am the pause that refreshes. What am I? *Answer Below*



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- ❖ **Beach Villas** - Caye Villas Mata Grande 2 Bed 3 bath fully furnished pool rental management program...bring offers!
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- ❖ **Small BEACH BAR** in a coconut grove - Tres Cocos area - Inquire

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- ❖ **Palm Bay Club** beach front lot 100' X 200' \$87,000 & 60' X 130' \$80,000
- ❖ **Palmeros** beach lot with pier 80 ft x 200 ft \$ 280,000
- ❖ **Spanish Reef** beach front lot 50' X 100 ft \$250,000 Off beach from \$40K
- ❖ **Basil Jones 145 ft beach lot** \$ 375,000
- ❖ **Playa Blanca** beach lot 60 x 105 ft \$275,000 offers
- ❖ **Mata Grande** 100 x 200 ft prime beach lot with pier permit \$445,000.
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