# VISITOR GUIDE



The Island Newspaper

Vol. 20 #14



April 9, 2010

# **FREE**

Ambergris Caye, Belize Central America





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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



**Joel Farah** writes us: "My wife and I visited Burrell Boom, Caye Caulker and Ambergris Caye, and we had such fun that we're already planning our next visit. The people we met were so friendly and there's just so much to see, we will definitely be back. Belize is truly a beautiful place in the world." Joel is back home in **Calgary, Alberta, Canada**. Like he said, "The snow isn't going away soon."

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.

#### The San Pedro Sun is mailed everywhere.

The San Pedro Sun Ltd.

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(one year) US, Canada: \$110 U.S. Domestic: \$100 BZ.(Other locations vary.)

More foreign subscribers than any newspaper in Belize!





Publisher

# Woman on the Beach at tropic air

By: Harriette Fisher

Watch for Harriette walking the beach with her camera. What question will she ask you?

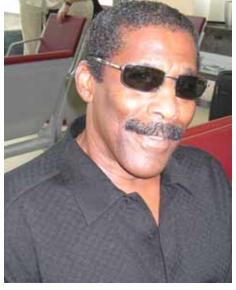


#### **Question:**

What here should never change? What needs to be changed Now?



JERRY WILLIAMS a pilot for Tropic Air lives in Punta Gorda and stays with his sister in the San Pedrito area when he has a layover on the island. He would like to keep the beaches nice and see the roads improved.



CRAIG GRANDISON from Springfield, Massachusetts is a retired plastics engineer who lives at the Maya House in the Tres Cocos area. He hopes the island never turns into "Crazy resort like Cancun" and that property taxes need to be changed now.



MARY LEE, from Toronto, Canada stayed at the Victoria House and has been here five times. She is a banker and wants to see the relaxed atmosphere retained and the road north extended.



BILL SNIFFIN from Lander, Wyoming is a journalist/writer and was here for only three days, staying with his brother (our illustrious editor) in the San Pablo area. He thinks the public ownership of the beaches must be saved and would like the roads to be improved. He will be back soon.

when visiting us!



CHERYL & GEOFF MARSH from St. Louis, Missouri & grandson NICK from Chicago stayed at their time share at Reef Village on this their 3<sup>rd</sup> visit to the island. He is a retired VP in Human Resources and she is retired. What should never change is the reef, the whole character of the place; genuine people. They would like to see more opportunities for all and free schools.



226-3426

# World's best fishing, and more, at El Pescador

By Bill Sniffin

This might sound a little like a fish story, but you probably would not believe it.

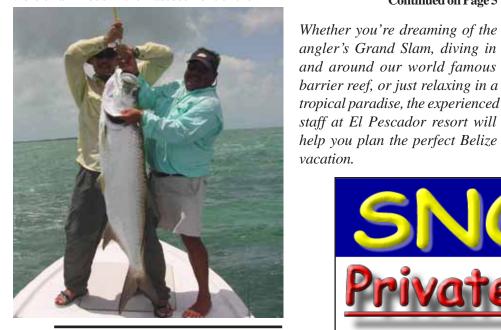
Then again, it really, really is a fish story. This is about an Ambergris Caye resort known around the world as one of the premier fly-fishing destinations on the planet.

Named El Pescador when it was built 30 years ago, it has maintained family ownership as it legitimately and honestly claims its title as one of the outstanding resorts of its kind anywhere.

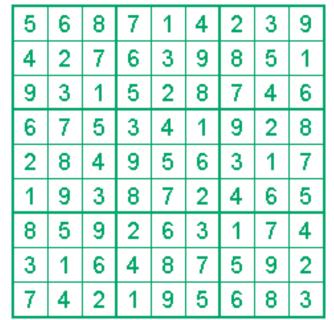
The San Pedro Sun visited El Pescador recently and the smiles on the faces of the returning anglers told the story. Fishermen from Canada, North Carolina and Germany were unanimous in their assessment of the

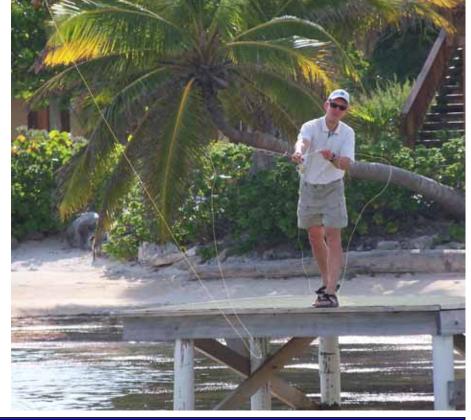
Continued on Page 5

Whether you're dreaming of the



SuDoku Answers! Puzzle on Page 2





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 $t \triangle t$ Visitor Guide April 9, 2010



In addition to the fishing lodge, El Pescador's lovely villas have stunning views of the beach and the Belize Barrier Reef across an open expanse of turquoise Caribbean Sea. The villas are two story, 3-bedroom, 3-bath homes, designed in a lock-off configuration, which enables you to rent a 1, 2 or 3 bedroom villa to perfectly match your individual needs, while ensuring your complete privacy.

fishing experience they were getting - "outstanding" and "fantastic" were among the words used to describe their experience.

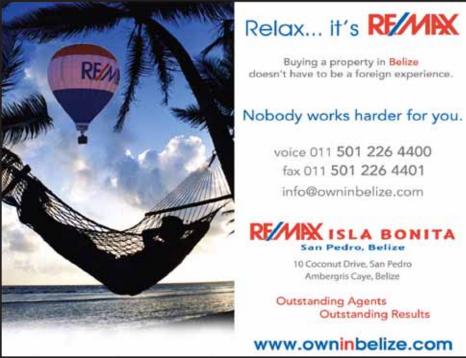
One of the founders of the "Reel Women" fishing movement is also the resort's director of fishing, Lori-Ann Murphy. She has been on board for six months and brings even more worldwide expertise to the resort.

El Pescador's Marketing Director

Continued on Page 8







#### **IMPORTANT** #s

 Police
 226-2022

 South Police Sub-Station - 610-4911
 610-4911

 Fire
 226-2372

Medical Emergency (ACER) 226-3231 Emergency 911 Crimestoppers 800 922-TIPS

Crimestoppers 800 922-TIPS Los Pinos Clinic 602-6383 and 226-2686. Dr. Lerida Rodriguez: 226-2197 or cell 620-1974.

**Dr. Miguel Allison:** 226-4052 or cell 600-9071. (Pharmacy 226-4051)

**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: 629-3618.

**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

SACNW substation - 610-4911
Escalante Neighborhood Wa

**Escalante Neighborhood Watch** - 605-7803 Daytime only, 662-2725 Night-time only, 630-5945- Call between 10:30pm and 6:00am.

#### **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 7:30 p.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 Upstairs of Island Plaza, across from Fido's Courtyard.

**San Pedro Community Church -** meets Sundays at 10a.m. at the Ambergris Elementary School. All Are Welcome.

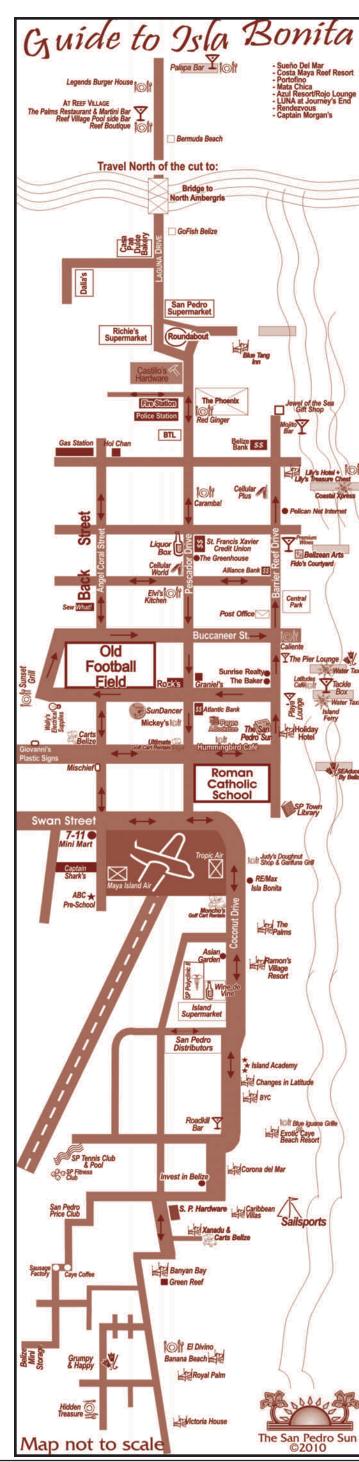
San Pedro Church of Christ: Across the bridge to the left. 206-2731. Services: Sunday – 9am-11am, Bible Study & Worship Service. 7pm-8:30pm – Worship Service. Wednesday – 7pm-to8:30pm, Bible Study; Thursday – Ladies Classes; Friday-Youth Class

#### 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.



#### Miscellaneous

**The Lions Club of San Pedro** relies on income from its Friday Night BBQ, plus Reds' famous chicken ceviche to support the needy community. Bingo starts at 7pm every Friday!! 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.

**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 SPTown Library - 206-2028

## Water, Sports & Tours

**GRUMPY & HAPPY** - Snorkeling - private snorkel tours - just you on the boat, no set schedule! Visitors with special needs and children are welcome. Call 226-3420 or 672-1234.

Visit www.grumpyandhappy.com, or Email: info@grumpyandhappy.com.

WHITE SANDS DIVE SHOP - Specializing in daily full-service diving and SCUBA instruction. We pick you up at your hotel's dock. www.whitesandsdiveshop.com, 226-2405.

#### Real Estate...

ELITE REAL ESTATE INVESTMENTS (EREI) - We are Ambergris Caye's real estate specialists. Call now to schedule your free professional investment consultation. Under \$200K to \$4.1M. Call 226-2260, or email: <a href="mailto:sales@erei-belize.com">sales@erei-belize.com</a>. By appointment.

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

RE/MAX Isla Bonita, 1ocated at 10 Coconut Drive, San Pedro. 226-4400 e-mail: info@owninbelize.com or visit our website at www.owninbelize.com

CASA CAYO - www.casacayorealestate.com. Check out our weekly specials, and our newest offering: Indigo. Luxury Beachfront Condominium Homes. www.indigobelize.com. Visit our office located at the South corner of Pescador Dr. (middle street) or call 226-2791 or 610-3005.

### Transportation...

**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.

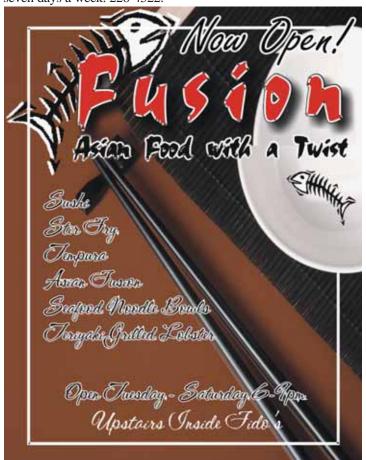
**CARTS BELIZE** - Conveniently located just one block north of the airstrip. Hourly, Daily & Weekly. Call 226-4084.

**ISLAND FERRY SERVICE & WATER TAXI** – Scheduled ferry service & water taxi for Ambergris Caye. Phone 226-3231.

#### Services...

**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.

**S.P. HARDWARE** - Large variety of hardware and household supplies. Will meet or beat any competitor's price! Seagrape Drive; Open seven days a week. 226-4522.



# THE SAN PEDRO SUN VISITOR'S GUIDE

#### 

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

CELI'S RESTAURANT ON THE BEACH at the San Pedro Holiday Hotel, serves Great Fajitas, salads and local dishes for lunch. Delectable Seafood Speciaties 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.

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.

BEAN RESTAURANT/ SHADE BAR- @Ak'bol Resortfull service-awesome bartender! Local food @ Local prices on the beach \$1-\$15BZ + unique specials +desserts daily. Interesting pizzas \$25BZ+up. Saturday Beach BBQ. One pier North of Palapa Bar.

PALAPA BAR AND GRILL -The Coolest Place, North of Bridge. Drink & Dine out over the Caribbean waters with cool breezes and no mosquitoes. Specialty is a BBQ, Slow Smoked, Pork Sandwich and Fresh Caught Fish Tacos. Open 7 days, Happy Hour Drinks from 4:00pm - 6:00pm. Telephone: 226-3111.

LILY'S TREASURE CHEST-Serving beachside breakfast, lunch & dinner. A true island dining experience. Get fresh seafood daily! Beachside at Lily's Hotel. 226-2650.

RICO'S SURFSIDE RESTAU-RANT – A truly unique dining experience on the beach at Banyan Bay. Serving breakfast, lunch and dinner daily. Phone 226-3739 ext. 135.

# ...Unique Offerings...

SAN PEDRO FITNESS CLUB – A/C Gym, Fully-equipped. Open to the public. Tennis Courts, Lap and Family pools, Aqua Fitness and Toning Classes. Open

7am-8pm Monday - Friday, 7am-5pm Saturday, 11am-5pm Sundays. 226-4749. sanpedrofitnessclub@gmail.com 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 Pescador Dr, next to St. Francis Xavier Credit Union. 226-2084.

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

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

PAGES, A BOOK STORE – carrying new and used books. We also trade gently used books. Located at the Vilma Linda Plaza, open Mon. through Sat. 8am-5pm, 206-2254.

SUNDANCER - Unique boutique featuring quality clothing, jewelry and great gift items for men. Phone: 226-2948.

AK'BOL YOGA RETREAT & RE-SORT- Daily Yoga Classes/Day Retreats/Group Retreats. The only resort dedicated to the practice of Yoga and Wellness. Yoga studio at the end of the pier overlooking the sea...

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gentle morning flow,
Tu &Th 3:30-5pm asana+ meditation,
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226-2073, 607-7305, 626-6296 Om Shanti Om-peace to all...

## Party...Party!!

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# ATLANTIC INTERNATIONAL BANK LIMITED



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# World's best fishing and more, at El Pescador

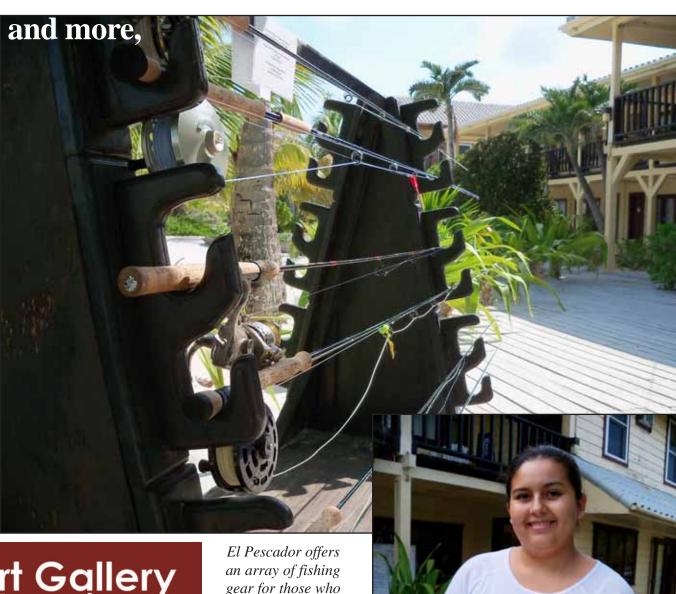
**Continued from Page 5** 

Chris Spiro calls Lori-Ann "one of the top anglers in the world," and "we are thrilled to have her here helping our guests."

Although the resort formerly limited their fishing guiding to guests staying on the property, El Pescador is now offering fishing trips to anyone who wants to utilize their world-class guides. "We had the capacity to offer this wonderful service, so we thought we would make it available," she said. Visitors to Belize who want to experience one of their fishing trips just need to call them or email them, she said. Visitors to their resort typically will spend a week to ten days, although they have some folks from places like Texas who will come for a long weekend.

Chris and her husband Steve, who serves as president of the resort, came to Belize through difficult circumstances. Both were professionals in New York City (she was a marketing manager for Bloomingdales) when their adventuresome son Logan and daughter Ali

Continued on Page 9



# Isla Bonita Art Gallery & Custom Framing

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gear for those who want to travel light.

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## World's best fishing, and more, at El Pescador

Continued from Page 5

bought the famous resort back in 1997.

Tragedy struck in May 2002 when Logan was killed in a boating accident, leaving his young sister who was pregnant with her first child, trying to run the sprawling enterprise.

Enter the Spiro's. "Life can be so strange," Chris recalls. "Out of that tragedy, we have made a life for ourselves that is unparalleled." She loves that they can live on Ambergris Caye and operate a world-class resort with three generations of their family.

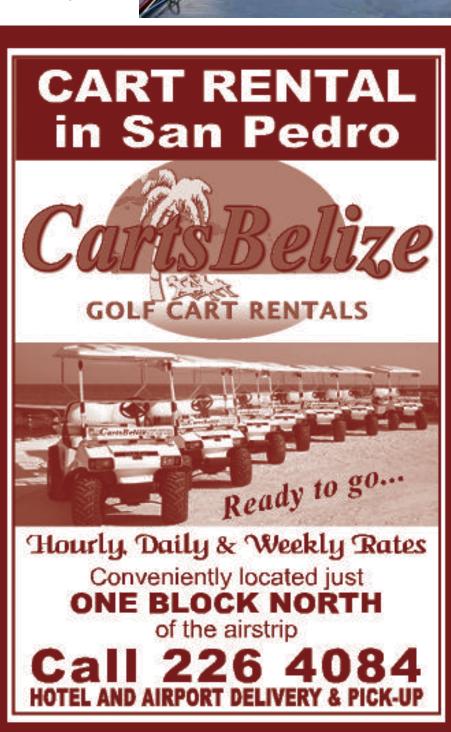
She calls life on the island "is like living in this wonderful small town, only with better view!" Chris further explains: "We want to ensure that guests who come

here for their holidays are not strangers. Our family lives and works here and we, along with our local Belizean staff, welcome you into our El Pescador family."

During your stay, you'll meet the other resort guests who share the common table for dinner. Over the years, this camaraderie has helped guests, family and staff, create enduring relationships with people from all over the world.

In addition to cultivating friendships among international guests, the staff is committed to protecting your privacy and the environment. "If you share











within the state of Yucatan, Mexico, and the Mayan ruins of Tikal in Flores Guatemala.

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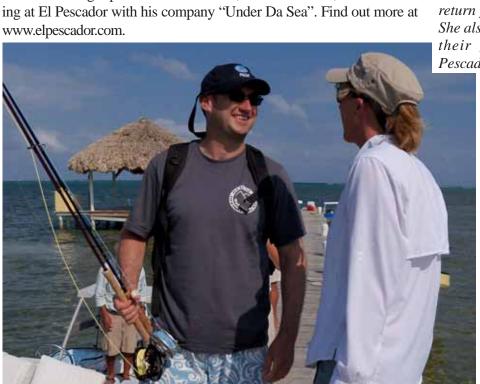
# World's best fishing, and more, at El Pescador

Continued from Page 9

these values, then come visit and be as active or lazy as you like," says Chris. With a variety of all-inclusive vacation packages, activities, accommodations, and amenities, you're in for an unforgettable holiday.

The lodge owner is Chris' daughter Alissa Gentry Flota, who adds: "It is truly an honor to be part of a country that puts its natural resources and the environment at the forefront, as well as recognizes the importance of protecting Mother Nature to ensure our livelihood for future generations."

The resort is located two miles north of San Pedro and most visitors arrive by boat. They have full accommodations and offer a slew of other activities. Besides fishing, they have wonderful swimming pools on site, plus they offer incredible diving expeditions. Alonzo Flota, married to Alissa, runs all the diving at El Pescador with his company "Under Da Sea". Find out more at www.elpescador.com.

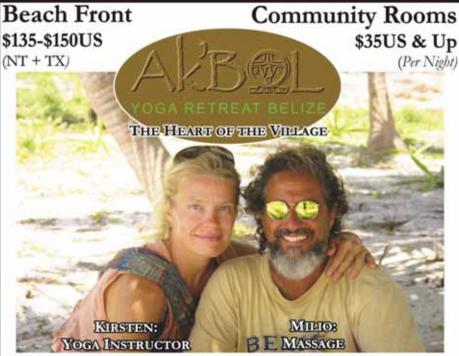


## Trivia Tidbits

- \* The handkerchief had been used by the Romans, who ordinarily wore two handkerchiefs: one on the left wrist and one tucked in at the waist or around the neck.
- \* Four-wheel roller skates were invented by James L. Plimpton in 1863.
- \* The term "Ivy League" wasn't coined by the colleges involved, but by the sports pages of the *New York Herald Tribune* in the 1930s.
- \*When visiting Japan, it is important to know that it is considered polite to initially refuse someone's offer of help. The Japanese may also initially refuse your offer, even if they really want or need it. Traditionally, an offer is made three times.
- \* The word "bookkeeper" is the only word in the English language with three, back-to-back double letter combinations.
- \* Up to the age of six or seven months, a child can breathe and swallow at the same time. An adult cannot do this.
- \* The BRAT diet is a diet of bananas, rice, applesauce, and toast. The diet is often prescribed for infants with diarrhea.
- \*In Kentucky, it is against the law to throw eggs at a public speaker.

Lori-Ann Murphy, Director of Fishing and Guest Relations for El Pescador Resort, tries to greet all their guests as they return from their guided fishing tours. She also provides fly-casting lessons for their guests from the dock at El Pescador.





daily yoga\*massage \$65US\*snorkel\*diving\*kayak\*local food\*chill out

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Monday thru Saturday - 9am Tues & Thurs - 3:30-5pm Saturday: 9am Yoga Nidra (Yogic Sleep Meditation)

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# Wolfe's Woofers by Dennis Wolfe

# Religious Differences

"Hi, Grandpa," Davin called.

He walked up on the deck of the Holiday Hotel where I was having a mid-morning cup of coffee and reading my book.

"Hey, boy," I said. "Give your old grandpa a hug."

After he reluctantly hugged me, I nodded at the little girl with him and said, "Who is this?"

"This is my friend, Amy," he said. "She's going to church with me on Sunday for Easter so she can see the Easter Bunny."

"No, she's not," Melody said, as she walked up. "Amy is going to her church first. After church her mom will meet us and then we will go hunt for Easter eggs together."

"Why can't she go to my church?" Davin asked. "It's a nice church."

"Amy goes to the Baptist church and you go to the Catholic church."

"Mom, what's the difference between a Baptist and a Catholic?" Davin asked.

"I'm not about to try to explain that," Melody said to me. "Listen, do me a favor and watch the kids while I go to the town board."

"I don't know if I'm up to watching two five year-olds," I said. "How long will you be gone?"

"Not more than half an hour."

"Mom, can we go swimming while you're gone?"

"You and Amy don't have bathing suits," she said. "I don't want you getting your clothes wet."

Twenty minutes later, I looked up from my book and noticed a pile of clothes lying next to the deck. Davin and Amy were splashing in the water stark naked.

"Davin! Amy!" I yelled. "Get up here and get your clothes on right now. Your mom said no swimming."

"No," Davin said. "She said don't get our clothes wet and we didn't."

It is hard to argue with that kind of logic. Davin looked at Amy, who was busy gathering up her clothes.

"Grandpa," he said, eyeing her. "Mom was right. There sure is a lot of difference between Baptists and Catholics."





# Riddle Me This:

Q. What number comes next in this sequence?1 3 8 19 42 ?

Answer Below



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- Grand Caribe Condos 1 mile north of the bridge on 500 ft of coconut grove. 1, 2 & 3 bedrooms. San Pedro's most exciting new project 3 pools & marina.
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- Oasis Del Caribe Fully furnished large 2<sup>nd</sup> floor ocean view 2 bed/2 bath \$200 non
- Banyan Bay Villas upper level ocean view pool side 2 bed/2 bath fully furnished \$309,900
- Club Caribbean Beach House Located 5 miles south of town in an area that is tranquil and picturesque. \$435,000 needs finish work.
- Lakeside Villa 1 mile south of town by Banyan Bay. Full lake frontage & mature landscaped grounds. Unfurnished \$300,000
- Tres Cocos Beach 4 bed villa with mature landscaping, seawall, pier, fully furnished \$1,150,000.
- Tres Cocos Ocean view Garden Home exotic tropical hardwoods, room to expand, ¼ acre lot, mature landscaping. \$335,000
- Tres Cocos ocean view 1200+ ft, 2x 2 bed/2 bath 2 level garden home w/loft. Vaulted ceilings, observation deck, fully furnished \$295,000.
- Holiday Lands Sunshine Home Fully furnished 2 bed/1 bath up with 2 bed/1 bath apt below and roof top patio \$299,000.
- San Pablo Apartments Canal Front. \$275,000. Terms
- ❖ Esmeralda Home A perfect place to call home. Town is only ½ mile away. Ground floor commercial space equipped and ideal for a restaurant. \$350,000
- Miramar new completed 2nd or 3rd floor beachfront 2 bedroom tastefully furnished condo from \$375,000.
- Pelican Reef Villas Ocean front 2 bedroom furnished \$497,000, 3 bedroom \$637,000
- Bermuda Landing furnished 1 bed/ 1 ½ bath + 1 small office which can double as a 2nd bedroom. Pool & Pier, great ocean view. \$215,000 offers.
- Royal Palms Villas One bedroom beach level pool side \$149,000

### COMMERCIAL OPPORTUNITIES Restaurant Location Previously known as 'Taste of Thailand' 1/2 m

- Restaurant Location Previously known as 'Taste of Thailand'. ½ mile away from town \$350K
- Lagniappe Provisioning established with great growth potential. Motivated seller!
- ❖ Coral House 3 bed, 2 bath apartment & 1 bed, 1 bath apartment \$249,000. Low down Terms
- Sawyer's House 3 bed, 2 bath apt and 2 X 1 bedroom apt \$279K. Low down Terms
   Sand Piper Apartments 4 apartments, 3 stories with vacant lot. By Yacht
- Club with close beach access. \$495K
- Pirate's Lantern 3 apartments 3 vacant lots right on main street. \$575K
- San Pablo Apartments Canal Front. \$\$275,000. Terms

#### **UNDEVELOPED PROPERTIES**

- **❖ Santa Evelia** beach lot 100ft x 200ft \$385,000.
- ❖ Mexico Rocks Commercial beachfront 200ft x 400ft 1.68 acres \$700,000
- **Esmeralda** two adjoining lots on main road 100ft x 75ft from \$152,000 €
- Palm Bay Club beach front lot from \$49,000.
- ❖ Palmeros beach lot with pier 80ft x 200ft \$280,000.
- ❖ Basil Jones 145ft beach lot \$375,000.
- ❖ Mata Grande 100 x 300ft one off the beach. Cleared \$210,000.
- ❖ Mata Grande 100 x 200ft prime beach lot with pier permit \$445,000.
- **Esperanza 4.6 acres** beach 300ft x 460ft \$2,000,000.
- ❖ Boca Ciega 4.5 acres 174ft beach front. \$350,000.
- ❖ West Bay private sandy bay with 260 ft frontage only \$425,000.
- ❖ West Bay oceanfront 100ft x 500ft \$119,000 bring offer
- San Marcos 2 adjacent lots 50x90ft lot \$55,000 each.
- Ambergris Bay West Coast beach front \$100,000.
- ❖ Habaneros area 2<sup>nd</sup> row \$85,000 3<sup>rd</sup> row \$45,000 multiple lots available.

All prices are in US dollars and subject to change without notice. For further details on these properties and much more call your AMBERGRIS CAYE SPECIALISTS

**Answer:** 89 - Double the previous number, then add 1,2,3,4, and 5 respectively.



