





The Island Newspaper Ambergris Caye, Belize Central America





Plus, Toledo gears up for Cacao Fest!



Maya Gold chocolate - made from organic cocoa beans grown in Toledo - can be obtained at the Cacao Fest in Toledo May 18-20 2007! Don't miss this amazing historical and cultural event!



# 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 worldclass fishing and scuba div-

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 sanctuaries 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

# 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



**Avrum Morrows** stands in front of his Avmor office in Montreal, Quebec Canada with his copy of *The San Pedro Sun*. With temperatures at -23 degrees celcius, and snow drifts up to four feet high, Mr. Morrow catches up on news of Isla Bonita, and dreams of his recent vacation on Ambergris Caye, where he spent a wonderful time at Mata Chica.

We hope you can come back 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.

#### Su Doku (Answers on Page 9)

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## The San Pedro Sun is mailed everywhere.

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your mailbox. 26 ISSUES (six months) US, Canada: \$50 U.S. Domestic: \$50 BZ. 52 ISSUES (one year) US, Canada: \$90 U.S.

**Domestic:** \$90 BZ.(Other locations vary.)

More foreign subscribers than any newspaper in Belize!

# Enjoying Belize: Gearing up for Cacao Fest to be held May 18th to 20th



Maya Gold was the first UK product to be awarded with the Fairtrade Mark back in 1994. Green & Black's uses organic cacao beans from Punta Gorda.

The Toledo Cacao-Fest is an annual cultural, community event, highlighting the rich blend of nature, adventure and culture of the District that will take place from May 18th - 20th, 2007. Cacao - or cocoa as many of us know it - has played a dominant role from ancient times, when the Maya first discovered the 'magical' process that transformed cacao into chocolate, right through to the modern day. In a seemingly miraculous discovery, an organic plantation of cocoa trees has led to the saving of a village in Toledo. Villagers harvest the cacao beans and ship them to the UK, for Green & Black's, where they process

the beans into the now world renowned Green & Black's Maya Gold chocolate.

To commemorate this culture and their harvest, the Festival will kick off with a "Wine and Chocolate" evening on Friday, with the opening of the cacao fest done by no other than the Governor General of Belize, His Excellency Sir Colville Young. At the "wine and chocolate" event, you will have the opportunity to sample not only a selection of fine international wines, but also some Belizean specialties, accompanied by a wonderful selection of hors d'oeuvres.

Saturday brings you the "Taste of

Toledo" - a cookery and craft fair held in Punta Gorda Town - highlighting a range of local crafts and the many flavors which make up the District. Also in the line-up will be Morning Star's marimba music and a special rendition of the Maya Deer Dance! The weekend craft fair showcases a range of unique Toledo products, as well as all the flavors which go to make up the ethnically diverse Toledo District. With the "Cacao for Kids!" children's ac-

**Continued on Page 4** 



# Azul Resort & Rojo Lounge

The only resort and restaurant on Ambergris Caye awarded the selection of 🛨 Fodor's Choice in the 2007 Fodor's Guide To Belize

#### **Azul Resort**

The swankiest place to stay on Ambergris Caye -Men's Journal Magazine Dec '06

One of Belize's most tranquil and exclusive refuges -Outside Magazine Dec '06

## Rojo Lounge

This is the hippest restaurant and bar on the Cayes. Rojo Lounge, in a sultry open air palapa on a beautiful beach is definitely red hot. ...lunch offers sophisticated snacks, dinner is romantic and delicious... the bar serves killer frozen mojitos. -Fodor's

# Come enjoy beachside dining, tropical lounge cuisine, the best stocked bar on the island and daily drink and dinner specials!!!



North Beach, Ambergris Caye (5 1/2 miles north) Open Tuesday through Saturday from noon until late. Reservations for dinner strongly encouraged. For information, reservations and events, please call 226-4012

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## Cacao Fest Continued from Page 3











tivities and competitions, as well as "Sea Toledo" marine trips to the beautiful Port Honduras, there's plenty of fun for the entire family!

The party atmosphere continues into Saturday evening, with the "Harmony in Culture" musical performances, held at various restaurants throughout Punta Gorda Town, highlighting the District's wide range of musical talent. Toledo is home to a number of internationally famous musicians representing one of the widest ranges of cultures and musical styles found anywhere in Belize - from the traditional music of Paul Nabor and Florencio Mes to the modern adaptations of Leela Vernon and Andy Palacio, as well as a number of young rising stars, including Coolie Rebels.

**Sunday** brings you the "Cacao Trail", with a range of inland tours to Toledo's 'chocolate country'. Visit

the organic cacao orchards and learn how the pods are magically transformed into chocolate, sample the local cacao products, and then continue on the Trail to one of Toledo's many beautiful natural attractions.

The Festival will culminate with a bang on Sunday evening with a "Festival Finale" - music from two of PG's best-loved musicians, Paul Nabor and Leela Vernon, followed by a stunning fireworks display over the Bay of Honduras, local music, and a grand raffle with a variety of quality prizes, including several of the Green & Black's Chocolates, such as the Maya Gold.

The Cacao-Fest is a community, cultural event and everybody is welcome to attend the festivities. It all kicks off on Friday, May 18th to Sunday, May 20th, make it a date and don't be late!



# Blue Water Grill



"Island Style Cuisine with a Twist"

#### Home of the local favorite Sushi Tuesdays and Thursdays!!

Fresh, contemporary, and consistently outstanding are the trademarks of the Blue Water Grill experience. Dine under the stars on the beach or on the outdoor deck and treat yourself to its unique combination of Island cuisine, attentive service and tempting desserts.

Come in and try our savory dinner menu...

Crispy coconut shrimp sticks with a sweet-spicy black bean sauce ~ Grilled shrimp and Calamari salad with a sesame-soy vinaigrette ~ Angel hair pasta with sautéed shrimp, snapper, and scallops in a tomato, garlic and sweet basil white wine sauce ~ Black bean crusted snook with a caramelized-banana curry sauce~ Grilled USDA Beef tenderloin with a roasted mushroom red wine demiglace and crispy potatoes ~ Wood-fired Pizzas

Breakfast 7:00 am - 10:30 am Lunch 11:30 am - 2:30 pm

Dinner 6:00 pm - 9:30 pm

On the beach across from the airstrip at the SunBreeze Hotel

Please call 226-3347 for reservations



### A hand full Matachica style

Enjoy a rejuvenating massage and spa treatments just steps from the Caribbean Sea.

- . Welcome cocktail . Lunch at Mambo Restaurant . Use of fresh water swimming pool and of jacuzzi
- Full Body Treatment (therapeutic massage, facial, scalp treatment) \$250
- 60 minute therapeutic massage \$125





### Cinco de Mayo History

The 5th of May is not Mexican Independence Day, as most tend to believe, but is a date that rings in a celebration like no other. Renowned in both Mexico and the US for its great party potential, just what is Cinco de Mayo, and how do we best celebrate it?

History states that it is the celebration of the underdogs, when 4,000 Mexican soldiers smashed the French and traitor Mexican army of 8.000 at Puebla. Mexico, 100 miles east of Mexico City on the morning of May 5, 1862. (Which brings to mind the Belizean celebration of St. George's Caye Day - a similar story, but different country!) The French, under the rule of Emperor Napoleon III, who detested the United States, had landed in Mexico (along with Spanish and English troops) five months earlier on the pretext of collecting Mexican debts from the newly elected government of democratic President (and Indian) Benito Juarez. While the English and Spanish troops made their deals and left quickly, the French had other ideas!

Napoleon's French Army had not been defeated in 50 years, and they were not afraid of anyone, especially since the United States was embroiled in its own Civil War. Brightly dressed French Dragoons left the port of Vera Cruz to attack Mexico City to the west, assuming the Mexicans would give up, should their capital fall to the enemy — as European countries traditionally did.

Under the command of Texas-born General Zaragosa, (and the cavalry under the command of Colonel Porfirio Diaz, later to be Mexico's president and dictator), the Mexicans waited. General Zaragosa ordered Colonel Diaz to take his cavalry, the best in the world, out to the French flanks. In response, the French did a most stupid thing; they sent their cavalry off to chase Diaz and his men, who proceeded to butcher them. The remaining French infantrymen charged the Mexican defenders through sloppy mud from a thunderstorm and through hundreds of head of stampeding cattle stirred up by Indians armed only with machetes.

After the battle, many French were either dead or wounded, and their cavalry was being chased by Diaz' superb horsemen miles away. The Mexicans had won a great victory that kept Napoleon III from supplying the confederate rebels for another year, allowing the United States to build the greatest army the world had ever seen.

It might be a historical stretch to credit the survival of the United States to those brave 4,000 Mexicans who faced an army twice as large in 1862. But who knows? In gratitude, thousands of Mexicans crossed the border after Pearl Harbor to join the U.S. Armed Forces. As recently as the Persian Gulf War, Mexicans flooded American consulates with phone calls, trying to join up and fight another war for America.

Mexicans, you see, never forget who their friends are, and neither do Americans. That's why Cinco de Mayo is such a party — A party that celebrates freedom and liberty. Viva Cinco de Mayo!

### The San Pedro Sun's Virtual Taste Trip:

# A Cinco de Mayo Celebration!

Chunky Guacamole (Courtesy: www.epicurious.com)

#### Ingredients:

4 ripe avocados 3 limes, juiced 1/2 red onion, chopped 1 garlic clove, minced 2 serrano chiles, sliced thinly

1 big handful fresh cilantro, finely chopped

Extra-virgin olive oil Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper

#### Directions:

Halve and pit the avocados. Scoop out the flesh with a tablespoon into a mixing bowl. Mash the avocados with a fork, leaving them somewhat chunky. Add the remaining ingredients, and fold everything together to gently mix. Lay a piece of plastic wrap right on the surface of the guacamole so it doesn't brown and refrigerate 1 hour before serving.

#### Fresh Lime Margarita

Dipping the rims of the glasses into a mixture of salt and sugar is a nice touch. Serves 6.

#### Ingredients:

1 1/2 cups gold tequila 3/4 cup Triple Sec 3/4 cup fresh lime juice 4 tablespoons sugar 8 cups crushed ice 2 tablespoons kosher salt

6 lime wedges

#### **Directions:**

Combine tequila, triple sec, lime juice, and 2 tablespoons sugar in large pitcher; stir to dissolve sugar. Add

crushed ice. Mix salt and remaining 2 tablespoons

Continued on Page 16









# Ambergris Caye - The History by Mr. George Parham

Acquisition of Ambergris Caye

On September 13th, 1869, Ambergris Caye was auctioned off to settle the estate of former owners. With his wife Juanita's gold Mr. James Hume Blake, as highest bidder, bought Ambergris Caye for \$625 and he immediately put Ambergris Caye in the name of his two stepdaughters, Maria Exaltacion and Romana with the proviso that if either daughter predeceased the other, the surviving daughter would inherit the island. Then Romana died of influenza and Maria Exaltacion inherited all of Ambergris Caye. Then Maria Exaltacion married a Mr. Fransisco Mendes who died shortly after, leaving her a childless widow. So now the sole owner of Ambergris Caye was Maria Exaltacion Andrade de Mendes.

#### **Birth of San Pedro**

Now the owner of Ambergris Caye, Maria Exaltacion Andrade de Mendes gathers together many of the families



that crossed the Hondo River with her when fleeing from the Icaiche Indians and sails for Ambergris Caye with her entourage. For the village she chose a section of Ambergris Caye which comprised from where the cemetery is now to where Esmeralda Park stands. This village she named San Pedro for after the exodus into British Honduras many of the families had settled in a village

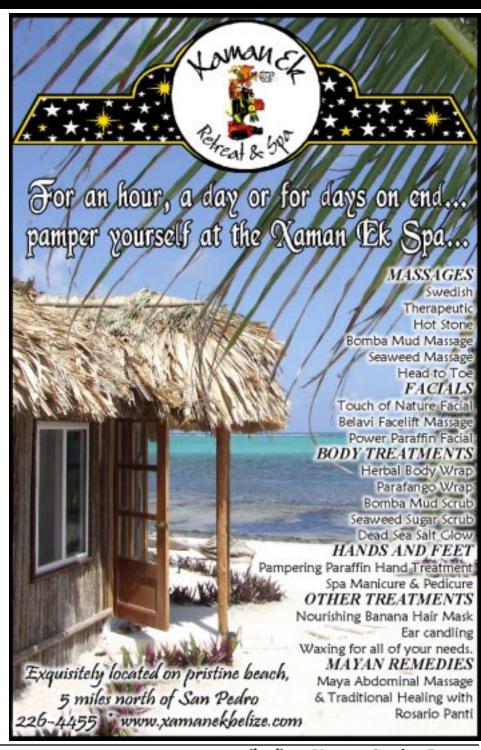
called San Pedro in the Yalbak area of British Honduras and another village of the same name close to Corozal.

Then Maria proceeded to distribute her lands amongst the families that came with her. Her methods were simple. My grandmother who came with her told me as a boy that "Chichi Sal," as she was called, would tell a head of a family: "Camina de aqui por cinco minutos y siembra tu estaca. Ese sera su terreno." (Walk from this spot for five minutes and plant your stake. That will be your land."). And, thus eighty-three families that came with her became owners of the Ambergris Caye lands from Boca Chica to the South to Bacalar Chico to the North. (Refer to the map on Page 11 for a list of the original eighty-three family grantees, their names and names of their plantations.)

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# Reef Brief Getting to Know Bonefish

This may come as a surprise, but becoming familiar with this popular fly fishing species is more challenging than one might expect. Researchers and flat anglers alike have wondered for years about bonefish behavior. Finally, after all this time there are some answers.

There are three species of bonefish Albula vulpes, A. nemoptera, and Pterothrissus belloci, all of which belong to the very large



Though it is not a highly esteemed food species, the Bonefish, Albula vulpes, is one of the most important game fishes in the world, and it is also occasionally used for bait. Its weight and length may reach 10 kg and 104 cm respectively, though a more representative size would be about a third of that. Bonefish appear blue-greenish above, with bright silver scales on the sides and below. Dark streaks run in between the rows

of scales, predominantly on the dorsal side. The body is long, thin, and cigar shaped, with a bluntly cone-like snout. The bonefish has a unique adaptation for tolerating oxygen-poor water; it inhales air into a lung-like airbladder to supplement oxygen from the water. It is sometimes mistaken for the ladyfish, a similar species. Linnaeus first described the bonefish in 1758. Its scientific name can be translated as "white fox."

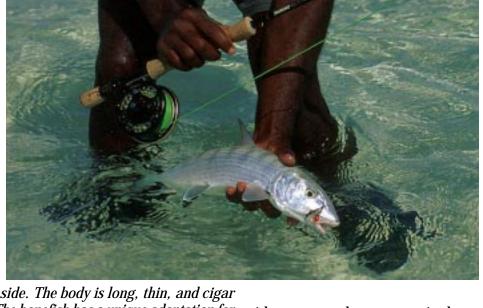
"bony" fish class called Osteichthyes. The species fly anglers pursue, Albula vulpes, inhabits warm, shallow, coastal waters worldwide. A. nemoptera, commonly known as the longfin bonefish, resides in thin water near

outlets around high islands in the western Atlantic and eastern Pacific. Pterothrissus belloci lives in only deep water and humans rarely ever encounter it.

These animals are well-disguised predators. They ride rising

tides to wander warm, inshore saltwater flats in search of bottom-dwelling prey. They feed on these tides at all hours, filling their oversized stomachs. Insatiable grazing machines, they are uniquely equipped to harvest their meals. Bonefish mouths operate with shell-shattering jaws, a tongue as hard as ceramic and powerful grinding plates. Acute color vision,

**Continued on Page 9** 





Fitness Club

Two lighted tennis courts

Poolside Wi-Fi accessibility
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Air Conditioned Gym at Belize Yacht Club
Personal Trainer available
Air Conditioned Clubhouse available for private parties,

call 226-2682 for more information
 Contact gym office at BYC, 226-2683

# Southwind

# Serving San Pedro since 1980!

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, Edwardo 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@btl.net for more information.

#### Condos/Homes/Commercial

Coral Bay Villas- (N18) 1 bedrm/1 bath condos, fully furnished with good & steady rental income. Unit 1, lovely beach level condo with direct access to the beach. \$239,000.00 US Beautiful Residential (R51) 2-storey house, wooden building with 5 rental rooms, & large bodega/shop. The 2-storey concrete house has 3B/2B upper level, ground-floor apartment, & roof top terrace with magnificent vistas. Building sits on large property, located just north of town center at Boca del Rio, with easy beach access - many more amenities. \$685,000.00 US. Beach Front Home (W29) Attractive beach house located only 4 miles north at Spanish Reef. Home consists of 2 bdrms, 1 bath, wide porch and large storage room. Lot measures 50' x 100'. Asking price \$450,000.00 US.

**San Pablo Residential (H36)** Beautiful 2 storey concrete house. 1st floor consists of 2 spacious apartments providing great rental income. Home is of excellent quality construction & finish work. Price: \$300,000.00 US

#### Raw land

Beach front lot at Palm Bay Club, 60' x 130'. Price only \$70,000.00 US

**Bacalar Chico (E15)**- Beautiful beachfront property located right next to the Bacalar Chico national park and marine reserve. Take pleasure in amazing snorkeling or scuba diving in the pristine coral reef located at your doorstep! Lot measures approx.100' x 425' depth. Only \$240,000.00 US.

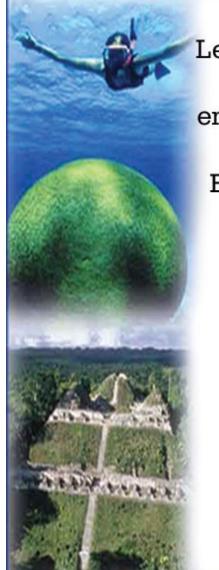
**San Pedrito (A24)** Nice lot measuring approx. 50' x 75'. Great location to build your home & enjoy the gorgeous sunsets. Asking price \$30,000.00 US.

**Santa Fe (M61)** – Beach front lot, 80' x 225', high & dry with beautiful vegetation, 5.5 miles north. \$320,000.00 US

Mata Grande Lot (P52) Ocean view lot-80' x 150'- 2 rows off the beach within electricity, telephone & road access. \$50,000.00US

**Spanish Reef (B35)** Corner lot 2 rows off the beach! One of the largest lots in the subdivision with a size of 93' x 100' x 50' x 109. \$40,000.00 US **Corozal Town Center (R31)** 7 ½ Acres of prime real-estate, road accessible on 3 sides,

beautiful mature trees, cleared & ready to develop all amenities available.\$110,000.00US **Caye Caulker (H34)** 1000' of water frontage (2 acres) just across the Split. Prime location and a gorgeous piece of property. Asking \$1.2 million USD.



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# Getting to Know Bonefish Continued from Page 8

sharp hearing, mirrored camouflage, and lightning speed protect them from capture by enemies. Certainly, they are the best inshore flats hunter.

Ask an angler, he or she will probably tell you they find no other game fish more challenging to

stalk, hook, play, and release than Albula vulpes. The species has an interesting mixture of traits that have escaped 125 million years of predation, making it the all time ultimate survivor and most sought after fly-fishing game fish around today.





## See the Puzzle on Page 2

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# Golf Cart

Guided Island Tours Reliable Service Call 226-0123

Minerva 661-6254



Champ 602-8136





#### O Government

Belize has been an independent nation since 1981. It is a member of the British Commonwealth of Nations.

#### Ambergris Caye

Ambergris Caye is twenty-five miles long; its width ranges from a few hundred feet to over four miles. Northern Ambergris Caye is separated from the southernmost tip of Mexico's Yucatan Peninsula by a small channel. After arriving in Belize City, a short fifteen minute airplane ride gets you to San Pedro, or if you would rather take the scenic route, an hour's boat ride will get you there as well.

#### Changuage

English is the official language and is widely spoken, as is Spanish.

Other languages include Creole, Garifuna, Mayan and German.

#### Climate

Belize weather is characterized by two seasons: a rainy and a dry season. Most of the year's rainfall occurs during the period of June to November, that is, the rainy season. The average temperature varies from 81°F/27°C along the coast to 69°F/21°C in the hills. The coldest month is January while the highest temperatures are experienced during the month of May.

#### Cash & Currency

U.S. dollars are accepted as currency countrywide. The common exchange ratio is \$2BZ/\$1 U.S. Licensed moneychangers offer a slightly higher exchange rate, ranging from \$2.05BZ to \$2.12BZ, depending on the current market.

Nearly all hotels, restaurants and shops accept Visa, Master Card and travelers' checks. Street vendors and smaller establishments in remote areas may accept only cash or travelers' checks.

#### O Sales Taxes

Belize's sales tax is set at 10% and it is applied to all goods and services. Some hotels also add a 10-15% "service charge" to the bill; inquire about this when checking hotel prices.

#### Transportation

The streets are sand, which is great for walking or bike riding.

There are few cars; instead, the vehicles of choice are electric golf carts, which are available for rent. Please remember that all golf cart drivers MUST have a valid drivers license. Drive with caution, there are many speed bumps around the downtown area that are not marked and always be on the lookout for potholes. Taxi service is available everyplace south of Boca del Rio. Around town the average fee is \$7 - \$10BZ. Some local business, as well as resorts, rent bicycles.

#### Telecommunications

All telecommunications services (direct dial phones, fax, telex, cable) are available. There are several "Internet Cafe's" on the island where you can access the internet through high-speed internet or satellite connections.

# Sueño del Mar

Paradise has a new address...



# **Experience the Difference!**

People are talking...Hear what the buzz is all about...

We would love to tell you all about Sueño del Mar, Ambergris Caye's private residential resort community.

We could go on and on about the luxuriously furnished villas, beautifully landscaped grounds, oceanfront setting, Concierge service, and our outstanding staff.

We could also tell you how Membership combines all the amenities and services of a luxurious Caribbean resort, with the best features of two-month fractional ownership, for the perfect vacation home.

But rather than tell you ourselves, we thought it would mean more coming from our owners. Here is what they have to say:



Ve spent our first two weeks at Sueño del Mar this ast November. Besides the "spending time in paradise", the thing you enjoy almost immediately s the "Culture" created by the associates that vork for the resort. Debbie and Ray are not 'just" the managers, Dwayne isn't just the chef, Omar isn't just the bartender, and Chico isn't just he security guard: These people become true riends. The success of all organizations really lepends on one thing, and that is the "culture" The management of the organization has successilly developed a great staff. Even in paradise the people do make the difference.

> Rusty Hamilton, Banker -Butler (St. Louis), Missouri



What Sueño del Mar means to me is an escape from reality where I can spend quality time with my family and forget about the everyday grind. The resort feels like my home but with 5-star services from handling all air reservations, prearrival grocery shopping, and airport pick-up to a nice bottle of wine waiting for us when

orgotten is Chef "Mr. Flower's" world class cooking. was hard to leave to go back to When I hear the song "no shirts, no shoes, no probem" I think of Sueño del Mar and long for our next isit to a place we call "paradise" and home.

The Hertz Family -Sueño del Mar #2C & #8C - June/July Alan Hertz, President, Allied Fire Protection -San Antonio, Texas



We have been dealing with Land Properties for years in their other projects. Sueño del Mar is by far our very favorite. We have been traveling to Belize and

Ambergris Caye for 10 years now, and we love it up on he north end of the island. We just spent all of October and November living in our vacation villa at the resort, and wish we didn't have to get back to our home in Colorado so soon. The setting is gorgeous, the water is great, and the diving and fishing are world-class. Best of all, the wonderful staff at Sueño del Mar makes the experience extraordinary.

> Mike & Tammi Coleman, Contractor - Westcliffe, Colorado

"From a pure enjoyment standpoint, the best investment I've ever made was our membership in Sueño del Mar. The villas, landscaping, and facilities are unmatched with respect to quality and houry From a service perspective, my

family is pampered from the moment of arrival ... even before our feet hit the dock! The staff and team and Sueño are fantastic ... they have literally become our extended family.

- Dr. Ed Paul, Honorary Consul of Belize Wilmington, North Carolina



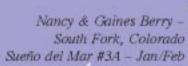
\*After looking at beachfront property all over mainland Belize and on Ambergris Caye, it did not take us long after visiting your beautiful resort to make up our minds to purchase. We made our selection of Oct/ Nov based on the times of the year we thought we could best travel and get away from work.

Buying a membership into this beautiful paradise was our choice based on the fact that there is nothing for us to concern ourselves with - the good people at Sueño del Mar take care of everything...all we have to do is pack a bag each Thanksgiving, and we know we have a wonderful group of people waiting to take care of all of our needs. It just felt like "home" from the first moment we stepped on to the dock. We look forward to many fun and happy times at our vacation home at the resort. \*

> Wanda & Jack Scruggs, Chattanooga, TN Sueño del Mar #2C - Oct/Nov



"My husband and I were not sure we could find enough to do to keep ourselves busy and fully enjoy two months in our villa at Sueño del Mar last winter. To make a long story short, we found that two months just wasn't enough time for us. We made lots of new friends and thoroughly enjoyed our stay at Sueño for all of January and we arrive. Not to be February. When the time came, it Colorado. We can't wait to get back home to Sueño in January 2007.





Nancy & Gaines Berry - The word investment takes on many meanings and offers many South Fork, Colorado benefits when you connect it with Sueño del Mar. The unique Sueño dei Mar #3A - Jan/Feb approach to membership, the truly complete commitment to member satisfaction, and the level of service and support encompass any resident with the secure feeling of "a very good deal". Jane and I chose to own August/Sept to fit our particular business "seasons" with my involvement in the Las Vegas travel industry. Sueño del Mar is the vacation home of our dreams, and we can't wait for next summer to come.

> Paul Davis & Jane Unger - Las Vegas, Nevada Sueño del Mar #2A - Aug/Sept

Stop by our office on Front Street, across from Fido's Restaurant. Our office is open from 8:30AM to 5PM.

Stop by our office to schedule a showing, and allow us to answer your questions and provide you with pricing and availability.

If you are ready for a vacation home on Ambergris Caye, you owe it to yourself to visit Sueño del Mar

> www.dreambelize.com Phone: (US#) 719-302-5398 (Belize #) 011-501-226-4001

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#### **Tourist Information**

Belize Tourism Board - 223-1910. Belize Tourism Industry Association (BTIA) - 227-5717. San Pedro Tourist Guide Association 226-2391.

#### **IMPORTANT** #s

Emergency911Medical Emergency:226-3231Crimestoppers800 922-TIPSPolice226-2022

**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.

Dr. Lerida Rodriguez: 226-2197 or cell 620-1974.

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 - 822-4011

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 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-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 Medical University of the Americas building. Sunday school available for children. 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 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

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### Real Estate...

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 Email: info@SunriseBelize.com

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.

PARADISE FOUND BELIZE LTD. REALTY - Land, Homes, Business, Investment. List your property with us. Office at CocoNet Internet. 607-9667 or 226-2835. sdemaio@snet.net

SIRENA DEL MAR REAL ESTATE - Front Street across from Happy Lobster in Caye Caulker. Phone: (Office) 226-0404 or (cell) 620-4660.

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

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

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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.

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

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CAPTAIN MORGAN'S RETREAT – Savor a taste of *Temptation Island*. Underneath a starry night enjoy the exquisite meals prepared by our expert chefs. A small boat ride takes you to one of San Pedro's guilty pleasures.

CAPRICORN RESTAURANT & BAR - Enjoy our magical menu by sun or starlight. Indulge in fresh seafood and USDA steaks at a quaint, tropically luxurious restaurant on the beach. Reservations recommended. 226-2809.

PORTOFINO RESTAURANT AND GREEN PARROT BEACH BAR - 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.

SUNSET GRILL - Offering local and international cuisine. Open 7 days a week for lunch and dinner. Located on the lagoon side. 226-2600.

## Unique Offerings...

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# Visitor Guide

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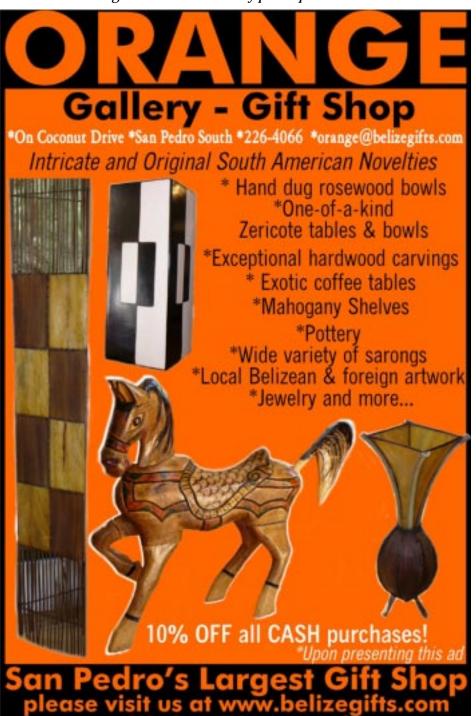
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## Ambergris Caye History Continued from Page 7



Mr. George Parham and an early power plant in San Pedro.



Please note that not all of them were named "Parham," "Blake" or "Alamilla." Bear in mind also that after Maria Exaltacion Andrade de Mendes granted her properties, she had deeds issued, surveyed and registered.

#### **Paradise Lived**

The San Pedranos with their newly acquired plantations proceeded to live

in paradise. So now came an era of prosperity and peace for these, our ancestors, who had endured so much pain and hardship at the hands of the Icaiche Maya Indians during the exodus from Mexico into British Honduras, during the settlement in British Honduras and during the influenza epidemics which

**Continued on Page 15** 

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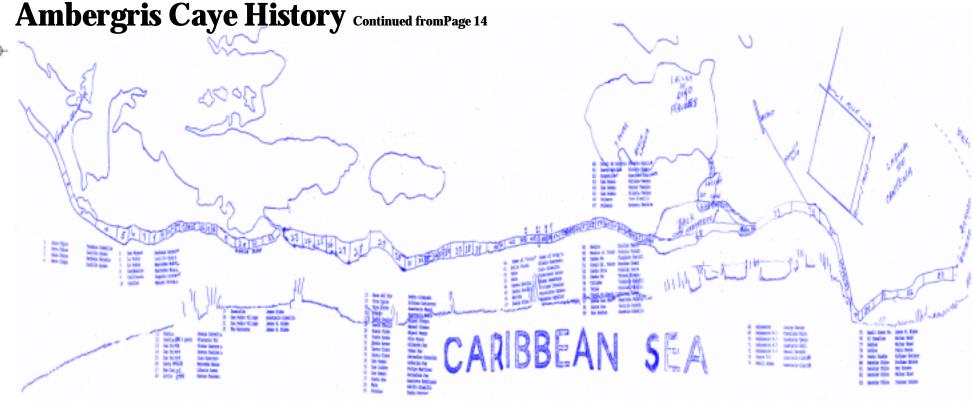
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decimated their ranks. San Pedranos prospered way and above their wildest dreams. These then 83 freehold property owners of Ambergris Caye developed their properties.

Land was cultivated and coconut trees were planted - each family to their own plantation. The San Pedro Village section was owned by the Blake and Alamilla families. Mr. George Parham, who again had lost a wife to the influenza epidemic, migrated to **Ambergris Caye and married Nicanora** Alamilla. His daughter, Ann Elizabeth Parham, who had come with him, married Anastacio Alamilla. His son, James Howell Blake, who had also come with him, married Elena Alamilla - all children of above mentioned Antonia Alamilla. A Church was built where the fountain now stands. A park was built where the main park is today. A school was built at a site in front of the main park. A Police station was built where the station stands today (where the Atlantic Bank Limited parking lot is now) and so it went. God was good to Ambergris Caye and in five years or so the coconut trees were bearing fruit and the coconut market was good. The village was populated with people who worked for others or for themselves. Some went off to the chicle works or mahogany works and returned with their earned gold. Some, fished, built boats, worked in coconut plantations, taught school, chopped bush and so on. Wages of the day were always higher than in other parts of the Colony.

They planted coconuts (the main crop) and in their "conucos" (vegetable plots) bananas, plantains, tobacco, cane, celots, avocados, papayas and many other vegetables and fruits. Some even grew cotton and, believe it or not, there was even a cotton gin on Ambergris Caye, and the landowners worked and they prospered for in those days coconuts reached a price of \$50 per thousand, more than the value of coconuts in Belize today. Coconuts were used for cosmetics, oil, soap and the shell was even used for making gun powder. That was good.

There were horses in Ambergris Caye to help with the work. Sr.

Mercedes Munoz (Tio Mech) owned three beasts of burden - Relampago, Blanco and Mula. And every week cattle and pigs were killed on Ambergris Caye and the people hunted and killed deer, javeliina, chachalaca, gibnut, turkey, pigeons, etc. on Ambergris Caye. And the times were of plenty and of peace and neighbor loved neighbor and my grandmother, ("chichi nicanora") delivered all the babies on Ambergris Caye and was a general nurse ("curandera") who knew how to apply "Hulub" and "romero" and to cure the ravishes of "chechem" and my grandfather administered quinine for malaria and Mr. Blake introduced the first electricity in San Pedro (the old diesel plant can still be seen in my yard of the Sands Hotel) and with a little bit of rum and effort Mr. Lyn ran the plant from dark until 9:00 p.m. every night. And the Blakes, Parhams and Alamillas donated to the village of San Pedro two parks, the church property, the football field in the back and the school property where the school stood in front of the park and where we went to school, and other properties and they built the main pier.

(To be continued...)





# A Cinco de Mayo Celebration

#### **Continued from Page 6**

sugar in shallow bowl. Moisten rim of 6 Margarita glasses with lime wedge. Holding each glass upside down, dip rim into sugar-salt mixture. Pour Margarita into glasses. Garnish with lime wedges.

(Courtesy: www.epicurious.com)

#### Chicken Enchiladas (Courtesy: www.epicurious.com)



#### Ingredients:

3 tablespoons vegetable oil

1 1/2 pounds skinless boneless chicken breast

Salt and pepper

2 teaspoons cumin powder

2 teaspoons garlic powder

1 teaspoon Mexican Spice Blend

1 red onion, chopped

2 cloves garlic, minced

1 cup frozen corn, thawed

5 canned whole green chiles, seeded and coarsely chopped

4 canned chipotle chiles, seeded and minced

1 (28-ounce) can stewed tomatoes 1/2 teaspoon all-purpose flour 16 corn tortillas

1 1/2 cups enchilada sauce, canned 1 cup shredded Cheddar and Jack cheeses *Garnish:* 

Chopped cilantro leaves, chopped scallions, sour cream, chopped tomatoes *Directions:* 

Coat large saute pan with oil. Season chicken with salt and pepper. Brown

chicken over medium heat, allow 7 minutes each side or until no longer pink. Sprinkle chicken with cumin, garlic powder and Mexican spices before turning. Remove chicken to a platter, allow to cool.

Saute onion and garlic in chicken drippings until tender. Add corn and chiles. Stir well to combine. Add canned tomatoes, saute 1 minute.

Pull chicken breasts apart by hand into shredded strips. Add shredded chicken to saute pan, combine with vegetables. Dust the mixture with flour to help set. Microwave tortillas on high for 30 seconds. This softens them and makes them more pliable. Coat the bottom of 2 (13 by 9-inch) pans with a ladle of enchilada sauce. Using a large shallow bowl, dip each tortilla in enchilada sauce to lightly coat. Spoon 1/4 cup chicken mixture in each tortilla. Fold over filling, place 8 enchiladas in each pan with seam side down. Top with remaining enchilada sauce and cheese.

Bake for 15 minutes in a preheated 350 degree F oven until cheese melts. Garnish with cilantro, scallion, sour cream and chopped tomatoes before serving. Serve with Spanish rice and beans.

#### Margarita Cake

"A margarita - tequila, lime juice, triple sec - is baked into a cake mix."

Ingredients:

1 (18.25 ounce) package orange cake mix

1 (3.4 ounce) package instant vanilla pudding mix

4 eggs

1/2 cup vegetable oil

2/3 cup water

1/4 cup lemon juice

1/4 cup tequila

2 tablespoons triple sec liqueur

1 cup confectioners' sugar

1 tablespoon tequila

2 tablespoons triple sec liqueur 2 tablespoons lime juice



#### **Directions:**

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C).

Grease and flour a 10 inch Bundt pan.

In a large bowl combine cake mix, pudding mix, eggs, oil, water, lemon juice 1/4 cup tequila and 2 tablespoons triple sec. Beat for 2 minutes.

Pour batter into prepared pan. Bake in the preheated oven for 45 to 50 minutes, or until a toothpick inserted into the center of the cake comes out clean. Cool in pan for 10 minutes; remove to rack and pour glaze over cake while still warm.

To make the glaze: In a small bowl, combine confectioners' sugar with 1 tablespoon tequila, 2 tablespoons triple sec and 2 tablespoons lime juice. Mix until smooth.



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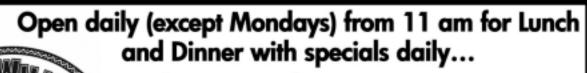


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Sueño del Mar

Ambergris Caye

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 proudly presents

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

> **English:** Time **Creole:** Taym **Spanish:** Tiempo

**English:** Blister Creole: Blista Spanish: Ampolla

**English:** Pain **Creole:** Payn **Spanish:** Dolor

**English:** Blanket **Creole:** Blankit Spanish: Colcha



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Page 18 Visitor Guide May 4, 2007



# Wolfe's Woofers

by Dennis Wolfe

# One Hot Dog, No Mayonnaise

"I'll have a hot dog with mustard only; no mayonnaise, please," I said. "Si, señor," the lady at the hot dog stand.

Of course, she squirted mayonnaise on it so I gave it back to her and got her to fix another one for me.

The next night I tried again.

"Hot dog with mustard only. No mayonnaise. A-i-i-e! No!"

Too late. She had already slathered it with mayonnaise.

On Wednesday night Drummer Dan was with me and I said, "You want to stop and get a hot dog?"

"Sure."

Dan ordered his with everything on it. I ordered mine with mustard only and of course I had to return it because it was filled with mayonnaise.

"Does that happen often?" he asked.

"It happens every single time," I told him. "I visit this hot dog stand at least three times a week and I have been coming here for two months. Every single time I ask for a hot dog with mustard only and every single time I have to get them to make another one because the lady puts mayonnaise on it."

"Every time?"

Dan couldn't believe it.

"Without fail. Since I started keeping track it has happened twenty-three times in a row."

"That's hard to believe. Maybe she just doesn't remember you."

Saturday night I decided to try an experiment.

"I would like a hot dog with mayonnaise only."

". . . but, señor?" the lady at the hot dog wagon said; confused. "Yes?"

"Aren't you the one who always orders a hot dog with mustard only and no mayonnaise?"



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# Trivia Tidbits

\*Government by a woman or women is called a "gynarchy."

\*The female pigeon cannot lay eggs if she is alone. In order for her ovaries to function, she must be able to see another pigeon. If no other pigeon is available, her own reflection in a mirror will suffice.

\*Cats have more than one hundred vocal sounds, while dogs only have about ten.

\*More than 60 percent of all recipients of organ donations are between the ages of 18 and 49.

\*Elephants and short-tailed shrews get by on only two hours of sleep a

\*While the bones of most airborne birds are hollow for lightness, penguins are endowed with solid bones for ballast when they dive, sometimes to 850 feet or more.

\*Winnie, from Winnie the Pooh, was named after a bear at the London Zoo. The animal had been born in Canada but brought to London in 1914 as the mascot of a Canadian regiment.

\*One gift-giving taboo in China is the giving of straw sandals, which are associated with funerals, and therefore considered bad luck.



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#### **DEVELOPED PROPERTIES**

- Grande Caribe Condos 1 mile north of the bridge on 500 ft of coconut grove. From \$ 295,000 1,2 & 3 bedrooms. San Pedro's most exciting new project 3 pools & marina. Under construction. Inquire!
- Caye Casa Three beachfront condos, quiet, in town, pool, pier, thatch porches, furnished, with on site property management. Living the dream.
- Oasis Del Caribe Fully furnished 2nd floor ocean front 2 bedroom \$ 335,000
- Miramar new 3rd floor beachfront 2 bedroom condo. Furnished bring offers!
- Miramar new 3rd floor beachfront furnished 2 bedroom condo with 4th floor nouse suite unfurnished \$ 495,000 offers
- Miramar new completed 2nd floor beachfront 2 bedroom furnished condos from \$ 375,000.
- Blue Reef 2 bed 2 bath tastefully furnished beach level condo rental income \$ 385,000
- Banana Beach Resort: 1-3 bedroom ocean front condos with 2 Pools, beach, restaurant and bar from \$115 to \$165,000 with guaranteed rental incomes.
- Vista Del Mar Attractive and well maintained Holiday Lands home. 2 bedroom 2 bathroom spacious owners quarters with 4 immaculate one bed, one bath rental apartments. 100% occupied. \$ 575,000.
- St Georges Caye private island large beach home \$1,150,000
- Large 3 bedroom 2 bath all concrete furnished private home 150 ft from ocean with direct beach access. Lions Park area. \$ 425,000.
- Agape House Lovely Tres Cocos beach home with total of 4 beds/baths, workshop/garage, boat ramp, sea wall, pier. \$ 1,500,000.
- Tres Cocos 2 bed/2 bath garden home with swimming pool \$ 495,000
- Beach villa Caye Villas Mata Grande 2 Bed 3 bath fully furnished pool rental management program \$429,900 offers!
- La Floridita ocean view home Tres Cocos area \$ 250,000

COMMERCIAL Oceanside beach bar and restaurant Caye Caulker \$650,000

#### **UNDEVELOPED PROPERTIES**

- West Bay LAST OF ITS KIND private sandy cove 260 ft frontage only \$ 325,000.
- Mata Grande 100 x 200 ft prime beach lot with pier permit \$ 485,000 \*
- \* Beach lots – acreage near Mexico Border from \$ 65,000
- Acreage available on Lagoon side Inquire.
- \* Commercial sized Islands in the lagoon Inquire.
- \*\* Boca Ciega 4.5 acres 170ft beach front. \$350,000.
- Buena Vista Point ocean view 75ft x 150ft \$79,000.
- Buena Vista Point ocean view 75ft x 150ft \$89,000.
- Laguna Estates ocean view lots from \$60,000.

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

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