

# NEWSINBRIEF

## Iguana Station Take-over



Management of the Iguana Station changed hands on the 26th of July with Aurel Heidelberg replacing Ingrid and Ludtz Dirkson after 22 months dedicated work. Following tradition Mr. Heidelberg is also from Germany and will continue to be assisted by groups of German volunteers. "Everyone is invited to meet me and a big thank you to Ludtz and Ingrid" he said.

Work at the station will continue as usual however Mr. Heidelberg, Environmental Scientist, plans to introduce new projects later on in the year.

## Teething problems

BGA continue to have problems with the new ATM. Since being installed one month ago there have been many complaints. "I had to go to the mainland to get money out in the end" said Ms. Bardon, resident of 17 months. BGA give no explanation for the inconveniences but state that, despite displaying the sticker, the ATM does not accept Mastercard.

## Doc gets Dengue

The beginning of July was a bad time to get sick as both Dr. John McVay and nurse Mark Williams were hit by dengue fever. The duo were out of action for several days before bravely re-opening the clinic.

## Stairway collapses

The stairway up the hill between the Main Road and Lozano Road collapsed suddenly last month. By diverting funds from the current road maintenance project the walkway was rebuilt immediately. "It was time and labour intensive, they needed lots of cement to stabilise the new stairway." said Mayor Alton Cooper.

## Change of plans for Hole in the Wall

To the relief of those on the point, owners of Hole in the wall opposite Utila Dive Centre have reconsidered closing and decided to save the much used snack bar / convenience store. They had planned to close last month, as reported in Utila East Wind, but are reorganising the shop instead and have plans for new stock.



## Dance til you drop

One professional dancer took the phrase "dance til you drop" a bit too literally at the carnival. She collapsed from heat exhaustion after hours of dancing in the summer heat. Several other cases of heat exhaustion have been reported, particularly amongst females. People are advised to keep hydrated, stay out of the midday sun and avoid strenuous activity during the hottest parts of the day.

# Island shocked by horrific attack

Utila East Wind Staff

**A young mans leg was set on fire as he slept outside the Casino nightclub on Saturday the 9th of July.**

Rene Cortez Portillo, known as Chiqui, passed out drunk on a bench after drinking all night with friends. "I woke up around 4am crying and in pain. I have no idea who did this", he said. Mr. Portillo sought help from good friends Pam Muñoz and Mac Cory Ramon. "We applied aloe vera and took him to the Health Centre. I was very impressed with the quick reaction of the medical team," said Mr. Ramon. The community donated cream to treat the burns however Mr. Portillo was taken to Tegucigalpa for further treatment after the wounds became infected. "I would like to thank everyone who helped, I just hope I wont lose my leg," he said. Mr. Portillo is currently recov-

ering in Tegucigalpa but plans to return to his work on the island as soon as possible. Police investigating the incident are appealing to the public for any information.

*El sábado 9 de Julio, un joven se despertó con su pierna en llamas afuera de la discoteca, el Casino. René Cortez Portillo, conocido como el Chiqui, se quedó dormido una banca, después de haber bebido toda la noche con sus amigos. "Me desperté a las 4 de la mañana llorando del dolor. No tengo idea de quien pudo haber hecho esto", dijo el Sr. Portillo. Fue ayudado por buenos amigos, Pam Muñoz y Mac Cory Ramón. "Le aplicamos aloe vera y lo llevamos al Centro de Salud. "Me impresionó la reacción tan rápida del equipo medico", dijo el Señor Ramón. La comunidad donó una crema para las quemaduras del Sr. Portillo, hasta que fuese trasladado a Tegucigalpa,*



Mr. Portillo awaits further treatment for infected wounds

*para obtener más tratamiento, ya que la herida se le infectó. "Quisiera agradecer a todo el que me ha ayudado, solo espero no perder mi pierna" dijo. El Sr. Portillo se encuentra en Tegucigalpa, sin embargo planea regresar a su trabajo lo más pronto posible. La policía que investiga el caso, hace un llamado al público para cualquier información. ■*

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