

HOW CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S EVE WAS EXPERIENCED IN ROATAN



**NEW YEAR NEW LIFE,
SEE YOU LATER 2023.**



Roatán holds a day of prayer



PAGE 18

Sun Corporation Group celebrates end of year celebrations of year



PAGES 12-13

Villanueva the city that sweetens to Honduras



PAGE 14



EDITION 12

DECEMBER 2023

Roatan Today

Dirección Ejecutiva: Janeth Grandez

Dirección de Marketing: Alfredo Funez

Diseño Publicitario: Mario Osorto

Fotografía: Roberto Cerrato

Alcaldía Municipal Villanueva

Redacción: Kendra Ardon

Diseño Editorial: Gustavo Adolfo Dubon

Social Media: Kevin Paredes

We are a digital magazine where we highlight the positive notes of our beautiful Bay Islands and the rest of Honduras. Our focus is on topics of interest such as tourist sites, entrepreneurship, social note, events, investment, and technological advances. It is time to appreciate the

efforts of our people with the vision of achieving progressive development and continue to grow continuously to exploit the potential of natural beauty and especially the island of Roatan to achieve the investment that the community needs and create an excellent business climate. We have versions in English and Spanish, our publication is monthly, follow us on our social networks.

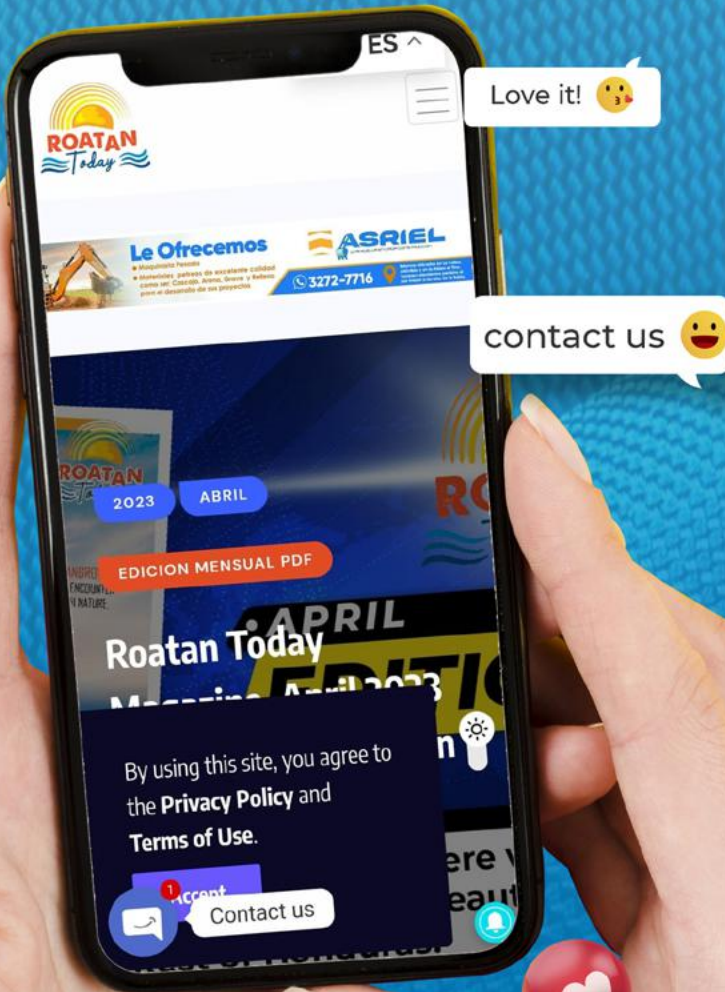


itPro's®

SOLUCIONES INNOVADORAS A SUS NECESIDADES INFORMATICAS

Our Services

- ◆ Roatan Today Magazine Advertisement
- ◆ Administrative Point of Sale Software
- ◆ Accounting, Tax, Financial and Legal Advice
- ◆ Design and Publication of Web Page with corporate email
- ◆ Social Media Management



MAGAZINE ROATÁN TODAY!

itproshn



EDITORIAL

New year new life, goodbye Christmas

Meditating and looking back, I said to myself, "Do I need to do something different next year in order to get better results?"

We have finished 2023, which left us joys, sorrows, losses, loves, heart-breaks, endings

and also beginnings and endings. It is time to reflect on the things in life: What did I do wrong in 2023? What do I want to improve in 2024? What are those goals I want to accomplish in the new year?

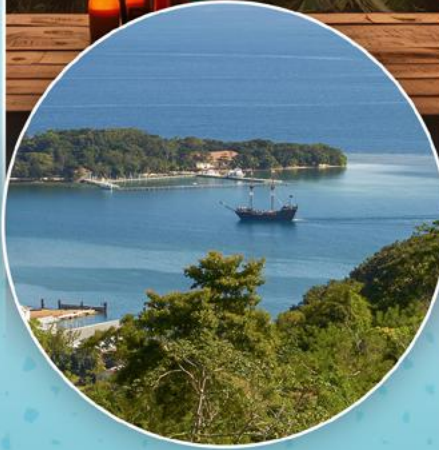
Meditating and looking back, I said to myself, "Do I need to do something different next year in order to get better results?"

Many times we focus on the same thing and we want to achieve success, meet our goals, achieve our objectives. That this 2024 that we are starting can give us that confidence that although everything looks gray, things will always be better.

As a digital media we sympathize with the families of the three young women who lost their lives in a violent manner, as well as with the island families who have lost children as a result of violence.

We look forward to a 2024 full of health, prosperity and security for the entire island community.





PUBLISH — WITH US —



We are **Creative**

 **8941-7848**

DIGITAL MAGAZINE



FOLLOW US



CHARACTER

Elsa Jaco the woman of desserts and ice cream at the Saturday Bazaar

Elsa Jaco, a woman passionate about entrepreneurship. Roatan Today spoke with her.

Elsa Jaco is a woman entrepreneur of desserts and ice cream that every Saturday we can find her at the Saturday Bazaar located in Expocentro in the city of San Pedro Sula, During the Christmas season she was part of the Christmas bazaar and shared with us her story and the hard process she is going through, since she was diagnosed with cancer and this gave her life a 360 degree

turn. But it did not take away her desire to move forward. Doña Elsa's day has changed since she gets up very early in the morning to go to her chemotherapy and then she is in charge of preparing her famous products in the city of San Pedro Sula and other cities that order her popsicles, She is a five star woman and a person to be admired for her talent and effort.

[Facebook.com/Jacoheladosypostres](https://www.facebook.com/Jacoheladosypostres)



CATRACHO TALENT

In Roatan Today we are celebrating as a family because our dear uncle and cousin Pedro Grandez Oyuela and his daughter Noelia Grandez Castro have been awarded for having participated in the award of Art Expo Latina and both have won the first and third place in the V award of art Expo Latina de Arte held in Colombia Edition 2023.

We are proud that our family members have been awarded at an international level. This event is organized by the master Jorge Enrique Londoño Ramírez from Colombia.

Cultural Events that enhance Honduras



Noelia Grandez Castro
third place winner.

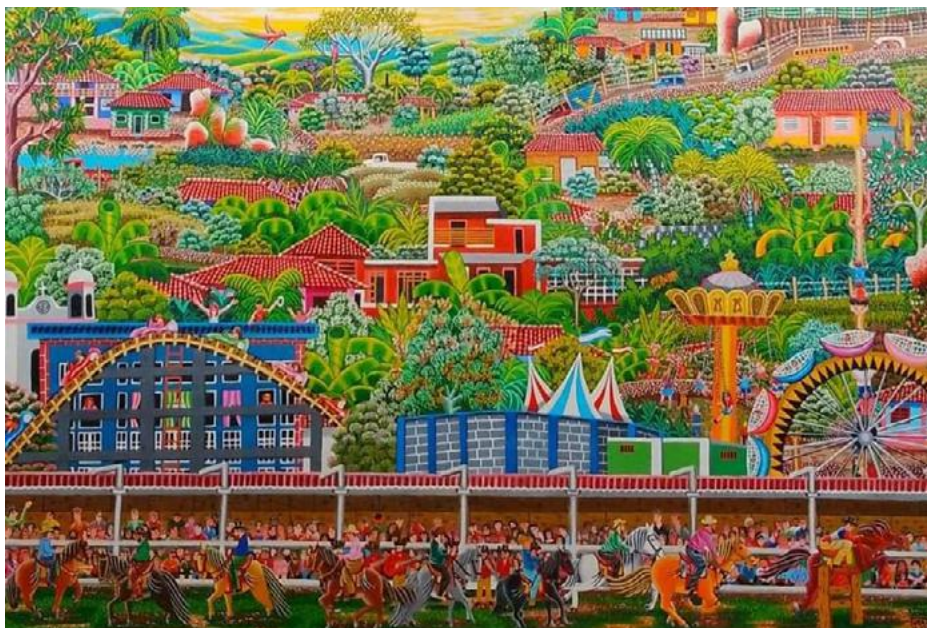


Pedro Grandez Castro
First place winner.

Pedro and Noelia Grandez a pride for Honduran Art.



Diploma of Pedro Grandez.



Diploma of Noelia Grandez

Eternal and unforgettable love Portillo Sevilla Spouses



Marriage Portillo Sevilla

celebrates 55 years of love

There is an adage that it is impossible to find a soul mate, but this was not the case for Professor Reyna Sevilla and Mr. Héctor Portillo, who sealed their love 55 years ago.

That it was born at first sight was expressed by Mrs. Rina while being interviewed by our magazine.

She recalls that the first time she saw Don Hector, he gave her a greeting because she was a respectable teacher in the community Guanacías and later asked her to be engaged to which she responded negatively and told him that she was looking for a husband and Don Hector a man of arms said I marry you and after a month they were getting married in an ecclesiastical manner. From this wonderful union were born their four children Hector Alberto, Rina Marlene, Iris Waleska and Claudia Patricia. From their four were born 10 grandchildren and 1 great-grandchild.

They have walked together and have survived many challenges and obstacles, but none of that has prevented their love from continuing day by day. The family is like a business and they have known how to mana-

An adage says that finding a soul mate is impossible to happen, but it was not like that for Professor Rina Sevilla and Don Héctor Portillo 55 years ago they sealed their love.

ge it through time.

On their 55th anniversary we would like to congratulate them on behalf of Roatan Today magazine for being an example for the new generations.



Photo of Mrs. Rina and Mr. Hector with their children.



Husband and wife Portillo Sevilla on their wedding day.



Dennis Urbina is a young sampedrano of 19 years that since he was born has had to face great obstacles but that has not prevented him from achieving his goals and dreams.

When he was a baby his mother and father were deaf and dumb and his mother, seeing that she was different, abandoned him and left him in the care of his father, grandmother and paternal aunts.

Dennis grew up with the support of his father who worked every day to give him a better future but in the year 2021 everything changed when violence visited his family and one day while his father was walking through a neighborhood to celebrate the day of love and friendship he was stabbed in the abdomen and after a month in the hospital he died causing sadness to the young man. One day he saw an advertisement and decided to study at a municipal training center in Honduras Korea Technical Institute.

In the recent month he obtained his degree as a computer repair technician at the Instituto de capacitación Honduras Corea.

Dennis Yoel Urbina dedicated his degree to the memory of his father Dennis Hernan Urbina Mejia RIP to his aunt/mom Sinia Urbina Mejia and his paternal grandmother Maria Matilde Mejia.

WHEN YOU WANT TO, YOU CAN, WITH GOD'S HELP, EVERYTHING IS POSSIBLE.

Dennis Urbina a young man without fear of success

Dennis is a young sampedrano who since he was born has had to overcome great obstacles.

MUNICIPALITY OF SAN PEDRO SULA AND BANCO ATLANTIDA

Establish alliance to make it easier for taxpayers to pay municipal taxes



This alliance represents a great benefit for taxpayers, by providing them with convenient payment channels.

The taxpayers of San Pedro Sula now have more accessible options to pay taxes and other municipal transactions, thanks to the alliance between the Municipality of San Pedro Sula, led by Mayor Roberto Contreras and Banco Atlántida.

The authorities of the Municipality of San Pedro Sula and Banco Atlántida announced this Thursday such an important alliance, during a special event at the Consistorial Hall of the Municipality of San Pedro Sula, where they emphasized the importance of this initiative in order to provide new payment channels and improve convenience for taxpayers. At the event, on behalf of Mayor Roberto Contreras, Councilman Julio Montessi stated that the Municipality continues inno-

ating in technology and facilitating taxpayers the process of paying their taxes. "Mayor Roberto Contreras is very happy for the alliance that has been made this morning, for having the support of the bank, in this case Banco Atlántida, a responsible and solid bank that joins in support of the city so that our taxpayers can pay their taxes online," said Montessi. "We have made an alliance with Banco Atlántida, which always bets on innovation and this makes it easier for all taxpayers to pay from any electronic device on the bank's platform, which generates more income to the Municipality and having more income there are more works for the benefit of the city," asserted the municipal alderman.

The Technology Manager of the Municipality of San Pedro Sula, Darlin

Madrid, said that "the integration of this technology with Banco Atlántida allows us to innovate with the use of the channels that the bank provides, and the success of the project was achieved with the implementation and synergy of the work teams of both institutions. The challenge is to continue working in favor of taxpayers with innovation and the support of the bank for the benefit of San Pedro Sula".

Alexa Foglia, Regional Vice President of Corporate Banking of Banco Atlántida, indicated that "the objective of this alliance is to facilitate the payment of taxes and other transactions of taxpayers through our service channels". "I thank Mayor Roberto Contreras as well as his work team for allowing us to be part of this initiative, since the various options we make

available to make payments represent a great benefit for Sampedrans," said Foglia. He explained that, from now on, taxpayers have several options to make their payments, using the platforms and channels provided by Banco Atlántida.

They can do so through the Atlántida Mobile app or through their online banking through Atlántida Online. Likewise, they have the option of making payments at more than 3,500 Atlántida Agents, strategically located in pharmacies, gas stations, supermarkets, hardware stores and grocery stores nationwide. In addition, taxpayers may choose to make their payments at the more than 2,500 Dilo Agents and 186 Agencies nationwide, simply by presenting the corresponding receipt code.



Municipal authorities and Atlantida bank authorities consolidating the alliance.



Alexa Foglia, Banco Atlántida representative

POSITIVE DEVELOPMENTS IN ROATAN

Zolitur makes progress in sanitation projects

Coxen Hole will have improvements to the sewage treatment plant.



The Bay Islands Tourist Free Zone (ZOLITUR), informs the progress of the sanitation projects that are being executed and financed for the benefit of the communities. Improvements to the Coxen Hole Wastewater Treatment Plant, with 50% progress, in the Structure for the Pre-treatment area, Excavations for the Upflow Anaerobic Reactor (AFAR) area, Slope Stabilization for the installation of a Geomembrane in the Polishing Lagoon, Sludge Drying yard area and Aerators in the Aeration Lagoon. ZOLITUR, by contributing to the

improvement of this treatment plant, we guarantee that the water that is deposited into the ocean is safe and we protect our health, the natural environment, marine life and reefs on the island of Roatan. Sanitation and improvement projects to the wastewater treatment plant in Roatan are vital to maintain clean water and prevent diseases, the treatment plant is a place that treats wastewater (sewage) from our homes before returning it to the environment, thus preventing water contaminated with germs and harmful substances from influencing the health of the population and making us sick if it is used or if it reaches the ocean.





THANKSGIVING PARTY

Sun Corporation Group Celebrates New Year's Eve

To close the end of the year the company With an elegant Gala dinner, the Gran Familia Sun Restaurant and Sun Corporation bid farewell to the year 2023, last December 21st at one of the most emblematic restaurants of the island, Gios Restaurant.

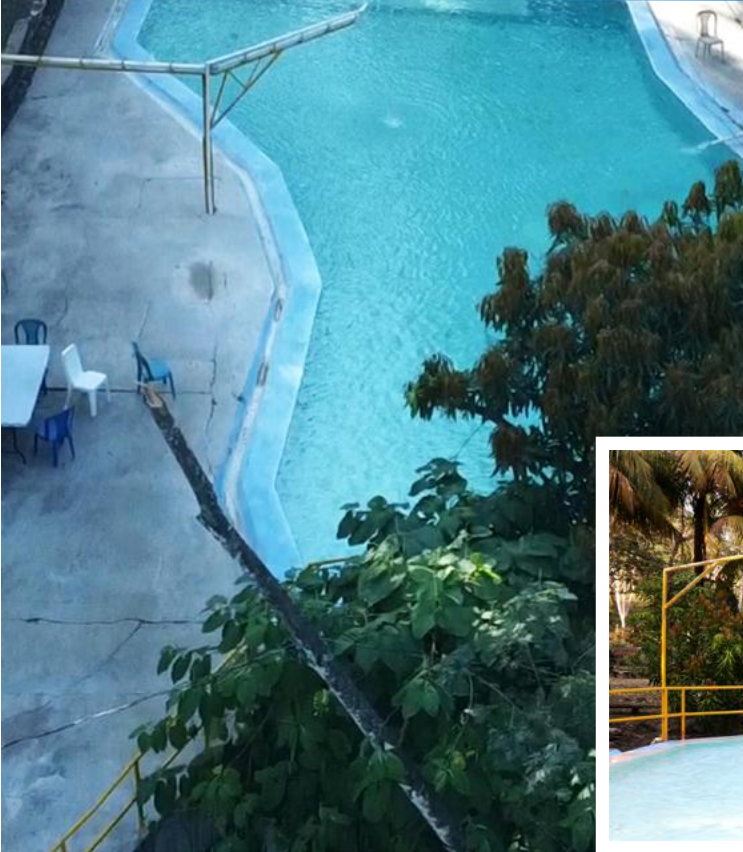
As a way to thank for all the impetus, effort, loyalty and responsibility of each of its employees closing with a flourish this year 2023. Thank you Team.

Sun Family Christmas Dinner Sun Restaurant and Sun Corporation Farewell to the year 2023

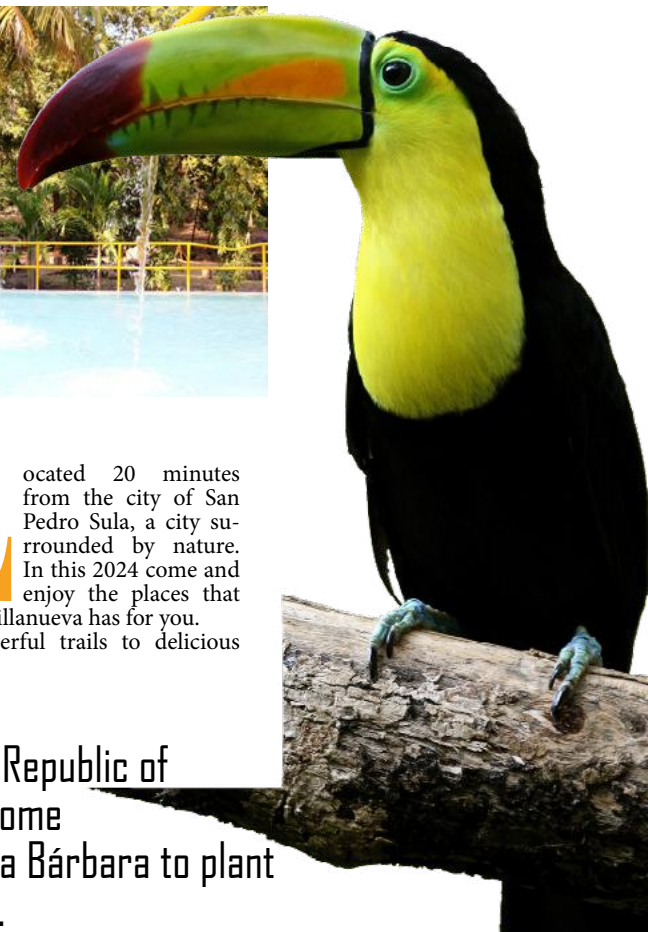


A PLACE TO VISIT THIS COMING SUMMER 2024

Villanueva, the city that sweetens Honduras



Located 20 minutes from the city of San Pedro Sula, a city surrounded by nature. In this 2024 come and enjoy the places that the city of Villanueva has for you. From wonderful trails to delicious waters.



Villanueva is a municipality in the department of Cortés in the Republic of Honduras. This municipality was originally founded in 1871 by some residents who came from the neighboring department of Santa Bárbara to plant on its lands, but until March 8, 1945 it received the title of city.

GOOD NEWS ROATAN

The Director of the National Police meets with the Mayor of Roatan

Recently on the island of Roatan a meeting was held between Mayor Ron McNab and the director of the National Police, Commissioner General Juan Manuel Aguilar Godoy. The objective of the meeting was to jointly create strategies and agreements to strengthen security in the municipality. At the end of the meeting they agreed that improvements in security will begin in the coming days and will be strengthened through

2024. Among the points agreed to improve is the increase of the vehicle fleet and police motorized equipment. Road Design and Motorcycle Problem Solving Initiatives. Implementation of the Smart City project with its modern Monitoring Center. Sharing of computer systems between the National Police and the Mayor's Office of Roatan and the regulation of control of nightlife hours and the sale of alcohol in businesses.



Mayor of Roatan and authorities met with the national police.

600 linear meters of whitetopping will be melted in the sector of willie warren

Starting on Monday, January 15, the Mayor's Office of Roatan began to carry out works of recovery of the road network in the Willie Warren sector, starting from the bridge to the Cruise Port, an area that requires immediate intervention due to the poor condition in which it is located.

In the work to be executed, hydraulic concrete will be cast over the existing asphalt

(whitetopping) on the entire roadway in the aforementioned sector, which is equivalent to 600 linear meters, in addition to improving the sidewalks and drainage in the sector.

Our commitment continues to be the same, to promote the development of Roatan, demonstrating that the payment of your taxes are returned in works.



Paving in the Willie Warren sector.

FOTONOTICIA

Changes in the department of education in Islas de la Bahia

Recently, Mr. Leonel Amaya was sworn in by the Minister of Education Daniel Esponda as the new Departmental Director of Education in the Bay Islands. Mr. Amaya has the support of architect Gerardo Pérez.



Leonel Amaya was sworn in by Minister Daniel Esponda.

WOMEN OF SUCCESS RETURNS TO ROATAN:

Recognition of Businesswomen and Entrepreneurs 2nd Edition 2024.



Roatan, Bay Islands. In commemoration of Honduran Women's Day, we are pleased to extend a cordial invitation to a special event where we will honor and celebrate the significant impact of women on the island of Roatan. This space will be propitious to highlight those brave women who every day struggle, undertake, impact and manage to turn their dreams into a tangible reality, both for themselves and for their communities.

During this event, we will dedicate a special moment to recognize and applaud the efforts and dedication of an outstanding group of businesswomen and entrepreneurs from the island of Roatan. Their contribution has not only enriched the local business fabric, but has also inspired others to follow in their footsteps. Throughout these days, each of the selected women and their impact on the community and the country will be presented.

This act of recognition seeks to highlight the importance of women as agents of change, business leaders and role models in our community. We firmly believe that by celebrating and supporting women, we are building a more equitable and prosperous future for all.



This space will be conducive to highlighting those brave women who fight every day, undertake, impact and manage to turn their dreams into a tangible reality, both for themselves and for their communities.



FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT
[HTTPS://WWW.MUJERESNEGOCIOS.COM](https://www.mujiresnegocios.com)

SEDUC AND CICESCT

Sign historic agreement to fight human trafficking and illegal migration Tegucigalpa

In an unprecedented move, both entities collaborate in prevention efforts, creating local committees, focusing on the identification of possible cases in classrooms, education and prevention for children and adolescents. This effort is complemented by prevention and awareness initiatives to ensure a safe and secure educational environment. Above all, free of human trafficking. The Head of CICESCT Sua Martinez said that “It is a historic event where for the first time this secretariat will be involved in the work of local committees, as well as in the work of identifying possible cases of trafficking and smuggling in the classroom, so our president Xiomara Castro, has entrusted us with this institution to repair the damage and provide protection to victims of trafficking and above all to defend the dignity, care and protection of our children who are our greatest treasure”. After parents, teachers are the most trusted authorities of the students in this space, they are key to determine situations such as truancy, which may be due to forced begging, forced recruitment, sexual cybercrime, forced pregnancy, slavery or servitude, commercial sexual exploitation and human trafficking,” said Martinez, Executive Secretary of CICESCT.

For his part, Secretary of Education Daniel Sponda emphasized, “This agreement is important for the government of President Castro, to work for the protection of children and the reparation of damages.

The SACE system, which is a tool to see the time of absenteeism of students so that each teacher must report the violation of rights, we will activate the local committees CICESCT and prevention work for school principals and teachers. Some important points of this agreement signed between both governmental entities for collaboration, is to provide support in the implementation of prevention campaigns, awareness and strengthening of local committees-CICESCT nationwide in order to develop planned joint activities between both parties in the process of training against the following crimes; Commercial Sexual Exploitation and Trafficking in Persons, as well as crimes related to trafficking.

Also to follow up and strengthen local committees involving teachers from various municipalities to be part of the various local committees distributed throughout the country by putting the action plan aimed at preven-

The Secretary of Education - SEDUC and the Inter-institutional Commission Against Commercial Sexual Exploitation and Trafficking in Persons - CICESCT of Honduras.

Mark a historic event by joining forces in the fight against Trafficking in Persons and Smuggling of Migrants.



tion, detection, care and reduction of these crimes. In this way, CICESCT advances with its commitment to combat human trafficking at national and regional level by providing prevention and attention to the general population, also strengthening

strategic alliances to not leave anyone out. We urge people to continue using the right to denounce through our formal means with the Immediate Response Team (ERI-CICESCT) at 8990-5187 911 or 145, since a simple suspicion can save a life. Human beings are not for sale!





Roatan holds a day of prayer



Recently in the facilities of the municipal parking lot of Roatan a great day of prayer was held by the president of the pastors association Tristan Monterroso.

The Bay Islands community, in the midst of the challenges it faces, extended an invitation to raise their hands and hearts to join in prayer. Let us unite our positive ener-

gies and supportive thoughts to find comfort and strength in these difficult times. Together, we can face adversity and send love to those affected by the recent events that are affecting the islanders. The days of prayer will continue in the churches of the island.





COMAYAGUA CITY HALL



Begins the year 2024
with the execution of
several paving works

The paving works are carried out with own funds from the Mayor's Office of Comayagua

With the purpose of continuing to improve the road network of the municipality of Comayagua, the Mayor's Office of Comayagua, headed by Mayor Carlos Miranda, began the year 2024, with the execution of several paving works in different neighborhoods and colonies of the city. Currently, paving projects are being executed in: Milagro de Dios, Nueva Valladolid, Brisas de Suyapa, Brisas de

Altamira, San Blas and Cabañas neighborhoods, which are executed under the "Participative Paving" methodology, since the Mayor's Office works jointly with the interested neighbors. "We close the year 2023 with several paving projects in process, which we are finalizing this year, our purpose is to move forward in the paving of different neighborhoods and colonies, make definitive investments, because every year we have to be making repairs on dirt roads, little by little we awaken the interest in the neighbors,

we share efforts and in that way we are moving forward every year; For this year 2024 we have the hope and faith in God that we will work hard on paving in all the neighborhoods that are possible, prioritizing the most important streets due to the traffic they generate; in Comayagua the number of vehicles has grown and that means that we must improve the relief streets for better mobility", said Carlos Miranda, Municipal Mayor of Comayagua. Gumersinda Ramos, neighbor of Brisas de Suyapa, said "We are happy and

very grateful to Mayor Carlos Miranda, for supporting us in the execution of this important paving work, alone we would not have achieved this project, which apart from improving health, comes to improve the appearance and raise the value of our properties," she said. The paving works are executed with own funds of the Mayor's Office of Comayagua, product of the payment of taxes, for this year 2024, the mayor's office has planned to execute many paving works.



Last December, entrepreneurs participated in the Christmas bazaar held at Expocentro. The entrepreneurs showed the diversity of products they create in their hands. The Saturday bazaar is open at the Expocentro facilities in the city of San Pedro Sula from 10:00 to 6:00 pm every Saturday.

The best of the Christmas bazaar at Expocentro



New Galaxy Wave points of sale

Galaxy Wave ferry invites the population of Roatan and Santos Guardiola to buy their tickets at the new points of sale:

1. Petrosun Pensacola
2. Petrosun West End
3. Petrosun Coxen Hole
4. Petrosun Airport
5. Petrosun Mopleco
6. Petrosun French Harbour
7. Roa Market West Bay
8. Roa Market West End
9. Roa Market
10. Megaplaza Casablanca Pandy Town

For more information contact:
(504) 3193-0000.



VEN A DISFRUTAR EL CONCIERTO DE LOS BRONCOS EN LA CEIBA

Viernes 26 de enero

LA QUINTA HOTEL
Localidad Sol desde \$143.00

HOTEL CARNAVAL
Localidad Sol desde \$113.00

HOTEL PARTENON BEACH RESORT
Localidad Sol desde \$145.00

*Consulta los precios de las diferentes localidades

Incluye:



Ferry en Galaxy Wave



Hospedaje 1 noche y 2 días



Desayuno



Ingreso al concierto "Los Broncos" a localidad sol



Impuestos incluidos



(+504) 3350-1444

Galaxy Wave supports cleaning campaigns in Roatán

The company Galaxy Wave ferry joins the cleaning campaign in neighborhoods and colonies together with the Mayor's Office of Roatan, Zolitur, BICA and Marine Park. Today the cleanup took place in the community of Crawfish Rock where

the president of the Board of Trustees, Vanessa Cardenas, and neighbors joined in. Galaxy also distributed flyers with preventive measures to combat dengue fever. All citizens of each community are invited to join, tomorrow Saturday is planned in Col. Santa Maria and Barrio El Ticket.



MUNICIPAL COUNCIL FOR THE GUARANTEE OF THE RIGHTS OF CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS

Strengthening Education in the Municipality of El Progreso, Yoro



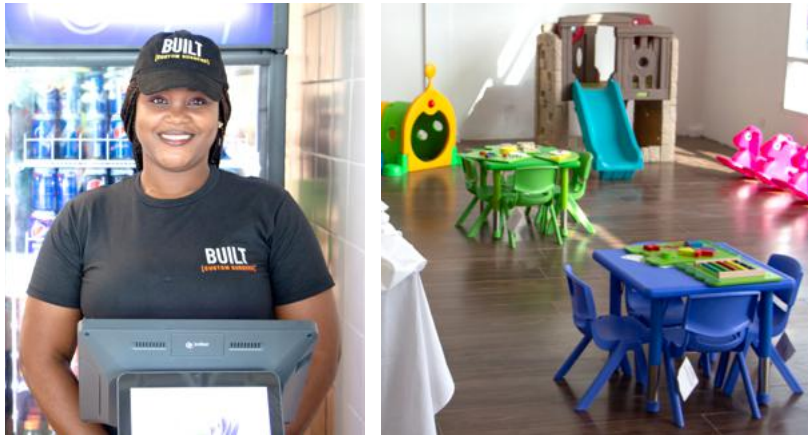
Members of the Municipal Council to Guarantee the Rights of Children and Adolescents of El Progreso, were informed this afternoon about the results and progress of the innovative Mathematics Program with NEPO, implemented in 2023 by the Municipal Administration of Mayor Alexander Lopez Orellana in partnership with the Ministry of Education and the Aztec Corporation of Mexico, benefiting a thousand children from 30 schools in the urban, rural and mountain sector. Simultaneously, 40 teachers were trained with this methodology.

For this year 2024, the projection is to extend this benefit to 2 thousand more schoolchildren and, in addition, to put into operation 50 virtual classrooms in the same number of educational centers, as well as to provide English classes to 2 thousand first grade children.



For this year 2024, the projection is to expand this benefit to 2,000 more schoolchildren.





Inauguration of Sun Plaza / Food Court



Now everything in one place, Sun Plaza opened its doors this December to the population. With its traditional and new brands, where you can find from an aromatic cup of coffee, to a piece of crispy chicken and for the kings of the house a delicious ice cream. Bojangles, Pizza Inn, Bimplie, Built, E Coffe Etc.

Now everything in one place, Sun Plaza opened its doors this December to the population

