

# CAYEMBE TELEGRAPH

## IRRIGATION SYSTEM TO BE INSTALLED IN YUPUKARI

Yupukarians are happy about soon getting water closer to their kitchen gardens.

Hans Neher, the lead designer for water supply to the gardens, and his daughter Britta Neher visited Yupukari Village for two days concerning the gardening.

They held a meeting with some of the farmers during which the farmers discussed some of the major problems that they are facing. After the meeting they were able to walk around the village to see both existing and planned gardens. In addition some of the farmers spoke about extending present gardens.

The installation of the irrigation system is supposed to be commencing very soon. The work in-

cludes placing six foot trestles at designated locations which the villagers agreed on, digging of pipe lines and the installation of taps. Mr. Neher said according to his estimates once started the project will take approximately a month and a half.

Farming equipment will also be purchased by project funds. A list of tools will be sent to potential suppliers in Lethem for quotation. The current problem facing this development is that no farming committee has been formed and it's not clear who is creating the needed tools list.

Farmers are really happy about the water project since water security is a major hurdle in doing gardening on the hill of Yupukari. The

committee, when formed, will be responsible for the maintenance of the irrigation system.

Some of the farmers are happy about getting water supply much closer to their kitchen gardens. Farmers are interested in planting more vegetables and seasonings. Clifton Laurindo, a former toshao of Yupukari, while voicing his frustrations and hopes said "These people have been promising us this water system for a long time now and I am fed up of hearing about this...".

Persons who need to contact Mr. Neher can come to Caiman House to email him at

[hansneher@hotmail.com](mailto:hansneher@hotmail.com)



Kaigan House

### Volume 3, Issue 1

21 May 2008

### YUPUKARI NEWSLETTER RUPUNUNI REGION 9

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The current trestle

## MISSING COMPUTER

Librarians and Rupununi Learners Incorporated [RLI] are still looking for a black Dell laptop computer.

It's been about three months since it was declared missing and there is no word about where it went or who may have it. Librarians said sometimes movies were shown on it but because it was not connected to the internet

it was often just sitting in the office unused.

Sometimes Clifton Laurindo used this computer to do Caiman House accounting. It is therefore really important that the computer be returned as reporting of Caiman House and Rupununi Learners Incorporated funds is a local and regional issue.

None of the librarians noticed when the computer went missing. So the public is asked to please help in getting back this computer. If you know that somebody has it please advise that individual to return it.

There are no negative consequences for the returned computer so do not be afraid.

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## RUPUNUNI LEARNERS INCORPORATED[RLI]

**Rupununi Learners Incorporated (RLI)** is a Guyanese nonprofit corporation registered in September 2007. Its Board and membership are entirely composed of Rupununi village residents.

The current board of directors includes Fernando Li, Felix Holden, Ashley Holland, Inez Dorrick, Vladimir Laurindo and Festus Dorrick who also known as the Caiman House Committee.

These persons are fully responsible for the company. The mission of Rupununi Learners Incorporated is to build and support Community Learning Centers in the Rupununi region. This company's focus is to carry out work to produce funds for the local libraries [i.e. pay for paper, internet etc.], organizing and working with the village [i.e. help in writing grants].

Rupununi Learners Incorporated is also trying to support Yupukari Crafters and also to reintroduce the Black Caiman [*Melanosuchus niger*] project which is good news for the persons who worked on the project before.

Fernando Li, who was also nominated by the Rupununi Learners Incorporated board to be the first local manager in training said Rupununi Learner Incorporation [RLI] wants to host scientists, more volunteers and bring more tourism into the village. To learn more about Rupununi Learners Incorporated you can check out the web site which is [www.rupununilearners.org](http://www.rupununilearners.org). or just drop in.

### RUPUNUNI LEARNERS INCORPORATED UPDATES

Teni Housty, a lawyer from Georgetown, was here for a few days. He helped with a lot of the formal paperwork regarding RLI [i.e. with what's possible and what's not]. He also helped the village with the outline of single parenting laws. He was pleased with everything that was happening here and supports the local project.

The British High Commissioner Mr. Wheeler along with his wife Sarah came to visit Caiman House and was interested in activities that are happening

here. His wife has ordered some rustic furniture [two bar stools and a mukru table set] from Yupukari Crafters which some of the young carpenters Patterson Lawrence and Matthew Dorrick are working on. Donald Barnabas is leading the plating of the mukru table tops.



The Board of Directors  
From the top left Fernando Li, Felix Holden, Ashley Holland, bottom left Festus Dorrick, Inez Dorrick and Vladimir Laurindo.

## HEARTS AND HANDS JUNIOR WILDLIFE SAVING CLUB'S 2<sup>nd</sup> FUND RAISER

The wildlife club of Yupukari village held their 2nd fund raising on Saturday the 12th of May 2008.

The new executive body which includes Franzea Roberts (president), Russian Dorrick (vice president), Jaimie Alphanso (treasurer), Oswin Ambrose (secretary) and Latia Jordan (secretary treasurer).

This group organized some breath-taking events for all. There was a bun eating contest which was won by Oswin Ambrose and a shebay drinking contest which was won by Davidson Laurindo. A football game was also played between Hearts and Hands and the Flash club members which was won by Flash club. Shamir Khan who led the wildlife club was pleased with the young team's performance.

A cultural presentation was also

held at six thirty in the evening. Parents were happy to seeing their children taking part in some of the acts and are looking forward to see more cultural presentations in the future.

Current plans are to cut another nature trail somewhere along the road to the river, make more fund raisers and start a rain monitoring program. A meeting will be held on the 6th of June at 2:00 pm in the old school. Parents are fully invited to attend and discuss what can be done in the club. The president of the club Franzea Roberts said "...it would be better if parents could attend to help make decisions, since its their youths that are involved"

Finally the club, with the help of Alice Taylor, managed to get two half drums welded with handles and painted for collecting garbage. One of the drums will be placed by the market and the other one by the primary school. Persons are asked to please use the bins and keep this environment clean and healthy.



Shebay drinking



The new village waste bins