

# THE CUENCA DISPATCH

Ecuador's Original English-Language Newspaper

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## Radar installations working to reduce accidents related to speed

Speeding was the third most responsible cause of traffic accidents in Cuenca last year. This motivated the Mobility Company (EMOV) to place seven radar photosensors in four sectors of the city.

Now, there are two photo radar units on Avenida de las Américas, near Hospital del Río, where the maximum speed allowed is 70 kilometers per hour; one is on the Panamericana Norte, 500 meters from the entrance to Ucubamba, where the speed limit is 65 kilometers per hour; four are on Ordóñez Lasso Avenue, three in the Oro Verde hotel sector, where the speed limit is 55 kilometers per hour and one near the Primax Gas Station, where the speed limit increases to 65 kilometers per hour.

In the last four months, traffic accidents have been reduced by 36 percent in those places, according to EMOV data.

To raise public awareness, EMOV has placed several preventive signals prior to the photo radar zones. The first signal alerts drivers to the allowed speed limit, the second warns about the speed control zone, the third is



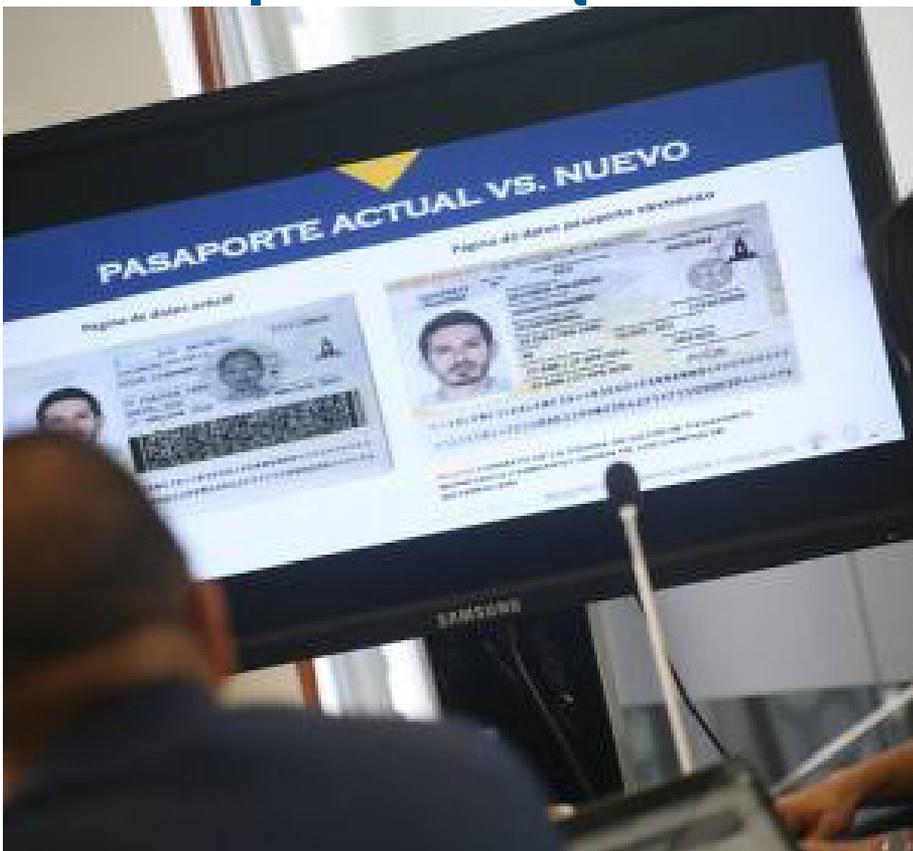
the speed information panel and the fourth informs where the radar is.

However, recently Cuenca Mayor Pedro Palacios has said that there was not an adequate socialization for the implementation of these devices, and he questioned their use.

The former manager of EMOV, Adrián Castro, defended the placement of radars. He said that prior to the operation of these, it was decided that the fines would be for disrespecting traffic signals, not for speeding.

He says that the fine for disrespecting traffic cont. page 5.

## Ecuadorians closer to being exempt from European Visa requirement



Earlier this year, the Ecuadorian government stated its intent to issue a new type of Passport and ID card, with stronger biometric and electronic security standards. This is a necessary step in the effort to allow Ecuadorians to travel to Europe without the need to for a Visa.

As of now, 15 member countries of the European Union have agreed to allow the Schengen Visa exemption when Ecuador complies with this prerequisite.

On August 1st, the tender process ended, and the Ecuadorian government appointed a French company to be the one to produce the new passports and IDs. The national government expects to have the new documents ready to be issued by Q1 2020. "With this change of documentation program, Ecuadorians will be able to go into Europe without a Visa. Along with this procedure, we must work on a massive ID issuance with the Ecuadorian people," stated Andres Michelena, Minister of Telecommunications and Information Companies.

The Minister refused to mention the company chosen and said that eventually the company's name will be published in the official website of the Civil Registry. The contract with the French company is of \$37 million USD.

The cost for the new identification documents is still under revision. As of now, an Ecuadorian passport costs \$70, issued by the Civil Registry Office.

Extracted from El Universal



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# I'M JUST SAYIN'

By Michael Soares

## Guns do kill people, so stop the hyperbole

This past week saw more gun violence in the US, with horrendous mass shootings in Texas and Ohio. Right now, it's easy to blame President Trump for this; his continual use of rhetoric and what many of us consider hateful and racist speech certainly has some impact on what happens day to day in that country.

But, blaming him for all of the 256 mass shooting in the US so far this year is like "not seeing the forest for the trees." Because the problem of gun violence in the US has been ongoing for decades and has seen its growth under at least the last five Presidents (though some would argue it goes all the way back to Lyndon Johnson in 1966 and the shootings at the University of Texas at Austin, where 14 people were killed and 31 were injured).

So, let's be honest and put the blame where it belongs, the Congress. That is where laws are made and that is where the responsibility for gun control sits. It's really that simple. Therefore, the question really is, "Why isn't gun control one of the most important legislation activities of Congress over the last 25 years?" Well, it's politics. And it's money. Nothing else.

Sure, many will argue that the 2nd Amendment to the Constitution of the United States made gun ownership a right of each US citizen. The interpretation of that Amendment has been and will continue to be argued ad nauseum. Those who lean the way I do say that the Amendment only pertains to the right to own guns as "a part of a well regulated militia." The other side says it guarantees outright ownership under any condition, and of any type of gun related weapon.

My argument to that is, so does it guarantee the right to own a 50-caliber machine gun? Most people would answer "no" to that question. Though many will say I've twisted the argument.

But you know what, earlier this year, before all of the high-profile mass shootings with assault weapons, a public poll done by Gallup showed that 69 percent of Americans "want strong or moderate restrictions placed on firearms."

So really, it comes back to why the hell isn't the US Congress doing anything about it? And again, it comes back to politics. And money.

It's so sad that so many people die in the US each year from guns, and yet nothing gets done about it. So many families lose fathers, mothers, sons and daughters and Congress still does nothing about it.

And it's so sad that so many Americans lose sight of those deaths when they argue about their 2nd Amendment rights. That's losing the forest for the trees.

I'll leave you with some statistics that I read this week.\* And if after looking at those you aren't outraged, and you don't think America deserves more from its Congress, and you don't think that gun control should be a top priority for the country, then I say you are part of the problem.

I'm just sayin'.

1. Lowest Rates of violent guns deaths per 100,000 people in 2017 vs. United States:

- Singapore – 0.02
- Japan – 0.04
- Indonesia – 0.04
- Oman – 0.04
- China – 0.04
- United Kingdom – 0.06
- Bangladesh – 0.07
- Romania – 0.08
- United States 4.43

2. Highest Rates of violent guns deaths per 100,000 people in East, Southeast and Asia in 2017 vs. United States:

- Philippines – 9.20

- United States – 4.43
- Thailand – 3.71
- Sri Lanka – 1.03
- India – 0.73
- Pakistan – 0.57
- Malaysia – 0.49
- Laos – 0.40
- Cambodia – 0.33

3. Highest Rates of violent guns deaths per 100,000 people in North Africa and the Middle East in 2017 vs. United States

- United States – 4.43
- Afghanistan – 3.96
- Iraq – 3.54
- Lebanon – 2.20
- Jordan – 1.53
- Turkey – 1.24
- Libya – 0.99
- Syria – 0.99
- Iran – 0.64

\* All rates exclude deaths in armed conflict and from accidents or self-harm.

# SUDOKU

## Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love Sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your Sudoku savvy to the test!

## Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9X9 grid, broken down into nine 3X3 boxes. To solve a Sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the number will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

7	5	2						6
							1	5
3					4	8		
			1		9		6	
4	1		6		5		8	9
	9		8		7			
		4	7					3
9	7							
6						7	2	1

See answers on page 11

## First Wingoflight from the Colombian arrives in Guayaquil

Last Saturday, the low-cost airline Wingo carried Colombian and Ecuadorian tourists to Guayaquil for the first time. The air route was from Bogota to Guayaquil and back. The traditional inauguration ceremonies were performed, with the airplane being received with a shower from water cannons.

As of now, the route Bogota-Guayaquil operates Tuesdays and Saturdays. The special promotion initial price for the round trip is of \$136.

Wingo already had a route to Quito, which also operates as a low-cost airline. They run four Boeing 737-700 aircrafts and it fly over 20 routes to 17 different cities in Latin America and the Caribbean.

The airline allows up to two pieces of luggage with a total weight of up to 35 lbs. among (one with 13 lbs. and the other with 22 lbs.)

Extracted from EL Universo



## Quito Chamber of Commerce receives award for business training program for women

Over 200 women have benefited from the Academy for Women Entrepreneurs (AWE) program, organized by the Business School of the Chamber of Commerce of Quito (CCQ). And on August 2nd, the CCQ received the Exceptional Organization of Excellence award by the "She Is Foundation." This program is promoted jointly with the support of the United States Embassy in Ecuador.

"We started aiming to develop women entrepreneurs by business training, both through e-learning and classroom modalities. The idea was to prepare the students to open a path in the business field, with all the tools given," said Hugo Ojeda, director of the Business School of the CCQ. After completing the course, the women will have a fully developed business



plan that they can use to set up their own startups. This educational plan has reached women from Quito, Guayaquil, Manta, Puyo, Ibarra, Ambato and Esmeraldas.

As far as the results go, "They have been positive," said Mr. Ojeda. "They were able to increase their income, and were able to create production methods for exportation," he continued.

The official records showed that 73% of the students increased their income, 36% found a job, and 91% of the women managed to improve their products and position them in different business fairs like the ones in Manta and Ambato.

"We have already secured alliances with the public and private sector to broaden the range of our program. For 2020, we'll be able to serve more than 1500 women from 20 different cities," stated Carlos Zaldumbide, Executive Director of the CCQ.

Extracted from El Comercio

## Ecuadorian government investing in single-teacher schools to reach rural areas

The Ministry of Education has determined that 60 single-teacher schools will be reopened in the Azuay, Cañar and Morona Santiago regions. The ministry performed an analysis and determined that there are certain areas that require these institutions.

Since 2018, 14 of these schools have been reopened. In Azuay there are 78 students already benefiting from these reactivated institutes; in Cañar there are 26 and in Morona Santiago 224. These schools are located in rural zones and in Communitarian Intercultural and Bilingual Centers (CECIBs).

Currently there are 18 reopening requests, but each request takes between three and four months to process. "We have to guarantee the good state of the infrastructure, assign a budget, and deploy teams for refurbishing if needed. We also have to issue a resolution of reopening," stated Cristian Bermeo, Director of Planning for Zone 6.

The Moreno Administration plans to rehabilitate 1,000 rural schools this year, and at least 1,000 more for the year 2020. The government has invested close to \$70 million for this program this year, and it estimates to invest a similar amount next year.

This program for rehabilitation of single-teacher schools has been pushed by rural communities and parent's associations, along with the state. These schools represent a guarantee of education for children in rural areas as well as reduce the commute for many of them.

Extracted from Diario EL Tiempo

M	A	W	R		C	R	E	S	S		S	E	E	M
A	S	H	E		B	E	L	C	H		C	A	S	E
C	H	I	L	D	S	P	L	A	Y		O	R	C	A
		P	I	E		S	E	L	E	C	T	M	A	N
I	N	S	E	A	M			E	R	A		A	P	E
D	E	A	D	L	I	N	E	S		C	A	R	E	S
S	O	W			C	A	R		B	A	S	K	E	T
			T	U	R	B	O	P	R	O	P			
B	O	L	E	R	O		D	O	E			C	P	A
O	R	A	N	G		S	E	T	T	H	E	O	R	Y
A	D	S		E	D	U			T	U	C	S	O	N
T	E	A	R	S	I	N	T	O		A	H	S		
E	R	G	O		S	T	A	G	E	C	O	A	C	H
R	E	N	O		C	A	P	E	R		E	C	R	U
S	D	A	K		S	N	E	E	R		S	K	I	M

Answers to puzzle on page 10

## Radar installations working (cont.)

signals is found in the Comprehensive Organic Criminal Code, COIP, and is a fourth-class traffic violation. The COIP establishes a fine equivalent to thirty percent of a unified basic salary, which currently comes to \$ 118.20, along with a six-point reduction in its driver's license. Whereas, the fine for speeding is a three-day custodial penalty, a payment on one unified basic salary, and reduction of ten points on a driver's license.

Castro also clarified that prior to the operation of the devices, EMOV sent notifications via email or text message to alert drivers to what would happen if they exceeded speed limits.

During the early trial of the photo radar sensors (that began in January of this year), 1,600 notices were issued; fines and sanctions have been getting issued since April when the system was formalized.

### Investigation

On a different note, current EMOV manager, Juan Carlos Aguirre, says that the State Attorney General's Office has opened an investigation into the awarding of the radar contract. Because of this, three photo radar sensors that were to be installed this month have been put on hold. "We are sure that this process will allow the authorities to determine the existence or not of responsibilities. EMOV will serve the law in the timeliest manner," he said.

Extracted from Diario El Tiempo

## Nearly 14% of Ecuadorian high school and middle school students fail final exams

The Ministry of Education published the statistics from the 2017-2018 academic year for both the Coast and the Sierra regions. From the 4.1 million students in the two regions, over 560,000, meaning 13.7% had to retake their final exams.

The two subjects in which most students fail are math and English. Spanish, literature and physics are also among commonly failed subjects. In the Sierra region, 17% of the students had to retake their math tests; 13.2% had to retake their English tests; 11.7% had to retake their Spanish test and 6.5% had to retake their Physics test. The highest percentage of students having to retake final exams were in the 11th and 12th grades of high school.

Ecuadorian middle school and high school students generally have



3 opportunities to retake the final exam when they fail. In the 2017-2018 academic year, most students (54.6%) passed on the first make-up exam; 46% passed in the second make-up exam.

Disturbingly, 12.53% ended up having to take the 3rd make-up exam; around 1% of the total students retaking the final test ended up failing the year.

Elizabeth Montenegro, an educational psychologist, states that the knowledge transferring problems are mainly influenced by apathy and fear from the students. "Career professionals who are not teachers lack the didactics that are adapted to a good teaching system. They don't know, in occasions, how is the learning cycle is for a student," she stated. She also pointed out that the system provides too many opportunities to improve grades. "This pushes away responsibility and the need to put effort. Because, in the end, most of them will pass the year anyway," she said.

Diego Chauvin, dean of the School of General Training of the

Universidad de las Americas (UDLA) states that there is also a problem in the reading approaches. "The boys learn the phonemes, and the content of what is read, but as they progress through the grades, they lose the capacity of comprehending the messages portrayed," he said. Additionally, Mariuxi Castillo, an English teacher, says that many English teachers lack connection with technology. "This subject, and probably others, can be taught by using videos, songs and movies, so that kids learn to grasp the language better. Instead of prohibiting tablets or cellphones in the classroom, these could be used as tools," she said.

The state an investment in each student represents is approximately \$840 per year.

Extracted from Diario El Tiempo

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## Chinese cars slowly taking larger market share



According to data from the Association of Automotive Companies of Ecuador (AEADE), cars from China (like Chery, Great Wall and JAC) are now the third most sold brands in the country, after Korean cars (like Hyundai, Kia and Daewoo) and national vehicles (cars assembled in Ecuador like Chevy). And soon they may take second place.

In 2017, 9,248 vehicles from China were sold in Ecuador. That was 8.8 percent of new cars purchased. Cars assembled in Ecuador, accounted for 40,138 sales, or 38.2 percent of the market. Vehicles of Korean origin, accounted for 15,912 units sold, for 15.1 percent of the market.

But over the past year, the sale of Chinese vehicles increased by almost 100 percent. In 2018, Chinese car companies sold 18,635 units in Ecuador, equivalent to 13.5 percent of the new car sales nationwide. Korean car sales also increased in 2018, with a total of 18,681 cars sold, or 13.6 percent of the market. Cars of national accounted for 40,138, falling to a market share of 26.8 percent of sales.

Both car dealers and mechanics agree that this is due to the low cost of many of the Chinese brands. Arnaldo Ibarra, a car salesperson from "More Autos" on Av. España, explains that a high-end Chinese vehicle, with a 2-liter engine, sunroof, leather seats and other luxuries, costs between \$17,000 and \$22,000. Whereas, a vehicle of these same characteristics, but from the traditional and most recognized brands, can cost between \$30,000 to \$35,000.



However, mechanic Fausto Déleg, said that buying a Chinese car has a negative side in that the price for used Chinese vehicles is also undervalued even more than that of cars of traditional brands. "You can buy it at \$ 20,000, but when you are going to sell it, you have to lose more than 20 percent of what you invested. Because people are not going to give more money," he emphasized.

Déleg says this is because people still do not know the quality of the Chinese engine, though he feels they are just as good as those in traditional vehicles.

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## Eight couples share vows in Ecuador's first same-sex marriages

Just as she didn't believe in love at first sight, she couldn't imagine that their relationship would become a struggle, Pamela Troya confessed to Gabriela Correa in her wedding vows.

Friends, family and activists for the rights of the LGBTI (lesbians, gays, bisexuals, transgender and intersex) population witnessed the promise of love of the two women who started the fight for equal marriage in Ecuador in 2013. Dressed in black and white, and with the symbolic colors of the rainbow that have accompanied the struggle of same-sex couples, the brides arrived on Monday, August 5, 2019 at the Civil Registry of San Blas to say "YES."

"The fight for marriage has had a wonderful ending," Pamela said, amid the excitement and nerves of a dream ceremony. Six years ago, the women went to the same headquarters of the Civil Registry with the intention of getting married. There they were told that only one man and one woman can marry.

This time around, they chose the same day, time and government office to celebrate their civil marriage after Ecuador announced that it would now allow same sex couples to marry.

On July 12th, the Constitutional Court (CC) gave way to equal marriage, recognizing that the Advisory Opinion 24/17 of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights is binding in Ecuador. The document states that countries that are part of the San José Pact, such as Ecuador, must guarantee the right to marriage for same-sex couples.

According to the data of the Civil Registry, Pamela and Gabriela are one of eight couples to marry since the Constitutional Court's announcement that it would recognize equal marriage. These eight couples were made up of six women and two men, in Santo Domingo, Guayas and Pichincha. Two more marriages between same-sex couples are scheduled in Pichincha, two in Guayas and one in Galapagos, before August 31st. The first same-sex marriage recognized in Ecuador was between couple Michelle and Alexandra, in Guayaquil.



Pamela Troya and Gabriela Correa married Monday in Quito. Their legal witnesses were Diana Troya, Pamela's sister and Ramiro García, President of the National Federation of Lawyers of Ecuador. In addition, LGBTIrights activist Silvia Buendía and Assemblyman Sebastián Palacios were witnesses of honor. "Now we are lady and lady," Pamela said smiling, while her wife looked at her. "Finally, we consolidate this great dream, this fight for rights, for justice, for the recognition of our families and for equality."

Diana Maldonado, spokeswoman for Equal Civil Marriage in Guayaquil, said that new struggles are opening up for the LGBTI population. She says that, for example, they oppose the Civil Registry requiring a certificate of the fertilization process from same-sex couples and having children since that is not a requirement for heterosexual couples.

Extracted from Diario El Comercio

## Moreno pardons Pablo Chambers, critic of Fabricio Correa contracts



This past Monday, President Lenin Moreno, announced his decision to grant a presidential pardon to Pablo Chambers, the ex-seer of the contracts that Fabricio Correa had with the

country. Moreno said, "Consistent with the line of not criminalizing opinion or criticism, I have arranged to immediately process the presidential pardon for Mr. Chambers, who was prosecuted and sentenced after acting as a seer of contracts for relatives of Rafael Correa."

This Twitter announcement was followed up by one from María Paula Romo the Minister of Government, who said, "President Moreno announces his decision to grant pardon to Pablo Chambers. His was one of the first cases of criminalization of opinion in the country. It is an important message in the line of freedom of expression that drives the government."

Pablo Chambers was one of the seers who investigated the contracts of Fabricio, brother of the then president Rafael Correa. Chambers, after having indicated that the ex-president did know about these contracts, was prosecuted for the crime of false testimony in 2012. The same happened to Gerardo Portillo, also a seer of that commission. Both received a one-year prison sentence from the Eighth Criminal Guarantees Court of Pichincha in 2014. And it was ratified by the National Court in 2017.

Extracted from Diario El Comercio

## With rising inflation Cuenca ranked one of the most expensive cities in Ecuador



Ecuador's inflation rate as of the end of July stood at 0.71%. This was the fourth month in a row that the inflation index was positive, according to data released Tuesday by the National Institute of Statistics and Census (INEC).

Among the products that rose in price in the last year are transportation, food and drink, education, healthcare, restaurants, alcoholic drinks and expenditures for basic services like water, electricity and others. Items that fell in price were recreation and culture, communications, home furnishings and clothing.

INEC also indicated that the most expensive city in the Sierra was Cuenca and on the Coast was Guayaquil. Cuenca's inflation rate was 0.96% and Guayaquil's was 1.05%. The monthly national indicator was 0.09%.

Extracted from Diario El Comercio

## Spanish tech company Wings Mobile starts operations in Ecuador



The Spanish company Wings Mobile—with its headquarters in Barcelona—started out as a business-to-business telecom provider back in 2006. In 2017, it decided to migrate to becoming a retail company with the approach of multilevel marketing.

The company is bringing its whole cellphone line, as well as computers, smart watches and laptops to market. Their latest cellphone has been designed to have a powerful capacity to mine the Ethereum cryptocurrency.

Also, they provide web services that will allow easy and low cost international calls to more than 60 countries. Their devices integrate GSM and VoIP technologies in each device, with no extra necessary applications.

"The advantage of our business model is that our affiliates earn what they sell. They can earn up to a basic Ecuadorian salary by selling two devices," stated Samuel Lopez, representative of Wings Mobile in Ecuador.

Their W3 cellphone model earned international awards for best technological design. Prices for their cellphones range from \$300 all the way up to \$1,000.

Extracted from EL Telegrafo

## Kidney disease continues to be a serious problem in Cuenca



There are currently 2,468 dialysis patients in the records of the Jose Carrasco Arteaga IESS Hospital in Cuenca. The head physicians of the Nephrology area of the hospital are worried about that number because most people come to seek attention for this kidney disease very late in the game.

According to the experts, there are many other diseases that precede kidney failure and that can be diagnosed and treated early in order to avoid dialysis treatment. There are various diseases known to affect the function of the kidneys: diabetes mellitus, glomerulonephritis, high blood pressure, kidney stones, and even various hereditary conditions.

"The kidney has the purpose of eliminating toxins through urine. It also helps prevent anemia. It controls metabolism. It regulates arterial pressure and stimulates the bone marrow to produce red blood cells. These are all essential tasks, none is more or less important than the other," said Catalina Rivera, chief of Nephrology at Jose Carrasco.

Rivera says that most renal patients arrive with very advanced stages of the disease. This makes it more difficult to control the situation and the progress of the disease tends to accelerate. "This is why it's vital for people to do a comprehensive checkup during the first years of any kidney related diagnostic," she said.

Whenever one of the two kidneys stops working, toxins start to accumulate, water isn't drained out of the system, the person swells and stops eating. This clinical picture is already severe, and it reflects insufficiency from a kidney.

Despite the possibilities of purifying the blood through dialysis, renal patients generally try to wait for a possible transplant. The National Sole Wait List (LEUN) is the official queue list to receive a kidney transplant in the public health system and IESS. This list is a source of uncertainty for most patients awaiting a transplant, because there are a lot of requirements to be placed on that list and they must have compatibility with the organ.

"There are patients who have been waiting for years on that list, and others that were recently put on the list were already operated on. The biological compatibility determines everything," said Gilberto Perez, a nephrologist at the IESS hospital.

There have been a total of 12 kidney transplants performed this year. Post-surgical treatment last about 10 to 15 days, with permanent control, follow up and medication.

Kidney disease is the seventh cause of death in Ecuador, by statistics of the Ministry of Public Health.

Extracted from Diario El Tiempo

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## CRIME REPORT AND ACCIDENT REPORT

### Cuenca Area Traffic Accidents

\* A motorcycle crash on Monday took the life of Edwin Geovanny Huerta Sangurima, 18. Family members reported that the accident occurred around 3:00AM on the road to Barabón. They said that the motorcycle was driven by a cousin of Edwin Geovanny, and that he was in the back as a companion.

\* At 2:00PM on Monday, a bus from the company Sigsig Express went off the road and crashed into a building on the Panamerican Highway near Challuabamba.

First responders reported that they provided pre-hospital assistance to 13 people who suffered minor blows. Traffic agents reported that the bus hit two vehicles that were in the parking lot of the food court.

\* Five people were injured as the result of a traffic accident at dawn on Saturday, August 3, 2019 at 3:35AM on the Cuenca - Molleturo road.

Personnel of the Traffic Commission of Ecuador reported that the accident was a collision between a tourist transport bus and a jeep-type car on the Cuenca to Cajas road. The driver of the bus fled the scene of the accident.

### Cuenca Area Criminal Activity

(Cuenca) This week saw the conviction of the driver of a dump truck that dragged a dog named 'Toreto', and caused his death; it is the first conviction to be applied in Cuenca based on the Organic Integral Criminal Code, COIP, which establishes sanctions for those who mistreat or cause the death of pets or pets.

The 3-day jail sentence also includes the payment of a fine equivalent to 25 percent of the basic salary, to the owner of the pitbull breed pet.

(Cuenca) The Prosecutor's Office of Azuay filed charges against Leonidas Amador Q., for his alleged participation in the crime of smuggling of migrants. He faces a jail sentence of seven to ten years.

The Prosecutor's Office said that the investigation against Leonidas Amador Q. began based on the complaint of a citizen who indicated that he offered to take him to the United States for \$12,000. As payment for the trip, in September 2015 the victim handed over to the coyote a plot of his parents' land with a public deed of open mortgage. The report details that on July 12, 2016, the emigrant began the trip from Cuenca by land to Quito.

He was subsequently taken to Tulcán and Bogotá. The victim continued the journey to cross the border but was arrested in Texas and spent eight days in jail. He was then transferred to New York where he was detained for several months, until being deported to Ecuador in June 2017.

## Guess what?

On the Calle Larga, *Iglesia de Todos los Santos*, or Church of All of the Saints, sits next to the Tomebamba River. The original building was the first church in Cuenca, but as the building began to deteriorate in the past century Cuenca began a process of restoration.

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### New reform to Procedural Penal Code to make incest a stand-alone felony

In view that 65% of the sexual violence cases against children and teenagers are perpetrated by close relatives, the National Assembly is now discussing new reforms to the Procedural Penal Code (COIP). Currently, article 171 only establishes incest as an aggravating factor in the case of rape. However, it only describes it as "a rape case perpetrated by a close family member." But, if categorized as its own crime, it will add a substantial amount of jail time to rape cases, where applicable. A rapist sentenced as guilty could receive up to 26 years in jail if he also committed incest, within the new reform to the law.

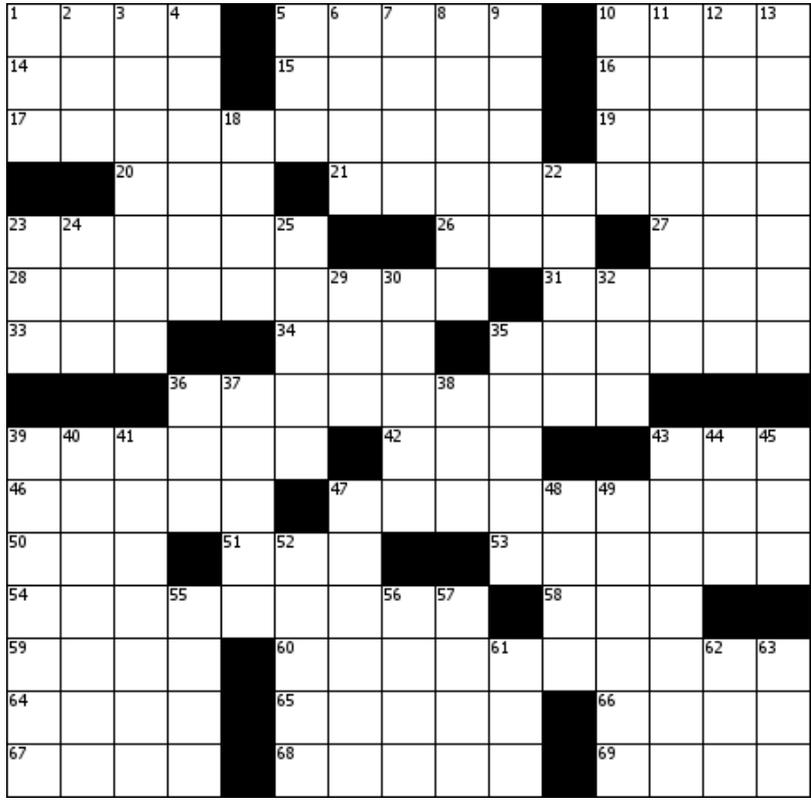
"The responsibility of the Legislative Branch is to give a political answer to society. With this reform we're sending a clear message of no tolerance to abuse of minors," said Ximena Peña, president of the Justice Commission.

Extracted from El Telegrafo

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See answers on page 4

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <p><b>Across</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Bryn ---</li> <li>5. Fancy salad addition</li> <li>10. Appear</li> <li>14. Queens stadium name</li> <li>15. Miss Manners gives it a thumbs down</li> <li>16. Court concern</li> <li>17. "Peter Pan" or piece of cake?</li> <li>19. Sea World performer</li> <li>20. After-dinner fare</li> <li>21. New England town official</li> <li>23. Pants leg feature</li> <li>26. Cy Young stat</li> <li>27. J. Fred Muggs, for one</li> <li>28. Ghost's speech in "Hamlet"?</li> <li>31. Is concerned</li> <li>33. Porker's parent</li> <li>34. Mercury or Saturn</li> <li>35. Wickerwork</li> <li>36. Plane in "Miss Saigon"?</li> <li>39. Ravel piece</li> <li>42. Name for a nameless one</li> <li>43. Apr. consultant</li> <li>46. Reddish tree dweller of Borneo</li> <li>47. Notions about backdrops?</li> <li>50. Consumer bait</li> <li>51. Univ. Web letters</li> <li>53. SW city known for its observatories</li> <li>54. Criticizes severely</li> <li>58. Oohs' partners</li> <li>59. Hence</li> <li>60. Director?</li> <li>64. Silver State city</li> <li>65. Bit of frivolity</li> <li>66. Natural shade</li> <li>67. Part of the La. Purchase</li> <li>68. Show derision</li> <li>69. Milk choice</li> </ol> | <p><b>Down</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Rock's Fleetwood ---</li> <li>2. Volcanic outpouring</li> <li>3. Two-person cutting tool</li> <li>4. Counted (on)</li> <li>5. "CSI" network</li> <li>6. Agents, familiarly</li> <li>7. Fashion mag since 1985</li> <li>8. Musical basics</li> <li>9. Less outgoing</li> <li>10. Robert Burns, for one</li> <li>11. Designate</li> <li>12. Like Eastwood in his Alcatraz role</li> <li>13. Most malicious</li> <li>18. They do it often in Vegas</li> <li>22. Bean taken to Europe by Cortes</li> <li>23. Air travelers' requirements</li> <li>24. Modern start?</li> <li>25. Chip start?</li> <li>29. Catch, as a crook</li> <li>30. Eat away</li> <li>32. Cleopatra's undoing</li> <li>35. MVP quarterback Favre</li> <li>36. Top of some ratings</li> <li>37. Impulses</li> <li>38. Kettle insulter?</li> <li>39. Stiff straw hats</li> <li>40. In sequence</li> <li>41. Italian entree</li> <li>43. Fighter against the Tartars</li> <li>44. Accomplished one</li> <li>45. Novelist Rand</li> <li>47. Many a beach goer's desire</li> <li>48. McCarthy era investigative gp.</li> <li>49. Rebounding sounds</li> <li>52. Stuff is recorded on them</li> <li>55. He's on board and can go straight</li> <li>56. Stuff is recorded on it</li> <li>57. S-shaped molding</li> <li>61. Goof</li> <li>62. Dernier --- (latest fashion)</li> <li>63. Forget the lyrics, maybe</li> </ol> |
|---|---|

## WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND TOWN AND BEYOND....

"What's Happening..." is updated weekly with a large variety of events that both ex-pats and Ecuadorians will enjoy. If you have an interesting event you would like to publicize, email [info@thecuencadispatch](mailto:info@thecuencadispatch) for consideration.

### Classifieds and Events

#### Nurse Services Home or Hospital care

I'm available for nurse care in hospital or out call service. I'm a professional nurse, bilingual and I can provide you help with several things, massage therapy, cooking your food, shopping your groceries, etc. Affordable price and great company.  
Contact: Anabel Cuervo / 0984266258

#### Ecuadorian Residence and Legal Translations

Do you want to live in Ecuador? You will need to apply for a Ecuadorian Residence and I can help you with the paperwork, the translations of the legal documents and the application. I will personally go with you to apply for your Ecuadorian Residence and also to the meeting to obtain your Residence. I am a legal translator certified by the Azuay Judicial Function.  
Contact: +593987469683 (Mauricio Bernal).

#### American Dentist in Cuenca

Periodontal disease not only is made worse by diabetes, but new research has demonstrated that diabetes is made worse by periodontal disease. Today the use of periodontal treatment/preventive trays with a peripheral seal allows us to deliver (at home), into the pockets and around the teeth, a mild natural medicine to control the bacteria and treat, or prevent the reoccurrence of periodontal disease. You only leave the trays in your mouth for 15 minutes a day. To see if these trays are right for you, call Dr. Woods as 097 924-6002.

#### Esperanza Thrift Shop is now open in our new location

Esperanza Thrift Shop is now open at our new location on Juan Montalvo 8-18 and Mariscal Sucre from 10am to 6pm. We are Cuenca's only legally registered Thrift Shop with the regulatory agencies to receive donations and sell and distribute items to the needy. If you have donations you would like us to pick up, please contact us or you can drop them off at the store daily from 10 AM to 6 PM. Call Garry Vatcher 096-896-2015.

#### The "Best" House and Pet Sitter Has Availability!

Availability starting August 12th through September 10th  
I am a huge animal lover, have a very green thumb and I will treat your home, pets and plants like they were my own...always with the utmost care, love and respect.  
Must be 14 day sits or longer, please. Email me now to reserve a space on my calendar.  
A heartfelt thank you with love to all my loyal customers. Contact: Debra S. Lynn 099-925-6098

#### August 14th

##### Our Monthly Unconventional Social Gathering

Mark your calendars! This is our second monthly unconventional social gathering to bring everyone together in the real world. It's the second Wednesday of each month at 3pm at varying locations around Cuenca.  
Time: 3:00pm  
Address: Pepe's House Cuenca - Bed & Breakfast, Mariano Cueva 9-69 and Gran Colombia.

#### August 14th

##### Workshop/Meeting of Musicians in the Jazz Edition - Cuenca

A space created to spread Jazz music from clinics, workshops and assemblies with leading teaching musicians, both national and foreign. Using jazz as a didactic platform to be able to impart different knowledge about the genre, helping musicians of initial levels to have an approach with Jazz and strengthening the foundations for advanced musicians.

Time: Wed 14th at 03:00 pm to Fri 16 at 06:00 pm  
Address: SONO Centro Cultural, Gran Colombia 12-62 y Juan Montalvo.

#### August 16th

##### Judo Exhibition in Mall del Rio

Live the sports this Friday at 6:00pm.  
\* Free entrance.  
Address: "Mall del Rio". Av. Felipe II and Circunvalacion.

### Worship Services

#### Calvary Chapel Cuenca this Sunday - English and Spanish Services

What: Calvary Chapel has been formed as a fellowship of believers in the Lord Jesus Christ.  
When: Sunday's service in English at 9:30 a.m., in Spanish at 8 a.m. and also at 11 a.m.  
Where: Our location is at the western end of bus line #22, Juan Pio Montufar and Primera Convención  
Cost: Free  
Contact: Roger Quilty 098 032 6390

#### The International Christian Community

What: We are open to Christians of all backgrounds and our main goal is to love one another in the Lord. Come and enjoy "God With Us".  
When: Every Sunday at 11:00 a.m. (in English). Coffee fellowship after the service.  
Where: Nicanor Aguilar and Solano (one block north of Monte Sinai Hospital).  
Cost: Free  
Contact info: Email [info@internationalchristiancommunity.org](mailto:info@internationalchristiancommunity.org)

Solution to Sudoku puzzle on page 3

5	9	2	3	6	1	7	4	8
7	3	8	2	4	9	1	5	6
4	1	6	8	7	5	2	3	9
6	5	4	9	3	2	8	1	7
9	2	1	5	8	7	4	6	3
3	8	7	4	1	6	9	2	5
1	4	9	7	5	3	6	8	2
2	6	3	1	9	8	5	7	4
8	7	5	6	2	4	3	9	1

# Real Estate & Rentals



## Fully furnished apartment with a covered terrace 180° VIEWS

This amazing unit just came out of the oven. YES, it comes with a Terrace and has a great view to the Yanuncay-river. The apartment has 2 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms, EVERYTHING IS INCLUDED!

**Contact:**  
Roberto Cruz  
0995 821 318  
mediosoles@gmail.com



Looking to rent or sell your apartment, house, or land?

Contact us to include your listing in the next issue!

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## Fully furnished One and a half bedroom apartment

One bedroom apartment for rent with an office, independent, fully furnished, in the upper floor of a cozy house full of plants, located in the residential area of "Puertas del Sol", with permanent guards,

**Contact:**  
Roberto Cruz  
0995 821 318  
mediosoles@gmail.com



## House for SALE near the Loja Av.

It comes with 4 bedrooms plus an attic, 3 and a half bathrooms. This unit is located in a quiet neighborhood but near to El Centro. The house is 10 years old and it has two parking spaces.

**Contact:**  
Roberto Cruz  
0995 821 318  
mediosoles@gmail.com



## BEAUTIFUL HOUSE WITH A LOT OF OUTSIDE SPACE

This beautiful house is located in the northeast of the city. The total area of the property is 800 square meters. The house is partly furnished and has a kitchen with stove, refrigerator and microwave. It also has a garage and connections for washer and dryer. One year minimum rental

**Contact:**  
CuencaRentalsandSales  
0994882938  
rentalscuenca@gmail.com



## 2 BEDROOM PENTHOUSE IS WALKABLE TO EL CENTRO

A 10-minute walk to the historic district, this two bedroom apartment (MB king/ 2nd queen) is close to SuperMaxi, parks and great restaurants. The apartment is fully furnished and the rent includes utilities, condo fee plus Internet and CATV. Also includes washing/dryer machine.

**Contact:**  
CuencaRentalsandSales  
0994882938  
rentalscuenca@gmail.com