

THE CUENCA DISPATCH

Ecuador's Original English-Language Newspaper

Volume 4 • ISSUE 18

December 1st, 2019 • www.thecuencadispatch.com

Correa's sister says he would return to Ecuador if he felt due process would be done



Former Ecuador President Rafael Correa, who from Belgium leads the opposition to the Government of Lenin Moreno, "is not afraid" to return to the country and be imprisoned "if [he] had the guarantee that the due process was done," said his sister Pierina Correa in an interview with news service Efe.

"But there is no guarantee in our current legal system of exercising a defense as it should be," said Pierina Correa, who cited as an example the recent case of former Assemblyman Virgilio Hernández, against whom a

judge issued preventive detention for alleged rebellion after being accused of participating in the organization of violent acts during the protests last October.

According to the ex-president's sister, who campaigns in New York for the political opposition movement "Social Commitment for the Citizen Revolution," in order to "recover the Government" in the 2021 elections, Hernández voluntarily surrendered after his residence was raided to be allowed to defend himself while being free, but "he was imprisoned" on November 5th. cont. page 6.



Medical death of a minor in Cuenca being investigated by Azuay Prosecutor

A minor identified as Sofia G., 8, died after undergoing surgery in a hospital in Cuenca on November 18th. Her relatives have reported the case, since they believe that it was due to medical practice. The Azuay Prosecutor's Office opened a previous investigation.

Juan Carlos Salazar, a lawyer for Sofia's family, said that on Friday, November 15th, the girl was admitted to a hospital in the city "with a case of tonsillitis," and the doctors who treated her decided to intervene surgically.

"On November 18th, the supposedly routine surgical intervention was performed an operation that should not have been of great significance. However, the young girl did not leave the operating room and died. A concern of the family is that the person who performed the surgery did not give appropriate or coherent explanations about what had happened. Sofia's death can be established at about 11:00 pm," said Salazar.

The lawyer said that the family presented the complaint to the State Attorney General's Office and the cont. page 6.

Remigio Crespo neighborhood faces problems from bar and disco clientele

Sidewalks converted into canteens, street quarrels, bustle until the wee hours of the morning, are the main problems affecting the inhabitants of Remigio Crespo Avenue, which is now characterized as an area full of bars and discos.

The last incident that caused citizen anger happened committed last Thursday, when a group of motorcyclists physically assaulted a crew of workers of the Municipal Cleaning Company of Cuenca (EMAC).

The incident was recorded by a security camera in the area and showed motorcyclists beating the workers who collected the garbage left by dozens of individuals.

Juan Ordonez, manager of the EMAC, said that the case was reported to the Prosecutor's Office for the aggressors to be punished.

cont. page 7.



**Your business would look great here.
Contact us to advertise.**

info@thecuencadispatch.com

| 098-482-2495

THE CUENCA DISPATCH

Ecuador's Original English-Language Newspaper

VOL 4
ISSUE
18

Publisher:
Jonathan Mogrovejo
info@thecuencadispatch.com

Graphic Design
Bianca Mosquera

FOR ADVERTISING,
PLEASE CONTACT:
info@thecuencadispatch.com
098-482-24195

Printed by:
Imprenta Unigraf

The Cuenca Dispatch is published by GoBig Web Design and Marketing. Any reproduction or duplication of any part thereof must be done with the written permission of the Publisher. All information included herein is correct to the best of our knowledge as of the publication date. Corrections should be forwarded to the Publisher at the address above.

Disclaimer: The paid advertisements contained within The Cuenca Dispatch are not endorsed or recommended by the Publisher. Therefore, neither party may be held liable for the business practices of these companies.

© The Cuenca Dispatch & GoBig Web Design and Marketing, 2019



VENTURA
SALA DE BOLOS

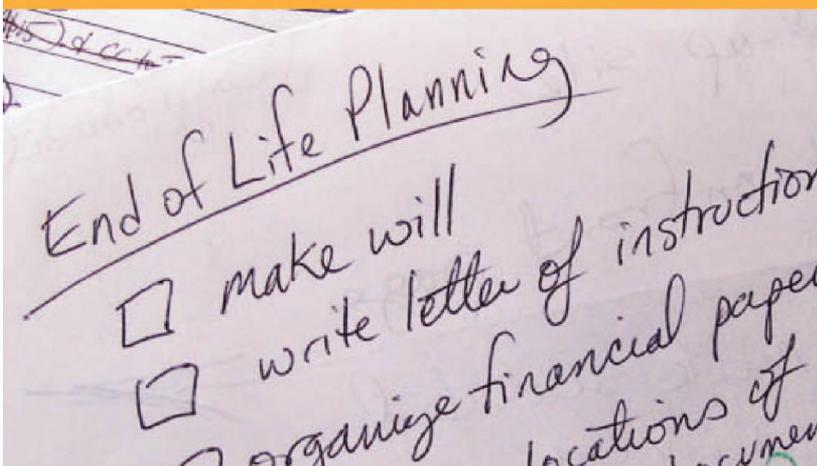
VENTURA **BOWLING** CENTER

Mall del Río.
6 wooden lanes
Brunswick,
Snack Bar, 300 inch screen.
Open everyday from
10:30 AM to 10 PM



@VenturaSaladeBolos

*Naturally it's hard to think about,
but perhaps your next step (for your family)
should be more than just a note on your "To-do" list...*



Contact Attorney Sara Chaca.

*She'll help you take care of it.
Before "mañana" becomes a day late.*

"Ecuador Visas"
Calle Larga 6-16 y Hermano Miguel
Cuenca, Ecuador 010101
sara@ecuadorvisas.com | 099 296 2065



Pick up a copy of The Cuenca Dispatch near you!

You can find The Cuenca Dispatch at the following locations:

- Supermaxi El Vergel
- Supermaxi Don Bosco
- Fabianos
- San Sebas Cafe
- Common Grounds
- Oro Verde Cafe
- Cafe Del Museo
- Sabatino's Garden Restaurant
- Sunrise Cafe
- Don Colon
- Creta Restaurant

More locations coming soon!

Want another expat hangout added to the list of locations where you can find The Cuenca Dispatch?

Let us know!

Email us at
info@thecuencadispatch.com

I'M JUST SAYIN'

By Michael Soares



Sometimes, the bulls win

For those of you who have been here a while and used to visit Café Eucalyptus, you may recall the iconic painting that hung in the center of the old colonial space. It was of a bullfight in Spain. But it wasn't a normal bullfight, it had a big twist to it.

It was created by a very famous artist Ariel Dawi. He did it as a gift to the owners of Café Eucalyptus back in 2002. And it became so famous that back in the early 2000's, it could be found in all of the top guidebooks of the time. In fact, it can even be found today online if you look hard enough.

What made it famous? Well, it was an unusual take on the bullfight itself. Because it's victor was actually not the matador, but rather the bull. In the center of the ring, the bull is clutching a sword between its two front legs and thrusting it into the matador who is writhing in pain on the ground. It's a brutal scene, but no more so than if the matador had been taking down the bull.

People who saw the painting either loved it or hated it. There was very little "in between" response to it. I remember the first time I saw it. I loved it. Loved the concept, loved the colors of it and loved the size, a full seven and a half feet by seven and a half feet. There was no missing it when you walked into the place. It hung in the middle of the room and demanded all eyes to focus on it.

Café Eucalyptus is gone now, and the painting "disappeared" when the place closed down. But it wasn't lost to time, it was simply put into storage until the right place could be found for it to hang again.

As I said, Señor Dawi is very famous and this painting was highly sought after. But since we were close to the owner of the restaurant and Codie managed the place during its last year of operation (before the Tranvia took away the road and sidewalk in front of the building), we ended up as the proud owners of the piece. And I say proud because we truly love what the concept portrays.

Now, I don't know the painter himself (Codie does), but I imagine that his vision here had more to do with life overall than just a simple bullfight. I think it meant that the world can be a cruel place where people who are at a disadvantage are constantly treated poorly and put down by those "above" them. The people in power. The ones who think they have a right to take advantage of everyone.

I think it also speaks to the idea of cruelty that is justified by tradition. That it is okay to take from others with force or the power of government, because that is the way it has always been. And this kind of tradition is widespread throughout South America.

But what this painting also says is this, "You keep treating us unfairly and eventually we are going to rise up and overthrow you. We will stand up taller than you expect, and we will defeat you."

And that now seems to be a tradition that is coming to the forefront throughout South America. In the span of a couple of months, we have seen uprisings against the governments of four countries on the continent. We may still see more.

And the central theme through all of those protests is the wealth divide. The poor feel the rich control too much, hold them down and unfairly take the resources of the country for themselves. In Ecuador we seem to have—for the moment at least—escaped the worst of it all. We did not see the large number of deaths that the other countries have seen. We have not had the protests go on for months. We did not see the government crumple.

But that may still come. The people here who feel they are the downtrodden have not walked away from the fight. They have taken a "time-out" to see if their demands for change are taken seriously or simply pushed aside. So, this fight is not over.

The crowd may soon be chanting for blood again. But this time the matadors may lose, and the bulls may take the victory. Unless the matadors take to heart what they have been asked to do, they may find themselves on the wrong end of the sword.

It's a scary thought, but not one without precedent.

I'm just sayin'.

P.S. That beautiful painting is now hanging in our house in Yunguilla. And we couldn't be happier looking at it every day.

* Señor Dawi is currently exhibiting his new series of work called "Chromatic Crossings" at the Salón del Pueblo at the Casa de la Cultura

Can you see this?
So can thousands of our readers.

Place your business's ad here and reach your market
Contact us to start your marketing campaign
098-482-2495 - info@thecuencadispatch.com

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!

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

See answers on page 11

Conaie temporarily blocks medical group from seeing patients

This past weekend, a medical brigade of the "All-Life Plan," of the National Government, encountered obstacles when it tried to enter Cotopaxi—specifically the community of Tigua—when it was stopped by the leader of the Confederation of Indigenous Nationalities of Ecuador (Conaie), Jaime Vargas.

The purpose of the officials was to provide technical assistance of a social nature to Saquisilí, Sigchos, Chugchilán, Angamarca, Guangaje and Tigua. But upon entering the latter, a group of people that included Vargas, prevented their passage and threatened to retain them.

After the intimidation there was a negotiation and, in the end, the indigenous leaders let the group pass, according to information from the Presidency.



Petroecuador official pleads guilty to money laundering in Miami

On November 14th, in Miami, Former Petroecuador official Raúl de la Torre pleaded guilty to charges of money laundering.

"Between 2018 and June 2019, De la Torre, who then worked as a foreign official in Petroecuador, conspired with other Petroecuador and Ecuadorian government officials and with certain other people, in a scheme to receive millions of dollars in bribes," says the document signed by US prosecutors, De la Torre and his defense attorney. The meetings were held in Ecuador and in Miami-United States.

In these appointments, De la Torre and fellow Ecuadorian Roberto Barrera agreed with an oil company that they should be paid \$3.15 million in bribes to help the company obtain new contracts and expedite the pending payments that Petroecuador owed to them.

Barrera was also arrested with De la Torre. In his statement, he said he was close to a senior Petroecuador official, who oversaw the award of

contracts, as well as payments in that company. According to Barrera, he has emails committing to the payment of the bribes, as well as the transfers that were made.

The inquiry also says that the bribe money was sent to accounts that were on behalf of third parties in South Florida.



Extracted from Diario El Comercio

Conviction rate for femicides hits 86% across Ecuador

Over the past 5 years, 86% of femicides prosecuted in Ecuador ended up with a conviction. The first criminological bulletin prepared on the subject indicated that these crimes represent 36% of the cause of violent deaths of women in the country.

The report showed that "86% had a conviction and 82% of all were punished with the maximum penalty, some up to 40 years in jail in particular aggravating cases," said the director of Criminal Policy of the Prosecutor, Ximena Coello.

Coello offered details of recently published, first official document on femicides in the country. She said that the fiscal body prepared the report in conjunction with other institutions and that it measured the incidence of the femicide since it was typified as a crime in 2014 in the then new Organic Integral Criminal Code (COIP).

The analysis dates from August 2014 to May 31,

2019, although Coello indicates that another twenty cases of deaths due to sexist violence in the country registered in recent months should be added.

Since the data began being collected, there have been 935 violent deaths of women of which "36 percent are femicides." There are provinces more violent than others and not necessarily because of their high population density.

The common denominator of this type of death is that the victims generally had no economic income, which according to Coello, "goes hand in hand with the analysis of the circles of violence and economic dependence with the aggressor."

Of special concern is that the aggressors have left a large number of orphaned children - 69 percent of the victims were mothers - and that many of them committed suicide.

Extracted from Diario El Tiempo



Daniela Cordero,
Health Insurance

Daniela Cordero is the agent I talked to – her role includes finding us the best doctors in Ecuador who also speak English. She is very focused on that. She also actually knows doctors who do house calls.

Cell: 0995206384

Recommended by:
Lucy Hancock



Cuenca Expat
Health Insurance
by Megabrokers



Let us help find your Dream Home

Compra, vende y renta tus propiedades

Con o sin comisión

Call
Roberto Cruz
0995 821 318



Ecuador still struggling with a lack of health specialists

After three years of training, in 2009, doctor Byron Mendoza earned completed his specialty training at a Uruguayan university. He went to Uruguay for his training in endocrinology because he could not gain a postgraduate program for his specialty here in Ecuador. He has now been an attending physician at Enrique Garcés Hospital in Quito for six years.

The deficit in this type of specialist training worries both doctors and healthcare organizations. Rheumatology, immunology, cardiothoracic, vascular surgery, neurosurgery, rehabilitation and endocrinology are the least found specialties here in public health services.

Since 2009, most of them were covered by Cuban doctors. They arrived in the country through agreements between the governments of Ecuador and the island nation. However, on November 12th, the Government announced the completion of these agreements. Last week, 382 Cuban health professionals returned to their country.

In a study of the Association of Ecuadorian Faculties of Medical and Health Sciences, chaired by Leonardo Bravo, a deficit of specialists in the areas of surgery and anesthesiology was determined. These specialties are the least offered as postgraduate degrees in Ecuadorian universities. "Of the 22 medical careers, [we] graduate between 3,300 and 3,400 doctors. And less than 10% achieve a specialty. There are no options. It is a fallacy."

Around 750 places in specialties were offered this year, in 12 public and private universities, according to a statement from the Ministry of Higher Education. Getting into a graduate program is not easy. First, the interested party has to look for a program inside or outside the country. Then, they must find their own financing or meet the necessary requirements to access a scholarship.

Dr. Mendoza chose the first option: self-financing. To do this, he took an admissions test and validated his experience as a doctor in a health center. "For three years I studied in the postgraduate program and then did a residency in Chile. My idea was always to come back and work in my country."

Dr. Ana Vargas, on the other hand, opted for a scholarship from the medical school of Central University in Quito. She entered the family medicine program where most of the students entered through a scholarship.

The specialty has two parts: theoretical and practical. The latter is developed in the medical units of the Ministry of Health or the Ecuadorian Institute of Social Security (IESS). Each year, these entities open places for new graduate students. At the end of the studies, they must earn



the scholarship with work. They will work twice as long as the years of academic training. Ana's program lasted three years, so she must work six. She will begin this process next April.

"My graduate program has been worth it, although the curriculum could be improved to further profile the family doctor's skills; more than anything in research." The Central University offers 250 annual quotas. But, next year, this figure will be lower due to the budget reduction in the Proforma said Dr. Ramiro Estrella, Dean of the Faculty of Medical Sciences of Central University.

"We will open 70 places. We restrict ourselves, since only the Ministry of Health will open quotas; the IESS, no." For Estrella, specialties are necessary to address degenerative diseases or accidents. In the faculty, says Estrella, it was planned to offer psychiatry, epidemiology, geriatrics and palliative care. The first two are part of the areas that were free after the departure of the Cubans and the possibility of hiring Ecuadorians was opened. The Ministry of Health announced that there are 347 places to fill.

Ernesto Carrasco, President of the Ecuadorian Medical Federation (FME), explained that they proposed to make an agreement with universities to form assistance residents with those currently working in hospitals. In addition, they insisted on reducing the working day to extend the places to other professionals.

Extracted from Diario EL COMERCIO

Cuenca distributes community alarm systems to 19 neighborhoods

On Wednesday afternoon, the Citizen Security Council (CSC) delivered community alarm systems to 688 families, distributed across 19 neighborhoods of Cuenca.

According to the authorities, this technological system is part of the "Safe Neighborhood" project that the CSC is executing as part of preventive security actions to support the residents of various sectors.

Cuenca Mayor Pedro Palacios said that the investment made in these preventive systems was \$46,540. He highlighted that the purpose of implementing this program was to create community unity and solidarity.

In the Coliseum of the Professional Drivers Association of Azuay, the alarms were delivered to families from the neighborhoods: Luxembourg, Machángara Hills Phase 2, Dorado, Fatima Phase 2, Ingaloma, Playas de Totoracocha, Carlos Tosi Phase 2, House for Everyone, Los Girasoles, Matías Ochoa, Tucumán, Phase 2 Velodrome, La Gorgona Phase 2, Washers of Monay Phase 2, Monay Chico Phase 2, Banks of Machángara Phase 2, Las Palmeras, Machángara 2, and Yaruquí Phase 2. Each family received the wireless help buttons to be pressed in case of emergency, that will activate a siren located in the center of each sector at the same time this signal will be received by CSC personnel, who will immediately coordinate the emergency with local authorities.

Fernando Carpio, Executive Director of the CSC explained that the Institution will continue to gather the corresponding information so that more Cuenca families have different preventive security systems. He also said that the CSC have the purpose of strengthening the union of the neighborhoods to improve security at the canton level.



Correa would return to Ecuador if he felt due process would be done (Cont.)

Hernández, from the Correa movement, says it is political persecution. Former President Correa (2007-2017) resides in Belgium since leaving the Presidency, after which he has been presented with about twenty charges, including accepting bribery, which can be tried in absentia, according to his sister, who said that "Rafael never received two cents."

"The message is clear, especially in the case of Rafael Correa and Jorge Glas (former vice president of Ecuador), annul not only their political participation in this electoral process that is approaching in 2021, but for life," said Pierina Correa, who argued that the names of those who allegedly bribed her brother in exchange for contracts with the government of Moreno have not been published.

She affirmed that if under her brother's government they could have made mistakes, and that some officials may have abused trust and their positions, "to do improper things" to judge them "but respecting the universal principle of innocence," which she insists does not now exist in Ecuador.

She said that at this time there is no way to determine if her brother could return to the country and how he could do it, "because we do not know how these trials are going to be decided," she explained.

"From the electoral results in Argentina, where the pendulum moves again to the left, after the marches in Ecuador, in Chile, the problem of Bolivia, what is happening in Colombia, the message, [is that] winds of progress in the region are blowing again and that does not suit the current government," she said.

"It seems that the message is to step on the bottom of the accelerator to achieve convictions and sentences that would block you for life" of any public post, she added.

According to Pierina Correa, with that scenario in her country, the "Social Commitment for the Citizen Revolution" movement that her brother directs from Belgium has been given the task of "recovering the Government" and, for this, "we are carrying a message of unity and organization."

"We are summoning a great coalition, which we have called of hope, that brings together and summons movements, parties, fronts, organizations of the progressive line and the left to face the 2021 elections with agreements," she said.

She added, "We are consolidating the structure of the movement, working on a communications strategy, making analysis of social trends, of the global management of what were previously very drastic, very clear trends, with a dividing line marked between the right and the left, also considering the young voter who has not lived through the dictatorship, the return to democracy in the country."

According to Correa, as part of that strategy "we have changed a bit without neglecting the national concept" to talk now about recovering the country's future because the new Government of Lenin Moreno interrupted that process by not continuing with the agenda that her brother proposed when he presided over Ecuador.

"We believe that it took away, especially to the new generations, the opportunity to build our future," argued Correa, who began her tour in California, and after New York will continue to Florida.

Extracted from Diario El Mercurio

**Start making \$\$\$ online
in less than 6 weeks.**

**We will handle all of your
online marketing for you.**

Call 098-482-2495

Cuenca Medical Resources

A web-based directory of English speaking healthcare professionals and services in the Cuenca area.

Some strokes are caused by bleeding in the brain, but the vast majority is caused by a clot that blocks blood flow, starving brain cells and leading to potential brain damage.

Learn more about experiencing and recognizing a Stroke. A printable info sheet is available on our website: www.cuencamedicalresources.com

To subscribe to the Cuenca Medical Resources website and receive future updates and information, to go <http://eepul.com/gx5AMP> or click on 'JOIN US' from our website's home page.



Death of a minor in Cuenca (Cont.)

first investigative processes have been initiated.

"Necropsy was done and with the results we will establish the cause of death and whether or not surgery was necessary. We are convinced that there is a case of professional malpractice, we will not let the fact remain in impunity. The parents will go to the last effort," Salazar added.

Prosecution

Leonardo Amoroso, prosecutor of Azuay, announced that after receiving the complaint on this case, the pertinent proceedings have begun.

"The removal of the body was arranged for Tuesday, November 19 than the court order requested to [authorities] to secure the original medical record that was in the hospital where the girl was treated. The versions of the relatives were received and the legal medical autopsy was prepared to determine the cause of death," said Amoroso.

The Prosecutor said that after the autopsy, it was determined that the cause of death was from "a surgical intervention of the left carotid artery section and severe cerebral edema."

"The Prosecutor has arranged to make a histopathological technical report to corroborate the type of injury and damage of the different samples that were taken in different regions of the body with the artery and tonsils," said Amoroso.

The Prosecutor's Office continues to make progress with the investigation and has ordered the appearance of several people, mainly of the staff that attended to the girl and who participated in the surgical intervention.

According to Amoroso, article 146 of the Organic Comprehensive Criminal Code (COIP) refers to the wrongful death due to medical malpractice, and in subsection 510 of the COIP, it is required to appoint a list of professionals to determine if the procedure was appropriate or not.

Amoroso said that at the moment a doctor is being investigated, although the research is aimed at a technical team and with the inquiry, the degree of participation of these people in the operation will be determined.

The defendant's lawyer

For his part, Italo Palacios, lawyer of the accused doctor, Juan A., said he will demonstrate "in a clear, technical and scientific manner" in the medical area that his client has no responsibility for what is being investigated.

"In my opinion it was a lawful, necessary procedure, a procedure that did not cause medical malpractice. Later the doctor will be rendering his version to the Prosecutor because he has nothing to hide. There is no reason to hinder an investigation. Of his own free will, my client will appear in order to provide all the information and clarify the facts," said Palacios.

The lawyer said that it is false that the doctor has left the country and said that at the time the investigations take place and that when necessary, he will appear in court.

Extracted from Diario El Mercurio

Remigio Crespo bars and discos (Cont.)

Meeting

Faced with the problems of insecurity that affect the sector, a group of residents met with representatives of the Azuay Governorate, National Police, Citizen Guard, Citizen Security Council and Police Administration last Friday night (the 22nd of November).

Citizens requested that the operating permits of night entertainment venues be reviewed, because they use take-away cups for the sale of alcoholic beverages.

They also asked for noise control, for public highway police and for prevention of parking of vehicles in prohibited areas, which complicate traffic.

ECU 911 asked to review the location of video surveillance cameras for better coverage, because the problem of insecurity extends to Padre Julio Matovelle Street.

The authorities offered to reinforce controls and respond to requests in order to restore the tranquility of the neighborhood.

Ecuador's rum history becomes a popular tourist attraction

Visitors to Cuenca can now learn about oak barrels and how rum is made, as well as the history of one of the most traditional companies in the city.

Fusing history, tradition and mixological art certainly represents a great challenge, especially in a city like Cuenca where innovative initiatives are the order of the day. The Los Andes- San Miguel Business Group is taking on that challenge by opening its San Miguel Cava to the public, with a novel offer that merges these three aspects.

During the tour, visitors will hear details related to the production of rum, its evolution and how Ron San Miguel arrived to become one of the most representative brands of the city and the country throughout 60 years of history.

As soon as the smell of rum permeates the environment, the liquor that is aged in oak barrels of different sizes creates a special sensation. Barrels that have for decades been preserving rum will later have their contents bottled by state-of-the-art technology, under international standards of quality.

Eng. Andrea Torres, who guides the tour, explains the beginnings of the company at the Uzhupud estate back in 1952, as well as the origin of the name San Miguel. The famous name was adopted from the patron of that community, the archangel San Miguel, for the protection he gave them. The company brand is the image of the archangel with the phrase "Da Robvr Fer Avxilivm", which means "Give strength and help."

After the tour full of rum history, the visit continues in the innovation hall in which all the products of the San Miguel brand and other creations such as cocktails, whiskey, as well as straw hats and toquilla are exposed in a traditional environment.

The Financial Administrative Manager of San Miguel, Hernán Coellar, said that since the opening of the cellar to the public, the results have been very positive. There is already steady feedback from the visitors, which has forced them to innovate regularly with the objective to offer an increasingly pleasant and attractive tour to visitors.

Throughout the tour, the importance of responsible liquor consumption is reinforced along with the proper way to mix the rum with soft drinks, fruit juices and even products such as chocolate to enjoy more of its essence.



If we don't have it...

...You don't need it!

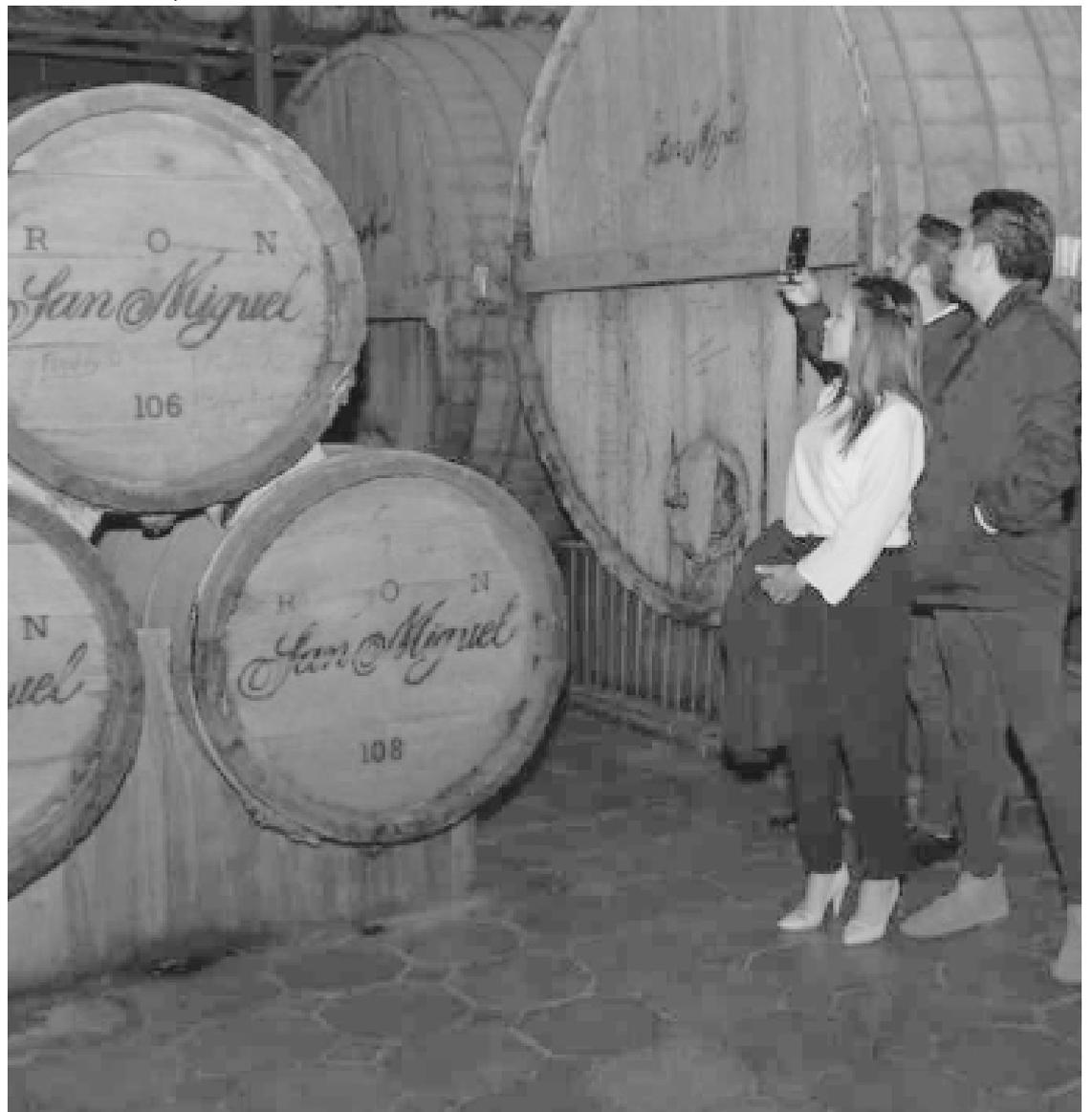
All our prices are negotiable!

Cuenca Consignments

Isabela 4-75 y 12 de Abril

Open T, Th, F 11am to 5pm

Contact us at: 0995 468 580 / 0984 593 005



Electric Vehicles get a new charging station in Cuenca



Electric vehicles that circulate in Cuenca have a new energy station to charge them at. This is the first charging station implemented in the city that was created by students of the Catholic University of Cuenca in the laboratories of the University of Cuenca.

There is no exact number of how many of these vehicles are in the city. While the Mobility Company, EMOV, says that there are around 20, the Association of Automotive Companies of Ecuador (AEADE), says that of the 441 electric vehicles nationwide, 10 percent circulate in Cuenca, or around 44.

Cars, bicycles, motorcycles and electric scooters can also be charged at this new station installed in the Parque de la Madre parking lot. The objective of the Municipality of Cuenca, promoter of the initiative, is to encourage the use of electric vehicles to avoid pollution.

Operation

Eduardo Barrera, Carlos Ramón, Xavier Chérrez and Duver Veintimilla, students of the Catholic University of Cuenca, were the creators of the charging.

"The station works with alternating current and connects to 220 volts. It can be installed in any home or public space," Chérrez said.

The students highlighted the simple use of the station. "Once the station is connected to the vehicle using the SAEJ1772 standard (an electrical connector), communication between the station and the vehicle begins," Ramón added.

After establishing such communication, the transfer of energy to the vehicle begins. "It is completely safe, without the risk of electric shock,"

Barrera said.

The charge will have no cost during the first six months, "what the owner of an electric vehicle will have to pay, it will only be the use value for the parking lot," said Veintimilla.

The students chose the installation of a "slow charge" energy dispenser because it is capable of providing up to 100% of a battery charge; "fast charge" stations only provide up to 85% of a charge. The charging time is up to four hours and lasts up to three days, depending on the use of the vehicle.

"The slow charge is more efficient and extends the life of the automotive batteries," said Juan Carlos Aguirre, EMOV manager.

According to the official, the electric charging stations do not differ much from a gas station; the user approaches the dispenser and plugs the hose into the car. "Fuel will not be obtained, but electricity. And, in addition, it will take longer to fill, depending on the level of load that the vehicle requires."

Cost Comparison

Filling a 12-gallon tank with super gasoline costs \$38.00 and with extra, \$22.20. In an electric car, it is necessary to recharge twice, at a cost of \$2.00 each charge, fees that EMOV will assume through an agreement with the Centrosur Company, for six months.

"After the pilot tests, it will be evaluated to install more charging points, or failing that, to start issuing the rate generation for each of the refills," according to the EMOV manager.

In the automotive market, the distance and electric car can go on a charge depends on the models. For example, the Kia Soul is between 160 to 200 kilometers per load.

Among other characteristics that Chérrez explained, an electric car does not have wear on parts found in a combustion car; it does not need an oil or coolant change. "The maintenance savings are 90 percent compared to a traditional combustion engine car."

Meanwhile, the installation of the first public charging station in the city, made purely by Cuenca hands and with existing materials and equipment between the two universities, represents one of the initiatives to promote sustainable mobility, according to the EMOV manager.

Another loading point will be placed in front of the University of Azuay in mid-December.

Extracted from Diario El Tiempo

Pumapungo birds making a short-term move for park renovation

For the next 30 days, the house of the "Bird Rescue and Quarantine Center" of the Pumapungo Museum in Cuenca, will be the subject of architectural cleaning, improvement of conservation spaces and input storage.

In order to comply with this process, the birds of the Center will be transferred to another space within the same Archaeological and Ethnobotanical Park of Pumapungo, in coordination with the Ministry of Environment.

Authorities of the Pumapungo Museum said that they are taking all relevant measures for the safeguarding of birds and so that they have the best living conditions in this provisional space. Their transfer will have the participation of bird specialists, especially experts in the management of birds of prey.

The Museum spaces are in permanent reconstruction based on new knowledge and because of this, the Archaeological and Ethnobotanical Park, which is a recreation of the "Gardens of the Inka", is being remodeled from the Andean worldview and not a western view, as it had been before.

At present, the Park has a representation more in line with the Andean landscape, without neglecting the responsibility of the Museum to protect the archaeological remains. At the same time, the link with the community has been strengthened, offering the possibility of cutting the grass for the raising of poultry.



CRIME REPORT AND ACCIDENT REPORT

Cuenca and National Criminal Activity

(Cuenca) Miguel Alfredo SJ, former chief of the Tungurahua Small Business Savings and Credit Cooperative, a fugitive for three years, was captured last Wednesday night in Cuenca.

The Azuay Prosecutor's Office said that there was a conviction of 10 years in prison, issued in 2016, for the crime of corruption.

The criminal act harmed approximately 600 savers and, according to the balance issued on June 15, 2016 by the liquidator Celso Villegas, the damage was over \$15 million.

(Cuenca) The National Police arrested a citizen in Cuenca who had a warrant against him for the crime of abuse.

On Monday, November 25, 2019, police arrested the individual who had committed the alleged crime in the Province of Bolívar.

The citizen was transferred to the Police Department to carry out the report and the investigations of the case.

The report was made jointly with the Office of the Prosecutor, for the hearing on charges, for the alleged crime of abuse.

(Cuenca) On the morning of Friday, November 22, 2019, a black Mitsubishi brand truck was stopped for investigation safter a police chase on the Cuenca - Girón road. Based on evidence found in the vehicle, four criminals were captured for alleged assault on the roads.

During the arrest, police found reflective vests like National Police institutes, balaclavas, cell phones, suitcases with clothes among other belongings.

(Gualeco) A Honda motorcycle was recovered on Tuesday, November 26, 2019, by National Police personnel in the Gualaceo canton, after an investigation.

A police report detailed the motorcycle was reported stolen on November 13 and was recovered due to search techniques deployed in the canton.

The motorcycle was recovered in the El Carmen de Jadán sector and then transferred to the retention courts of the Judicial Police of the province so that it can be identified by the owner and returned.

Cuenca Area Traffic Accidents

*On Tuesday morning, November 26, 2019 there were three traffic accidents in different sectors of Cuenca that left three people injured and some material damages.

The first accident was reported at 04:45 on Avenida de las Américas and Arrayan Street, a traffic distributor sector on Ordóñez Lasso Avenue, where a Datsun truck crashed and overturned.

As a result, the driver of the car was injured. Rescuers from the Fire Department of Cuenca and paramedics from the Ecuadorian Social Security Institute (IESS) treated the driver at the scene.

Another incident occurred around 08:00 on Paseo de los Cañaris Avenue and Cacique Duma when a motorcyclist ran over a senior citizen passerby.

Paramedics from the IESS and the Red Cross arrived at the scene and treated the two citizens who were injured and were transferred to Vicente Corral Moscoso Hospital.

According to witness versions, the passer-by recklessly crossed Paseo de los Cañaris Avenue. The experts of the Road Accident Unit carried out technical inspection in the area of the incident and will determine how the events occurred.

Finally, in the South Ring Road two vehicles collided. Only material damage was recorded in this place.

* A motorcyclist and a pedestrian lost their lives after being hit by cars on

the roads of Cuenca.

At 7:20 pm on Saturday, November 23rd, emergency services went to the Panamericana Norte, a sector of the Mutualista Azuay citadel, to assist a motorcyclist who had hit a rental truck head-on.

Daniel Morales, expert of the Head of Road Accident Unit, said that due to the force of the crash the motorcycle was embedded in the front of the truck, whose driver left the scene.

The victim was identified as José Andrés Medina Zhunaula, 23 years old.

*In another early morning accident on Saturday, an unknown vehicle took the life of Henry Gabriel Criollo Chacha, 21.

According to relatives, the young man was a bricklayer and lived in the Chilcachapar community of the Tarqui parish. There were no witnesses to the event, but it is presumed that he was run over when he went home after work.

*On Saturday, November 23rd, the body and vehicle of Gilson Javier Maji Chimbolema, 24, were found in a ravine on the Cuenca-Molleturo road, San Pedro de Yumate sector. The young man had disappeared on Tuesday, November 19.

ECU 911 dispatched a team of rescuers from the Fire Department, an ambulance from the Ministry of Health and personnel from the Medical Rescue and Emergency Unit, URE. Marvin Torres, a UREM rescue worker, said that the vehicle after losing a lane, drove into a ravine about 200 meters deep.

The young man was a student at the Faculty of Hospitality Sciences of the University of Cuenca.

* On Friday, November 22nd, Cristian Ullaguari, 21, was killed when he was stuck on his bicycle by an unknown vehicle. The accident happened at 05:40, on Abelardo J. Andrade and Claudio Galeano Avenue, north of Cuenca.

William Chamba, expert of the Head of Road Accident Unit of the National Police, indicated that according to the evidence found at the site of the accident, the cyclist was descending down the avenue Abelardo J. Andrade. Apparently, he was hit in the back by a car that escaped in an unknown direction.

Agents indicated that they will review the images captured by the security cameras that exist in the sector, to identify the vehicle causing the tragedy.

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

Solution to Crossword puzzle on page 10



gobig
web development

Social media management packs
starting at \$60 monthly



☎ 098-743-8577 / 098-482-2495

✉ info@gobig.ec

🌐 www.gobig.ec

Keeping Cuenca beautiful: Expats and Cuencanos join forces to eradicate graffiti



By Susan Burke March

Over the past few weeks, you may have noticed a big improvement in El Centro. The city government has sponsored a number of 'mingas' in recent weeks, to restore the walls and structures marred by graffiti — including public and private property, iglesias, escuelas, y más.

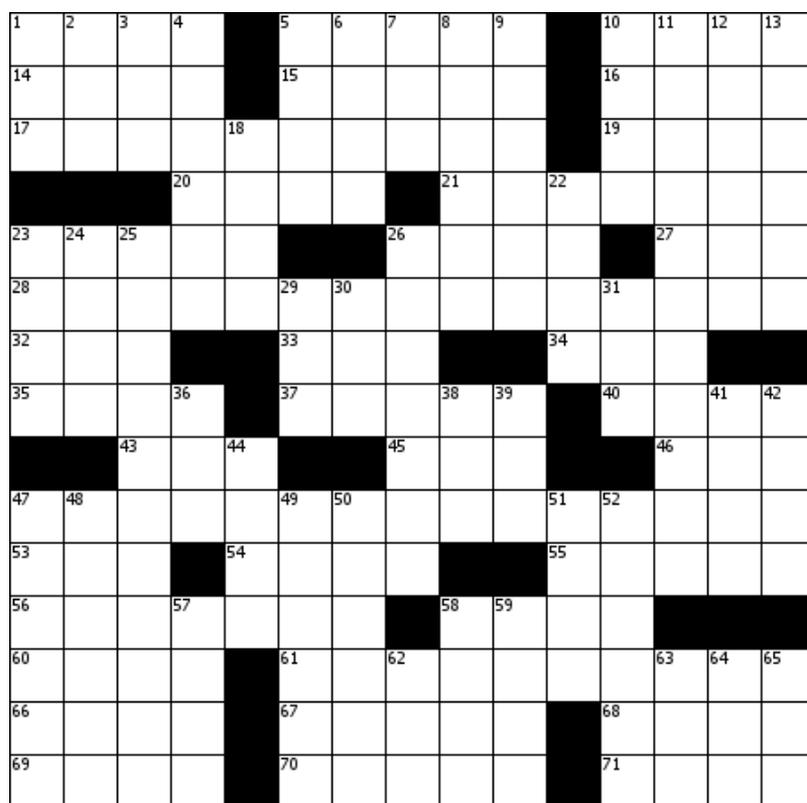
Our first meeting November 5 with from left to right, Director of Áreas Históricas Felipe Manosalvas, JT Neira, Ken March, Susan March, Ana Ortiz, of the Public Works Department and two staff members.

Minga is derived from a Quechua word meaning "collective work" and as J.T. Neira, CPA, who is leading the effort of the volunteer group 'Keep Cuenca Beautiful' says, "The word 'minga' applies to all kinds of community work: construction of a communal building; opening and maintenance of a water channel; building roads; or anything else which benefits the community as a whole."

I started a Facebook group called 'Keep Cuenca Beautiful' and invited all interested people, Cuencanos and expats, to try and find strategies that could help maintain the historical beauty and significance of Cuenca. Kevin Donnelly, a Cuenca expat, wrote a proposal that, with the full approval and consent of the municipality of Cuenca, would strategically allow the city to remove tagging — the type of graffiti that consists of a perpetrator's identifying mark or initials — in Cuenca, beginning with phase one around Parque Calderon. Once the graffiti is removed the affected area will be restored to its original color(s) by members of the group.

Our timing was opportune. Cuenca is gearing up for the December 1, 2019 celebrations, honoring the 20th anniversary of the designation of Cuenca as a UNESCO World Heritage Site and is expecting UNESCO visitors to attend. In November of 2020, Cuenca will celebrate the Bicentennial (200 years) of the Independence of Cuenca. In anticipation of the UNESCO anniversary, the city has sponsored a number of mingas to clean and restore walls since September.

When JT submitted this plan to the Director of Áreas Historicas, Felipe Manosalvas, Arq., he met with success.



See answers on page 09

Across

1. Soothing salve
5. Metamorphic stage
10. Sportscast tidbit
14. Vast expanse
15. Circa
16. He opposed Caesar
17. Start of a warning to couch potatoes
19. New Orleans veggie
20. Piquance
21. Beatnik growths, perhaps
23. Smokey Bear's worry
26. First king of Israel
27. Flight has-been, briefly
28. Warning (Part 2)
32. Busy activity
33. Twain portrayer Holbrook
34. It may have a wordy welcome
35. Longings
37. Warning (Part 3)
40. One way to lose a sunburn
43. Poetic time of day
45. Org. based in McLean, Va.
46. She was Linda in "Singapore"
47. Warning (Part 4)
53. Mauna ___
54. Quarter deck?
55. With cunning
56. Word with days or try
58. Boat balancer
60. 1952 Winter Olympics site
61. End of the warning
66. Prexy's associate
67. They may reach a bit
68. Dopey dog
69. Outer limits
70. Ugly weather
71. Bright night light

Down

1. It's for swingers
2. Flame proof?
3. Bad thing to get caught in
4. Passover fare
5. Vietnam War target
6. Border on
7. Loot
8. Crude
9. Gave the stove a rest
10. Sir William Wallace, for one
11. Chills
12. Like Newton's bodies, sometimes
13. Pleasantly warm
18. Carson City neighbor
22. Prof's visitor, maybe
23. Out
24. Go for a spin
25. Refused to answer
26. Ask earnestly
29. Upsilon follower
30. ___ de deux
31. Preschool activity
36. Baltic or Irish
38. McCourt memoir
39. Not look too lively
41. Stuntman Knievel
42. Dark one of Shakespeare's sonnets
44. The Big Board, initially
47. Small recess
48. Uncinch
49. Dextrose and fructose
50. Pump option
51. Like yard sale items
52. Obtained dishonorably
57. Hacks off, as tree limbs
58. "Citizen ___"
59. Once, once
62. Hurry
63. Exalted verse
64. Brazilian vacation destination, informally
65. This guy's a real doll

With needed approval and enthusiastic support from Director Manosalvas, we met with the Director Manosalvas and Ana Ortiz, Arq. of the Department of Public Works, and members of her maintenance team. Yes, we can help them, they told us, and offered to help us with the project.

On Monday, November 11 we had our first 'minga' in El Centro, with more than 25 volunteers plus Director Ortiz's helpful crew. We set to work prepping walls in El Centro. Just like the other Saturday mingas (which some of our expat volunteers participated in) we use sandpaper, rags, paint solvent and paint remover to remove and lighten tagging in El Centro in preparation for painting and restoration.

We repeated our efforts last Monday, November 18, and the city has been working hard repainting and restoring walls, some of the paint used coming from Sherwin Williams' generous donation of 2000 gallons.

However, the plan is to keep Cuenca beautiful, not just by cleaning walls, but by restoring them. The plan accepted by the Director of Áreas Históricas is defined as an ongoing effort, where small teams of volunteers identify certain streets to care for and monitor so that tagging can be eliminated and walls repainted and restored promptly.

JT continues to seek more direction and support from the Director of Areas Historicas and has written to the Mayor's office too.

The efforts continue. As Scott Simmerman, a volunteer who has worked in at least three Saturday mingas and both Monday efforts says, "The volunteers feel that this initiative is undertaken to benefit all Cuencanos and improve the cultural aspects of our beautiful city."

Keep up with the efforts by joining the Facebook group 'Keep Cuenca Beautiful'. We have locals and expats involved in the group — volunteers all.



Three female Ecuadorian scientists highlighted in Science magazine

The desire to determine why the tropics are more biodiverse, demonstrate the importance of preserving the rivers in the region and produce for the first time in history, one modern and updated list of all species of vascular plants of the Americas, have been some of the motivations of three Ecuadorians who authored lead publications in the journal Science.

Science is one of the most important specialized magazines in the world, where only 25% of the articles published have a woman as the first author. Given this scenario, the challenge for these Ecuadorians has been even greater.

Andrea Encalada, co-director of the Biosphere Institute of the San Francisco University of Quito and a PhD in River Ecology, says that her passion for researching more about these ecosystems emerged at the university and deepened with her postgraduate degree at Cornell University. Her studies focused initially on the behavior of aquatic insects and then expanded to the analysis of the patterns and functioning of rivers in the world. With research carried out for more than 10 years, Encalada published as the lead author on her first publication in Science on the situation of mountain rivers, which are the least studied, but fulfill an essential role for the planet.

For Encalada, the importance of publishing in a magazine like this is related to the scope it has and the message that can be transmitted to achieve the conservation of these areas. Even so, she says, the biggest challenge is that

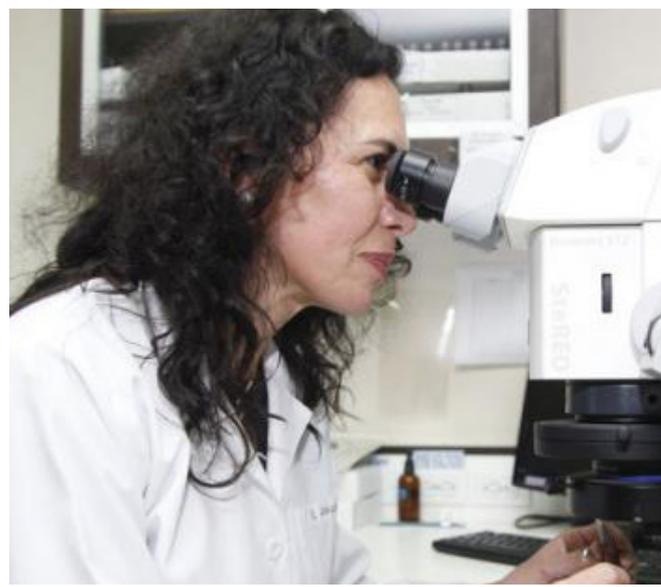
Ecuadorian scientists are still not leading research.

Carmen Ulloa, a researcher at the Missouri Botanical Garden, agrees with Encalada. "Many times being in field work they ask me if I am the group's guide, never if I am the leader of the research," says Ulloa, who was the first author of a study on 124,993 species of vascular plants of America. The publication in this magazine has given her more notoriety in her field of expertise. The article was released worldwide and she has been invited to present her results in several universities in the United States, in international meetings and in various forums in Ecuador.

Over the years, women in Ecuador have made progress in science and there are many more professionals in this area than when she was a student, says Ulloa. However, "there is still the stereotype of man as a scientist."

María José Endara, research professor of Engineering in Biodiversity and Genetic Resources of the Universidad Indoamérica, agrees that it is necessary to promote the participation of women in the world of science. Motivated to discover why Ecuador is a biodiversity hot spot, Endara did her PhD in the United States, in a laboratory specialized in tropical areas. From there, she was able to develop her research on herbivores as the main reason responsible for the diversity of plants in the tropics. Now, her goal is to measure the bioactive compounds of all the trees in the Amazon to show their potential to cure diseases.

Extracted from Diario EL COMERCIO



Solution to Sudoku puzzle on page 3

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

Real Estate & Rentals



FOR SALE

Beautiful natural piece of land/forest in Challuabamba

It comes with 2,700 square meters, in a 60 green acres (gated community). Just 15 minutes away from Cuenca. The price is \$75 per square meter.

Contact:
Caridad Malo
099-276-1359
caridadmalo@hotmail.fr



FOR SALE

Land for Sale in Challuabamba

The land has 829 square meters. The construction license has been approved by the municipality. Includes all services. Great views!

Contact:
Rommel Cobos
099 689 4582
rommelcobos@gmail.com



FOR SALE

The Best Place to live in Cuenca

ATLANTIDA is not just a building, this is a full housing project with recreational areas and Spacious apartments only 10 minute walk to Centro Histórico, Universities, Hospitals and more.

Contact:
Ma. Paula Carpio T.
0998059463
jtoral8@hotmail.com



FOR SALE

Be part of these living concept

Apartments from 86 sq m with hot water and gas centralized system, fiber-optic-internet service, gym, communal roof and lot of more reasons that make Atlantida the best place to live.

Contact:
Ma. Paula Carpio T.
0998059463
jtoral8@hotmail.com



FOR SALE

AFFORDABLE BRAND NEW CONDOS FOR SALE

Located near the Av. Ordóñez Lasso, 10 min. (by car) to the Historic Center. With large terraces, balconies and windows to relax and enjoy the scenery. The bathrooms and rooms have heating systems. We have 1, 2, 3 and 4 bedroom-condos.

Contact:
Iván Neira
+593 984747607 (wp only)
officecuenca@gmail.com



FOR SALE



Stunning Cuenca Penthouse. Spacious, with high ceilings, an open floor plan, and spacious terrace on two sides. The terrace features a beautiful Spanish wood oven. Both bedrooms, the office, and the living room have sliding-door entry to the terrace. Gorgeous views of the Cuenca center, el Turi, and the surrounding hills.
- 2 bedrooms
- 1 office
- 2.5 bathrooms

Total area 3050.20 sq ft

www.propertiesalex.com

CEL: 0990968141

