

# THE CUENCA DISPATCH

Ecuador's Original English-Language Newspaper

Volume 4 • ISSUE 26

January 26th, 2020 • [www.thecuencadispatch.com](http://www.thecuencadispatch.com)

## With bonds and grants Ecuador sets aside \$538 million for low interest mortgages for those with limited income



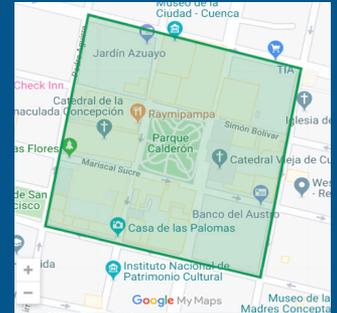
The housing deficit in Ecuador increases by 40,000 homes every year. The National Government is seeking to reduce this gap by granting financing options to those with a limited income. People with medium and low incomes will have access to housing loans with a preferential rate of 4.99% for a 25-year

term. The mortgages will allow them to buy homes up to \$91,368.

To do this, the National Government has issued its first sovereign social bond for housing of \$400 million to international markets. In addition to these resources, another \$68 million of state investment and \$70 million granted by the Development Bank of Latin America (CAF), are being set aside for the loans. The total fund will be managed by a trust.

In total, \$538 million will be in this trust to grant mortgage loans with the preferential interest rate. The Government plans to provide the national financial system with more than 24,000 home loans, which will add about \$1.350 billion in mortgage loans. Loans will be allocated to Social Interest Housing (VIS) and Public Interest Housing (VIP).

With the issuance of this bond, cont. page 4.



The second test of the 'Supermanzanas' took place this weekend amidst mixed reactions

see page >> 4



No entity controls the cost of airline tickets in Ecuador

see page >> 6

## Ministry of Public Health taking preventive measures against Chinese coronavirus

Ecuador's Ministry of Public Health (MSP) clarified that as of Wednesday, coronavirus being reported in China has not circulated in Ecuador and that the State has taken preventive measures to prevent the migration of the virus to the country.

Alfredo Olmedo, National Director of Epidemiological Surveillance of the Ministry of Health, confirmed in an interview with several media, that so far there are no cases of patients diagnosed with coronavirus in Ecuador.

The coronavirus (2019-nCoV) is spreading quickly in China, where it had killed 17 people by Wednesday and infected hundreds more over the last week.

Coronaviruses (CoV) are a large family of viruses that cause respiratory diseases from a common cold to more serious diseases, such as the Middle East respiratory syndrome (MERS-CoV) and severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS-CoV). Then



CoV coronavirus in China is a new strain that has not been previously identified in humans.

Coronaviruses are zoonotic, which means they are transmitted between animals and people.

Epicenter is in Chinese city of 11 million people

Chinese authorities believe that the virus originated in a seafood market in cont. page 4.



Flu vaccination is in full swing throughout Ecuador

see page >> 9

puntosur  
propiedades

Buy, Sell & Rent  
Properties nation wide, just one click away!  
[puntosurpropiedades.com](http://puntosurpropiedades.com)

Call  
Roberto Cruz  
0995 821 318

**CUENCA consignments**

*Happy New Year!*

New Year,  
New Inventory

Special Discounts  
on items more  
than one year old

Isabela 4-75 y 12 de Abril  
Open T, Th, F 11am to 5pm  
Contact us at: 0995 468 580 / 0984 593 005

# THE CUENCA DISPATCH

Ecuador's Original English-Language Newspaper

VOL 4  
ISSUE  
**26**

**Publisher:**  
Jonathan Mogrovejo  
info@thecuencadispatch.com

**Graphic Design**  
Bianca Mosquera

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

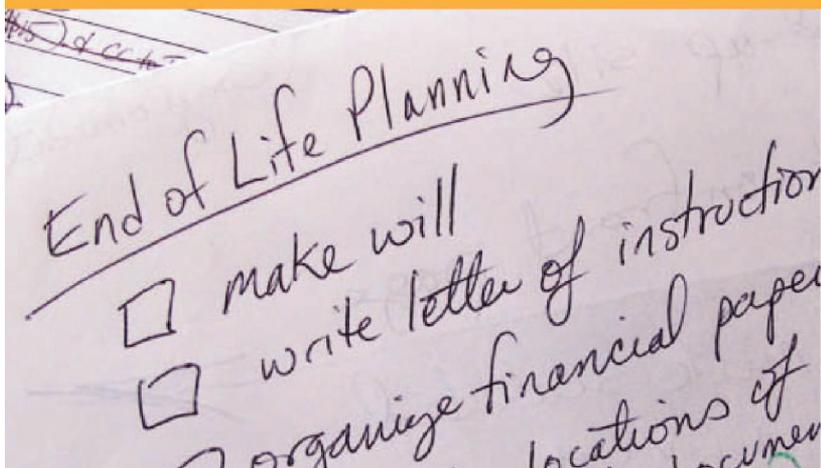
**Printed by:**  
Imprenta Unigraf

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

*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 SAGIN'

By Michael Soares

## You can teach an old dog new tricks

So, if you've been reading my column for a while, you know that we have 8 dogs out on our property in Yunguilla. They were all street dogs we took in over the years and we love every one of them.

Their personalities are so unique, like humans, and even their barks are distinct. At night when someone decides it's "bark time," we can tell who the culprit is in about 5 seconds. That usually garners a very loud, "SILENCIO!" That works most of the time. Sometimes it takes getting out of bed to see what the commotion is about. It's usually just a neighborhood dog coming by to visit and see if any food is left lying around.

We keep some of the old Vegetable Bar green plastic trays out with "pepas" (dog chow) sometimes if one of the dogs has missed dinner because they were out wandering around in the valley. This way they have something to come back to. Doesn't happen often, because we cage them all in the evening so that they are quiet at night. But every once in a while, one of them decides to make a break for it.

The funniest thing is that we leave these trays out during the day so they can all have a snack when they feel like it. And that's funny because one of the dogs, Patchy, decided when she was a puppy that she was too tired to stand while she ate, or too hungry to share what was on the trays. So, she plopped herself down right on top of the tray, with her outstretched paws covering the food. Then she ate to her heart's content.

This seemed to work pretty well for her, so she continued to do it, every day. Soon, her sister decided, "Hey, that looks like a pretty good idea," and she started doing it too.

Well, contrary to the old adage that, "You can't teach an old dog new tricks," we found that you can. Because now, in addition to those two doing it, their 7-year-old mother does it as well. And now their 4-year-old stepsister has taken to doing it. So, out of 8 dogs, we now have 4 that will pop down on top of the food trays and hog them like, well, hogs.

This is all part of our entertainment out here in Yunguilla. We don't have cable TV and don't watch television. We do have internet to read the news in the mornings. But that's about our sole connection to the "outside world." However, what we have found is that even reading the news to stay informed feels too heavy most of the time.

Our days here are filled with the activities of a country life. Codie spends much of the day watering all the plants on the property, I spend my time fixing things around the place. We do get together with some friends who also live out in the valley, so that gives us the social interaction we need.

I've been out here full-time since we sold the restaurant (except for Sundays in the city to watch football, but that is soon coming to an end) and I'm actually surprised at how much I like this sabbatical of mine from expat life in the city.

It's about a 180-turn from how "out and center" I was in Cuenca. Someone once told me I was "the un-official Mayor of Cuenca." I told them, "No, that would be Linda Chase!"

Anyway, I've settled into this new life (brought on by my heart attack) and am quite happy. I have found that I don't need to be "in the know" or keep up to date on all the little dramas that happen every day in the city.

One of my other friends said I'm like Oliver in the old TV show Green Acres and that I will, like him, eventually go back to Cuenca and give up the country life. But he failed to understand two things. First is that Codie loves it here and has never wanted to stay in—or return to—Cuenca.

Second, you can teach an old dog new tricks and this old dog is pretty happy to be lazing about in the sun most of the time and visiting the city once in a while. I do miss many of you that I got to know, but hey, the bus

ride out here to Yunguilla is very cheap, so don't be afraid to drop in and see what the other gringos are doing here in the valley!

P.S. Yeah, I know the impeachment trial is going on and you expected me to write about that. But those old fools in the Senate are dogs for sure and they will never be able to be taught new things. So, it really isn't worth my time or yours to get into it.

**gobig**  
web development

- Websites
- Social Media
- Marketing
- Graphic Design

098-743-8577 / 098-482-2495  
 info@gobig.ec  
 www.gobig.ec

# 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!

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

See answers on page 11

## With bonds and grants Ecuador sets aside \$538 million for low interest mortgages for those with limited income (Cont.)

the Government seeks to diversify its sources of resources for financing affordable and decent housing, and thus reduce the housing deficit in the country. This is part of the Casa Para Todos program. The President believes that the population with low and middle income should have access to their own home, without meaning that they allocate more than 30% of their income for the purpose.

According to official data, in 2017 the housing deficit affected almost half of Ecuadorian households: 67% in rural areas and 38% in urban areas. In that year, in the urban area, about 252,013 households needed a new home or needed to replace theirs because it was unrecoverable. While 957,335 households were overcrowded or lacked basic services.

According to the social bond framework for affordable and decent housing, Ecuador's housing shortage is mainly due to the limited capacity and the absence of mortgage loans at affordable rates. Generally, says the document published by the Ministry of Finance, private banks cover the demand of the population with high purchasing power, because it delivers loans with interest rates of up to 10.78%

But with the social bond, people who qualify will be able to finance more homes and with reduced rates. The benefit is for people who are applying for their first home and have a family income that does not exceed \$2,920 per month.

"These are the best credit conditions we have historically had in the country. Never before have we had such low interest rates. This is the best time to buy a house," says Joan Proaño, General Manager of Proaño Proaño Inmobiliaria and spokesperson for the Constructores Positivos collective. In his opinion, this bond issue is positive because the construction sector has a multiplier effect on the economy. Thanks to this government measure, the builder estimates that around 80,000 direct jobs will be generated.

Julio José Prado, executive president of the Association of Private Banks of Ecuador, also applauds this type of initiative that supports to generate more dynamism in the economy, through the injection of resources for the granting of mortgage credit. At the moment, said Prado, private banks review the technical parameters to participate in this benefit, based on what is established by the Ministry of Finance. One of the requirements is that the entity has an updated risk rating of at least A. Currently, 15 private banks offer loans for housing, such as the Pacific, Pichincha, Guayaquil and Produbanco banks. Those interested in mortgage credit should verify their ability to pay in a bank.

## Ministry of Public Health taking preventive measures against Chinese coronavirus (Cont.)

Wuhan that "made illegal transactions of wild animals."

The first human cases were identified in this city on December 31, 2019, although it is not yet known how or when the virus became infectious for people.

On Tuesday, Chinese authorities confirmed for the first time that the virus has been transmitted from person to person.

"Although the route of transmission of the virus is still to be fully understood, there is a possibility that it will mutate and the risk of further spread," said Li Bin, Deputy Minister of China's National Health Commission.

"Basically, don't go to Wuhan. And those who are in Wuhan, please, do not leave the city," Li added, referring to the capital of Hubei Province, with 11 million inhabitants. The epicenter of the outbreak has installed several dozen thermal detectors to identify possible infected; fever is one of the first symptoms.

The Deputy Minister said that, although Wuhan's new pneumonia is considered a contagious disease of type B, it is being handled with the protocols designed for those of type A, the maximum on the local scale.

In addition, to help combat the outbreak, Chinese Social Security

has announced that medical expenses related to the treatment of new pneumonia will be fully covered by national funds through a reimbursement system.

Chinese authorities are recommending that people avoid groups, since health authorities have proven that it is spread among humans, mainly through the respiratory tract.

The virus is already present in at least 13 Chinese provinces, in addition to the special administrative regions of Hong Kong and Macao, which confirmed their first cases on Wednesday.

However, the head of the Center for Disease Prevention and Control, Gao Fu, stressed that, so far, a "super transmitter" of the new coronavirus has not been detected, with the capacity to infect many people from a single case.

### Slowly spreading overseas

Overseas, at least 4 cases have been detected in Thailand, and one in Japan, South Korea, Taiwan and the United States, and many countries have been controlling passengers from China for days to minimize risks of contagion

The World Health Organization (WHO) has convened a meeting of experts to determine whether the current outbreak of coronavirus in China constitutes an international emergency.



## Second test of 'Supermanzanas' took place this weekend amidst mixed reactions

The second test of the 'Supermanzanas' took place this weekend as the measure faced both support and criticism from pedestrians and the commercial sector after the first test of the plan.

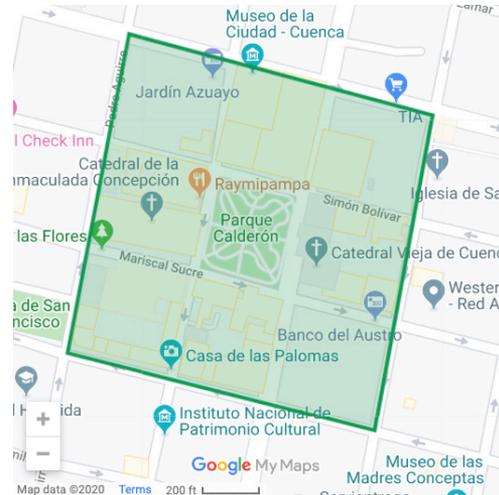
The 'Supermanzana' is the grouping of several blocks and in the center of Cuenca where a large area of El Centro will be open only to limited traffic, with more space for pedestrians and cyclists.

The project seeks to reduce accident rates, reduce pollution, give pedestrians greater security, make trade more fluid and allow more people to walk through the central streets.

Guillermo, Municipal Director of Mobility and Transportation Management, said that during the first experiment carried out at the end of September 2019, for one day, they were able to learn about the reactions of Cuencanos to urban design that is a trend in several European countries.

During this exercise the streets were used by pedestrians, pedestrians, cyclists, as well as by commercial establishments and restaurants that took advantage of public space to put their tables and offer outdoor service.

This weekend's trial was for two days and was centered around Parque Calderón, within a perimeter of Gran Colombia, President Borrero,



President Córdova and Padre Aguirre.

### Reactions

Chalhoub explained that during the second test, drivers had seven parking lots enabled within the 'super block', while in the streets that were on the edge of the perimeter, the vehicular traffic was normal.

However, for Ana Tosi, owner of the parking lot located on Benigno Malo, the plan is not encouraging. She points out that by pedestrianizing this street—where a high number of vehicles enter the parking lot so that their occupants can walk towards the Center to do their activities—it will generate a drop in sales for nearby shops.

"They must understand that many people move in their vehicles to the Historic Center, because many have family members with disabilities, senior citizens who cannot even think about getting on a bicycle," she said annoyingly.

Tosi suggests that there should be greater socialization of this project. She adds that although there was a previous socialization, few agreed.

For other business owners such as restaurants, cafes, ice cream parlors, the experiment doesn't bother them. "The closure was made once in the administration of Fernando Cordero and we had no problems. There was an influx of people who arrived on foot and that favored us," says Freddy Álvarez, owner of Raymipamba Restaurant.

The only drawback and that more consideration should be taken, according to Álvarez, is that in the previous test the center became a "free fair," where products were sold on public roads, "if that were to happen suddenly, we would feel harmed."

### Analysis

Xavier González, technical coordinator of the El Barranco Foundation, explains that this second superblock exercise "allowed planners to measure a series of parameters such as the number of people visiting the area, traffic in the surroundings, pollution and noise indices, and even the feelings of business owners, who were asked to make a comparison around their activities," he says.

He emphasizes that it is not a question of pedestrianizing the streets, but of giving priority to the pedestrian, without eliminating the other mobility options, such as bicyclists.

## Assemblywoman Rivadeneira's father arrested in Imbabura for money laundering



The father of Assemblywoman Gabriela Rivadeneira—who has taken political asylum in Mexico—was arrested in the province of Imbabura. According to the police report, the man and another suspect taken into custody, have links to an alleged

money laundering operation.

The Asset Laundering Unit (ULA)—after a police investigation and documents provided by various control agencies—under the direction of the State Attorney General's Office, compiled enough evidence to launch operation "Flamingo" and moved forward with the arrests.

The arrest warrants claim that, "In the cantons of Otavalo and Cotacachi, a criminal organization dedicated to the crime of illicit association, unjustified private enrichment and tax fraud was being operated by citizens Mauro FG and Pedro RS.

These people, together with several collaborators—who during the tax investigation process were linked to the investigation —generated large sums of money from the purchase and sale of vehicles and the simulation of purchase and sale of real estate, making unusual and unjustified financial gains of approximately \$5,981,764.28.

During the operation four raids were completed, a vehicle was apprehended, in addition \$12,000, four cell phones, technology equipment, financial documents and public and private documents were seized.

Extracted from Diario EL Universo

## ETAPA working on new agreement to continue to manage Cajas National Park



On March 17th, the agreement of the delegation given by the Ministry of Environment (MAE) to the Municipality of Cuenca to administer the Cajas National Park (PNC) ended. It was valid for 10 years. This was the second 10-year term agreement between the two entities to manage the PNC.

In those 20 years, the municipality has entrusted the administration of this natural area—which has an area of 28,544 —hectares, to the Telecommunications, Potable Water and Sewerage Company (ETAPA EP).

Because of its biodiversity, the PNC is one of the most important natural areas in the country and even in the world. The park also boasts extensive highlands where there are about 4,000 bodies of water, between lagoons, streams and wetlands.

José Cáceres, a biologist and researcher at ETAPA EP, is the administrator of the PNC. He explained that this place supplies 40% of the water consumed by the population of Cuenca. Hence the importance of its conservation.

He also pointed out that for ETAPA EP, it's a priority objective to renew this agreement for the next 50 years, with some terms, which allow improving administration and ensuring preservation.

ETAPA EP currently invests about \$2,000,000 annually to take care of the PNC, under five different programs. One global program is responsible for the organization, coordination and integration management of the PNC.

Another program, which is biodiversity research and management, includes a body of researchers that produces high-level scientific information and works with national and international universities.

A third program is called "Communication, Education and Environmental Participation (CEPA)." The fourth and fifth programs have to do with control and surveillance and public use and tourism.

The PNC has many endemic animal and plant species. That is, they are found nowhere else in the world. Also, the climatic and geographical conformation is unique on the planet.

Silvio Cabrera, director of the Natural Heritage Unit, of the Ministry of the Environment, in the province of Azuay, said that the fulfillment of the commitments established in the agreement signed with the municipality must be evaluated.

"Based on this, we are working on a draft proposal that can support the signing of a new agreement, but that will depend on the evaluation and analysis made to the previous agreement ...", he said.

He said that in February the PNC has to submit an annual report, and together with others that have been delivered in these 10 years, an assessment will be made of what has been accomplished.

If you are looking for   
**Real Estate & Rentals**  
see the back page >>





**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**



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

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

**Call  
098-482-2495**

**No entity controls the cost of airline tickets in Ecuador**

More and more airlines are migrating to a ticket pricing system with a basic fare that does not include luggage, food service, seat selection, or changes to travel dates. In theory, airline tickets are now cheaper.

However, passenger protests persist in the overall treatment customers are receiving from airlines. In fact, in Ecuador, 489 formal complaints were filed last year with the General Directorate of Civil Aviation (DGAC).

"Inappropriate attention," is what passengers reported most, with 137 complaints. There are 113 complaints related to flight delays and cancellations. Close behind are 112 complaints regarding luggage.

The inconveniences and extra costs associated with this new kind of pricing plan is a routine topic of conversation among travelers. The price of a ticket from Guayaquil to Quito for example, for this Monday (made at 07:29 last Thursday), cost of \$122 one way, including an 8kg carry-on bag and a 23kg checked suitcase.

A return flight, at 15:45 that same day would cost \$36, but it does not allow carry-on luggage or a checked suitcase; that would be an additional charge of \$15. In total, this trip will cost \$173

For the same destination and times, but for travel on March 9th, the trip would cost \$59 and the checked piece of baggage would only cost \$6; on the return flight, the fee would be \$26 for the ticket and \$7 for the checked baggage. Carry-on luggage is allowed without an extra fee. The difference in price of the ticket alone (and excluding the fees) was \$75.

**Airline execs argue fares are not excessive**

Diego Leng, executive director of Latam Airlines, says that the way to get cheap tickets is to buy them in advance (as the above example shows).

He explains that the inventory of the air service is "perishable," any empty seat is lost revenue, so, "one of the keys of the airline industry is to be able to sell the right seat, at the right price, to the right customer, at the right time." He says that whoever buys a ticket the same week or the same day pays more because he is "paying" the company for having saved a seat.

"The advance purchase system is for the flight to be filled with passengers looking for [good] prices," he insists. He adds that ticket costs are regulated by supply and demand.

In Ecuador there is no airline ticket price control entity. The DGAC website contains the reference values established by the airlines, but the DGAC general director, Anyelo Acosta, states that it is not a function of the agency to regulate them. This was stated in an official tweet by Acosta during an appearance at the National Assembly earlier this month.

Leng agrees with the communication director of Quiport, Luis Galárraga, that in most countries there is no regulatory body for these values.

"There are some countries that have totally



prehistoric policies of air tariffs, but those countries generally do not have a serious aviation, or the large companies do not operate [there] because it does not allow us to do what differentiates us from other airlines," says Leng.

He also rejects the notion that in Ecuador, tickets for national trips can cost as much international flights. "That is a fallacy. When they say it costs \$400 for a ticket to Miami and \$350 to Quito, they are not saying everything. If you buy a ticket today for tomorrow in Ecuador it can cost you \$ 350; if you bought today for tomorrow for an international flight, it can cost you \$1,500. But, a ticket to Miami bought four months in advance can cost you \$400. A ticket bought four months in advance to Quito costs you only \$40."

Edwin Rincón, commercial manager of American Airlines Ecuador, says that American's rates are applied according to several modalities, be it for the value of the ticket chosen by the passenger, for the season of the year, the availability of the inventory, and direct routes, among other factors.

A statement from the DGAC notes that through the Open Skies policy the Government, the 40% subsidy for airline fuel and the Incentive Plan for airports managed by the aeronautical authority, helped several new air transport companies enter Ecuador in 2019.

And the Minister of Transportation and Public Works, Gabriel Martínez, noted that this has improved rates. "With the open skies policy in the country, the competition, participation and offer of the companies that provide this service is improved. This benefits users who can access better rates and new destinations. We are building an Ecuador connected to the world."

**User complaints for online shopping systems**

The "Branded Fares" price plan that supposedly allows passengers to buy a ticket to suit their needs, satisfies some and causes inconvenience to others.

María Cristina Cely for example, bought a ticket to go to Galapagos last November using a private sales platform. But upon arriving at the airport counter in Quito, the airline notified her that her ticket did not include a carry-on bag.

"That is the problem of buying online, it can be very confusing. The truth, is it never occurred to me in my

life that this option exists (fare without carry-on luggage). I never had to pay for a carry-on bag before," she says. To embark, she paid an additional \$30 for her carry-on luggage.

Air carriers such as Latam have online shopping systems that reflect special rates depending on the number of bags carried by the passenger. An example of this is that a "cheap" round trip ticket between Guayaquil and New York, from March 4th to the 12th, costs \$764, including taxes.

However, this amount does not include a checked suitcase on either way or the option to choose a seat in advance of travel. Only one carry-on bag of up to eight kilos is allowed with this fare. If the user wants to check baggage, they must pay \$843. If they want to carry two suitcases, one carry-on bag and choose their seat, they will pay \$943, including taxes.

In addition, airlines that have low cost features like JetBlue have basic fares to New York starting at \$280 per leg (round trip). The operator offers three types of fares: Blue, Blue Plus and Blue Flex, which vary according to the luggage that is transported or seat selection, etc.

If you buy the full route (round trip), the ticket, without luggage, can be around \$432. The airline allows a bag and a personal item in the cabin.

In contrast to requesting to check luggage, Katherine Villavicencio, who traveled to Córdoba on May 5th, on Latam, (with her infant son, her mother and a friend), was forced to put her carry-on luggage under the plane because there was no more room in the cabin. "Everyone now takes carry-on so as not to pay for checking a bag, and I needed things in my bag for the baby," she laments.

Unfortunately, that wasn't the end of the problems for Katherine and her group. On May 7th, their return flight was delayed four times. They finally got out on the afternoon of May 8th, but they airline would not pay for their hotel or any other fees they incurred, because they said the problems were weather related.

Leng says that Latam does cover hotel expenses, unless one is not available, although the policy may vary by country.

He indicates that the differentiated rates are beneficial, and the passenger pays for what he values. "Before we gave free food up on the plane, now we sell it. That allows the rates to be cheaper. If I don't want to eat on the plane, I don't pay for food. The same goes for the suitcase."

Avianca calls their fare system, "Fly to Your Needs." The first country where they implemented it was in Ecuador, for the domestic market, last September. Now they offer it in Colombia and will soon incorporate it into the international operation in the rest of their markets.

In Ecuador, they have six price plans, from the basic one that includes limited options, to one with all the benefits in terms of executive cabin, luggage, and mileage accumulation, among others.

The cost of checked baggage in different airlines varies. On international flights it goes from \$20 to \$60. Its cost is determined by the weight and how soon in advance the option is purchased.

### Flight delays

Notices of delayed arrival or departure of flights are usually made on airport display screens. Some airlines notify flyers of delays by email, as happened with Cristina Rojas. She received two notices of a departure time change, then her flight was cancelled, and she had to fly out the evening of the next day.

In their defense, Latam-Ecuador, executive Leng, says that the Latam group has been recognized as the most punctual megacARRIER in the world in 2019. He notes that the company has an on-time percentage rate of 95%.

Avianca, meanwhile, said that it closed 2019 with a non-time percentage rate in Ecuador exceeding 80%, and that the percentage of compliance with the itinerary was 98% (meaning, few flights were cancelled).

Globally, the airline with the best on-time percentage rate is Garuda Indonesia, with 95.01% punctuality. Copa Airlines is second with 92.01% and Latam (globally) appears fifth (86.41%).

Extracted from Diario El Universo



## Visit Our Grand Reboot



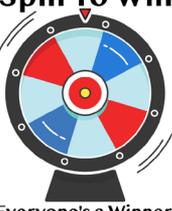
Cosas Para Emergencias



**New Products ~ More Selection**

Being Prepared Feels Good! 

**Tuesday & Friday Ferials**  
Let Us Show You What's New!  
**Spin To Win**



**Everyone's a Winner.**  
Prizes from \$1 to \$36

**Come and Witness The Amazing Human Jukebox!**

**Now Prepared to Provide:**

- Alarms 
- Surveillance Cameras 
- Video Doorbells 
- Fire Suppression Devices 
- Security Items 
- Language Translators 
- Specialty Lights & Flashlights 
- Water Purification Devices 
- EMF Blocking Products 
- And Many Other Wondrous Things

**Visit CosasPrep**  
Calle Larga 9-40 y Benigno Malo  
(inside the Sunrise Café)  
www.cosasprep.com ~ info@cosasprep.com

## 'Febres' building changes from a parking lot to an interpretive heritage center



The Febres building dating from 1883 is currently being used as a municipal parking lot, but the Municipality of Cuenca already has a plan for its restoration with an investment of \$8 million. Works will begin this year with a hopeful completion in 2021.

A façade that is falling apart and is laying on the ground is the sad state of the building that once hosted the Febres Cordero school. The current municipal parking lot is a targeted project for the Municipality, that proposes to restore the historic building with an initial investment of \$400,000.

The building, considered a heritage property, also functions as a dump and deposit of construction materials for the Municipality.

Just a short three years ago, the building received 1,300 students daily. Now, it sits in horrible condition and is going to take all of the budget of \$8 million for a total restoration and recovery, according to Felipe Manosalvas, director of the Department of Historic Areas and Patrimonials of the Municipality of Cuenca.

According to planning, studies for emerging works must be ready in this first quarter and works must begin between July and August.

The recovery of the roof and the removal of aggregates that do not correspond to the original building design are planned to prevent the deterioration from continuing, explained Manosalvas, who added that other significant problems are the conditions of the facade that overlooks Gran Colombia, where restructuring of the foundation and some walls is going to be necessary.

### Future Use

Manosalvas said the current administration proposes to build a Heritage Interpretation Center on the site to study and promote the conservation of the city's heritage.

Patricio Zamora, zonal director of the National Institute of Cultural Heritage (INPC) explained that the project involves some stages to return the emblematic building. The study in which INPC technicians participate, will determine the final look of the building.

Zamora said that in addition to giving it a cultural endowment with the Interpretation Center, an administrative part will also be included.

As for the murals of the building, Zamora and Manosalvas agree that they will analyze what time they are from and make the respective restorations.

## Dismal state of some Cuenca parks reflect lack of attention



Abandonment of infrastructure, graffiti, low occupancy, dammed up water, garbage in the surroundings, and damage to children's games are some of the problems that several parks in the city have that require urgent cleaning and maintenance.

Walking through the sector of the Guataná park located in the UNE citadel, you find a sense of fear from Ligia Vega, who must cross the place daily to go to work. She says that although there is a lot of light in the morning, the site is desolate and scary. Graffiti, stains on the steps and walls of the skating rink give a different tone and nothing attractive.

In 2011, the Municipality of Cuenca invested \$750,000 for the regeneration of this park. The property covers one hectare and has playgrounds, multipurpose courts, roads, full lighting and eight parking lots for bicycles.

Another of the spaces that attracts attention when passing through Avenida de las Américas, is the El Dragon Park, whose sculpture is part of a fountain that requires urgent cleaning. Mold, murky waters, garbage, foul smells, envelop the space, which for years remained closed, but to provide maintenance to the green areas it is opened three to four times a week.

This park was opened in 2000 and neighbors mention that crime has done its thing. "Its surroundings are used as urinals, rodents pass through the place especially at night, it is a nice place with the naked eye, but passing through it causes nausea," said María Brito who uses the site's bus stop.

### Mega park

Located on the hill "Tú eres Pedro," the Park of La Luz that has five viewpoints, playgrounds, green spaces and a network of roads and bike paths and that covers the 9.5 hectares of extension. It was developed with an investment of about \$2.4 million.

The space has 773 linear meters of roads and an administrative block that, according to the inhabitants, is unused. "On weekends, people appropriate the place with families, but there are no places to have a coffee or a soda, because the infrastructure is abandoned," says Mario Salli, a park visitor.

The Municipal Cleaning Company of Cuenca (EMAC) has a park maintenance plan for this year. Juan Ordóñez, company manager, indicated that the maintenance of eight existing parks is included in the approved Annual Operating Plan.

"What we will do is readjust some spaces whose studies have already been raised, even the furniture change will be done at Parque Calderón in El Centro."

Councilman Cristian Zamora said that the EMAC has the competence to improve the current parks, and in that sense a sustainable management model is sought. "There is less and less income and more green areas or new parks that must be maintained and therefore there is an imbalance that we must compensate."

Extracted from Diario El Tiempo

## Municipal Hospital incorporates five new specialties to cover 25 specialized care options



The Municipal Hospital for Women and Children of Cuenca, as part of its process of "renewal" has implemented five new specialties services: Rheumatology, Infectious Disease, Pulmonology, Hematology and Endocrinology.

The expansion of the service portfolio was the outcome of a comparative study carried out on the total number of patients treated in the Municipal Health Network for the years 2018 and 2019, where there was an increase of 2,500 patients monthly.

With the five new specialties incorporated, there are now 25 specialized care options at the Municipal Hospital. The hospital previously offered consultations in Anesthesiology, Cardiology, General and Laparoscopic Surgery, Dermatology, Epidemiology, Stomatology, Gastroenterology, Gynecology and Obstetrics, Critical Care Medicine, Internal Medicine, Neonatology, Otolaryngology, Neurology, Nutrition, Pediatrics, Clinical Psychology, Traumatology, Urology and Occupational Medicine.

In addition to the quality and warmth of the service of the Municipal Health House, another of the benefits for users is the popular costs of consultations at \$7 with doctors of recognized experience in each of their specialties.

To get treated at the hospital, patients only need to approach the Admission windows and present their identity card. They are then set up for an appointment for medical consultation or may be seen immediately.

Marcos Molina, Medical Director of the Municipal Foundation for Women and Children of Cuenca, said that with the expansion of the service portfolio, attention will be given to autoimmune, pulmonary, blood, transmissible, and hormonal diseases.

## Cuenca Medical Resources

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

Susan is a dietitian and diabetes educator helping people in Cuenca to attain better weight and health, reduce the risk of heart disease, diabetes and other conditions that can be improved with smart lifestyle modifications.

To contact Susan, visit our website [www.cuencamedicalresources.com](http://www.cuencamedicalresources.com)

To subscribe to the Cuenca Medical Services website and receive future updates and information, go to <http://eepurl.com/gx5AMP>



## The Patrimonial Cemetery, its gravestones and legends

The silence, the tombstones and the mausoleums are what attracts the most attention in the Patrimonial Cemetery of Cuenca (EMUCE). The cemetery looks clean and the green areas are well trimmed.

And if you approach and read the details on some of the gravestones, you'll see and learn a lot.

Most of the stones are made with marble, and many are intricately carved. You may see dinosaurs or a carved scene that shows several people playing volleyball. This is how those who remain alive pay tribute to the dead.

Another characteristic of the place are the mausoleums that go up to four floors high. They look like small buildings, and when visitors climb up, they discover religious paintings that show Saint Peter with the keys of heaven or the Virgin Mary in her assumption to heaven.

The manager of the EMUCE company, René Tello, says that this space was named a national heritage site in 2002 and because the buildings date from 1862 and it is considered a necropolis. In visiting it, it's possible for someone to imagine the city's history, and both the social and cultural elements of Cuenca in time.

"The cemetery is divided into three areas: the initial or old, the cemetery of the modern and current times. This is due to the time of construction in the cemetery," says Tello.

During the more than an hour and a half tour of through the cemetery, vaults, mausoleums, family and guild mausoleums could be observed, which according to Tello, all were built in the past.

There are also internal constructions such as niches and the current mausoleums that are made with glass and wood doors and already have carved names on them. "These are new service options that are provided," he explains.

But the old part of the cemetery for its history, tradition and culture is one of the most visited. The iconography, the tombstones made with stones or carved in marble, wood with paintings. There are also monuments and mausoleums where the remains of ancient families of the city such



as the Malo, the Cordero and some former mayors of the city rest.

There are about 120 illustrious characters that rest in the Patrimonial Cemetery such as Benigno Malo, Honorato Vázquez, Federico Proaño, Octavio Díaz, Rafael Carpio Alvarado who made the lyrics of the song to the Chola Cuenca.

There are also remains of women such as Francisca Dávila, Mari Corilé, Guadalupe Larriba. There are characters from literature, music, ex-mayors.

In addition to being a place to bury the dead, the cemetery is a place of history where you can meet those who were part of the city, a work, or a revolution.

"There is a lot of history and you can see the culture through the memory of the bereaved," says Tello. He adds that guided tours are made for children, adults and foreigners, to show the cemetery's peculiarities.

For the guards, flower vendors and informal vendors there are endless legends that revolve around death. All the guards ensure that during the morning there are shadows that move and that they can see them.

While María Peñafiel says that when the sun goes down, dead children begin to cry and that everyone who passes through the cemetery can hear it.

For Tello these are only myths, those who tell it are convinced that it is true, and they tell it to their children and so it goes from generation to generation.

Extracted from Diario El Tiempo

## Flu vaccination is in full swing throughout Ecuador

The national influenza vaccination campaign organized by the Ministry of Health and which plans to immunize about 4.5 million people in a state of vulnerability in Ecuador will last through February 28th.

Andrés Guncay, an epidemiologist responsible for public health surveillance in Zone 6, said that influenza is present on a daily basis, so care must be taken that diseases trigger more serious respiratory problems.

That is why the campaign is aimed at priority groups: children over six months and under five, pregnant women, older adults, chronically ill.

Guncay explained that 228,000 doses are applied in Azuay in health centers, hospitals and vaccination brigades.

### Strain of Vaccination

According to the Ministry of Health, there are several types of influenza viruses that circulate regularly in the country: AHN1, AH3N2 and B.

The World Health Organization (WHO) says there are four types of seasonal influenza viruses: A, B, C and D. The causes of seasonal epidemics are influenza A and B viruses.

Influenza A viruses are classified into subtypes based on the combinations of two surface proteins: hemagglutinin (HA) and neuraminidase (NA).

The subtypes currently circulating in humans are A (H1N1) and A (H3N2).

Type B viruses are not classified into subtypes, but current circulants can be divided into two lineages B / Yamagata and B / Victoria.

In Ecuador, the vaccine corresponds to the Trivalent Influenza Vaccine (inactivated virus) to counteract the AHN1, AH3N2 and type B viruses, according to the Ministry.

### How will you feel?

The most common symptoms of influenza are fever, cough, headache, runny nose, muscle pain, joint pain, tiredness and in some cases diarrhea (see a doctor if you experience this symptom).

The incubation period (time elapsed between infection and the onset of the disease) is about 2 days, but ranges from 1 to 4 days.

The majority of those affected recover within a week or two without receiving medical treatment.

### Highest Risk Groups.

- Any age group may be affected, although some are at greater risk than others. People with a higher risk of serious illness or complications are:

- Pregnant women.
- Under 5 years (59 months).

Older adults

Patients with chronic diseases (cardiac, pulmonary, renal, metabolic, developmental, hepatic or hematological) or immunosuppression (due to HIV / AIDS, chemotherapy, corticosteroids or malignant neoplasms).

Prevention

- The most effective way to prevent the disease is vaccination.
- To prevent contracting the virus or spreading the problem, experts recommend.

- When you cough, cover your mouth with the inside angle of the elbow.

- Wash your hands frequently.
- If you are sick, do not greet with a kiss or shake hands.
- Do not share food, glasses or cutlery.
- Avoid crowded places.

In March 2019, WHO launched the Global Influenza Strategy 2019-2030 to protect people in all countries from the threat posed by this disease. The strategy seeks to prevent seasonal flu, prevent the disease from spreading from animals to humans and prepare for the next flu pandemic.

"The threat of an influenza pandemic is still present. The risk of a new influenza virus spreading from animals to humans and causing a pandemic is constant and real. The question is not to know if there will be a new pandemic of flu, but when it will occur. We must keep vigilance and prepare ourselves, because the cost of a major epidemic will be much higher than prevention," said Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, director general of WHO.

## CRIME REPORT AND ACCIDENT REPORT

### Cuenca and National Criminal Activity

(Cuenca) The National Police arrested two suspected members of a gang that had been engaged in armed robbery in restaurants, gas stations and cargo transport vehicles.

The apprehended were identified as Edison Fernando Q., 26, and William Rolando Q., 35.

Richad Dávila, head of the Judicial Police (PJ) of Azuay, explained that one of the last crimes investigated was the assault and robbery of around \$400 in a restaurant located on Avenida de Las Américas and Miguel Cabello Balboa, south of Basin. The crime was committed by two armed men around dawn of last Saturday.

After the robbery in the restaurant, National Police personnel checked the security cameras and evidence provided by one of the employees, obtained the taxi plates. As a result of the investigation, at 2:30 p.m. of the same day, Edisson Fernando Q., was captured.

According to the chief of police, the suspect was in the same clothing with which he allegedly entered the restaurant during the robbery.

After the arrest, the National Police in coordination with the Prosecutor's Office, raided a home and confiscated as evidence two firearms (a gun and a revolver), 10 rounds of ammunition, \$200 and other objects.

Then, with new elements of conviction, the Police managed to learn the whereabouts of the other people involved in the crime. An hour later, William Rolando Q. was arrested.

"It is amazing that the taxi used during the theft(s) belongs to a legal cooperative in the province of Azuay, the position was bought a year ago," said Dávila. Investigators point out that the disc number was frequently changed from the taxi and the plates removed.

#### Criminal Hearing

At a flagrancy and charge hearing, Edisson Fernando Q., requested the application of an abbreviated trial and was sentenced to 20 months of jail for assault and robbery of a restaurant.

To gain the right to the abbreviated procedure and a reduced sentence, the defendant had to admit to his participation in the crime.

In addition, at the hearing, Judge Fabián Romo ordered the retention (and prohibition of transferring) the taxi owned by the sentenced.

Meanwhile, William Rolando Q., was placed under the precautionary measure of preventive detention by the judge.

(Cuenca) On Monday, in the vicinity of Parque Calderón, uniformed citizens of the Citizen Guard held a presumed criminal who minutes earlier had staged an assault.

The institution announced that at 4:00 pm the uniformed detained a citizen who, presumably, minutes before had stolen a cell phone and a wallet from an older adult who was walking through the Historic Center. The woman observed the citizen and recognized him as the alleged perpetrator of the crime.

The members of the Citizen Guard handed the suspect over to the agents of the National Police. The citizen was placed in jail at the orders of the court while awaiting a hearing.

(Cuenca) A man was arrested and several objects were seized was the result of operation 'Beto' that was executed by the National Police Anti-Narcotics Unit on Monday morning.

Head of Subzone 6 of the Azuay Police, Mario Castro, explained that the police action resulted in the arrest of Roberto Javier CP, 33, who has a criminal record.

In addition, police seize 216 grams of cocaine, \$446.50, a cell phone and a scale.

The operation was carried out in a building located on José E. Riveras and Anibal Ponce streets, in the Monay sector.

Through confidential information, police learned that the suspect was engaged in the collection, sale and distribution of narcotic substances from his home.

(Nabón) National Police, stationed in Nabón, recovered a motorcycle reported stolen eight years ago.

According to the police, during a routine check, the agents found the Sukida motorcycle, without license plates, in the Cochapata sector.

After reviewing the documentation and entering the data to the 'Siipne Mobile', Integrated Computer System of the National Police, they found that the motorcycle was reported stolen in February 2012.

The vehicle was transferred to the courtyards of the Judicial Police for the corresponding procedure. The owners must carry out a legal process in this unit to recover it.

(Nabón) An employer threatened his employee with a carbine in the Chicanillas sector of the Nabón canton during an argument. The victim reported the fact to the National Police personnel.

According to the complainant, his boss threatened him with the firearm demanding that he leave his house, while aiming at the carbine. The affected citizen gave this information to the agents of the Judicial Police who moved to the scene to verify the complaint.

Upon arrival, they interviewed the accused, who when he saw the police presence, calmed down and allowed the uniformed to enter.

When making a search they found the carbine-type firearm in one of the rooms. They immediately proceeded to arrest Calmer Anibal OC, 49 years old.

(Guayaquil) Carlos Fabricio PT, who was number 10 on the list of Most Wanted in Ecuador, was apprehended while having breakfast at a restaurant located in the south of Guayaquil. The arrest occurred Wednesday morning.

The citizen has two legal proceedings against him: one for crime against property and another for murder.

According to police investigations, Fabricio participated in the murder of Luis Josué Carrillo Crespo, 16, on May 29, 2018, in the Puerto Bolívar parish, in the Machala canton, province of El Oro. He, together two other people, attacked the victim when he was riding on a scooter.

The operation involved personnel from the Counterintelligence Unit of Guayas, Directorate General of Intelligence, the search block of the Judicial Police and Intervention and Rescue Group (GIR).

In a related event, a year ago police arrested Donny García G., who was also on the Most Wanted list in the province of El Oro. He was the one who allegedly shot the minor.

In addition, another citizen who was on the Most Wanted list, but from the province of Guayas, was captured on January 20 in Los Rios. The apprehended is Jhostin V., who was apprehended for murder. According to police information, the individual was soon to leave the country, because there were threats between his family and that of the deceased.

### Cuenca Area Traffic Accidents

(Cuenca) One person was killed and another was injured in an accident during the early morning hours on Wednesday at Avenida de Las Américas and Calle Armenillas.

A report by the civil traffic agents indicates that a Suzuki vehicle crashed into a house at 1:00 a.m.

As a result of the accident, the male driver, approximately 20 years old, lost his life and a 42-year-old woman was injured and was taken to the IESS Hospital.

Staff from EMOV, the Fire Department and the Ministry of Public Health arrived at the scene. The Traffic Accident Investigation Unit gathered more information to determine the possible causes of the accident.

(Cuenca) A teenage girl was injured by the crash of a van and a car on the Heroes de Verdeloma and Estévez de Toral avenue in Cuenca.

The mishap occurred Tuesday at 11:00, at a junction that is marked with a stop sign and where there is an open flowerbed on the aforementioned avenue.

One of the hypotheses that traffic agents are investigating is that the person who was driving on the secondary road did not realize that another car was running on the main road and hit the car in the main road.

A Chevrolet car was left with side smashed on; Fire Department

personnel gave first aid to the minor who suffered injuries.

\*(Cuenca) Last Friday night, on 10 de Agosto Avenue and Agustin Cueva, a car lost control and crashed into the base of a public light post. Fire Department personnel provided first aid to the person who was driving and transferred them to a local hospital.

\*(Cuenca) Between 9:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m. on Saturday, relief agencies assisted five people who suffered serious injuries from four motorcycle accidents recorded on city streets.

On Guapondelig Avenue and La República, a motorcyclist was injured after crashing into a taxi. While traffic officers investigated the circumstances of the accident, another accident occurred on Guapondelig Avenue and González Suárez, where a Mitsubishi jeep ran over a 30-year-old motorcyclist. Traffic agent Geovanna Paredes said that after a chase, the causative vehicle and its driver were arrested.

Another accident occurred on Max Uhle Avenue and 24 de Mayo, which left a motorcyclist injured.

Finally, on the road to Sinincay, the crash of a motorcycle with a car left three people injured.

\*(Cuenca) A taxi with five occupants fell to the Matadero River, at kilometer 15 of the Cuenca-Molleturo-El Empalme road, access area to El Cajas, in Cuenca.

Four passengers suffered blows and were treated by paramedics of the Ecuadorian Institute of Social Security (IESS), while the taxi driver fled the scene.

According to the tracks of the tires on the road, the taxi descended the road in the direction of entry to Cuenca and after passing a curve lost track and fell to the tributary.

The car had rolled over into the river and was sitting on its roof among stones and the water. The road borders the tributary and does not have metal safety railings where the accident occurred.

Several people who were driving on the road to El Cajas stopped for a moment to observe the accident and contact the police.

The automobile was removed from the river with the use of cranes. The cause of the accident is under investigation.

\*(Tarqui) A violent crash between two trucks on the Panamericana Sur, in the Tarqui service station sector, left two people injured. The incident happened around 5:00 p.m. on Monday.

Two people were treated by the personnel of the Fire Department of Cuenca, the Ministry of Public Health, MSP, and the Ecuadorian Institute of Social Security, IESS.

Meanwhile, uniforms of the Traffic Commission of Ecuador began with the first investigations to determine responsibilities.

Due to the seriousness of the accident, vehicular passage on the road was restricted, and cars that were travelling on the South Pan American Highway were forced to take alternate routes.

## University of Cuenca promotes sustainable agricultural techniques on its own farm



In the canton Guachapala, the smallest in the province of Azuay, is the farm 'El Romeral', at 2,200 meters above sea level. The site, located on 30 hectares, is owned by the University of Cuenca and is used by the Faculty of Agronomy for the training of students.

Students and teachers, together with farm workers, have undertaken the arduous task of converting their different dependencies into sustainable areas. To this end, emphasis is placed on three points: seed recovery, ecological soil management and agroforestry, which leads to ecological biodiversity, recovery of cultural identity and contribution to the fight against climate change.

"It is an experimental space, we want it to collect a lot of cultural identity and this has to do with agricultural biodiversity and gastronomy, among other things," said Andrés Arciniegas, a professor at the Faculty of Agronomy.

For Arciniegas, the challenge is great, therefore, the University applies three fundamental axes: link with society, research work and teaching.

### Teaching the advantages

Around 70 species are grown in 'El Romeral', among fruit trees, vegetables and legumes. Oswaldo Galarza, farm manager, explains in detail the work that is carried out. One of the activities he mentions is an experiment with tree tomatoes that is carried out with the Research Department of the University of Cuenca (DIUC).

"The basis is the fertilization and fumigation program, pesticides are used here because it is a study that is being done so that the farmer can see how it can be produced and go directly to the control of diseases such as "ojo de pollo," which affects this plant," says Galarza. This program has a rigid phytosanitary control.

On the farm the crops are made with organic management and also with agrochemicals, however, ecological soil management is sought.

Of the 30 hectares of land, five are arable, four have natural grass and the rest is pine forest. In this scenario, different experiments are carried out that seek the sustainable use of natural resources, in order to subsequently contribute to an adequate management of resources and the search for authentic food sovereignty.

In this context, Arciniegas points out that consumer behavior plays a key role in a sustainable food system.

"There is how to be very efficient with agroecology, but that will delay us and also depends on the users of the service provided by the farmer, as an ecosystem, social and environmental service."

### Seeds

This project also includes the recovery of native potatoes, which is currently carried out in the Cañar canton. Although there were formerly up to 400 varieties of tuber intended for human consumption, currently the most sold are only fivechola, superchola, gabriela, esperanza and chaucha. Arciniegas attributes this loss to agribusiness, monoculture and conventional farming techniques.

In this recovery, organic agriculture versus chemical treatment is being applied. This study of the University of Cuenca has two goals: to demonstrate the negative impact of agrochemicals on health and demystify the belief that production costs in organic agriculture are very high.

Based on scientific information, it is intended to propose organic agriculture in the recovery of native potato seeds and the reduction of the use of agrochemicals.

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

Solution to Sudoku puzzle on page 3

# Real Estate & Rentals



**FOR RENT**

**2-BR APT. BY PARQUE DE LA MADRE IS CLOSE TO EL CENTRO.**

Just cross the the Rio Tomebamba and foot-bridge to the historic district, this is a third-floor apartment totally remodeled with tile floors with nicely furniture. Fully equipped kitchen, beds and bath linens.

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



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

Contact us to include your listing in the next issue!

[info@thecuencadispatch.com](mailto:info@thecuencadispatch.com)  
099-582-1318



**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**

**Hacienda and Land for Sale in the Jungle**

Location: San José de Morona , Tiwintza canton, province of Morona Santiago, approximately 300 kilometers from the city of Cuenca. \$800 per hectare.

**Contact:**  
Juan Pablo Avila  
(593) 998-688883  
jpavila11@hotmail.com