

Subject: Que Pasa Grecia Update #9, September 2025

From: Don Davis - Que Pasa Grecia <editor@quepasagrecia.com>

Que Pasa Grecia
Serving the Expat Community since 2014

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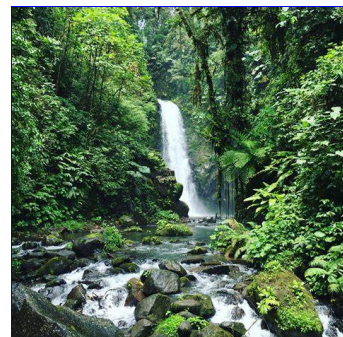
¿Qué Pasa?



Que Pasa Grecia Update #9 September 2025

What's New in Que Pasa Grecia

Since our last update, there's a listing for a **fully furnished home** in El Cajon Arriba and a listing for a **pet cremation service** with pick up service available in Grecia. On Saturday, 13 September, an event honoring **World Suicide Prevention Day** takes place in the park in front of the Grecia church and on the same day at the side of the church there is a **pet parade and blessing**. For details, go to QuePasaGrecia.com.



At the **top of the homepage** of QPG, we've added an **"ALERTS"**

tab. When you see “ALERTS” in the menu bar, (reversed in a white box), it will take you to timely news that your editor feels can’t wait until the next update publishes. Currently, there’s a recent announcement just on tariffs so you can see how it works. **We encourage you to check this new feature regularly.**

Miscellaneous

Costa Rica Independence Day – It’s Monday, 15 September. So, remember, all government offices, banks and most businesses will be closed.

Change Is Coming to Grecia – We have heard that along with an AutoMercado and a PriceSmart coming to Grecia in the not-too-distant future, there’s also a Pequeño Mundo being planned.

Bad C.R. Economic News – Tourism remains in the dumpster. It is not predicted to turn around anytime soon and is already impacting local economies throughout the country. The unfavorable exchange rate of the dollar to the colon isn’t helping, either.

More Trouble Looms for President Chaves – President Rodrigo Chaves has been indicted on criminal fraud charges, and for the first time for any Costa Rican president, he faces the possible loss of immunity and could face trial while still in office. A final decision on whether his immunity should be removed will come soon from an independent investigative panel.

Editor’s Pride – Your editor volunteers at **Fundacion SONAR**. Our pride and joy project, *Caribe Sinfónico*, is an artistic musical effort that began during the pandemic. It attempts to give credit to the 400+ years of contributions to Costa Rica made by the Afro-descendants and indigenous peoples of Limón Province. It has its world premiere as part of the National Symphony concert season on Friday evening and Sunday morning, 12 and 14 September, at the National Theater in San Jose. I invite you to buy a ticket online at the [National Theater website](#) and join us.

Rainfall to Date – So far, this year has produced less rainfall than the record year of 2024. Here’s the August and YTD rainfall for El Cajon de Grecia and San Juan de Sarchi. Thanks to Irina and Tom.

El Cajon de Grecia (Irina)
August: 32.3 cms; 12.7 ins.

Que Pasa offers articles on local places to go, helpful how-to's, and general observations of life in the Grecia/Sarchi area. **Click on the photo to visit our site!**



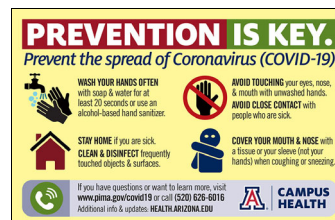
All day educational event coming **September 13** at the Parque Central in Grecia



DeVilbiss 5-liter Oxygen Concentrator



Pizza Stone - \$30!



Our newest import - the latest variant of COVID.

YTD: 222.8 cms; 87.7 ins.

San Juan de Sarchi (Tom)

August: 26.2 cms; 10.3 ins.

YTD: 168.7 cms; 66.4 ins.

Note to Readers: The following section, U.S. Government Changes Impacting Expats, is accurate at the time of writing, but may contain information, conclusions, and/or suggestions with which some readers may disagree, cause discomfort, or find objectionable. For those individuals, we recommend that you finish your Que Pasa Grecia update reading here and skip to the Costa Rican saying. For the rest of our readers, we hope you find value in reading the section below.

U.S. Government Changes Impacting Expats

Tariffs, Retirement Savings, and the Cost of Living – A U.S. appeals court has ruled that many of the U.S. president's tariffs are illegal. The court is letting them stand temporarily until October. It is unclear what the courts will ultimately determine or how the tariffs remaining in place for another month will impact the Costa Rica economy, the cost of products bought in the U.S. and shipped here. Also undetermined is the tariff's impact on inflation, overall economic conditions, exchange rates, and the cost of living. It may be good news for the Costa Rica economy and for expat buying power. Stay tuned.

The "de minimus" import exemption has ended in the U.S. This means that commercial parcels with a value of \$800 or less are no longer exempt from tariff taxation. Under normal circumstances, this would likely impact us in Costa Rica if the item or components of products are imported to the U.S. and re-sent or assembled in the U.S. from imported parts and re-sent to us in Costa Rica.

While the personal gifts exemption of a \$100 maximum value per person per day that is still in place from the U.S. perspective, the government of Costa Rica has instructed Correos to temporarily suspend all shipments to the U.S. until the newly implemented tariffs can be renegotiated. Until the situation is resolved, we will be unable to send packages of any size, content, or value to the U.S., which, obviously, could have a significant impact among family and friends and small businesses. For the time being, DHL, a very pricey alternative to Correos, appears to be your only option.



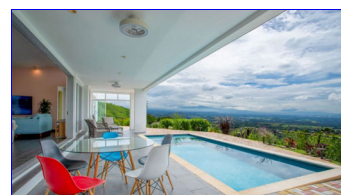
Caribe Sinfónico asks for your support!



Check out [Celulares del Caribe](#) - the best place in Grecia for cellphone sales and **SERVICE!**



Treat yourself to a spa date!
You'll thank yourself!
NOW AVAILABLE - Gift Certificates! What better way to treat a Friend than with a 90-minute facial!



Great houses in Atenas at every price point!



Immigration – Since our last issue, the U.S. had threatened to deport Kilmar Abrego Garcia to Costa Rica if he pled guilty to human trafficking charges. So, we know that some immigration activity and/or agreements with Costa Rica may be going on in the background. The entire U.S. immigration situation appears to be a moving target and what is accurate one day may not be the same as the next. The U.S. courts are becoming more assertive, as a judge halted the deportation of a plane full of Guatemalan children as it sat on the tarmac awaiting takeoff.

Social Security – An SSA whistleblower has stated that the entire SSA database may have been compromised by the DOGE team. If true, it is unclear whether there will be any immediate or long-term consequences for citizens receiving Social Security benefits. If you need to access the SSA, first attempt to call the U.S. Embassy U.S. Citizen Services (2519-2000), which promises to assist.

Drug Interdiction or an Armed Conflict Nearby? – The U.S. military has gotten the attention of Venezuela. The U.S. Army is conducting joint maneuvers with the Panamanian military near the Venezuelan border and it has also diverted war ships to the international waters of the southern Caribbean off the Venezuelan coast. Most illegal drugs move north along the Pacific Coast not through the Caribbean. So, is this build up to stop drug flow to the U.S. as claimed or is it to intimidate the government of Venezuela? Film at eleven.

"Un clavo saca otro clavo"

Literal translation: One nail drives out another nail.

English equivalent: When one relationship ends, sometimes another begins to fill the void.

Thank you Isabel Arguello for your continuing contributions.

These are interesting times, stay informed,
D. Davis, editor
Diane Cooner, webmaster

Contact us at: editorqpg@gmail.com

Your bank will NEVER call asking for your private information. Neither will Social Security or the IRS. **Don't get duped!** Better to hang up and call your bank than to get your accounts cleaned out.



We are so VERY PLEASED to report that friend of QPG Romeo Gallegos' son **Aldair** has finished chemo after a 3 1/2 year battle with leukemia. We weren't sure he'd make it but he's going strong and looking forward to a bright future. This would not have been possible without the help of QPG readers and all the people in the expat community that donated funds to keep the family going, both mentally and financially. **THANK YOU EVERYONE!! BLESSINGS!**

