

Subject: Que Pasa Grecia Update, August 2024

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Que Pasa Grecia
Serving the Expat Community since 2014

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¿Qué Pasa?



Que Pasa Grecia

2024 Update #8 August 2024

What's New in Que Pasa Grecia

Since our last Update, we have a [B&B/home](#) in Sarchi for sale. Don't forget to look at the updated listings for homes for sale in Atenas. There's a new [restaurant recommendation](#), Sal y Pimienta, in downtown Grecia near Pali. We've also got [announcements](#) for two concerts upcoming, plus a new [biological pest control resource](#) and lots of new [items for sale](#).

On the Medical Front

Don't Catch Me—Making their rounds and picking up momentum in Costa Rica are; dengue fever (carried by mosquitos—get rid of any standing water on your property); deadly screwworm disease (open wounds contaminated by a fly); influenza (by touch and airborne); COVID (it's airborne and there are no vaccines currently available in Costa Rica); and the WHO has just issued a Mpox (formerly called monkeypox) world alert watch is on (transmitted by small wild animals, and SORRY, sexually). No cases in C.R. have been reported, but there are cases in in nearby countries. A recent note: due to the rapid increase in COVID cases, the Grecia hospital is now requiring masks be worn. "Please, be careful



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!

out there.”

U.S. Citizens: Please Plan to Vote

It’s an extremely important election. The presidential tickets of both parties have been firmed up. Both tickets are quite easily distinguishable from one and other. Get registered. Become an informed voter, get your ballot, and vote.

Every state has different requirement for absentee ballots. You can opt to just vote for federal offices. Presidential electors are assigned for citizens residing outside of the U.S. For more information, please visit our website:

(<https://cr.usembassy.gov/u-s-citizen-services/voting/>)

You can also get help with registering to vote in November’s US. General election right here in Costa Rica. Go to: votefromabroad.org to request your ballot for the November election, required annually. If you need additional assistance, email: demsabroadgreceia@gmail.com and ask for personal assistance. They will get you registered regardless of your party affiliation.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: The U.S. Embassy is not a polling location. Any election material or ballots received at the embassy and delivered through the diplomatic pouch will be reviewed only by your state’s (or territory’s) election officials.

For more information, please visit the embassy’s website:

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Miscellaneous News

Once Again, Motorcycles Are the Leading Cause of Traffic Deaths Traffic-related motorcycle deaths this year already exceed the 128 total of 2023. They account for over 50% of all traffic deaths in Costa Rica. Your editor is not certain, but this may be first time they’ve passed 50%. “Please, be careful out there.”

Shockingly Weird A condominium community in Grecia had 30 I.C.E. electric meters stolen. Don’t ask me. It’s the first such theft of which I am aware.

Venezuela News According the international community, the recent national presidential election in Venezuela showed the opposition candidate, easily won. Maduro’s government immediately declared Maduro the winner. Most industrialized countries have recognized the opposition and called on Maduro to resign. However, an official election monitor, an American from Costa Rica that I spoke to this weekend said at the sites she monitored, the election was fair and legal and that the official polling data she saw indicated that Maduro, in fact, did win. The official outcome is being left up to the Venezuelan Supreme Court to review, but the opposition that is in hiding is not fully cooperating with the review according to the monitor that I spoke to. I guess, not everything is



Lots of new listings of items for sale!



Vintage White brand Sewing Machine for Sale!



Steve is the Assistance Officer for non-partisan voting assistance in Costa Rica.



Blooms invites you to get social! Monthly meetings in the Western Central valley.

always as it seems.

Let's see how this plays out on the international stage. Venezuela is already considered a 'failed state', but short of armed intervention, it will be extremely difficult to dislodge Maduro if he is ruled the loser. Panama is trying to "close" the Darien Gap, the treacherous jungle trail, that will make it harder for refugees escaping Venezuela from making their way north to the U.S. border. The new president of Panama, Mulino, is fulfilling a campaign promise and repatriating refugees apprehended in Panama by air to their home countries (mostly Venezuela). This effort is being funded by the U.S.

How does this affect us in Costa Rica. There are already as many 40,000 Venezuelan refugees stuck in Costa Rica. These refugees are also putting pressure on the government and the Costa Rican infrastructure. A protest against Venezuela's Maduro government was held in San Jose over the weekend. In addition, the new president of Panama has offered Maduro safe exile in Panama.

July Rain Gauge Irina reported 56.6 cms (22.3") of rain in El Cajon de Grecia and Tom recorded 41.4 cms (16.3 ") in San Juan de Sarchí. No matter where you reside in our area, it's the Green Season and wet.

Still Trying to Make a Difference

Once again please consider a donation to **Caribe Sinfonico** project. We want to offer more self-awareness workshops, as well as continue to develop and offer gender-equity, job-preparation and life-skill workshops to serve Afro-descendant and indigenous peoples in Limón Province. Our first workshop had a huge positive impact, including turning around one potential suicide. Please visit my GoFundMe page: <https://gofund.me/32e8dcc0> for more info and pass the word about our efforts along to your friends and family.

"Llover a cántaros"
Meaning: raining in pitchers.
Literal meaning: it's raining buckets.

Thank you, Isabel Arguello, for your continuing contributions.
Isabel teaches Spanish and does translations.
Find out more about Isabel on the [QuePasaGrecia](http://QuePasaGrecia.com) website.

When you are out, take your umbrella (and, maybe, a mask),

D. Davis, editor
Diane Cooner, webmaster



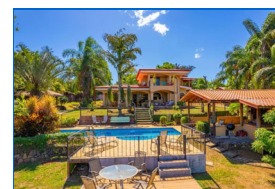
Fundación SONAR is looking for your support of culture, music and arts in Costa Rica! Click on the photo to go to their GoFundMe page and be part of the solution by making a donation!



Take the BioNatura way to non-chemical pest control!



Help empower young women by learning about and donating to the Niñas Sabias menstrual kits project



New Real Estate listings in Atenas!