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# Salinas working towards an ecological future

Reinventing the traditional economic sectors on innovation, investing in new sustainable economies as a basis for economic, social and environmental development is the objective of the village of Salinas with a series of initiatives, some have already been launched and others are being developed in collaboration with companies, private investors and public institutions.

The neighbourhood association school set in motion with an internet course

The Youth Association was instrumental in the success of the rock in Rana PAGE 5

Fifty children participate in the summer school PAGE 6









### In a few months the **Ecoparc** in the area of La Florida will be built at the cost of 200.000 euros



Place in which the Ecoparc is located

Salinas has been allowed permission for the construction of a park on municipal land in the area of La Florida, with a budget of over 200,000 € which will be funded to the trust plan de la

Generalitat Valenciana. The project also includes the urbanization of the right-hand side of the road of Villena, with the construction of sidewalks, street lighting, and sanitation. This is an



Virtual recreation Ecoparc project

action that will benefit citizens and that will allow that Salinas will be equal to other populations with much more people, in the management of our waste. The Ecoparc, whose works will commence in the month of August, will have available containers for the selective collection of rubble, plant debris, oils, batteries, plastic, cardboard and paper and bulky items, among others. This form is intended to eliminate uncontrolled rubbish dumps that often occur in the outskirts of the town perhaps because the neighbours don't know where to deposit certain things. This new service will be open 24 hours a day through an automated system of access to the site. Construction and urbanization of the Ecoparc works are also an advance in future industrial development zone.

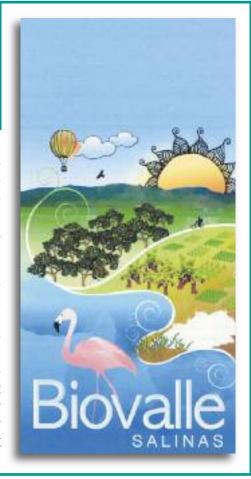
#### Salinas could host an Ecovillage in the strategic plan of the provincial **Council of Alicante**

The municipality of Salinas has the possibility to participate in one of eight projects that the Foundation Metropoli, which directed the prestigious architect Alfonso Vegara, in designing the strategic plan for the province of Alicante, commissioned by the provincial government. Specifically our municipality could host an Ecovillage, i.e. a residential area built under the parameters of sustainability and environmental quality in order to attract new residents interested in enjoying a type of environmentally friendly housing. The City Council continues steps towards this important initiative would enable the professional reintegration of many people in the construction of these houses, which would be the projection of the municipality itself in a different from the traditional sector.

# Biovalle Salinas, an ambitious project involving businesses, public institutions and universities

The Biovalle project brings a vision on how to transform our Salinas into a more humane, united, innovative, competitive and sustainable area. It promotes the generation of wealth, employment and well-being which will make use of the biotechnological potential zone, forest and agricultural resources. Biovalle Salinas, a project involving our City Council, proposes the creation of an industrial plant, in warehouses owned by the town hall, in the production of plant extracts for active ingredients which serve as additives for the cosmetic, hygiene and food industry. This plant will use vegetable raw materials produced by an agricultural cooperative, called Eco-

valle, created for this project. This project proposes a model Association of farmers of the area with entrepreneurs and investors of industry, tourism, agriculture and forestry sectors. The society will treat crops to introduce, as well as the forest exploitation, to supply the materials industry premiums, ecological management d them gardens and green spaces of the region and the gestation of a Agroecológica Experimental station. The project is now in phase of Constitution of different agencies to participate in it and due to its complexity is a very interesting initiative to revitalize our economy in the medium and long term.



An agreement with a private solar company will allow the generation of clean solar energy and bring significant economic benefit for the municipal coffers of 45,000 € per year. This solar installation, which has meant no investment on the part of Salinas, has been installed on the roof of the Sports Centre, changing rooms, market square, industrial warehouses, and a constructed parking area near the municipal cemetery, among others. With this action the municipality achieves a significant reduction of CO2 into the atmosphere, contributing in the creation of optimal conditions for sustainability and commitment towards the environment.

## Roofs will generate clean solar energy and will show benefits for the Town Hall



Solar panels will serve as a ceiling for the under cover parking of the cemetery

# Meeting of the Covenant of mayors to reduce energy consumption and improve the environment

The Mayor of Salinas, Isidro Monzó, attended the European Parliament, at the beginning of May, to sign the 'Covenant of mayors' alongside more than 40 Alicante counterparts and nearly two thousands European mayors. It is

an alliance to be developed and implemented in the municipalities sustainable energy which involves, among other things, the reduction of more than 20% in CO2 emissions in its territory by 2020.





### news in brief

#### **End of term party** in the college

Inflatable castles, music, dance, jokes and Sport were the main activities of the year-end party held at our Lady of the Rosary, where you could enjoy some events prepared with love and care by teachers and pupils alike. The event, held by students of 4° ESO and 2nd Bachillerato attending the Pascual Carrión high school of Sax-Salinas, was held at the end of June. The inner courtyard was filled with family and friends who applauded the different actions and were shown a visual tour through the academic career of the young graduates.



#### **Residents of Los Castillos** have electricity

Residents residing in the area of Los Castillos are to receive electricity. A company is carrying out the installation of electrical poles to supply electricity to 18 dwellings that haven't had electricity up until now. The Project involves the city of Salinas as promoter and the installation cost is to be paid by the residents.



#### Social welfare distributes 500 kilos of food among the needy

The area of social welfare of the City Council is distributing a total of 500 kg of food, among people in need, in our municipality. It is being managed with the collaboration of the Spanish Red Cross. This programme of distributing food, amongst families with problems, is the second time that is has been carried out in Salinas and is coordinated by the Department of Social Affairs and Caritas.

#### **Fourteen civil protection** volunteers monitor the environment in the Salinas mountains during the summer

A total of 14 volunteers, from the local body of civil protection, are involved in the task of guarding the environment and Salinas mountains. During weekends and bank holidays in July, August and September, these troops are carrying out an impor-



tant work for the prevention of fires, preventing illegal camping, informing residents on the ban of burning plant debris during the months of summer and also the prohibition of access of vehicles on tracks and ultimately to ensure that they make good use of our environmental heritage. Voluntary civil protection workers attended, during different months, courses in first aid, flooding, etc. in order to acquire the necessary knowledge for any emergency. They also work all year round to control activities organized by the City Council both festivals and other events such as the artisan market, sports or music concerts.

#### Seven unemployed find work via **EZOINT** and **PAMER** programmes

The city of Salinas has hired seven unemployed people in the area, to carry out different tasks, with the aid of EZOINT and PAMER programmes. Two of these six workers are employed in janitorial work in municipal units, while the rest will be devoted to clearing, settlement of roads and packaging of some recreational areas in the suburbs as the Hermitage of San Isidro.

### Young people of Latvia, **Hungary and Greece** will visit Salinas in the middle of September within a European exchange programme

Close to 40 youths from Latvia, Hungary and Greece will spend a week staying in Salinas, as part of a European project managed by the Department of youth exchange. This ambitious project will continue at Easter next year, when youngsters from Salinas will visit Greece to meet everyone again. It is intended to provide an Exchange to teach different cultures and show different environment. Young people who come to Salinas will stay at Casa Calpeña, managed by the company Coliaven, which has prepared a programme to make them aware of the route

of the castles, the wine, and share experiences with young people in the municipality. There will also be visits to the main points of interest in our town. There will also be an event held on the 17th of September at Casa Calpeña, a gastronomic journey with the most typical of our cuisine, the gachamiga, when anybody can join in if they wish. This activity highlights the work done by the youth of the area, by offering alternatives to local youths while promoting our population, and is a wonderful opportunity for Salinas to be known in other parts



Casa Calpeña will house young Europeans and monitors who will accompany them.

#### The Youth **Association was** instrumental in the success of the rock in Rana

The event exceeded all forecasts, both in the attendance and the quality of the bands that participated in the festival of music, named this year Rock in Rana, because of the place chosen for your celebration. Members of the Youth Association were paramount in the development of the event and the selection of musical groups, with the full confidence of the Town Hall. The highlight was the appearance of a local group called "The Salt Factory", which was applauded by the spectators who appreciated the quality of performance. Two prizes were won. The winner of the acoustic guitar, signed by Estopa, was won



by Fabiana Ferreira with the number 3678, while the weekend for two people to a country house in Cónchar (Granada), went to Diana Pastor with the number 3457. Alongside the music festival, there was an artisan market, which also generated an important influx of visitors.

# Ibizan party in the municipal swimming pool

On the last weekend of July the Youth Association held an attractive Ibizan party in the municipal swimming pool, where everyone came dressed in white. This group, which is working to give impetus to this important sector of the population together with the Town Hall, already prepares a number of projects for medium and long term.



#### We share a day with them

# Five hundred children enjoying the summer school

Monitors meet in the teachers room of the school with Mauro, the coordinator of the group, to prepare the activities of the day and provide them with materials.



Children accompanied by their parents arrive at the door of the school, and each monitor is responsible for his group. Sleepy, but loaded with energy, the small children are directed to their class.



The first task of the day is reviewing homework and making use of the summer for extra studying.



• In Arturo's class there are children from 7 to 12 years old. Including Manuel, 7 years old, who is improving his writing, and Lucia, 9 years old, who is studying mathematics. The rest have also brought study books from home so they won't forget what they have learnt.

• The monitor Laura, is in charge of boys and girls between 6 and 8 years old that also begin the morning with work, like Alexis, 7 years old, who is reading a story and thus improving the understanding of text.



• On the ground floo in Marina's class there are children from 5-6 years old doing exercises, painting and improving writing.



• Also on the ground floor are the youngest children of this summer school. The



children from 3 to 4 years do exercise they have brought from home or those that the monitor Cristina provides.

Break. When the children can enjoy sitting in

the shade, or practising their favourite instrument. In spite of the heat, snack in hand, they take advantage of playing on the football pitch.







In the classes, performing activities such as workshops, films, gymkanas or games. Today there are activities with coloured chalk and plastic cups, but the day before the children were using clay.







Comes the most awaited moment. Everyone agrees that bathing in the municipal swimming pools is the best of these

healthy and fun summer activities that have occupied their mornings in July. And a welcome break for the parents!!

#### RESIDENTS

# Starts the neighbourhood school with an internet course

The residents association in Salinas has launched the neighbourhood school, an interesting initiative that seeks to address the concerns of the inhabitants of this town. First action already under way is an internet course for beginners which has had a very good response so that they have had to establish four classes of 15 students each. The course is structured into a series of sessions of two hours each day and is to be held at the school computer room Virgen del Rosario. Residents of all ages are taking advantage of this course. This is the case of Victoria Galvañ 69 years, who confesses that "it is fun". When asked for the reason for doing the course she explains that she was embarrassed that her grandson of ten years old knows how to use internet and that she doesn't. Moreover, Internet is also useful for reading newspapers, searching information, for example about travel, and making doctor's appointments. Internet has many uses ,as Elena López, 44 years old, found out when she wanted to find information about sports, or the case of Loli Cerdán who recognizes that, in addition to making doctor's appointments, is very practical for the renewal of unemployment that can be done on the network without having to leave the house. All confirm that there is a computer con-



nected to internet at home and now have decided to stop seeing it as a home appliance and to take action and navigate cyberspace. The neighbourhood school has the patronage of the Ministry of solidarity and citizenship and the collaboration of the city of Salinas, and soon will launch other initiatives such as the programmes "Healthy Salinas" and "Safe Salinas", headed mainly for European residents who need to know issues such as the new Spanish highway code or theft in the houses in the suburbs, a group of residents which represent 18% of the population of the municipality.

# Celebration of 24 hour five a side football

and padel

Salinas held a 24 hour five a side football and padel tournament in July, organized by the Sports Department, that took place in the municipal sports complex. Twenty teams participated in the padel contest, and so many others were left out of the competition which highlights the interest that there is for the sport in Salinas. The good atmosphere that prevails in these 24 hours, with BBQs and other activities to enjoy at timeouts, is one of the attractions for the participants. There were

twelve five a side matches played. The first on the red track and covered pavilion, while the final games were all indoors under cover.



#### **LIST OF WINNERS** Pádel

Winning team: Luis-Fer and M. Alapont Five a side football

> Champions: Metal-Lube Runners up: El Vaticano



#### FROM HERE/TO THERE

#### Sonia and Les

From the east coast of England

"In Salinas we've found the place we were looking for to put down roots"



Sonia and Les have lived five and a half years in Salinas. Before they lived in Moraira and later in Sax where, incidentally ,they were the first couple to celebrate their wedding in the Castle. Their love for animals, and determination to find a place where they could put down roots firmly brought them to Salinas, where they have built a canine residence and, devote a portion of their

time and resources to collect abandoned animals. "We have had all kinds of animals left at the doors of our home, from a goat, rabbit or chickens, and almost every day we receive calls from people that warn us that there are abandoned animals", indicates Sonia. She was already engaged in England to work for an animal protection centre, not in vain she studied nursing, specialising as a veterinary assistant. But, apart from finding an area of 2,000 square meters where they have installed their family business, both recognize that they were looking for a place where their children could learn Spanish, and have a pleasant place to live, and that they found in Salinas. Between laughter they say that they are fleeing the "English" and are committed to contributing and collaborating in everything they do for the good of the community in which they live. They are thinking, for example, in collaborating with the Festival of St. Anthony, patron saint of animal. The Canine residence has all the necessary permits, including the Declaration of Community interest (DIC) which cost a lot of time and effort and money to obtain.

#### **100.000 visitors!**



The Web site of Salinas has reached 100,000 visits, most of them coming from Alicante, Elda and Madrid. From abroad, main visits to this Web site have been from Guayaquil, Ecuador, and Strasbourg and Montpelier in France. The constant input and update of information has been key in achieving these results. In the coming months this website will be implemented with new services to residents in one single window.



- Thursday, July 29. 19:30 h.MUNICIPAL AUDI-TORIUM. "Los peques bailan el run run" of the Escuela Infantil de Salinas.
- Friday, July 30. 21 h. PLAZA DE ESPAÑA. Traditional Summer Concert by the Banda de Música de Salinas.
- Saturday, July 31. PLAZA DE ESPAÑA. VERBENA GREAT SUM-MER. The traditional summer event known as the "Cena de los Cuartelillos" with performances of the trío musical Son de Mar and Lolita Torres y sus Muñecos.