



RINGROAD

Roadworks call from Icod mayor



It's been over three years since the road link between Icod and El Tanque was opened, but the work on the last sections has since stagnated.

Icod mayor José Ramón León recently demanded the completion of the island ring road as an urgent measure. He claims it's "an essential incentive to



help turn the region and borough into a tourist destination which would be attractive to the millions of visitors who stay all year round in the south of the island". He argues that the termination of the ring road is needed for the territorial balance of the island, to avoid the jams in the metropolitan area and the long queues on the northern motorway. Easier transport

for those who live in the north and work in the south is another motive. There are two sticking points, the expensive Erjos tunnel and the stretch between San Juan de la Rambla and Los Realejos which runs through a protected natural area of cliffs. The first is a problem of cash, the second could be more difficult to resolve. Former island councillor for transport Lorenzo Dorta was against the idea. Some time ago, he told this newspaper he wasn't in favour of spending millions and endangering a natural area only to save drivers less than 10 minutes on the road. ■

LORO PARQUE

Artificial rain in the parrot enclosure

Depending on the season, it rains several times a week for five to ten minutes on the parrots living at the Loro Parque. Just as in their natural habitat in the jungle, they live under dark nets that allow the sun to shine through but still provide shade. There is occasionally a heavy downpour in the jungle, but at Loro Parque, the rain is artificially produced.

This is important for the birds because they eat during the rain and interact afterwards, bathing themselves and then plucking each other's feathers. To match that in their homeland, the Loro Parque rain is adjusted with varying frequency and intensity for both the summer and winter. This small detail is another sign that everything possible is done to make the living conditions of the animals at the park as comfortable as possible. This year the Loro Parque was awarded the Travellers Choice 2017 Award by TripAdvisor as the world's best zoo. ■



↑ Sometimes it's a gentle shower, sometimes a downpour, depending on the season

GRAB A BARGAIN

Mobiltrans flea market

The removal company Mobiltrans Flea Market is returning to Santa Úrsula and will once again open its doors on November 11.

The market is a wonderful treasure trove for collectors and bargain hunters. Anything is for sale that did not fit into a container or has not been picked up, ranging from furniture to smaller items.

The market opens from 10am to 2pm. As always, fried sausages and freshly tapped beer will also be available for shoppers to enjoy. Apart from that, flea market traders who would like to set up their own stands can contact Mobiltrans. Enquiries can be made at any time by calling: 922 300 098. ■

STRONGER SCIENTIFIC VOCATIONS

New European Space Education Resource Office

The Canary Islands are to promote students' scientific vocations through the European Space Agency.

For this, the archipelago will be established as a node of the new European Space Education Resource Office (ESERO

classroom) in Spain, the European Space Agency educational office in Granada. The director of the Canarian agency for university quality and educational evaluation, and of the Canarian government's department for education and univer-

sities innovation council Teresa Acosta and her team took part in the inauguration of Spain's first ESERO classroom in Granada in early October.

The Canary Islands will participate in Spain's adherence to the ESERO project, forming a node to bring the activities and didactic resources of the scientific teaching programme closer to the Islands' educational centres.

ESERO develops activities and educational content related to space to generate enthusiasm and motivation among students. It thus seeks to improve their competence in scientific vocations and to ensure that they can be worked on in a wide range of subjects in the educational curriculum. Other independent communities such as Madrid, Aragon, Catalonia, Asturias, Galicia and Valencia will also join the programme as nodes of the office in Granada.

The European Space Agency's ESERO spaces, State offices that contribute to improving the interest of students in science, technology, engineering and mathematics in the primary and secondary stages, are intended for the member countries of the Space Agency: each state can participate by having an educational office. Teresa Acosta commented, "This is an exciting programme: our membership of ESERO will allow us to develop multiple projects related not only to space, but to all scientific-technological matters, with the support, resources and advice of the European Space Agency." The day not only served as an institutional opening, but the Granada Science Park also hosted talks and conferences with teachers and students, showing the successful experiences of schools that already participate in the ESERO programme. ■

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