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Dominican Ethanol Production to Attract US\$100 million in Investments

Long-term plans to replace fossil fuels with ethanol developed from sugar cane took another boost when it was announced that a large Brazilian company is interested in producing sugar cane based ethanol in the Dominican Republic for export to the US.

Talks took place last month between ex-Dominican basketball player Jose Vargas, representing Brazil's Carmen company and the Colorado Group, and Salvador Rivas, the Industry and Commerce Ministry's director for Non-Conventional Energy.

Rivas has indicated that the Brazilian companies would be looking to invest over US\$100 million in developing ethanol in the DR.

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most people do not know what they look like.

Saving Garbage

In China a man hid his savings in his garbage bin to hide them from burglars before going out on a business trip with his wife.

"We looked around our home and finally decided to hide the money in the garbage bin, where we believed it was safest from burglary," said Mr Cui from Qingdao city.

Unfortunately, when they came back from the trip, they forgot and promptly threw out the garbage with the equivalent of \$6500 in notes.

"I threw away the garbage the day after I came home, since the bin was full," he said.

Two days later and Mr Cui remembered about the money and rushed to check the garbage room - but it had already been taken away.

"Our last hope was the city garbage treatment centre, but the landfill was so vast that we knew our money was lost forever," he said.

Bush Queen Wink Slip

President George Bush recently gaffed again, this time with the Queen, after getting his dates strangely mixed up at an official welcome ceremony on the south lawn of the White House

The 7000 people attending heard Bush age the Queen by 200 years when he said,

"You helped our nation to celebrate its bicentennial in 17... 1976."

To compound the gaff, as the crowd started laughing, he paused, turned to the Queen and winked at her.

He then declared: "You gave me a look that only a mother could give a child."

Toad Sex Frenzy Kills Prize Carp

In the UK town of Pickering, North Yorkshire, randy toads killed prime carp worth \$40,000 at a fishing lake by dragging them underwater.

The fish weighing up to 8lbs, suffocated when amorous toads, mistaking them for lady toads, jumped on them in a mating frenzy as

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New Shopping Center Planned for Santo Domingo

Dominican firm Allard Industries has announced that they have an agreement with a Venezuelan company, Gestión Integral de Valores Inmobiliarios to build a new retail shopping center in the intersection of the busy Winston Churchill and Gustavo Mejía Ricart avenues.

Allard are being very bullish about the new development, which they say will become a landmark in the country, with an exciting atmosphere and the best shopping and entertainment environment in the Dominican Republic.

The Venezuelan firm have been contracted to construct, manage and market the new development which will cost more than US\$60 million and will create 1500 new jobs in the area.



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