

 IN THE NEWS

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Credits boost young entrepreneurs

Mexico City.- The Mexican president, Enrique Peña Nieto, launched "My First Credit" program for young entrepreneurs. The scheme provides four-year loans of between US\$3,500 and US\$10,300 at annual interest of 9.9 percent.

The president said that the National Institute of Entrepreneurs will provide advice and support to help the young people to make a success of their ventures.



Mexico sets record in food exports

Mexico City.- Mexican food and beverage exports set a record US\$25.6 billion last year, an increase of US\$1 billion on the 2013 figure, the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries reported.

The principal products exported were beer, tomatoes, avocados, tequila, peppers, beef, and berries, including raspberries.



Auto industry revs up for new year

Rio de Janeiro.- Mexico extended its last year's lead in Latin America's auto industry with a new vehicle-manufacturing record in January.

AMIA, the Mexican auto industry association, published that the nation's auto plants produced 266,000 vehicles in January, a 6.8 percent year-on-year increase.

"These figures are boosted by new factories that are being opened in our country," the AMIA president, Eduardo Solis told Notimex.

 COMING SOON



Mexico to feature in London Book Fair

Mexico City.- Mexico will be the guest of honor at London's Book Fair. The fair will provide an opportunity to promote works of Mexican writers to an English-speaking audience, said Rafael Tovar y de Teresa, president of the Mexican Arts Council.

The fair runs from April 14 to 16. Mexico aims to sign up contracts for literary rights and establish relations with literary agents in the United Kingdom.

Mexico's presence in the Book Fair forms part of the celebrations of the 2015 Mexico- United Kingdom Dual Year.



Tripartite auto pact to be renewed

Mexico City.- Mexico and Brazil will renew their ACE 55 auto pact on March 15, said Ildefonso Guajardo, the Economy minister.

"What this means is that on March 15 the original terms of ACE 55 will be reinstated, meaning free trade," said Guajardo.



Cancun awaits springbreakers with open arms

Cancun.- The tourist industry in the state of Quintana Roo, Cancun in particular, is preparing for the spring break season in March. Years ago, spring break was stigmatized but now everyone in Cancun welcomes it, even its former detractors.

The numbers of spring breakers have grown over time. This year about 70,000 are expected, some 10,000 more than last year.

 GLOBAL MEXICO



Mexican food finds new home in UK

London.- Mexican cuisine can be "exported" to the United Kingdom with the use of local ingredients, a group of well-known Mexican chefs agreed.

In a round-table discussion, Mexican chef Solange Muris said she is convinced that "Mexican food can be made with local ingredients". It would make the meals more viable and fresher, she added.

"The use of local ingredients is a positive trend. It makes the food more honest and coherent," said Alfredo Villanueva.



Tortilla queen reigns in Argentina

Buenos Aires.- Five years ago, Gabriela Setien Villar, from the Mexican Gulf state of Veracruz, decided to make tortillas using the ancestral and complex process of nixtamalization, invented by Mexico's pre-Hispanic cultures.

What began with a small corner in her house became a business known as "Las tortillas de Pancho Villa", which now supplies 40 restaurants in Buenos Aires with a daily production of up to 1,800 tortillas.



Diego Rivera works on show in Singapore

Singapore.- The exhibition "Diego Rivera: Pride of Mexico" was opened as part of the celebrations of Singapore's independence and the 40th anniversary of its establishment of relations with Mexico.

The show has been mounted in the Lim Hak Tai Gallery of the Nanyang Academy Of Fine Arts. It consists of 34 works from the 52-year career of Rivera (1886-1957), the Mexican embassy in Singapore reported.