



# You decide



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July 10th, 2015



## The best in the world

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## SPORTS

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VANCOUVER, Canada (AP)

Carli Lloyd had another great performance and scored a hat trick on Sunday to help the United States win their third FIFA Women's World Cup. It was their first title in 16 years.

Lloyd scored her goals during an early offensive onslaught that saw the United States rack up a 4-0 lead in the first 16 minutes of play, before finally winning by a final score of 5-2 over the defending champions from Japan.

The win ended a long drought for the women's national team that saw them last win the title in 1999.

A sell-out crowd that included U.S. vice president Joe Biden celebrated loudly as Lloyd scored each of her three goals. She became the first woman to score a hat trick in a Women's World Cup final.

"I've had a long career. Many people have always believed in me," the 32-year-



The United States Women's National Team celebrates with the trophy after they beat Japan 5-2 in the FIFA Women's World Cup soccer championship in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, on Sunday, July 5, 2015.

old midfielder said. "I've dedicated my whole life to this. Everything else pales in comparison, and nothing can ever

change this moment."

Lloyd dropped her knees in celebration when the final whistle blew. Star forward Abby Wambach hugged and picked up the team's coach, Jill Ellis, who wiped tears of joy from her eyes.

Lloyd won the Golden Ball award, given to the tournament's best player. She scored twice within 135 seconds to give the United States a 2-0 lead in the first five minutes of play.

Lauren Holiday scored in the 14th minute, and two minutes later, Lloyd made it 4-0 with a 54-yard volley over the head of Japan's goalkeeper, Ayumi Kaihori.

Japan was able to pull one back in the 27th minute when Yuki Ogimi scored, and scored their second goal off a Julie Johnston own-goal in the 52nd minute of play.

Tobin Head would score two minutes after that for the United States, who had struggled in World Cup play since winning the inaugural tournament in 1991, and then eight years later in the Rose Bowl.

Christie Rampone, the only remaining player on the team from that 1999 squad, lifted the trophy with Abby Wambach, the former FIFA World Player of the Year who had lost her starting spot due to age.

Hope Solo won the Golden Glove award, given to the best goalkeeper in the competition.



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## IMMIGRATION

### A year on, children caught on border struggle to stay, adapt

LOS ANGELES, California (AP)

**A**t 1-year-old, a wide-eyed, restless Joshua Tinoco faces the prospect of deportation to his native Honduras, one of tens of thousands of children who arrived at the U.S.-Mexico border last year.

While his teenage mother has been allowed to stay in the U.S. and seek a green card granting permanent residency status under a federal program for abused, abandoned and neglected children, Joshua has been classified as an enforcement priority by immigration prosecutors, his lawyer said.

"I fought so much for him to be here with me and now they yank him from my hands," said Dunia Bueso, the boy's now-18-year-old mother. "How is the child going to go there alone, and with no one to take care of him?"

Today, like Joshua, many of the children who arrived from Central America still have cases churning through the immigration courts and don't know what the outcome will be. Those fleeing gang violence and domestic strife have applied for asylum or the government's program for abandoned children and are waiting for an answer.

Those who have won the right to stay in the country still face challenges in reuniting with family they haven't seen in years, attending school in a foreign language and coping with the trauma they fled or debts owed to relatives or the smugglers who brought them.

More than 57,000 unaccompanied children from El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras arrived on the border in the last fiscal year, and since then another 18,000, government statistics show. Immigration courts have fast-tracked the cases in a bid to stem a growing backlog.

It's difficult, however, to know how many are winning; so far, roughly 6,200 of the children who arrived since July have been issued deportation orders, mostly for failing to attend court dates, but as many asylum applications were filed by children between October and March.

Immigrant advocates fear too many children are hard-pressed to find lawyers and say many are bona fide asylum seekers fleeing gang violence and rape.



In this Monday, June 8, 2015 photo, 1-year-old Joshua Tinoco snuggles with his mother, Dunia Bueso, a 18-year-old Honduran who won the right to seek permanent residency under a U.S. program for abused and abandoned children, while taking a nap at their relative's home in Los Angeles, California.

But border enforcement supporters doubt those handed deportation orders will be sent home as the Obama administration would face political backlash from putting children on a plane, especially when their family is here.

"Once the kids were let into the United States, the game was up," said Mark Krikorian, executive director of the Center for Immigration Studies, which wants more limits on immigration.

Bueso and Joshua were both treated as unaccompanied children because she was a minor when they arrived at the border. Bueso can't believe the United States would make her send her son somewhere no one will care for him; Joshua's father is not involved in his life, she said, and her grandmother is ill.

While busing through Mexico with her infant son was difficult, Bueso said things are looking up now that she can stay. She is living with her uncle in a Los Angeles neighborhood lined with liquor stores and bail bond businesses, where she is attending school for the first time since she was 10.

While obtaining legal status is a huge relief for many of the children, it doesn't solve all of their problems, especially those still running from memories of violence.

For now, Bueso and her uncle must keep going to immigration court hearings to determine the boy's fate. Joshua, who refused to sit still during his last court appearance, has been allowed to stay home.



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#### Karina Marquez

Karina has been part of our Washington Beef team since June 11, 2003. Karina works as a Quality Assurance Lead in our Processing division. She is a very hard-working employee that shows initiative and drive. In her free time, she loves spending time with her family playing volleyball and getting involved in her community.



Karina Marquez

#### Nicolas Perez

Nicolas has been part of our Washington Beef team since July 13, 2002. Nicolas works as a De-boner on our Loin line in our Fabrication division. He is a very productive, responsible and reliable employee that has a good eye for safety. In his free time, Nicolas enjoys spending time with his family traveling and going to church.



Nicolas Perez

#### Rosa G. Mendoza

Rosa has been part of the Washington Beef team since November 30, 2004. Rosa works as a Supply Room Attendant in our Processing division. She is a generous, active and reliable employee that enjoys what she does. In her free time, Rosa likes to spend time with her four sons fishing and assisting out her the community.



Rosa G. Mendoza

#### Roberto Montez

Roberto has been part of the Washington Beef team since August 24, 2011. Roberto works as a Cryovac Operator in our Packaging department located in our Fabrication division. He is a very reliable employee that goes out of his way to assist his co-workers. In his free time, Roberto enjoys spending time with his family traveling around the valley.



Roberto Montez

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## HEALTH LITERACY

# Teamwork: A Cancer Survivor's Story



By Carl Berkowitz, TCCC Volunteer

**W**hen asked how he made it through his experience with colorectal cancer, Victor Ruiz first mentions his wife of 32 years, Joan. "I couldn't have made it without her support. Everyone needs someone to be there with them during trips to the doctor, to help keep track of meds and treatment."

Then...Victor went on to attribute his success in beating cancer to the great communication between caregivers at different Tri-Cities facilities. "In the course of my treatment I worked with Dr. Luay Ailabouni (Kadlec Surgery), Dr. Juno Choe (Tri-City Cancer Center), Dr. Stanlee Lu (Trios Oncology) and Dr. Juergen Mueller (Trios Gastroenterology)...all were great and all talked to each other about my case. Communication was essential to get me where I am today."

And where is Victor today? He's in an 'Active Surveillance Program' that includes regular check-ups, a healthy diet and continued participation in the Tri-City Court Club – Tri-City Cancer Center WellFit Program. Victor explained that the WellFit Program is available to cancer survivors or those who have recently become deconditioned or chronically fatigued as a result of their treatment and/or the disease.

Victor radiates good health today but said his muscle tone and energy bottomed out towards the end of his chemotherapy. "I had muscle

flab and not enough energy to even mow the lawn. The WellFit Program is a great program that all patients should consider"

He also jokingly noted that any difference in his pre- and post-treatment energy levels could be explained simply by his "being a few years older."

Although colonoscopies were a regular part of his standard health care, Victor noted that only 46% of Hispanic males make use of this important diagnostic tool, a very low number compared to other populations in the community. "By not having this simple procedure, they're potentially complicating their lives and the lives of their loved ones. All persons should talk to a medical expert to determine how often it should be done in light of their family history and health. It helped save my life and can do the same for others."

The communication and coordination between physicians very much impressed Victor who illustrated his point with this story. Dr. Jimmy Chua of Trios, who was treating Victor for an infection, was aware of the tumor recently found by Dr. Mueller. After addressing the infection, and with Victor in the room, Dr. Chua picked up the phone to call Dr. Luay Ailabouni. Victor said "The phone call was like, 'Hello, Luay? I've got somebody you need to see.'" Victor said he could not imagine this type of communication occurring in a big city. "They treated me like a real person and friend they were concerned about, not just a patient to be taken care of."

"Early diagnosis and great local support, that's what got me through this." said Victor at the end of our discussion. "That, and having Joan with me through the whole thing."



Victor Ruiz (center) pictured alongside Tri-Cities Cancer Center nurses Melony (left) and Rebecca (right.)



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## FINANCIAL LITERACY

# Six Ways to Save on Your Summer Road Trip

According to a TripAdvisor.com survey, about 9 out of 10 people will take a vacation this summer – and for many families that means a road trip. Planning a trip can be a lot of fun, but trips can also be more expensive than you planned. Before you put the vehicle in drive, here are some tips to help you cut costs without cutting out the fun.

### Set a budget.

Before you hit the road, make sure that you can actually afford to go. Most people set a budget for transportation costs and hotels, but forget to consider meals and activities. Before you leave home, think about what attractions you will want to enjoy and plan your budget accordingly. Try using a budget tracker or app when planning. If you are not sure where to start, consider visiting your local credit union's website for tips on budgeting. Many have free worksheets and information to help guide you.

### Take advantage of discount programs for gasoline.

Many retailers, like grocery stores and gas stations offer discounts on gasoline. This can mean a significant savings – especially if you plan ahead and accumulate rewards in the months prior to your vacation. Another tip to save at the pump is using a gas-locating app to find the cheapest prices at nearby stations. Try GasBuddy.com which allows you to see the prices for gas wherever you are traveling.



### Bring your own food and snacks.

Whether it is a week-long adventure or a quick day-trip, take your own food and snacks. Bring a cooler and pack it with your favorite treats and plenty of water. Normally, prices of food and drinks are more expensive at tourist areas or at convenience stores. Plan to stock up at the grocery before you leave. Not only will you cut your spending costs, you're more likely to eat healthier too.

### Split the cost with family and friends.

Families can spend a lot of money on hotel stays, especially if you stay during the peak summer months. While it is nice to have someone else take care of cleaning and refreshing your room, you might consider renting a house with close family and friends. Split the cleaning duties and the costs. Try searching online for rental homes. You can often find better deals and more room.

### Pack smart.

It's easy to pack too much when don't have to worry about paying

luggage fees. Keep in mind excess weight will not only weigh the car down but lead to using more gas. Make sure to pack only what is necessary and consider making a

list to help you stay on track. Before leaving on vacation, check your wallet remove the means of payment you will not need and store them in a secure location. Why carry your checkbook and other less common means of payment and risk losing or being stolen? Take only the payment methods you plan to use.

### Check your vehicle.

Make sure your vehicle is in good condition before hitting the road. Check the tires, fluids and consider getting an oil change before you add additional miles on your car. This can help avoid breakdowns which can become costly and can throw your vacation off course.



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## STATE

## Feds paying for sewer analysis of pot usage in Washington



In this 2013 photo provided by the University of Puget Sound, Kathryn Ginsberg collects wastewater that will be tested for trace levels of pharmaceutical drugs from a sewer near Tacoma, Washington.

SEATTLE, Washington (AP)

The federal government is chipping in money for a three-year pilot study using sewage samples to determine levels of marijuana use in two Washington cities — research that could help answer some key questions about pot legalization, the University of Puget Sound announced Monday.

The National Institutes of Health has agreed to pay \$120,000 so Dan Burgard, an associate chemistry professor, can conduct a three-year study that will look at how per-capita pot use changed after Washington's first legal pot shops opened last July.

The research, based on methods first developed by scientists in Italy in 2005, involves analyzing wastewater samples for levels of metabolites produced when the body processes drugs.

Burgard previously used it to test campus wastewater to determine whether students were using more “study drugs” such as Ritalin and Adderall during midterms and finals. In one finals period at the university, he found an eight-fold increase over such stimulant levels from the first week of school.

Burgard began collecting marijuana data in December 2013 — after voters passed legalization in 2012 but eight months before legal pot shops began opening.

The upcoming study is aimed at helping determine whether the opening

of pot shops increase a community's marijuana use, whether data from the wastewater correlate to what people answer in surveys about their marijuana use, and whether weekday or weekend marijuana use has increased.

“We're trying to get a sense of the type of user,” Burgard said. “If there's more use on the weekends, maybe that's more recreational. But if Sunday to Thursday use goes up as much, that might be a public health concern, with habitual users using a lot more.”

The data could also show how much of the illicit black market for marijuana the state's legal stores are capturing, by comparing the wastewater data with the state's close tracking of marijuana sales. If sales figures continue to rise, but the wastewater levels show that overall pot use is flat, that would indicate that people are getting their marijuana at legal stores instead of on the black market.

But if sales figures rise and the sewer evidence of pot use also rises, that could indicate that people are still buying on the black market — and that legalization has increased overall use in the state without displacing much of the black market.

Burgard declined to say which two cities in Washington will be tested until the study is complete.

The research is being done in collaboration with Caleb Banta-Green, a senior scientist at the University of Washington's Alcohol and Drug Abuse Institute.



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## RELIGION

## Hundreds of thousands attend Pope Francis' first mass in Ecuador

GUAYAQUIL, Ecuador (AP)

Pope Francis used his first Mass in Ecuador on Monday to ask for support in his efforts to reach out to Catholics who feel shunned by the Church when the world's bishops gather at the Vatican in October.

Speaking to 800,000 people on the first leg of his "homecoming" tour of South America, the 78-year-old pope weaved his homily around the theme of the family, which will be the subject of the month-long synod at the Vatican.

The meeting is expected to discuss ways to reach out to Catholics who have divorced and remarried outside the Church. Under current rules, they are prohibited from receiving communion unless they abstain from sexual relations.

The gathering is also expected to discuss how the Church should reach out to homosexual Catholics.

The pope said the synod "would consider concrete solutions to the many difficult and significant challenges facing families in our time."

He asked for prayers for the synod "so that God can take even what might seem to us impure, scandalous or threatening and turn it ... into a miracle. The family today is in need of a miracle."

Conservative bishops oppose any changes regarding the divorced and remarried. At a preparatory meeting last year they botched conciliatory language on the pastoral care of gay couples.

Asked about the pope's words on the synod, the Vatican spokesman said Francis was not referring to specific controversies but that he wanted the synod



A crowd of faithful await the arrival of Pope Francis at Samanes Park in Guayaquil, Ecuador, on July 6, 2015.

to find ways "to help people move from a situation of sin to a situation of grace."

The Argentine-born pontiff delivered his remarks in Ecuador's second city Guayaquil, a steamy port sometimes referred to as the world's "banana capital."

In line with his simple style, Francis rode into the city in a small silver Fiat marked for the occasion with Vatican City number plates - "SCV 1" - standing for Stato della Citta del Vaticano or State of Vatican City.

Tens of thousands of people lined the route from the airport, at times rushing police to touch the car and throw flower petals before it.

His eyes often squinting in the sun, Francis switched to an open jeep when he reached the sprawling Mass site and rode through the crowd, which authorities estimated at about 800,000.

"I've come to this spiritual encounter to ask the pope to heal me because I have cancer," said Franklin Borbor, 48, who despite his illness traveled more than five hours to find his place in the park.

Others came from as far away as Chile, Peru, Colombia and Mexico.

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## LATIN AMERICA

## Puerto Rico governor says island can't pay its public debt

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP)

The governor warned that Puerto Rico can't pay its \$72 billion public debt as international economists released a critical report Monday on the island's economy.

The news from Gov. Alejandro Garcia Padilla delivered another jolt to the recession-gripped U.S. island, as well as a world financial system already worrying over Greece's collapsing finances.

Garcia is scheduled to air a pre-recorded televised address late Monday afternoon as legislators continue to debate a \$9.8 billion budget that calls for \$674 million in cuts and sets aside \$1.5 billion to help pay off the debt. The budget has to be approved by Tuesday.

The governor hopes to defer debt payments while negotiating with creditors, spokesman Jesus Manuel Ortiz said late Sunday, confirming comments by Garcia that appeared in a report in The New York Times published that evening.

"There is no other option. I would love to have an easier option. This is not politics, this is math," Garcia is quoted as saying in the Times.

Puerto Rico's bonds were popular with U.S. mutual funds because they were tax-free, but hedge funds and distressed-debt buyers began stepping in to buy up debt as the island's economy worsened and its credit rating dropped.

Garcia's comments will likely not have much impact on Wall Street, said economist Jose Villamil, a former U.N. consultant and CEO of an economic and planning consulting firm.

"The markets are clear that Puerto Rico is heading to a direction of a restructuring or default," said the economist, adding that a voluntary restructuring by bondholders might be the best option.

"The last four administrations have kicked the can down the road," said Villamil. "At this point, there is no more can to kick. So we're going to take some very strict measures and some very profound measures. It's going to hurt, but there's no way out."

A report released Monday by a former



In this April 30, 2015, file photo, Puerto Rico Gov. Alejandro Garcia Padilla delivers his budget address for the next fiscal year at the Capitol building in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

World Bank chief economist and others found that Puerto Rico's fiscal debt is larger than originally thought and urged the government to act quickly.

"This is a daunting agenda politically, legally and organizationally. It is also an urgent one: The government's cash balances can evaporate in the face of delays, reducing the room for maneuver and intensifying the crisis," the report stated.

The economists praised Garcia's administration for taking action on higher taxes, pension reforms, spending cuts and freezes, but they also noted that anticipated revenue projections systematically exceed collections, and that policy failures have in part caused Puerto Rico to be cut off from market access.

"Growth has not just been low, but output has actually been contracting for almost a decade now, which is remarkable for an economy suffering neither civil strife nor overt financial crisis," the report stated.

Some legislators were taken aback by Garcia's comments to the newspaper, including Rep. Jenniffer Gonzalez, spokeswoman for the main opposition party.

"I think it's irresponsible," Gonzalez said. "He met privately with The New York Times last week, but he hasn't met with the leaders of this island."

Puerto Rico's constitution dictates that the debt has to be paid before any other financial obligation is met. If Garcia seeks to not pay the debt at all, it will require a referendum and a vote on a constitutional amendment, she said in a phone interview.

### From my balcony

## In Greece: 'Oxi, oxi, oxi!'

Dr. Lorena Barboza  
lorena.barboza@gmail.com

"No, no, no" the Greeks shouted on July 5th in response to Troika's propositions. With that "NO," they answered the following question: "Should the joint proposition presented by the European Commission, Central Bank of Europe and International Monetary Fund be accepted by Greece?" "Oxi, oxi, oxi."

The request of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to cut 900 million euros from the Greek people, a reduction of wages, layoffs, a generalized VAT increase, delayed retirement age to 67 years and freezing of pensions until 2021, among other proposals were promptly rejected with a resounding "no."

Even though banks have been closed for a week and there have been warnings from the European Union, Prime Minister of Greece, Alexis Tsipras, had the support of 61.3% of the people in a referendum on Sunday. The leader wants to continue with a strong and participatory democracy in Greece.

The task will not be easy for Tsipras ... Greece could not overcome its debt because of lower payment terms and higher interest rates imposed upon it by the creditors. It fell into a vicious circle in which they obtained new loans to pay off old debts ... But he is determined to keep Greece afloat, and experts say it will be by renegotiating and tolerance of the Troika. Only then could the economy recover and grow.

Alexis Tsipras wants to pay debt and "maintain a good relationship with the European Union (EU) provided it is with respect and tolerance." He only asks that they allow him to renegotiate the debt as they have done in the past for Germany and Argentina, for example.

"When people have faith and collective consciousness they can resist" Tsipras said. The stakes are high and, for the sake of the Eurozone, Greece hopefully will be supported.

Have a happy week, and God bless!

Dr. Barboza invites you to visit her blog: [hablandonosentendemos.podbeam.com](http://hablandonosentendemos.podbeam.com)



► Lorena Barboza

### Dave Says

## Who do you want to hang out with?

Dear Dave,

I have job offers from two tech companies. One is in San Antonio and pays \$55,000 a year, while the other is in Silicon Valley making \$100,000 a year. My friends are advising me to move to California, but I feel like I'd have more money in my budget if I moved to San Antonio. What do you think?



Dave Ramsey

Aaron

Dear Aaron,

The good news about Silicon Valley is you'd be around a ton of really smart people in your industry. I mean, it's the epicenter of the tech world, right? You'll learn a ton and have lots of opportunities, so there's definitely an upside.

The problem is that the Silicon Valley area is one of the most expensive places to live in the entire country. The real estate prices and cost of living are ridiculous! Still, if it weren't for the cost of living argument, it would be a no-brainer for me. Then, it wouldn't really be so much about the income and prices as it would be about the career opportunity.

Still, you have to consider the economic factors involved here. With that in mind, it's not an exaggeration to say you might actually put more money in your pocket at \$55,000 in San Antonio than you would \$100,000 in Silicon Valley. That's entirely possible!

I think things are going to come out pretty even — economically speaking — once you adjust for the cost of living. I'm a huge fan of Texas. It's a great business market and tax situation down there. But really, in my mind the question comes down to your personal comfort level and quality of life. And that's something you'll have to answer for yourself!

—Dave

\* Dave Ramsey is America's trusted voice on money and business. He has authored five New York Times best-selling books: *Financial Peace*, *More Than Enough*, *The Total Money Makeover*, *EntreLeadership* and *Smart Money Smart Kids*. The *Dave Ramsey Show* is heard by more than 8 million listeners each week on more than 500 radio stations. Follow Dave on Twitter at @DaveRamsey and on the web at [daveramsey.com](http://daveramsey.com).

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 <p><b>Limes</b> Limones</p> <p><b>10 FOR \$1</b></p> <p>Limit 20 / Limite 20</p>	 <p><b>Cantaloupe</b> Melón</p> <p><b>4 FOR \$5</b></p> <p>Limit 4 / Limite 4</p>	 <p><b>Roma Tomatoes</b> Tomates Roma</p> <p><b>68¢</b> LB</p> <p>Limit 10 lbs / Limite 10 libras</p>	 <p><b>Large Avocados</b> Aguacates grandes</p> <p><b>98¢</b> EA</p> <p>Limit 10 / Limite 10</p>
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 <p><b>2 lb., Block, Bandon, Medium Cheddar Cheese</b> queso, paquete de 2 libras</p> <p><b>\$4.98</b> EA</p> <p>Limit 2 / Limite 2 - Additional \$5.98 EA. / Adicional \$5.98 C/U</p>	 <p><b>12 pk., 12 oz. Can, Western Family Soda</b> Refresco, paquete de 12, latas de 12 onzas</p> <p><b>\$1.98</b> EA</p> <p>Limit 2 / Limite 2 - Additional \$2.48 EA. / Adicional \$2.48 C/U</p>	 <p><b>12 Roll, Mama Love Bath Tissue</b> Papel higiénico, paquete de 12 rollos</p> <p><b>\$2.98</b> EA</p> <p>Limit 2 / Limite 2 - Additional \$3.98 EA. / Adicional \$3.98 C/U</p>	 <p><b>80 ct. Bag, La Banderita Corn Tortillas</b> Paquete de 80</p> <p><b>\$1.98</b> EA</p> <p>Limit 2 / Limite 2 - Additional 2 for \$5. - Adicional 2 por \$5.</p>
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 <p><b>Whole in the Bag, Beef Bottom Round Roast</b> Pulpa de res entera en bolsa</p> <p><b>\$3.48</b> LB</p> <p>Value Pack \$4.48-LB / Paquete Económico \$4.48 lb</p>	 <p><b>Chapala, Crema de la casa</b></p> <p><b>\$1.98</b> LB</p> <p>Small Package 12.48-LB / Paquete chico 12.48 LB</p>	 <p><b>8" Double Layer Chocolate Cake</b> Pastel de chocolate de 8 polgadas</p> <p><b>\$11.98</b> EA</p>	 <p><b>20 ct., Variety Pack, Frito Lay Potato Chips</b> Variedad, paquete de 20</p> <p><b>\$6.98</b> EA</p>
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RELIGION

**Hundreds of thousands attend Pope Francis' first mass in Ecuador**

GUAYAQUIL, Ecuador (AP)

Pope Francis used his first Mass in Ecuador on Monday to ask for support in his efforts to reach out to Catholics who feel shunned by the Church when the world's bishops gather at the Vatican in October.

Speaking to 800,000 people on the first leg of his "homecoming" tour of South America, the 78-year-old pope weaved his homily around the theme of the family, which will be the subject of the month-long synod at the Vatican.

The meeting is expected to discuss ways to reach out to Catholics who have divorced and remarried outside the Church. Under current rules, they are prohibited from receiving communion unless they abstain from sexual relations.

The gathering is also expected to discuss how the Church should reach out to homosexual Catholics.

The pope said the synod "would consider concrete solutions to the many difficult and significant challenges facing families in our time."

He asked for prayers for the synod "so that God can take even what might seem to us impure, scandalous or threatening and turn it ... into a miracle. The family today is in need of a miracle."

Conservative bishops oppose any changes regarding the divorced and remarried. At a preparatory meeting last year they botched conciliatory language on the pastoral care of gay couples.

Asked about the pope's words on the synod, the Vatican spokesman said Francis was not referring to specific controversies but that he wanted the synod



A crowd of faithful await the arrival of Pope Francis at Samanes Park in Guayaquil, Ecuador, on July 6, 2015.

to find ways "to help people move from a situation of sin to a situation of grace."

The Argentine-born pontiff delivered his remarks in Ecuador's second city Guayaquil, a steamy port sometimes referred to as the world's "banana capital."

In line with his simple style, Francis rode into the city in a small silver Fiat marked for the occasion with Vatican City number plates - "SCV 1" - standing for Stato della Citta del Vaticano or State of Vatican City.

Tens of thousands of people lined the route from the airport, at times rushing police to touch the car and throw flower petals before it.

His eyes often squinting in the sun, Francis switched to an open jeep when he reached the sprawling Mass site and rode through the crowd, which authorities estimated at about 800,000.

"I've come to this spiritual encounter to ask the pope to heal me because I have cancer," said Franklin Borbor, 48, who despite his illness traveled more than five hours to find his place in the park.

Others came from as far away as Chile, Peru, Colombia and Mexico.



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## Draft EIS

### Learn + Comment

The Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) and the Office of the Waterfront have released the Alaskan Way, Promenade, and Overlook Walk Draft Environmental Impact Statement (Draft EIS).

**PUBLIC MEETING**  
Wednesday, July 22, 2015  
4:30-7:30 PM

Seattle City Hall  
600 Fourth Avenue  
Bertha Knight Landes Room

Free and open to all

**SUBMIT COMMENTS**  
**JUNE 29 - AUGUST 12**

Online: [waterfrontseattle.org](http://waterfrontseattle.org)  
Email: [deis@waterfrontseattle.org](mailto:deis@waterfrontseattle.org)  
Public meeting: July 22  
Mail: AWPOW – Draft EIS Comments  
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Seattle, WA 98124-4996

**Read the Draft EIS and comment online:**  
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