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– LATIN AMERICA –

US policy change on Cuban migrants leaves many stranded

Cuban migrant Yarisel Isac Wilson, 20, right, cries as she talks about her journey to the U.S. at a migrant shelter in Panama City, Thursday, January 12, 2017.

followed by traversing the jungles of Brazil, Peru, Ecuador and Colombia and finally a grueling hike across the Darien Gap into Panama.

"This has left us frozen, in total limbo, and sad because it wasn't worth risking everything, our lives," Marin, a 24-yearold cook wearing a Venezuelan soccer jersey said Thursday shortly after the



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news broke. Police in Peru near the Brazilian border had stolen \$200 from them and now they were stuck.

"We can just wait and see what Trump can do," Marin said, holding out hope that Presidentelect Donald Trump could reverse the change as part of a desire to dismantle the recent detente between the U.S. and Cuba. "I have a bunch of cousins waiting for me in the United States." Journalists arriving at

the shelter seeking reac-

tion conveyed the devastating news. Some of the Cubans sat in stunned silence, while others moved anxiously from one floor of the shelter to another with moist eyes.

Asked if they would now return to Cuba, a small group on the shelter's patio chanted that they would not return dead or alive.

The most animated among them was 26-year-old Yancys Diaz, who left Havana in September with her mother and daughter.

"In Cuba, we were harassed by the authorities. Now we can't think about going back; someone has to help us get out of this," Diaz said, smacking the shelter's wall in frustration.

The "wet foot, dry foot" policy has irritated Cuba's government for years and its end was negotiated for months. From one day to the next Cubans migrants to the U.S. went from a special class with special privileges to just like everyone else following the dangerous migrant routes through Central America and Mexico.

Cubans can still request humanitarian relief, but they have to pass a "credible fear" process and present documentation proving they face a real threat in their country. The outcome is far from certain and can include lengthy stays in detention. Failing that, they will be deported, in many cases to an island where they sold their homes and possessions to fund the trip.

An estimated 100,000 Cubans have fled the island fearing the end of "wet foot, dry foot" since the announcement Dec. 17, 2014 that the U.S. and Cuba were reestablishing diplomatic relations.



PANAMA CITY (AP)

called "wet foot, dry foot"

policy that since 1995 has

created a path to legal residency

for thousands of Cubans who touched

Marin and his wife were among 53

Cuban migrants at the Caritas shelter in

Panama's capital when the decision was

announced. Most had arrived in recent

weeks after slogging a similar route that

involved a flight from Cuba to Guyana

has slammed shut.

U.S. soil.

Washington state eyes wine bottle refills

OLYMPIA, Washington (AP)

proposed measure in Washington state would allow wine lovers to fill reusable containers known as growlers from taps at grocery stores, wine boutiques and other places licensed to sell wine throughout the state.

House Bill 1039, sponsored by Democratic Rep. Sharon Wylie, would let businesses already licensed to sell beer or cider for growlers to also offer wine for the containers.

"It's an additional way to market and appeal to customers," Wylie said. "And being able to safely reuse your bottles is a good thing."

Oregon currently has a law allowing growler purchases at wineries, but no other states have passed or proposed a bill that would extend sales for growlers outside of wineries, according to Heather Morton, a policy specialist at the National Conference of State Legislatures

Paul Beveridge of Seattle's Wilridge

Winery said it's the most eco-friendly way to consume wine without lessening quality. In addition, he said, consumers get more for less.

"It would be easier, and more convenient for customers to have filling stations outside of my winery," said Beveridge, president of Family Wineries of Washington State, a proponent of the bill.

More and more beerfilling stations have popped up in Seattle grocery stores and brew pubs, where growlers can be refilled with beer from taps.

Wine offered on tap from barrels or other containers is increas-

ingly popular at restaurants and other locations now authorized to sell growl-



In this photo taken Tuesday, January 10, 2017, winemaker Paul Beveridge displays the type of wine "growler" bottle he would like to see available to consumers, at his winery in Seattle, Washington.

ers of beer.

Beveridge said that many of Washington state's laws pertaining to alcohol date back to the repeal of Prohibition and are designed to protect existing wineries and distributors from competition.



This Page is Sponsored by Gesa Credit Union

FINANCIAL LITERACY-4 Tips for Starting an Emergency Fund

ow would you cope if you lost Most experts agree you your job tomorrow or had a medical emergency that left you owing thousands of dollars? Many people would turn towards family or even credit cards for help. What's the best solution? Having an emergency fund available to use when you need it most.

While no one would dispute that it is smart save for an emergency, this is a habit that not many people possess. If you are finding it difficult to save, try these easy tips to set yourself on a path toward good saving habits.

Pay yourself first. While your primary instinct is to pay everyone else first, it's vital that you get into the habit of saving - even if it's just a small amount every month. Consider your emergency fund just as important as rent and the utilities.

Create a budget. This may seem like an obvious step, but it's alarming how many families do not have a budget in place. Start by first tracking all your expenses for a month. This gives you a chance to take a closer look at where you are spending your money and cut back. Try searching online for budget tracking tools and find one that you feel most comfortable with.

Save Automatically. An easy way to remember to save for emergencies is to set up a direct deposit or automatic transfer into your savings account. Also, be sure to check with your employer. Many companies will automatically deduct from your paycheck and deposit to your savings if you ask.

Get rid of items. Take inventory of your home and offload old clothes or household items you no longer use. Try hosting a yard sale or post items online and deposit the money earned in your emergency fund.

How much should you save?

should have an emergency fund with to three to six months of living expenses. Creating your monthly budget not only helps you from over spending, but you can use these numbers to determine how much you should keep in your emergency account. And remember, every little bit makes a difference. Don't be discouraged if you have to start small.

Where to keep your savings?

Make sure you keep your money in safe place. Consider opening a savings account at a local credit union. A basic savings account provides liquid-

ity - meaning that your money is always available for use. The funds you deposit are federally insured and remain safe from theft and fires. Another benefit to savings is your cash is easily accessible. You can make withdrawals at any time and with an ATM or Debit card you have access to vour funds 24/7.

Another option at many credit unions is club or holiday savings accounts. Many financial institutions offer a special account to encourage saving for a holiday or special vacation. These accounts often pay a higher interest rate than a regular savings and are great ways to help get you get started.

Utilizing these tips will help you develop the habit of saving and give you the cash needed to be prepared for a financial emergency. If you are looking for more information on savings options, visit your local credit union to determine what the most appropriate strategy is for you and your family.





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ALBUQUERQUE, New Mexico (AP)

Inversities and colleges in several states are considering labeling themselves "sanctuary campuses" amid fears from immigrant students and pressure from activists following the election of Donald Trump.

College administrators in New Mexico — the state with the highest percentage of Latino residents— are looking into proposals that would grant immigrant students living in the country illegally protections while they pursue their studies.

Meanwhile, advocates in California, Georgia, Illinois, Minnesota and Texas are pressing their state and private universities to provide sanctuary to these immigrant students, known as DREAMers.

"We urge you to declare the University of San Diego a sanctuary campus for students, faculty, staff and community members now facing, among other things: the threat of deportation under President-elect Donald J. Trump's policy proposals, and the specter of hate speech

and bigoted violence in our campus community," read a letter from alumni to administrators of the private Roman Catholic university.

Trump's alma mater the University of Pennsylvania — even has renewed its pledge to block federal agents without a warr

without a warrant from removing students in the country illegally.

"Let us be unequivocally clear: We are and remain resolute in our commitment to Penn's undocumented students and will do all that we can to ensure their continued safety and success here at Penn," University of Pennsylvania President Amy Gutmann and other administrators



wrote in a letter.

Students and professors at University of Illinois campuses are circulating petitions to make their schools sanctuary campuses. One such group in Chicago gathered more than 1,700 signatures and turned them over to school leaders.

A Nevada education philanthropist also is pushing for UNLV, College of Southern Nevada and Nevada State College. to declare themselves sanctuary campuses.

The movement comes after Trump promised to end an executive order that granted temporary status to immigrant students living in the country illegally. During his campaign, he also promised to launch a "deportation force" and withhold federal funding from sanctuary cities.

Trump has not said anything about sanc-

tuary campuses. Still, New York's Columbia University recently announced plans to offer sanctuary and financial support to immigrant students. And last month, Wesleyan University President Michael Roth said the Connecticut school would be a sanctuary campus and would not voluntarily help the federal government deport students.





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CITY OF RICHLAND, WASHINGTON CALL FOR BIDS CONTRACT: 17-0001 VANTAGE HIGHWAY PATHWAY – PHASE 1 BIDS DUE: JANUARY 30, 2017, 2:00 P.M., EXACTLY, PACIFIC LOCAL TIME

Public notice is hereby given that sealed bids will be received for the City of Richland's **Vantage Highway Pathway, Phase 1** Project by the City of Richland Purchasing Division at 2700 Duportail, bldg. 100, until the date and time specified above, at which time bids will be opened and read publicly. This project provides for the construction of a Pathway from Hanford Legacy Park to Robertson Drive. Work includes roadway excavation, embankment, crushed surfacing, hot mix asphalt, structural earth walls, landscape curbing, landscape restoration, power conduits, storm, and other incidental work.

This project is estimated at \$305,000.

Full notice and complete details of the solicitation are available from www. PublicPurchase.com. Interested contractors must first register with Public Purchase. There is no charge to register, receive notifications or view and download the documents. Visit the City of Richland website at www. ci.richland.wa.us under Departments/Administrative Services/Purchasing/ Public Purchase for information on how to register.

The City of Richland in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 78 Stat. 252, 42 U.S.C. 200d to 2000d-4 and Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, Department of Transportation, subtitle A, Office of the Secretary, Part 21, nondiscrimination in federally assisted programs of the Department of Transportation issued pursuant to such Act, hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively insure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, disadvantaged business enterprises as defined at 49 CFR Part 26 will be afforded full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, national origin, or sex in consideration for an award.

DRIVING SCHOOL

Pope Francis calls for 'zero tolerance' on child abuse

VATICAN CITY (AP)

Polic bishops worldwide to do what's needed to ensure children are protected from sexual abuse by clergy.

The Vatican released the text of a Dec. 28 letter Francis sent to bishops about injustices to children. They included slave labor, malnutrition, lack of education and sexual exploitation, including abuse by priests.

In the letter, Francis decried "the sufferings, the experiences and pain of minors who were abused sexually by priests."

"It is a sin that shames us," the pope wrote. "Persons responsible for the protection of those children destroyed their dignity."

The church's reputation has been stained in several countries during the last few decades as people have come forward to report that parish priests or other Catholic clergy raped or molested them as minors.

The allegations showed that local bishops sometimes knew about and

covered up child sex abuse involving problem priests and triggered multimillion-dollar lawsuits, as well as several criminal prosecutions.

Expressing the church's regret, and begging forgiveness, the pope denounced the "sin of what happened, the sin of failing to help, the sin of covering up and denial, the sin of the abuse of power."

Francis also asked bishops for "complete commitment to ensuring that these atrocities will no longer take place in our midst."

"Let us find the courage needed to take all necessary measures and to protect in every way the lives of our children, so that such crimes may never be repeated," the pope said. "In this area, let us adhere, clearly and faithfully, to 'zero tolerance."

The pontiff himself has received mixed reviews on how the Vatican handles sex abuse.

Francis has laid out procedures to oust bishops for negligence, if they mishandle investigations into alleged abuse.

But he dismayed advocates for abuse survivors by appointing a Chilean bishop accused of covering up for a notorious pedophile.

The Vatican also took no immediate action after deaf students from Italy, in a 2014 letter to the pope, said a priest sexually abused them for years in Italy and now was working at a school in Francis' native Argentina. The priest was arrested last year and charged with raping deaf students at a school in Argentina.

Pope Francis celebrates New Year's Day mass at St. Peter's Basilica in Vatican City, on Sunday, January 1, 2017.



Eight men are as rich as half of the world

— INTERNATIONAL

DAVOS, Switzerland (AP)

The gap between the super-rich and the poorest half of the global population is starker than previously thought, with just eight men, from Bill Gates to Michael Bloomberg, owning as much wealth as 3.6 billion people, according to an analysis by Oxfam released Monday.

Presenting its findings on the dawn of the annual gathering of the global political and business elites in the Swiss ski resort of Davos, anti-poverty organization Oxfam says the gap between the very rich and poor is far greater than just a year ago. It's urging leaders to do more than pay lip-service to the problem.

If not, it warns, public anger against this kind of inequality will continue to grow and lead to more seismic political changes akin to last year's election of Donald Trump as U.S. president and Britain's vote to leave the European Union.

"It is obscene for so much wealth to be held in the hands of so few when 1 in 10 people survive on less than \$2 a day," said



In this Friday, January 13, 2017 photo, workers unload bricks at a brick-making factory in Naypyitaw, Myanmar.

Winnie Byanyima, executive director of Oxfam International, who will be attending the meeting in Davos. "Inequality is trapping hundreds of millions in poverty; it is fracturing our societies and undermining democracy." The same report a year earlier said that the richest 62 people on the planet owned as much wealth as the bottom half of the population. However, Oxfam has revised that figure down to eight following new information gathered by Swiss bank Credit Suisse.

Oxfam used Forbes' billionaires list that was last published in March 2016 to make its headline claim. According to the Forbes list, Microsoft founder Gates is the richest individual with a net worth of \$75 billion. The others, in order of ranking, are Amancio Ortega, the Spanish founder of fashion house Inditex, financier Warren Buffett, Mexican business magnate Carlos Slim Helu, Amazon boss Jeff Bezos, Facebook creator Mark Zuckerberg, Oracle's Larry Ellison and Bloomberg, the former mayor of New York.

Oxfam outlined measures that it hopes will be enacted to help reduce the inequality.

They include higher taxes on wealth and income to ensure a more level playing field and to fund investments in public services and jobs, greater cooperation among governments on ensuring workers are paid decently and the rich don't dodge their taxes. And business leaders should commit to paying their fair share of taxes and a living wage to employees.

Richard Sherman played 2nd half of season with knee injury

RENTON, Washington (AP)

Seattle Seahawks cornerback Richard Sherman played the second half of the season with an injured knee, although he was never listed on any injury report.

Seattle coach Pete Carroll said Monday that Sherman had an MCL injury in his knee, similar to the ones suffered by quarterback Russell Wilson and wide receiver Tyler Lockett earlier in the season.

Carroll called the injury "significant" on his weekly radio show on KIRO-AM Monday morning and expanded on the situation later in his end-of-season news conference.

"He never missed anything. Just like Russell never missed anything. Tyler. They all happened over the course of the season and they all just made it through it," Carroll said.

"They never complained, they didn't want to miss a practice and they basically didn't miss anything. But they were legit,



Seattle Seahawks cornerback Richard Sherman (25) tackles Atlanta Falcons wide receiver Julio Jones (11) during the first half of an NFL football NFC divisional playoff game, Saturday, January 14, 2017, in Atlanta, Georgia.

those were legit injuries, they showed up in the whole thing. That's a challenge. Guys all over the league are going through the same thing, but our guys just happened to be doing it as well."

Carroll did not specify which knee Sherman injured and Sherman never appeared to miss any game time due to an injury in the latter half of the season.

Yet the disclosure raised questions of whether the Seahawks circumvented the NFL's injury reporting policy.

Sherman was not listed on any injury or practice report this season with a knee injury. Sherman typically sat out at least one practice per week starting around midseason, but each of those was given an "NIR" - not injury related - designation on the practice report.

The only time Sherman was listed as having an injury designation came in Week 12 against Tampa Bay when he was listed with an ankle injury.

"I'm feeling like I screwed that up with not telling you that because that happened, but he was OK," Carroll said. "So I don't know. He never missed anything, which is probably why."

Dave Says

A frank discussion about credit cards

Dear Dave,

I don't understand why you don't like it when people properly manage their credit cards and pay them off every month. By doing this, you pay no interest and in my case I even got a free trip to Europe from using my credit card. Please explain. — *Patrick*

Dear Patrick,

I truly doubt that I can explain it to your satisfaction, but here goes. First, the credit card company did not give you a free trip to Europe. They're not going to lose money on every transaction, year after year. The fallacy is that you feel like you've outsmarted a multi-billion dollar company that studies human behavior at incredible levels. You maybe, possibly came out ahead against them during that particular calendar year, but even that's debatable.

Over the course of your life, you'll spend more when using credit cards as opposed to cash.

In a good way, you are very unusual. You're not playing over in the stupid zone like most people who use credit cards. But both I and the credit card companies have found that, on average, your behavior would put you in a class of less than one-half of one percent of their customers. Can 0.5 percent of people handling snakes manage not to get bitten? Sure. But that doesn't mean I'm going to start recommending snakes! — Dave



It All Depends on Your Perspective

Goals change, markets fluctuate. Investment results vary over time. Most financial experts agree that you're better off taking a long-term perspective when evaluating your investments and how much they match your life's goals. A financial advisor can provide the assistance you need to set strategies and take action toward your specific needs and aspirations. Call your Waddell & Reed financial advisor today and ask about creating your personal financial plan.

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