

# Lifestyle

TUESDAY, JUNE 4, 2019



People participate in the tenth annual tomato fight festival, known as 'Tomatina', in Sutamarchan, Boyaca department, Colombia. — AFP photos

## Bizarre news

### Shakira tax fraud court appearance brought forward to Thursday



Colombian superstar Shakira will be questioned in court in Spain over alleged tax evasion on Thursday, six days earlier than initially scheduled, a court said. The hearing, which had been set for June 12, will now get underway on Thursday at 10am (0800 GMT) at a court in Esplugues de Llobregat near Barcelona where the singer lives with her partner, FC Barcelona footballer Gerard Pique, the high court of Catalonia said in a statement yesterday. The 42-year-old is suspected of not paying taxes in Spain despite being a resident between 2011 and 2014, according to prosecutors.

The case only covers the period from 2012 to 2014, however, as the timeframe to prosecute alleged tax offences in 2011 has expired. In a relationship since 2011 with Pique, with whom she has two sons, Shakira trans-

ferred her official residency to Spain in 2015. Until then, it was in the Bahamas. But a spokesman for prosecutors in Barcelona told AFP last year that this didn't "match reality" with her children and partner were in Barcelona.

Shakira's representatives insist that until 2014 she earned most of her money in international tours and didn't live more than six months a year in Spain—a prerequisite to be an official tax-paying resident in the country. With her mix of Latin and Arabic rhythms and rock influences, Shakira is one of the biggest stars from Latin America, scoring major global hits with songs such as "Hips Don't Lie" and "Whenever, Wherever." — AFP



#### A man was bitten by a snake that was hiding in his toilet

A man was bitten by a snake that was hiding in his toilet. The unidentified man, from Coral Springs, Florida was attacked by the reptile when he quickly emerged after he opened the toilet seat. The ball python - which is three to four foot long - sank its teeth into the resident's arm and the man struggled to wrangle it away. The Coral Springs Humane Unit attended the property at around 4 a.m. and treated the man for a minor infection. Luckily the snake was not venomous. Police spokesman Chris Swinson said: "It's everybody's worst nightmare, but it's in an apartment plumbing system, so there are many possibilities."

#### A company offering bonuses to women who wear short skirts to work

A company has been criticized for offering bonuses to women who wear short skirts to work. Aluminium manufacturer Tatprof have come under fire after offering cash rewards to female staff members who wear revealing clothing around the office. One person wrote: "Wow... So Tatprof is running a femininity contest for its employees in Russia, basically it seems so the bosses can gawk over the pictures. Disgusting abuse of power and exploiting women." Another user posted: "This is too shocking in 2019." A third added: "A 100-rouble bonus for women who will come in

short skirts to... brighten up the day of a male-dominated team. Indeed why do we need feminism when we can just please men for money?" But Govorit Moskva who represents the company said "Our team is 70 percent male. These kinds of campaigns help us switch off, rest. This is a great way to unite the team. "Many women automatically wear trousers to work, which is why we hope that our campaign will raise our ladies' awareness, allowing them to feel their femininity and charm when they make the choice of wearing a skirt or dress.



#### A woman was furious when her boyfriend proposed to her with a £350 wedding ring

A woman was furious when her boyfriend proposed to her with a £350 wedding ring. The unnamed woman told her partner she would only marry him if he swapped the ring he had bought her with a much more expensive piece. She said: "He actually looked really proud and said he got it for a huge steal: the jeweler said it was worth \$1000 but he got it for \$350. "I told him I appreciated the proposal and I do want to marry him, but I don't really like the ring he picked out, it looks really cheap, it is cheap, and it seems like he didn't really put effort into it. "He told me I was being materialistic and that he'd be more comfortable saving that money towards a honeymoon or a house. "He said he will get another ring if I really hate my ring, but spending more than \$500 was straight up not happening." — BangShowbiz