SOCIETY

A May 1ˢᵗ in the Principality marked by the non-demonstration and the long weekend

This year there was no demonstration, as the General Council and the Government are not constituted

We talk to professionals in essential jobs who worked despite it being a public holiday

EL PERIÒDIC
ESCALDES- ENGORDANY
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Workers' Day, May 1st, is a day to vindicate the global labor movement. Nevertheless, some businesses and trades kept their doors open and provided service to all those citizens who had long weekend and to tourists.

HISTORICAL CONTEXT//This day of struggle for workers' rights was established at the socialist workers' congress held in Paris in 1889, in tribute to the Chicago Martyrs, anarchist workers executed in the United States. At that time, the great demand that was established was the eight-hour day and labor and social improvements.

This year the Trade Union Platform did not organize any demonstration for Workers' Day, as they explained through a press release, for various reasons, among which the General Council and the Government have not yet been established and also due to the forecast of a small influx. Since this year May 1st fell on a Monday, and since it is not a mandatory holiday in Andorra, they considered that there would be a part of potential attendees who would not be able to attend and, secondly, because people who did not work possibly will go on holidays.

Faced with this situation, the Trade Union Platform chose to launch a previous manifesto in defense of labor rights and a dignified future and present. The unions called for a reform of the electoral law, because they say it currently favors a minority, and they are asking for the right of residents to vote in municipal elections. They also state that a real commitment is needed to improve the purchasing power of citizens, regretting that those with fewer resources are forced to leave the country. The platform also decided to take this decision, since the Government is not yet constituted and, therefore, there would not be the figure of any valid interlocutor. The General Secretary of the Trade Union, Gabriel Ubach, stated that it is

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▶▶ Different people in last year's Workers' Day demonstration.

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SUPERMARKET WORKER

«In the beginning we were going to work on Sunday hours and finally we worked as if it were a working day»

not yet the time «I would not want us to be used to say that before we start we are already going out to the streets to ask for things that we have not yet been able to discuss with them», he explain while adding that during the electoral campaign the Government was betting on a dialogue and a social agreement with the unions, and that now it remained to be seen whether this would happen or not.

COMPARISON WITH LAST YEAR// Last year, on the other hand, the main streets of the parishes of Escaldes-Engordany and Andorra la Vella were filled with around 400 people clamoring together against Government policies, low wages and pensions, and the high rental prices. «Espot, listen, the people revolt». «This also goes for you» (refer-

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JOURNALIST

«In my profession, it doesn't matter if it's a holiday or not, since my job is to inform about what's happening in society»

ring to the shop assistants through which the march passed) or «We are from here, and we don't want to leave», were the slogans most shouted by the demonstrators.

TESTIMONIALS OF WORKERS// Not everyone had free day on Labor Day. Media, supermarkets, hospitals, shops, Police are some of the services considered essential and must be available to citizens. On the one hand, a supermarket worker commented that «in the beginning we were going to work on Sunday hours and finally we have worked as if it were a working day». And on the other hand, a media worker explained that «in my profession it doesn't matter whether it's a public holiday or not, since my job is to report what's happening in society». ≡

High school students improve energy efficiency

Thanks to a student initiative, savings have been made on diesel and electricity

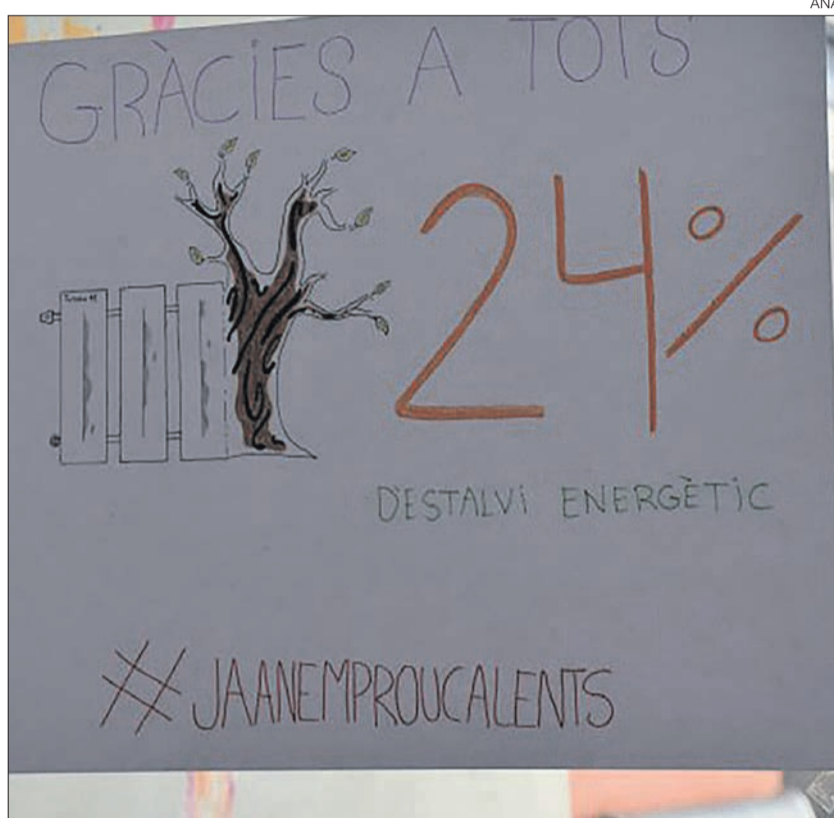|| EL PERIÒDIC
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The Andorran Baccalaureate school has achieved a 24% saving on diesel and 15% on electricity compared to the last academic year 2021-22. Thanks to the Project of Participation, Action and Services (PAS) of first-year high school students in pursuit of energy efficiency, this goal has been achieved. Esther Claveira, Pol Miró, Pol Cuenca, Iker Arroyo and Noa Ruíz, part of the students who participated, said that the initiative has managed to save up to 28,000 liters of heating oil for the educational center.

Esther Claveira commented that the project began between September and October of this current year, with the incentive to address energy efficiency as a result of the students' anxiety about the energy crisis. Claveira declared that «We saw that the problem was in the media center and we thought it was a good option to involve all of us as a class and try to save as much as possible as a center».

In order to carry out the project, they contacted FEDA technicians, who introduced them to the subject and the school's energy manager, Joan Marc, who provided them with the old data of the center and who encouraged several actions to be taken to reduce heating consumption and improve savings with the school's ventilation. Cuenca stated that, in order to reduce the consumption of heating, they designed an advertising campaign called #Jaanemproucalents, referring to the fact that people «generate 100 watts per hour and if we are talking about a large class, it is

The savings achieved in diesel reached 24% and the expenditure on electricity was reduced by 15% compared to last year

ANA

►► Poster to celebrate the results of the high school students' energy saving initiative.

not necessary to turn on the heating".

In the aspect of ventilation, it was intended to have a control over the time that the windows can be left open to take advantage of the energy, limiting this to 10 minutes. For this reason, they requested stopwatches from the Covid stop lab to mark the time and carried out another informative initiative to improve energy saving, raising awareness of the need not to leave windows open for more than 10 minutes. In addition to improving the school's energy efficiency, Ruiz testified that the students in charge worked on cooperation, cohesion, and group work in the classroom, claiming «The project has allowed us to get to know each other and create a good atmosphere in class because we are a tutorial where we all come from different centers". In this way, the students have favored the energy saving that is promoted in their education. ≡

Prison for the driver who deadly knock down Pimienta

The case is open for reckless homicide and omission of the assistance duty

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ESCALDES-ENGORDANY

The Falset police court decreed last Tuesday afternoon that the driver who ran over Marc Pimienta on Saturday be remanded in provisional prison without bail. The case is open for the crimes of reckless homicide, failure to render assistance and driving under the influence of alcohol. The detainee testified only by answering the questions of his procedural representation, as reported by the Superior Court of Justice of Catalonia (TSJC).

According to sources consulted by the Catalan police, the detainee had no driver's license and no vehicle insurance. In addition, they have a police record, mostly for aggravated robbery.

Andorra is mourning the death of Marc Pimienta, former national cross-country skiing coach, who was deadly knock down in Cornudella de Montsant, in Priorat, while cycling last Saturday. Resident Marc Pimienta was on the C-242 road when he was hit by a car at kilometer point 44.4. Pimienta was found lying on the road, as reported by the Catalan Traffic Service on Saturday, after the driver fled the scene of the accident. ≡

EL PERIÓDICO

►► Archive image of an EMS ambulance.