LOCAL NEWS

Private museum in David preserves Chiriquí railway history

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Summary

Rodrigo Rodríguez runs a free private museum inside his shop in David, with 60-80 railway pieces and over 3,000 items of local history. Groups from UNACHI's Boquete extension have visited.

Details (summary of the article)

Metro Libre reports on 'Museo y Antigüedades Universal.com' in David, a small private museum inside Rodrigo Rodríguez's shop, devoted to the history of western Panama and especially the Chiriquí railway. Originally from La Concepción in Bugaba, he inherited his grandfather's habit of collecting; he formalised the business in 2017, starting with coins and then focusing on trains. He used a metal detector along the old rail line to recover spikes and parts, and saved many objects that would have been sold as scrap when the railway declined. Highlights include lamps from carriage number 10 on the Puerto Armuelles–Chiriquí route, station telephones, a railway flag, typewriters, old photographs of David, a period newspaper and a 1960s calculator donated by the family of an accountant who worked for the railway superintendent. Between 50 and 70 people visit weekly, mostly school and university students, including groups from the UNACHI extension in Boquete; a school from Bocas del Toro is expected on 15 November. Entry is free because he sees the work as educational. He plans to turn the space into a strictly private museum, move the shop next door, and give talks on Panamanian numismatics in schools.

Original (es)

Museo privado en David rescata la historia del Ferrocarril de Chiriquí

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