



**LOCAL GROUP STAGES PLAY ABOUT MIGRANTS**

P2



**DSF DIRECTOR TAKES OFFICE**

The Financial Services Bureau's priority is to amend the Budget Framework Law, says long Kong Leong

P5



**AT LEAST 35 DEAD AFTER FERRY CAPSIZES**

A ferry with 173 passengers has capsized 100 meters from a pier in the central Philippines and 35 people are confirmed dead

P11

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# Times

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**WORLD BRIEFS**

**N KOREA**, already one of the least-wired places in the world, appears to be cracking down on the use of the Internet by even the small number of foreigners who can access it by blacklisting and blocking social media accounts or websites deemed to carry harmful content.

**PAKISTAN** At least four cars of a train being used to transport Pakistani soldiers fall into a canal after a bridge collapse, killing at least five people.



**CAMBODIA** The two surviving senior leaders of Cambodia's former Khmer Rouge regime launch appeals of their convictions by a U.N.-backed tribunal that sentenced them to life in prison for their roles during the group's brutal rule in the 1970s. Khieu Samphan, the Khmer Rouge's 83-year-old former head of state, and Nuon Chea, its 88-year-old chief ideologue, appeared in court yesterday for the first day of the appeals. The tribunal said a ruling on the appeals by its Supreme Court is not expected until early next year.

**AUSTRALIA** A 32-year-old surfer is critically injured by a shark at the same coastal town where a Japanese tourist was killed in February.

**MALAYSIA** Southeast Asian countries will establish a humanitarian fund to help boatloads of Rohingya Muslim and Bangladeshi immigrants who have recently landed in Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar and Thailand, a Malaysian minister says.

More on [backpage](#)

# Casino shares rally on easing slump, reversed visa policy

P3 GAMING



## Greek vote campaign begins amid grinding cash crisis

P7

**Extra**

The world's priciest hotels

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weekend Guide  
INSIDE

# Chinese comedy hit 'Finding Mr Right' filming sequel in town

Brook Yang

A sequel to the Chinese romantic comedy "Finding Mr Right," which saw record box office success, has moved the story arc's setting to Macau. The new movie, again written and directed by Xue Xiaolu, with top Chinese actors Tang Wei and Wu Xiubo leading the cast, is being filmed in various locations around town, from casino resorts to historical attractions.

The first instalment, which premiered in 2013, depicts the story of a Beijing diva who moves to Seattle to give birth to the son she hopes will win over her married boyfriend. It grossed over RMB500 million in box office takings, becoming the biggest box office hit of its genre in the history of the Chinese film industry.



Xue Xiaolu

## Macau is not only one scene, but a crucial element

XUE XIAOLU

Introducing the comedy's sequel, Ms Xue Xiaolu told local media that the "Macau element accounts for a large portion" of the new story.

"Macau is not only one scene, but a crucial element. Macau

has its very unique history. (...) I've always wished to write something with uniqueness, and those features are what caught my interest and fondness," she said.

Ms Xue revealed that her

team has been filming inside the MGM Macau resort. "Apart from MGM, we also found filming locations in many of Macau's old alleys, signature architectures, some interesting cultures, and preserved streets

that embody a Portuguese ambience. We hope to present a real Macau, at least in my eyes – a complex [city] with a side of glittering lights, and a simple, guileless and cordial side," she stressed.

The shooting of the movie in the city is exclusively sponsored by the MGM as an initiative to support local cultural exchanges. Moreover, the operator hosted a seminar on Tuesday where Ms Xue – a screenwriter and movie director who teaches at Beijing Film Academy – shared tips on how to write successful screen stories, and breaking into the movie business, with nearly a hundred local filmmakers, students and movie enthusiasts.

"I don't think Macau has its local market. Right now, even Hong Kong films' local market is very limited, and it's even worse for Taiwanese films. In fact, the real market still lies in the mainland. Therefore, when you speak of [making] commercial movies, apparently you need to know this market and its audience very well," she suggested, adding that upholding one's uniqueness is key to maintaining a balance between artistic and commercial values.

## Bible-themed drama illuminates migrants' plight this summer

LOCAL theatrical association Theatre Farmers will join forces with Hong Kong's Sky Theatre Creative and Tornado Creative Theatre to present an enlightening stage drama on July 17 and 18. The production aims to reveal the dilemmas and discrimination facing migrants in their new living environments.

As its name "Book of Ruth" suggests, the drama is based on the biblical tale, and around 100 youngsters are dedicated to the project. Audience members will not only

enjoy local students' acting, as well as the singing and dancing performed by their Hong Kong peers, who will also be responsible for backstage duties.

For the show's playwright-director, Charles Chan, the collaborative work was inspired by the hardship experienced by migrant minorities, such as south Asians, in both SAR regions. In the play, all parties will be reminded of their own adverse experiences in order to learn more about the issue.

"The show, at some

points, forces the youths involved and the audience to reflect on how those problems could be solved. The expatriates also experience some grievances. Through the show, the youth see ways in which we could give migrants a chance and help them out," said Chan. "The messages in the bible are often significant; the story's gist is to stick to your beliefs while facing obstacles, and you'll eventually find hope."

The biblical tale touches on the adversity of a Moabite lady called Ruth

in Bethlehem, where she lives with her mother-in-law, Naomi. As an outsider, she encounters daily hardship and discrimination inflicted by the people within the Palestinian city.

Despite being a one-hour ferry away from each other, students from Hong Kong and Macau rehearse separately with the help of visual aids and staff members from each other's groups. Hong Kong students will only come to Macau one week before the drama kicks off in summer. The Student



Union at the University of Macau will also host the arriving students at the Hengqin campus as part of the exchange, where students spend four nights together to deepen their cultural ties.

Anita Seak, who dabbled in drama for five years, told the Times that she very much cherished the

opportunity to perform in what they regarded as a rare collaboration.

"To me, this is a very meaningful event, as it's like a charity show. The story is also very inspiring, and I don't mind spending a summer vacation spreading such a meaningful message," she said. **Staff reporter**

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**I**T'S been a while since investors had reasons to buy Macau casino stocks. A surprise move to ease China's traveling rules and the smaller-than-expected slump in June casino revenue have given hope that the industry might finally be due for a recovery. Casino stocks surged by a degree not seen in more than three years.

Four out of five Hong Kong-listed casino stock jumped by the most since October 2011, helping the Bloomberg Intelligence Macau Gaming index claw back a sliver of its 58 percent dive from its January 2014 peak. MGM China Holdings Ltd. closed up 16 percent while Wynn Macau Ltd., Galaxy Entertainment Group Ltd. and Sands China Ltd. gained between 12 and 14 percent. The benchmark Hang Seng Index was up 0.1 percent.

The loosening of travel restrictions "marks the first supportive policy since a year ago," wrote Karen Tang, an analyst at Deutsche Bank AG. While she expects the impact will be small, "we note the change in policy tone as important." She raised Galaxy, MGM China, Sands China and Wynn Macau to hold from sell.

The Macau government announced on Tuesday a reversal of the transit visa policy exactly a year after the entry rules were tightened. Starting July 1, mainland China passport holders transiting through Macau are allowed

# Casino shares rally on easing slump, travel rules



to stay in the city longer and visit more frequently.

The government is expected to issue more supportive policies in the second half for Macau's economy while keeping gaming

revenue regulated, according to Chris Kwai and Haofei Chen, analysts at China International Capital Corp.

Las Vegas Sands Corp. and Wynn Resorts Ltd., which rely

**■ MGM China closed up 16 percent**

on their Macau units for at least 60 percent of their revenue, rose for two days in New York on the back of the eased visa restrictions. Melco Crown Entertainment's New York-listed shares ended up 4.2 percent, after surging 9.7 percent on Tuesday.

Gross gaming revenue in Macau fell 36.2 percent to 17.4 billion patacas (USD2.2 billion) in June, beating the median estimate of a 38.3 percent drop from six analysts surveyed by Bloomberg. The slump has been easing for four straight months following 13 consecutive months of declines.

Optimism that the market is showing signs of bottoming may be misplaced, according to Morgan Stanley analyst Praveen Choudhary, pointing to disappointments for Macau casinos over the next six to 12 months "that should keep investors at bay."

These include the risk of VIP revenue declining further as more junket operators shut down, and the impact on casino earnings due to higher labor and construction costs, he wrote in a note on July 1. **Bloomberg/MDT**

## July expected to reach MOP18b gaming revenue

Brook Yang

**T**HE government will roll out austerity measures if this month's gaming revenue fails to reach MOP18.35 billion, says the Secretary for Economy and Finance, Lionel Leong. However, as July has tended to generate more revenue than June, Leong sees this as a goal that Macau "should be able to reach."

Gross gaming revenue in June hit its lowest level in over four years, recording a 36-percent drop year-on-year to MOP17.35 billion. Nevertheless, the secretary pointed out, "The drop was 14.7 percent compared with the gaming revenue in May, which is less than the estimated 20 percent."

"In the past five years, June's gaming revenue has always been lower than May, with the biggest drop being 26 percent. So the rate of decline for this June has actually narrowed," he explained to the media on the sidelines of the inauguration of the new Financial Ser-

**■ ■**  
**The drop was 14.7 percent compared with gaming revenue in May, which is less than the estimated 20 percent**

LIONEL LEONG

vices Bureau leaders yesterday.

As to whether the government is confident of reaching the revenue goal set for July, Leong said, "According to previous experience, July has always scored better than June because of habitual tourist flows and the arrival of the summer holiday."

"Therefore, [gaming revenue] should be able to achieve an increase of

MOP1 billion from the current MOP17.35 billion. However, the previous experience was based on an upward trend, whereas now we are in an adjustment phase; we should all be attentive to apparent fluctuations," he added.

In regard to Macau's recent relaxation of restrictions placed upon mainland visitors' travel as a measure to help support the gaming market, the secretary said that no response has been detected in the industry as a result

of the new rule which was only implemented at the beginning of this month.

"The relaxation [of travel restrictions] was implemented wholly because of the new national 'Belt and Road' initiatives. We hope that more visitors and businesspeople will use Macau as a transit point en route to their destinations, so that Macau can perform as a better platform in the country's development strategy," he clarified, adding that the Secretariat

for Economy and Finance was "pleased to see the new measure."

Since the beginning of the downturn in the local gaming industry, a number of VIP gambling businesses have successively closed or downsized. Leong said that, in terms of employee layoffs, the Labor Affairs Bureau has received a total of 59 complaints involving eight VIP gambling rooms.

In addition, the secretary said that the government's fiscal reserves

have improved to the tune of about MOP6.9 billion in return on investment during the first five months of this year. He said that these investments are not capital-guaranteed and thus bear fluctuation and other risks. He stressed that the annual rate of return in those months reached 5 percent, which was due to a relatively good market; however, there is no guarantee that the market will maintain this current level.

## Wong Sio Chak praises seven-day transit stay

**T**HE seven-day Macau transit mechanism for Chinese passport holders was adjusted to correspond with the development of Macau's part in the "Belt and Road" initiative, Secretary for Security Wong Sio Chak told media after yesterday's graduation ceremony for the Academy of Public Security Forces. However, such a measure may still be subject to change, depending on how authorities evaluate the situation subsequent to the revision.

The secretary said that last year, under tightened restrictions and enforcement, the authorities had seen a drop in irregularities associated with transit visas, which counted as another favorable factor in the recent amendment.

Under the new rules, effective July 1, visitors with Chinese passports travelling through Macau to a third destination can enjoy a maximum of seven days in the city. Those violating the seven-day limit will be penalized by only being granted two days

transit in the city upon a subsequent arrival within 30 days. Entry will be denied to offenders for 30 days if they are found infringing the transit regulations a further time.

Wong said that the authorities did not exclude the possibility of revising the measure if the frequency of irregularities was found to increase in the future.

The government had adjusted the transit measure last July, limiting Chinese travellers to five-day stays for transit only.



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Brook Yang

**T**HE Financial Services Bureau (DSF)'s focus this year is to amend the Budget Framework Law, says the new bureau director, Iong Kong Leong.

According to Iong, who took office yesterday, a new draft bill – much anticipated to help regulate the management of public finances – will be released to the public next Tuesday. This will be followed by a 45-day public consultation. Until yesterday, Iong Kong Leong was DSF's deputy director.

The local community has long called for new legislation on the SAR's fiscal budgetary system, as cost and schedule overruns on public works have been a constant burden on the city. Using an inherited framework law from the Portuguese administration, the current regime has undergone several iterations over the course of three decades.

## New Financial Services director takes office



Ho In Mui (left), Lionel Leong and Iong Kong Leong

Pledging that the new Budget Framework Law will increase supervision of the authority's fiscal spending and budget execution by the community and

elected lawmakers, Iong revealed yesterday that the draft law suggested "establishing funds specifically set aside to be used exclusively for their intended

purposes; setting upper limits on additional funding; and requesting [fund executors] to submit interim reports."

The DSF's new deputy director, Ms Ho In Mui, noted that the new bill could curb poor project execution rates under the Public Investment Plan (PIDDA), as "it will require that relevant departments promptly release details on budget execution progress on PIDDA projects to the Legislative Assembly (AL) for improved supervision."

"The bill is in the final stage of drafting. Later we will submit it to the Legal Affairs Bureau for revision and then to the Executive Council, before it is presented to the Legislative Assem-

bly," Iong added.

Iong Kong Leong took office along with Ho In Mui. Officiating at the inauguration ceremony, the Secretary for Economy and Finance, Lionel Leong, acknowledged that, "The DSF will require a great deal of innovative thinking that needs to be implemented to keep up to date so that it can further improve the public financial system, maintain optimal utilization of the taxation system, and constantly enhance the DSF's public services."

According to Iong, the bureau's tasks this year also focus on improving the taxation law, plugging loopholes and simplifying procedures. The bureau is also pushing for legislation to enhance transparency and bilateral exchange of information to combat cross-border tax evasion. In addition, the DSF will revise the standards for certified accountants in order to obtain international accreditation for their qualifications.

## Revised affordable housing law to be put to vote before summer recess

**T**HE amended affordable housing law will be put to a vote at the Legislative Assembly (AL) before the parliamentary recess begins this summer. The AL's Second Standing Committee, which is responsible for the amendment, announced yesterday that it will soon finish its analysis.

Chan Chak Mo, who presides over the committee, told journalists after a 30-minute closed-door meeting that the content in the act, revised by the government, has been refined after multiple discussions with the committee members and the legal advisory body over a num-

ber of months. The main purpose of the amendment is to uphold the principle of "draw before review." This means changing a section of the law to ensure that during the draw, or ballot, to select applicants for affordable housing, the administration need only conduct a preliminary evaluation of all applications, only then to be followed by verification of the qualifications of the applicants and the authenticity of the documents submitted. In this way, it will take less time for the Housing Bureau to process applications.

According to Chan, the new amend-

ment might also require housing-unit applicants to submit "other documents that the Housing Bureau authorities perceive as necessary for the preliminary assessment." These measures gained unanimous approval from the committee members, as these aspects of the amendment are thought to facilitate the application process.

"There is so much ambiguity and doubt in the application and assessment process, and also contradiction. The flexibility [to be introduced], out of good will, aims to simplify the application process," said the committee head.

Next, the collective opinion of the commission members will be gathered, which will then go to the president of the AL so that he can initiate a final review and vote on the bill.

According to Chan, eligible applicants who have been wrongly excluded from the possible housing entitlement by the government might receive either financial compensation or be given a slot in the draw, an entitlement which was previously granted subject to the court's verdict.

The new system, which allows the official draw to precede the qualification assessment, is believed to halve the current three-year period required to process the 42,000 applications that have been submitted for only 1,900 economic housing units that were rolled out in 2013. **Staff reporter**

## Excessive levels of E. coli found in public pools

**T**WO public swimming pools have been recently closed due to excessive levels of E. coli bacteria. Since the Taipa Central Park swimming pool was closed on Tuesday (the pool has resumed operations as of yesterday morning), the water quality at the Cheoc Van swimming pool located in Coloane was yesterday also found to be noncompliant.

The Civic and Municipal Affairs Bureau (IACM) revealed that it had discovered sub-standard hygiene conditions after performing regular tests on public swimming pools. The Cheoc Van pool is now undergoing water purification and disinfection and will be re-opened once its water quality is deemed to meet required standards.

"The IACM has strict regulations on managing the water quality of all public swimming pools under its jurisdiction and inspects them regularly so as to ensure that they meet with required standards," stated the bureau in a press release yesterday, adding that it would reinforce its inspection regime.



Cheoc Van swimming pool

The bureau explained that the poor water quality in Taipa Central Park swimming pool might have been caused by a malfunction in the pool's filtration system. As for the Cheoc Van pool, possible reasons listed by the bureau included chance factors such as birds in the surrounding environment and personal hygiene of swimmers. **BY**

MICE

## Over 100 international brands at Franchise Expo

**T**HE 2015 Macau Franchise Expo (2015 MFE) is being held from today until Sunday at the Venetian's Cotai Expo. A series of activities will be held, including an exhibition, forums, experience-sharing sessions, business matching and brand repackaging consultancy services, as well as seminars and presentations. The expo benefits from the participation of more than

100 international brands.

This year's event is titled "Brand Expansion Continues – Business Opportunities to be Seized." According to a press release issued by the Macau Trade and Investment Promotion Institute (one of the organizers), the expo has attracted over 165 exhibitors from 11 countries and regions, including mainland China, Hong Kong, Japan,

Korea, Macau, Malaysia, Portugal, Singapore, Taiwan, the United Arab Emirates and the United Kingdom. The number of exhibitors is similar to that of last year.

The exhibitors participating in this year's MFE cover a variety of industries, including food and beverage, retail, education, leisure and entertainment, finance, real estate, brand agency

services and consultancies. Some of the well-known brands among the exhibitors include Subway, Kids Kingdom, Tino's Pizza, Pan One and Share Tea.

"Macau Ideas – the Macau Products Display Centre" will also set up an exhibition area to promote local brands as well as products from Portuguese-speaking countries.

Today the expo will be open to trade visitors only. Tomorrow and Sunday the event will be open to the public and a shuttle bus service will be available.

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Elena Becatoros, Greece

# Greek vote campaign begins amid grinding cash crisis

**T**HE battle for Greek votes was in full swing yesterday ahead of a crucial weekend referendum that could decide whether the country falls out of the euro. For Greeks, particularly the elderly, the daily struggle to get cash ground on in the face of massive uncertainty.

Greece's creditors have halted any negotiations on a new financial rescue program until after the popular vote on whether to accept proposed reforms in exchange for bailout loans.

Greek Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras has staunchly advocated a "no," saying it would put the country in a stronger negotiating position with creditors. But European officials and the Greek opposition have warned such an outcome could be tantamount to a decision to leave the euro.

Until then, the country remains in limbo, with banks mostly shut and strict cash withdrawal limits imposed until after the vote.

Crowds of elderly Greeks, some struggling with walking sticks or being held up by others, thronged the few banks opened to help pensioners without debit or credit cards withdraw at least some money.

The banks shut down on Monday to prevent remaining funds fleeing after Tsipras announced he was calling the referendum.

**Greece's creditors have halted any negotiations on a new financial rescue program until after the vote**



Pensioners wait to be allowed into the National Bank of Greece to withdraw cash

Greeks are now restricted to a daily withdrawals of 60 euros (USD67), although in practice this has become 50 euros for many as large numbers of ATMs have run out of 20 euro notes.

Pensioners without bank cards are being allowed to withdraw a maximum 120 euros for the week from open bank branches.

"All I know is that that we are all going crazy here," said Anisia Kaklamanou, one of those waiting to get into a bank in central Athens. "And I don't know what to do on Sunday:

vote "yes", vote "no". I don't know. All I know is that I have 120 euros to get by until whenever the banks open."

The question on Sunday's ballot is whether they accept or reject a reform proposal made by creditors during negotiations last week.

But that particular proposal is no longer on the table. It was amended later in the week and has now been rendered moot by the fact that Greece's international bailout expired Tuesday. The same day, the country also became the first developed nation to miss a debt repay-

ment to the International Monetary Fund.

The country is now seeking a different deal with its Euro-

pean creditors. But European officials have said they cannot negotiate with Athens until after Sunday's vote.

The head of the eurozone finance ministers' group, Jeroen Dijsselbloem, says it will be "incredibly difficult" to build a new bailout package for Greece if the country votes "no" in Sunday's referendum.

He raised questions about the new government's ability to continue talks in such a case and rejected the Greek government's argument that it might get a stronger bargaining position in case of a 'no' vote.

"That suggestion is simply wrong," Dijsselbloem told lawmakers in the Netherlands.

Some European officials have said the Greek referendum amounts to a vote on whether to stay in the euro. The Greek government says that is merely an attempt to terrorize the people into voting in favor of destructive austerity policies.

Many Greeks say they will be casting their ballots to end the budget cuts and tax increases imposed in return for bailout loans from other eurozone countries and the IMF. **AP**

## VAROUFAKIS SAYS HE'LL QUIT IF GREEKS VOTE YES

**YANIS VAROUFAKIS** said Greece won't "extend and pretend" that it can pay its debts, vowing to quit as finance minister if voters don't support him in Sunday's referendum. With banks shuttered and Greece's economy hobbled by capital controls, Varoufakis said in a Bloomberg Television interview

in Athens that he would "rather cut my arm off" than sign a deal that fails to restructure Greece's debt. The 54-year-old economics professor said he "will not" continue in his post if Greece endorses austerity in the plebiscite. "We desperately want to stay in the euro," Varoufakis said. "We are going to win on Sunday."

## corporate bits

### MELCO HOSTS FOUNDATION ACCELERATION PROGRAM KICK-OFF CEREMONY



In May, Melco Crown Entertainment Limited announced its new Local Management Development initiative - the Foundation Acceleration Program - for its local employees. There was a kick-off ceremony for the Program at 38 Lounge in Altira Macau officiated by Mr. Ted Chan, Chief Operating Officer; Ms. Akiko Takahashi, Executive Vice President, Chief Officer of Human Resources and Corpo-

rate Social Responsibility and Mr. JD Clayton, Property President of Studio City.

The Foundation Acceleration Program is planned and structured to develop its current local employees' understanding of business operations and their business perspective beyond the functional view. The two-month program enhances participants' current knowledge through functional and cross-

functional exposure, along with mentorship from a management staff member in the same discipline. The program is a balanced combination of classroom-based theory trainings and practical operational placements, designed to assist the participants to develop a well-rounded view of their role and become more effective and engaged in delivering service excellency. The ultimate goal of the Program is to build up local employees' readiness for future managerial roles.

Mr. Ted Chan, Chief Operating Officer of Melco Crown Entertainment Limited, said in his remarks at the ceremony, "We believe the only effective way to contribute to a better future for our employees, our Company and Macau as a whole is by investing in our people's whole person development."

Sands China Ltd.'s new professional development program will provide the chance for up to 100 dealers to spend 12 months on secondment at Marina Bay Sands in Singapore.

The voluntary program provides the dealers with an overseas experience, giving them a global vision and broadening their career development horizons. Sands China is providing salaries and housing allowances for the participants in Singapore, while maintaining their local benefits in Macau.

"Sands China is very pleased to be able to offer it dealers this unique opportunity to work and learn at our award-winning sister property, Marina Bay Sands," said Antonio Ramirez. "This is the latest initiative of our Sands China Academy - a platform where we provide out-

### SANDS CHINA DEALERS ON SECONDMENT AT SINGAPORE'S MARINA BAY SANDS



standing professional training and career development for our team members and for Macau's locals."

At the end of the 12-month period, the program partici-

pants will return to their current positions at Sands China Ltd. in Macau with international experience. A similar program had run when Marina Bay Sands opened in 2010.

## REAL ESTATE MATTERS

## The top 25 questions we are asked about Macau property - Final part; the top 5 questions...

Juliet Risdon is a Director of JML Property and a property investor. Having established the company in 1994, JML Property offers Investment Property & Homes. It specializes in managing properties for owners and investors, and providing attractive and comfortable homes for tenants.



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**5. Question: Can my landlord throw me out of my apartment?**

Yes, but only under certain circumstances. These include;  
If a tenant does not pay rent at the appropriate time;  
If a tenant uses the property for illegal purposes;  
If all or part of the property is subleased without the express permission of the landlord;  
If the usage of the property is different from the original purpose, for example if the apartment is used as an office or workshop space;  
If alteration work on the apartment is carried out without the express permission of the landlord.

**4. Question: What the best way to get a cheap property?**

As a tenant, the cheapest option for property is to remain in the property that you are in, paying rent on time and negotiating with the owner for the longest possible rental term. You will find that many agencies charge lease renewal fees nowadays, and these vary from agency to agency. Especially when rents are rising, paying a renewal fee is far cheaper than arranging a new lease. However, do make sure you know what the fees are before you agree the renewal. As a buyer, the best way to get a property at a knock down price is to be ready to place a substantial deposit on a property instantly. In a dynamic

market, properties sometimes move faster than the blink of an eye.

**3. Question: Is there a maximum that the landlord can increase the rent?**

No.  
According to Macau Law, the rental amount paid by a tenant is in agreement with both parties.

Macau law states that a rent increase must be 'reasonable'. By definition this means that as long as both parties agree to it, it is deemed reasonable.

There have been calls from residents to try to 'cap' rent increases. However, it is likely that interference in the market would have a reverse effect as we have seen many times in the past. For example, if rent increases were capped at 15%, many owners would not rent properties. As supply falls and demand grows, this would push rental prices even higher in the mid and long term.

**2. Question: Can I use the security deposit to pay the last 2 months rent?**

No.  
Deposits may not be used to cover rents.

A deposit is for the fixtures, fittings and furnishings of the property. Macau Law is very specific about this.

The moment that a rent is unpaid for 30 days, the landlord is entitled

to the amount of rent owed plus an additional penalty equal to 100% of the rent.

In other words, if you don't pay rent for the last 2 months, you will owe 4 months rent.

**1. Question: What's going to happen to property prices in Macau?**

As we are all very much aware, Macau is extremely small. Even with the addition of Hengqin Island, land and space are extremely limited. There is only one way to build; Up.

Macau's economic future looks as certain as anything can be, at least until 2049. Over the long term, it is difficult to see anything other than a rise in property prices.

Every increase is met with similar attitudes from prospective buyers; It can't continue to rise, there is a limit of 'x' beyond which it will never go etc.

Prices have continued to rise, and property that looked expensive some time ago now looks like a bargain.

We can see many arguments for continued growth, whilst slowdowns like the one we are currently experiencing are usually the result of something happening outside of Macau.

As such it is difficult to draw a conclusion other than this; Provided you have a long term view of 5 years or more, Macau property prices are likely to rise.

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Didi Tang, Beijing

# Gay couple holds informal marriage to push for union

A prominent Chinese lesbian couple held a simple ceremony yesterday to announce their informal marriage, in their latest effort to push for the legalization of same-sex unions in China.

The union of Li Tingting and Teresa Xu came six days after the U.S. Supreme Court ruled to validate same-sex marriages in the United States, and four months after Li was detained in China for her women's rights activism.

China does not legally permit same-sex marriage, and there is no broad social effort to push for its legalization.

"I do," Li said in English, as friends cheered. "So do I," replied Xu, also in English.

They exchanged vows and put on silver rings serving as wedding bands in front of about 20 friends and an equal number of journalists gathered at a restaurant in a suburb of Beijing decorated with balloons, rainbow flags and their photos.

"We want to take some action to advocate for same-sex marriage," Li said earlier in a salon, while Xu was having her hair styled. "It's doing the impossible when you know it's impossible, but it takes those constant efforts to make changes in history."

Li was detained in early March with four others amid China's crackdown on social activism. They were taken into police custody in a criminal investiga-



Li Tingting, second from right, laughs as she is lifted off the ground by her wife Teresa Xu, right, outside of a beauty salon in Beijing

tion over their plans to hand out stickers and flyers denouncing sexual harassment. Foreign governments, rights groups and

Hillary Clinton, who is running for U.S. President, criticized their detention. The five were released 37 days later, although

they remain criminal suspects. The experience prompted Xu to consider a stronger bond with Li. "I love her, and after

her detention I wanted to be closer to her but not merely as her girlfriend," Xu said. "I love her courage and her sense of justice."

The U.S. Supreme Court decision inspired them to seek their own version of a same-sex marriage, Li said.

"That's a U.S. law. What use does it have in China?" Li said. "We think we should do something ourselves."

Within days, the couple picked up wedding gowns, scheduled salon sessions for their hair and makeup and reserved the banquet room.

The couple had initially considered showing up at the local civil affairs office to apply for a marriage license but stopped the plan so as not to upset the authorities.

"They could detain me on the charge of assembling illegally or provoking trouble to disrupt social order," Li said.

Li said state security officials had contacted her to inquire about the ceremony, and that she was worried about the possibility of being detained again.

"We are a bit nervous and excited that our wedding should get this much attention," she said at the ceremony. AP

# Monsters mix with the Great Wall in Matt Damon film

Louise Watt, Beijing

MATT Damon, one of China's favorite Hollywood stars, said yesterday he was overwhelmed at the fans turning up at his hotel in China — not for him but for an ex-boy band singer who also appears in a Sino-Hollywood fantasy adventure movie.

The singer is Lu Han, 25, but with the face of a teenager, who rose to fame as the lead vocalist and dancer of Chinese-South Korean boy band EXO.

Lu was trailed by fans, said Damon. "I think the first night where we started shooting there was something like 400 flower arrangements came to the hotel and took up the entire hallway."

Damon spoke in Beijing to publicize the movie "The Great Wall," which has a budget of USD150 million. Damon, whose movies include "Good



Director Zhang Yimou, right, looks at actor Matt Damon, center, using a mobile phone to take picture of the journalists next to actor Pedro Pascal, second from right, during a press conference at a hotel in Beijing

Will Hunting" and the "Bourne" action franchise, plays a battle-scarred mercenary in search of treasure. Pedro Pascal, of "Game of Thrones," is his sword-wielding partner. Lu plays a boy emperor. In the film peppered with stars from both China and Hollywood, warriors use the Great Wall as a weapon to combat

otherworldly creatures who threaten humanity. It is due for global release in November 2016. It is the latest co-production between China and Hollywood as U.S. studios court China's rapidly growing movie audience and Chinese producers look to improve their technological know-how. It will be the first En-

glish-language movie by Zhang Yimou, the director of the romantic Kung Fu drama "House of Flying Daggers," "Hero" and the opulent opening and closing ceremonies of the 2008 Beijing Olympics. Zhang said he felt at ease with the story because it was set in China. "Movies that have fi-

ghts against monsters from the past, present and future are all produced by Hollywood," he said. "What I have thought about is how to use this Hollywood format to express what I want to express and present the Chinese culture and make it unique." Willem Dafoe also stars in the film, and there are a host of Chinese actors in supporting roles, including Hong Kong's Andy Lau. Actress Jing Tian takes on the lead female role in her first English-language film. Damon said the language barrier was not a problem when filming. "It's the same discipline and it moves across cultures and languages pretty easily," he said. The movie is the first being made by Legendary Entertainment's Chinese offshoot, Legendary East, together with Hollywood's Universal

Pictures, China Film Co. Ltd., a unit of the state-owned China Film Group, and Le Vision Pictures, a private film company affiliated to Chinese tech firm LeTV. "The Great Wall" is an official co-production. That means it will be treated as a domestic film and bypass China's import restrictions that limit foreign movies and will get a bigger share of the Chinese box office. Hollywood has been inserting Chinese elements into some of its films to appeal to the Chinese audience, but official co-productions like "The Great Wall" require China or a Chinese story to be integral to the plot. Most Chinese co-productions with the West have been box-office flops, but producers hope "The Great Wall" can show that big-budget Sino-Hollywood co-productions can work. AP



TAIWAN

# Pilot in February TransAsia crash described as hasty

Ralph Jennings, Taipei

A pilot described by colleagues as nervous and hasty mistakenly throttled down a still-running engine following a glitch with the other engine in an airline crash that killed 43 people in Taiwan in February, flight safety officials said yesterday.

A preliminary investigation after the Feb. 4 crash of TransAsia flight GE235 already had indicated that the pilot shut off the remaining engine after one of them went idle. But the account yesterday by Taiwan's Aviation Safety Council — while not assigning blame — added additional details about the crash and the background of the pilot, including that he had failed a flight simulator test as recently as May 2014.

Both the pilot and co-pilot died. Minutes after takeoff in Taipei, a ribbon-like sensor connector in the automated flight system failed and put one engine into a mode that effectively cut its power to the aircraft, Taiwan's Aviation Safety Council Executive Director Thomas Wang told a news conference.

The engine's condition, useful in other cases to reduce torque, generated a flame-out warning in the cockpit 37 seconds after takeoff, according to a report by the council. However, it says the engine itself was technically still capable of providing power to the ATR-72 aircraft. The aircraft was also designed to fly on one engine.

"The sensor connector, in layman's terms, you would say was in a situation where it didn't connect normally," Wang said.

Seconds later, the pilot said he would pull back on the throttle to

the plane's other engine, which showed no mechanical trouble, the council's report indicates. Normally, a pilot would throttle back to cut the flamed-out engine to avoid further problems and rely on the still-running engine for power.

"If engine two has flamed out, you would shut off engine two, that's normal logic," Wang said.

Eight seconds before the crash, the council's report states, the pilot said in Chinese: "Wow, pulled back on the wrong side throttle."

## Eight seconds before the crash the pilot said in Chinese: "Wow, pulled back on the wrong side throttle"

The pilot in command had failed a flight simulator test in May 2014 and passed it the following month with further training, the council's report says.

He had been described in post-crash interviews with colleagues as "a little nervous during line operations," and a person who "had a tendency of rushing to perform the procedures without coordination with the (co-pilot)," according to the report.

An automatic system to control power upon takeoff had not been armed while the plane was on the ground in Taipei but kicked in seconds later, the agency's report said. The pilot knew about this ou-

tage but authorized takeoff, the report shows. It was not clear if that glitch had any connection with the engine going idle.

The automatic takeoff power control system maker in the United States has joined Taiwan's investigation, Wang said.

The flight had left Taipei's Songshan airport for the outlying Taiwan-controlled islands of Kinmen. Video captured on dashboard cameras showed the plane flying on its side over an elevated road, clipping a fence, light pole and passing taxi shortly before plunging into the Keelung River in a heavily populated part of Taipei.

The flight was carrying 53 passengers, three crew members and two flight attendants. Fifteen people escaped the aircraft alive.

TransAsia said yesterday it had improved pilot training and the company's organization since the February crash.

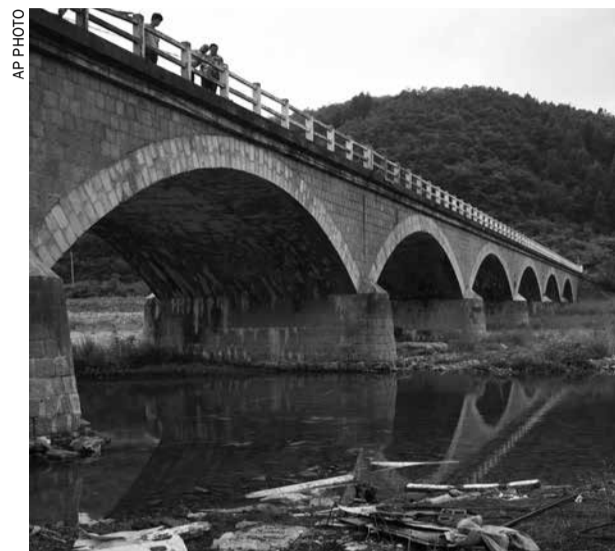
Jon Beatty, CEO of the U.S.-based non-profit Flight Safety Foundation, has been invited to sit on TransAsia's aviation committee and give guidance, and all 61 ATR aircraft pilots have passed an "appropriateness examination," the company said in a statement.

To improve organization, TransAsia said it has raised pay and "made active efforts" to develop talent. It has also formed an in-house safety inspection committee that meets every two weeks.

Another domestic TransAsia flight crashed on July 23 last year, killing 48 people aboard.

The Aviation Safety Council anticipates finishing a full investigation on the February crash by April 2016. AP

## Bus falls off bridge killing 10 South Koreans



People watch the wreckage of a bus at the site of a road accident on Ji'an-Dandong Road in Ji'an City, northeast China's Jilin Province

A bus carrying a group of South Koreans fell off a highway bridge in northeastern China, killing 10 passengers and the Chinese driver, officials said yesterday.

The accident took place Wednesday after the vehicle left the northeastern Chinese city of Ji'an and was about halfway to its destination of Dandong, which borders North Korea, the official Xinhua News agency said.

China's Foreign Ministry said 28 people were aboard the bus — 26 South Koreans plus one driver and one tour guide from China. Ten South Koreans and the driver were killed, ministry spokeswoman Hua Chunying said, expressing condolences to the victims.

The South Korean government sent an emergency team of 11 officials to China yesterday to assist in coping with the aftermath.

Officials in South Korea said its nationals were on the bus as part of a 140-person delegation of mainly government employees.

They were in China to tour historical sites, including places where Korean independence fighters resisted Japan's colonial rule before the end of World War II, according to officials from the South Korean Ministry of Government Administration and Home Affairs.

The bus was part of a six-bus caravan, the South Korean officials said.

Photos circulating online showed the bus resting on its top in shallow water under the bridge.

Some family members began arriving at a funeral hall in Ji'an, according to South Korea's Yohap news agency.

Eight of the 16 injured were still in serious condition and the injuries of a 36-year-old Korean passenger were life threatening, according to a hospital official. AP/Xinhua

## 2nd person dies in Taiwan water park fire

THE death toll from a blaze at a Taiwan water park party over the weekend rose to two yesterday, with more than 200 injured still in intensive care.

Taiwan's Central News Agency said 19-year-old college student Liu Chih-wei died early in the morning after suffering burns over 90 percent of his body. A 20-year-old woman died on Monday after suffering similar injuries when colored powder sprayed from a stage caught fire at the party on Saturday night.

The report said Liu had been a design student at the College of Maritime Technology in Taiwan's capital, Taipei.

Investigators are looking into whether a spark might have triggered the explosion of colored corn powder thrown into the dancing crowd at the Formosa Water Park along the island's west coast on the outskirts of Taipei.

Among the injured was Alex Haas, 26, of New Hampshire in the United States, who also suffered burns to his lungs and over 90 percent of his body.

Taiwan has since banned the use of flammable powders at all public activities. AP

## PHILIPPINES

# Ferry capsizes in choppy waters; 35 dead, 20 missing

Oliver Teves, Manila

A ferry carrying 189 passengers and crew capsized yesterday minutes after it left a central Philippine port in choppy waters, leaving at least 35 dead and 20 others missing, coast guard officials said.

They said at least 127 people from the M/B Kim Nirvana were rescued by nearby fishing boats and coast guard personnel or swam to safety off Ormoc city on Leyte Island.

Coast guard spokesman Armand Balilo said the wooden outrigger ferry was leaving Ormoc for the Camotes Islands, about 44 kilometers to the south, when it was lashed by strong waves.

He said the captain and some of the crew were rescued and are in custody pending an investigation.

Survivors told The Associated Press by cellphone that the bow of the ferry suddenly rose from the water before the vessel flipped over on one side, turning it upside down and trapping passengers underneath.

Mary Jane Drake, who was traveling with her mother and American husband, said the ferry was pulling slowly out of the port when it suddenly flipped to the left in strong waves and overturned. She, her mother and husband swam to safety from underneath the ferry.

AP PHOTO



The Philippine Coast Guard rescues boat passengers after a ferry capsized in choppy waters yesterday in Ormoc

"No one was able to jump out because it overturned very swiftly. There was no time to jump," she said.

Her husband, Lawrence Drake, a 48-year-old reti-

red firefighter from Rochester, New York, said he ran to one side of the boat to try to balance it but it was too late.

"I jumped out of my seat and ran to the front as far as I cou-

ld, and tried to lean over. I am a big guy, and tried to push the boat back over but it was way too late," he said.

Many of the passengers were screaming in panic, he said.

TV footage showed coast guard rescuers and army soldiers carrying survivors from rubber boats to a beach. Not far away, the bottom part of the vessel could be seen protruding from the water.

A rescue leader, Ciriaco Tolibao, said several army frogmen and coast guard divers were searching the overturned boat in a race with time to find more survivors or retrieve bodies.

Coast guard officials and survivors said it wasn't immediately clear what caused the 36-ton ferry boat, which was carrying a heavy cargo of construction materials and bags of rice, to overturn as it moved from the port toward Ormoc Bay.

Cloudy weather at the time of the accident did not pose any danger that would have prompted the coast guard to stop sea voyages, the coast guard said.

A brewing storm in the Pacific was 550 kilometers east of Ormoc and was too far away to affect any part of the Philippine archipelago, according to forecasters. They said winds in the Ormoc region were not strong enough to whip up dangerous waves.

Ormoc, a regional economic and transportation hub of about 200,000 people, is located in a disaster-prone eastern region that is regularly hit by some of the approximately 20 tropical storms and typhoons that blow in from the Pacific each year.

The city was among those devastated by Typhoon Haiyan, one of the most ferocious storms on record to hit land, which left more than 7,300 dead and missing and leveled entire villages in November 2013.

In 1991, a storm set off flash floods in the Ormoc region that killed more than 5,000 people and swept homes and vehicles into the sea. AP

An Afghan court has overturned the death sentences for four men convicted of taking part in the shocking mob killing of a woman outside a Kabul shrine, a judge said yesterday.

Three of the men convicted of the murder of Farkhunda Malikzada in March were instead given 20-year sentences, and the fourth was sentenced to 10 years, said Appeals Court Judge Abdul Nasir Murid.

The ruling was made in a closed-door hearing on Wednesday and first reported by the independent Tolo TV. Tolo said the court acquitted the peddler at the shrine who allegedly incited the mob by falsely accusing Malikzada of burning a Quran.

The court's decision, which has not yet been

## AFGHANISTAN

## Court cancels death sentences in mob killing of woman

made public, has outraged her family, who said they are still waiting for justice. Lawmakers and activists also criticized the decision, saying the court had bowed to the conservative religious establishment and failed to uphold the rule of law. "This is against the constitution. The courts should be open to the public, and this closed-door hearing undermines the credibility of the sentences," said Shukria Barakzai, a lawmaker and women's rights advocate.

The mob killing led to calls for judicial reform and stronger protection for women from violence. After the peddler at the Shah-Du Shamshira

shrine falsely accused Malikzada of burning a Quran, a mob attacked her as police watched. After punching, kicking and beating her with wooden planks, the crowd threw her from a roof, ran over her with a car and crushed her with a block of concrete. They then set her body alight on the bank of the Kabul River.

The attack was filmed by many people in the mob, and the footage widely distributed on social media. Of the 49 people convicted, including 19 policemen accused of dereliction of duty, 37 were released last month ahead of their appeals. AP



In this Sunday, March 22 file photo, Afghan women's rights activists carry the coffin of 27-year-old Farkhunda, an Afghan woman who was beaten to death by a mob, during her funeral, in Kabul

NinieK Karmini, Medan

INDONESIA

# Crashed plane may have suffered engine failure

**T**HE aging Indonesian military transport plane that crashed into a residential neighborhood of Medan killing 141 people had a propeller “abnormality” that indicates an engine stalled, the air force chief said yesterday.

Air Marshal Agus Supriatna told reporters the fact that the plane turned rightward after takeoff and was flying at a lower than normal speed also suggests an engine failure.

Before crashing shortly after takeoff on Tuesday, the C-130 Hercules hit a 35-meter radio antenna, he said. “By hitting the antenna, I imagine it certainly affected the plane,” Supriatna said.

The search for bodies ended Wednesday. The plane was carrying 122 people and the impact also killed people on the ground. The wreckage of the plane has been removed from the neighborhood in Indonesia’s third largest city and two nearby roads have been reopened. The smell of jet fuel still lingers around the crash site.

Air force spokesman Dwi Badarmanto said it has grounded other B-type C-130 Hercules planes pending the investigation. He didn’t say



Rescuers search the site where an Indonesian air force transport plane crashed in Medan

how many planes were involved.

Supriatna said the early findings of the investigation

suggest a propeller was “feathered” by the pilot, using a technical term to describe a high-angle position for the

blades that reduces the tendency of the plane to swing in the direction of the failed engine.

“If there was feathering that means the engine was dead,” he said.

Indonesian military planes are not equipped with black box flight recorders, according to air force operations commander Agus Dwi Pu-tranto.

In response to the disaster, President Joko “Jokowi” Widodo has ordered a review of aging air force planes and other military hardware.

Indonesia’s military spending is equal to 0.8 percent of GDP, according to the World Bank, about half that of its neighbors Malaysia and Thailand. The cash crunch for Indonesia’s armed forces is compounded by the vast area of an archipelago nation made up 17,000 islands and spanning three time zones.

Indonesia’s last C-130 crash was in 2009, when about 100 people were killed. The plane crashed into a row of houses as it was attempting to land at an air base in East Java province.

At the time, there were calls for a bigger military budget to replace aging planes.

The C-130 that crashed Tuesday was carrying many more passengers than the military first reported. Initially, the air force said there were 12 crew members on the 51-year-old plane and did not mention passengers. It then repeatedly raised the number of people on board, indicating confusion about how many people had boarded and alighted during a journey covering several cities. On the doomed leg of the flight, the plane was leaving Medan in Sumatra, one of Indonesia’s main islands, for the remote Natuna island chain.

Relatives of some victims said they had paid for their flights, violating rules that restrict air force flights to military personnel and their families. Supriatna said if evidence is produced, stern action would be taken against anyone who facilitated civilians joining the flight. [see also report on page 20] AP

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## HOLOCAUST TRIBUTE

# 'Britain's Schindler': Winton's rescue of Jewish children revealed after 50 years

Naomi Koppel, London

IS there anyone in our audience tonight who owes their life to Nicholas Winton?" asked the presenter of the popular BBC magazine program "That's Life".

Around the elderly man, sitting with his wife in the front row of the audience, more than 30 people got to their feet. The man stood to acknowledge them, wiping tears from his eyes.

It was 1988, some 50 years since young stockbroker Nicholas Winton found himself in Prague as the Nazis marched on Czechoslovakia and all around him Jewish parents desperately looked for a means of escape, if not for themselves then at least for their children.

Virtually single-handedly, Winton saved more than 650 of those children from almost certain death in the Holocaust. But he didn't talk about it for decades, until his wife discovered documents in their attic that revealed the story and for the first time allowed the rescued children to know and thank their savior.

"There are all kinds of things you don't talk about, even with your family," Winton said later. "Everything that happened before the war actually didn't feel important in the light of the war itself."

Winton's death Wednesday at the age of 106 brought tributes from leaders and Jewish groups in Britain, the Czech Republic and Israel.

"In a world plagued by evil and indifference, Winton dedicated



A young girl lights a candle at the statue of Britain's Sir Nicholas Winton at the main train station in Prague, Czech Republic

himself to saving the innocent and the defenseless. His exceptional moral leadership serves as an example to all humanity," Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said yesterday.

"Winton knew how to correctly read the harsh reality and chose to leave his comfortable life and follow the voice of his conscience," added Avner Shalev, chairman of the Yad Vashem Holocaust memorial in Jerusalem.

The story of Winton's exploits led former British Prime Minister Tony Blair to dub him "Britain's Schindler", in reference to the German businessman

Oskar Schindler, who famously saved Jewish lives during the war.

Returning to Britain and finding there was no one working on the problem of how to get the children out, Winton borrowed the headed paper of the British Committee for Refugees from Czechoslovakia and underneath typed the words "Children's Section."

He approached the British government, and eventually got a promise that it would let the children in, provided he had a foster home arranged for each of them, and upon payment of a guarantee - the substantial sum

of 50 pounds per child.

He drew up lists of some 6,000 suitable children, publishing their photographs to try to encourage British families to agree to take them. He arranged trains from Prague to the Netherlands, ferries to take the children across the North Sea.

Eight trains and one plane carried 669 children to Britain in the months before the outbreak of war. The largest evacuation was scheduled for Sept. 3, 1939, the day Britain declared war on Germany. That train never left, and almost none of the 250 children trying to flee that day survived the war.

"At the time, everybody said, 'Isn't it wonderful what you've done for the Jews? You saved all these Jewish people,'" Winton said. "When it was first said to me, it came almost as a revelation because I didn't do it particularly for that reason. I was there to save children."

**■ Virtually single-handedly, Winton saved more than 650 children from almost certain death in the Holocaust**

The children from Prague were among some 10,000 mostly Jewish children who made it to Britain on what were known as the Kindertransports (children's transports). Few of them would see their parents again.

After the story came to light, Winton's wife Grete persuaded him to talk about what had happened, and many of the children - now parents and grandparents themselves - contacted him to thank him for saving their lives. Among the well-known people saved by Winton were American scientist Ben Abeles, British film director Karol Reisz and Canadian journalist Joe Schlesinger. AP

Bouazza Ben Bouazza, Tunis

EIGHT people are in custody on suspicion of direct links to a deadly attack on a Tunisian beach resort, while police have released four others detained earlier in the investigation, a government minister said yesterday.

Meanwhile, the British Foreign Office raised the death toll of British tourists killed in the attack from 27 to 30. Other European tourists were among the 38 dead.

The Islamic State group claimed responsibility for last Friday's attack, in which Tunisian student Seifeddine Rezgui

opened fire on a beach in the resort of Sousse. The attacker was later killed by police.

Government minister Kamel Jendoubi told reporters in Tunis yesterday that 12 people in total were detained since the attack, but four have been released.

The other eight - seven men and one woman - remain in custody and are suspected of direct links to the attack, he said.

He did not elaborate on the identities of the suspects or their roles, saying only that the investigation "has allowed us to discover the network behind the opera-

TUNISIA

## 8 suspected in hotel attack probe

tion in Sousse."

He also urged greater international terrorism cooperation in a "war ... between democratic Tunisia and an international jihadi movement."

More Tunisians - about 3,000 - are believed to have gone to Syria and Iraq to join radical jihadis including the Islamic State group than fighters from any other country.

A top security official told the AP this week that the student had

trained in a jihadi camp in Libya at the same time as the two men who attacked a leading Tunisian museum in March. That enforced the notion of a link between the two assaults and raised fears of more attacks on this North African nation's budding democracy.

The attack was Tunisia's deadliest ever, and threatened to be a devastating blow to the country's tourism sector. AP



A coffin is carried from a British RAF C-17 plane as the bodies of eight British nationals killed Friday in the Tunisia beach terror attack are repatriated



### CABANA CHILL- OUT

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British Business Association of Macao

## WORKING LUNCHEON

### Off-Plan Property Sale in Macau: New Legal Framework in Practice

Macau Law 7/2013 enacted on 1<sup>st</sup> June 2013 introduced for the first time a detailed framework of rules for the sale of properties off-plan.

Two years on, the conclusion is clear that this Law has had a major impact of Macau's property market and has changed it for the good.

**Dr Carlos Simoes of DSL Lawyers,** a leading Macau counsel and renowned expert in this field, will review the main features of Law 7/2013, how it works, and evaluate how and why it changed the Macau property market.

**Tuesday, 14<sup>th</sup> July**  
**12.30 pm to start at 1 pm – 2 pm**  
**Salon 1 & 2, Level 1**  
**MGM Macau**  
**Member rate MOP/HKD 200.00**  
**Non-Member rate MOP/HKD 300.00**

**Strict No-Show/Late Cancellation policy applies to this event!**

Please RSVP to  
[bbam@britchammacao.org](mailto:bbam@britchammacao.org) or phone +853 8798 9697

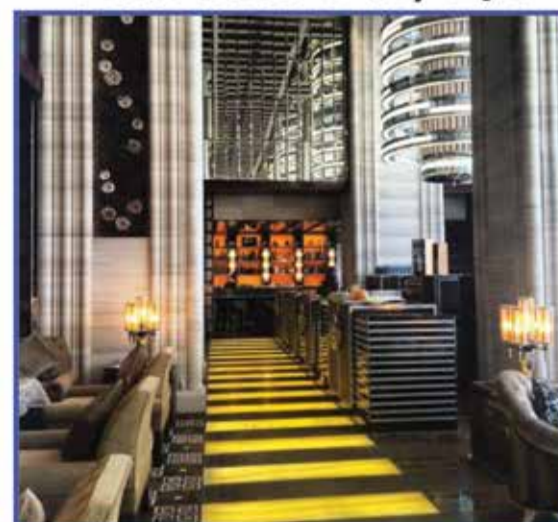


**BBAM**  
澳門英國商會  
British Business Association of Macao

## Summer Break Networking Evening

Watch the sunset while enjoying drinks, canapés and networking before the holidays!

**Thursday, 16<sup>th</sup> July**  
**Mandarin Oriental, Macau**  
**Vida Rica Bar, 2/F**



**6.30pm to 8.30pm**  
**BBAM Members – MOP/HKD 200 - Non-Members – MOP/HKD 300**

Please RSVP to  
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## TV canal macau



## FRIDAY

13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
14:30	RTPi Live
18:20	The Illusionist (Repeated)
19:10	TDM Talkshow (Repeated)
19:40	Soap Opera
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:30	Revenge S2
22:10	The Illusionist
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Portuguese Film
01:10	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)

## SATURDAY

10:45	Boonie Bears
11:35	Documentary Serie
12:00	Cooking
13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
14:30	Soap Opera
18:15	Non-Daily Portuguese News
19:00	Contest
20:00	Miscellaneous
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:10	Drama
22:10	Comedy
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Shorts
00:20	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)

## SUNDAY

11:00	Sunday Mass
12:00	Miscellaneous
12:30	Miscellaneous
13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
14:30	Animation
16:10	Miscellaneous
17:00	Miscellaneous
17:45	Non-Daily Portuguese News
18:10	Miscellaneous
18:45	Miscellaneous
19:30	Comedy
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:00	Non-Daily Portuguese News
22:00	Operation Cloud Lab - Secrets of the Skies
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Documentary Series
00:05	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)

## offbeat



## AVERAGE MANHATTAN HOME PRICE IS OVER USD1.8 MILLION

The average sales price of a Manhattan apartment has eclipsed USD1.8 million, a new high. The appraisal firm Miller Samuel says in a report for Douglas Elliman Real Estate that its figure — \$1.87 million — compares to \$1.77 million reached in the first quarter of last year.

The Corcoran Group puts the average Manhattan sales price at \$1.81 million.

Corcoran says the median sales price is now \$960,000. The Douglas Elliman report puts it at \$980,000. The median price measures the middle of the market and is less affected by high-end sales. Douglas Elliman Chief Executive Dottie Herman tells The New York Times that New York real estate experts “don’t even blink” at the numbers. But she concedes that “anyplace else, they’re outrageous.”

## cinema

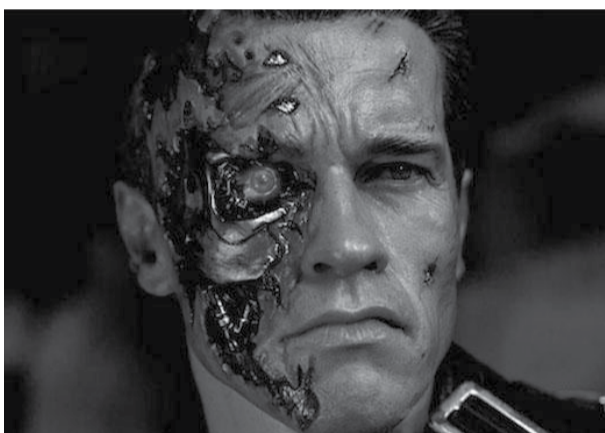


## CINETEATRO

03 JUL - 8 JUL



**TED 2**  
ROOM 1  
2.30, 4.30, 7.30, 9.30 pm  
Director: Seth MacFarlane  
Starring: Mark Wahlberg, Amanda Seyfried, Morgan Freeman  
Language: English (Chinese)  
Duration: 115min



**TERMINATOR: GENISYS**  
ROOM 2  
(2D) 2.30, 4.45, 9.30pm  
(3D) 7.15  
Director: Alan Taylor  
Starring: Arnold Schwarzenegger, Jason Clarke, Emilia Clarke  
Language: English (Chinese)  
Duration: 120min



**JURASSIC WORLD**  
9.30 pm  
Director: Colin Trevorrow  
Starring: Chris Pratt, Bryce Dallas Howard  
Language: English (Chinese)  
Duration: 124min

**FAR FROM THE MADDING CROWD**  
ROOM 3  
2.30, 4.45, 7.15, 9.30 pm  
(4 - 5 JUL) 2.30, 9.30 pm  
Director: Thomas Vinterberg  
Starring: Carey Mulligan, Matthias Schoenaerts  
Language: English (Chinese)  
Duration: 94min

**MINIONS**  
ROOM 3  
(4 - 5 JUL) 4.45, 7.30 pm  
Director: Pierre Coffin, Kyle Balda  
Language: Cantonese (Chinese/English)  
Duration: 91min

## MACAU TOWER

02 JUL - 15 JUL

**TERMINATOR: GENISYS**  
2.30, 4.45, 7.15, 9.30 pm  
Director: Alan Taylor  
Starring: Arnold Schwarzenegger, Jason Clarke, Emilia Clarke  
Language: English (Chinese)  
Duration: 125min

## this day in history



Jim Morrison (left) was reportedly found dead in a bathtub by his long time girlfriend Pamela Courson (right)

1971 DOORS' SINGER  
JIM MORRISON FOUND DEAD

Jim Morrison, the lead singer of American rock group The Doors has died in Paris aged 27. He was found in a bathtub at his apartment at 17 Rue Beau-trailis by his girlfriend, Pamela Courson.

A doctor's report stated the cause of death was heart failure aggravated by heavy drinking. The rest of the band - keyboardist Ray Manzarek, guitarist Robbie Krieger and drummer John Densmore - are currently in the United States.

Morrison, also known as the Lizard King, was born in Florida in 1943, his father Stephen was in the US Navy and rose to the rank of admiral. He formed The Doors with Ray Manzarek in 1965 in Los Angeles.

Morrison had come up with the name after reading Aldous Huxley's account of drug experiences, The Doors Of Perception. The group became the first popular “new wave” band. Their first album, The Doors, released by Elektra Records in 1967, was a number one hit in the US, though only just scraped into the British charts.

Their following albums, Strange Days and Waiting For The Sun, provided further American hits and, in Hello I love You, a British number 15. But with its ever growing fame, the band lost some of its credibility in the rock underground.

Morrison's behavior, fuelled by drink and drugs, became more outrageous and in 1969 he was arrested for “indecent exposure, lewd conduct and public intoxication” after a concert in Miami's Dinner Key auditorium.

Though some of the charges were later dropped, the scandal made it hard for the band to perform live for some time. Morrison used the crisis as a spur to creativity and produced one of the group's most critically acclaimed albums, Morrison Hotel, in 1970.

Over the past year he has made clear he wanted to drop music altogether to become a writer. He has already published two volumes of poetry, The Lords and The New Creatures, and planned to begin a literary career once his contractual obligations to Elektra were fulfilled.

Courtesy BBC News

## IN CONTEXT

Jim Morrison is buried at Père Lachaise cemetery in Paris, where his grave has become a shrine for successive generations of fans. In 1991, the 20th anniversary of his death, the cemetery had to hire extra security after police used tear gas to disperse rowdy fans. Since Morrison's death his records have never been out of print and Hollywood, too, has found The Doors music attractive.

The End was used in Francis Ford Coppola's Apocalypse Now, and in 1991 Oliver Stone helped cement the Morrison legend with his film biography The Doors, starring Val Kilmer. The film created a whole new generation of fans. The three surviving members of the group released a new album, Doors Box Set, in 1997. It included three CDs of previously unreleased songs.



**YOUR STARS**

**Aries**  
Mar. 21-Apr. 19  
You need to listen closely today — there's one person who really needs your input, but only once you've heard theirs. Try to keep your mouth shut for a while. It's good exercise, and it can really help!

**Taurus**  
April 20-May 20  
What do you need to do to take care of your health? It could be almost anything from one better meal every day to a brand-new daily exercise routine, but now is the time to get started.

**Gemini**  
May 21-Jun. 21  
Your energy levels are through the roof today and that could make you feel as giddy as a teen with a new driver's license. Try not to take any risks, though, or you could feel like a teen with a new speeding ticket!

**Cancer**  
Jun. 22-Jul. 22  
You and a friend are parting ways temporarily over something that will one day seem kind of silly — but in the heat of the moment, it's all you can think about. Burn out this grudge quickly!

**Leo**  
Jul. 23-Aug. 22  
Your actions are keeping others interested and engaged — so keep it up! Your social energy is perfectly in tune with that of your people, and you should be able to get them to see things your way.

**Virgo**  
Aug. 23-Sept. 22  
You and a friend or business partner are joining forces in a big way — so make sure that you're on the same page! It's all too likely for a little misunderstanding to flare up into something much larger.

**Libra**  
Sep. 23-Oct. 22  
You're getting looks from all around today — and it's all good! People are taking notice of your positive qualities, and that should help you to take advantage of an important coincidence.

**Scorpio**  
Oct. 23 - Nov. 21  
You need to kick back and let things happen today — even if that makes you feel somewhat anxious. Passivity is a winning strategy for you now, so swallow your fears and let it ride.

**Sagittarius**  
Nov. 22-Dec. 21  
Laughter seems to surround you today — but not mockery! You should do what you can to keep it going, but with your terrific social energy, it shouldn't take much of an effort this time.

**Capricorn**  
Dec. 22-Jan. 19  
You need to step up to authority — but only as far as circumstances permit. You should find that things are somewhat more difficult than you had hoped, but your no-nonsense approach works wonders.

**Aquarius**  
Jan. 20-Feb. 18  
It's a great day to handle personal issues of all kinds. You may find that your energy is even more powerful than you had thought, and you may leave some big problems behind in the end.

**Pisces**  
Feb. 19-Mar. 20  
It's a good time to think about settling a big debt — or at least starting to chip away at it in earnest. If your finances are in good shape, consider what you owe to others emotionally.

**THE BORN LOSER** by Chip Sansom



**SUDOKU**

**Easy**

4			3	2				
			1	4	9	6		
7	5			9				
3					7	2		
		1	8	6				
9	4					5		
		5		6	3			
4	8	6	2					
	7	9						1

**Easy+**

9			3			7		
	6	7			2			
7	3	5		2	9			
4			5					
8	1						3	6
			1			2		
	2	8		3	7	4		
	1			5	8			
8		2						9

**Medium**

7	5		3	1				
			6	5				
						5	8	2
6	8		1					
9		7	6					5
			4			2	8	
4	2	6						
		6	3					
	9	2				8	4	

**Hard**

3						6	8	
			1					
							5	
2	3	7						
			8			1		
6								
5	8					4		
			6	3				
		2						

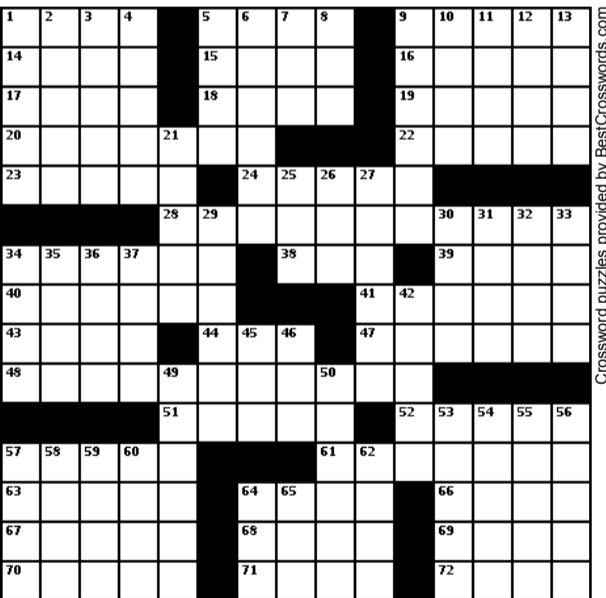
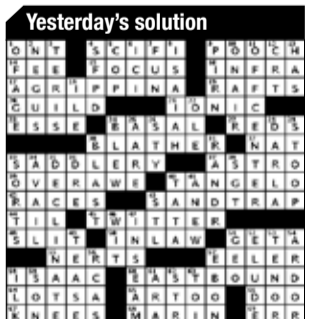
**WEATHER**

	MIN	MAX	CONDITION
<b>CHINA</b>			
Beijing	18	33	clear/cloudy
Harbin	14	25	cloudy/thundershower
Tianjin	21	30	clear
Urumqi	22	32	clear
Xi'an	22	32	cloudy
Lhasa	13	26	overcast/cloudy
Chengdu	21	26	moderate rain
Chongqing	23	25	moderate rain
Kunming	18	27	cloudy/shower
Nanjing	22	30	cloudy
Shanghai	21	28	cloudy
Wuhan	24	31	cloudy/overcast
Hangzhou	21	29	cloudy
Taipei	26	34	overcast/moderate rain
Guangzhou	28	35	cloudy
Hong Kong	29	33	cloudy
<b>WORLD</b>			
Moscow	16	25	drizzle/clear
Frankfurt	22	34	clear
Paris	18	34	clear/cloudy
London	12	21	drizzle/clear
New York	17	25	cloudy

**CROSSWORDS**

**ACROSS:** 1- Mrs. Dithers, in "Blondie"; 5- Earth goddess; 9- Scruffs; 14- Not closed; 15- Whirling water; 16- Now, in Nogales; 17- La Dolce \_\_\_; 18- Long time; 19- One of the Judds; 20- Charms; 22- Fine fiddle; 23- Israeli desert region; 24- Govt. security; 28- Unnecessary; 34- Bass's counterpart; 38- Loser to DDE; 39- Johnson of "Laugh-In"; 40- Critique; 41- Nonsilent film; 43- Mimic; 44- No-win situation?; 47- Rubs out; 48- Ice pack?; 51- Related on the mother's side; 52- You \_\_\_ mouthful!; 57- Coniferous evergreen forest; 61- Hero of the Odyssey; 63- Hand woven wall hanging; 64- Inventing middle name; 66- Phnom \_\_\_; 67- Jackie's predecessor; 68- Roseanne, once; 69- Pennsylvania city; 70- Mattress supports; 71- Tore; 72- Loch \_\_\_ monster;

**DOWN:** 1- Assembly of witches; 2- Express a viewpoint; 3- Put a new price on; 4- Make \_\_\_ for oneself; 5- Reverse, e.g.; 6- \_\_\_ Fideles; 7- Tokyo, once; 8- Novelist Rand; 9- Norwegian arctic explorer; 10- At the drop of \_\_\_; 11- Needy; 12- Writer Bombeck; 13- Aforementioned; 21- Small egg; 25- Hush-hush org.; 26- Sweet suffix; 27- SAT giver; 29- Unit of force; 30- Currency unit in Western Samoa; 31- Rubs the wrong way; 32- Play to \_\_\_ (draw); 33- Dregs; 34- \_\_\_ II (razor brand); 35- Bank takeback; 36- First name in stunts; 37- Wren or hen; 42- Bohemian; 45- The Monkees' "\_\_\_ Believer"; 46- Baby newt; 49- Stops; 50- Body of work; 53- Colorado resort; 54- Grenoble's river; 55- Actor Leary; 56- Remains of a fire; 57- Highland hats; 58- Shrinking sea of Asia; 59- \_\_\_ La Douce; 60- Canter or trot; 62- Cooking fat; 64- Tummy muscles; 65- Once around the track;



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- Fire department 28 572 222
- PJ (Open line) 993
- PJ (Picket) 28 557 775
- PSP 28 573 333
- Customs 28 559 944
- S. J. Hospital 28 313 731
- Kiang Wu Hospital 28 371 333
- Commission Against Corruption (CCAC) 28326 300
- IACM 28 387 333
- Tourism 28 333 000
- Airport 59 888 88
- Taxi 28 939 939 / 2828 3283
- Water Supply - Report 1990 992
- Telephone - Report 1000
- Electricity - Report 28 339 922
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\*about the picture may be different from Macau specifications

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# Blatter says he has 'clear conscience' despite FIFA probes

**F**IFA President Sepp Blatter has said in a magazine interview that he is not corrupt and that he has a "clear conscience" despite corruption investigations into world soccer's governing body. "Whoever accuses me of being corrupt has to prove it to me first. But nobody can do that because I'm not corrupt," Blatter told yesterday's edition of German weekly Bunte, extracts of which were released Wednesday. Four days after being re-elected for a fifth term, Blatter said on June 2 that he would

step down amid a crisis provoked by American and Swiss federal investigations of corruption linked to FIFA. American law enforcement officials have confirmed that Blatter is a target of their investigation into widespread bribery and racketeering linked to broadcast rights and hosting votes for international tournaments. The 79-year-old told Bunte that he happily accepts "fair and constructive criticism, also to consider what can be done differently. But when someone says, 'Blatter

is corrupt because FIFA is corrupt', I can only shake my head. Anyone who makes such claims without proof should be jailed." Blatter said that his faith helped him through the weeks since criminal investigations into FIFA officials began. "I'm a believer. I also pray," said Blatter, who added that he had a golden cross that was blessed by Pope Francis. The date for a new presidential election will be set at a FIFA executive committee emergency meeting on July 20 in Zurich. **AP**

# Athletes avoid South Korea over virus fears

**A**S South Korea battles to contain an outbreak of the deadly MERS virus, some foreign athletes are turning their back on the country. Russian world champion gymnasts and the entire national sports team from the Central Asian nation of Turkmenistan will not compete at this month's University Games in Gwangju due to the virus, which has killed 33 people in the country so far. More than 2,000 others are in quarantine. Turkmenistan's State Sports Committee told The Associated Press yesterday that it was withdrawing its athletes from the games to protect them from the virus, while Russia is not sending its top rhythmic gymnasts — who are favorites for Olympic gold next year — for the same reason. A reserve team will represent Russia in rhythmic gymnastics instead. The opening ceremony for the games is today, though some competitions began Thursday. The organizing committee, known as GUOC, insisted athletes would be safe at the games.

"So far, there are no confirmed cases or suspected patients in Gwangju," organizers said in a statement last week. "The GUOC and the central government are taking safety and security measures seriously to keep Gwangju a MERS-free environment." It is another blow to the games, after the North Korean team withdrew last month. That was in protest at the opening of a United Nations human rights monitoring office in the South Korean capital Seoul, South Korean officials said. The games cover 21 sports and run through July 14. **AP**

**MACAU ALSO OUT**

**GIVEN THE MERS** outbreak in South Korea, Macau has officially pulled itself out of next month's World University Games (Universiade) due to the government's concerns about the possible impact on the participants' health.

# China's Evergrande Taobao team applies for stock listing

**A**Chinese soccer team Guangzhou Evergrande Taobao, owned by e-commerce giant Alibaba and one of the country's biggest property developers, could become the first club listed in Asia after applying to the Chinese stock market. Evergrande Real Estate Group Ltd. said in a filing to the Hong Kong stock exchange yesterday that its application for a listing on the so-called New Third Board over-the-counter market has been accepted. The Chinese Super League team, which won a fourth successive championship last year, has been spending heavily to recruit top talent, paying more than \$120 million for players since 2010. Earlier this year it hired Brazil's former 2002 World Cup-

winning coach Luiz Felipe Scolari to take the helm. In 2014, Alibaba Group Holding purchased a 50 percent stake in the team for USD192 million but Evergrande recently boosted its share to 60 percent to regain majority control. Formerly known as Guangzhou Evergrande, the team changed its name after the investment by Alibaba, which runs the online shopping site Taobao. The company said approval was still needed for its listing on the National Equities Exchange and Quotations System, operator of the OTC exchange, which is aimed at smaller companies ineligible to list on the bigger Shanghai and Shenzhen markets. No timetable was given for the listing. **AP**

AD

## Recruitment

The Roadhouse Macau is opening a new branch located inside a Casino/Hotel in Macau and is NOW recruiting for the following positions:

Western/Asian kitchen Chef	Barman
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Candidates must hold a valid Macau ID and experience in the relevant position. Interested parties please email your CV with a copy of your BIR to [careers@theroadhousemacau.com](mailto:careers@theroadhousemacau.com) or submit directly at Rua de Madrid, Wan Yu Villas, 45, between 17H00 and 24H00, every day except Sundays.

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opinion

Bizcuits

Leanda Lee



THE END OF SUMMERTIME

Summer, it is and many of us are still out and about. The idea of holidays is to relax, to rest, to build up reserves, to de-stress before coming back to work charged and inspired, ready for the onslaught again. It is generally believed to take about two weeks of downtime to make a difference to stress levels (Colombia, Ecuador, France, Guinea Bissau, Haiti, Honduras, Namibia, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Sao Tome and Principe, South Africa, Tanzania, Trinidad and Tobago all have at least a minimum of 15 consecutive days leave), but I have a little pet theory. It takes longer than a fortnight these days.

Gone are the times when – maybe some of you will remember – we worked late into the night in the office that last day before holidays to finalise everything so that we could walk out that door with a clear desk and equally clear conscience. That office door was the line between work and non-work. It was a magical delineator. Once we had bid our farewells and passed over that threshold there was no way for clients or colleagues, underlings, bosses or suppliers to get hold of us for those couple of weeks. Holidays started that very moment.

Our work phone-number connected to a phone at our office desks. Our computers weren't connected to anything, and private phone numbers were just that, private. Facebook was non-existent. Social networking was something cool guys did with a glass of something in hand. Nothing was so important that it couldn't wait until our return. In any case, we trusted that we had arranged for someone else capable enough to be on hand to handle urgent matters. Patience was a virtue and most things could wait and if not there were always organisational systems in place to deal with eventualities. We were not indispensable for a short period of time – we could and were allowed to go on holiday.

Yet, even as I find myself in the middle of the most gorgeous tropical resort, a destination to envy, I know the ubiquitous Wifi will be available. I am so physically isolated here that management hasn't even bothered to set a password on the system. I have a ludicrous two devices connected: a computer and an iPhone. The iPad hasn't been turned on yet but when it is, that too will ping at me. And because I knew that I'd have access and connection, I had agreed to cover for someone else at work on the third night of my stay, I hadn't written that article ahead of time and I'd just requested an extension to a deadline knowing there'd be some downtime during my trip to get that book chapter finished. Holiday? What holiday?

So, I am convinced it takes longer these days to de-stress. It's just too easy to take work along with us. We don't force ourselves to prepare to turn off. Then there are those that are expected by their organisations or managers to be available at all times. So many of us are all too busy doing what we do and our identities wrapped up in that self-righteous busyness that it's easier to shift work into that sacred space. In some ways it is rewarding to maintain that flow and connection. We also justify to ourselves that we can't turn off because others may need us. Indeed, those expectations may exist but we are the ones to create this conundrum and we only have ourselves to blame.

So, next time I go on holiday, Boss, I'm really going on holiday. I promise.

THE BUZZ No COMPENSATION OVER FAULTY BREAST IMPLANTS

A French appeals court ruled yesterday that a German product-testing company does not have to compensate more than 3,000 women with leak-prone breast implants – and now women who sued may have to pay back USD6.4 million in collective damages they received in a lower-court ruling. Tens of thousands of women worldwide received implants made by French company PIP, or Poly Implant Prothese. The implants were found to contain indus-

trial-grade silicone instead of medical silicone and were prone to leakage. PIP's owner was sentenced to prison for fraud, but his bankrupt company couldn't pay damages. So the women's lawyers sought compensation from German testing company TUV Rheinland and its French subsidiary instead. A commercial court ordered TUV in 2013 to pay damages to women and six distributors, ruling that the testing company failed to properly check the implants.

Indonesian suburb hit by plane disasters twice



The site where an Indonesian air force cargo plane crashed in Medan

Niniek Karmini, Medan

A decade ago, when an Indonesian passenger jet crashed into a quaint neighborhood in Indonesia's third-biggest city, Medan, Waktu Tarigan thought he'd never witness anything like that again. He was wrong.

On Tuesday, an air force transport plane with 122 people on board plowed into the same neighborhood. And the same street. In 2005, Padang Bulan was a charming middle-class residential area in this steamy tropical city of 3 million. Its main road, Jamin Ginting, was lined with colonial-style houses with well-manicured gardens.

The area's only drawback was noise from nearby Polonia airport, then the main international gateway for Sumatra, one of Indonesia's main islands.

"I cannot forget the plane crash of 10 years ago. It feels like it happened just yesterday," said Tarigan, 40, who ran an electronics business

in his house across the street from where the Mandala Airlines plane went down in June 2005, killing at least 149.

He recalled seeing the plane strike several houses and hearing the screams of people thrown from the fuselage. He ran to help but suddenly the plane exploded, engulfing trees, houses and passengers in flames.

The Boeing 737-200 crashed only seconds after takeoff. The victims included 47 people on the ground. Some 15 people on the plane survived.

Ten years later, Padang Bulan has been transformed into a thriving shopping and leisure district with its main road sporting a mall and dotted by hotels, guest houses, cafes and spas.

A new international airport has opened outside Medan, and its predecessor Polonia is now used by the air force as Suwondo air base.

Tarigan said he saw the bulky C-130 Hercules transport plane flying very low after takeoff, almost touching

a tree in his backyard, before crashing about 2 kilometers (1.2 miles) away on Jamin Ginting.

It plowed into a new building that local media said contained a spa, shops and homes, killing all 122 on board and at least 19 people in the neighborhood.

"Of course, this second event made me worried, whether my house, my family, could be hit by the next plane crash," said Tarigan, a father of four.

"But, where should I stay? This house and this small shop are where we live and earn a living. I just accept God's will," he said.

Those killed on the air force flight included military personnel and their families. Relatives of some victims said they were civilians who paid for flights in violation of military rules, to reach remote parts of the Indonesian archipelago.

Tarigan's neighbors and residents who live near the Hercules crash site also say the two disasters 10 years apart won't deter them from staying in the neighborhood.

"Disasters, accidents can happen anywhere and to anyone," said Vita Saragih, 36, who runs a food stall opposite from where the Hercules crashed.

"I don't want to leave my house in this promising area just because of the uncertainty of something that could happen," she said. AP

Station	Air quality
Roadside	15-35 Good
High Density Residential Area	25-45 Good
Ambient	25-45 Good

SOURCE: DSI/MG

WORLD BRIEFS



**LIBERIA** Authorities say that contact tracing has intensified in the town where a 17-year-old died from Ebola on Sunday, as a third person has been found to have the deadly virus. Deputy Health Minister and head of the Ebola response Tolbert Nyenswah told the Associated Press yesterday the two new cases confirmed, aged 24 and 27, have been admitted to a treatment center near Monrovia the capital.

**EGYPT** Security officials say the military has killed 23 Islamic militants in the Sinai Peninsula in dawn air raids south of the north Sinai border town of Rafah. They say the army was seeking out militants house to house yesterday in the town of Sheikh Zuweid, and demining roads in and around the town that extremists had booby trapped with mines and improvised explosives devices.



**USA** The Macy's department store chain joined an ongoing exodus from association with Donald Trump and New Mexico's governor and New York City's mayor slammed him over his comments on Mexican immigrants. New York City officials said they are reviewing the city's contracts with Trump in light of his comments, and Mayor Bill de Blasio issued a statement calling them "disgusting and offensive," adding that "this hateful language has no place in our city."

**IRAN** took a hard line yesterday on two of the biggest demands of world powers in a final nuclear accord, rejecting any extraordinary inspection rules and threatening to ramp up enrichment of bomb-making material if the United States and other countries re-impose sanctions after the deal is in place.

times square by rodrigo

