



### ALEXIS FRENZY YEAR: A TIMELINE

Secretary Alexis Tam has had a turbulent 2016 so far, finding himself at the center of several controversies. Here's a chronicle

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### HO IAT SENG: NOT RUNNING FOR CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Ho conducted an overall evaluation of the legislative year during a press conference where he also made clear he's not a candidate for the top post

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### ANDRE COUTO FINISHES THIRD IN JAPAN

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"THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN'"

## WORLD BRIEFS

**CHINA** Investigators in eastern China said they have not found high levels of pollution around a school where an explosive state television report in April said hundreds of kids had fallen sick with illnesses including leukemia. [More on p11](#)

AP PHOTO



**SINGAPORE** More than 40 people have been infected locally by the Zika virus in Singapore, but most have fully recovered, officials said yesterday. The ministry said in a statement that the patients were "not known to have traveled to Zika-affected areas recently, and are thus likely to have been infected in Singapore. This confirms that local transmission of Zika virus infection has taken place." [More on p12](#)

**INDONESIA** A would-be suicide bomber's explosives failed to detonate in a packed church in western Indonesia during Sunday Mass yesterday, and he injured a priest with an axe before being restrained, police said.

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## HOME AWAY

# Syria to make Macau 'home' for qualifiers

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## Tickets to see Olympic gold medalists hot on Taobao

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# Secretary Alexis Tam's turbulent year so far

Daniel Beitler

**S**ECRETARY for Social Affairs and Culture Alexis Tam has had a turbulent 2016 so far, finding himself at the center of several controversies and the focus of much public discord.

The secretary's responsibilities cover a wide range of public-facing bodies and services in the MSAR, including the Health Bureau, the Education and Youth Affairs Bureau, the Cultural Affairs Bureau, the Sports Bureau, the Macao Go-

vernment Tourism Office, and many others.

His media presence usually outstrips that of the other executive secretaries – partly because his remit is far more accessible to the public than some of the others, but also because Tam doesn't shy away from the spotlight. Accordingly, last year Tam rated the highest in Macau CIHC Power public opinion poll of the popularity of the six most senior government officials.

At the 2016 Policy Address in December last year, Tam iterated that his biggest prio-

riety of the coming year would be healthcare. "Health for me is the priority of all priorities," he said, indicating that he wanted to recruit around 2,000 healthcare workers over the next five years and move toward the establishment of a "medical academy".

Indeed, he was praised at the time by some lawmakers for his prior efforts in extending the opening hours at the public hospital and two health care centers and the improvement of specialized services, although others pointed out that these measures might be

creating extra pressure for healthcare professionals, putting at risk the quality of their performance and raising the likelihood of medical errors.

Contrary to his intentions, Tam's medical care priority did not result in notable accomplishments this year, with the government's two flagship projects being set back again.

The secretary informed at the start of the year that the 2017 opening of the new Islands hospital was unrealistic and that it would likely enter into operation in 2019 – only for that to be subsequently

delayed again following a statement last month from Eddie Wong, who belongs to the managing group of one of the companies responsible for project's construction.

Meanwhile, merely the design for the Infectious Diseases Building will not be finalized this year. By previous indications, it seems hardly worth penning an expected date for the facility's opening.

In other areas, Tam's media-savvy manner and wide grin has fallen short on multiple occasions this year, culminating in embarrassing accusa-



Alexis Tam at the Legislative Assembly



Infectious Diseases Building

FEB

APR

MAR

MAY



Firefighters tackle the blaze at the A-Ma Temple on February 10



The "mega promotion" event in South Korea

## FEBRUARY 10

A fire breaks out at arguably Macau's most historic site – the A-Ma Temple – as the result of an electrical short circuit. Although the blaze does not cause irreversible damage, several items inside the temple are spoiled, including an alter, a few wall-mounted plaques and some wooden furnishings.

The incident is embarrassing for the secretary whose remit includes heritage management, and it is estimated that it will take up to a year to fully repair the temple. Tam says the government will spare no effort in restoring the damaged relics, and will strengthen safety measures at the city's heritage attractions.

## MARCH 15

Tam defends the Infectious Diseases Building project as living up to international standards, including in regards to the recommended proximity to residential areas. He says that the plans are "designed [to] World Health Organization standards, [... and] are completely safe, regardless of the facilities inside the buildings or the transportation procedures."

## MARCH 30

The secretary pledges in the Legislative Assembly (AL) the government will solve the dispute between employees and employers over their respective contribution ratios toward social se-

curity payments. The ratios have been in place since 1998, which, if maintained, could jeopardize the whole security system, Tam says. In June, the government presents a draft to the AL for discussion.

## APRIL 20

Tam leads a delegation in South Korea to promote tourism, in what the Macao Government Tourism Office (MGTO) describes as a "mega promotional event." The secretary uses his visit to Busan and Seoul to meet with the Second Vice Minister of Culture, Sports and Tourism of the Republic of Korea, Kim Chong, among other activities.

## MAY 17

Public disagreement over whether the Infectious Diseases Building should be constructed on Guia Hill next to the Public Hospital extends into the AL, dividing lawmakers.

Tam insists that it is essential that the complex is located on the proposed site and assures the AL that it will not pose a risk to nearby residents.

At the same time the secretary admits that the original budget of MOP630 million "seems unlikely to be enough anymore."

The discussion at the AL results in a quiet amendment to the building plan, lowering the total height of the Infectious Diseases Building to eight storeys.

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DIRECTOR AND EDITOR-IN-CHIEF\_Paulo Coutinho paulocoutinho@macaudailytimes.com  
MANAGING EDITOR\_Paulo Barbosa paulo.barbosa@macaudailytimes.com  
CONTRIBUTING EDITORS\_Eric Sautedé, Leanda Lee, Severo Portela

DESIGN EDITOR\_João Jorge Magalhães magalhaes@macaudailytimes.com | NEWSROOM AND CONTRIBUTORS  
Albano Martins, Annabel Jackson, Daniel Beitler, Emilie Tran, Grace Yu, Irene Sam, Ivo Carneiro de Sousa, Jacky I.F. Cheong,  
Jenny Lao-Phillips, João Palla Martins, Joseph Cheung, Juliet Risdon, Lynzy Valles, Renato Marques, Richard  
Whitfield, Rodrigo de Matos (cartoonist), Ruan Du Toit Bester, Sandra Norte (designer), Viviana Seguí | ASSOCIATE  
CONTRIBUTORS\_JML Property, MacauHR, MdME Lawyers, PokerStars | NEWS AGENCIES\_Associated Press,  
Bloomberg, MacauHub, MacauNews, Xinhua | SECRETARY\_Yang Dongxiao amy@macaudailytimes.com

SEND NEWSWORTHY INFORMATION AND PRESS RELEASES TO: NEWSROOM@MACAUDAILYTIMES.COM WEBSITE: WWW.MACAUDAILYTIMES.COM.MO

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ADMINISTRATOR AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Kowie Geldenhuys kowie@macaudailytimes.com

SECRETARY Denise Lo denise@macaudailytimes.com

ADDRESS Av. da Praia Grande, 599, Edif. Comercial Rodrigues, 12 Floor C,  
MACAU SAR Telephones: +853 287 160 81/2 Fax: +853 287 160 84

Advertisement advertising@macaudailytimes.com

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tions of incompetence earlier this month and the Chief Executive jokingly branding him a “naughty boy.”

Social affairs commentator, Larry So, told the Times that 2016 has “definitely not been a good year for Tam.” He said that the public servant is quite popular among the general public, but the problem is that Tam “has promised too much – especially in terms of heritage [protection] - and now can’t live up to those promises.”

“I sincerely hope that he thinks before he speaks [in future],” said So. “In fact, he should think twice.”

With that in mind, the Times takes a look at some of the developments so far this year bearing the seal of Alexis Tam.

## Two new bus routes begin operation



The Transport Bureau (DSAT) has announced that two new bus routes, 51A and 30X, will be implemented from today. The two buses will pick up and alight passengers along the Macau Peninsula, Taipa and Coloane. Bus 51A will run on a daily basis from 6 a.m. until midnight, departing from the new bus terminal - Praia/Terminal, at Fai Chi Kai – from every six up to 15 minutes. Bus 30X will run from 7 a.m. to 9 a.m., from Monday to Saturday, departing every six to 10 minutes, transporting passengers between the boarder gate and Taipa old city.

## Health Bureau recalls eye drops



The Health Bureau (SSM) is instructing import companies and wholesalers to recall a type of ophthalmic solution called “Ribavirin Eye Drops – 8 ml,” which is produced by the Chinese pharmaceutical company Wujing Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd. The eye drops were supplied to the city’s hospitals, pharmacies, and private medical care centers. Earlier, China Food and Drug Administration (CFDA) reported that the aforementioned company had been accused of experimental data infringement, producing record infringement, as well as incurring in other infractions. SSM urges residents who have used this product to contact their doctor or pharmacist for further treatment.

## Installation of 66 light displays for Moon Cake Festival

The Civic and Municipal Affairs Bureau (IACM) will arrange 66 light displays in the city for the upcoming Moon Cake Festival. A set consisting of 43 light displays will be installed in the Macau Peninsula, and another of 23 at Taipa, including some at the Largo do Senado and at the Praça do Tap Seac. In comparison to last year, an additional 10 displays are being arranged. Decorations resembling lighted rabbits, or showing traditional places, will be available to the public. The decorations will be on display from the beginning of September to the beginning of October.



Aspect of the old firecracker factory and surrounding area



Wushu Masters Challenge participants, near the Ruins of St. Paul

**JUL**

**AUG**



A car at the Grand Prix Museum



New Macau Association president Scott Chiang (left)



People walk pas the Taipa-Houses Museum

### JULY 13

A Commission Against Corruption (CCAC) investigation into the legal ownership of the Iec Long Firecracker Factory separately condemns the Cultural Affairs Bureau (IC) for paying out more than MOP5 million in restoration and remediation costs for conservation works.

According to the CCAC, “there is [no] basis for the IC to pay on the owner’s behalf and to be reimbursed later,” adding that no evidence has been found of an attempt to recover the expenses.

The anti-corruption bureau also warns that the ownership dispute would cause further delays to the process of having the area listed as a cultural heritage site.

### JULY 25

The MGTO announces a number of new concept proposals for the Macau Grand Prix Museum revamp – a project that, based on preliminary estimates, is likely to cost more than MOP300 million or MOP19,000 per square meter. Officials say that the museum will likely be closed during the first half of next year, with the hope of it re-opening by the end of 2018.

### AUGUST 11

The inaugural edition of the Wushu Masters Challenge event kicks off, inviting martial arts experts from around the world to participate. The event takes place across multiple venues, including the Tap Seac Multiport Pavilion and Senado Square. However, eyebrows are raised by social media users regarding the caliber of the “grand wushu masters” after video footage of several fights and demonstrations are uploaded and shared on the Internet.

The budget for the event is also scrutinized, coming in at around MOP20 million.

### AUGUST 16

New Macau Association president, Scott Chiang, calls Tam “ignorant and arrogant,” and claims the secretary is incapable of managing the territory’s heritage.

Chiang makes the comments just days after he is arrested for allegedly hoisting a black banner from the Hotel Estoril that denounced Tam as a “heritage killer.”

Separately, at the Macau International Airport prior to his departure to Beijing, the Chief Executive jokingly remarks that Tam is “a naughty boy,” but insists that he is a good colleague and team member.

### AUGUST 22

Lawmaker Pereira Coutinho criticizes the government for its Taipa-Houses Museum plan, which he claims is destroying the city’s heritage in exchange for yet another cultural and creative site. He also criticized authorities for failing to take into account the Macanese connections with the area for not consulting with the community before announcing the plan.

Coutinho makes the comments at the headquarters of the association that he leads, the Macau Civil Servants Association.

The project was announced and endorsed by Alexis Tam in June. The renovation budget comes in at approximately MOP6.4 million, and the works are expected to be completed by the end of September.

# 'Legislative year to bring many challenges' says Ho Iat Seng



Renato Marques

**T**HE 2016/2017 legislative year, which starts October 17, will be a year with many challenges for the Legislative Assembly (AL) and its lawmakers, said the AL's president Ho Iat Seng, who aimed to conduct an overall evaluation of the legislative year that just closed, during a meeting with the press on Friday.

Ho explained that there are many important laws to work on after the AL's annual break, emphasizing that one of the most pressing concerns would be time. He recalled the incomplete work on laws from the third legisla-

tive session that moved into the fourth legislative session, and even some laws coming from the second. Lawmakers need to consider that this "will be a year of elections for the AL and the lawmakers will need to prepare themselves for the elections," Ho said, adding that the election campaign might also interfere somehow in the work of the plenary.

But, most of all, Ho says, "[it] all depends on the amount of work solicited by the government and how many proposals they will present," recalling that "we still have ten proposals [to discuss from the previous session]."

From those proposals, whi-

ch have been delivered to the AL and are currently being addressed in several stages, the president elected the Regulation of Condominium Common Areas Management as well as the Non-mandatory Central Provident Fund Scheme as the two main priorities, as "they have a great impact in society [as they] involve a large number of people," and "can't be delayed anymore."

The third priority will be the revision of the Electoral Law. "This is also important otherwise there will be no elections next year," Ho mentioned.

Although time is a concern, and there is admittedly a lot of work leftover from previous sessions to complete,

the AL president considers the work in this third legislative session to be "better than in the first and second [legislative] sessions," and that "the most important [thing] is not just the number of works that are completed but the quality of those works," bearing in mind that "there are laws more complex than others."

In this legislative year, the AL discussed and approved nine laws, as well as one resolution and 16 deliberations from the plenary - figures that pleased the president.

Ho also stated that this legislative year had a lot of important and complex issues passed through the AL, and that there are other concerning topics that he thinks need to be addressed during

the coming year.

Ho was concerned with those companies that have a direct relationship to government expenditure, such as those in public works; namely the Pac On Ferry Terminal, the project for the revamp of the Grand Prix Museum and the new Patane library, among others.

The AL president highlighted that "there are topics that need to be clarified and that the government can come to the AL to do a presentation of the project without the requirement of [formal debate]." Regarding the case of the project of the Patane Library, he had already spoken to the government and will ask them to come to the AL to present the project to the legislators and to the population in general. Meanwhile, regarding the project of the Taipa Houses-Museum, he admitted: "I don't exclude also that possibility."

Asked to comment on the recent ideas proposed by some legislators and several other sectors of society that the works performed by the AL standing and follow-up committees should be more open, Ho said, "there are no secrets in the AL," adding that what exists "is a [system] that regulates all the acts of the AL. This [system] states the public nature of the plenary works that includes the collection of images, sound, and sharing of all the documents including [those] on the website," he said. The same document states "that the meetings of the committees are done behind closed doors," but "if the legislators of that committee find it appropriate for the meeting to be open, they can vote in that way," adding that it is an exclusive competence of the legislators in which the president cannot interfere.

Still, he added that he believes that "there is always space for improvement," saying also, "the more open the [meetings] are, the less doubts that will exist," and reaffirming that he will "speak to the presidents [of the different committees] to see if there is such a possibility in at least some of them [meetings]."

## Ho Iat Seng will not run for CE

**T**HE president of the Legislative Assembly (AL), Ho Iat Seng, affirmed that he would not be running for the position of MSAR Chief Executive (CE), the press was told during the meeting held last Friday at the AL, where he was carrying out an overall evaluation of the legislative year that just closed.

Ho noted that the question was "already raised many times over the last 10 years" and clarified: "I have no desire to be CE."

"I have no profile for that. There are many [talented people] in Macau for that position,"

he said, recalling: "at my age I don't want to think about that possibility anymore."

Questioned whether he has intentions of continuing to be the AL's president, Ho said "I'm an indirectly elected legislator, so I don't know if I'm going to be reelected. [It] depends on the support that I manage to gather or not," he remarked, indicating that he does.

Ho is one of the names cited by the media and some legislators like Pereira Coutinho to be Chui Sai On's successor, alongside Lionel Leong and Alexis Tam.

### 'GOVERNMENT CAN THINK OF CHANGING THE LAW TO ALLOW RIDE-HAILING SERVICES'

**COMMENTING ON** the current and future perspectives for ride-hailing services in the region, Ho Iat Seng reaffirmed the "legal issue," explaining that what has been done on the mainland is "not yet a law but an opinion from the state council that regulates an experimental period." Regarding the possibility of the im-

plementation of such a service in the territory, Ho said "if the population is favorable to that idea, the government can think of changing the law to allow that kind of service," adding that the government should also "expedite the works related to the radio taxi and consider the possibility of using apps [to request the service]," he concluded.

Renato Marques

WORLD CUP 2018

# Syria to make Macau its 'home' for qualifiers in China group

**S**YRIAN National Football Team will play all of their "home" matches for the 2018 FIFA World Cup Qualifiers in Macau, as proposed by Macau Football Association (MFA) and the Asian Football Confederation (AFC) on Friday.

According to the AFC, "Macau FA proposed to Syria FA to host all five Syrian team home matches. Syria FA accepted this offer and the AFC, following communication with FIFA, has confirmed Macau as the venue for Syrian home matches, taking into consideration logistics and security aspects," they told the Times.

Information disclosed by the Chinese press notes that the initiative could bear a cost of over MOP6 million for the MFA, a sum that includes the organization of the five matches, as well as the transportation and lodging of the Syrian side during their stay in the region.

The same report claims that the decision came after discussions were held regarding where to move the matches from the originally assigned location - Beirut, Lebanon - after the Korean Football Association (KFA) refused to accept the match at the proposed location due to security concerns.

MFA allegedly made an offer that the Syrians could not refuse - to be accountable for all expenses - which was favorable to other countries' offers to hold the matches in a "neutral" field.

At the same time, the unilateral proposal from MFA raised doubts as some, including China's "Sport Weekly," mentioned that such a proposal might be a lobbying intention of the Chinese Football Association (CFA) to avoid long travels, as well as to play the two group matches against the Syrians on home soil.



Also benefiting from the outcome is the South Korean side that, similarly to China, will be able to avoid a long-haul flight to Lebanon and, certainly will avoid problems that often occur in such countries like pitch conditions, lodging and logistics.

Yet to be explained is where the MOP6 million reportedly needed for all the expenses will come from.

The Sports Bureau (ID) told the Times on Thursday, "MFA is the actual party taking the whole responsibility for the issue of arranging the football match. The ID has received the rental request for the football venue from the MFA, and

we are currently coordinating with them on this issue."

As the Times reported on Friday, a FIFA spokesperson has already confirmed that "at the request of the Syrian Football Association and with the support of the MFA, the 2018 FIFA World Cup qualifying home matches of Syria will take place on neutral ground in Macau," adding that both "FIFA and AFC ratified the choice of the neutral venue."

Syria ranks 105 in FIFA's ranking, the lowest of the six teams included in Asia's Round 3 Group A qualifiers that includes, China (78), South Korea (48), Qatar (80), Uzbekistan (55), and Iran (39).

## The initiative could bear a cost of over MOP6m for the Macau Football Association

On September 6, Syria will play its first match at "home" against South Korea before heading to China where, exactly one month after, they will face China's team at Shaanxi Province Stadium, in Xian.

The next "home" appearance of the Syrian side is scheduled for November 15, when they will host the group favorite, Iran.

There has been a similar phenomenon of alleged favoritism of China in other sports like volleyball, as seen during the annual competition of the International Volleyball Federation (FIVB) Volleyball World Grand Prix, when China

was granted special status to always play at "home."

Taking reference from this year's edition, the event held by the FIVB visits cities as distant as Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; Long Beach - California, USA; Ankara, Turkey; and Kaliningrad, Russia, amongst other, but team China played in Ningbo, China, Hong Kong and Macau.

This fact has been criticized by some in the sport and highlights the added burden of long-haul flights and associated consequences.

After the latest edition of the event held in the region, several players as well as others members of the staff of the Brazilian team complained of tiredness, as the team had less than five days' break between their two matches against Serbia, the first held in their home country and the second held in Macau.

Brazil did not attend the awards ceremony or the final press conference after the Macau event due to scheduling issues with their travel.

### GAMES TO BE PLAYED BY SYRIA IN MACAU

#### 2018 FIFA WORLD CUP QUALIFIERS - ROUND 3, GROUP A

Date	Match	Time
2016		
September 6	Syria v Korean Republic	8:00 p.m.
November 15	Syria v Iran	TBA
2017		
March 23	Syria v Uzbekistan	TBA
June 13	Syria v China	TBA
August 31	Syria v Qatar	TBA

### BLACK MARKET

# Tickets to see China's Olympic gold medalists resold for up to RMB500

**T**HE free tickets issued by the Sports Bureau (ID) for Macau residents to meet with China's Rio Olympic champions are being resold for up to RMB500 on a mainland online shopping website, Taobao.

The price of entry permits range between RMB299 and RMB500. Tickets for a performance taking place tomorrow at the Macao East Asian Games Dome and for a sports match event at the Tap Seac Multisport Pavilion

on Tuesday are available on the shopping website.

Until yesterday afternoon, based on observations of the website, the Times counted five sellers from Macau, and four sellers from Hong Kong, Guangdong, Jiangxi and Zhejiang. According to the conversation written below the webpage, a few sellers claim to have tickets for both events while others require buyers to be from Macau.

According to a report by Macao Daily News,

Cheang Kuok Wai, head of the development department of ID, is aware of the issue. Cheang informed that the department has been working continuously with the Judiciary Police and the Economic Services regarding issues involving scalpers. Cheang also said that the suspects have not yet been caught. In his words, the tickets have been handed out extremely fast this time.

According to ID's own regulations, each resi-

dent is allowed to obtain at most two tickets, with the department imposing that "all tickets belong to the organizers, and they can not be resold, given, or used for any commercial purposes or promotions."

Similar incidents have also occurred in Hong Kong, where people are seemingly excited to see the medalists. According to a report by South China Morning Post, scalpers took advantage of this excitement, with some of



Chinese tennis player Xu Yifan takes a selfie with a performer after the flag-raising ceremony at the Olympic Village in Rio de Janeiro

the HKD20 (RMB17.1) admission tickets being sold online for as much as RMB1,000.

China's Olympic gold medalists are visiting Macau from today until Thursday. ID's president Pu Weng Kun announced that during the four-day visit, the

medalists will tour the city's cultural heritage sites, meet about 1,500 young people, participate in three events and visit community facilities. The 64-strong delegation will arrive in Macau after a three-day visit to Hong Kong. **Staff Reporter**

# TurboJET ferry collides with fishing boat

**HUNDREDS** of TurboJET passengers were left stranded after a high-speed ferry collided with a fishing boat off Lantau Island on Saturday night, leaving a woman injured.

The vessel departed from Macau at 11:15 p.m., carrying 289 passengers and 10 crewmembers on board.

The jetfoil was stranded for two hours while it underwent inspections by crewmembers and marine officials from both Guangdong and the Hong Kong Marine Department, who were sent to decide whether the ferry was still seaworthy, South China Morning Post reported.

"Since the [accident] is situated in mainland waters, the relevant mainland authorities have demanded the ferry to remain stationary pending an inspection," operating company Shun Tak-China Travel Ship Management wrote.

The front of the 15-meter



fishing boat is damaged, while dents and a large gash measuring about eight meters wide are visible on the ferry's starboard exterior.

"It was frightening, really. We saw something scrape by the window [... the impact] was pretty intense; the doors of all the overhead compartments flew open," one passenger recalled.

Passengers on both vessels were said to be safe, however a 20-year-old woman was taken to hospital due to leg injuries.

The ferry finally arrived back at the Macau ferry pier at Sheung Wan at around 2:20 a.m., the media outlet stated.

According to a spokesman for the company, bad weather was probably one of the contributing factors in the collision, as heavy rain lashed Hong Kong Saturday evening. He added that the sea route was a commonly used one and fishermen were known to operate in those waters. **Staff reporter**

## corporate bits

### KELLY CHEN PERFORMS AT THE VENETIAN



Presented by The Venetian Macao and Media Asia Group, Kelly Chen took to the stage at Cotai Arena with her latest "Kelly let's celebrate! World Tour" at Cotai Arena

of The Venetian Macao on Saturday night, thrilling the audience with her dynamic blend of music, dance and showbiz panache.

Saturday's concert encom-

passed all of the pop star's famous hits, including "Blessed," "The Arctic Snow" and "Cares About You," sending her fans into a sing along frenzy.

Famous for her unique vocals and dynamic moves, the latest tour is a celebration incorporating six different themes, dazzling costumes, and magnificent lighting and staging effects, according to Sands China's statement.

Since embarking on a career as a singer and an actress in Hong Kong around 20 years ago, Chen has achieved great success across Asia, selling over 20 million records. She has released 38 albums and also landed numerous high-profile movie roles on the big screen.

### MGM JOINS DSEJ'S INTERNSHIP PROGRAM



MGM Macau participated in the Education and Youth Affairs Bureau's (DSEJ) "Summer Internship Program 2016," held between July 4 and August 26.

MGM welcomed nine high

school and university students to work for nearly two months across departments, including Facilities Management, Rooms and Food & Beverage, Digital & Technology Solutions, and Design,

Development & Construction.

To maximize student involvement in the learning process, the program assigned each student to a designated department that best matched their educational backgrounds and interests, MGM informed in a press release.

The program aimed to help students develop self-confidence and enrich different attributes, such as communication and interpersonal skills, critical thinking and problem solving.

Following completion of the internship, a sharing session with a certificate presentation ceremony and souvenir giveaway was held for the participants, and was attended by their mentors and the department heads at MGM.

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Daniel Beitler

# Uber gets the green light in Victoria, Australia

**W**HILE popular ride-hailing service Uber looks set to withdraw from Macau, the company is on the path to see its operations legalized in other parts of the world.

After China's ride-hailing apps attained the green light at the start of the month, leaving free reign for an Uber-Didi Chuxing agreement to dominate the enormous market, authorities in the Australian state of Victoria have since announced plans to legalize such services.

The new approach from authorities will be accompanied by the introduction of an AUD2 levy on every taxi, Uber or hire car trip made in the state, in an attempt to reform the industry, while compensating existing taxi drivers from traditional firms and funding a taxi license "buy-back" scheme. Taxi fares will also be deregulated by 2018.

Daniel Andrews, the premier of Victoria, said that the changes would reform the taxi sector while ensuring a level playing field for all industry participants.

"There will be more choice. There will be greater value," he said, as cited in The Sydney Morning Herald (SMH). "This is comprehensive reform, but it is grounded in fairness."

Authorities in Victoria have said that the government will buy-back a single taxi license for AUD100,000 and pay AUD50,000 for the second license of owners.

However, taxi drivers turned out in droves yesterday to oppose the plan, claiming that the buy-back scheme will only account for a fraction of the significant cost of purchasing taxi licenses.



It was announced that hundreds of furious taxi and hire car drivers are threatening legal action against the government on the basis that their expensive licenses stand to become worthless. They are also considering a strike to oppose the deregulations of the industry.

Taxi payment company, Cabcharge, has described the package as insufficient.

Meanwhile, the new AUD2 levy is penned to be introduced at some point in 2018. It aims to raise an estimated AUD44 million per year, which will offset an estimated AUD75 million – to be paid (almost immediately) in compensation to existing taxi drivers – within two years.

Operators in the industry will be able to determine how to apply the levy – whether di-

rectly to the customer or through absorbing it as a company cost.

"It may well be less than AUD2 for a short trip and perhaps more than AUD2 for a longer trip," premier Andrews said. "It will be a matter for them [providers] and that will be another point of competitive difference."

Uber at present have not clarified whether the levy fee will be passed directly on to customers who use their service. According to SMH, a spokesperson for the company also declined to say if driver earnings would be protected.

Ride-hailing app legalization – even if it is occurring in one city or state at a time – is good news for Uber and the value of the company. Many anticipate an Uber IPO sometime in the near future, which "would be massive," as

reported by investment website Zacks.

"Thanks to Uber's structure – a unique

combination of transportation company, mobile internet company, and real world enginee-

ring – the company has been touted as one of the best future IPO candidates," it added.

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## UBER SUSPENDS SERVICE IN ABU DHABI

**RIDE-HAILING** service Uber and its competitor Careem have unexpectedly suspended services in the United Arab Emirates capital of Abu Dhabi. San Francisco-based Uber told The Associated Press yesterday that the move was temporary and that its "goal is to resume operations as soon as possible." The company declined to say what prompted the suspension.

The state-backed daily The National reported that rival car service Careem also halted services in the capital starting Saturday afternoon. In a statement to The Associated Press, Careem said the suspension came after some of its cars were stopped by authorities. Officials at the Abu Dhabi Department of Transport could not be reached for comment.



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## For Rent



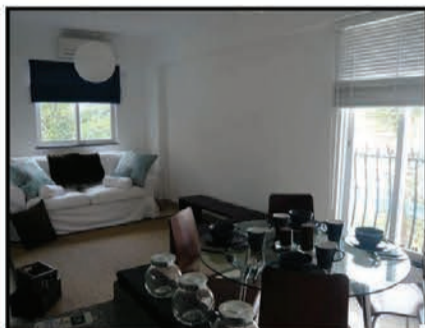
### Super Flower City Unit A

(Ref: 16060591)  
2,200sq. ft. HKD 19,500  
Spacious apartment, in a desirable building located in the centre of Taipa. Close to children's park, supermarkets, cafes, banks, bus stop and Old Taipa Village. The apartment is unfurnished with three double bedrooms and two large bathrooms, one ensuite. Master bedroom is approximately 350 sq ft with stunning views across Old Taipa Village and the Taipa Stadium. Large windows with window ledges larger enough to be lovely window seats in each room. Well equipped modern kitchen



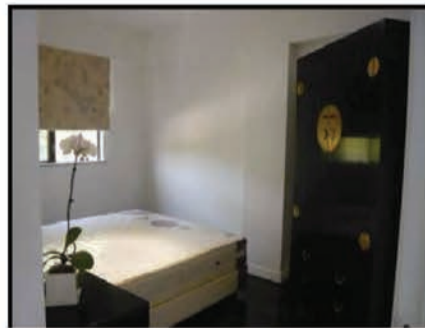
### Nova City, A unit, Tower 11

(Ref: 16070596)  
2,503sq. ft. HKD18,500  
Large 4 bedroom unfurnished apartment in the popular complex of Nova City in Central Taipa. Mid Floor apartment with great views over Central Park and swimming pool. Bright and spacious living/dining area. All bedrooms are double, the master bedroom is very spacious with en suite bathroom. Great location with shops, restaurants, play parks, dog parks, spa's and much more within walking distance. Available from beginning August. Car Park space is available



### Tou Un - Taipa

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500sq. ft. HKD 8,300  
Furnished one bedroom apartment in quiet location in Taipa. Recently renovated, lovely décor and furnishings.  
Open plan kitchen. Inclusive of electrical appliances.  
Lovely green views.



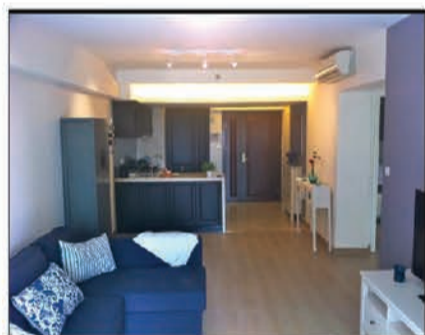
### Coloane Village

(Ref: 16060593)  
800sq. ft. HKD 11,000  
This beautiful furnished 2 bedroom apartment in quaint Coloane Village, renovated and refurbished couple of years ago. The project was designed and managed by our in-house Design Team, and has been finished with amazing attention to detail and high quality materials. A lovely bright apartment with green views from all rooms. Close to cafes, restaurants, post office, and public transport.



### One Oasis, Hyde Park Tower

(Ref: 16070603)  
1,200sq. ft. HKD 16,000  
Lovely two bedroom apartment on high floor. Well furnished, bright apartments, ready to be lived in. Good size well laid out kitchen. Great facilities in separate clubhouse, well equipped gym, indoor & outdoor pool, children play areas and more. Car Par can be rented separately for extra HKD3,200 a month, or together for HKD18,000.



### The Buckingham, Mid Floor, Unit D

(Ref: 16020558)  
1,147sq. ft. HKD 18,000  
Newly furnished apartment in Taipa's latest complex. Fully furnished inc. linens & kitchen ware. Open kitchen inc. built in Siemens appliances. Spacious living area with 3 metre L shape sofa bed. Good size balcony for two. Two bedrooms & one Bathroom.



### Macau, One Central Residences

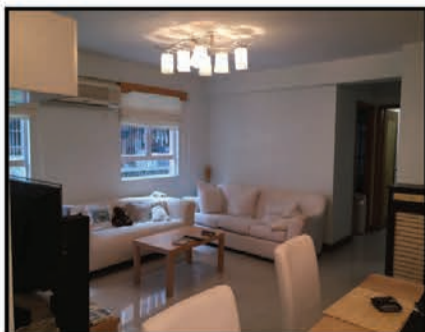
(Ref: 16050589)  
1,819sq. ft. HKD 29,000  
Fully furnished. 3 Bedroom apartment. Full club facilities. Fantastic views over Nam Van lake and back across Macau city.  
Central location next to Wynn & MGM Resorts in Macau. Available for tenancy with a 2 year agreement.



### One Oasis, Hyde Park Tower

(Ref: 16070603)  
1,200sq. ft. HKD 16,000  
Lovely two bedroom apartment on high floor. Well furnished, bright apartments, ready to be lived in. Good size well laid out kitchen.  
Great facilities in separate clubhouse, well equipped gym, indoor & outdoor pool, children play areas and more. Car Par can be rented separately for extra HKD3,200 a month, or together for HKD18,000.

## For Sale



### Kam Long, Lilau Square, Macau

(Ref: 15085452)  
1,100sq. ft. HKD4.9M  
Rate: HKD 4,454q ft  
Originally two apartments renovated in 2004, this owner redesign the properties into a lovely 3 bedroom apartment with one spacious bathroom. The open plan living / dining area is a great space with a large western style kitchen adjacent to the dining area. Most of the furniture items and kitchen white goods will be sold with the property if required.



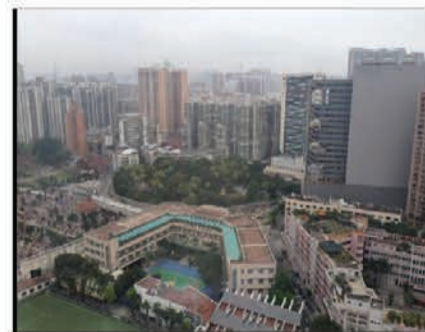
### Bauhinia Court, Hellene Gardens Appealing Apartment in Coloane

(Ref: 16045473)  
1,633sq. ft. HKD 7.8M  
Rate: HKD 4,776sq ft  
Three good size bedrooms. Master bedroom with ensuite. Open style kitchen, made larger by incorporating the original maids quarters and back balcony. Living and dining area has a great layout and built in balcony. Views from the living room across the Coloane mountains and from the kitchen over the swimming pool towards the South China Sea. With only 7 floors in this block this apartment can be considered a low rise building. Renovated 10 years ago the property



### H Unit in Gladiolus Court, Hellene Gardens, Lot 5

(Ref: 11115275)  
2,530sq. ft. HKD 11.8M  
Rate: HKD 4,664sq ft  
Unique opportunity to purchase a completely renovated & remodeled duplex apartment in Hellene Gardens. Plumbing, electrics and flooring throughout have been completely replaced. Reverse cycle Daikin air conditioners throughout. The apartment has a stunning open plan kitchen, living, dining area with small balcony for outdoor dining. Fully fitted modern kitchen with built in appliances including dishwasher and separate utility room. Roof top terrace waterproofed & retiled with large outdoor store room. Two side by side parking spaces included. 2 Car Parks HKD888,888 each.



### Hoi Fu, Penthouse - Macau

(Ref: 15045435)  
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Rate: HKD 9,688sq ft  
Stunning duplex in the centre of Macau. Grand living dining area approx 1,500 sq ft. Open views across the skyline of Macau. Modern fitted kitchen. Two large double guest rooms with en suite. Master bedroom with large en suite bathroom & private lounge room. All bedrooms with built in wardrobes. Beautiful hard wood floors throughout. Interior designed features

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# Pirelli's starry calendar focused on acting talent, not skin



Nicole Kidman

**P**IRELLI has unveiled a star-studded lineup for its 2017 calendar that looks more like the ultimate Oscar red carpet than the stuff of salacious pinups.

Among the subjects announced are actresses Nicole Kidman, Uma Thurman, Kate Winslet, Julianne Moore, Robin Wright, Rooney Mara, Lupita Nyong'o, Penelope Cruz, Jessica Chastain, Lea Seydoux, Zhang Ziyi and Charlotte Rampling. The youngest model, Alicia Vikander, is 27; the eldest, Helen Mirren, is 71.

German photographer Peter Lindbergh, who also shot Pirelli's trade calendar in 1996 and 2002, has been influential in shifting its concept from titillation toward a more cerebral sex appeal. This calendar features more character, less skin; more T-shirts and turtlenecks, fewer bikinis.

Lindbergh tells Vogue his visual theme is "that talent is more important than a great body." AP

# German economy minister says EU-US trade talks have failed

Frank Jordans, Berlin

**F**REE trade talks between the European Union and the United States have failed, Germany's economy minister said yesterday, citing a lack of progress on any of the major sections of the long-running negotiations.

Both Washington and Brussels have pushed for a deal by the end of the year, despite strong misgivings among some EU member states over the Trans-Atlantic Trade and Investment Partnership, or TTIP.

Sigmar Gabriel, who is also Germany's Vice Chancellor, compared the TTIP negotiations unfavorably with a free trade deal forged between the 28-nation EU and Canada, which he said was fairer for both sides.

"In my opinion, the negotiations with the United States have de facto failed, even though nobody is really admitting it," Gabriel said during a question-and-



Vice Chancellor and Economy Minister Sigmar Gabriel

answer session with citizens in Berlin.

He noted that in 14 rounds of talks, the two sides haven't agreed on a single common item out of 27 chapters being discussed.

Gabriel accused Washington of being "angry" about the deal that the EU struck with Canada, known as CETA, because it contains elements the U.S. doesn't want to see in the TTIP.

"We mustn't submit to the American proposals," said Gabriel, who is also the head of Germany's center-left Social Democratic Party.

Gabriel's ministry isn't directly involved in the negotiations with Washington because trade agreements are negotiated at the EU level. But such a damning verdict from a leading official in Europe's biggest economy is likely to make further talks between the EU executive and the Obama administration harder.

Gabriel's comments contrast with those of Chancellor Angela Merkel, who said last month that TTIP was "absolutely in Europe's interest."

Popular opposition to a free trade agreement with the United States is strong in Germany. Campaigners have called for nationwide protests against the talks on Sept. 17 — about year before Germany's next general election. AP

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Nomaan Merchant, Beijing

A Canadian patient's receipt of a kidney transplant after waiting just three days during a recent visit to China raised an immediate red flag among surgeons at the Montreal-based Transplantation Society: A turnaround that quick indicates the organ likely came from the body of an executed prisoner.

The case adds to doubts among many doctors internationally about whether China has met its pledge to stop harvesting the organs of executed inmates. The practice is widely condemned by the World Health Organization and others because of concerns over coercive practices and fears it could encourage executions.

China officially claims it ended the harvesting of executed inmates' organs in January 2015. Some foreign doctors who have worked in China say authorities are behaving more responsibly, but other observers say China hasn't done enough to prove that it's fulfilled that pledge.

China sought to use the Transplantation Society's decision to hold its annual meeting in Hong Kong this month as validation of its transplant program. But Dr. Philip O'Connell, the society's president, rejected that interpretation, even if it appeared some reforms had been successful.

"We realize that this isn't going to change in a day," O'Connell said. "It's not going to go from a system that was using organs from executed prisoners, that was driven by corruption and where organs were being paid for [...] to a system that's completely open, transparent and ethical."

In a country that routinely suppresses discussions of human-rights issues and cracks down on lawyers and independent groups, government officials and state media have been relatively open about China's problems with organ donation.

Dr. Huang Jiefu, head of the system that supervises transplants in Chinese hospitals, has been the public face of the country's attempts to change its transplant practices. Huang publicly admitted in 2005 that doctors used executed prisoners' organs. In 2011, Huang and other officials estimated that 65 percent of transplanted organs from the deceased came from executed prisoners.

In an interview Friday with The Associated Press, Huang said he was confident hospitals under his purview were moving to donate organs, but that black-market surgeries still persist. "We still have a long way to go," Huang said.

A former deputy health minister, Huang said he speaks



In this May 15, 2013 file photo, 28-year-old Fang Hui shows off the scar from a living donor organ transplant operation where she received a portion of her sister's liver, at a hospital in Hangzhou in eastern China's Zhejiang province

## Does China still harvest organs of executed? Doctors divided

to top government officials about reforms they need to make to win the world's confidence. Among the needed reforms, Huang said, is a crackdown on organ trafficking and more regulations on how organs are procured. China also needs to train far more doctors and hospitals to perform surgeries, he said.

"Our organ transplantation must be 100 percent reliant on civilian, voluntary organ donation," Huang said. "Otherwise, we cannot stand on the world stage."

China is believed to execute more people than any other country in the world, though the total number is kept secret. Amnesty International estimates the annual number is in thousands.

A donor registry was piloted in 2010 and has been expanded into a national system. Newspapers in China often publish positive stories of families that have given the organs of a loved one, an apparent attempt to shift longstanding cultural attitudes about donation.

One such story published by the Shanghai Daily newspaper earlier this month detailed the "selfless" donation of a 34-year-old doctor's organs to help six people. In what appeared to be a reference to traditional beliefs about keeping a body whole, the article quoted the doctor's wife as warning their daughter against "tying her hopes to an

uncertain heavenly place."

According to the government, Chinese doctors performed 10,057 organ transplants in 2015. Health officials have also said they expect to increase the number of hospitals that can perform transplants. By its own estimates, China has about 300,000 patients a year in need of organs, a challenge that will only get bigger as the world's largest population ages. Its national rate of donors leads Japan and most other Asian countries, but is far behind the United States and most nations in Western Europe.

Chinese government statistics often engender deep skepticism, and critics of China's

■ **Exports suggest that black-market surgeries still occur in China, though not at the scale alleged by some, or as often as in the past**

organ donation practices say they're not convinced. Some critics, citing China's history and the prevalence of black-market surgeries, contend the true number of transplants is much higher than the official numbers, and that executed prisoners remain the source for many of those organs.

Dr. Torsten Trey, executive director of the advocacy group Doctors Against Forced Organ Harvesting, said international visitors were not seeing enough of the system to truly judge the accuracy of China's statistics or claims of progress.

"The change was not successful, because there is no change," Trey said in an email.

For more than a decade, doctors from outside China have worked with Huang and other officials. Huang said he has invited transplant surgeons to tour hospitals and meet doctors.

Dr. Michael Millis, a transplant surgeon at the University of Chicago, said he's visited "several dozen" transplant centers in China as part of his volunteer work in the country. One sign of a shift, Millis said, was that doctors at those centers used to have routinely scheduled surgeries. Now, they talk of having multiple surgeries in one day or days without any surgeries at all. That indicates they are operating on the up-and-down schedule of a system fueled

by voluntary donations rather than executions, Millis said.

"These are the stories that I can say that my personal experience is changing and it's changing to the system that the rest of the world sees," Millis said.

Millis says reports like the recent case in Canada suggest black-market surgeries still occur in China, though not at the scale alleged by others.

"There is no evidence it is an extensive black-market parallel system that would generate a large number of organs from executed prisoners," Millis said, adding that unsanctioned transplants occur in other parts of the world as well.

Millis and other doctors hope to improve China's system by engaging with health officials they see as receptive and willing to consider reforms.

In the Canadian case, the Transplantation Society was alerted soon after the patient returned to Canada and told his doctors he had purchased a kidney and required follow-up care. The society sent a letter to Huang calling for an investigation just ahead of its annual global meeting in Hong Kong.

What happened next could be considered a positive sign by those working with China. Huang said Chinese officials revoked the licenses of the surgeon and the hospital, and a criminal investigation was launched into the surgery. AP

## Authorities say school in TV pollution report is safe



In this undated photo, parents wait for their children at the gate of the new campus of Changzhou Foreign Languages School

Gerry Shih

**INVESTIGATORS** in eastern China said they have not found high levels of pollution around a school where an explosive state television report in April said hundreds of kids had fallen sick with illnesses including leukemia.

Soil, air and water contamination levels at the Changzhou Foreign Language School, which was built near recently closed chemical plants about 160 kilometers northwest of Shanghai, were found to be within acceptable levels, according to state media. The results of the three-month investigation appear to contradict reports that had sparked mass outrage earlier this year at a time when China was grappling with a series of public health scandals.

In April, China's central government moved swiftly to launch a probe just hours after state broadcaster China Central Television, or CCTV, aired a segment saying that 500 kids had fallen ill and that soil tests showed toxic chemical levels at 95,000 times the national limit.

The CCTV segment, which garnered tens of millions of online views a day after it came out, appeared to corroborate investigations by other news outlets that showed environmental regulators had nixed plans for a school at the site, but construction moved ahead anyway.

Former employees of a pesticide company said they regularly buried waste and suffered skin ailments, according to the reports, which were dismissed as overblown by school officials.

Changzhou city officials said that there were "some problems with the earlier soil rehabilitation process," but that investigators otherwise found few significant problems at the school, the official Xinhua news agency reported on Friday. Ten cadres have been disciplined in relation to the case, Xinhua said, without giving details.

Some netizens expressed skepticism Saturday that there were no problems found at the school despite the damning reports months earlier. But the social media response was relatively muted compared to the outpouring following the initial CCTV report, which touched on the particularly sensitive subject of children's safety.

Chinese parents have often blamed weak government oversight for frequent environmental and public health scares, most notably a 2008 tainted baby powder scandal that deeply shook Chinese society.

Just days before CCTV aired its report about the school in Changzhou, central government officials were scrambling to respond to revelations that hospitals had been administering millions of faulty children's vaccines. **AP**

### HONG KONG

## US short seller Left engaged in misconduct

**U.S.** short-seller Andrew Left engaged in market misconduct by publishing false or misleading information about a Chinese property developer, a Hong Kong tribunal ruled on Friday.

The city's Market Misconduct Tribunal said in its decision that Left was reckless and negligent when his firm Citron Research released its report on Evergrande Real Estate Group in June 2012.

Citron is known for publishing online investigative reports about companies with the goal of profiting when their shares decline. Short sellers profit by borrowing shares of a company to sell, then buying them back after the price has fallen and pocketing the difference.

The tribunal found that Left's allegations that the company, now known as China Evergrande Group, was insolvent and used fraudulent accounting were not true. In its ruling in favor of Hong Kong's market regulator, the Securities and Futures Commission, it said Left had little knowledge of local accounting standards and financial reporting. He also failed to check with experts or the company itself to verify information he received about the company from an unidentified source, it said.

The report sent Evergrande's shares tumbling 20 percent when it was released on June 21, 2012. Left, who had short-sold 4.1 million shares in the preceding days, earned 1.6 million Hong Kong dollars (USD206,000).

Punishment for Left, which could include repaying his profits, will be decided later. **MDT/AP**

### ADVERTORIAL

## SANDS CHINA NEWS

### Sands China Care Ambassadors Work with Two Community Groups in July

#### Silent afternoon teas with Macau Deaf Association and health check with MSO

While busy getting ready for the opening of The Parisian Macao Sept. 13, Sands China Care Ambassadors made time in July for the local community, engaging in activities with two community groups.

#### MACAU SPECIAL OLYMPICS

On July 3, the Care Ambassadors assisted the Macau Special Olympics (MSO) with their annual health check-up.

Organised by MSO, sponsored by the Health Bureau and Sands China Ltd., and co-organised by Widex Macau Hearing and Speech Centre and the Macau Physical Therapists Association, the health check-up was held at MSO headquarters. About 100 mentally handicapped individuals from different organisations attended the activity and were able to complete three health check-up items (nutrition, muscular strength and hearing) in one to one and a half hours. Around 40 Sands China Care Ambassadors were present to help ensure a smooth process.

The Ambassadors had already completed two hours of training under the supervision of Ms. Kit Ao, director-general of the Macau Physical Therapists Association, in order to understand the examination process and the significance of the event June 22.

Since 2014, MSO has received MOP 800,000 in donations from Sands China Ltd., the sponsor of the Macau Special Olympics' Special Olympics Healthy Athletes Programme, which provides medical subsidies to people with intellectual disabilities.



Around 40 Sands China Care Ambassadors assisted the Macau Special Olympics (MSO) with their annual health check-up 3 July.

#### MACAU DEAF ASSOCIATION

The Care Ambassadors spent time July 15 and 16 at The Venetian Macao learning about what life is like for the hard of hearing, at an event jointly organized by Sands China Ltd. and the Macau Deaf Association (MDA).

At two silent afternoon teas, the Care Ambassadors enhanced their understanding of the barriers caused by hearing loss, increased their knowledge of deafness, and learned about communication with the deaf.

A total of around 100 Care Ambassadors participated in the silent afternoon teas. Among the event's activities, the participants put on soundproof headphones and teamed up to help each other order food without speaking in a mock-up restaurant scenario to see if their waiter could understand what they need. The Care Ambassadors shared their feelings of participating in the experience, and MDA members shared experiences from their lives as deaf members of society.

Nerissa Lau, director of the Macau Deaf Association, said: "I am very happy that this event has given the Sands China Care Ambassadors an opportunity to work together with MDA to promote social inclusion, and I am grateful for Sands China's support of this first-ever experience of its kind in Macao produced by the Macau Deaf Association."

Last July, a group of Care Ambassadors also participated in a sign language workshop with the Macau Deaf Association at The Venetian Macao's Adelson Advanced Education Centre and at MDA's Service Centre for the Deaf.

July's events were aimed at enriching the Care Ambassador's experiences and enhancing their understanding of people with disabilities, helping them better understand the community's needs.

The Sands China Care Ambassador programme aims to give Sands China staff an opportunity to serve the local community by helping to make Macao a better place to live, while contributing to its development. With nearly 1,500 volunteers coming together from across all Sands China properties – The Venetian Macao, Sands Macao, The Plaza Macao and Sands Cotai Central – the Sands China Care Ambassadors have contributed more than 8,500 voluntary hours of community service in over 100 activities since the programme was founded in August 2009. Through a variety of community activity formats, memorable experiences are created for the volunteers and the beneficiaries, moving the hearts of all involved.



Sands China Care Ambassadors spent time July 15 and 16 at The Venetian® Macao learning about what life is like for the hard of hearing, at an event jointly organized by Sands China Ltd. and the Macau Deaf Association.

Youkyung Lee, Seoul

SOUTH KOREA

# Lotte Group vice chairman found dead before corruption probe

LOTTE Group's vice chairman has been found dead as authorities widen a probe into corruption at South Korea's fifth-largest business group, officials at the company and police said on Friday.

Lee In-won, 69, the company's highest-ranking executive outside the founding family and the top aide to its chairman, was found dead hours before a scheduled appearance at a prosecutors' office Friday morning.

"It is difficult to believe," Lotte Group said in a text message to reporters. Lee has been a Lotte man for more than 40 years since he joined the company's hotel business in 1973.

The death sends Lotte into a fresh crisis. South Korean prosecutors are investigating allegations of embezzlement, slush funds and tax evasions at Lotte Group. The investigation forced the group in June to withdraw its initial public offering plan for Hotel Lotte Co. that could have raised as much as 5.7 trillion won (USD5.1 billion).

Local media reported that Lee took his own life. Yonhap quoted a note he left as saying that there was no slush fund, in an apparent response to prosecutors' allegations. The report said a resident found his body on a mountain in the east of Seoul early Friday morning.

Local media reported that Lee took his own life, quoting a note that he left

A police official who declined to give his name said the police were investigating the case as a possible suicide. The official confirmed Lee left a note but refused to comment on its contents. Lotte could not confirm the report.

The ongoing investigation and the death of its long-time executive is the latest challenge for Lotte Group, with two sons of Lotte's 93-year-old founder, Shin Kyuk-ho, already embroiled in a bitter battle over control of the group.

In a rare public display of a family feud among South Korean business elites, the younger son, Shin Dong-bin, 61,



In this Dec. 16, 2015 photo, Lotte Group Vice Chairman Lee In-won attends a charity fundraising event in Seoul

last year demoted his father to honorary chairman from general chairman overseeing Lotte's businesses in Japan and South Korea. His older brother, Shin

Dong-joo, 62, was removed from executive positions at various Lotte companies and then launched several failed attempts to take back the group from

his younger brother.

The younger Shin, now chairman at Lotte Group, apologized publicly in June, days after prosecutors raided Lotte's headquarters. The investigation was a setback for Shin Dong-bin who had vowed to make his group and its governance transparent as public criticism mounted because of the fight with his brother.

Lee In-won was a top aide to Shin Dong-bin.

Lotte started as a chewing gum company in Japan in 1948. It now operates businesses in chemicals, food, shopping and hotels, including South Korea's largest discount and department store chains. Its brands are well recognized not only in Japan and South Korea but around Southeast Asia.

Deaths of high-profile political or business figures facing legal investigations or corruption charges are not uncommon. In 2009, former President Roh Moo-hyun killed himself amid a corruption scandal involving his family members. AP

PHILIPPINES

## Militants free 8 comrades, 15 others in jail attack

MUSLIM extremists supporting the Islamic State group freed eight fellow militants in a daring attack that also allowed 15 other inmates to escape from a provincial jail in the southern Philippines, police said yesterday.

About 20 heavily armed fighters of the Maute militant group stormed the Lanao del Sur provincial jail in Marawi city before nightfall Saturday, disarmed the guards and rescued their eight comrades. The attackers also seized two rifles from guards, police said.

The eight who escaped were arrested a week ago when they were caught with a homemade bomb in van at a security checkpoint.

The others who escaped, apparently to divert the attention of authorities, were facing murder and illegal drugs charges.

The Maute group is a new band of armed Muslim radicals who have pledged allegiance to the Islamic State group and use black flags with logos of the Middle East-based



Abu Sayyaf militants in the Philippines

extremists.

Based in Lanao del Sur's Butig town, the militants have attacked army troops and beheaded a soldier and two kidnapped workers earlier this year. Before being killed, the two workers were made to wear orange shirts similar to beheading victims of the Islamic State group.

A number of Muslim armed groups in the southern Philippines, including some commanders of the violent Abu Sayyaf, have pledged loyalty to the Islamic State

group. The military has tried to play down their actions, saying there has been no evidence of an active collaboration between the foreign extremists and Filipino militants who are aiming to prop up their image and secure badly needed funds amid years of battle setbacks.

President Rodrigo Duterte, who took office in June, has pursued peace talks with two large Muslim rebel groups, but has ordered troops to destroy the Abu Sayyaf and other hard-line militants.

Troops have continued on-and-off offensives against the Maute militants in Butig in Lanao del Sur, a predominantly Muslim province, about 830 kilometers south of Manila.

A major offensive against the Abu Sayyaf in Sulu province's mountainous Patikul town, also in the south, has killed at least 19 militants, including an influential commander, Mohammad Said, who used the nom de guerre Amah Maas, his two sons, and another ranking fighter, Latip Sapie, military officials said.

Said, who had severed arms and was among the most senior Abu Sayyaf commanders, had been implicated in the kidnappings of several Filipinos and foreigners. He had good ties with the Moro National Liberation Front, a larger rebel group that has engaged in peace talk with the government, but has been suspected of providing sanctuary and combat support to the more brutal Abu Sayyaf in the past.

"Let us vigorously pursue this terrorist-bandit Abu Sayyaf group with no let-up and destroy them," military chief of staff Gen. Ricardo Visaya said, promising to pour more troops into Sulu. "We have this one chance to annihilate this menace to society that claims links with the ISIS." AP

SINGAPORE

## Locally transmitted Zika virus infects 41

Annabelle Liang, Singapore

MORE than 40 people have been infected locally by the Zika virus in Singapore, but most have fully recovered, officials said yesterday.

Singapore announced its first Zika infection in May, with the virus imported by a 48-year-old man who had traveled to Brazil. Yesterday, the Ministry of Health confirmed 41 locally transmitted cases of the virus.

The ministry said in a statement that the patients were "not known to have traveled to Zika-affected areas recently, and are thus likely to have been infected in Singapore. This confirms that local transmission of Zika virus infection has taken place."

Of the group, 34 people have recovered, while seven remain at Tan Tock Seng Hospital, the statement said.

The ministry named two residential districts of Singapore where the disease was transmitted and said that the bulk of those infected were foreign construction workers. The virus was mostly detected through tests on Saturday.

Among those still hospitalized is a 47-year-old Malaysian woman, identified by authorities as the first locally transmitted case.

Zika has mild effects on most people, but can be fatal for unborn children. Infection during pregnancy can result in babies with small heads — a condition called microcephaly — and other brain defects. AP

# Tourist describes death, harrowing month in New Zealand bush

**P**AVLINA Pizova says she couldn't free her partner after he slipped down an icy bank and became wedged between rocks and branches. After he died, she stayed with him through the freezing night.

It would take almost another month before Pizova would be rescued from the New Zealand wilderness in an ordeal she described Friday as "harrowing."

The tourist from the Czech Republic, who was rescued on Wednesday from a park warden's hut on the snowed-in Routeburn Track near Queenstown, broke down in tears as she read aloud her account in halting English. Czech Consul Vladka Kennett provided more details.

Pizova's comments came soon after rescuers retrieved the body of her partner, 27-year-old Ondrej Petr.

The couple set out on July 26 to hike the scenic track, a 32-kilometer route that typically takes three days in the summer, but which can become treacherous in the winter months from June to August.

Pizova said they made several mistakes: they didn't tell anybody of their specific plans, they didn't take a locator beacon, and they underestimated the winter conditions.

"All these aspects contributed to our tragedy," she said.

Midway through the hike, as they tried to reach the Lake Mackenzie Hut, things started to go wrong.

"The conditions were extreme. We encountered heavy snowfall and low cloud which contributed to our enforced over-nighting in the open," Pizova said. "In our attempt to reach the hut, the tragic accident happened." Kennett said Petr fell

down the slope.

"Pavlina slipped behind him, and was unable to help him out, and that was it," Kennett said. "She stayed with him for the first night, beside him, because first of all she wanted to be with him, and she couldn't move any farther due to the weather conditions."

Kennett said Pizova spent another night outdoors as she remained lost in the deep snow. She rubbed her feet and tried to keep her blood circulating, and wore all the clothes and blankets she had with her.

Pizova says she finally found her way to the Lake Mackenzie Hut and broke into the warden's quarters through a window. She says she tried to hike out several times but her frost-bitten feet and the avalanches she was witnessing discouraged her.

Pizova would end up spending



Czech tourist Pavlina Pizova attends a press conference at a police station in Queenstown on Friday

nearly a month at the hut. She used ash to fashion a letter "H" in the snow to signal for help. But other hikers were avoiding the route, and the planes and helicopters she waved at never saw her.

Kennett said Pizova also tried making snow shoes, crampons and walking sticks from items she found around the hut, attempts which would later impress rescuers. But Kennett said she never made it more than a few hundred meters before turning back.

"She wasn't confident to carry on but she didn't give up trying," Kennett said. "She tried

everything she could, given the conditions."

Kennett said Pizova survived on food left behind by the wardens, who don't live there during the winter.

Police Inspector Olaf Jensen said it took weeks before friends and family realized the couple was missing and raised the alarm. He said the Czech Consulate informed police on Wednesday and they launched a search the same day.

"It's very unusual for someone to be missing in the New Zealand bush for such a long period without it being reported," Jensen said. **MDT/AP**

AD

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FMBA champions **Breakfast Meetings** in town with key speakers sharing their views on current business affairs. Our monthly events take place every last Wednesday of the month at Sofitel Macau at Ponte 16. **Open to all!**

Wednesday, 31/08/2016

**Paris comes to Macau**  
Speaker: **Mr Jesko Von Den Steinen**, Senior Advisor for The Parisian Brand Identity

**FMBA Breakfast Meeting**



**Introduction:** Macau gets a taste of Paris when The Parisian Macao opens in mid-September. Another extraordinary addition to Cotai featuring a half-size Eiffel Tower, 3000 rooms, 150 shops and 20 restaurants, all designed to capture the French joie-de-vivre. Listen to the ins and outs of the new Parisian brand in Macau.

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info@francemacau.com or Tel: 8798 9699

- 2016 FMBA members join free-of-charge\*
- Guests & non-members @ MOP 178\*
- Pass France holders @ MOP 148\*

**Date:** Wednesday, 31<sup>st</sup> August 2016  
**Time:** 9:00-10:30 am (Reception: 8:45am)  
**Venue:** Sofitel Macau at Ponte 16 Promenade Meeting Room (6<sup>th</sup> floor)

**www.francemacau.com**  
\*Breakfast included

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Angela Charlton, Paris

FRANCE

# Burkinis, economy top items in presidential campaign

**T**HE national identity crisis exposed by France's burkini controversy is threatening to set the tone for the country's presidential campaign.

Along with the economy, the relationship between France's Muslims and non-Muslims has been a recurring theme as presidential hopefuls kick off campaigning for the April-May election. Some leftists say the far right is using the issue to encourage racism in France.

A top French court ruling Friday against banning the burkini didn't put an end to the debate. Some mayors are refusing to rescind their bans, arguing that the head-to-ankle swimwear could disrupt public order after a summer marred by Islamic extremist attacks. The burkini bans by some French coastal towns drew international condemnation after images circulated online of police appearing to require a Muslim woman to disrobe.

Former President Nicolas Sarkozy and other some other conservative candidates want a national law banning burkinis. Sarkozy's chief rival for the conservative nomination, former Prime Minister Alain Juppe, struck a more conciliatory tone, saying on Europe-1 radio yesterday that such rhetoric "throws oil on the

fire."

But at a campaign event Saturday in Chatou west of Paris, Juppe suggested putting limits on how far religious practices can reach into public life, calling for a special accord between the state and Muslim leaders to lay out clear rules for respecting French secularism.

"It is legitimate to ask them to have a knowledge of the princi-

■ **Some mayors are refusing to rescind their bans, arguing that the head-to-ankle swimwear could disrupt public order**

AP PHOTO



Nissrine Samali (right) gets into the sea wearing a burkini, a wetsuit-like garment that also covers the head, in Marseille

ples of the organization of the republican state, especially French-style secularism," he said.

The economy and security issues are likely to dominate the French campaign for the April and May presidential elections, after years of 10 percent unemployment and a string of deadly Islamic extremist attacks.

While many on the French left criticize the burkini as oppressing women, they also fear the issue feeds into the agenda of far-right candidate Marine Le Pen of the National Front.

Benoit Hamon, a former Socialist government minister seeking the leftist presidential nomination, tweeted yesterday that the

burkini debate "is targeting Muslims once again." Hamon criticized Prime Minister Manuel Valls, a fellow Socialist, for supporting burkini bans.

Socialist President Francois Hollande, who hasn't announced whether he will seek a second term, has remained cautious in comments on the burkini. **AP**

TURKEY

# One Turkish soldier killed, eight wounded in southeast

Dusan Stojanovic, Istanbul

**O**NE Turkish soldier was killed and eight others wounded in two separate blasts yesterday in the country's Kurdish-dominated southeast, and Kurdish militants launched a rocket-propelled grenade at a civilian airport, officials and the state-run news agency said.

The Anadolu Agency said one soldier was killed and three were wounded after a roadside bomb was triggered remotely by rebels linked to the Kurdistan Workers' Party, or PKK, in the Hakkari province. In another attack, five civilian village guards were wounded in Siirt province after their van hit an improvised explosive device on a road, the news agency said, blaming PKK for the blast.

Yesterday, Kurdish rebels, apparently targeting a police checkpoint at Diyarbakir Airport,

AP PHOTO



Smoke rises and fires still burn after Kurdish militants attacked a police checkpoint in Cizre on Friday

fired a grenade that exploded near the airport's VIP passenger entrance, shattering windows, the local governor's office said. No injuries were reported. Passengers were taken to safety after the attack and flights resumed after a brief pause during the police investigation.

Violence between the PKK and the security forces resumed last year, after the collapse of a two-year peace process in July. Since then,

more than 600 Turkish security personnel and thousands of PKK militants have been killed, according to Anadolu. Rights groups say hundreds of civilians have also been killed in the clashes.

On Friday, a Kurdish suicide bomber rammed an explosives-laden truck into a checkpoint near a police station in the southeast, killing at least 11 Turkish police officers and wounding 78 other people.

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan was visiting southeastern city of Gaziantep yesterday to express condolences for last weekend's suicide bombing there at a Kurdish wedding that left 54 dead.

Turkey has sent tanks across the Syrian border following weeks of deadly attacks by the PKK and the Islamic State group. The move aims to both fight IS and halt the advance of Syrian Kurdish groups. **AP**

BRAZIL

# Defense witnesses testify in trial of president

**B**RAZILIAN senators on Saturday questioned the last two witnesses summoned by the defense for President Dilma Rousseff in her impeachment trial for allegedly breaking fiscal rules in the management of the federal budget.

In the third day of deliberations, senators questioned former Finance Minister Nelson Henrique Barbosa and Rio de Janeiro State University law professor Ricardo Lodi.

Several days of debate, including an address by Rousseff today, will culminate in a vote on whether to permanently remove her from office.

The Senate voted in May to impeach and suspend her for up to 180 days while the trial could be prepared.

Vice President Michel Temer took over in May. If Rousseff is removed, Temer will serve the rest of her term through 2018.

She and her supporters say the attempts to remove her from office amount to a coup d'état.

Rousseff is accused of illegally shifting funds be-

tween government budgets. Opposition parties say that was to boost public spending and shore up support while masking the depths of deficits. They claim that her maneuvers exacerbated a severe recession in Latin America's largest economy.

Rousseff and her supporters claim that corrupt lawmakers want to oust her so they can water down an investigation into billions of dollars in kickbacks at state oil company Petrobras.

The two-year investigation has led to the jailing of dozens of businessmen and politicians, and threatens to bring down many more.

On Friday, Rousseff's defense called experts to testify and answer questions, a day after the prosecution dominated Thursday's session.

Luiz Gonzaga Belluzzo, an economist, argued that Rousseff had not broken so-called fiscal responsibility laws. He said that instead of hiding government spending, as critics argue, in early 2015 she was coming up with contingency plans to maintain spending in the face of declining revenues. **AP**

## what's ON



**Ox WAREHOUSE CHILDREN'S ARTLAND 2016 – JOLLY JOINT EXHIBITION II**  
**TIME:** 12pm-7pm (closed on Tuesdays, opened on public holidays)  
**UNTIL:** September 18, 2016  
**VENUE:** Ox Warehouse, intersection of Av. Coronel Mesquita and Av. do Almirante Lacerda  
**ENQUIRIES:** (853) 2853 0026  
**ADMISSION:** free

**SILVER ANNIVERSARY ANIMATION**  
**TIME:** 12pm-8pm (Mondays to Thursdays)  
 11am-9pm (Fridays to Sundays)

No admission one hour before closing  
**UNTIL:** September 11, 2016  
**ADMISSION:** MOP120

**TICKETING:** (853) 2855 5555  
**VENUE:** Macau Convention Centre, Estrada da Ponta da Cabrita Golden Crown China Hotel (Opposite Macau International Airport, Taipa)

**FORMER HOME OF REVOLUTIONARY LEADER YE TING**

**TIME:** 10am-6pm daily (Except Wednesdays, open on public holidays)

**VENUE:** 76, Rua Almirante Costa Cabral  
**ADMISSION:** Free  
**ENQUIRIES:** (853) 8399 6699

**MACAU GRAND PRIX MUSEUM & WINE MUSEUM**  
**TIME:** 10am-8pm daily (Except Tuesdays)  
**VENUE:** Rua Luis Gonzaga Gomes, 431, basement (Tourism Activities Centre-CAT)  
**ADMISSION:** Free  
**ENQUIRIES:** (853) 8798 4108 / 2833 3000

**MACAU SCIENCE CENTRE**

**TIME:** 10am-6pm daily, (Except Thursdays, open on public holidays)

**VENUE:** Macau Science Centre, Avenida Dr. Sun Yat-Sen  
**ADMISSION:** Exhibition Centre MOP25; Planetarium MOP60-80  
**ENQUIRIES:** (853) 2888 0822

**TAK SENG ON PAWNSHOP**

**TIME:** 10:30am-7pm (closed on the first Monday of every month)

**VENUE:** No. 396 Avenida Almeida Ribeiro  
**ADMISSION:** free  
**ENQUIRIES:** (853) 2835 7911

**WALK AND SEE—YOUTH ARTIST ART EXHIBITION**

**TIME:** 11am-10pm  
**UNTIL:** September 20, 2016

**VENUE:** Lakeside Gallery - S1 room in Anim' Arte, Nam Van Lakeside Plaza, Avenida Panorâmica do Lago Nam Van  
**ADMISSION:** Free

## Offbeat

## UK BROADCASTER SHUTS DOWN FOR HOUR, ASKS VIEWERS TO EXERCISE

One of Britain's leading broadcasters has blacked out its programs for an hour in hopes of spurring viewers to get some exercise.

ITV shut down broadcasts on several of its channels Saturday morning as part of its effort to entice UK citizens to sports clubs, which are being opened for free this weekend as part of a national event called "I Am Team GB."

Many viewers lauded ITV's challenge to couch potatoes, describing on social media the activities they'd been inspired to do.

Others, predictably, stuck to their sofas and poked fun at the gesture, describing the blank screens as the best entertainment they'd ever seen on ITV. One viewer said his remote-control thumb had a good workout.

ITV is sponsoring the weekend's sports-promotion activities alongside the National Lottery.

## TV canal macau

13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
14:45	RTPi Live
19:00	The Hunter (Repeated)
19:50	Soap Opera
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:00	TDM Sport
22:10	The Hunter
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Documentary Series
00:15	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)
00:50	RTPi Live

## cinema



## CINETEATRO

25 Aug - 31 Aug



## BEN-HUR

**ROOM 1**  
**(2D) 2.30, 7.15 pm**  
**Director:** Timur Bekmambetov  
**Starring:** Morgan Freeman, Rodrigo Santoro, Jack Huston  
**Language:** English (Cantonese)  
**Duration:** 124min

## SHIN GODZILLA

**ROOM 1**  
**4.45, 9.30 pm**  
**Director:** Hideaki Anno  
**Language:** Japanese (Cantonese/English)  
**Duration:** 97min

## TRAIN TO BUSAN

**ROOM 2**  
**2.30, 7.15, 9.30 pm**  
**Director:** Yeon Sang-ho  
**Starring:** Gong Yoo, Jung Tu-mi, Ma Dong-seok  
**Language:** Korean (Cantonese/English)  
**Duration:** 97min

## CHIBI MARUKO CHAN- A BOY FROM ITALY

**ROOM 2**  
**4.45 pm**  
**Director:** Jun Takagi  
**Language:** Cantonese (Cantonese/ English)  
**Duration:** 120min



## THE LETTERS

**ROOM 3**  
**2.30, 7.15 pm**  
**Director:** William Riead  
**Starring:** Juliet Stevenson, Max Von Sydow, Rutger Hauer  
**Language:** English (Cantonese)  
**Duration:** 114min

## BFG

**ROOM 3**  
**4.45, 9.30 pm**  
**Director:** Steven Spielberg  
**Starring:** Mark Rylance, Ruby Barnhill, Penelope Wilton  
**Language:** Cantonese (Cantonese/English)  
**Duration:** 117min

## MACAU TOWER

18 Aug - 31 Aug

## HEARTFALL ARISES

**2.30, 4.30, 7.30, 9.30 pm**  
**Director:** Ng Ban Yu  
**Starring:** Sixuan Chen, Babyjohn Choi, Mavis Fan  
**Language:** Cantonese (Cantonese/ English)  
**Duration:** 106min

## this day in history



## 1950 BRITISH TROOPS ARRIVE IN KOREA

A British force of about 4,000 infantry has arrived in Korea from Hong Kong.

The decision to send the troops, as back up for the American-led United Nations force, was taken suddenly a week ago. Until now, the only British support has been from warships in the area and some local air squadrons.

The British force includes the 1st Battalion of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders and 1st Battalion of the Middlesex Regiment.

American troops have been in the region since the beginning of July and there has been deep concern in Britain that it has taken so long to send support.

At the end of July, the Minister of Defence, Emmanuel Shinwell, announced a self-contained expeditionary force, including armour, artillery and engineers, as well as infantry, would be sent to Korea.

But he said ground forces would not be withdrawn from Malaya or Hong Kong to make up the force.

However, it appears following an urgent request from General Douglas MacArthur last week for infantry reinforcements, there was a change of plan in Whitehall.

The self-contained force - including a centurion tank - is still being sent to Korea but is not expected to arrive for another couple of weeks.

Opposition leader Winston Churchill intends to raise the matter when Parliament next meets on 12 September.

The British contingent has arrived at a moment when the United Nations line is under heavy pressure on its northern front and the port of Pohang on the east coast is threatened by Communist encirclement.

Reports from Korea say Communist forces have also moved inland to capture Kigye.

If they are successful, the Communists are expected to turn their attentions next to Taegu, the main centre of allied communications.

Courtesy BBC News

## IN CONTEXT

**Parliament** was recalled on 12 September when the Government announced it was increasing its expenditure on defence and extending the period of national service from 18 months to two years due in part to the demands of the war in Korea. Two million people died during the Korean war, which ended with an armistice signed on 27 July 1953.

Of the 63,000 UK troops sent to Korea - many National Service conscripts - 1,078 died and more than 1,000 were taken prisoner.

Many were mistreated and subjected to "political re-education". Some 82 prisoners never returned home and are presumed dead.

North and South Korea were eventually separated by a demarcation line which was extended by a 2km (1.5 miles) demilitarised zone on either side.

A peace deal has never been reached. American troops remain stationed in the de-militarized zone on and around the 38th parallel separating North and South Korea.



YOUR STARS

Aries Mar. 21-Apr. 19 You have to show someone close that you've got their best interests at heart...

Taurus April 20-May 20 You are more in tune with your local culture - whatever that means to you...

Gemini May 21-Jun. 21 You still feel fantastic, and should be able to take care of all sorts of little tasks...

Cancer Jun. 22-Jul. 22 Life is hard - especially on a day like today, when it seems that everyone but you has it easy...

Leo Jul. 23-Aug. 22 Now is the best time for a big social engagement. It may be a date or a job interview - or something less life-changing...

Virgo Aug. 23-Sept. 22 You should find that you can get a lot out of your conversations today - people are more forthcoming than usual...

Libra Sep.23-Oct. 22 Positive attention comes your way and makes life that much more appealing - so make sure that you're soaking it up...

Scorpio Oct. 23 - Nov. 21 Your unconscious mind is making life more interesting today - but not just in good ways...

Sagittarius Nov. 22-Dec. 21 Decision-making is tough today, because you can't help but see both sides of each issue...

Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 19 You need a new challenge - and if you don't pick one soon, the universe might very well select one for you!

Aquarius Jan. 20-Feb. 18 Your personal life is taking over everything else today, so you may have to put your career track and other interests on hold...

Pisces Feb.19-Mar. 20 Make some serious improvements today - you know you need to work on your resume, your love life or some deeper aspect of yourself...

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

Easy

9x9 grid for Easy Sudoku puzzle with some numbers filled in.

Easy+

9x9 grid for Easy+ Sudoku puzzle with some numbers filled in.

Medium

9x9 grid for Medium Sudoku puzzle with some numbers filled in.

Hard

9x9 grid for Hard Sudoku puzzle with some numbers filled in.

WEATHER

Weather forecast table for China and World cities, including columns for MIN, MAX, and CONDITION.

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- Speed ratio; 5- Smell \_\_\_\_; 9- Poker Flat chronicler; 14- \_\_\_\_ Ben Adhem; 15- Rajah's wife; 16- Basketry twig; 17- Semiconductor element; 19- Graceful birds; 20- Cargo list; 21- Leaning; 22- Starch; 23- Cabinet dept.; 24- Colorful moths; 25- One-piece bathing suit for women; 28- Hilton competitor; 31- Arranges in groups; 32- Covered vehicle; 34- Like Cheerios; 35- Guy; 36- Unskilled laborer; 37- Squeeze (out); 38- Mythical hell; 39- Thick; 40- Ladies of Spain; 42- Metal, often used as a container; 43- Prolific author, briefly; 44- A sailor; 48- Conical native American tent; 50- Sing for; 51- Fragments; 52- Chamber of the heart; 53- Henri's hat; 54- \_\_\_\_ Karenina; 55- Dues; 56- Disreputable; 57- Interstellar dist.; 58- Versailles verb; DOWN: 1- Molten material; 2- Perpendicular to the keel; 3- Trite; 4- Meeekness; 5- "Gunsmoke" star; 6- Elevate; 7- Sometimes you feel like \_\_\_\_; 8- Russert of "Meet the Press"; 9- Lodginghouses; 10- Moving around; 11- Iranian coin; 12- Circus structure; 13- Trauma ctrs.; 18- Under way; 21- Writer Loos; 23- Viscounts' superiors; 25- Burrowing animals; 26- Cooking appliance; 27- Santa Fe Trail town; 28- Weeding implement; 29- Tibetan oxen; 30- Fit to \_\_\_\_; 31- Family car; 33- U-turn from SSW; 35- N Atlantic archipelago; 36- Small pocketknife; 38- Integrity; 39- Gambler; 41- Snoozed; 42- Tooth deposit; 44- Female of certain animals; 45- Be silent, musically; 46- Freud contemporary; 47- Singer Della; 48- Biblical pronoun; 49- Green land; 50- Dispatched; 51- ABC rival; 52- Actor Kilmer;

Friday's solution crossword grid with filled-in words.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

- Emergency calls 999
Taxi 28 939 939 / 2828 3283
Fire department 28 572 222
Water Supply - Report 2822 0088
PJ (Open line) 993
Telephone - Report 1000
PJ (Picket) 28 557 775
Electricity - Report 28 339 922
PSP 28 573 333
Macau Daily Times 28 716 081
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



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MASERATI  
Ghibli

# Andre Couto finishes on the podium in Suzuka



MACAU driver Andre Couto finished third in yesterday's mythical Suzuka 1000km race, round 6 of the 2016 Autobacs Super GT series. Starting from sixth position in grid, Couto and his teammate Ryuichiro Tomita battled their way up during the 161 laps of the race that is the longest in the Super GT series.

Racing on GT300 category, the duo took the Nissan GT-R Nismo from Tanax to finish right behind Saga Koki and Yuichi Nakayama driving the Toyota Prius GT, clocking the best lap of the race between the podium finishers with the time of 2:01.592.

Reigning champion Couto fared well in the difficult conditions of the race, including intermittent rain.

With this result the Macau driver scored 13 points. He now holds a total of 24, positioning him ninth overall and 23 points behind championship leaders Iguchi Takuto and Hideki Yamauchi - the winners of yesterday's round with Subaru BRZ from R&D Sport team.

The 2016 series of Autobacs Super GT series consists of a total of eight rounds; the next will be raced on the weekend of October 8 and 9 in Buriram, Thailand, in the only race of the year to be held outside Japan. RM

## FORMULA 1

# Rosberg wins eventful Belgian GP, closes gap on Hamilton

Jerome Pugmire, Spa-Francorchamps

NICO Rosberg won an incident-packed Belgian Grand Prix featuring a chaotic start, will overtaking, a heavy crash, safety cars and a red flag.

The Mercedes driver's win yesterday saw him close the gap to nine points on teammate Lewis Hamilton, who finished third behind Red Bull's Daniel Ricciardo as the resurgent Australian driver secured a third straight podium finish.

"It's been a great weekend, very, very happy with that result," Rosberg said after his 20th career win. "Congrats to Lewis, last place to third must be pretty impressive."

Rosberg started from pole position with teen driver Max Verstappen also on the front row. Hamilton started from the back row with Fernando Alonso, after both incurred multiple grid penalties for extra engine part changes this weekend.

"Lewis wasn't out there to battle it out, so that made it an easier weekend," Rosberg said.

Verstappen was involved in a first-turn collision with the



Ferrari driver Sebastian Vettel of Germany (center), has a damaged car as the field goes into the first corner the start of the Belgian Formula One Grand Prix in Spa-Francorchamps

Ferraris of Kimi Raikkonen and Sebastian Vettel that shaped the race.

It had a beneficial effect on Hamilton and Alonso, who avoided the early carnage in front of them, then gained places when the safety car came out after Danish driver Kevin Magnussen's crash.

The safety car emerged again after Magnussen lost control of his Renault coming out of the top of the hill at Eau Rouge, spinning at speed and slamming backward into the barriers.

The race was halted as the

red flag came out, because the barrier Magnussen crashed into needed repairing.

When the race resumed 20 minutes later, the top five was Rosberg-Ricciardo-Hulkenberg-Alonso-Hamilton.

In a fascinating sub-plot, Verstappen and Raikkonen were involved in another incident as Verstappen appeared to nudge him wide.

Raikkonen — who is twice Verstappen's age — let his frustration out, saying "his only interest is to push me

off the track."

Hamilton overtook Hulkenberg on lap 18, leaving just Ricciardo and Rosberg ahead of him.

"This is the best result I could have hoped for," said Hamilton, who said on Saturday that he was aiming for a top-10 finish. "Our performance today was stronger than I expected. Third [place] is something definitely helped by the safety car."

Meanwhile, the Ferrari-Verstappen duel continued with Vettel overtaking the Dutchman. AP

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熱烈歡迎

Warm Welcome

國家奧運精英運動員代表團訪澳

Visit of the National Olympic Elite Athletes Delegation in Macao

29/08-01/09/2016

Meeting between National Olympic Elite Athletes and Youngsters

Location: Macao Forum

Date and time: 30/8/2016 10:00

Our Pride - Celebration with National Olympic Elite Athletes in Macao

Location: Macao East Asian Games Dome

Date and time: 30/8/2016 19:30

National Olympic Elite Athletes - Community Spirit Spreading

Date and time: 31/8/2016 09:30

Sports and Recreational Exchange Activities between National Olympic Elite Athletes and Macao Youngsters

Date and time: 31/8/2016 15:00

Location: Tap Seac Multisport Pavilion



opinion

World Views

Betsey Stevenson, Bloomberg

**BELIEVE IT OR NOT, WOMEN ARE DOING BETTER**

It's easy to get the impression, as the U.S. celebrates the 45th annual Women's Equality Day today, that the march toward equality has slowed to a crawl. Allow me to disagree.

True, the usual statistics tell a story of stalled progress. Women's labor force participation stands at less than 57 percent, down from a peak of 60 percent in the late 1990s. The rapid improvements in the gender wage gap that occurred in the 1980s and early 1990s show little sign of returning. And mothers - particularly the large number who are single - still shoulder most of the burden of child-rearing.

A deeper look, however, suggests more fundamental change in women's experiences as equals at home and in the workplace.

Despite slow progress in earnings on average, more women are out-earning their husbands. Men, for their part, are increasingly recognizing the importance of making a contribution at home: They are now more likely than women to say that work is interfering with their family life, and are increasingly seeking out employers that offer paternity leave and workplace flexibility.

Although stay-at-home dads and breadwinner wives are still minorities, their growing presence is changing people's expectations about the appropriate roles for men and women. Fewer people of both genders believe that it's better for a man to work and a woman to tend the home, or that having a working mom somehow hurts children.

In the workplace, women are more likely to be in positions of leadership. They are now the majority of workers in management, professional, and related occupations - which shouldn't come as a surprise, given their dominance in higher education. Glass ceilings are breaking, and not only in the presidential race: In 2015, 28 percent of all CEOs were women, up from 23 percent in 2008. Females own 38 percent of all businesses, compared with 29 percent in 2007.

Socially, men and women are becoming more aware of gender bias, a crucial step toward making it less prevalent. As of 2014, roughly four in five women agreed that an equally-qualified woman would be passed over for a promotion in favor of a man, up from just one in two in 2006. And the tide in attitudes keeps turning: A more recent poll found that the majority of younger respondents believe that women make better managers.

Changing attitudes are translating into better behavior. For instance, fewer women are reporting sexism or being sexually harassed at work compared with a decade ago. When harassment does occur, women are better equipped to speak out. Back in 1991, when Anita Hill accused Supreme Court nominee Clarence Thomas of harassment, she was ridiculed and he was defended. In the past couple years, similar harassment cases have led to the ouster of Roger Ailes at Fox News and faculty members at Caltech and Berkeley. It's still extremely costly for women to confront their advisors, mentors, and managers, but today their actions are more likely to lead to change.

To be sure, there's still much more to be done. Legislating paid family leave would help bring U.S. government policy more in line with a changing society - and with other developed nations. Congress also needs to pass the Paycheck Fairness Act, which prohibits employers from penalizing workers who inquire about, discuss, or disclose their compensation.

Businesses, for their part, must adapt to the needs of their workers, which means instituting more family-friendly policies and making a concerted effort to reduce the pay gap. This goes beyond ensuring equal pay for equal work. Companies must seek to eliminate more subtle barriers that reduce the likelihood that a highly qualified woman or minority is hired, promoted, or given a deserved raise - a goal that a consortium called Employers for Pay Equity has come together to pursue. The more businesses do to find and share solutions, the more they and the broader economy will benefit.

**THE UK LEADER MAY, CABINET TO CHART EU EXIT AT CHEQUERS RETREAT**

British Prime Minister Theresa May is bringing her Cabinet together at her rural retreat to plot Britain's first steps on leaving the European Union.

Officials at May's Downing Street office say May will oversee a daylong brainstorming session with Cabinet colleagues Wednesday at Chequers, the prime minister's 16th-century mansion 65 kilo-

meters northwest of London.

May, a Eurosceptic who remained neutral during June's referendum on leaving the EU, was appointed prime minister last month following David Cameron's resignation as Conservative Party leader.

May has returned to London after a two-week walking holiday in the Swiss Alps.



**Two Chicago men charged in shooting of NBA star Wade's cousin**



Chicago Bulls player Dwyane Wade

**T**wo brothers have been charged with first-degree murder in the shooting death of the cousin of NBA star Dwyane Wade as she was walking to register her children for school, Chicago police announced yesterday.

Darwin Sorrells Jr. and Derren Sorrells, 22, also were charged with attempted murder in Friday's shooting.

Nykea Aldridge, a 32-year-old mother of four, was pushing her baby in a stroller near the school when two men walked up and fired shots at a third man but hit Aldridge in the head and arm. Police say she wasn't the intended target, and the baby was not injured.

Police say the suspects in the shooting have criminal records. Superintendent Eddie T. Johnson plans to release more information at a news conference later yesterday.

Authorities are investigating whether the encounter between the men was a robbery, possibly involving a driver from a ridesharing company, police spokesman Anthony Guglielmi said.

Chicago has been in the throes of a major uptick in gun violence this year, largely centered in a few South and West Side neighborhoods, after years of seeing declines. This July alone, there were 65 homicides - the most that month since 2006.

Wade, whose charitable organization, Wade's World Foundation, does community outreach in the Chicago area, signed with the Chicago Bulls in July after 13 years with the Miami Heat. He and his mother, pastor Jolinda Wade, participated Thursday via satellite in a town hall meeting in Chicago on gun violence hosted by ESPN.

Wade has reacted to his cousin's shooting only online, tweeting Friday: "My cousin was killed today in Chicago. Another act of senseless gun violence. 4 kids lost their mom for NO REASON. Unreal. #EnoughIsEnough."

Wade also tweeted Saturday morning: "The city of Chicago is hurting. We need more help & more hands on deck. Not for me and my family but for the future of our world. The YOUTH!" adding in a following tweet, "These young kids are screaming for help!!! #EnoughIsEnough."

It is not the first time Dwyane Wade's family in Chicago has been affected by gun violence. His nephew, Darin Johnson, was shot twice in the leg in 2012 but recovered. AP

**THE DECISIVE MOMENT**

AP Photo/Emilio Morenatti



Migrants from Nigeria fleeing Libya are rescued by emergency teams from a dinghy as they were sailing in the Mediterranean Sea toward the Italian coast, yesterday. More than 700 migrants were rescued yesterday.

Station	Air quality
Roadside	45-65 Moderate
High Density Residential Area	85-115 Moderate
Ambient	60-80 Moderate

SOURCE: DSMG

**WORLD BRIEFS**

**RUSSIA** A fire swept through a Moscow printing plant warehouse on Saturday, killing 17 migrant workers from Kyrgyzstan, Russia's emergency services said. A representative of the Kyrgyz community said the victims were all young women trapped in a dressing room while changing into their work clothes.

**UZBEKISTAN's** government issued an unusual statement yesterday announcing the hospitalization of President Islam Karimov, who has ruled the former Soviet republic in Central Asia for more than 25 years. The statement gave no details about the nature of the illness suffered by the 78-year-old president.



**ZIMBABWE** President Robert Mugabe warned against an Arab Spring type of revolution, as Zimbabwe police said they arrested 67 people following a violent protest that rocked the capital, Harare. Police used batons, tear gas and water cannons in running battles with anti-government demonstrators, despite a court order that the protest could take place.



**POLAND's** foreign minister yesterday lent his support to a Franco-German proposal for a European Security Council. The idea was floated by German Foreign Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier and French counterpart Jean-Marc Ayrault in June to address internal and external security and defense issues facing the European Union.

**US** The Marine Corps' new commander for the Pacific, Lt. Gen. David Berger, said he aims to advance his predecessor's work helping allies and partners develop their skills storming beaches and moving forces ashore.

**BRAZIL** Senators on Saturday questioned the last two witnesses summoned by the defense for President Dilma Rousseff in her impeachment trial for allegedly breaking fiscal rules in the management of the federal budget.

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