



HOLY HOUSE DONATES MOP1.7 MILLION

The Macau Holy House of Mercy has donated MOP1.7 million to victims of the Pedrógão Grande tragedy

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TRADITIONAL FESTIVAL BACK TO SÃO LÁZARO DISTRICT

P5



NO MORE US TOURISTS TO NORTH KOREA

Otto Warmbier's death shows that the risk American tourists face in visiting N. Korea is "too high," a travel agency says

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WORLD BRIEFS



MYANMAR A court in Myanmar sentenced a self-styled exorcist to death yesterday for killing three children during a ritual he carried out after telling their parents their offspring were possessed by evil spirits. *More on p14*

JAPAN Tokyo's giant Tsukiji fish market, popular with tourists, won't be destroyed, although it will be closed for up to five years while it is modernized and turned into a "food theme park," the capital's governor said yesterday.



NEW ZEALAND Three months away from an election, New Zealand Prime Minister Bill English is facing awkward questions about how he handled a lawmaker who is accused of making secret recordings and then lying about what he did. *More on p13*

PAKISTAN-AFGHANISTAN Pakistan's army says construction will begin soon on a fence across the border with Afghanistan in order to improve security.

EGYPT's military says its air force has killed 12 "extremely dangerous" militants in airstrikes in northern Sinai, a militant hotspot.

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AL PLENARY

New social housing application round in Q4

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Hong Kong's mini apartments boom as property prices soar

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Portuguese association opens solidarity account for wildfire tragedy

AP PHOTO



PORTUGUESE association Casa de Portugal (House of Portugal) announced that it has opened a bank account at the BNU to collect donations for victims of the forest fires in central Portugal (Pedrogão Grande), which killed at least 62 people. Many victims were trapped in their cars while attempting to flee from the flames that had spread to the roads.

Association president Amélia António told Radio Macau that the new account will enable those who want to help to do so directly from Macau. "Casa de Portugal deeply regrets and is appalled by what happened. The account that was opened at BNU for assistance is what we can do from a distance to express the solidarity of all of us who are

far away but who feel the tragedy that is happening in Portugal," she said.

Interested parties can send contributions to BNU account number 9014444997.

Meanwhile, Chief Executive Chui Sai On also expressed his condolences and deep sadness over the loss of lives. He also expressed his solidarity with those who continue to fight the wildfire.

In a letter to Portuguese President Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa on Monday, Chui said, "I am shocked by the many lives claimed by the devastating fires that hit the Pedrogão Grande region of Portugal."

"I believe that under your leadership, Mr President, the Portuguese people will be able to face this particularly difficult moment and overcome this dramatic situation."

SCMM DONATES MOP1.7 MILLION TO TRAGEDY VICTIMS

THE MACAU Holy House of Mercy (SCMM) has donated EUR200,000 (MOP1.7 million) to victims of the Pedrogão Grande tragedy. SCMM said in a statement yesterday that the

donation was sent to the Portuguese General Union of Holy Houses of Mercy. According to SCMM, the donation should be used to "support the victims and the rehabilitation efforts."



HERITAGE

Historic center photos on display in Guimarães

A photo exhibition depicting the historic center of Macau will be inaugurated on Friday at the Vila Flor Palace in Guimarães, Portugal. The exhibition features more than 90 photographs of world heritage-listed sites taken by Macau photographer Chan Hin Io, revealing nuances in local cultural heritage.

According to a statement by the Cultural Affairs Bureau (IC), Chan Hin Io has in recent years been devoted to capturing the city's landscapes, collecting several photography awards. His published works include "Memories of the Old Crafts and Trades in Macau," and "Where the World Heritage Shines - Photographs of the Historic Centre of Macau and Picturesque Beauty of the Landscape."

"The photography works in this exhibition offer new perspectives of the city's World Heritage sites, including photographs taken from high altitude and long distance, through different angles and shooting times," added the IC's statement.

The exhibition will be displayed from June 23 to August 12 in Guimarães before traveling to Porto. It is jointly organized by the IC, the Municipality of Guimarães and the Vila Flor Cultural Centre.

Another Macau-themed exhibition is being displayed in the municipality of Guimarães. "Shanghai Portuguese Refugees in Macau (1937-1964)," organized by the Macao Archives, is being shown at the Alfredo Pimenta Municipal Archives of the Municipality of Guimarães until September.

LEGAL WISE BY MdME

Fátima Dermawan*

THE CURIOUS CASE OF ENTRY BAN TO MACAU

Welcome to Macau". Everyone, including residents, non-residents and tourists, is greeted by this sign upon arrival at the Macau airport or the maritime terminals. However, in practice, not everyone is welcome here, or rather, some people are more welcome than others.

Law no. 4/2003, which establishes the general principles of entry, right of abode and residence, contains a provision according to which entry into Macau can be denied to non-residents where there is a strong indication that a crime is being committed. Under Law no. 6/2004, the denial of entry into Macau can further evolve to an entry ban for a certain period of time, which in many cases can be at least three years.

It is not difficult to understand the rationale behind these provisions. Indeed, the statute at issue expressly refers to the concern for the security and public order of Macau. The main

problem with this law is not in its wording, but its application and enforcement, which has proven to be highly controversial in practice. In fact, the entry ban is frequently applied to those suspected of criminal offences well before an actual indictment by the Public Prosecutor. In other words, entry bans are applied based on mere suspicion of criminal acts.

This is rather problematic in several ways. First, indictment does not always occur in criminal proceedings. There are frequent cases in which an indictment is not issued due to lack of evidence. Moreover, under the Macau criminal procedural law, an indictment can be brought against a suspect when there is sufficient indication that a crime is being committed. As the word clearly suggests, "sufficient" indications are very different from "strong" indications. Hence, even when an indictment is brought against an individual, it does not automatically imply that there are strong indications that a

criminal offence has been committed, and this is even more so when an indictment is not even issued.

Further, the application of an entry ban to a suspect of a crime before he or she is proven guilty is hardly compatible with the principle of presumption of innocence in criminal proceedings.

All of the above suggests that the application of an entry ban based on the mere suspicion of criminal acts is clearly against the spirit and even the wording of the law at issue.

The issue of an entry ban becomes even more controversial in the context of illegal work. In fact, over recent years, a number of entry bans have been applied to non-residents who have allegedly provided their services without permit in Macau, and also to non-residents who have recruited individuals without work permits. These non-residents are usually employees with specialized skills from multinatio-

nal companies who have been asked by their companies to supervise the quality of services and provide training to employees of their subsidiaries in Macau. Subject to certain conditions, under Administrative Regulation no. 17/2004, the provision of this kind of service does not require a work permit in Macau.

Regardless of whether the aforesaid Administrative Regulation has been applied correctly or rather too restrictively by the relevant authorities, the truth is that a number of non-residents have been banned from entry into Macau for several years for having allegedly provided illegal work in Macau, whilst such an administrative offense is only punishable by a fine not exceeding MOP10,000.

It is undoubtedly important to safeguard fundamental public interests such as security and public order, but it is equally important to strike a balance in this matter. Macau risks discouraging overseas companies from sending skilled professionals to provide services, and, ultimately, to continue investing in Macau, due to its very curious entry ban regime.

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AL PLENARY

New round of social housing applications in Q4

Julie Zhu

A new round of applications for Macau's social housing program will open in the fourth quarter.

The Secretary for Transport and Public Works, Raimundo do Rosário, said during yesterday's plenary meeting at the Legislative Assembly (AL) that the government will consider implementing a permanent application mechanism for public housing.

Local residents can currently only apply for public housing units when the government opens applications. The last application window was in 2013.

Lawmakers' arguments at the meeting focused on the need for a permanent mechanism.

Ma Chi Seng questioned Rosário about the difficulty of establishing such a mechanism, in addition to any other issues that might arise during the process of building public housing.

Rosário said that the current law on public housing does not permit such a mechanism, but that his department will conduct a review. He added that once the Housing Bureau completes work on the law, it will be forwarded to the AL for further discussion.

Lawmakers said that residents believe the absence of application tenders for the past four years indicates that the government is unaware of public housing needs.

Ho Ion Seng asked Rosário



whether the government will look into the local supply and demand of public housing, adding that developing sufficient public housing would involve long-term plans.

■ The last application period was in 2013

Mak Soi Kun seconded Ho's request for additional research, pointing out that while no residents bought public houses before the 1999 handover, times have changed.

"Both the population and economy are growing, and people

are all going out to 'look for food' [because of] the Belt and Road policy," said Mak. To "look for food" is a Cantonese expression for "finding work."

He said the public housing supply is decided by the market, and that the government can only implement its policy in a scientific manner if it carries out the relevant studies.

In response, Rosário told Mak that the government has already selected a company to conduct research on public housing demand, the results of which will be announced in September.

Melinda Chan also spoke out. "Without applications, how can you make plans? If you do not enforce regular applications, you will never know how many people will apply for houses,

and you will never know what type of apartments you will have."

When this happens, Chan said, the government "cannot get data [and will end up] estimating data randomly, which yields the wrong results."

She remarked that the government will waste resources if it builds public housing without taking market needs into consideration.

Rosário affirmed that his departments have plans regarding the market's demands, claiming that the government had referred to the latest available data when planning new apartments to build.

Lau Veng Seng suggested that Rosário expand the Housing Bureau and hire more human resources personnel.

"If we need [too] many people, we will not do it," responded Rosário, adding that the Housing Bureau will not receive an allocation of new human resources staff any time soon. There are now 3,400 people working across the bureau's departments.

Chui Sai Peng asked whether the government would prioritize elderly applicants living alone when assigning lodgings.

According to Rosário, the government has consulted all sectors regarding the city's public housing laws since a partial amendment in 2015.

The government is reviewing Macau's public housing laws and will submit draft amendments to the AL this year.

New Macau hopes to bring new blood to the AL

THE New Macau Association (ANM) hopes to elect two members in the upcoming Legislative Assembly (AL) election, according to its vice president Sulu Sou.

The full list composition is not yet known, although a public scuffle last month resulted in ANM president Scott Chiang announcing his resignation.

The announcement followed a board meeting held to decide the order of candidates to run on the group's election ticket. The results indicated that Sou should



Sulu Sou will head the list

ld head the list, followed by Chiang and then Paul Chan, a former legislator who served a term in office after the 2009 Legislative Assembly election.

However, members of the association anonymously revealed that the results had been modified, with Chiang demoted from the second place

on the ticket to the third. Chiang later retracted his intention to resign immediately, saying that he would retain his position until after the September election.

During the official announcement of the group's candidacy yesterday, Sou expressed the conviction that the list would elect two lawmakers in the universal suffrage election, even though former ANM veterans Ng Kuok Cheong and Au Kam San (who split with the association) are running on separate lists.

"The New Macau Association is confident. We hope to be able to elect two lawmakers to the Legislative Assembly. We fought over the last two years about many social issues which are relevant to the population. The political reform is one of the questions. Hence we are confident, even if Au Kam San and Ng Kuok Cheong will be individually elected," Sou told Radio Macau.

Paul Chan confirmed that Sulu Sou would lead the list, followed by him. Asked about the controversy surrounding the list during yesterday's press conference, Scott Chiang didn't give a direct answer. "One thing is sure. I won't be a candidate. So make your conclusions," he said.

Mayors visiting town

Officials taking part in the third edition of the "Mayors' Visiting Program" were yesterday offered fresh insights regarding the latest developments in Macau in relation to tourism, cultural affairs and economic and trade matters. According to a statement issued by the Government Information Bureau, the officials had opportunities to arrive at a better understanding of these topics via exchange sessions with the Secretary for Economy and Finance, Lionel Leong and the Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture, Alexis Tam, among others. The third edition of the "Mayors' Visiting Program" involved civic leaders from six neighboring countries – i.e. Vietnam, Kazakhstan, the Maldives, Sri Lanka, Indonesia and Malaysia – and from five cities on the mainland.

IACM willing to publicize details on road construction

Municipal Affairs Bureau (IACM) president José Tavares says IACM is willing to publicize information about all road construction projects. "We are very willing to study the publicizing [of the information]," said Tavares, adding that releasing such details to the public is "not difficult." Tavares said that IACM and the Transport Bureau (DSAT) have agreed to organize joint press conferences whenever important engineering projects will be conducted in Macau, so as to explain the details of the projects to the public. Tavares hopes that this initiative will help the public eventually gain insight into the work done by all departments. He added that the large number of road construction projects is caused by accelerated urban development.

First Macau Interactive Area opens in Zhongshan

The first Macau Interactive Area is now open in Zhongshan city, Guangdong. Supported by the Macau and Zhongshan governments and the Macau Investment and Development Limited, the economic zone is a one-stop platform for youth entrepreneurship and innovation. Young entrepreneurs and enterprises from both Macau and Zhongshan can use the area as a platform to expand their businesses. The area will provide more opportunities to youth from both regions and help them keep pace with China's rapid development.

Fringe Festival open for proposals

The 17th Macao City Fringe Festival, organized by the Cultural Affairs Bureau (IC), will be held next January. The event will accept proposals for programs and performance venues until July 21. According to a statement issued by the IC, the event "brings all kinds of artistic and creative works to the city, breaking the barriers of the traditional performance venues." All artists and local associations registered with the Identification Services Bureau can apply. The shows can be local or site-specific art projects, overseas works or cross-regional collaborations in any medium. For the upcoming edition, the organizers have invited the general public to suggest possible performance venues, such as small or large stores, private spaces and any other available areas.

General Council of Macao Archives discusses new unit

The General Council of the Macao Archives held its first meeting this year on June 9 to discuss the possible creation of a dedicated records management unit for all public departments, and the allocation of human resources for such a unit. Leung Hio Ming, president of the Cultural Affairs Bureau, stated during the meeting that records are important evidence for public departments and services. Maria Lau from the Macao Archives also presented plans for the unit and the allocation of human resources. Last year, the council approved the draft of a white paper, titled "Retention Schedule for Common Administrative Records", about optimizing the management of government records. The council is gradually working toward building a comprehensive records management system in Macau.

USJ Master students present mini-documentary projects

A small screening ceremony was held at Creative Macau on Monday night, where ten post-graduate students from the University of Saint Joseph presented their mini-documentary projects, alongside five of their course's lecturers. The documentary submissions formed a single-day exhibition, titled "The Future is Now".



"The documentaries have the theme of presenting Macau's cultural heritage," said one of the students, who also acted as one of the ceremony's presenters. "Our work depicts the footprints of the USJ campus, Macau heritage, the Macau Tower and local entertainment."

The ten contributors to the exhibition are students of the Masters of Communication and Media program, under the USJ Faculty of Creative Industries. Their works encompass the areas of audiovisual arts, multimedia, infographics and media law.

One such project covered the diversity of religious beliefs in Macau. The documen-

tary-maker interviewed about half a dozen young people and inquired on their thoughts on an afterlife. All of the respondents said that they believed in life after death, but their respective views were influenced by a combination of Christian and Buddhist traditions.

Before the screenings commenced, five professors or lecturers involved in the course's eight modules gave a short speech toasting the students and their respective projects.

"I would like to congratulate all of you for completing the first step in the master program," said Professor Álvaro

Barbosa. "It is the only time that you can really expose your work. This [exhibition] is something original; that is not very common. It is a good opportunity to find a better way of bringing our work to the community."

Tomé Quadros, a senior lecturer responsible for audiovisual media production, described the exhibition as "a wonderful opportunity [for the students] to screen their work and [highlight] the fundamentals that they have learned on their course."

"It's an opportunity for the public to provide some feedback," he added.

Carlos Sena Caires, res-

ponsible for the infographic multimedia element of the course, claimed "it was a very challenging module; the first one here in Macau."

"When we thought about creating something new, we were planning a topic that deals with society but – apparently – has nothing to do with law. But this creation started with an attempt to create an internal network: putting people together," complemented Francisco Leandro, a professor of law who leads the media and society module. He said it was his first time combining the disciplines.

Finally, José Manuel Simões, the coordinator for the Department of Communication and Media, congratulated the students and said that, since 2008, he "has never had such a great group of students."

"We have created projects that Macau has never imagined before. They are truly innovative and give an insight into the community and into the future," he said. DB

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Growing festival aims to 'take over the St Lazarus neighborhood'

Renato Marques

THIS weekend, the São João (Saint John) festivities will bring traditional flavors, visuals and sounds back to the streets of the St. Lazarus neighborhood in central Macau.

The twelfth edition of the cultural festival was at stake until a few weeks ago due to a disagreement between the organizers and the Transport Bureau (DSAT).

The festival was finally greenlit earlier this month and was formally announced yesterday at a press conference held by the organizers.

"Our ambition is that one day the festival can occupy all of the neighborhood and not just the main street and a bit of the side streets," said Maria Amélia António, president of the House of Portugal (Casa de Portugal) Association, one of the event's main organizers.

"We hope we can extend the decorations to the [whole] neighborhood and that we can count on the collaboration of residents to transform the neighborhood into a great place of joy and gathering [...] these are the goals of any of our festivals and that's what differentiates them [from others]."

António clarified that the festival accepts all interested vendors. In response to criticism that the festival lacks specific "Macanese" items, she said that it is up to vendors to decide what the event should offer and that those willing to help with organization would "be received with arms wide open."

Miguel de Senna Fernandes, the president of the Macanese Association (ADM) and of the Association for Macanese Education (APIM), said that the



Miguel de Senna Fernandes (center) and Amélia António (right)

festival has seen an increasing number of vendor applications every year, and that this edition is no exception.

This isn't just a party for the Portuguese. We keep trying to involve more and more other communities.

MIGUEL DE SENNA FERNANDES

"I would like to highlight the fact that we expect more vendors this year, despite a well-known upset that created some confusion. Nevertheless, we have more vendor applicants, which shows the growing interest of people," he said.

Senna Fernandes also expressed his wishes that the event will eventually be recognized by the government and included in official calendars – which he said

will not be far off. "This isn't just a party for the Portuguese. We keep trying to involve more and more other communities, namely the [resident] communities that are mostly Chinese. This is a "Saint John Festival" but is also [a]

"Day of the City" and a very important date," he added, reaffirming the idea of broadening the festival's appeal as "a party that celebrates Macau."

Many have bemoaned the fact that the St. Lazarus church has rejected the organizer's requests

to use the parish church atrium. The church granted the organizers permission to use the space on two previous occasions, but has lately refused on the grounds that the event will cause a disturbance.

António noted that this has presented an obstacle for the "kind of entertainment" that will be presented, since performances are limited to a single "tiny stage."

Nevertheless, António mentioned that the program will still be similar to that of previous editions. A wide range of music and dance performances – including Portuguese singer-songwriter Sebastião Antunes – will take place, with food and drinks on offer.

Antunes will be accompanied by an accordionist, whom António personally requested, as the music will help create "a typical festival feeling that we wanted to have for a long time."

Young Macanese Association joins organizing committee

THE twelfth São João Festival (Saint John's Festival) will count members of the Young Macanese Association (AJM) among its organizing committee for the first time.

AJM signed its participation agreement before the festival organizers' press conference yesterday at the Macanese Association (ADM) headquarters.

Representing the AJM was board member Duarte Alves. The AJM's new acting president, Guiomar Pedruco, assumed his position after former president Jorge Neto Valente Jr's mandate was suspended, due to his candidacy for the Legislative Assembly elections.

The AJM joins five other associations managing the event: ADM, CPM (Casa de Portugal), the Pensioners' Association (APOMAC), the Association for Macanese Education (AIPIM)



Duarte Alves

and the International Institute of Macau (IIM). The organizers have also received a grant of MOP500,000 from the Macau Government Tourism Office.

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Clube Militar de Macau
8 a 24 de junho



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Espaço expositivo do
Consulado-Geral de Portugal
5 a 30 de junho



Exposição de aguarelas
"NOTURNO" de
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Albergue SCM | 6 de junho a 9 de julho



Exposição "O MAR"
de **ANA PESSANHA**
Galeria da Casa Garden
7 de junho a 31 de agosto



Lançamento do CD
de música infantil
"CASTELOS NO AR"
Pequeno Auditório do CCM
9 de junho | 20:00



Encontro com o escritor
JOAQUIM FURTADO
Café Oriente - IPOR
13 de junho | 18:30



Exposição "DEBRIS" de **VHILS**
Oficinas Navais nº 1
Centro de Arte Contemporânea
31 de maio a 13 de junho



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CINEMA PORTUGUÊS
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Teatro D. Pedro V | 4 de junho | 20:00



Concerto com
JOÃO CAETANO
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2 de junho | 20:00



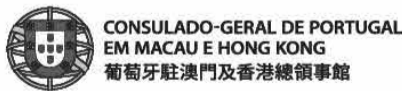
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Consulado-Geral de Portugal
10 de junho | 9:30



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Café Oriente - IPOR
17 de junho a 2 de julho



organizadores



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parceiros media



outros apoios



Macau promotes film festival in Shanghai



Members of the IFFAM Organizing Committee and other guests give a toast at the reception

THE organizing committee of the International Film Festival & Awards - Macau (IFFAM) hosted a cocktail reception in Shanghai on Monday to promote its next edition during the 20th Shanghai International Film Festival.

The Macau Government Tourism Office (MGTO) said in a press release that nearly 200 film companies and media agencies attended the cocktail reception at the Crowne Plaza Shanghai.

At the reception, the committees of both the Macau and Shanghai festivals signed a cooperative agreement to develop a mechanism to identify promising films and investment projects, creating exchange opportunities for both cities' film industries.

"The agreement will bridge industry professionals from both sides and in turn encourage more film professionals to come to Macau," said MGTO deputy director Cecilia Tse.

Wang Ye, deputy general manager of Shanghai International Film & TV

Festivals Co. Ltd., agreed. "We are aimed at establishing a system that bridges [the] industry insiders, films and venture capital of both places [...] Macau is one of China's most fascinating cities. That's why Shanghai International Film Festival is pleased to partner up with IFFAM."

Lorna Tee, head of festival management, said this year's artistic director would be Mike Goodridge. For the past five years, Goodridge has served as the chief executive officer of Protagonist Pictures, a film finance, production and sales company.

Tee also announced this year's festival talent ambassador, Jeremy Renner. Renner received a "Best Actor" nomination at the 82nd Academy Awards for his critically acclaimed performance in "The Hurt Locker", and is widely known for his role as "Hawkeye" in the Marvel blockbusters.

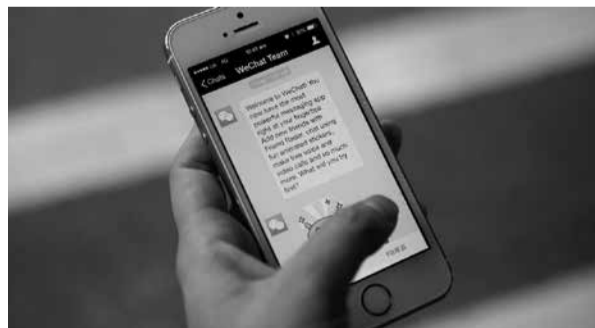
The 20th Shanghai International Film Festival will be held from June 17 to 26, while the second IFFAM will take place from December 8 to 14.

CRIME

Surge in WeChat scams

THE Judiciary Police (PJ) received reports of four WeChat scams involving money transfers through WeChat Red Packets last weekend.

Last Saturday and Sunday, several local residents reported to the police that their WeChat payment accounts had been hacked. All of the residents' WeChat friends or relatives had received messages sent from their WeChat accounts, saying that they were in need of money. None of the individuals themselves reported financial losses, although some of their friends or



relatives lost hundreds of Macau patacas in the process.

Losses across the four cases amounted to around MOP1,000.

One of the users' WeChat payment accounts was still inaccessible by normal login at the time of the press conference.

The remaining victims have already regained access to their accounts.

At yesterday's press conference, the PJ advised members of the public to ask friends or relatives whether they had received similar fraudulent requests for fund transfers.

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A Casa de Portugal em Macau manifesta o seu profundo pesar pela tragédia que atingiu as populações de Pedrógão Grande e concelhos em redor, apresenta sentidas condolências aos familiares das vítimas mortais e formula votos de rápidas melhoras a todos os feridos.

A todos os que pretendam num gesto de solidariedade ajudar as vítimas desta tragédia, informamos que a Casa de Portugal abriu, para o efeito, uma **CONTA AUXÍLIO ÀS VÍTIMAS DO INCÊNDIO DE PEDRÓGÃO GRANDE**, junto do Banco Nacional Ultramarino, com o nº 9014444997.

澳門葡人之家協會對葡萄牙大佩德羅岡地區的山火表示深切的惋惜，對死傷者家屬表示深切慰問。希望傷者能夠儘快恢復。

為了表示對此事的關心並對山火受害者進行實際的援助，澳門葡人之家協會在澳門大西洋銀行開設大佩德羅岡地區山火支援帳戶，帳戶號碼：9014444997，希望大家伸出援手。
多謝

The Casa de Portugal em Macau expresses its deepest condolences to the families of all victims at the tragedy that has struck the populations of Pedrógão Grande and surrounding municipalities, hoping at the same time for the quick recover to all the wounded.

To all those who want to make a gesture of solidarity with the victims of this tragedy, we inform that Casa de Portugal has opened, for this purpose, a **CHARITY ACCOUNT TO HELP THE VICTIMS OF THE FIRE OF PEDRÓGÃO GRANDE**, at the Banco Nacional Ultramarino, nº 9014444997.



Media-shy Tencent billionaire joins debate on Hong Kong's future

Lulu Yilun Chen

ONE of China's most prominent internet tycoons is wading into a famously contentious political arena.

In an unusual move, Tencent Holdings Ltd.'s billionaire founder Pony Ma has chosen to convene a summit of government officials and business chieftains in Hong Kong days before the 20th anniversary of its return to China. The head of the country's biggest corporation wants to fire up a debate about an issue that's fomented protests and fears about Beijing's agenda: how to entwine the self-run former British colony with the mainland.

This July 1 - a lightning-rod for anti-Chinese demonstrations as well as patriotic displays - marks the first time Chinese President Xi Jinping will visit the city since taking office. The normally publicity-shy Ma has chosen this juncture to again tout his proposal of setting up a Silicon Valley-like haven for technology and innovation linking Hong Kong and Macau with the southern province of Guangdong, Tencent's home base.

Yesterday's conference thrusts influential Chinese business people and investors alongside some of the Hong Kong property moguls that dominate the local economy. In one camp: Ma, Hillhouse Capital CEO Zhang Lei and Wang Wei, China's fourth richest man; in the other, New World Development Co. vice chairman Adrian Cheng and Henderson China Chairman Peter Lee. It will feature discussions on the "one country, two systems" framework that underpins Hong Kong's autonomy - an assurance some critics say is increasingly under threat.

"Our Greater Bay Area is different in one big way from other Bay Areas: we have one-country two-systems," Ma told hundreds of people including government officials, academics and investors. "We have more than 100 years of segregation and

BLOOMBERG



Pony Ma

now we are entwining."

"One of the biggest challenges is that young people nowadays aren't necessarily familiar with each other," he said. "There are rifts, some are recalcitrant and don't want to open their hearts."

Our Greater Bay Area is different in one big way from other Bay Areas: we have one-country two-systems.

PONY MA

Temperatures tend to run high around July 1 in a city where opinions run the gamut from a need for total self-determination to full acceptance of central control. Ma risks stirring such sentiments at a time observers have grown increasingly concerned about Beijing's influence over business and local government. Alibaba

Group Holding Ltd. co-founder Jack Ma's acquisition of the South China Morning Post last year ignited a debate about Chinese control of the city's media.

Proposals to unify the Pearl River Delta have already run into resistance: critics say initial plans for Hong Kong and mainland Chinese immigration and customs officials to share locations - to speed border crossings - violates the one-country two-systems framework. But the same ideas that provoke outrage in some can arouse the enthusiasm of others. On Tuesday, Otto Lin, a professor with Hong Kong Polytechnic University, proposed onstage that all border controls within the region be eradicated. The conference hall erupted in applause.

"The typical move is just to keep your head down ahead of July 1 and the Party Congress," said Andy Mok, managing director for Beijing-based internet consultancy Red Pagoda Resources, referring to a leadership reshuffle later this year. "It could be that Tencent sees this as an internal strategic move to strengthen its dominance in gaming, finance, and it also creates a symbolic meaning of leadership," he said, calling Ma's effort "a bold move."

Ma's emergence into the spotlight is highly unusual for a Chinese entrepreneur who shuns media appearances and interviews. He graces at most a couple high-profile events a year, at which he consistently refrains from extensive public pronouncements. It reflects how a new generation of Chinese tech tycoons are fast becoming de-facto ambassadors for their country. Jack Ma is among the most assured of his cohort, jetting around the world to plug his vision of helping small businesses thrive.

Xi has identified the internet as one of the most important sectors for official oversight. He's reminded the country's technology parvenus to "demonstrate positive energy in purifying cyberspace" and called for regular contact with new media representatives to build support for the party's agenda.

Pony Ma's own company is best known for social media phenomenon WeChat, a service that helps 900 million-plus users with everything from messaging and gaming to ordering food. The conglomerate built around it now runs news portals, Hollywood movie production and distribution, online book stores and ga-

mes including Clash of Clans. Ma is China's third richest man with a net worth of USD28.5 billion.

Ma first publicly outlined his vision of a Chinese "Bay Area" during an annual March legislative meeting in Beijing. While details remain vague, his suggestion has now been written into China's government work report, and broaches the idea of twinning Hong Kong's capital and financial muscle with the manufacturing prowess of Shenzhen and the Pearl River Delta region. Ma said that could help "the long-term stability and prosperity of Hong Kong and Macau."

Yesterday, Ma urged China's government to enact tax- and immigration-friendly policies that make it easier to attract highly skilled workers, by letting them move freely across the border and enjoy tax benefits.

Hong Kong routinely ranks among the world's top business destinations but is facing competition from Chinese cities such as Beijing and Shanghai. Hong Kong's share of Chinese gross domestic product has fallen to about 3 percent from about 18 percent since the British handover 20 years ago.

As property prices soar to world-beating levels and Wall Street banks get crowded out of local initial public offerings, Hong Kong's leaders point to technological innovation as a way to catalyze growth. It's unclear how Ma's vision complements that of the city's own government, which has proposed an 87-hectare park built on swamp land to incubate future tech giants. The idea is that tenants would be close to Shenzhen's cheaper manufacturing and innovation, while retaining Hong Kong's legal and business framework and internet freedom, with eased border crossings between the two.

Both grand plans compete with at least 120 so-called tech zones now getting drawn up in regions from Beijing to eastern Hangzhou, all hoping to forge China's equivalent of Silicon Valley. And all are vying for talent and capital.

Ma's Bay Area project "potentially will help with stability, if you look at Silicon Valley as an example, where you create it as base to attract talent and capital from all around the world," Mok said. "And it gives you a lot more resources to work with." **Bloomberg**

corporate bits

TOP HONORS FOR ST. REGIS AND SHERATON AT CHINA HOTEL AWARDS

St Regis Macau and Sheraton Grand Macau received two awards at the 7th China Hotel Awards ceremony in Beijing. Janet McNab, managing director of both Sheraton and St Regis, clinched the first award for "Best General Manager", while the award for "Best

Urban Resort" went to St Regis. "We are honored to have received not just one, but two very prestigious awards from the China Hotel Awards this year," said McNab, according to a press release from St Regis and Sheraton. "These awards re-

cognize the hard work my team delivers each day to ensure our guests enjoy their time with us," she added.

The China Hotel Awards are hosted by Lifestyle China and are regarded as prestigious industry awards in mainland China.



CTM OFFERS NEW IPAD PROS

CTM announced yesterday that its shops will accept orders for the new 10.5-inch and 12.9-inch iPad Pros.

According to a press release, the iPads will feature the A10X Fusion chip and ProMotion technology, which delivers faster refresh rates, greater respon-

siveness and smoother motion. ProMotion also improves display quality and reduces power consumption, according to the press release. The A10X Fusion chip performs faster than most computers and laptops.

The iPad Pro features the same front

and back-facing cameras as the iPhone 7, including a 12-megapixel camera with optical image stabilization and a seven-megapixel FaceTime HD camera.

The iPads are compatible with the Apple Pencil. The Pencil has been made more responsive with ProMotion technology, enabling more fluid and natural drawing.

BELT AND ROAD INITIATIVE

China considers Portugal 'important partner'

CHINA'S relations with Portugal are "in the best period of their history" and could be reinforced by the Chinese government's "Belt and Road" initiative, in which Portugal is "an important partner," said the Chinese ambassador in Lisbon.

Ambassador Cai Run speaking at the Business Opportunities Forum between Portugal, China and Macau, on Monday in Lisbon, organised by the Macau Institute for Trade and Investment the Promotion (IPIM), the China Council for Promotion of International Trade (CCPIT) and the Portuguese Agency for Foreign Investment and Trade (AICEP).

This historic period in bilateral relations, said Cai Run, is based on high-level bilateral contacts, mutual political trust, "pragmatic and fruitful" cooperation, "close

communication and coordination in key international and regional affairs," as well as contact between the people of the two countries.

The results are felt at a trade level, with two-way exchanges amounting to 5.8 billion euros, 29 percent more than in the same period of last year, and China's total investment in Portugal exceeding 6 billion euros by the end of 2016, a flow that "grows steadily" and will benefit from the direct air link between Beijing and Lisbon, starting this summer.

The recent Forum on the Belt and Road initiative, Cai Run said, "defined directions and identified projects to be implemented" and, as Portugal is responsible for the "page of the great maritime era," it is an "important partner" in the initiative.

Kang Wen, director-general of the Ministry of Commerce of China for Taiwan,

Hong Kong and Macau Affairs, told about 200 business people about the "enthusiasm" felt for the initiative, which is "open to all," offering allowing "great benefits" through concerted interests and cooperation.

Zhang Wei, the vice-president of the CCPIT, also stressed the importance of the "Belt and Road" initiative and the opportunities it provides, particularly in tourism to Portugal, given that China will soon have 700 million tourists taking foreign holidays.

António Silva, a member of AICEP, said he wanted to "encourage Portuguese companies to establish partnerships with Chinese companies," pointing to potential sectors such as transport, specifically the port of Sines, but also renewable energy, the economy of the sea and innovation.

According to Jorge Costa



Chinese ambassador to Portugal, Cai Run

Oliveira, the Portuguese secretary of state for internationalization nowadays there is, "enormous potential in terms of tripartite business cooperation, especially in other geographies," particularly in Europe, Latin America or Africa, where Portugal has important political relationships.

MDT/Macauhub

Rubies from Mozambique sold at Singapore auction

A new auction of rubies mined in Mozambique held in Singapore allowed Montepuez Ruby Mining, Lda to obtain revenues of USD54.8 million, said the company, which is a partnership that is 75 percent owned by Gemfields and the remaining 25 percent by Mozambique's Mwiriti, Lda.

The price reached an average of \$61 per carat, with 895,848 carats being purchased out of just over one million put up for sale by the company, which has a mining concession in Cabo Delgado, northern Mozambique.

This was the eighth Mozambican ruby auction by the company since June 2014, with accumulated revenues of \$280 million.

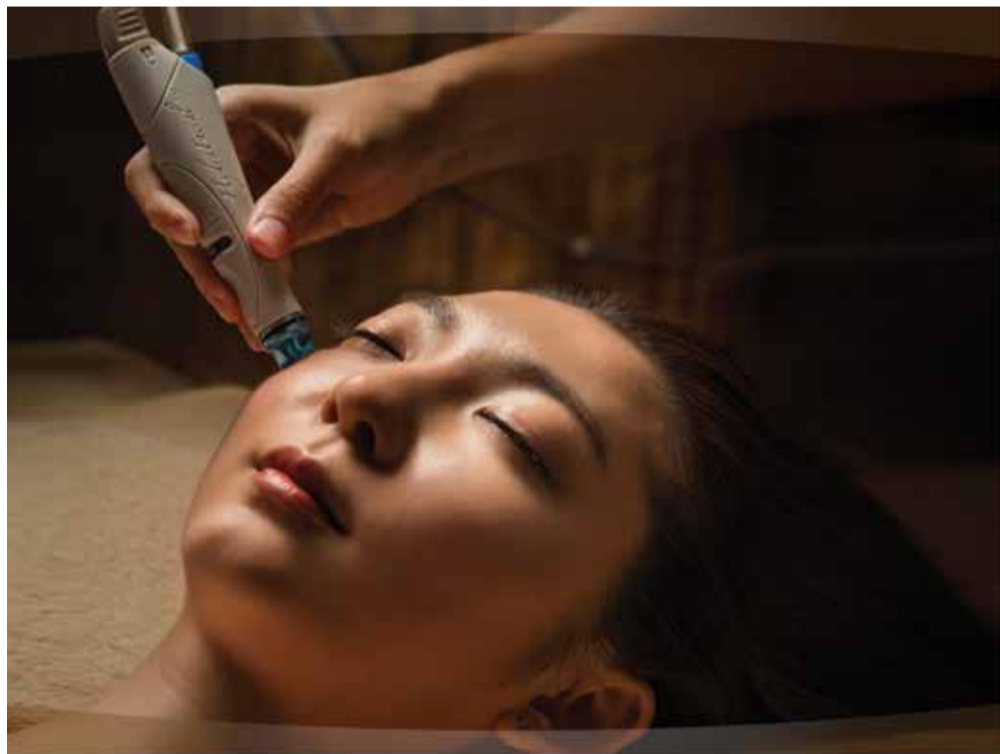
This sale will net the Mozambican state \$5.48 million as a result of levying the production tax, which is currently 10 percent, according to the Mozambican press.

London-based Gemfields is currently being disputed by Chinese group Fosun International through Fosun Gold and Pallinghurst Resources, which have submitted bids to buy the company.

Pallinghurst Resources, whose proposal was announced on 19 May, is, however, already the main shareholder of Gemfields, holding a direct shareholding of about 47 percent of the company's capital.

MDT/Macauhub

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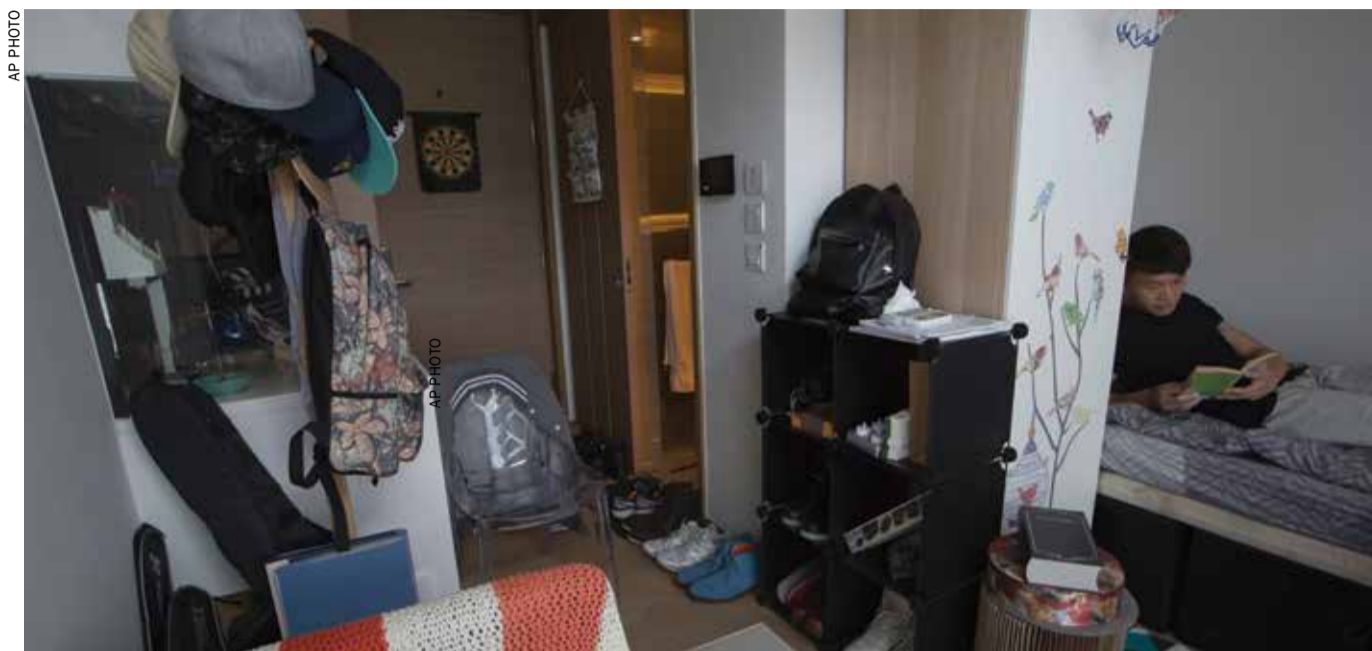
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ABA BAR





Donny Chan reads on the bed at his apartment, one of a growing number of tiny, upscale units known as "microflats" in Hong Kong

HONG KONG

Micro-flats boom as property prices soar

Kelvin Chan, Hong Kong

WITH its marble-clad lobby, sweeping balcony views and sleek, modern decor, Donny Chan's apartment building would seem the kind of upscale tower most young Hong Kong professionals aspire to live in.

But not for Chan, 39, who avoids spending time in his 19th-floor apartment because it measures just 193 square feet (about 14 feet by 14 feet or 18 square meters). His parking space-sized studio in the grandly named High One building is part of a growing trend for so-called micro apartments that are diminutive even by the standards of space-starved and densely built Hong Kong.

"Every time that I step back into this (apartment) I kind of feel like a cat squeezed into a box," said Chan, an art director at a medical equipment maker. To avoid returning to his cramped and claustrophobic apartment before bedtime he plays basketball or badminton, goes to the movies or karaoke bars, and gets together with friends and family.

"I go walking in shopping malls until the last minute when they close," he said.

Hong Kong's property developers are scaling down, way down, for younger, middle-class buyers, offering micro-sized upscale apartments with eye-popping price tags. The apartments, dubbed "mosquito-size units" or "gnat flats" in Chinese, are drawing online ridicule and underscore worries over the Asian financial hub's overheated real estate market and widening inequality.

Hong Kong is often ranked the world's costliest housing market.

Its micro-flat boom parallels tiny house and minimalist living trends seen in the U.S. and other developed countries. The difference is that in Hong Kong, few make the choice willingly. Chan moved in last year after splitting up with his wife. He viewed 20 other apartments over three weeks but they were all more expensive, in worse

condition or farther from his job.

When they first appeared, micro-flats were mostly snapped up by investors renting them for above-average returns. The government has moved to cool such speculation, and most demand now comes from people needing a place to live, said Ingrid Cheh, research manager at Jones Lang Lasalle.

Every time that I step back into this [apartment] I kind of feel like a cat squeezed into a box.

DONNY CHAN

Even so, their extravagant prices mean the young buyers who can afford the prison cell or parking lot sized units already are privileged by Hong Kong standards, said Edward Yiu, a lawmaker representing architects and surveyors.

Transaction records show Chan's landlord bought the unit from developer Henderson Land for about USD500,000 in 2015. Chan's rent is \$1,300 a month, or a third of his monthly salary. He said he'd never consider buying such a small place to live. The down payment on a bigger apartment, if he were to buy, would mean "I'll be saving until the day I die."

Last year, developer MT Sisters' AVA 55 project sold units as small as 166 square feet (15.4 square meters) for as much as \$500,000. Blueprints showed the builder was eliminating separate shower stalls, including them in the toilets, to save space, an arrangement usually only found in older buildings.

It took decades for the government to provide housing for the city's hundreds of thousands of refugees from main-

land China, and personal living space has always been at a premium. But apartments are indeed shrinking.

Last year, developers built 206 apartments smaller than 20 square meters (215 square feet), up from 79 in 2015 and none in 2012. This year, 30 percent of the 17,122 apartments set to be completed will be smaller than 40 square meters (430 square feet). That ratio will rise to 43 percent in 2018.

Most Hong Kongers have a fraction of the space seen in other advanced economies, where average living space ranges from 40 to 50 square meters per person, or in mainland Chinese cities, where it measures 30 square meters. Residents of Hong Kong's numerous public housing estates, meanwhile, get less than 13 square meters.

Life in a micro apartment has forced Chan to downsize across the board.

When he moved in, he estimates he sold off or threw out 40 percent of his possessions — suits, basketball shoes, comic books, model cars and planes — because they wouldn't fit. He stores the rest of his stuff at his parents' place or in boxes supporting his single mattress. There's a narrow wardrobe, a pint-sized loveseat and an undersized coffee table, but no space for a TV.

Parties are out of the question: there's only enough space for one or two visitors.

The apartment's minuscule open kitchen includes a space-saving sink that converts to countertop. There are six cans of soda in his half-size fridge: Chan says he never cooks.

"Once you cook, the smell will last for days," he complained.

Chan plans to move to Hong Kong's semi-rural suburbs when his lease is up, where he might get twice as much space but face a lengthy commute. Even after his ex-wife bought out his share of their home, he has little hope of buying property again.

"I can't even find the door to enter the market," he said. "I can't imagine how young people can afford their own houses in such circumstances." AP

N. Korea, terrorism to feature at US-China dialogue

NORTH Korean threats, trade tensions and global terrorism are expected to be among the issues discussed at the inaugural U.S.-China diplomatic and security dialogue being held in Washington this week.

Trade and investment are also due to take a high profile following President Donald Trump's repeated complaints about the U.S. trade deficit with China, which hit USD310 billion last year, by far the largest imbalance with any country.

The deficit with China represented about 60 percent of last year's total deficit of \$500.6 billion.

Chinese foreign ministry spokesman Geng Shuang said yesterday that Beijing is hoping for "positive outcomes" from the dialogue, which replaces a former, more wide-ranging series of talks known as the Strategic and Economic Dialogue.

North Korea will likely be a central issue as Trump's administration continues to push China to use its leverage as Pyongyang's main source of economic and diplomatic support to persuade it to halt its missile launches and nuclear weapons tests.

Geng said China remains committed to banishing nuclear weapons from the Korean Peninsula and working with the U.S. and others on restarting talks over the issue.

Terrorism and competing territorial claims in the South China Sea are also expected to be raised at today's discussions.

Geng said tensions in the South China Sea have cooled amid efforts by China and the 10-member Association of Southeast Asian Nations to cement a code of conduct that would ostensibly help them avoid conflicts. China claims virtually the entire strategic waterbody, while the Philippines, Vietnam, Malaysia, Brunei and Taiwan also hold stakes in the region.

Geng said bilateral and international issues would be taken up during the dialogue, which will be led on the U.S. side by Secretary of State Rex Tillerson and Defense Secretary Jim Mattis. China will be represented by senior foreign policy adviser Yang Jiechi and military chief of staff Fang Fenghui.

Referring to terrorism, Geng identified no specific areas, but said both Beijing and Washington faced a common threat. Rights groups accuse Beijing of using terrorism as a pretext for repressing its Muslim Uighur minority in the western region of Xinjiang, while China says Washington's interventions in Iraq, Libya and elsewhere have led to chaos, death and destruction.

"We hope the two sides can, in the principle of mutual respect, mutual benefit and equality, exchange views and extend cooperation on the anti-terrorism issues of common interest," Geng said.

While a U.S.-Chinese trade war looks unlikely, the world's two biggest economies need to work together at a time of "many uncertainties" over U.S. interest rates, Britain's pending departure from the European Union and pressure for trade controls, said former Chinese trade official Wei Jian-guo. AP

WARMBIER

Tour agency says it won't take more US tourists to North Korea

AP PHOTO



American student Otto Warmbier cries while speaking to reporters in Pyongyang in February, 2016

Gerry Shih, Beijing

THE organizers of a trip to North Korea by an American college student who died after being released from prison in a coma say they will no longer take U.S. citizens to the country.

Young Pioneer Tours said on its Facebook page that the death of 22-year-old Otto Warmbier shows that the risk American tourists face in visiting North Korea "has become too high."

Warmbier died in Ohio yesterday [Macau time], days after being released by North Korea.

Other well-known North Korea tour operators, including Koryo Tours, founded by British expatriates in Beijing, and Uri Tours, with offices in New Jersey and Shanghai, said this week that they were "reviewing" their policies for American citizens ahead of a

possible travel ban that has been mooted by U.S. Secretary of State Rex Tillerson.

Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Geng Shuang called Warmbier's death a "tragedy." He told reporters at a daily news briefing that he hopes Pyongyang and Washington could communicate over related issues.

China, North Korea's longtime communist ally and biggest source of economic and diplomatic assistance, provides the largest numbers of tourists to the country by far.

Warmbier was among the estimated 5,000 non-Chinese who visit North Korea every year on packages that often include trips to Pyongyang, the capital, as well as the demilitarized zone separating the two Koreas, Mount Paektu and sometimes the Masik ski resort. Americans comprise about a fifth of all non-Chinese tourists to North Korea, tour operators say.

Young Pioneer Tours, which was founded by British expatriate Gareth Johnson, said that it was denied any opportunity to meet with Warmbier after his detention, and that the way it was handled was "appalling."

"There has still been almost no information disclosed about his period in detention," the company said in its Facebook statement. "Considering these facts and this tragic outcome we will no longer be organizing tours for U.S. citizens to North Korea."

The travel agency specializes in North Korea tours and is based in the central Chinese city of Xi'an. It also offers tours to Iran, Turkmenistan and the Chernobyl nuclear disaster site in Ukraine, among other locations.

Warmbier was sentenced to 15 years in prison with hard labor, convicted of subversion after he tearfully confessed he had tried to steal a North Korean propaganda banner.

The University of Virginia student was held for more than 17 months and medically evacuated from North Korea last week. Doctors said he returned with severe brain damage, but it wasn't clear how that occurred. **AP**

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WARMBIER

Trump calls North Korea 'brutal' after US student's death

PRESIDENT Donald Trump is calling North Korea a "brutal regime" following the death of American college student Otto Warmbier.

Trump says, "Lot of bad things happened but at least we got him home to be with his parents."

The family of an American college student who died days after being released from North Korea in a coma says the 22-year-old "has completed his journey home."

Otto Warmbier died yesterday [Macau time], relatives said in a statement. They did not cite a specific cause of death.

"Unfortunately, the awful, torturous mistreatment our son received at the hands of the North Koreans ensured that no other outcome was possible beyond the sad one we experienced today," his parents said.

Doctors had described Warmbier's condition as a state of "unresponsive wakefulness" and said he suffered a "severe neurological injury" of unknown cause. He arrived in Ohio on June 13 after being held for more than 17 months.

The University of Virginia student was accused of trying to steal a propaganda banner while visiting with a tour group and was convicted of subversion. He was put before North Korean officials and journalists for a televised "confession."



Fred Warmbier, father of Otto Warmbier

"I have made the worst mistake of my life!" he exclaimed, choking up as he begged to be allowed to reunite with his parents and two younger siblings.

He was sentenced in March 2016 to 15 years in prison with hard labor. His family said it was told he had been in a coma since soon after his sentencing.

Doctors said he suffered extensive loss of brain tissue and "profound weakness and contraction" of his muscles, arms and legs. His eyes opened and blinked but without any sign that he understood verbal commands or his surroundings.

Doctors had described Warmbier's condition as a state of "unresponsive wakefulness"

Unresponsive wakefulness is a new medical term for persistent vegetative state. Patients in this condition who have survived a coma can open their eyes, but they do not respond to commands. People can live in a state of

unresponsive wakefulness for many years with the chances of recovery depending on the extent of the brain injury.

North Korea said Warmbier went into a coma after contracting botulism and taking a sleeping pill. Doctors in Cincinnati said they found no active sign of botulism or evidence of beatings.

Warmbier grew up in the Cincinnati suburb of Wyoming. He was salutatorian of his 2013 class at a highly rated high school and was on the soccer team.

Wyoming City Schools released a statement saying it was "deeply saddened" by his death.

"The countless contributions he made to his school and community through his leadership, actions, and limitless enthusiasm will be felt far into the future," the school district said.

Warmbier's sophomore En-

glish teacher said he would be "dearly missed."

Warmbier had planned to study in China in his third year of college and heard about Chinese travel companies offering trips to North Korea. He was leaving North Korea on Jan. 2, 2016, when he was detained at the airport.

The U.S. Department of State warns against travel to North Korea. While nearly all Americans who have been there have left without incident, visitors can be seized and face lengthy incarceration for what might seem like minor infractions.

Jeffrey Fowle, also from Ohio, was detained in 2014 when he intentionally left a Bible in a nightclub. Fowle was freed after six months. He said he was kept isolated most of the time but not physically abused. He and others freed from North Korea have said they were coached and coerced into giving confessions.

Three Americans remain held in North Korea. The U.S. government accuses North Korea of using such detainees as political pawns. North Korea accuses Washington and South Korea of sending spies to overthrow its government.

AP

WARMBIER'S DEATH INVESTIGATED

THE CORONER'S office in Cincinnati is investigating the death of an American college student who died less than a week after his return from North Korea, where he was detained for nearly a year and a half. A spokesman for the Hamilton County coroner says Dr. Lakshmi Sammaraco's office has accepted the case of Otto Warmbier, who died Monday in a Cincinnati hospital. Justin Weber told

The Associated Press yesterday morning that a press conference is expected later to provide details. Warmbier's parents did not cite a specific cause of death, but cited "awful, torturous mistreatment" by North Korea. Doctors had described Warmbier's condition as a state of "unresponsive wakefulness" and said he suffered a "severe neurological injury" of unknown cause.

NEW ZEALAND

English faces questions over alleged secret tapes

THREE months away from an election, New Zealand Prime Minister Bill English is facing awkward questions about how he handled a lawmaker who is accused of making secret recordings and then lying about what he did.

English yesterday released a statement he made to police last year, saying that lawmaker Todd Barclay told him he left a recording device running in his district office and captured criticism from a staffer.

Under New Zealand law, it is illegal to secretly record other people's conversations. Police investigated

Barclay, but the conservative lawmaker refused an interview and police said they closed the case due to insufficient evidence.

Barclay told reporters early yesterday that he was aware of the allegations and "totally refute them," a statement that echoed earlier denials.

But after English released his police statement, Barclay said he'd read it and accepted it.

"I'm sorry if any of the answers I gave this morning were misleading," Barclay said during a hastily arranged news conference.

He said that it was a

stressful time during a difficult employment dispute, but that he couldn't comment further due to legal reasons. He left without answering any questions.

So far, Barclay hasn't faced any political sanctions. English was asked by reporters why he hadn't censured the lawmaker.

"I told the police. The police conducted an investigation," English said. "As far as I was concerned, that was the end of the matter. Now it's a matter for Todd around the statements he might have made."

English released his police statement after an in-

vestigation by the Newsroom website revealed he sent texts that formed part of the police investigation.

In those texts, English said Barclay had recorded staffer Glenys Dickson. He said that after Dickson quit, she'd been given a settlement that was larger than normal "because of the privacy breach," and that part of it had been paid for from the prime minister's budget. "Everyone unhappy," English wrote in one text, according to Newsroom.

English has declined to say how much Dickson was paid.



New Zealand Prime Minister Bill English

Opposition leader Andrew Little said that English's previous comments about the case were dismissive, and that he seemed to be covering things up to protect Barclay.

"All that time he was, in fact, donkey deep in this

scandal," Little said in a statement.

Recent opinion polls indicate that English's National Party remains the most popular party and English the preferred prime minister ahead of September's nationwide elections. AP



INDIA

No-meat, no-lust advice for pregnant women ridiculed

Nirmala George, New Delhi

INDIA'S government is advising pregnant women to avoid all meat, eggs and lusty thoughts.

Doctors say the advice is preposterous, and even dangerous, considering India's already-poor record with maternal health. Women are often the last to eat or receive health care in traditionally patriarchal Indian households.

Malnutrition and anemia, or iron deficiency, are key factors behind India's having one of the world's highest rates of maternal mortality, with 174 of every 100,000 pregnancies

resulting in the mother's death in 2015. That's better than five years earlier, when the maternal mortality rate was 205 maternal deaths per 100,000 live births, but still far worse than China's 27 per 100,000 or the United States' 14 per 100,000, according to UNICEF.

"The government is doling out unscientific and irrational advice, instead of ensuring that poor pregnant women get to eat a nutritious, high-protein diet," said gynecologist Arun Gadre, who is based in the western Indian city of Pune but works in rural areas.

The government booklet, titled "Mother and Child Care,"

smacks of religious dogma and ignores widely accepted medical evidence that pregnant women benefit from eating protein-rich meats and can safely engage in sex, doctors said.

It says pregnant women should also shun "impure thoughts" and look at pictures of beautiful babies to benefit the fetus.

"Pregnant women should detach themselves from desire, anger, attachment, hatred and lust," reads the booklet, released last week by the Central Council for Research in Yoga and Naturopathy, a part of the government's ministry that promotes traditional and alternative medicine.

The traditional medicine minister defended the booklet as containing "wisdom accumulated over many centuries," and said it did not advise specifically against sex, only against all thoughts of desire or lust.

"The booklet puts together relevant facts culled out from clinical practice in the fields of yoga and naturopathy," Minister Shripad Naik said.

The advice is unlikely to be followed at the many government-run health centers across India. They are operated by the Health Ministry, which has had past conflicts with the traditional medicine ministry and follows more scientific

practices.

The booklet is the latest push for vegetarianism by Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Hindu-nationalist government, which already advocates avoiding beef and strictly limits the transportation and slaughter of cows, which are considered sacred by Hindus.

But the latest homily to pregnant women has outraged the medical community.

"This is a national shame. If the calories of expectant mothers are further reduced by asking them to shun meat and eggs, this situation will only worsen," Gadre said. "This is absurd advice to be giving to pregnant women in a country like India."

About a third of India's 1.3 billion people struggle to live on less than USD2 a day. Many are lucky to eat more than one full meal a day, and women often give their portions up to their hungry children or husbands.

Malnourished women are more likely to give birth to underweight babies, who then are in danger of being "stunted" or not growing to their full height and weight. A full 48 percent of all Indian children under the age of 5 are considered stunted, according to a 2015 report by UNICEF.

"Undernourished girls grow into undernourished women. Married by their families while still in their teens, these girls become pregnant by the time they are 17 or 18, when their bodies have not matured enough to safely deliver a child," said Amit Sengupta, a physician and health care activist with the Delhi Science Forum, a public advocacy organization.

He said the government's advice to pregnant women betrayed "backward thinking" and hostility toward evidence-based science.

"This kind of advice is detrimental to women's health," he said. **AP**

MYANMAR

Court gives exorcist death for killing three children

A court in Myanmar sentenced a self-styled exorcist to death yesterday for killing three children during a ritual he carried out after telling their parents their offspring were possessed by evil spirits.

A police officer in Thanlyin, the township where the trial was held, said the court sentenced Tun Naing for the deaths of two girls, aged 8 months and 2 years, and a 3-year-old boy. The children suffered fatal injuries last October when

Tun Naing punched and kicked them. The officer, contacted by phone, declined to give his name.

Superstition and belief in spirits is common in Myanmar, especially in rural villages in the Buddhist-dominated country.

Tun Naing, 30, had pleaded guilty when he was brought to trial in November last year, telling the court, "I lost control of my mind and I killed them."

Tun Naing received an

additional sentence of seven years in prison for severely injuring a 4-year-old girl in a separate ceremony in another village. Witnesses to that incident alerted the police, who arrested him.

Death sentences are rare in Myanmar, and none have been carried out since 1988. However, the death penalty is still applied when there is clear evidence of a capital crime such as murder, said Kyaw Myint, a veteran lawyer. **AP**



Self-styled exorcist Tun Naing, (center) arrives at a district court in Thanlyin township, south of Yangon (Nov 2016)

USA

Poll: Courts are right in blocking Trump's travel ban

Alicia A. Caldwell & Emily Swanson, Washington

MOST Americans say federal courts are acting properly in blocking President Donald Trump's travel ban, according to a new poll by The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research.

Two versions of the travel ban targeting Muslim-majority countries have been put on hold by federal courts. Trump says the ban is necessary to keep would-be terrorists from traveling to the United States. Opponents, including some state officials, argue that it is intended to keep Muslims out.

Fifty-seven percent of Americans say the courts have acted correctly by blocking the travel ban from taking effect, while 39 percent say the judges are wrongly interfering. The poll shows a sharp partisan divide: 82 percent of Democrats say the courts acted rightly, while 73 percent of Republicans say they're wrongly interfering. Among independents, 56 percent agree with the courts.

"From the beginning President Trump said, even before the election, that he intended to ban



Muslims, not that he intended to ban terrorists but Muslims," said Nick Hardy, 54, an independent voter who said he leans Democratic. "That's just not right."

Trump initially signed an executive order in late January that banned people from Iran, Iraq, Syria, Yemen, Sudan, Somalia and Libya from traveling to the United States. That included legal permanent residents. The order also blocked all refugees from being resettled in the United States. The order caused chaos and confusion at airports around the world. Some travelers arriving in the United States were detained before being sent home, and people overseas were blocked from boarding U.S.-bound flights.

The original order was blocked in federal court, and an appeals court later upheld that ruling. A second order that dropped Iraq from the list of affected countries also has been blocked. It also exempted legal U.S. residents from the ban.

The Trump administration has asked the Supreme Court to immediately reinstate the updated ban, saying the U.S. will be safer if it is in place.

The San Francisco-based 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals this month refused to reinstate the executive order, and a three-judge panel said the administration failed to show that blocking citizens from the six nations was needed to protect the U.S. The court

also found that the president's order violated an immigration law prohibiting discrimination based on nationality.

As a candidate, Trump pledged to block Muslims from traveling to the United States until American authorities could get a better handle on vetting visitors and immigrants. Those campaign remarks have been used as evidence of his intention by opponents of the order.

The 4th U.S. Circuit in Richmond, Virginia, also has called Trump's national security concerns an after-the-fact justification for an order "steeped in animus and directed at a single religious group."

Sixty-two percent of responders did think trying to protect the United States from security threats was a major reason, while 26 percent thought it was a minor reason and 11 percent thought it was not a reason at all.

On the other hand, 50 percent of people who responded to the AP-NORC poll said they think a desire to prevent Muslims from entering the country was a major reason for the ban, while 20 percent said it was a minor reason. Twenty-eight percent thought it

was not a reason.

Those viewpoints also largely broke down along partisan lines. Sixty-four percent of Democrats, 46 percent of independents and 34 percent of Republicans say preventing Muslims from entering the country was a major reason for the travel ban. Eighty-seven percent of Republicans, 70 percent of independents and 41 percent of Democrats say protecting the country from security threats was a major reason.

Rebecca Miller, a 50-year-old pet care business owner from Tampa, Florida, said she doesn't agree with a lot of what Trump says but supports the travel ban and thinks the courts have wrongly interfered with it. Miller said she votes "promises, not party" and sees the travel ban as a safety issue.

"I think that they want to stop the travel ban based on people claiming a certain religion. I don't think it's about religion, it's about safety," Miller said. "I'm very interested to see the ban put into effect and for a couple of years kind of monitor it and see how it goes."

The AP-NORC poll of 1,068 adults was conducted June 8-11 using a sample drawn from NORC's probability-based AmeriSpeak panel, which is designed to be representative of the U.S. population. The margin of sampling error for all respondents is plus or minus 4.1 percentage points.

Respondents were first selected randomly using address-based sampling methods and later interviewed online or by phone. **AP**

BREXIT

Key leaders in UK economy argue for cooperative talks

TWO of the most senior figures in Britain's economy argued yesterday for cooperative, not adversarial, talks over the country's exit from the European Union, calling for a deal that benefits both sides rather than erecting barriers that will hurt everyone.

Treasury chief Philip Hammond and Bank of England Governor Mark Carney said in separate speeches that Britain must use the negotiations to reduce obstacles to trade in services while protecting the benefits of free trade in goods. Services, including banking and insurance, account for 80 percent of Britain's economy.

"It would be all too easy to give in to protectionism," Carney said. "But as we learned in the 1930s, that road leads neither to equity nor prosperity.

Raising barriers to trade disproportionately hurts the least well off through higher prices and fewer opportunities."

Carney also downplayed the possibility of an interest rate increase amid the uncertainty wrought by Britain's pending departure. He said that while rates will have to rise as the economy strengthens, "now is not yet the time to begin that adjustment."

In addition to his comments on trade, Hammond said immigration should be managed but not "shut down" as he emphasized the need to protect economic growth. The remarks at the annual Mansion House session for leaders of Britain's financial industry suggest Hammond prefers a deal that preserves more trade links with the EU than the "hard Brexit" supported

by his boss, Prime Minister Theresa May.

May has put her focus on cutting EU migration, and the EU has said that if Britain wants to tighten its borders for EU citizens, it would not be allowed to remain in the tariff-less EU single market.

The government, which began formal talks with the EU on Monday, is under pressure to soften its stance on Brexit after losing its majority in an early election this month. Analysts believe many voters rejected May's Conservative Party because of concerns its approach to the talks would dim Britain's economic prospects.

Some 90 percent of those surveyed in a recent poll thought free trade was good for the economy, regardless whether they voted to leave the EU or

remain, Hammond said.

"Just as the British people understand the benefits of trade - so, too, they understand how important it is to business to be able to access global talent and to move individuals around their organizations," he said.

Hammond also took a shot at his EU counterparts, suggesting that recent attempts to increase regulation of financial services were a veiled attempt to wrest business away from Britain.

"Let's be honest, we are already hearing protectionist agendas being advanced, disguised as arguments about regulatory competence, financial stability, and supervisory oversight," Hammond said. "We can have no truck with that approach."

The European Commission, the bloc's exe-



EU Chief Brexit Negotiator Michel Barnier, center, and British Secretary of State for Exiting the EU David Davis, left, walk together as they arrive at EU headquarters in Brussels

cutive body, has moved to tighten regulation of clearinghouses that process euro-denominated contracts, threatening tens of thousands of jobs in Britain once the country leaves the EU. Under rules proposed last week, any clearinghouse considered important to the EU financial system would have to accept direct oversight from EU regulators and, if requested, relocate to inside the bloc.

Clearinghouses act as intermediaries to reduce the risk of default by ensuring funds are delivered to the seller - a way of undergirding the financial system. London is currently

the European center for this business, handling 98 percent of all euro-denominated contracts for interest rate swaps.

Carney, whose agency oversees much of Britain's financial system, said turning inward would increase costs for business and reduce financial stability. Instead, the two sides should look for a "cooperative and reciprocal agreement" that strengthens the financial system, he said.

"Fragmentation is in no one's economic interest," Carney said. "Nor is it necessary for financial stability. Indeed it can damage it." **AP**

what's ON



OUR BELLE ÉPOQUE - MACAU - THE WORKS OF LEO FAN

TIME: 12pm-7pm (Closed on Tuesdays)

UNTIL: June 25, 2017

VENUE: 2F Gallery of Ox Warehouse

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2853 0026

30 - PRINTMAKING WORKS BY NG LAI SEONG AKA TUZI

TIME: 11am-7pm (Closed on Mondays and public holidays)

UNTIL: June 25, 2017

VENUE: Macau Art Garden

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2836 6064

SOU LENG FONG CERAMIC ART EXHIBITION

TIME: 11am-10pm

UNTIL: June 25, 2017

VENUE: The Lakeside Gallery, Anim'Arte Nam Van

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2836 6866

LOVE OF MACAU - PHOTOGRAPHS BY LEE KUNG KIM

TIME: 10am-7pm (Last admission at 6:30pm, closed on Mondays)

UNTIL: July 9, 2017

VENUE: Macao Art Museum

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8791 9814

EXHIBITION OF CHAN IU PUI

TIME: 11am-6pm (Closed on Mondays and public holidays)

UNTIL: August 7, 2017

VENUE: 10 Fantasia, No. 10, Calçada da Igreja de S. Lazaro

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2835 4582

DEBRIS - WORKS BY ALEXANDRE FARTO AKA VHILS

TIME: 10am-7pm

UNTIL: November 5, 2017

VENUE: Navy Yard No. 1

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8399 6699

Offbeat

COKE TWEET TARGETING PITTSBURGHERS USES MAP OF PHILADELPHIA

Coca-Cola's marketing efforts during the weekend's heatwave in Pittsburgh backfired when the company mistakenly used a map of Philadelphia in a post on Twitter.

Sunday's tweet said, "Today's forecast in Pittsburgh: Record heat, followed by an ice-cold wave of ahhhhhh. #ShareaCoke."

Although temperatures climbed into the high 80s, the tweet was received coolly because the message was accompanied by the wrong map.

Even Mayor Bill Peduto weighed in, responding, "I was elected to represent the people of Pittsburgh, not Philadelphia" — riffing on his recent kerfuffle over President Donald Trump's pullout of the Paris climate accord.

A spokeswoman for Atlanta-based Coca-Cola Co. apologized yesterday, saying the company is "exploring innovative, adaptive technologies to serve up personalized content to our fans [...] in this case, our map accidentally missed the mark — literally."

TV canal macau



13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
14:50	RTPi Live
17:40	Revenge Sr 2
18:20	Now Generation (Repeated)
19:10	TDM Interview (Repeated)
19:40	Soap Opera
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:00	Non-Daily Portuguese News
21:30	Now Generation
22:20	TDM News
22:55	Miscellaneous
00:45	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)
01:20	Miscellaneous
03:45	RTPi Live

cinema



CINETEATRO

15-21 JUN



THE MUMMY

ROOM 1

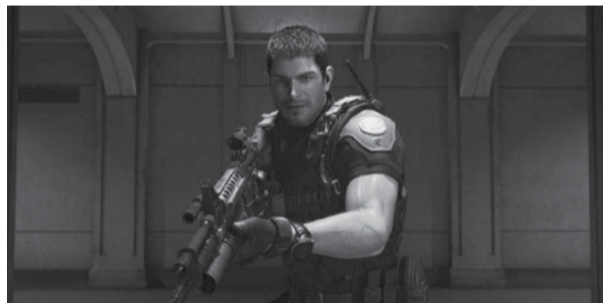
2:30, 4:30, 7:30, 9:30pm

Director: Alex Kurtzman

Starring: Tom Cruise, Sofia Boutella, Annabelle Walls

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 141min



RESIDENT EVIL: VENDETTA

ROOM 2

2:30, 4:30, 7:30, 9:30pm

Director: Takahiro Nozue

Starring: Orion Acaba, Erin Cahill, Darin De Paul

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 141min

WHO KILLED COCK ROBIN

ROOM 3

2:30, 4:30, 7:30, 9:30pm

Director: Cheng Wei-Hao

Starring: Wei-ning Hsu, Chia-yen Ko, Kaiser Chuang

Language: Putonghua (Chinese, English)

Duration: 116min

MACAU TOWER

30 MAY - 21 JUNE



WONDER WOMAN

(3D) 2:00, 4:30, 7:00, 9:30pm

Director: Patty Jenkins

Starring: Chris Pine, Connie Nielsen, Robin Wright

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 141min

this day in history



1982 PRINCESS DIANA GIVES BIRTH TO BOY

Diana, Princess of Wales, has given birth to a boy sixteen hours after checking in to St Mary's Hospital, in London.

The boy, who has been named William, was born at 21:03 BST, weighing 7lb 1½oz.

He is second in line to the British throne after his father the Prince of Wales, who accompanied Princess Diana to the hospital at 0500BST this morning and stayed with her throughout the day.

Outside the hospital crowds had gathered to wait for news of the birth, with some saying they would wait through the night if necessary. Flowers arrived all day long and were taken into the hospital.

Thousands also gathered outside Buckingham Palace, where the birth was formally announced.

The Queen had continued with her scheduled programme, inspecting the RAF regiment on their 40th anniversary at Wittering in Cambridgeshire.

A Palace official said she had looked "absolutely delighted" on hearing that the Princess had gone into labour.

The Princess went into labour earlier than expected, but only by a few days.

Professor of Obstetrics and Gynaecology at St George's Hospital Medical School in London, Geoffrey Chamberlain, told BBC News the long labour period should not present cause for concern.

He said: "Just over half of women expecting their first baby deliver inside 12 hours but another fifth go onto about 18 hours, and another fifth go even longer.

"There is nothing abnormal with a labour going into 24 hours."

The Queen's own surgeon gynaecologist, George Pinker, who has looked after the Princess throughout her pregnancy, was in charge of the delivery.

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

Prince William was the first heir to the British throne to be born in a hospital.

His brother, Prince Harry, was born on 15 September 1984.

Aged eight, William was sent to school in Wokingham, Berkshire, and at 13, he went to Eton, where he gained 12 GCSEs and excelled at a variety of sports.

After attaining A-Levels at grades A, B and C, he began a History of Art degree at Scotland's oldest university, St Andrews. He switched to Geography and achieved a 2:1 honours in his MA degree.

In 2006 the Prince joined the army, entering the officer training academy at Sandhurst.

The prince has had to endure the break up of his parents' marriage and the sudden death of his mother in August 1997.

YOUR STARS

Aries Mar. 21-Apr. 19 Real problems involving your nearest and dearest need most of your attention...

Taurus April 20-May 20 You have a much better time viewing the world through someone else's eyes.

Gemini May 21-Jun. 21 You should know by now that what you say and how you say it can directly affect what other people think of you.

Cancer Jun. 22-Jul. 22 You have a superior sense of intuition right now, which makes it pretty easy to guess what your friends, colleagues, and relatives are thinking about just by looking at the expression on their faces.

Leo Jul. 23-Aug. 22 It's in your best interests to ignore the urge to stir up trouble just for the fun of it.

Virgo Aug. 23-Sept. 22 Why are you so determined that your way is the right way? The first thing on your to-do list should be to stop being critical of other people's ideas and opinions.

Libra Sep.23-Oct. 22 If you attempt to start too many new projects, you might just fall behind with both the old and the new.

Scorpio Oct. 23 - Nov. 21 The longer you play the game, the harder it might be to maintain your grip on reality.

Sagittarius Nov. 22-Dec. 21 Looking at your dilemma from a different perspective can have a favorable outcome.

Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 19 If you don't have any creative or artistic friends, it's time to get acquainted with some.

Aquarius Jan. 20-Feb. 18 Money is your main concern, so it's a good idea to put off spending any more of it than you absolutely have to.

Pisces Feb.19-Mar. 20 No matter which road you choose to go down, there's something at the end of it that was well worth the trip.

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

Easy

Easy Sudoku grid with numbers 3, 5, 2, 7, 8, 2, 7, 2, 5, 3, 5, 4, 6, 2, 8, 6, 9, 9, 2, 1, 4, 2, 1, 3, 4, 5, 8.

Easy+

Easy+ Sudoku grid with numbers 7, 2, 1, 8, 5, 2, 9, 1, 4, 3, 2, 5, 4, 8, 7, 2, 1, 4, 3, 8, 9, 6, 3, 1, 6, 9, 2, 2, 1.

Medium

Medium Sudoku grid with numbers 6, 2, 1, 5, 6, 2, 3, 9, 8, 1, 9, 5, 3, 6, 7, 5, 4, 1, 9, 1, 7, 4, 8, 7, 9, 3, 4, 2.

Hard

Hard Sudoku grid with numbers 6, 2, 3, 1, 4, 2, 7, 8, 3, 2, 7, 4, 2, 1, 6, 3, 1, 4, 7.

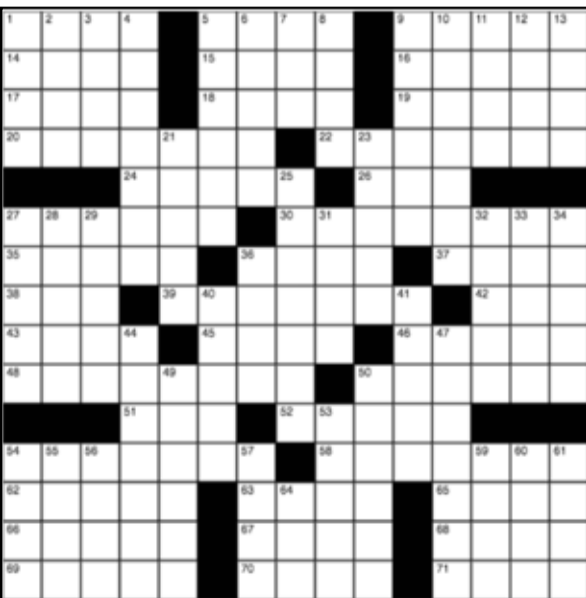
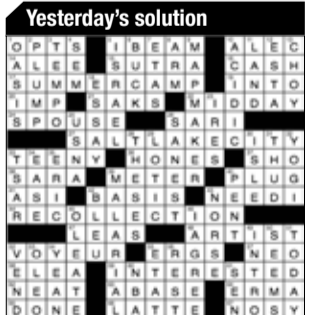
WEATHER

Weather forecast table for CHINA and WORLD. CHINA: Beijing (22-32, cloudy/shower), Harbin (14-22, thundershower), Tianjin (21-31, overcast), Urumqi (23-33, clear), Xi'an (21-30, overcast/drizzle), Lhasa (10-23, drizzle/shower), Chengdu (21-30, cloudy), Chongqing (23-34, overcast/cloudy), Kunming (17-24, shower), Nanjing (22-31, cloudy), Shanghai (23-28, overcast), Wuhan (22-32, cloudy), Hangzhou (23-29, overcast/shower), Taipei (26-33, overcast), Guangzhou (25-30, heavyrain), Hong Kong (26-30, moderaterain/cloudy). WORLD: Moscow (14-20, drizzle), Frankfurt (18-32, cloudy/clear), Paris (18-35, clear), London (15-27, clear/overcast), New York (17-26, clear/cloudy).

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- Pelvic bones; 6- Danny's daughter; 11- Jiff; 14- Emollient-yielding plants; 15- Upstate New York city; 16- Locka, FL; 17- Kids toys; 18- Gazette; 20- Self-esteem; 21- Words of comprehension; 23- White as a ghost; 24- Hazardous; 26- Deadlock; 28- Short-tempered; 30- Exorbitant; 31- Sidewalk eateries; 32- is human...; 33- Student stat; 36- Black cuckoos; 37- Make for oneself; 38- Prompted; 39- Tic-toe; 40- Halts; 41- Tremble; 42- Annie of "Designing Women"; 43- Thrills; 44- Alfalfa; 47- Penned; 48- Designer Mizrahi; 49- River in central Switzerland; 50- Fire starter?; 53- One who rents land from a tenant; 56- Soccer scores; 58- Test area; 59- Ignited again; 60- Small bay; 61- TV Tarzan Ron; 62- Shouts; 63- Closes in on;

DOWN: 1- "Smooth Operator" singer; 2- Sleep like; 3- Imparting color; 4- Cath. or Prot.; 5- Aids; 6- Medium of exchange; 7- Out of the wind; 8- Remote button; 9- Cruces; 10- Theoretically; 11- Second-year students, for short; 12- Fencing swords; 13- Chili con; 19- Pronto; 22- Heavens; 25- Angers; 26- Agenda entries; 27- A formality; 28- Shoof; 29- Mandlikova of tennis; 30- Lathers; 32- Govt. security; 33- Republic in N Central America; 34- Short dog, for short; 35- Citrus coolers; 37- Envelope abbr.; 38- FDR's fireside; 40- Black magic; 41- Fizz ingredient; 42- moss; 43- Stray; 44- Cotton thread used for hosiery; 45- Customary; 46- Cabdriver; 47- Pianist Andre; 49- Indigo source; 51- Robert of "The Sopranos"; 52- Concordes, e.g.; 54- Maiden name indicator; 55- Competitor of Tide and Cheer; 57- The loneliest number;



Crossword puzzles provided by BestCrosswords.com

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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Calçada da Surpresa, 12 Ching Fai Court, Macau 2 Bedroom Apartment Modern Furnished HKD 20,000 / 2,000 sq ft Ref: 16120629

Nam Hong Studio Apartment Macau 520 sq ft / HKD 6,500 sq ft HKD 3.38M Historical Studio Apartment Ref: 17055519
Va Fat Taipa 2 Bedroom Apartment Newly furnished HKD 11,800 / 765 sq ft Ref: 17040648

St Pauls Ruins Central Macau 716 sq ft / HKD 5,558sq ft HKD 3.98M Modern Apartment Ref: 17035511
Soi Cheung, Taipa Village Taipa 1 Bedroom Apartment Private Terrace HKD 13,800 / 700 sq ft Ref: 15090530

Cattleya Court, Ocean Gardens Taipa 1,503 sq ft / HKD 7,172 sq ft HKD 10.78M Ocean Gardens complex Ref: 16095497
Pacifica Gardens, L Unit Taipa 3 Bedroom Apartment Partly Furnished HKD 15,500 / 1,317 sq ft Ref: 17050649

JML property since 1994 logo and text.



The all-new Maserati Levante. The Maserati of SUVs.

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British & Irish Lions halfback Greig Laidlaw passes the ball during their game against the Chiefs at Waikato Stadium in Hamilton

RUGBY

British Lions beat Chiefs 34-6 in last match before 1st test

WINGER Jack Nowell scored two tries as the British and Irish Lions achieved the first midweek win of their New Zealand tour, beating the Hamilton-based Chiefs 34-6 yesterday to bolster morale four days ahead of the first test against the All Blacks.

After earlier midweek losses to the Auckland-based Blues and Dunedin-based Highlanders, the Lions produced their best attacking performance of the

tour, scoring tries in each half to Nowell, another to center Jared Payne and adding a penalty try from a collapsed maul.

The match followed the familiar pattern of the tour for the first 60 minutes as the Lions used a dominant set piece, accurate kicking and suffocating defense to wear down their opponents.

Once their superiority was established, they gave full vent to their attacking flair for the first time in the six warmup games.

Nowell was at the heart of ac-

tion all three times the Lions crossed for tries.

He handled twice in the first, finally hurling himself over the top of a ruck to score. He showed superb finishing ability to score the second, which ranged from one try-line to the other and showed the full range of the tourists' handling and passing skills.

And he fielded a kick and initiated the counter attack that led to the third, scored by New Zealand-born Payne who began his top level career in Hamilton

for Waikato province and the Chiefs.

Payne should have had a second try late in the match when Scotland winger Tommy Seymour, who came off the bench, made a brilliant run through the middle of the Chiefs defense and handed off. But Payne dropped a simple pass with the line open.

Few of the players who took the field for the Lions are likely to feature in the lineup which will face the All Blacks at Eden Park on Saturday. But the mi-

dweekers performed a vital role in continuing the momentum the Lions achieved with last weekend's win over the New Zealand Maori.

"We're very happy," Lions captain Rory Best said. "This was a tough fixture and we talked all week about character, about playing for each other and trying to get a win in this midweek match."

"We felt we'd played quite well in the previous two. We've been in some great positions and haven't finished it off and we showed in the last five minutes what it meant to us to be ahead by a bit and still not let them cross the line."

Best said the platform from the Lions' solid scrum and maul created opportunities for the backs.

"When we got some decent ball we showed what the backline can do," he said. "That's about enjoying rugby and enjoying playing with the ball in hand."

The Chiefs were under-strength, lacking at least 10 regulars from their Super Rugby lineup, but that didn't diminish the quality or importance of the Lions win. They have been occasionally criticized in their first five tour matches for a lack of attacking enterprise but they showed against the Chiefs they can do the basics with total efficiency while still producing an expansive game.

While they had every reason to be proud of their well-executed tries, they might have been equally as pleased to have kept the Chiefs tryless and restrict them to two penalties to flyhalf and captain Stephen Donald.

"I thought they were excellent," Donald said. "They suffocated us and then scored some great tries." AP

FOOTBALL

Perez says he hasn't spoken to Ronaldo about rumors of exit

REAL Madrid president Florentino Perez says he has yet to speak with Cristiano Ronaldo regarding speculation that the star forward wants to leave Spain after being accused of tax fraud.

"The whole thing is very strange because Cristiano Ronaldo is a great guy, both as a player and a person. That's why I will speak with him when he gets back and see what's up," Perez told Spanish radio Onda Cero yesterday [Macau time].

Ronaldo is at the Confederations Cup in Russia, playing for Portugal.

The interview was Perez's first comment on Ronaldo

since Portuguese sports daily A Bola reported on Friday that Ronaldo was considering leaving Spain after a state prosecutor accused him of four counts of tax fraud totaling 14.7 million euros (USD16.5 million) in unpaid taxes.

"I still haven't spoken to Cristiano Ronaldo. I found out about all this from a newspaper," Perez said. "He will tell us what has happened. The only thing I know is that he feels mistreated by the media."

Madrid's long-time president said the club had not received any transfer offers for Ronaldo.

Ronaldo has denied any

wrongdoing, and Madrid issued a statement last week saying it believed the player was innocent. A judge will decide whether there are grounds to take the matter to court.

Perez said that "as far as I know Cristiano has always met [his fiscal obligations]" and that "it all must be some sort of misunderstanding that will be cleared up quickly."

Perez's radio interview came hours after the 70-year-old businessman was reelected to a fifth four-year term as Madrid's president. He ran unopposed.

A four-time Ballon d'Or winner, the 32-year-old

Ronaldo is the top European soccer player. He has led Madrid to back-to-back Champions League titles and its first Spanish league in five seasons this year, and helped Portugal to win last year's European Championship. AP



Real Madrid's president Florentino Perez comes to Ronaldo's rescue

SPANISH STATE PROSECUTOR ACCUSES MOURINHO OF TAX FRAUD

A SPANISH state prosecutor accused former Real Madrid coach Jose Mourinho of tax fraud worth 3.3 million euros (USD3.7 million) in unpaid taxes yesterday. A statement issued by the section for economic crimes of Madrid's provincial state prosecutor's office said its investigations indicated that Mourinho committed two counts of tax fraud in

2011 and 2012. The state prosecutor based the accusations on information provided by Spain's Tax Office, which indicate that Mourinho used shell companies in the Virgin Islands and Ireland to "hide profits made from image rights." The 54-year-old Mourinho, who coached Madrid from 2010-13, currently coaches Manchester United.

opinion

Macau Matters

Richard Whitfield



IMPROVING FINANCIAL LITERACY

Generally, I am appalled at the low levels of financial literacy of many people. Moreover, levels of financial literacy do not seem to vary too much with education level or age. I know many experienced people who take little interest in their financial situation and who put very little effort into managing their finances. Even my university students mostly have very little understanding or interest in their finances and are not building solid financial foundations for their future lives. I also regularly read about local people and visitors to Macau being duped in financial scams, many of whom are not young and naive or old and feeble minded.

It is well known that financial security has a large impact on quality of life, and most people would agree that financial literacy and financial budgeting is a key element in having a secure adult life. And good financial habits must be learned young.

Financial problems are the biggest source of stress in people's lives. Adequate savings and investments that are compounding over time are the best way to avoid such stress, and "get rich quick" schemes are definitely not the best way forward. This means that to have long term security young people must begin investing when they are young. They must learn to live within their means and get into the habit of saving and sensibly investing part of their income so that it can accumulate over time so that they can achieve their dreams.

Every adult needs to know how to budget their income and expenditures so that they do not get into financial hot water. They also need to understand the relative costs of different kinds of borrowing (credit card versus personal loans, etc), and the strengths and weaknesses of different kinds of investments (cash in the bank, bonds, property, shares and other major kinds of investment). Further, they need to be able to distinguish between good and bad financial advice.

I believe that simply giving children money to buy whatever they want is doing them a disservice. Pocket money should be limited and should be used to teach children about the importance of financial budgeting and saving and investing. I feel that it should also be made as tangible as possible by giving children cash and having them make bank deposits, and letting them make their own investments when they get older. Credit cards and other digital forms of money can be too abstract for novices. Recognising opportunities that are too good to be true and judging the quality of financial advice are also very important skills.

The modern world is getting more and more financially complicated and sophisticated and responsibility for financial security is moving to individuals. For example, retirement pensions and the like have historically been managed by government and employers but, especially with the increasing popularity of defined contribution superannuation schemes, individuals are getting more involved in such decision-making.

Unfortunately, financial literacy in school curricula is virtually non-existent. Moreover, while universities often deal with business finance they rarely consider personal finances. After school financial literacy courses are beginning to emerge in different parts of the world, but I have not heard of any in Macau. I feel that they are definitely needed here - too many kids, and adults, have too much money and too little sense managing it.

THE BUZZ CARRIE LAM FOR NATIONAL EDUCATION AGAINST 'INDEPENDENCE IDEAS'

Hong Kong's future chief executive, Carrie Lam, has vowed to pay close attention to the rise of independence ideas, promising strict law enforcement and stepped up national education from as early as kindergarten.

Lam told the state media that she would take such advocacy seriously. "I believe the absolute majority of Hong Kong

citizens have never felt that Hong Kong independence was a viable option," she told Xinhua. "In future, the SAR government will [...] strictly enforce the law against any acts for Hong Kong independence that breach local laws."

Carrie Lam is expected to announce her cabinet today.

Dried lizard penises from India sold as good luck charms

Nirmala George, New Delhi

WILDLIFE investigators from India and Britain said yesterday they have uncovered an international fraud in which dried penises of endangered monitor lizards are being sold as a plant root regarded as a good luck charm and used in religious rituals.

The London-based group World Animal Protection said the dried penises of Bengal monitor lizards and yellow monitor lizards look similar to a rare plant root sought by people who believe it brings good luck.

Wildlife authorities conducted raids in five Indian states last month and some raids are continuing, said Neil D'Cruze of WAP.

While the plant has all but disappeared from the Indian countryside, wildlife traffickers have been buying the dried lizard penises and fraudulently selling them online, said the Wildlife Trust of India in New Delhi.

The two lizard species are on India's list of endangered animals, said Jose Louies, who investigates wildlife crime control at WTI.

During raids in the eastern Indian state of Odisha, several dozen hemipenis, or paired male reproductive organs of the lizards, were recovered, he said.

"The dried lizard hemipenis looks like two hands joi-



This photograph released by the London-based group World Animal Protection shows Monitor Lizard genitalia discovered by researchers which are being sold as "Hatha Jodi"

ned in prayer and is similar to the "hatha jodi" root that people believe can ward off evil," Louies said. "There is a widespread belief that it saves you from court cases."

Scientists at Manchester Metropolitan University in England have confirmed that various specimens of the "magical" root were actually the dried hemipenis of monitor lizards, WAP said in a statement.

"These lizards are being illegally poached from the wild, caught in traps and snares. Some will have their throats slit or skulls smashed in before their genitals are removed," it said.

Wildlife activists said the

volume of the item being sold online was huge.

"We were shocked at the sheer audacity and scale of the illegal wildlife trade," D'Cruze said. "Deceitful traders claiming to sell holy plant root labeled as 'hatha jodi' are in fact peddling dried lizard penis to their unwitting customers."

Tribal people in remote forests in central and eastern India used to hunt and eat the large-sized lizards, with most of them unaware that killing or possessing the animal is a crime punishable by seven years' imprisonment, said Aniruddha Mookerjee, a researcher who was part of the investigation. AP

Station	Air quality	
Roadside	15-35 Good	😊
High Density Residential Area	15-35 Good	😊
Ambient	20-40 Good	😊

SOURCE: DSI/MG

WORLD BRIEFS



CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC Heavy fighting erupted yesterday between armed groups in Central African Republic only hours after a peace deal was signed in Rome, aid officials said, while the United Nations warned that humanitarian aid was running out.

UGANDA's government and the United Nations are appealing for USD8 billion to deal with the crisis of refugees from South Sudan.



GREECE On World Refugee Day yesterday, more than 60,000 refugees and migrants were stranded in Greece. They're eventually supposed to go forward to other countries in Europe or be sent back to Turkey, but the process is barely moving.

BRITAIN Two of the most senior figures in Britain's economy argued yesterday for cooperative, not adversarial, talks over the country's exit from the European Union.



TRINIDAD & TOBAGO Tropical Storm Bret unleashed heavy flooding, knocked out power and ripped off several roofs in some areas of Trinidad & Tobago as it swirled west across the southern Caribbean region yesterday.

VENEZUELA The number of Venezuelans seeking asylum in the United States is accelerating as the oil-rich economy crashes and bloody, anti-government protests roll the nation.

COLOMBIA Leftist rebels are believed to be holding captive two Dutch journalists who went missing in a conflict-ridden area of northeastern Colombia.

THE DECISIVE MOMENT

AP Photo/Alastair Grant



Tootsie Rollers. Anna Gilthorpe (right) with Khiley Williams, Meg Gallagher, Katy Heavens, and Lisa Millar pose for photographers on the first day of the Royal Ascot horse race meeting in Ascot, yesterday.