



PHOTOS TO RAISE SOCIAL INCLUSION

A new photo exhibition aims to raise social awareness about the underprivileged and disabled communities

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CASE AGAINST NG IS 'A BIG ZERO'

Ng Lap Seng "threw his money in every direction he was asked," claims defense attorney Tai Park

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'A WORLD OF MEATS' IN MACAU

Interview with two Michelin star award-winning chef Mauro Colagreco, who will soon present his cuisine in Macau

P4 INTERVIEW

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"THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN'"

WORLD BRIEFS



MALDIVES Outside governments yesterday asked the Maldives to restore its legislature's independence, days after the opposition said parliament was locked down on orders from the president in an attempt to prevent a vote to impeach the parliamentary speaker. [More on p12](#)

INDONESIA moved a step closer to hunting down tens of billions of dollars it believes its citizens have hidden abroad after political parties agreed to seek a parliamentary approval for a law that will give tax officials access to financial data held by other countries.



THAILAND Former Thai Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra, whose bank accounts were frozen this week, says she will fight to prove her innocence as a trial that could put her in prison for 10 years enters its final stages. [More on p13](#)

SRI LANKA's government deployed army troops yesterday to restore fuel distribution crippled during a strike launched by trade unions who want to stop leases of oil tanks to India and China. [More on p13](#)

AFGHANISTAN An official says 26 soldiers have been killed in a blistering Taliban assault on an Afghan National Security base in southern Kandahar province. Kandahar is considered the spiritual heartland of the Taliban.

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HEALTH

China to lead in organ transplants by 2020

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DANIEL BETTLER

New hotel seeks to differentiate itself by offering an 'urban retreat'

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Photo exhibition aiming to promote social inclusion

Lynzy Valles

A photo exhibition that aims to raise social awareness about the underprivileged and disabled communities in Macau and around the globe kicked off yesterday at the Taipa Houses Museum. Following the Asian premier of the "11 Million Reasons" exhibition in Hong Kong last year, the collection is debuting in Macau.

Presented by the Taipa Village Cultural Association in partnership with the British Council and the Macau Digital Photography Association, the exhibition features a total of 40 photographs divided into three sections.

"11 Million Reasons" is a part of the collective photography exhibition of the Taipa Village Cultural Association's "Dream with Love" campaign.

"11 Million Reasons" was conceptualized by UK organization for community dance, "People Dancing," and presented by the British Council.

The UK collection was inspired by iconic dance moments from classic films. With 20 powerful and emotive images, the collection offers a different perspective on disability and dance.

The exhibition brings the visual and performing arts together into a dialogue that aims to create a greater awareness to lead towards social inclusion.



Anthony Chan presents some works featured at the exhibition

During a media preview, Anthony Chan, head of Arts and Creative Industries of the British Council, explained the reasoning behind the exhibition title, noting that when it was initially conceptualized in 2014, the UK had 11.6 million disabled people in its country.

Thus, the exhibition aims to present the physically disabled and impaired to the public through a series of photographs.

The images recreated the highlights of 20 classical films including Singing in the Rain, The Sound of

Music, Grease and Billy Elliot.

"The photos are a manifestation of courage and strength. We're looking at people with different disabilities, but actually they can be heroes of circumstances as well," said Chan.

"11 Million Reasons" offers a different perspective on disability and dance, as the subject of the images are mostly dance professionals.

According to Chan, the exhibition hopes to provide a platform for its audience to discuss inclusion, diversion and acuity, and to change

the perception of people who have different abilities. It hopes to foster awareness of how people with disabilities can work and be integrated in the community.

"It's not just about the artwork, it's about how we create the dialogue and address the social issue," Chan reiterated.

The "Dream with Love" campaign consists of a series of art-related events and activities set against the cultural backdrop of Taipa Village, presented by the local association.

"11 Million Reasons" is comple-

mented by a Macau photography series consisting of "The Harmony Collection" and "The Dream Collection," which show the genuine face of disability through art.

The "Harmony Collection" features ten images that reflect the care and attention shown by volunteers to children and teenager with disabilities during an event organized by the Taipa Village Cultural Association.

Another ten images taken by members of the Macau Deaf Association under the technical guidance of the Macau Digital Photography Association is also showcased at the exhibition.

Titled "The Dream Collection," the photos were developed around the theme of "The World in My Eye," which aims to communicate the positive message that physical constraints do not affect personal ability.

Pamela Chan, director of the local association's executive board, told the Times that art is the best way to promote social inclusion to the public.

"We hope to increase social awareness about the needy. We think a lot of people don't have this mindset, which is why we want to use music and art to approach the local community," explained Chan.

"Since there is beauty and audacity in art, [then] we can create social awareness [through this exhibition]," she concluded.

According to organizers, the campaign is centered on the keynote "Art in Unity."

Sponsored by the Macao Foundation, the exhibition will be held until August 31 at the Taipa Houses-Museum - Exhibitions Gallery.

COURTS

Defense: Case against Ng Lap Seng is 'a big zero'

Argued a jury to convict a Macau billionaire of bribing two United Nations ambassadors so he could build a U.N. facility in China that would be as big as the one in New York, but a defense attorney dismissed the case as "a big zero."

"The defendant Ng Lap Seng corrupted the United Nations," Assistant U.S. Attorney Janis Echenberg told a federal court jury during closings at a trial that has kept one of China's richest men confined under 24-hour guard in a luxury Manhattan apartment for the last two years.

She said the 69-year-old Ng paid millions of dollars to two U.N. ambassadors over a five-year period to clear away red tape so he could build a conference center in Macau that would be the "Geneva of Asia," where tens of thousands of people would spend money at his hotel, a marina, a condominium complex, a heliport and a shopping center.

Echenberg said it was a project that would bring Ng and his family "fame and more fortune."

"Brick by brick, bribe by bribe, the defendant built the path that he thought

would build his legacy," she said.

Defense attorney Tai Park raised his voice repeatedly

Mr Ng literally threw his money in every direction he was asked.

TAI PARK
DEFENSE ATTORNEY

as he derided the prosecution as "frankly outrageous."

"It falls by its own weight," he said. "It's a big zero." Park reread aloud parts of a U.N. Task Force report that he said proved there were no rules or prohibition against the kind of private-public partnership that Ng had forged with the United Nations and its ambassadors to build a multibillion-dollar facility that would serve developing nations.

He blamed the ambassadors — former U.N. General Assembly President John Ashe and suspended Dominican Republic Am-

bassador Francis Lorenzo — for abusing their relationships with Ng.

"Mr Ng literally threw his money in every direction he was asked," Park said.

Ashe, who died last year in an accident at home, had asked Ng to rescue him in 2014 with a USD200,000 donation to pay for a concert after another person who was supposed to finance the event backed out, Park said.

He said a \$20,000-per-month salary paid to Lorenzo was for his job as president of a media organization meant to benefit developing nations.

Echenberg said if there was any doubt about why Ng was paying Lorenzo a lot of money it was eliminated in December 2012, when he promised him an extra \$30,000 monthly to speed approval of the Macau center.

The prosecutor said Lorenzo's testimony was so damaging that Park spent six days on cross-examination.

"You know he's guilty just by the testimony of ambassador Lorenzo," she said.

Lorenzo, who pleaded guilty to accepting and paying bribes, remains free on bail pending sentencing. AP

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THE MACAU ROOSEVELT

City's latest hotel promoted as 'urban retreat'



Tables operating at the Macau Jockey Club were relocated to the new hotel



Mike Lam (center) accompanied by Alexis Tam during the opening ceremony

Daniel Beitler

THE city's newest hotel, the 1950s Hollywood-inspired Macau Roosevelt, held its official launch ceremony yesterday, offering a tour of its amenities to media and distinguished guests. The 368-room hotel, which is being promoted as an "urban getaway retreat" and an "all-day playground," has been in the works for nearly three years after its concept inauguration in October 2013.

Among the high-profile guests yesterday was the owner of the Macau Roosevelt, Mike Lam, chief executive officer of the Macau Jockey Club Angela Leong, and several government officials, including Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture Alexis Tam and Macau Government Tourism Office head Helena de Senna Fernandes.

"We are committed to being a new urban retreat for Macau," said Mike Lam, in his speech

at the official launch ceremony.

The five-star property is seeking to distance itself from Macau's megaresorts, through offering guests a trendy, private and more "relaxed" experience, owners say.

Its location, adjacent to the Macau Jockey Club, affords the Macau Roosevelt a sweeping view of the horse-race track, while its other amenities include an art gallery, fitness center, and a private cigar and wine lounge.

■ The hotel is seeking to distance itself from Macau's megaresorts, through offering guests a more 'relaxed' experience

However, the resort's infinity pool can be truly said to be its flagship amenity. The swimming pool, which seemingly clings to the perimeter of the third floor, creates an illusion of water flowing over the edge,

leaving the views of the Jockey Club, Hengqin and the South China Sea unimpeded.

Marc Bichet, marketing director of GCP Hospitality, stylized the property as a "lifestyle" hotel yesterday.

GCP Hospitality is a Bangkok-headquartered company in the areas of hotel management and design and branding, which represents the owners of the Macau Roosevelt. It also works with around two dozen other properties in the Asia-Pacific region, but

this latest project is the company's first in the MSAR, according to its hotel management portfolio.

"The fact that we are just next to the Macau Jockey Club - and have this infinite pool overlooking it - will definitely position the property as the preferred Macau urban retreat," said Bichet.

Speaking to the Times, Bichet said that the property could distinguish itself through principally two angles; its focus on trend and design - a vision of architect and designer Gulla Jonsdottir - and its "sophisticated social spaces".

gave it this 'retro-twist' to bring alive the Macau Roosevelt Hotel."

"The second factor that will set this property apart from the 'big boys' [hotel operators] in Macau is the amenities and the sophisticated social spaces. We have the swimming pool and the art gallery... it's a little bit more relaxed [than the others]."

Its design centers around the concept of "Old Hollywood," merged with a 21st-century chic edge. The operating company behind the hotel wants it to be known as "the sexiest stay in Asia's favorite playground."

"Because of its unique design and concept, a large number of never used before in Asia materials were carefully selected for the hotel such as metal erosion board, Italian marble, carved marble parquet and more," said Mike Lam, adding that some parts of the furniture had been tailored especially for the Macau Roosevelt.

Meanwhile, representatives of the Macau Jockey Club refused to comment yesterday on the racetrack's financial difficulties.

In a statement published in the Official Gazette last week, the Macau Jockey Club (MJC) reported an operating loss of MOP109 million in 2016. This brings the company's accumulated losses to more than MOP4 billion, after several consecutive years of poor revenue performance. At the same time, last year the company held assets of MOP240 million and liabilities amounting to MOP1.3 billion.

The government concession for horse-racing at the Macau Jockey Club is due to expire at the end of August. The company has said it is currently in the process of applying for a renewal.

Asked about the impact of the hotel on the Jockey Club, Bichet conceded that although the two institutions would "hopefully benefit" each other, it was not the sole purpose of the property.

"Look, we're here trying to do something a little bit different in Macau. Whoever we can benefit [...] to create this community to be successful and help each other... well, we will see how it goes."

NEW CASINO TO HOST 30 SJM TABLES

THE MACAU Roosevelt Hotel is home to the city's latest casino, containing 30 gaming tables and 90 slot machines. The gaming tables were formerly located at the Macau Jockey Club, under the license of SJM, before they were moved to the Macau Roosevelt. SJM will continue to provide

the tables to the new hotel from its own allocation. In order to slow the growth in the number of tables, the MSAR government implemented a gaming table cap in 2013. Gaming operators are permitted to relocate their gaming tables from one casino property to another.



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Q&A MAURO COLAGRECO
CHEF

'Ingredients are key: I choose mine with my heart'



Renato Marques

CHEF Mauro Colagreco is a two Michelin star award-winning chef, known for Mediterranean-inspired dishes created with high quality fresh ingredients.

The World's 50 Best Restaurants 2017, recently ranked his restaurant, Mirazur, in Menton, France the fourth best restaurant in the world. Mirazur moved up two positions from its 2016 ranking.

Mauro Colagreco has signed on to lead Grill 58°, a restaurant which will be located within the soon to be opened MGM Cotai property. With a menu planned to feature premium beef sourced from the best ranchers around the

world Grill 58° is expected to become a world-renowned destination for food and wine connoisseurs that is known for delivering exceptional steak dishes. Interviewed by the Times, Colagreco talks about what he proposes to bring to Macau.

Mauro Colagreco (MC) - The Salt Meat-aging Room at Grill 58° will enhance guests' experience in many

MDT - Grill 58° will be the first restaurant in Macau to feature a Salt Meat-aging room. In what sense will this feature provide guests with a different experience in taste?

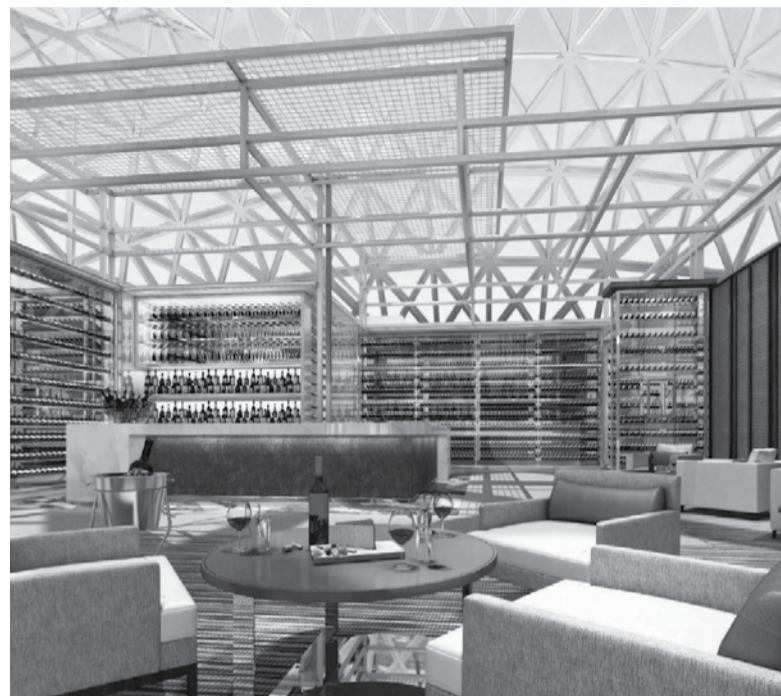
ways. First, it will allow us to showcase different pieces of premium meats, giving the guests a visual interaction. It is also a plus on the technical side, as it dry-ages the high quality meat in the best conditions to reach perfect maturity. What the salt does, is that it dehydrates the meat, leaving the meat with a more condensed and intense flavor. In addition, just looking inside the room itself is a sensorial experience because the room features a big block of Himalayan salt, which is the first in Macau.

MDT - What are the main highlights of the menu and how did you decide on those particular dishes?

MC - The menu offers four different origins of meats - Australia, USA, Japan, and France - which will be accompanied by garnishes, condiments and sauces from the four respective countries, allowing guests to "travel [through different tastes] without moving." The choice of such meats is obviously quality-driven, and getting the best meats from each [origin] is definitely our goal.

MDT - You have earned over the years a wide and highly praised reputation including an accolade from the world-famous Michelin Guide. How do you describe your cuisine?

MC - I like to describe my cuisine as personal, intense and influenced by my experiences [voyages] throu-



Grill 58 restaurant rendering

ghout the world.

MDT - Ingredients often have an essential role, how do you choose yours?

MC - Ingredients are key to any cooking. And I choose mine with my eyes and taste buds, but also with my heart. Knowing the people who make the ingredients I use and sharing their philosophy is just as important as tasting them.

MDT - What do you expect from the new trends in Asia, after observing how Asia has become the setting for "world cuisine" and "Fusion Cuisine." Are these trends a reflex from globalization?

MC - It is a bit tricky to link

globalization with fusion cuisine in my opinion. In fact, people have always travelled and exchanged cultures, and cuisines have been telling that story for hundreds of years, long before globalization became a concept...

MDT - What are your feelings about Macau and its long traditions in mixing South American, European, Middle Eastern and Far-Eastern cuisine? Is it the right place for a gastronomy gathering?

MC - Macau is definitely a perfect setting for gastronomy, being at the crossroads of so many cultures. Its location, its vibrancy and its spirit stimulate creativity. In Macau, you feel like there is no limit to culinary art.

Gov't wants to reclaim land for airport expansion

Macau Civil Aviation Authority (AACM) President Simon Chan stated this week that the local government has requested the central government's permission to reclaim land for the expansion of the local airport.

The government is seeking to reclaim land in the waters between the airport's two taxiways that link the runway and the apron.

Chan said that the government made its request for land reclamation to the central government in February, further noting that there was no current timetable for the commencement of the land reclamation project. He added that the central government is still considering the plan for the airport's expansion.

AACM released the revised version of a develop-



ment plan for the airport for the next 20 years in January. The airport's development will require land reclamation of 172 hectares or 1.72 square

kilometers, which will raise the total area of the airport to 346 hectares.

The revised plan also forecasts the number of passengers to reach 7 million by 2019, 11 million by 2037, and 15 million by 2040.

The airport exceeded its designed maximum passenger capacity in November last year, when six million passenger arrivals and departures

were recorded.

Chan further pointed out that since the number of passengers at the airport now exceeds more than six million per year, land reclamation to expand the airport is the only way to accommodate the growing number of passengers.

The airport has been in service for 22 years since it first began operating in November 1995.

Guangdong-Macau fair opens tomorrow



Julie Zhu

FIVE booths run by Portuguese enterprises will showcase Portugal's products in the upcoming Guangdong and Macau Branded Product Fair 2017 (GMBPF 2017) which will take place from tomorrow until July 30.

This year, 107 local enterprises will showcase products made in Macau and products from Portuguese-speaking countries with Macau enterprises as agents.

The GMBPF will continue to be held as a carnival-style event embracing trade, cultural exchange, shopping, leisure, and entertainment, offering merchants and consumers a variety of products from Guangdong and Macau.

Both GMBPF and the Macao Franchise Expo 2017 (MFE) will be held concurrently at The Venetian Macao.

"According to our experience, the concurrent holding of the two events will not only expand the number of visitors and thus share resources, but will also condense the atmosphere of both events and create synergy, to provide new cooperation opportunities for

merchants at home and abroad," said Irene Lau, Executive Director of Macao Trade and Investment Promotion Institute (IPIM).

This year makes the ninth edition of both events. The venue of this year's GMBPF covers an area of 9,000 square meters. A total of 345 booths have been set up for this edition of GMBPF, of which, 107 are intended for Macau's exhibitors, 194 for Guangdong, 30 for Myanmar, and 14 for Indonesia.

Lau also noted that there will be three booths for Brazil, and six for Mozambique.

Another highlight of this year's exhibition is that the organizers, IPIM and the Department of Commerce of Guangdong Province, have invited Li Ning, China's prestigious gymnast, and the Macao Convention and Exhibition's Conference Ambassador, as a special guest speaker at the Forum.

Guangdong Province's Commerce authority has organized 136 enterprises to participate in the exhibition. Nine enterprises have obtained the titles of Famous Chinese Brands and eight enterprises are labelled as Notable Trademarks of China.

additional 50 taxis to the streets by the end of this month or early August.

By then, U expects the taxi service provider to be able to service 60 percent of requests for the company's services.

Macau Radio Taxi started operations in April 1. Every month, the company has recorded a 10 to 20 percent increase in the number of passengers who contact them for a taxi.

Regarding the drivers' income, U revealed that only a few drivers can make up to MOP40,000 per month. Nine drivers make MOP30,000 per month, and more than 20 drivers make MOP20,000 per month. U also revealed that Macau Radio Taxi has not yet balanced its costs and revenue.

Macau Radio Taxi fails most of calls

THE only legal app-based taxi hailing company, Macau Radio Taxi Ltd., failed to answer the requests of approximately 70 percent of passengers who had attempted to use its services.

According to Kevin U Kin Lung, general manager of the company, in the past three months Macau Radio Taxi received a total of 320,000 calls, but the company was only able to service an average of 1,000 passengers per day.

U admitted that the company failed to respond to 200,000 calls for two main reasons: the company's shortage of taxi drivers and the company's shortage of taxis. He also said that customers would often give up on the reservation upon finding a regular taxi to hail.

Macau Radio Taxi currently has around 120 drivers, but only operates 50 vehicles. U noted that the company hopes to hire another 90 drivers, and will dispatch an

ADVERTORIAL

Wynn shares success with SMEs

Wynn is a long-time supporter of SMEs, a key element of Macau's diversifying economy. This is why the company enthusiastically supports the MSAR Government's policy of giving priority to local suppliers, cultivating local SMEs, and encouraging greater participation by these companies in promoting the diversification of Macau's economy.

Recently, Wynn invited several local SMEs to set up sales booths in its back-of-house area, in an effort to boost SMEs' brand awareness whilst expanding their sales channels, enabling them to learn from the operation of a large corporation and so improve their own management skills.



WE CARE: INNOVATION THE NAME OF THE GAME



Jocelyn Luk and Chris Chu

We Care - a store selling daily necessities co-founded by Chris Chu and Jocelyn Luk in 2015 - is a premium shopping experience, referencing Japanese operational models driven by innovative marketing. The company carries personal and baby care products, plus houseware. Identifying a niche in the market, We Care is a small wholesaler that strives to maintain quality, quantity and price standards through co-operation deals with its suppliers.

When asked about the opportunity with Wynn, Chris enthused: "The response has been overwhelming. The experience has added weight to our resume and boosted our confidence in co-operating with other large enterprises in future." Jocelyn added, "Wynn's team has given us great support throughout the process. Their assistance helped attract more people to our campaign, with preparation beforehand, the extra inventory space and in-house promotional support."

The dynamic duo hopes to deepen their co-operation with other large enterprises in future and plan to expand their business to Taipa, marketing the brand as an icon of Macau chain pharmacies.

GOLDFUL: A CASE HISTORY IN BUSINESS EXPANSION



Justice Kong

Established in 2013, Start On Energy Saving Engineering is a micro-enterprise which provides lighting solutions via an all-in-one package embracing design, testing, supply, installation, photometry and maintenance. To better cater to the local market, Justice Kong, founder of the company, set up an outlet named Goldful in 2015 to sell self-developed LED products with an emphasis on product quality and after-sales service.

Kong seized the opportunity to join Wynn's SME Procurement Partnership Programme to introduce key products and services of Goldful, later becoming a registered local supplier of Wynn. Being invited to set up a booth at Wynn not only offered the opportunity to provide product discounts for the company's employees, but also further promote his brand and increase his sales channels.

"An enterprise must set a goal for its development," he maintains. "Wynn's standards - which are high compared to other large enterprises - gave us a clear idea, and helped lay a foundation for our development and transformation in the future."

UNDERSTANDING LABOUR RELATIONS LAW A PRIORITY FOR SMES

The evolution of Macau's economy has seen new business types emerge in many industries. Wynn believes fostering better understanding between employer and employee is key to further co-operation and significant progress in labour relations. As a major step in this policy, Wynn - in close collaboration with the Labour Affairs Bureau and the Industry and Commerce Association of Macau - recently hosted a forum for SMEs to simulate discussion on Labour Relations Law.

The forum saw enthusiastic participation from 180 attendees, and included representatives from the Labour Affairs Bureau who explained the current human resources situation in Macau and the relevant law on labour relations. Feedback from both SME employers and employees revealed a greater realisation of their respective rights and obligations on a number of issues. Framing the talk in terms of the legal rights and obligations of all parties demonstrated the importance of creating a healthy business environment in which employers, employees and the community as a whole benefit.





澳門國際品牌連鎖加盟展 2017

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Rua do Dr. Pedro José Lobo (The Macao Square)		Every 30 Mins
Avenida do Conselheiro Feres de Almeida (Opposite to Pak Wai Car Park)	Departure: 09:30-18:00	Every 15Mins (14:00-16:30 & 18:00-20:30)
Rua do Mercado De Sao Hon (Opposite to Jardim de San Hon, near the iSquare Computer Plaza)	Return: 11:00-20:30	
Avenida de Guimaraes (Parque Central de Taipas, opposite to Nova Park)		Every 30 Mins

Time	Event	Location
28/07/2017 (Friday)		
11:00 - 11:45	Opening Ceremony of Macao Franchise Expo 2017	Multi-Funton Area, Hall A
12:00 - 19:00	Exhibition	Hall A
12:00 - 18:00	Business Matching	Business Matching Area, Hall A
12:00 - 18:00	2017 MFE Brand Repackaging Consultancy Service	Brand Repackaging Pavilion, Hall A
12:00 - 13:00	2017 Macao Excellent Franchise & Chain Store Award Ceremony	Apple Room 2014-2703
15:00 - 16:00	Protocol Signing Ceremony	Multi-Funton Area, Hall A
16:00 - 19:15	Forum on Chain and Franchise Business Opportunities of International Brands	Apple Room 2014-2703
29/07/2017 (Saturday)		
10:00 - 19:00	Exhibition	Hall A
10:00 - 18:00	Business Matching	Business Matching Area, Hall A
10:00 - 18:00	2017 MFE Brand Repackaging Consultancy Service	Brand Repackaging Pavilion, Hall A
16:00 - 17:00	2017 Food Award Ceremony	Multi-Funton Area, Hall A
30/07/2017 (Sunday)		
10:00 - 17:00	Exhibition	Hall A
10:00 - 17:00	Business Matching	Business Matching Area, Hall A
10:00 - 17:00	2017 MFE Brand Repackaging Consultancy Service	Brand Repackaging Pavilion, Hall A
12:00 - 13:00	Startup Day Chapter 1: Important Considerations for Bringing a New International Franchise Brand to Greater China	Multi-Funton Area, Hall A
14:00 - 15:00	Startup Day Chapter 2: Road to be a Michelin Brand - Sharing by Lei's Cuisine	Multi-Funton Area, Hall A
15:00 - 16:00	Startup Day Chapter 3: My Startup Ladies	Multi-Funton Area, Hall A
16:00 - 16:30	Startup Day Chapter 4: MFE - Bank of China Startup Launchpad Competition Award Ceremony	Multi-Funton Area, Hall A

Opening Hour
 28/07/2017 (Fri) 10:00 - 18:00 (Open to Trade Visitors only)
 29/07/2017 (Sat) 10:00 - 18:00 (Open to public)
 30/07/2017 (Sun) 10:00 - 17:00 (Open to public)
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SATURDAY SUPERSTACK

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GAMING

Wynn Resorts' profit falls short despite rebound in Macau

Christopher Palmeri, Daniela Wei

WYNN Resorts Ltd.'s new Macau resort came up short last quarter, failing to fully capitalize on the recovery in the world's biggest casino market as construction nearby kept some guests away.

The USD4.2 billion Wynn Palace, opened last August, helped Las Vegas-based Wynn Resorts deliver second-quarter sales that topped analysts' estimates, according to a statement Tuesday. But earnings fell short, sending the stock lower in extended trading.

A strong recovery is under way in Macau, where industry revenue rose 22 percent in the second quarter. After three years of decline, the market began growing last year, in part thanks to new resorts. The outlook has been clouded by Chinese government efforts to prevent money laundering. The steps include facial recognition technology installed at automated teller machines.



Wynn Resorts, led by billionaire Steve Wynn, said profit excluding some items rose to \$1.18 a share, missing the \$1.19-a-share average of analysts estimates. Revenue soared to \$1.53 billion, beating projections of \$1.45 billion.

The new Wynn Palace generated property earnings of \$87.4 million. That was below the average estimate of \$115.5 million from Consensus Metrix. On a conference call with investors, Wynn executives said that bu-

siness continues to be hurt by construction on all sides of the resort that may not end until next year. That's cut walk-in traffic.

"We've dealt with a severe handicap," Wynn, the company's chief executive officer, said on the call.

The company is in the midst of construction boom, building a new casino in Boston and a lake-themed resort behind its flagship property in Las Vegas.

The company's Macau unit

Wynn Macau Ltd. reported \$298 million in property earnings, growing about 56 percent from last year, above the consensus, as the beat in its Peninsula project offset the shortfall at the Palace. While the operator's Peninsula property Wynn Macau rebounded as business from high rollers was a bright spot, the Palace was below expectations due to disappointing mass market revenue growth, JPMorgan Chase & Co. analyst DS Kim said in a note yesterday.

"While management's tone remained upbeat as ever, we think the initial stock reaction may be negative given the significance of Palace to the future profits and cash flow," said Kim in the note on Wynn Macau.

Shares of Wynn Resorts, which generated 64 percent of its revenue in Macau last year, fell as much as 4.3 percent to \$133 in extended trading after the results were announced. The shares were little changed at \$138.98 at the close in New York. **Bloomberg**

36 school violence cases related to sexual abuse

Thirty-six cases of school violence recorded in the past three years concerned the sexual abuse or harassment of children with special needs, the Education and Youth Affairs Bureau said in a TDM radio show yesterday. Ten other registered cases were linked to underage students who had consensual sex with each other. One reported case concerned an underage student who was paid to provide sexual favors to another student who was already a legal adult. In total, there were 261 school violence cases recorded in the past three years.

Kwan supports display of banners in AL

Lawmaker Kwan Tsui Hang expressed her opposition to the proposal to ban lawmakers from displaying posters and banners during Legislative Assembly plenary meetings. Kwan said that regardless of whether or not lawmakers voice their political opinions, the use of banners is a way for lawmakers to underscore their opinions. "In the past, even if lawmakers were satisfied [with something], they were peaceful at displaying their tools, and they did not disturb the order of the meetings," said Kwan. She also said that displaying banners at AL is not disrespectful to the Assembly's gravitas.

AD

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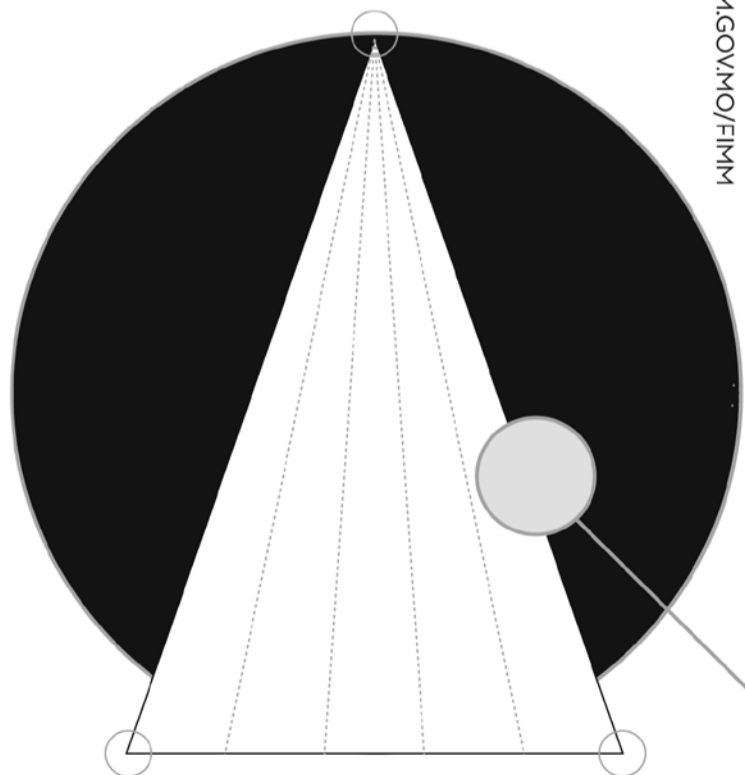
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The New Tiguan2. All grown-up



Active Info Display



1.4TSI with 150HP



5 star NCAP



LED Headlight



3D LED Taillight

The Tiguan 2 is a great all-grown-up SUV with distinctive styling which redefines its class and confidently points the way to the future. The new generation Tiguan is the first sport utility vehicle to be based on the modular transverse matrix (MQB), and it sets new standards in design, comfort and functionality. In doing so it of course remains capable of off-road, with a rugged all-wheel drive system that includes premium class technology for use on and off the highway. The Tiguan 2 is, then, both more SUV and more than an SUV.



Volkswagen

PS : 1) The pictures are for reference only.

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Sonia Siretti, Edward Robinson

UniCredit says 400,000 accounts were hacked, exposing data

UNICREDIT SpA said hackers accessed about 400,000 client bank accounts in Italy, taking biographical and loan data in one of the biggest breaches in Europe to date.

The incidents occurred in September and October of 2016 and June to July of this year, the bank said on yesterday in an emailed statement. Unauthorized access was gained through an Italian third-party provider to some customer data related to personal loans, with the lender saying IBAN numbers and other personal data may also have been reached. A spokesman declined to identify the third party involved.

Banks are boosting cyber-defense budgets and hiring former intelligence and law enforcement officials to build up defenses against hackers as lenders open their networks to connect with new money-management apps and other fintech offerings. In the U.K., banks such as Barclays Plc and Deutsche Bank AG have joined forces with law enforcement in a unit called the Cyber Defence Alliance.

The most recent attacks were detected between Monday and Tuesday and led to the discovery of the incidents that took place last

year, two people familiar with the matter said, asking not to be identified discussing a possible criminal matter.

"I expect that this case will lead to all Italian banks reviewing their IT systems," said Francesco Conforti, chief executive officer of Advantage Financial SA, a Milan-based investment firm. "This is the first attack targeting an Italian bank and confirms that IT systems, particularly in Italy, need massive investment to avoid a loss of confidence."

Banking industry leaders are worried about more than the theft of customers' data or money. Cybercriminals might also damage account databases and render them unusable, said Becky Pinkard, vice president of service delivery and intelligence at Digital Shadows Ltd., a London-based cyberdefense firm.

"Banks are justified in their fear of corrupted data," Pinkard said. "Attackers could harm the bank

by adding or subtracting a zero to every balance, or even deleting entire accounts."

In May and June, two ransomware attacks dubbed WannaCry and Petya swept the globe and temporarily crippled operations in entities ranging from Britain's National Health Service to oil companies and automakers. While Western banks were unaffected, the Petya attack penetrated 80 Ukrainian banks. Cybersecurity experts are bracing for more hacks of this magnitude in the months to come.

The breach at UniCredit involved customers with financing and consumer-credit loans, Daniele Tonella, CEO of UniCredit Business Integrated Solutions, the IT unit of the bank, said in a phone interview. The bank's IT department discovered anomalies while conducting checks, finding that some users from an external commercial partner were accessing client data. UniCredit, immedi-



tely blocked the intruders, closed the breaches and upgraded the system, he said.

"There aren't material damages for the bank and its clients from these attacks," Tonella said. "No data, such as passwords allowing access to customer accounts or allowing for unauthorised transactions, has been affected."

UniCredit, which is investing 2.3 billion euros (USD2.7 billion) in

upgrading and strengthening its IT systems, has started an audit and will file a report with the Milan prosecutor, it said. The bank's IT investments include the strengthening of infrastructure through digitalization activities, technological development of core systems and the continuous updating of the infrastructure, while ensuring compliance with regulatory requirements. **Bloomberg**

Hyundai Motor's profit halved to lowest level since 2010

Youkyung Lee, Seoul

HYUNDAI Motor said yesterday its quarterly profit was halved to its lowest level since 2010 as its auto sales in China and the U.S. plunged as the South Korean automaker paid dearly for lagging in its SUV lineup.

Net income for the April-June period was 816.9 billion won (USD728.8 million), down 51 percent from 1.7 trillion won (\$1.5 billion) a year earlier,

Hyundai Motor said.

The result was worse than expected. Analysts had predicted a net profit of 1.4 trillion won (\$1.2 billion), according to FactSet, a financial data provider. It was also the smallest profit for Hyundai Motor since it began reporting quarterly results under new standards in 2010.

Operating profit sank 24 percent to 1.3 trillion won (\$1.2 billion) during the period, while sales fell 2 percent to 24.3 trillion won



(\$20.9 billion).

Hyundai Motor's eroding profit over the past three years has been attributed to its failure to respond to

a shift in consumer preference toward sports utility vehicles. Many consumers have ditched passenger sedans, which were Hyun-

dai's forte, to snap up SUVs, where it lacks a varied lineup.

Hyundai offered bigger sales incentives to counter weakening demand for passenger sedans in the U.S. market earlier this year.

In China, the automaker suffered from political tensions between Beijing and Seoul over a U.S. missile defense system.

The maker of Genesis saw China sales sink 64 percent in April-June from a year

earlier as Chinese consumers shunned Korean cars due to Seoul's decision to deploy a U.S. missile defense system. China is opposed to deploying the anti-missile system in South Korea because it worries that its powerful radars would peer into its territory. During the first half of this year, Hyundai's sales in China dropped 42 percent.

The company is expanding its SUV lineup and counting on its newly launched Kona, its first subcompact SUV, which will be released in Europe and the U.S. in coming months. **AP**

corporate bits

MGM RECEIVES AWARD FROM DSAL AND IAS



MGM was awarded at the biennial "Hiring Disabled Staff Recognition Scheme," organized by the Labor Affairs Bureau (DSAL) and the Social Welfare Bureau (IAS) for the fifth time.

This accolade also recognizes MGM as an outstanding employer that welcomes employees with disabilities.

At present, MGM has 38 employees with disabilities working in seven departments.

For four years, MGM participated in the DSAL's "Summer Work Experience Program 2017" which is designed specifically for secondary school students with disabilities. During this time,

it welcomed four of the program's participants to work in the Food & Beverage and Floral departments. Through its participation in this program, MGM hopes to provide the students with the opportunity to gain practical work experience.

MGM also garnered four awards at "The 2nd Family-Friendly Employers Award Scheme" hosted by The Women's General Association of Macau. The accolades include "Family-Friendly Employer for Supporting Nursing Mothers," "Family-Friendly Employer for Supporting Paid Paternity Leave," "Excellent Family-Friendly Employer," and "Excellent Family-Friendly Employer - Gold Award." The final award is a recognition only received by two enterprises in Macau.

AIR MACAU CELEBRATES 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF MACAU-OSAKA ROUTE



Air Macau celebrated the 10th anniversary of the Macau-Osaka route by presenting gifts to passengers tra-

veling to Osaka via flights NX856 and NX855.

Ten years ago, Air Macau opened the route from Ma-

cau to Osaka, which was the first approved route to Japan.

According to a press release issued yesterday by the aviation firm, over 500,000 passengers were transported by Air Macau during the past ten years. A celebration was also held in the Osaka station.

The statement recalled that the number of flights to Osaka increased from two times a week to a daily service.

"Over the years, Air Macau has been publicizing the overall city image of Macau to attract more and more Japanese traveling to Macau, exploring the unique charm of this city, which facilitates the traveling of local citizens," the firm concluded in a statement.

US and PRC report progress on new North Korea sanctions

Edith M. Lederer

THE United States and China said Tuesday they are making progress on a new U.N. resolution that would impose additional sanctions against North Korea following its test of an intercontinental ballistic missile.

The U.S. gave China a proposed resolution several weeks ago, and U.S. Ambassador Nikki Haley told reporters that China has been negotiating with its close ally Russia on possible new sanctions.

"The true test will be what they've worked out with Russia," she said.

China's U.N. Ambassador Liu Jieyi told two journalists that "we are making progress" and "we are working as hard as we can."

But neither Haley nor Liu would estimate how long it will take before they agree on a draft that can be circulated to the rest of the 15-member Security Council and then put to a vote.

"There is certainly light at the end of the tunnel and we are working towards that light, and I can't really tell how much time we would need," Liu said.

He wouldn't confirm that China is working with Russia on the text, saying "there is always a process of working out the resolution, and in due course I think the resolution will be discussed at a wider circle."

Haley said "I think we are moving. It's not as fast as I would like but these are pretty serious sanctions and so I think that there is a lot of thought going into this."

The Security Council has already imposed six rounds of progressively tougher sanctions against North Korea, but so far that has failed to halt the coun-



Chinese Ambassador to the UN and current Security Council President Liu Jieyi (right)

try's rapidly advancing nuclear and ballistic missile programs.

The most recent sanctions resolution to be adopted, on June 2, added to the U.N. blacklist 15 individuals and four entities linked to the North's nuclear and missile programs.

There is certainly light at the end of the tunnel and we are working towards that light.

LIU JIEYI

At the time, China was blocking tougher measures pushed by the United States.

But North Korea raised the stakes with its launch of an intercontinental ballistic missile as Americans celebrated Independence Day on July 4.

The test marked a significant step toward young North Korean leader Kim Jong Un's goal of developing a missile with a nuclear warhead capable of reaching the United States — and it changed the reality for the Trump administration, which moved quickly to give China a new draft resolution with tougher sanctions.

Haley stressed that the United States wants to ensure that a new resolution is "a strong resolution, because that's what we think we need to have."

"I think we are making pro-

gress, so we are actually talking about different sanctions," she said.

Haley refused to say what measures were being discussed. But earlier this month she told the Security Council that if it is united, the international community can cut off major sources of hard currency to North Korea, restrict oil to its military and weapons programs, increase air and maritime restrictions and hold senior officials accountable.

Liu said "there is going to be more than the last resolution."

But he stressed that for China, a resolution must serve to promote denuclearization and peace and security on the Korean Peninsula, and a negotiated solution to North Korea's nuclear and missile programs.

Therefore, Liu said, the speci-

fic measures in a new resolution need to be measured against achieving those three objectives.

Haley said she was pleased with China's response to the initial draft the U.S. proposed.

"We were waiting to see if it was going to be weak or strong, and I think they're showing some seriousness with it," Haley said. "We are constantly in touch with China and I can say that things are moving, but it is still too early to tell how far they'll move."

Liu said "the most important thing is to have [...] a draft resolution that everybody can support."

One possible stumbling block is whether the new resolution will refer to North Korea's test of an intercontinental ballistic missile.

Russia has questioned whether the missile actually was an ICBM, though China did not.

"I think that everyone that we have dealt with acknowledges it's an ICBM," Haley said. "Whether they're willing to put it in writing or not is going to be the real question."

Liu noted that previous resolutions referred to ballistic missiles "without going into further categorization of the missiles."

"And I do not think that for the purpose of working out a resolution you need really to go to the technical nitty gritty of things," he said.

Liu said China is still working to convince other governments to support its suspension-for-suspension proposal in which North Korea would suspend nuclear and missile tests in exchange for the U.S. and South Korea suspending their joint military exercises.

The package proposed by China and supported by Russia also includes denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula and "a peace and security mechanism" in place for both North Korea and South Korea, Liu said.

"We just hope that the other relevant parties will be forthcoming because we don't see any alternative," he said. **AP**

Sopheng Cheang,
Phnom Penh

Telephone fraud suspects deported to Beijing

POLICE in Cambodia have deported to China 17 telephone fraud suspects, among hundreds of alleged scam artists who have been caught and expelled in recent years.

The 17 were flown out yesterday from the airport in Sihanoukville in southern Cambodia, said the Interior Ministry's immigration investigation chief, Gen. Ouk Haiseila. Another 14 suspects are scheduled to leave this weekend from Siem Reap in the northwest, he said.

The two groups were being repatriated on commercial flights to di-

fferent Chinese provinces for prosecution, he said.

The gang would target rich people and civil servants in China, contact women over social media, trick them into exchanging nude or sexy photos then extort money from them by threatening to circulate the pictures online, he said. They also used phone calls made over the internet for their activities, he said.

Phone scams come in many variations. When the authorities in Thailand this week announced the arrests of 44 people — 19 Chinese ci-

tizens and 25 Taiwanese — suspected of running a telephone scam, they said the perpetrators made calls over the internet in which they claimed to be banking officials and accused their targets of financial crimes.

The targets would then be put in touch with a fake police officer — also at the gang's headquarters — and be told they could escape arrest by transferring the allegedly stolen money to a bank account belonging to the scammers.

Ouk Haiseila said police initially identified seven

of the group detained in Cambodia as Taiwanese, but Chinese police said they were all Chinese citizens. It was not clear if the Chinese assertion was based on Beijing's long-maintained claim that Taiwan is one of its provinces.

Cambodia last September deported 63 suspects, including 13 Taiwanese, to China over an alleged internet scam. Kenya and Malaysia have also deported Taiwanese internet scam suspects to China despite protests by Taiwanese officials.

Rights activists and



A Chinese national arrested over an alleged internet scam, is escorted by police officers to be deported at the immigration office in Phnom Penh

Taiwanese authorities say such deportations reflect the great influence China

exercises over Cambodia through aid and investment. **AP**

Christopher Bodeen

HEALTH

China to lead in organ transplants by 2020

CHINA is on track to lead the world in organ transplant surgeries by 2020 following its abandonment of the much-criticized practice of using organs from executed prisoners, the architect of the country's transplant program said yesterday.

Chairman of the China Organ Donation and Transplantation Committee Huang Jiefu told The Associated Press that voluntary civilian organ donations had risen from just 30 in 2010, the first year of a pilot program, to more than 5,500 this year.

That will allow around 15,000 people to receive transplants this year, Huang said. The U.S. currently leads the world in organ transplants, with about 28,000 people receiving them each year.

"We anticipate according to the speed of the development of the organ donation in China, the momentum, in the year 2020, China will become the No. 1 country in the world to perform organ transplantation in an ethical way," Huang said in an interview at his office in an ancient courtyard house inside Beijing's old city.

China is seeking to expand the number of willing organ donors, but has run up against some cultural barriers: Family members are still able to block a donation, even if the giver is willing, and Chinese are adverse to registering as donors by ticking a box on their drivers' licenses, considering it to be tempting fate.

Instead, authorities are part-



In this 2013 file photo, 28 year old Fang Hui shows off the scar from a living donor organ transplant operation where she received a portion of her sister's liver

nering with Alibaba, China's virtually ubiquitous online shopping and payment platform, to allow people to register in just 10 seconds, Huang said. Huang said more than 210,000 Chinese have expressed their willingness to become donors, although that's a drop in the bucket compared to the country's population of 1.37 billion.

More qualified transplant coordinators and doctors are also

needed, along with improved connections between the 173 hospitals certified to perform such operations, Huang said. "It's still a newborn baby, not yet a perfect system," he added.

Huang said China has adhered to a complete ban on the use of organs from executed prisoners that went into effect in 2015, although some in the field outside China have called for the country to allow independent scrutiny to

ensure it is keeping to its pledge.

Critics have questioned China's claims of reform and suggested that the World Health Organization should be allowed to conduct surprise investigations and interview donor relatives. The U.N. health agency has no authority to enter countries without their permission.

Chinese officials say China shouldn't be singled out for such treatment while other countries

are not.

Further moving on from the days when foreigners could fly to China with briefcases of cash to receive often risky, no-questions-asked transplant surgeries, China has also taken measures to stamp out organ trafficking and so-called "transplant tourism," including by limiting transplants to Chinese citizens.

■ The country is seeking to expand the number of willing organ donors, but has run up against some cultural barriers

At a conference on transplantation at the Vatican in February, Huang submitted an outline for a Chinese-backed task force to look into organ trafficking with the support from the transplantation committee that Huang heads. That proposal was endorsed in a June letter to Huang signed by the WHO's Jose Ramon Nunez Pena and president of the Transplantation Society, Nancy Ascher.

In a further sign of importance to the field, China is hosting a major conference on transplantation in the southwestern city of Kunming next month. **AP**

Concerns increase in Wisconsin over deal for Foxconn plant

Scott Bauer

CONCERNS are increasing among lawmakers and others in Wisconsin over what incentives the state may offer to become the first U.S. home of Taiwanese electronics giant Foxconn.

Little has been revealed about what tax breaks, subsidies, free land and other financial incentives or promises Republican Gov. Scott Walker and state economic development officials may be extending to seal the deal with Foxconn, the biggest contract assembler of smartphones and other devices for Apple and other brands.

Foxconn has said Wisconsin is competing with Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Illinois, Indiana and Texas for its first U.S. factory with billions in investments and thousands of new jobs. Foxconn is

looking to build the country's first liquid-crystal display factory and possibly other operations in the U.S. An announcement on Foxconn's plans could come as soon as this week.

Walker has refused to even confirm that he's in negotiations with Foxconn, let alone disclose what enticements he's extending. State lawmakers have said "huge, big numbers" are being discussed, but even they don't know the details. Michigan recently approved a USD200 million annual job-creation tax incentive package to sweeten its offer to Foxconn.

"I hope that cooler heads prevail when putting these incentive packages together," Steve Deller, a University of Wisconsin-Madison professor of agriculture and applied economics, said Tuesday. "Sometimes states get so caught up in playing the

game that they lose sight of the costs these incentives incur. Wisconsin has historically not played that game."

■ Foxconn has replaced at least 40,000 of its workers in China with robots

Tom Still, president of the Wisconsin Technology Council, examined deals made in six other states to land large manufacturers. Based on those, if Foxconn is looking to build a plant that employs 10,000 people in Wisconsin, the state may have to offer \$2 billion in incentives to be paid over a period of years,

Still said.

Whether it's worth the cost is "a calculation that policymakers will have to make," Still said, but he thinks it would be a good deal "because of what a game-changer this could be for Wisconsin."

Democrats who are in the minority in the Legislature have been kept in the dark, said two members of the budget-writing committee. State Sen. Jon Erpenbach is worried that Walker may make promises that require legislative approval, then blame lawmakers if they don't go along because of the cost.

"It's a balance between making sure taxpayers are protected and we're not giving away the store for the political gain for Scott Walker," Erpenbach said. "If it's a deal for both sides, that's great."

Deller is also concerned that Walker — eager to



A worker looks out through the logo at the entrance of the Foxconn complex in the southern Chinese city of Shenzhen

bolster his resume as a job-creator as he heads into reelection next year — may give up too much. Walker ran in 2010 on the promise to create 250,000 jobs, but still hasn't hit the mark.

"If I was in the governor's shoes, I would be making a very sweet offer from the perspective of the company," Deller said. "A sweet offer from the perspective of Wisconsin taxpayers? Maybe not."

Deller said in addition to the cost to state taxpayers, schools and local governments could also be pinched because deals to lar-

ge companies often allow them to escape paying property taxes, which pay for some local services.

There are also unanswered questions about the quality of jobs that would be created, how much they would pay and how long they would last. Foxconn has replaced at least 40,000 of its workers in China with robots.

But Democratic state Rep. Gordon Hintz said he's optimistic because of what a large factory could mean to the state.

"I just hope we get this right," he said. **AP**

PHILIPPINES

Rights groups ask Duterte to retract threat to bomb schools

Jim Gomez, Manila

HUMAN rights groups asked the Philippine president yesterday to retract a threat to order airstrikes against tribal schools he accused of teaching students to become communist rebels, warning such an attack would constitute a war crime.

U.S.-based Human Rights Watch said international humanitarian law “prohibits attacks on schools and other civilian structures unless they are being used for military purposes,” adding that deliberate attacks on civilians, including students and teachers, “is also a war crime.”

Left-wing Rep. Emmi de Jesus of the Gabriela Women's Party asked Duterte to retract the threat, saying government troops may use it as a pretext to attack indigenous, or Lumad, schools and communities in the country's south which have come under threat from pro-military militias in recent years.

Angered by recent communist rebel attacks on government forces, including a road gunbattle last week that wounded five members of his elite presidential guards, Duterte has called off peace talks with the Maoist guerrillas and threatened their perceived sympathizers.

In a televised news conference he called late Monday shortly after



Young Indigenous People known as Lumads form the words “Save Lumad schools” as they join a march of thousands of protesters to coincide with the state of the nation address

delivering his annual state of the nation address, Duterte condemned the insurgents for destroying bridges and torching schools in the countryside. But he said that the insurgents were sparing Lumad schools, which he alleged were operating under rebel control without government permits.

“Get out of there, I’m telling the Lumads now. I’ll have those bombed, including your structures,” Duterte said. “I will use the armed forces, the Philippine air force. I’ll really have those bombed [...] because you are operating illegally and you are teaching the children to rebel against government.”

Carlos Conde of the Human Rights Watch said that Duterte, by calling for an attack on schools, “is directing the military to commit war crimes.”

Conde urged Duterte to sign a 2015 international political state-

ment, the Safe Schools Declaration, that commits government to support the protection of students, teachers and schools in times of armed conflict.

■ Duterte said that the insurgents were sparing Lumad schools, which he alleged were operating under rebel control

Duterte ascended to the presidency last year after campaigning on his extra-tough approach on crime as a prosecutor and later

as mayor of southern Davao city. He has remained popular despite thousands of deaths in his nationwide anti-drug crackdown, and his continuing popularity and the ineffective opposition have apparently emboldened him.

On Monday night, Duterte also called for abolishing the Commission on Human Rights, an independent agency created under the constitution to investigate rights violations. He demanded that the commission and the ombudsman — an anti-graft prosecutor — route requests to investigate police and military personnel through him and laid down conditions under which he would allow those investigations.

Duterte said if the ombudsman failed to address atrocities committed by insurgents, “then do not investigate my army and police.”

Junance Fritzi Magbanua, an

administrative officer of the Mindanao Interfaith Foundation Inc. that runs indigenous schools in the south, said that Duterte's threats have heightened fear among the Lumad people already feeling the brunt of attacks by the military and security forces of big mining companies because of their resistance to mining. The military has denied involvement.

“The words uttered by President Duterte are frightening because they give a go-signal to the armed forces to bomb our schools,” said Magbanua.

Magbanua is among 300 teachers, students and parents who have traveled to Manila days before Duterte's speech in Congress to protest and file complaints before the Commission on Human Rights for alleged shootings and military encampments in indigenous schools.

She said there are around 200 Lumad schools in the southern Philippines, with around 4,000 students and 88 teachers. One campus has been recognized by the Department of Education, while the rest have been issued permits to operate, she added.

Magbanua said the indigenous schools follow government's curriculum, but have added a subject called ancestral land to teach students to value their home region. She denied they teach students to become communist rebels.

“We only hold chalk, ballpen and paper,” she said. “If [Duterte] wants to find out, he should come to our school and observe.”

Save Our Schools Network, a non-government group advocating children's right to education, said there have been at least 68 military attacks affecting 89 Lumad schools since July last year. **AP**

Maldives urged to restore parliament's independence

Bharatha Mallawarachi, Colombo

OUTSIDE government ministers yesterday asked the Maldives to restore its legislature's

independence, days after the opposition said parliament was locked down on orders from the president in an attempt to prevent a vote to impeach the parlia-

mentary speaker.

Sri Lanka-based embassies from the U.S., Canada, Britain, Germany, France, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway and Switzerland, as well

as the EU delegation to Sri Lanka and the Maldives, said in a statement that they were “alarmed by the recent incidents in Maldives,” which “seriously damage and undermine democracy.”

The Maldives' opposition accused members of the armed forces of padlocking the gates of parliament on Monday on orders from President Yameen Abdul Gayoom to prevent a vote on a no-confidence motion against Speaker Abdulla Maseeh Mohamed. It said the motion had support from 45 lawmakers in the 85-member house, and that it would have challenged the president's power had it succeeded.

The government, however, said no voting had been schedu-

led for Monday. It said forces were called in to strengthen security in the parliament building because some parties were calling for protests nearby.

Some opposition lawmakers broke through the barriers, but they were forcibly thrown out by military troops and police officers, some of whom used pepper spray.

The foreign embassies said in their statement that the closure of parliament and the harassment and intimidation of lawmakers were “deeply troubling.” They called on the Maldives' government to “respect fundamental freedom.”

Yameen has been accused of rolling back democratic gains the Maldives has made since becoming a multiparty democracy in 2008. His

control over parliament is threatened by an agreement reached this year between former strongman Maumoon Abdul Gayoom — a half brother of the current president — and the Maldives' first democratically elected president, Mohamed Nasheed.

A similar opposition bid to oust the speaker was defeated in March with no dissenting votes after opposition lawmakers were either evicted or walked out from the vote following a dispute over problems with the electronic voting system.

The opposition coalition's plan to wrest the parliamentary majority was aimed at reforming the judiciary, elections commission and other bodies perceived as being partial toward Yameen. **AP**

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THAILAND

Ex-prime minister vows to fight negligence charge

FORMER Thai Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra, whose bank accounts were frozen this week, says she will fight to prove her innocence as a trial that could put her in prison for 10 years enters its final stages.

Yingluck was ousted as prime minister in 2014 when a court ruled that a personnel transfer involved nepotism. The action against her, widely considered politically motivated, came shortly before the army ousted her government in a coup.

A court on Aug. 25 is to issue a verdict on whether she was criminally negligent as prime minister in implementing a rice subsidy policy which allegedly caused the government billions of dollars in losses. An administrative ruling holding her responsible for about USD1 billion of the losses led to her accounts being frozen. Her assets were listed in a statutory declaration in 2015 as being worth 611 million baht (\$18 million) in total. She is to give her closing statement to the court on Aug. 1.

Yingluck has also been banned from political office for five years after the national assembly appointed by the military government impeached her.

Her supporters believe she is

being persecuted by the army and by other political opponents of her brother, former Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra.

Thaksin, a telecommunications mogul, was ousted in a separate 2006 military coup after demonstrations accused him of corruption, abuse of power and insulting the then-monarch, late King Bhumibol Adulyadej. Thaksin's ouster set off sometimes-violent battles for power between his supporters and opponents, including the military. He has been in self-imposed exile since 2008 to escape a prison sentence on a corruption charge. His supporters say the country's political establishment opposes him because his electoral popularity threatens their entrenched privileges.

"The government has chosen to exploit its power to freeze my assets without waiting for the Administrative Court's ruling. The timing of their decision comes a



Thailand's former Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra arrives at the Supreme Court on July 21 for the last day of her hearing in Bangkok

few weeks before the Supreme Court's verdict on the Rice Subsidy Scheme case. It seems to me that this is a desperate attempt by the government to do everything that it can to influence the case prior to the final verdict," Yingluck wrote in a statement posted Tuesday on her Facebook

page. She said she filed a petition challenging the freezing of her accounts.

"I will stay strong and I will continue to prove my innocence to the best of my ability in the closing statements this coming Aug. 1, 2017, because I know that I have done nothing wrong," she

wrote. "I will look to the moral support from all of you as it will give me the much-needed strength and patience to fight on."

Last Friday, Yingluck was greeted by almost 1,000 supporters at the most recent hearing of her case at the Supreme Court.

Prime Minister Prayuth Chan-ocha, who led the coup that toppled her elected government, warned her supporters Tuesday to tread carefully.

"The court and judicial process are looking at it, you cannot be offensive or speak ill of the courts. I'm telling you," he said. "The government will not prevent people from going, but everyone must show restraint and ask themselves, 'Why am I going, what will I get out of this?'"

"Whether there are lots of people or just a few people that go, or if a situation arises, it would not make a difference in the verdict. Then why would you go? Let the court decide," Prayuth said. **AP**

SRI LANKA

Army deployed to distribute fuel during strike

Bharatha Mallawarachi

SRI Lanka's government deployed army troops yesterday to restore fuel distribution crippled during a strike launched by trade unions who want to stop leases of oil tanks to India and China.

Long lines have formed at gasoline stations across Sri Lanka since Monday evening due to the strike by workers at the state-run petroleum company.

Military spokesman Brig. Roshan Seneviratne said troops entered the country's main distribution facility and refinery at Kolonnawa and Muthurajawela outside Colombo early yesterday and they are now working in distribution facilities alongside the workers not on strike to resume the distribution of fuel.

The army deployment followed a government decree issued Tuesday night that the supply and distribution of fuel, including petroleum products and gas, were an essential service.

The trade unions' announcement yesterday that it would continue the strike came a day after the government approved of selling a large stake in a southern port to China.

Ceylon Petroleum Common



Workers Union spokesman D.J. Rajakaruna said that along with the agreement, China will get 11 oil tanks at the port.

He also said the government was moving to give 99 oil tanks in the eastern port city of Trincomalee to India.

The tanks were built by the British during World War II but were unused until some were given to Lanka IOC, a unit of Indian Oil Corp., in 2002 as part of a privatization deal, giving Indians a presence at the strategic port.

Rajakaruna said the government is now trying to lease out 14 of the 99 tanks to Indian companies and have a joint venture for the other tanks.

He said the tanks are a prime national asset of Sri Lanka but the agreements would benefit only Chinese and Indian companies, adding that the moves would severely affect Sri Lanka's economy in the long run.

Cabinet spokesman and health minister Rajitha Senarathna told reporters that the strike is politically motivated and the government is ready to face it. "These are political demands and not trade union demands," he said. "A country can't be governed by the demands put forward by trade unions."

The Cabinet approval Tuesday involved a long-delayed agreement to sell to China a 70 percent stake in a \$1.2 billion Chinese-built port in the southern town of Hambantota.

In January, hundreds of farmers and opposition supporters protested the government's plan to lease the port, saying the proposed partnership was akin to a sellout of the country. The agreement on the deal is to be signed by the Sri Lanka Ports Authority and the state-run China Merchants Port Holding Co. over the weekend. **AP**

Boris Johnson welcomes Australian tech entrepreneurs

BRITISH Foreign Secretary Boris Johnson assured concerned Australian tech entrepreneurs yesterday that they will be welcome to continue working in his country after it leaves the European Union.

Johnson was quizzed by technology bosses when he visited the Tyro Fintech Hub shared space for startups in Sydney.

PayDock founder and chief executive Rob Lincolne asked if there will be ministerial support for Australian staff to get visas, while Seatfrog boss Iain Griffin raised concerns about the supply of highly skilled workers in Britain after it exits the EU.

Johnson, who had advocated for Britain's EU departure, seemed surprised by Griffin's concerns, asking him, "Are you really worried?"

"Every business has difficulty finding people," Griffin replied.



Johnson (left) during a visit to the Tyro Fintech technology Hub in Sydney

Seatfrog is expanding into the Britain and its chief executive is worried Brexit could reduce the country's talent pool. Johnson said his government wanted to ensure that "people who have energy and talent of ideas can still come to the U.K."

"Of course there will be pressures to try to constrain the overall immigration numbers because they are very, very high at the moment," Johnson said. "But that does not mean we want to see a reduction in the number of tech people who come to London."

Earlier yesterday, Johnson toured the

Sydney Opera House ahead a bilateral meeting with Australian Foreign Minister Julie Bishop.

Today, Johnson and Bishop will be joined by British Defense Secretary Michael Fallon and Australian Defense Minister Maris Payne for annual talks.

Australian officials said Thursday's meeting would focus on counterterrorism, Europe's future and the threat posed by North Korea, as well as British and Australian military operations in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Johnson arrived in Sydney on Tuesday after visits to Japan and New Zealand. **AP**

Artist uses Iraq refugees, war veterans in radio project

Kristen de Groot

IN 2016, an Iraqi-American artist sat down with Bahjat Abdulwahed — the so-called “Walter Cronkite of Baghdad” — with the idea of launching a radio project that would be part documentary, part radio play and part variety show.

Abdulwahed was the voice of Iraqi radio from the late 1950s to the early 1990s, but came to Philadelphia as a refugee in 2009 after receiving death threats from insurgents.

“He represented authority and respectability in relationship to the news through many different political changes,” said Elizabeth Thomas, curator of “Radio Silence,” a public art piece that resulted from the meeting with Abdulwahed.

Thomas had invited artist Michael Rakowitz to Philadelphia to create a project for Mural Arts Philadelphia, which has been expanding its public art reach from murals into new and innovative

spaces.

After nearly five years of research, Rakowitz distilled his project into a radio broadcast that would involve putting the vivacious and caramel-voiced Abdulwahed back on the air, and using Philadelphia-area Iraqi refugees and local Iraq war veterans as his field reporters. It would feature Iraqi music, remembrances of the country and vintage weather reports from a happier time in Iraq.

“One of the many initial titles was “Desert Home Companion,” Rakowitz said, riffing on “A Prairie Home Companion,” the radio variety show created by Garrison Keillor.

Rakowitz recorded an initial and very informal session with Abdulwahed in his living room in January 2016. Two weeks later, Abdulwahed collapsed. He had to have an emergency tracheostomy and was on life support until he died seven months later.

At Abdulwahed’s funeral, his friends urged Rakowitz to continue with the project, to show



Michael Rakowitz poses for the media at the National Gallery in London

how much of the country they left behind was slipping away and to help fight cultural amnesia.

Rakowitz recalibrated the project, which became “Radio Silence,” a 10-part radio broadcast with each episode focusing on a synonym of silence, in homage to Abdulwahed.

“The voice of Baghdad had lost his voice,” Rakowitz said, calling him a “narrator of Iraq’s history.”

It will be hosted by Rakowitz and features fragments of that

first recording session with Abdulwahed, as well as interviews with his wife and other Iraqi refugees living in Philadelphia.

Rakowitz and Thomas also worked with Warrior Writers, a nonprofit based in Philadelphia that helps war veterans work through their experiences using writing and art.

The first episode, on speechlessness, will launch Aug. 6 is. It will be broadcast on community radio stations across the country throu-

gh Prometheus Radio Project.

One participant is Jawad Al Amiri, an Iraqi refugee who came to the United States in the 1980s. He said silence in Iraq has been a way of life for many decades.

“Silence is a way of survival. Silence is a decree by the Baath regime, not to tell what you see in front of your eyes. Silence is synonymous with fear. If you tell, you will be put through agony,” he said at a preview Tuesday of the live broadcast. He said he saw his own sister poisoned and die and wasn’t allowed to speak of it.

When he came to the U.S. in 1981, his father told him: “We send you here for education and to speak for the millions of Iraqis in the land where freedom of speech is practiced.”

Lawrence Davidson is an Army veteran who served during the Iraq War and works with Warrior Writers also contributed to the project. He said the project is a place to exchange ideas and honestly share feelings with refugees and other veterans.

The project kicks off on July 29 with a live broadcast performance on Philadelphia’s Independence Mall — what Rakowitz calls the symbolic home of American democracy. It will feature storytelling, food from refugees and discussions from the veterans with Warrior Writers. AP

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John Carucci, New York

CLIMATE CHANGE

Al Gore on 'Inconvenient Sequel,'
Trump, and the environment

Al Gore admits he was frustrated upon hearing the news last month that President Trump was pulling out of the Paris Climate Accord, but since then he's become more optimistic.

Gore worried that a U.S. withdrawal from the treaty would compel other nations to opt out of the historical pact for adopting clean energy solutions. But that's not what happened.

"The whole rest of the world has redoubled their commitment. And in this country, the governors and the mayors and the business leaders have all said, 'We're still in the agreement, and we're gonna fill the gap. We're gonna meet the U.S. commitment, regardless of what Donald Trump does,'" Gore told the Associated Press last week at a special screening for "An Inconvenient Sequel: Truth to Power."

It follows the 2006 Oscar-winning documentary, "An Inconvenient Truth," and continues the conversation of finding solutions for the effects of climate change, including an emphasis on renewable energy. Much like the first film, Gore is front and center in leading the discussion.

It's been a remarkable second act for Gore since winning the popular vote, but losing the Electoral College in the 2000 presidential election. There's no question that Gore was devastated from the loss, but his stature as an important voice for environmental issues has proven equally successful, as he amassed a Nobel Prize, Academy Award, an Emmy, and a Grammy for his relentless dedication to climate change activism.

"I'm under no illusion that there's any position with as much chance to do good as president of the United States, but I'm very grateful to have found another way to serve the public interests. I'm devoting my life to this and hoping to make a big difference,"



This image released by Paramount Pictures shows Al Gore in "An Inconvenient Sequel: Truth to Power"

Gore said.

CNN Legal Analyst Jeffrey Toobin, who also attended the premiere, agrees that Gore "had done pretty well for himself" after the disputed 2000 presidential election.

"Al Gore could have done many things after he was not inaugurated in 2001, but what he did was become the leading global spokesman for perhaps the most important scientific and environmental cause of our lifetime, and he won a Nobel Prize in the bargain. So I don't think anyone could quarrel with how Al Gore has decided to live his life," he said.

A big part of Gore's mission depends on convincing people that climate change is not a hoax. Instead, it's based on science that shows the global mean surface

temperature continues to rise, due in part to an increase in greenhouse gasses. So while global warming is immune to politics, the topic remains a partisan issue in the United States. That's something the former vice president blames on corporate funding for political campaigns.

The truth about the climate crisis is still inconvenient for the big carbon polluters.

AL GORE

"The truth about the climate crisis is still inconvenient for the big carbon polluters, and the politicians that they support with their big campaign contributions and lobbying activities are scared to cross them. That's the main reason. They've spent a lot of money trying to put out false information about it," Gore said.

Still, he remains confident that the problem can be fixed.

"People are seeing through this now. Two-thirds of the American people want to solve this big time. We are gonna solve it. We just need to move faster on it," Gore said.

Gore feels that change will come from the "grass roots up." That's why he spends a great deal of time training climate activists around the globe.

"We need to get more people involved. That's one of the real purposes of this movie. To tell people what they need to know, to show them that there is hope and there are solutions now, and inspire them to get involved," Gore said.

Davis Guggenheim directed the first film to box office and Oscar glory, bringing climate change into the mainstream. The sequel, directed by Bonni Cohen and Jon Shenk picks up the conversation with more of a battle cry for saving the planet.

Knowing he was stepping into big shoes for this film, Shenk noted the importance of his predecessor's film.

"An Inconvenient Truth" was one of the most successful documentaries in history. Not only did it do fabulously well at the box

office, but by almost any measure it put the words global warming and climate crisis on the map for the entire world," Shenk said.

In order to keep the information timely, producers changed the ending from what audiences saw at the Sundance Film Festival to reflect Trump's announcement about withdrawing the United States from the global climate agreement in time for the film's limited release on July 28 and its wide release on Aug. 4.

Gore also said he's recently spoken to Hillary Clinton, and that's "She's gonna be fine."

Clinton won the popular vote, but lost the Electoral College to Trump, just as Gore lost to George W. Bush in 2000.

As for Trump's continued attacks on the news media, Gore feels disheartened by them.

"Well, I think that's really unfortunate. We need someone who will unite us and not divide us. The press obviously plays an absolutely crucial role in making our democracy work. If the press isn't free to get out there and tell people what's going on, then we can't make the changes we need to know about and then change," Gore said.

Part of the news coverage called into question surrounds the constant flurry of revelations in the ongoing investigation of possible collusion with the Russian government by the Trump administration.

"Every day there seems like there's something different and they're not getting anything good done. That's a problem," Gore said. AP

HERITAGE

Ruling lets Italy hunt abroad for new Colosseum chief

The international search for a new director for Rome's Colosseum will go forward after a legal challenge by the city that had halted it was dismissed by a national administrative tribunal, Italy's culture minister pledged Tuesday.

Culture Minister Dario Franceschini hailed the ruling Monday by the national Council of State, which overturned the decision of a regional body that had blocked his plan to consider hiring non-Italians to lead some of art-rich Italy's museums, monuments and archaeo-

logical sites.

"We lost some time, luckily just a little," in the search for the Colosseum's next director, Franceschini said.

So far 82 applicants are seeking the post, 16 of them non-Italians, he said. The goal is to have the successful candidate start on Jan. 1, 2018, Franceschini said.

Bringing in experts from outside Italy is part of Franceschini's efforts to modernize Italy's museums, including the Uffizi in Florence. But the culture minister's stated goal of having foreigners run

renowned Italian institutions and making them more user-friendly and innovative has faced resistance in Italy's entrenched art and archaeology communities.

The city of Rome this spring persuaded a regional administrative tribunal to block reforms planned for the Colosseum. As well as allowing a foreign director, the proposal would have made the ancient arena part of an archaeological park along with the Palatine Hill and the extensive ruins nearby of Emperor Nero's fabled palace,

the Domus Aurea.

Franceschini said 30 percent of the Colosseum's revenues will help fund operations of museums and archaeology sites under Rome's jurisdiction. Rome officials had expressed concern that with the reform, the Colosseum's revenues would no longer help local museums.

The number of visitors to the Colosseum increased 12.5 percent during the first half of the year compared to the same period last year, while ticket sales and similar revenues increased by nearly 11 percent, the minister said. AP



A view of the Colosseum after the first stage of the restoration work was completed in Rome

what's ON



BRAND STORY - POP-UP SHOP
TIME: 10am-8pm
UNTIL: October 1, 2017
VENUE: Macau Fashion Gallery
ADMISSION: Free
ENQUIRIES: (853) 2835 3341

REPRESENTING WOMEN THROUGH THE MAM COLLECTION - 19TH AND 20TH CENTURIES
TIME: 10am-7pm (Last admission at 6:30pm, closed on Mondays)
UNTIL: December 10, 2017
VENUE: Macau Art Museum
ADMISSION: Free
ORGANIZER: Cultural Affairs Bureau
ENQUIRIES: (853) 8791 9814

THE 19TH MACAU INTERNATIONAL SALON OF PHOTOGRAPHY
TIME: 9am-7pm
UNTIL: July 28, 2017
VENUE: Chun Chou Tong Pavilion, Lou Lim Ioc Garden, No. 10, Est. de Adolfo Loureiro
ADMISSION: Free
ENQUIRIES: (853) 2857 2770

Offbeat

FIRES FORCE EVACUATION OF 12,000 IN 3 FRENCH RIVIERA TOWNS



French authorities ordered the evacuation of up to 12,000 people around a picturesque hilltop town in the southern Cote d'Azur region as fires hopped around the Mediterranean coast for a third day Wednesday.

A raging wildfire began late Tuesday in the dry Mediterranean forests around La Londe-Les-Maures before being pushed by the southern Mistral winds to Bormes, a tourist magnet with houses clustered on a hill surrounded by dense forests of scrub and trees.

The local Var Matin newspaper reported that 12,000 people were forced to take refuge in gymnasiums and other places, including thousands of campers. It said some people sought safety on local beaches.

Col. Eric Martin of the Var firefighting unit said Wednesday on BFM-TV that nearly 600 firefighters were trying to contain the flames that had run through 1,300 hectares (3,210 acres) around.

Four tracker planes and a fire-fighting aircraft were sent in as thick black smoke billowed above the skyline.

The airport in Toulon, a city 30 kilometers from La Londe, was briefly closed on Wednesday, as well the Fort de Bregancon, which sits on a rock off the coast of Bormes.

The wildfires began raging along France's Mediterranean coast on Monday, forcing smaller, scattered evacuations with flames reaching a corner of Saint-Tropez. Since noon Tuesday, French firefighters had conducted about 100 operations.

Further east, reinforcements were sent in to battle a blaze in Artigues that burned up to 1,700 hectares (4,200 acres) of forest.

Another fire was contained Tuesday evening in La Croix Valmer after burning two villas, seriously injuring one firefighter and devouring about 500 hectares.

France's Mediterranean coast is particularly vulnerable to fires, with its massive back-country forests, often dry in the summer, and Mistral winds blowing across the sea to fan the flames. Smoke from the fires blew across bays on the picturesque coast, frightening some. But firefighters warned against panic — and unnecessary phone calls. No injuries have been reported among residents and vacationers.

Further south, flames ate through 2,000 hectares of forest on the northern end of the French Mediterranean island of Corsica, in what was the largest blaze in France.

Summer fires, propelled by high temperatures, winds and drought — and often caused by careless humans — are not new to Europe. Both Portugal and Italy were also battling blazes.

TV canal macau



13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
14:50	RTPi Live
17:00	Revenge Sr 4
18:20	Now Generation (Repeated)
19:10	Non-Daily Portuguese News (Repeated)
19:40	Soap Opera
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:00	TDM Talk Show
21:30	Miscellaneous
22:10	Now Generation
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Miscellaneous
00:25	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)
01:05	RTPi Live

cinema



CINETEATRO

27 Jul - 2 Aug

PRIPARA THE MOVIE

ROOM 1

2:15PM

Director: Okubo Is Male

Starring:

Language: Cantonese (Chinese)

Duration: 58min

DESPICABLE ME 3

ROOM 1

3:30, 7:45pm

Director: Eric Guillon, Kyle Balda, Pierre Coffin

Starring: Steve Carell, Kristen Wiig, Trey Parker

Language: Cantonese

Duration: 90min

WAR OF THE PLANET OF THE APES

ROOM 1

5:15, 9:30pm

Director: Matt Reeves

Starring: Woody Herrelson, Sara Canning, Judy Greer

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 140min



VALÉRIAN AND THE CITY OF A THOUSAND PLANETS

ROOM 2

2:30, 5:00, 9:30pm

Director: Luc Besson

Starring: Dane DeHann, Cara Delevigne, Clive Owen

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 137min

CARS 3

ROOM 2

7:00pm

ROOM 3

4:30pm

Director: Brian Fee

Starring: Owen Wilson, Cristela Alonzo, Chris Cooper

Language: Cantonese

Duration: 102min

MEOW

ROOM 3

2:30, 7:30pm

Director: Benny Chan

Starring: Louis Koo, Mary Ma, Jessica Liu, Andy Huang

Language: Cantonese (Chinese & English)

Duration: 109min

SPIDER-MAN: HOMECOMING

ROOM 3

9:15pm

Director: Jon Watts

Starring: Tom Holland, Michael Keaton, Robert Downey Jr.

Language: English

Duration: 133min

this day in history



2003 COMIC LEGEND BOB HOPE DIES

American icon and legendary comedian Bob Hope has died, just two months after celebrating his 100th birthday.

He had been ill with pneumonia, and died in his sleep at home in Toluca Lake, California, with his family at his bedside.

US President George Bush led the tributes which poured in from around the world. "Today America lost a great citizen," he said.

"Bob Hope made us laugh. He lifted our spirits. Bob Hope served our nation. We will mourn the loss of a good man."

A spokeswoman for Buckingham Palace said the Queen, who met British-born Hope many times, was "very sad" to hear the news and would be sending a private message to his widow, Dolores, who was married to Hope for 69 years. The couple had four children.

Film-maker Woody Allen also joined the tributes, saying, "It's hard for me to imagine a world without Bob Hope in it." Film critic Derek Malcolm said he was a talented comic actor. "Many comics are depressed in real life, but he wasn't - unless he'd had a bad round of golf," he said.

Birthday celebrations were held in May to mark Bob Hope's centenary, but with failing eyesight and hearing, the comedian was not well enough to attend.

He was born Leslie Townes Hope in south-east London in 1903, the son of a stonemason and a Welsh concert singer.

He lived in Britain until he was four, when his family emigrated to Ohio, in the United States.

He trained in vaudeville, the American form of music hall entertainment, and became increasingly well-known through his film, television and radio work.

With Bing Crosby, he created one of the big screen's most memorable partnerships, with such classic comedies as "Road to Singapore".

He was a close friend of many US presidents, including Kennedy, Nixon, Ford and Reagan, and was especially known for his tireless work entertaining American troops wherever they were stationed around the world.

He was awarded a Congressional Medal of Honour in 1962 and received an honorary knighthood from the Queen in 1998.

But he never won the prize he most wanted - the Oscar. Introducing the Oscars ceremony in 1968, he joked: "Welcome to the Academy Awards. Or as it's known in my house - Passover."

He was, however, given four honorary Oscars for his contribution to show business.

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

Bob Hope was buried on 31 July in a private ceremony in suburban Los Angeles. His coffin was draped with the United States flag for the 30-minute service.

Mourners gave a spontaneous standing ovation at the conclusion of the ceremony.

President Bush ordered flags to be flown at half-mast on the White House, all US government and military buildings, naval vessels and US posts around the world for the day of the funeral.

A larger memorial service took place on 27 August, attended by Hollywood stars and prominent political figures including former US President Gerald Ford.

A Los Angeles airport has since been renamed Bob Hope Airport in his memory.

YOUR STARS

Aries Mar. 21-Apr. 19 Better tidy up and make sure everything at your place is exactly where you want it and how you want it.

Taurus April 20-May 20 It's time to make up, mend fences and break bread. Whatever you want to call it, be sure you do it.

Gemini May 21-Jun. 21 Still not ready to quit shopping? Still patrolling the malls, local specialty stores and boutiques in search of just the right price on the perfect accessory?

Cancer Jun. 22-Jul. 22 Your emotions are just pouring out of you - yes, even more than usual. You're not feeling snifflly or sentimental, though.

Leo Jul. 23-Aug. 22 When you least expect it, the urge to share a secret fantasy will come along, just about knocking you out of your chair.

Virgo Aug. 23-Sept. 22 You've been extremely hedonistic lately - at least by your hardworking standards. This morning, however, you woke up and realized that you needed to run some errands.

Libra Sep.23-Oct. 22 Don't let them get to you. Sure, that's easier said than done, especially when the person you're up against knows exactly how to push your buttons with maximum efficiency.

Scorpio Oct. 23 - Nov. 21 If someone refuses to back off even after you've sent out some extremely obvious warning signs - well, let's just say that they can't be the sharpest crayon in the box.

Sagittarius Nov. 22-Dec. 21 You've been spending quite a bit of time with a certain person lately. Your friends are snickering and making comments about wedding bells, and you're starting to wonder yourself if it might not be time to settle down...

Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 19 You're not quite sure what's going on between you and a dear one, but it has been difficult. This doesn't mean it's over, just entering one of those 'challenging phases' that either makes or breaks a relationship.

Aquarius Jan. 20-Feb. 18 Telling you not to let your mouth get away from you just won't work now. You've already started saying exactly what's on your mind, and you're not ready to quit yet.

Pisces Feb.19-Mar. 20 You've got one more day of doing absolutely nothing but enjoying the company of a divine, delectable dear one - and you're planning to make the very most of it.



SUDOKU

Easy and Easy+ Sudoku puzzles. Easy: 9x9 grid with some numbers filled in. Easy+: Similar grid with more numbers filled in.

Medium and Hard Sudoku puzzles. Medium: 9x9 grid with fewer numbers filled in. Hard: 9x9 grid with very few numbers filled in.

WEATHER

Table with columns: CHINA, MIN, MAX, CONDITION. Lists weather for cities like Beijing, Harbin, Tianjin, etc. Also includes a WORLD section for cities like Moscow, Frankfurt, Paris, London, New York.

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- Fred's dancing sister; 6- T.G.I.F. part; 9- Some bridge players; 14- Bowling lane button; 15- By means of; 16- Recess in a wall; 17- Blooming; 19- Actress Sophia; 20- Bro's counterpart; 21- Dregs; 22- Grads; 23- Got on in years; 25- Influential offering; 26- Musical dramas; 29- Jutting rock; 31- Kingdoms; 32- Subscription continuation; 36- Scottish Gaelic; 37- Vinegar's partner; 38- Abhor; 40- Form of bowling; 43- Exaggerate; 45- Cease; 46- Stiff; 47- Primitive calculators; 50- Actor Rob; 51- To redden; 52- Froth; 54- HST's successor; 57- Please, in Potsdam; 58- Subsoil; 61- Divulge; 62- Wide shoe size; 63- Fencing swords; 64- Hagar the Horrible's dog; 65- PC linkup; 66- Pool stroke; DOWN: 1- Pound sounds; 2- Sandwich shop; 3- Those, to Juan; 4- Actor Ayres; 5- Summer on the Seine; 6- Like some college walls; 7- Fork prong; 8- Droops; 9- Blow up; 10- Garlic sauce; 11- Rub vigorously; 12- Topic; 13- Chamber workers; Abbr.; 18- Like non-oyster months; 23- Senator Specter; 24- Leg, slangily; 25- Prohibit; 26- Mine find; 27- Chipper; 28- Leisure; 29- Brittle; 30- Cath. or Prot.; 33- In what place; 34- Over-50 org.; 35- Former Fords; 37- Lennon's lady; 39- Fair-hiring abbr.; 41- Crown of ancient Egypt; 42- "Lord, is ___?"; Matthew; 43- Carol start; 44- Pledge; 47- Extra-terrestrial being; 48- Montana city; 49- Mary of "The Maltese Falcon"; 50- Burdened; 51- OPEC units; 52- Combustible matter; 53- Draft classification; 54- Female rabbits; 55- Conks out; 56- Last word in a threat; 59- Sleep stage; 60- Sauna site;

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

A large crossword puzzle grid with some numbers and letters filled in.

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



FOR SALE and FOR RENT advertisement for JML Property, including website and contact info.

Real estate listing for Old Taipa, Nam Long (I Unit) Taipa, 515 sq ft / HKD 7,378 sq ft, HKD 3.8M.

Real estate listing for Chun Hung Garden L Unit Taipa, 840 sq ft / HKD 7,500 sq ft, HKD 6.3M.

Real estate listing for Lok Pou Macau, 700 sq ft / HKD 4,257 sq ft, HKD 2.98M.

Real estate listing for Pou Long Fa Un T5, Taipa Taipa, 885 sq ft / HKD 6,892 sq ft, HKD 6.1M.

JML Property logo and contact information, including '卓雅物業' and 'since 1994'.

FINA WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Hungary's proud water polo tradition goes on at home worlds

Ciaran Fahey, Budapest

THE spirit of the 1956 Olympics lives on in the Hungary men's water polo team.

Some 61 years after the infamous "Blood in the Water" game against the Soviet Union, Hungary routed Russia 14-5 to book a place in the semifinals at the world championships on Tuesday.

Hungary captain Denes Varga scored four to set up a match with Greece on Thursday. Defending champion Serbia and Croatia, the 2015 finalists, are in the other semi.

Most of the spectators on Tuesday weren't around for the

1956 Olympic match in Melbourne, Australia, arguably the most well known game of water polo ever played. But memories are long.

"Everyone in Hungary remembers this match. The politics, the history is played in the pool," said Krisztina Kelemen, whose fingernails were painted in the Hungarian colors of red, white and green.

It seemed as if it was on the players' minds, too, as they tore into Russia. Their names had been greeted with thunderous applause and cheers from the partisan crowd, while the silence that greeted the Russians' names left them very much

alone.

A guttural roar from Varga before the game set the fans off again, and an early goal from Norbert Hosnyanszky kept their spirits high.

"Ria, ria, Hungaria!" they chanted, again and again.

With less than two minutes remaining in the first quarter, it was 4-0 to Hungary, the same score at the end in 1956. Russia, which then hit the post, was left reeling when Marton Vamos made it 5-0 before the first break.

Punches were thrown at the beginning of the second, but it didn't stop the Hungarian advance, or the party. Fans whooped, chan-



Roman Shepelev of Russia (right) is challenged by Krisztian Manhercz of Hungary for the ball during the men's water polo quarterfinal match Hungary vs Russia at the 17th FINA Swimming World Championships

ted, screamed and yelled, then danced and kissed as the home team's goals kept coming. Hosnyanszky also scored four.

The goal-frame and inspired goalkeeping from Viktor Nagy ensured a night to forget for Russia. Nagy had the final say, another brilliant save before the final whistle started the party.

■ No country has taken to water polo quite like Hungary. With nine Olympic titles, it's the most successful nation

"We're going to win the title!" fan David Demeter boasted.

No country has taken to water polo quite like Hungary. With nine Olympic titles and five world crowns between the men's and women's teams, it's the most successful nation.

"We love the sport. We don't know why," fan

Zsombor Nagy said.

Leslie Rethelyi was 16 at the time of the "Blood in the Water" match and he still remembers it vividly.

"It was a very strong and rude water polo match," Rethelyi said.

It was played just weeks after Soviet forces invaded Hungary to crush an anti-communist uprising, and it was ended early as the referee feared the fighting among the fired-up players in the pool would spread to the stands. It came to symbolize Hungary's struggle against Soviet rule.

The match was riddled with punches low and high, head-butts, and grabbing. Players came out of the pool bleeding. The sight of blood sent the already heated spectators wild. The game was ended with less than a minute to go with tensions close to breaking point. Hungary, which was leading 4-0, was awarded the victory, and Australian police escorted the Russians to safety.

The Hungarians went on to their fourth Olympics win. The image of star Ervin Zador's blood-stained face was published in newspapers around the world. Zador and other 1956 Hungarian Olympians received political

asylum in the United States. He said the match never turned personal.

■ We love the sport. We don't know why.

SPORTS FAN

"It should be clear that we never had any ill feelings toward the Russian people. It was just a match at the wrong time and the wrong place," he said at a reunion of the sides in 2002. Zador died in 2012, in California at age 76.

Hungary and the Soviet Union appeared in three of the first four world championship finals. But despite appearances on Tuesday and the teams' history, Hungary coach Tamas Marcz said the 1956 game played no part in motivating his side.

"We only think of the next match. We don't think about the semi-final or final, we only think about this match. We want to play for a medal," Marcz told The Associated Press. "The motivation for these guys is to be the best, better than the opposite team." AP

AD

THE ONLY TOPLESS CLUB IN TOWN
w e d n e s d a y n i g h t s
BOYZ NIGHT OUT
1 free drink for boyz
D2無上裝酒吧 逢禮拜三男士之夜 免費贈飲1杯

Howard Fendrich, Jovana Gec

FOR more than a year, Novak Djokovic's right elbow hurt when he hit serves or forehands. The pain kept getting worse, and now he's going to give his arm a chance to heal by sitting out the rest of 2017.

Djokovic will miss the U.S. Open, ending his streak of participating in 51 consecutive Grand Slam tournaments, and aims to return to the ATP tour in January. He made the announcement Wednesday — exactly a year to the day after Roger Federer said he would be sidelined for the second half of last season.

"This is one of those injuries where nothing can really help instantly. You just have to allow natural rehabilitation to take its course," Djokovic said. "Professionally, this is not, obviously, an easy decision for me."

Since entering his first major tournament at the 2005 Australian Open, Djokovic has never missed one, the third-longest active run among men and seventh-longest in history.

In that time, the 30-year-old Serb has won 12 Grand Slam titles, including the U.S. Open in 2011 and 2015. Only three men have won more major tennis singles championships: Federer (19), Rafael Nadal (15) and Pete Sampras (14).

"The remarkable series has come to an end," Djokovic said. "My body has its limits, and I have to respect that and be grateful for all that I have achieved so far."

He said that Andre Agassi, with whom he recently began working on a part-time basis, will be his coach after the hiatus. Djokovic plans to start with a tuneup tournament ahead of the Australian Open at the start of 2018.

"He supports my decision to take a break and remains my head coach," Djokovic said about Agassi, also noting that he'll be looking for a new fitness trainer. "He is going to help me get back into shape and bounce back strong after the recovery period."

Djokovic made his announcement via Facebook, his website

AP PHOTO



TENNIS

Djokovic will sit out rest of 2017 because of injured elbow

and at a news conference in Belgrade, Serbia.

His last match was on July 12, when he stopped playing during his Wimbledon quarterfinal against Tomas Berdych because the elbow was too painful. Djokovic said then he had been struggling with the elbow on his racket-swinging arm for about 1½ years, which he reiterated Wednesday. He said he does not need surgery.

Since winning the 2016 French Open to become the eighth man to complete a career Grand Slam and the first man in nearly a half-century to win four consecutive major trophies, Djokovic's form has dipped. His ranking dropped from No. 1 to No. 4; he failed to defend any of those major titles.

He acknowledged Wednesday that he "felt worn out" and "flat" after the run of success that culmi-

nated at Roland Garros in 2016.

"I was searching for myself, for motivation," he said.

Djokovic made it past the quarterfinals at only one of the past five majors: last year's U.S. Open, where he lost in the final to Stan Wawrinka.

Djokovic, who also mentioned Wednesday that his wife is expecting their second child, reached at least the semifinals at Arthur Ashe Stadium each of the past 10 years. That includes seven appearances in the final.

Henri Laaksonen of Switzerland, who is ranked 95th, will get Djokovic's spot in the field at Flushing Meadows. This year's U.S. Open starts Aug. 28.

"All the doctors I've consulted, and all the specialists I have visited, in Serbia and all over the world, have agreed that this in-

jury requires rest. A prolonged break from the sport is inevitable," Djokovic said. "I'll do whatever it takes to recover."

“Professionally, this is not, obviously, an easy decision for me.”

NOVAK DJOKOVIC

Federer demonstrated the benefits of a break last year, sitting out after Wimbledon to let his surgically repaired left knee heal fully.

He missed the Rio Olympics and U.S. Open and dropped out of the

top 10 in the rankings.

But Federer was rejuvenated at age 35 when he returned at the beginning of this season and won the Australian Open to end a 4½-year Grand Slam drought, plus titles at Indian Wells and Miami. He took more time off after that, missing the clay-court circuit, and returned for the grass, winning his eighth Wimbledon championship and 19th major title overall this month.

"Well, I hope it's not a trend," Federer said about lengthy absences, the day after he won Wimbledon. "You've got to have the same issues that I had. I didn't just walk away from the game for six months last year just because I was in the mood to. I actually had to, so it's a big difference there, as well. But, yes, everybody needs to manage their own schedules." AP

CRICKET

India 399-3 after Dhawan's 190

INDIA finished day one of the opening test against Sri Lanka in the commanding position of 399-3 yesterday after a powerful 190 from opener Shikhar Dhawan.

Dhawan hit his career-best score in an exhibition of aggressive batting as top-ranked India took a firm grip on the game, with Dhawan backed up by Cheteshwar Pujara, who was 144 not out.

They had a partnership of 253 for the second wicket.

Their innings were contrasting ones, though.

While Dhawan was quick to punish the loose balls, smashing his 190 off just 168 balls, No. 3 Pujara anchored India with a 247-ball knock that took the tourists to stumps.

Seamer Nuwan Pradeep took all three wickets for Sri Lanka, but the host had a tough start to the three-match series, bullied by India's batsmen and losing allrounder Asela Gunaratne to a

broken thumb — when he dropped a catch early in Dhawan's innings.

Dhawan went on to make a fifth test century and Pujara a 12th test ton, with India going at a rapid 4.4 runs an over.

Dhawan was only a late replacement in India's test squad for the tour after Murali Vijay got injured.

"My plans were to go to Melbourne and spend time with my family, do training and get fit for the one-day series," Dhawan

said. "I think destiny had a different plan for me."

Dhawan reached his century when he swept Dilruwan Perera for four. The century came off 110 deliveries, but from 100 to 150 he needed just 37 deliveries. He was out in the last over before tea when he was caught by Angelo Mathews off Pradeep.

"Of course I was disappointed that I got out for 190," he said. "I got out at the wrong time. It was the last over before

AP PHOTO



India's Shikhar Dhawan

re tea. But the way I was playing, I was confident that I could clear the mid-off fielder and I was almost hitting a boundary per over."

Dhawan made 126

runs between lunch and tea, the second most by an Indian batsman in a session, behind Virender Sehwag's 133, also against Sri Lanka, in Bombay in 2009. MDT/AP

opinion

Girl About Globe

Linda Kennedy



T8 FROM PYONGYANG

If there's something coming at you from the sky, and it's from North Korea, no need to worry. It's just a typhoon.

Hong Kong Observatory recently tweeted 'additions to the list of tropical cyclone names'.

All typhoons are labelled in accordance with suggestions from different countries, and the names have special meanings. The recent Roke is a Chamorro man's name, from Guam (Didn't know that when your shoes were getting ruined in the rain afterwards, did you?)

New names are chosen to replace cyclones which caused considerable loss of life. So, out went Soudelor, Mujigae, Melor and Koppu. And in came... well, what are the new names, approved by Asia's cloud bosses, aka the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia, and Pacific/World Meteorological Organization Typhoon Committee? Here's the list:

Saudel, meaning a trusted guard or soldier. This name was suggested by Micronesia.

Koguma, what the Japanese call the star Little Bear.

Cempaka, a flower from Malaysia. (yes, another Malaysia name. They're a meteorological powerhouse)

And, er, Surigae, suggested by the DPRK. It means 'a kind of eagle' but that's not the important bit. Are lines of communication sufficiently open with Pyongyang that they get to name potentially destructive forces of nature? It would appear so.

Further investigation in this atmospheric area reveals that there's a lot of names-in-waiting for tropical cyclones – in addition to the new ones – already contributed by cities, SARs and countries across Asia. From Macau, the names include 'linfa', the city flower. And 'Bebinca', the Macanese milk pudding. From Hong Kong, names include Dolphin and Lionrock. The length of the list rather makes one wonder: why not change the policy wherein it's just cyclones that get named? There are plenty of other weather extremes that could be given a backstory. Why not 'Hot Weather Warning Dolphin?' 'Amber Rainstorm Milk Pudding?'

Controversy over names is bit of a theme at the moment. In the UK, the bargain store Poundland is set to sell its 'own brand' version of a Toblerone. The Poundland pretender comes in the same triangular chunks, with similar packaging, but the name is Twin Peaks.

Which all got me thinking. Cyclones get named by countries: how about companies naming other famous natural concepts of Hong Kong? Like hikes. The 'Twin Peaks Twin Peaks'? It would raise brand awareness of a new chocolatey snack, and provide energy. Or rest zones? 'Picnic' area.

Names sure seem to matter. The proof is Celine Tam, a nine-year-old force of nature, who went from Hong Kong to #AGT stardom on social media. That hashtag stands for America's Got Talent, where Celine sang 'The Heart Will Go On' and won smiles and plaudits from all the judges including Simon Cowell.

This was serious social media fame. Billboard tweeted: 'Nine-year-old stuns #AGT with Celine Dion cover.'

And JustJared – the site with up to the minute coverage of today's hottest young stars – was as super-excited. It tweeted: 'Nine-year-old singer Celine Tam (who was named after Celine Dion) sings "My Heart Will Go On" for #AGT audition!

She even won a #goosebumps from one viewer. 'Awesome take on one for the most icons songs of @celinedion #goosebumps'

Celine Tam was named by her parents after Celine Dion. She then went on to success singing a Celine Dion song. Coincidence? Fate being influenced by her name? If so, what next? Will a typhoon, because it's named by North Korea, turn out to be a lot worse than we thought? Would 'Hot Weather Warning Dolphin' delight and do leaps?

Incidentally, Celine Tam's sister is called Dion Tam. Will she just sing the second verses?

THE BUZZ **MAYWEATHER-McGREGOR TO BE SHOWN LIVE IN MOVIE THEATERS**

Movie theaters around the U.S. will show the Aug. 26 fight between Floyd Mayweather Jr. and Conor McGregor.

The bout between the undefeated boxer and the Irish UFC champion will cost USD99.95 on high-definition pay-per-view TV. Tickets for the fight at Las Vegas' T-Mobile Arena will range from \$500 to \$10,000 – and there aren't many \$500 seats.

Meanwhile, movie theater tickets for the fight-

ing spectacle of the year are being sold at \$40 per adult in advance. A complete list of participating theaters can be found at www.FathomEvents.com.

Fathom Events and Mayweather Promotions announced the partnership on Tuesday. Mayweather is coming out of retirement for a boxing match against a UFC star who has never boxed professionally.

Station	Air quality	
Roadside	20-40 Good	😊
High Density Residential Area	25-45 Good	😊
Ambient	20-40 Good	😊

SOURCE: DSMG

Blind Aboriginal musician dies in Australia aged 46

A blind Aboriginal musician renowned for singing in his native Yolngu language with a heart-rending voice and a unique guitar-playing style has died, his recording label said yesterday. He was 46.

Geoffrey Gurrumul Yunupingu, whose is now referred to by local media as Dr. G. Yunupingu because of cultural sensitivities among northern Australian Aborigines around naming the dead, died Tuesday after a long illness in a Darwin Hospital, west of his ancestral country known as Arnhem Land, Darwin-based Skinnyfish Music said in a statement.

"Yunupingu is remembered today as one of the most important figures in Australian music history, blind from birth and emerging from the remote Galiwin'ku community on Elcho Island off the coast of Arnhem Land to sell over half a million copies of his albums across the world, singing in his native Yolngu language," the statement said.

His debut album "Gurrumul" released in 2008 hit triple platinum in Australia, silver in Britain and topped charts in other countries.

He released another two top-five studio albums – "Rakala" and "The Gospel Album" – and performed around the world for audiences including former President Barack Obama and Queen Elizabeth II.



Aboriginal singer Geoffrey Gurrumul Yunupingu

Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull tweeted that Yunupingu was "a remarkable Australian sharing Yolngu language with the world through music."

Turnbull's predecessor, Tony Abbott, tweeted: "A hauntingly beautiful voice is now still."

More comfortable speaking in his native language than in English, Yunupingu avoided media interviews and lived most of his life on remote Elcho Island.

He first picked up a guitar as a 6-year-old, learning to play it upside down because he was left handed. He suffered years of ill health, having contracted Hepatitis B as a child, which left him with liver and kidney disease.

In 2012, he had to cancel a number of European performances due to illness, including performing at the London Olympic Games.

Friend Vaughan Williams took Yunupingu to the hospi-

tal last week over concerns he may not have been receiving renal treatment more than 500 kilometers away at Elcho Island.

Williams said he felt the death was "preventable," which made it more crushing.

"I feel he was trapped in the same cycle of bad health that so many indigenous people are trapped in," Williams told Australian Broadcasting Corp.

Aborigines are the most disadvantaged ethnic group in Australia. They die younger than other Australians and suffer higher incarceration and jobless rates.

Skinnyfish managing director Mark Grose declined to detail Yunupingu's health problems, which he described as "quite complex."

"His health issues are issues that have come from childhood illness," Grose told reporters. "His early childhood is really what's marked him out for passing away early." AP

WORLD BRIEFS

EGYPT's Interior Ministry says security forces have killed four suspects who were behind the killing of five policemen earlier this month in an attack near Cairo.



CYPRUS Authorities in the breakaway north of ethnically divided Cyprus say they have lifted restrictions on Maronite Christians reclaiming homes and property in villages that have been under Turkish military control for over four decades.

SERBIA The Belgrade airport says a passenger plane flying from Germany to Egypt has made an emergency landing in the Serbian capital because of an "indication of smoke" in the aircraft cabin.



US President Donald Trump said yesterday he wants transgender people barred from serving in the U.S. military "in any capacity," citing "tremendous medical costs and disruption."

VENEZUELA's intelligence agency detained two more judges Tuesday that the government-stacked Supreme Court had threatened with arrest after they were appointed by the opposition-controlled National Assembly.

BRAZIL's Attorney General's office announced that it has tripled its 2018 budget for the investigation into a sprawling corruption scandal that has engulfed political and business leaders across Latin America. Federal prosecutors decided to boost spending on the so-called Car Wash investigation from USD165 million to more than \$500 million.

THE DECISIVE MOMENT

AP Photo/Sakchai Lalit



Passengers sleep in a train bound for the northern province of Chiang Mai at Hua Lampong railway station in Bangkok, Thailand. Hua Lampong is the main railway station in the country.