



BEIJING SUPPORTS TIDAL BARRIER PROPOSAL

P2



THIRD HONG KONG PAN-DEMOCRAT BARRED
Civic Party district councillor Andy Yu was stopped by immigration services in Macau yesterday morning

P5



XI: STAND UP AGAINST PROTECTIONISM
Chinese President Xi Jinping yesterday called for the world to reject protectionism

P11

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“THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN’”

WORLD BRIEFS

AP PHOTO



KENYA Few expected the landmark decision by Kenya's top court to invalidate the August 8 election victory by President Uhuru Kenyatta (pictured) and order a new vote, an extraordinary turnaround that some observers believe could positively reverberate across Africa and even beyond. [More on p14](#)

CAMBODIA Authorities arrested the leader of the main opposition party yesterday, accusing him of conspiring with the United States to topple the government. The move sharply escalates political tensions and raises questions over whether elections due next year can be free or fair. [More on p13](#)

AP PHOTO



NORTH KOREA yesterday claimed a “perfect success” for its most powerful nuclear test so far, a further step in the development of weapons capable of striking anywhere in the United States. [More on p12](#)

[More on backpage](#)

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FINANCIAL TIMES
China's migrant workers feel the pinch

Gaming gains continue despite typhoons

P3

AP PHOTO



Ai Weiwei's latest documentary puts human face on migrant crisis

P10

THE Commission Against Corruption (CCAC) has hinted that it will finalize its investigation into the much-criticized Meteorological and Geophysical Bureau (SMG) by next month.

Following residents' complaints about the bureau's forecasting and internal management, the graft-buster initiated an inquiry into SMG procedures last week.

CCAC chief André Cheong told the press on Saturday that it aims to finish the investigation by October, but that the findings will not be legally binding as only the relevant departments can act on the report.

"Most of the time, [it depends on] whether the Chief Executive or the government departments themselves respect and agree on the summary of our reports, and carry out follow-up work in line with corres-

CCAC may conclude weather bureau probe by October

ponding administrative regulations and our advice," said Cheong, cited by TDM.

"I'm confident that it will also be the case this time. I hope that the probe will finish in October and the report will reach the Chief Executive and the public," he added.

The CCAC said in a previous statement that they had also investigated the weather bureau for not hoisting Signal 8 on Typhoon Nida, but it "did not detect any gross violation of legal provisions."

The bureau added that it had "received a large number of complaints" concerning sus-

picious over the SMG's ability to correctly forecast typhoons, and requesting the CCAC's intervention to investigate any illegalities or irregularities in the service's internal management.

The Association of Synergy of Macau, a local think tank, last week called for a government probe of the management of Typhoon Hato's aftermath, including former SMG director Fong Soi Kun, who resigned after the storm.

The group said it would be inappropriate if no disciplinary actions were taken against Fong. **LV**



INNER HARBOR

Tidal barrier proposal secures 'general support' from Beijing

THE Macau government received "general support" yesterday from the mainland's State Council on a proposal for a cross-boundary flood control system that local authorities say could solve the flooding risk in the Inner Harbor area.

Chief Executive Chui Sai On traveled to Guangdong Province this weekend to meet provincial leaders and discuss the technical details for a shared flood control system, which is likely to include a tidal barrier.

The project was submitted to the mainland entity in March 2017. According to a statement from the Government Information Bureau (GCS), the approval in principle followed the State Council's general flood control advice to local authorities.

The joint response – from the Ministry of



Water Resources, the Ministry of Transport, the State Oceanic Administration and the Hong Kong and Macau Affairs Office of the State Council – suggested the government conduct further research in a number of areas.

Among the research areas listed by Beijing are detailed plans for building the flood control system for Macau and nearby cities, the impact of such a proposal on ocean ecology and sand accretion, and the effect of potential oceanic disasters.

Local authorities

are also being asked to prove whether it would be more effective to build a cross-boundary flood control system or a further embankment in the Inner Harbor area, the GCS statement continued.

Macau's Land, Public Works and Transport Bureau said that the local government is considering proceeding with both options, and has not ruled out other methods of flood control.

The MSAR government completed another project in 2015 to strengthen the area's short-term

flood control mechanisms.

It admitted in a statement yesterday that the project had been insufficient for the scale of flooding brought on by Typhoon Hato, the deadliest weather phenomenon to strike the city in half a century.

To prevent flooding on a similar scale in the future, the local government is pushing ahead with its tidal barrier proposal, while simultaneously increasing the height of the existing embankment system across the city. **DB**

MGTO lifts tour group moratorium

MACAU began welcoming back tour groups on Saturday after the Macau Government Tourism Office (MGTO) requested a moratorium period following Typhoon Hato's arrival in Macau last month.

According to a statement issued by MGTO, about 410 mainland tour groups were hosted in the city over the weekend. Inspectors of the government bureau were deployed at the various ports of entry to Macau and at major tourist attractions to examine the situation on Saturday, and reported no significant issues.

The Office issued safety guidelines to local travel agencies and hotels last week, calling for their preparation in advance and awareness of safety concerns. The intention behind the safety guidelines, according to MGTO, was to "safeguard Macau's image as a travel destination."

After Typhoon Hato struck the territory, MGTO suspended tour groups from August 25 to September 1 in order to "allocate more resources for rescue missions in the catastrophe and restoration works of the city."

Meanwhile, the latest information from the Statistics and Census Service indicated that around 819,000 package tour visitors traveled to the MSAR in July, up by 21.9 percent

month-to-month and 22.8 percent year-on-year. Package tour visitors from mainland China (669,000), South Korea (38,000) and Taiwan (42,000) rose by 25.6 percent, 24.8 percent and 4.8 percent respectively.

In the first seven months of 2017, visitors on package tours totaled almost 4.6 million, up by 12.4 percent year-on-year.

In July, the number of outbound residents using travel services rose by 21 percent year-on-year to 130,000. Of that number, some 55,000 residents traveled on package tours – 35.8 percent more than in July 2016 – and those departing for mainland China (39,000) rose by 46.6 percent.

In the first seven months of 2017, outbound residents using the services of travel agencies totaled 795,000, up by 12.5 percent year-on-year.

The number of guests at hotels and guestrooms in July 2017 amounted to 1,212,000, up by 15.6 percent year-on-year, and the average length of stay held stable as in July 2016, at 1.4 nights.

The average occupancy rate of hotels and guestroom reached 90.4 percent, up by 2.9 percentage points year-on-year, with that of 4-star hotels rising by 2.2 percentage points to 92.8 percent. **DB**

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Times

DIRECTOR AND EDITOR-IN-CHIEF_Paulo Coutinho paulocoutinho@macaudailytimes.com
MANAGING EDITOR_Paulo Barbosa paulo.barbosa@macaudailytimes.com
CONTRIBUTING EDITORS_Eric Sautedé, Leanda Lee, Severo Portela

NEWSROOM AND CONTRIBUTORS_Alberto Martins, Annabel Jackson, Daniel Beitler, Emilie Tran, Grace Yu, Ivo Carneiro de Sousa, Jacky I.F. Cheong, Jenny Lao-Phillips, João Palla Martins, Joseph Cheung, Julie Zhu, Juliet Risdon, Lynzy Valles, Renato Marques, Richard Whitfield, Rodrigo de Matos (cartoonist), Viviana Segui
DESIGNERS_Eva Bucho, Miguel Bandeira | ASSOCIATE CONTRIBUTORS_JML Property, MdME Lawyers, PokerStars, Ruan Du Toit Bester | NEWS AGENCIES_Associated Press, Bloomberg, Financial Times, MacauHub, MacauNews, Xinhua | SECRETARY_Yang Dongxiao army@macaudailytimes.com

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ADMINISTRATOR AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Kowie Geldenhuys kowie@macaudailytimes.com

SECRETARY_Juliana Cheang juliana@macaudailytimes.com

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

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MACAU'S casino revenue growth slowed in August after accelerating for three consecutive months as typhoons disrupted operations in the world's biggest gambling hub.

Gross gaming receipts rose 20.4 percent to MOP22.676 billion (USD2.8 billion) last month, according to data released by Macau's Gaming Inspection and Coordination Bureau on Friday. That exceeds the median estimate for an 18.5 percent increase in a Bloomberg survey of eight analysts. Gaming revenue climbed 29.2 percent in July from a year earlier.

The first of the two typhoons affected power and water supply at some casinos in the only Chinese territory where gambling is legal. The impact of the disruption, which prompted brokerage firms including Deutsche Bank AG and Sanford C. Bernstein & Co. to cut their gaming revenue growth forecast for August, may be a blip for an industry that's been on a year-long recovery despite China's efforts to curb capital flows.

Casino shares climbed ahead of the data, and generally held those gains after the numbers were released. Shares of Wynn Macau Ltd. surged 6.8 percent to HKD18.34, headed for the biggest gain since Sept. 1, 2016, as of 2:06 p.m. in Hong Kong. SJM Holdings Ltd. climbed 5.1 percent to HKD7.18, and Sands

GAMING

Macau casino revenue growth slows after typhoon disruptions



China Ltd. rose 3.9 percent to HKD36.40. The Bloomberg Intelligence Index of Macau's casino sector jumped 4.6 percent, while the Hang Seng Index was little changed.

Casinos in Macau have been benefiting from an increase in overnight visitors as well as spending

by high rollers. Overnight visitors to Macau rose 11 percent in July while same-day arrivals dropped. As tourists staying overnight spend four times more than day-trippers, it will boost revenue and profit for casino operators, according to a Bloomberg Intelligence note on August 25.

Revenue from high rollers has driven growth of the gambling hub this year. Suncity Group, the largest junket operator in Macau, expects about 40 percent surge in total bets last month, Andrew Lo, executive director of Suncity Group Holdings Ltd., the listed vehicle of the group, said this week. Total bets are forecast to increase by more than 30 percent this year, he said.

Still, casino and junket operators are concerned that China's efforts to curtail capital outflows

eventually will cut into their business. Macau is considered a primary exit used for capital flight by private citizens and corrupt government officials alike.

Regulators in the world's most lucrative gaming hub are also deploying machines that require Chinese Unionpay cardholders to scan their ID cards before withdrawing cash to keep tabs on capital outflows from China and watch for potential money laundering schemes. **MDT/Bloomberg**

MONTHLY GROSS GAMING REVENUE*

Month	2017	2016	Growth	Accumulated Growth
Jan	19,255	18,674	+3.1%	+3.1%
Feb	22,991	19,521	+17.8%	+10.6%
Mar	21,232	17,981	+18.1%	+13.0%
Apr	20,162	17,341	+16.3%	+13.8%
May	22,742	18,389	+23.9%	+15.8%
Jun	19,994	15,881	+25.9%	+17.2%
Jul	22,964	17,774	+29.2%	+18.9%
Aug	22,676	18,836	+20.4%	+19.1%

* Source: Macau Gaming Inspection and Coordination Bureau. Figures expressed in MOP millions

AD

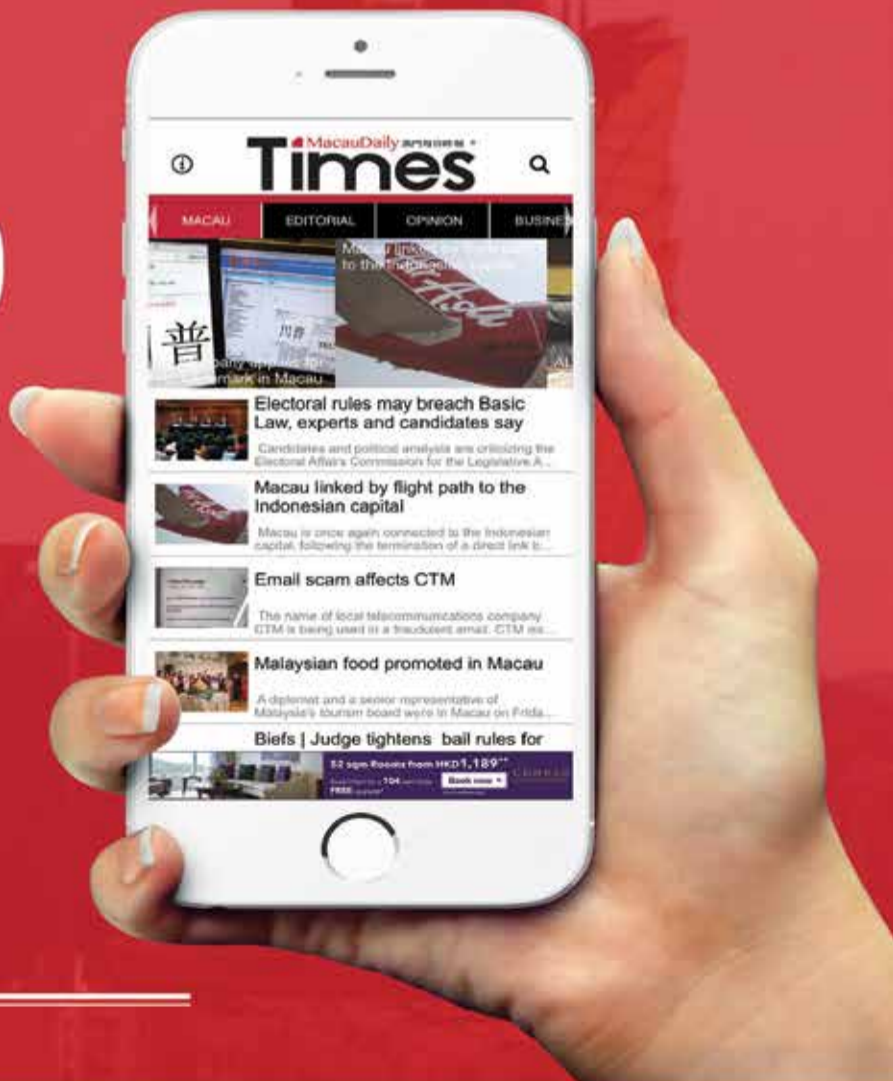
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Daniela Wei

GAMING

Macau's Suncity plans to invest billions in Japan, Vietnam

MACAU'S biggest junket operator wants to be more than a middleman lender for Chinese high rollers, so it's spending billions of dollars to transform itself into an overseas casino operator on par with Las Vegas Sands Corp. and Wynn Resorts Ltd.

Suncity Group, which operates VIP rooms where monthly bets recently surpassed HKD130 billion (USD17 billion), is looking for partners in Japan after investing in a Vietnam resort scheduled to open in 2019. The company's international plans include owning stakes in casinos and bidding on contracts to manage others' casinos.

"As a junket operator, we don't have enough chips to play the game even in Macau," said Andrew Lo, executive director of the group's listed vehicle, Suncity Group Holdings Ltd. "In the future, if we own the integrated resorts, we have golf courses, swimming pools and restaurants. Our clients will stick with us more."

The ambitious expansion is planned even as Macau's high-roller business continues the rebound that began last year. Gross gaming receipts increased 20.4 percent in August, exceeding analyst estimates, amid the disruptions caused by two typhoons last month. The city has posted 13 straight months of gaming revenue growth, as China's economy improved, high rollers lingered at tables and new facilities targeted families and mass-market gamblers.

Suncity controls about half of the city's junket business, Lo said. The junkets lend money, collect debts and market casino trips to high-end gamblers.

"No casino in Macau has any hope of gaining market share if they don't have Suncity in their property," said Ben Lee, a Macau-based managing partner at Asian gaming consultancy IGamiX. "Suncity in turn is looking to unlock the full value of their database as well as to diversify their business by expanding their footprint."

Lo expects his Macau business to grow for the next six months to a year because of improving conditions in the Chinese economy and real-estate market. The junket industry also is stronger after a consolidation sparked by regulatory actions in Macau the past two years, he said.

The total bets placed at Suncity in August may grow about 40 percent from a year earlier and is forecast to increase by more than 30 percent this year, he said. Those projections take into account the two typhoons that swept through the gambling hub last



Suncity Group's executive director Andrew Lo

month.

"The growth will continue," Lo said.

Still, casino and junket operators are concerned that China's efforts to curtail capital outflows eventually will cut into their business. The People's Bank of China imposed controls as the amount of money leaving China last year topped \$816 billion, according to data compiled by Bloomberg, with Macau considered a primary exit used by private citizens and corrupt government officials alike.

■ ■
As a junket operator, we don't have enough chips to play the game even in Macau.

ANDREW LO
SUNCITY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

China's government said last month it would prohibit or restrict domestic companies from making overseas investments in sectors including the gaming industry, real estate, hotels and entertainment.

That may prompt some Macau businesses to look elsewhere for opportunities, with the biggest being presented by Japan.

The Japanese government wants to approve legislation by year's end that would let casinos operate in the country for the first time. The forecasts for annual revenue from integrated resorts reach \$25 billion.

Casinos aren't expected to be open until years after the 2020 Olympics in Tokyo, but Suncity is "actively" working to obtain a license to build a potential \$10 billion resort as part of a consortium.

The company is willing to own a minority stake of between 10 percent and 20 percent, and has talked to potential partners within the construction, hotel and retail industries, Lo said without elaborating.

"We know how to build a Japanese-style integrated resort that fits Asian customers," he said. "We know Japanese traditional culture. I believe this is what the Japanese government wants, instead of just branding."

Japanese legislators may effectively ban junket operators from casinos by forbidding subcontractors in the gambling-related parts of the business, yet Lo said that's not an issue because Suncity

doesn't need to rely on other junkets for high rollers.

"In that case, we will start the business much faster than others," he said.

IGamiX's Lee said Suncity would have a better chance to enter the Japanese market if paired with another regional operator, such as Galaxy Entertainment Group Ltd. or Melco Resorts & Entertainment Ltd., and a local partner to understand the country's politics and cultural obstacles.

In Vietnam, the junket operator partnered with Hong Kong's Chow Tai Fook Enterprises Ltd. and Vietnam-based VinaCapital Investment Management Ltd. to build a

\$4 billion integrated resort in Hoi An.

Suncity owns 34 percent of the coastal project through its Hong Kong-listed subsidiary and has a management contract to operate the casino. The subsidiary's shares have risen 118 percent this year, compared with a 27 percent increase for the Hang Seng Index.

Vietnam could generate as much as \$1.2 billion in gross gaming revenue, according to an Aug. 9 report by Grant Govertsen, an analyst with Macau-based Union Gaming Securities Asia Ltd. Vietnam has about 30 gaming facilities with 1,900 slots and almost 400 tables, according to Govertsen.

Suncity's participation "should be transformational for the company, making it not only a gaming-centric platform but the only viable Vietnam-centric gaming platform," Govertsen wrote. "Given Suncity's expansive VIP connections, we would expect the project could achieve a decent ROI [return on investment] even under the current foreigners-only construct."

Future casino projects also may be injected into the listed company, Lo said. The listed entity, which doesn't include the junket business, has a market capitalization of about HKD2.7 billion.

He stressed that Suncity's expansion plans shouldn't be interpreted as the company being bearish on gaming in Macau. Rather, it wants to do more business with gamblers outside China.

"We are not moving out of Macau," Lo said. "We just need to upgrade as our clients become more demanding." **Bloomberg**



Commissions record over 120 election complaints

THE Electoral Affairs Commission (CAEAL) and the Commission Against Corruption (CCAC) have received over 120 complaints concerning unfair election activities, including suspected bribery during the two-week blackout period which ended on Saturday.

Back in August, the CAEAL reported that it received 36 complaints over alleged breaches of election law during the pre-campaign blackout period, which began on August 3.

Violating the rules of the pre-campaign period can incur fines between MOP2,000 and MOP10,000.

Speaking on the sidelines of an electoral event held on Saturday for candidate groups to promote their manifestos, CAEAL president Tong Hio Fong reminded candidates to closely follow its laws.

"The Legislative Assembly election has to be a fair game. We hope that candidates can respect the rules of the game and they should have a better sense of following the law than ordinary residents," said Tong, as cited by TDM.

"All candidate groups need to follow the law strictly during the campaign period."

The new election law also states that candidates must apply to the bureau if they plan to participate in any welfare activities.

A total of 85 requests have been referred to the bureau.

On a separate note, André Cheong, commissioner of the CCAC clarified that the electoral law does not forbid candidates from participating in non-electo-

RENATO MARQUES



CAEAL president Tong Hio Fong

ral activities.

"It doesn't mean it's absolutely forbidden [...] if their group participates in both electoral propaganda activities and welfare events. The issue is if they are carrying out any welfare activities and electoral propaganda at the same time, that means it's a kind of bribery," Cheong told the press.

The new electoral law has faced criticism by candidates and political analysts alike for its confusing definition of acceptable promotional activity in a political campaign.

The law states that any message or information designed to encourage voters – in an explicit or implicit way – to vote or not vote for a particular candidate or candidates are prohibited.

Candidates were banned from engaging in promotional activities during the blackout period, a move that electoral newcomers found problematic as it limited their ability to spread word of their campaigns. LV

Third HK pan-democrat barred from Macau

A third pan-democrat from Hong Kong has been denied entry into Macau, the South China Morning Post reported yesterday.

Civic Party district councillor Andy Yu was stopped by immigration services in Macau yesterday morning, as he attempted to enter the territory.

He was refused entry for the same reason that two other Hong Kong legislators and four journalists from the territory were barred from entering Macau last week – because, in the words of local authorities, they constituted "a threat to internal security and stability."

Yu claims that he was visiting the city for tourism purposes and was helping to lead a group of about 60 Hong Kong residents for a single-day trip to the MSAR. He was held up by immigration services for more than two hours before being

asked to sign an entry refusal notification.

According to the SCMP, the notification informed Yu that "there are strong references that you intend to enter the Macau SAR to participate in certain activities which may jeopardize the public security or public order of the Macau SAR."

Yu said that "the so-called reason was inconsistent with facts."

Instead, the Hong Kong lawmaker believes that the decision was linked to the upcoming Macau Legislative Election, which is due to take place on September 17.

Several journalists were banned from entering the territory last week as they tried to report on the aftermath of Typhoon Hato. The incident provoked a reaction from journalists' associations in Hong Kong and Macau, which expressed concerns for press freedom.

ADVERTORIAL



MGM is committed to motivating its team members to reach their full potential as professionals and as people, enabling them to make a real difference in serving our community. Meaningful occasions would not have been possible without the kind investment of time and talent from our Golden Lion Team. To raise maximum awareness and to create positive impact, we also hold out annual Community Care Campaign, a 2-week campaign with initiatives focused on spreading care and kindness to those in need.

This year's campaign has involved more than 270 MGM volunteers, including our senior management executives and our staff family members, which have delivered more than 1,100 hours of their time to give back to more than 600 members of our community.

MGM Supports the Macau Community Post Typhoon Hato

Typhoon Hato has affected the entire Macau community and MGM is committed to supporting our city's rebuilding. MGM's Volunteer Team has taken to the streets distributing food, water and daily necessities to those in need.

MGM China, MGM Resorts and Ms. Pansy Ho also teamed up to contribute MOP 30Million to rebuild the Macau Community. The distribution of this pledge will be decided upon in the coming days and months, with guidance from the Macau government based on where the greatest need is. The staff of MGM MACAU and their families' needs will be considered and included in the allocation of funds.



Caring for the health of senior citizens

This year, we hosted the annual Health day event for over 200 local senior citizens from six local associations under the Caritas Macau and Macau Tung Sin Tong Charitable Society. This is the eighth consecutive year that we've organized this signature event and has benefited over 1,400 local senior citizens. On July 18, we invited 20 medical practitioners to MGM's Grand Ballroom to provide free one-on-one health consultations, after which each person received a package of prescribed herbal soups for their wellbeing and to help cool down during hot summer days.



Over 60 MGM Volunteer Team members assisted in the event to serve and entertain the senior citizens while they waited for their health consultations. The event concluded with an entertaining and lively lion dance performance from the graduates of MGM's Junior Lion Dance Training Program.



Besides domestic health, MGM also initiated its "Love Flows Through" program to provide complimentary maintenance of household electrical appliances and installations to a total of 30 senior citizens to enhance their safety and wellbeing at home. On July 20 MGM's Design, Development & Property Operations department visited the Fai Chi Kei Social Housing Unit along with other Volunteer Team members, to help repair and replace defective appliance plugs. The team also prepared and brought with them nourishing soups as well as other daily necessities for the senior citizens.

Enjoying a new haircut

Since 2015 our Golden Lion Volunteer Haircut Team dedicates free time to become professional hairdressers to provide haircuts for local senior citizens. Between July 26 and 27 this year, a total of 15 Volunteer Haircut Team members set out to three local elderly centers to offer complimentary haircut services to 180 senior citizens. And, today we have helped over 1,200 beneficiaries with great community feedback.



Learning new skills

To help the next generation to unleash their potential by giving them a taste of a professional environment MGM launched the first-ever "A Fun Serving Up Experience" program in July. The program welcomed a total of 30 local children aged 6 to 11, including children of MGM team members and people from Good Shepherd Sisters. They spent the day with our F&B professionals learning service skills including how to set tables, take order and serve dishes to MGM management who acted as customers.

On July 17, MGM also organized an art workshop including people with disabilities from Macau Special Olympics, as well as our Volunteer Team and their family members to unleash their artistic flair using perler beads and other handicraft items. During the event, participants not only learnt a new skill but also created new bonds of friendship.

MGM
Avenida Dr. Sun Yat Sen, NAPE, Macau
T 853 8802 2888 F 853 8802 3333
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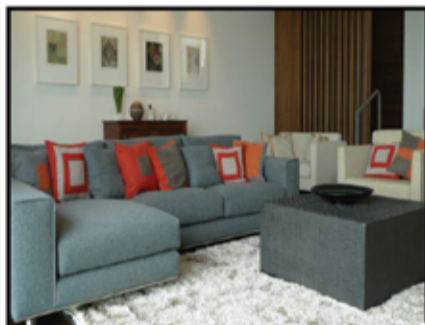
Sakura Court, Ocean Garden, Unit B

(Ref: 10020165)
3,700sq. ft. HKD 35,000
Mid - floor, 4 bedroom apartment located in Taipa. Nice apartment for family. Unfurnished, but all appliances built-in. Large and bright living room with balcony with amazing seaview. Carpark included. Clubhouse facilities can be available.



Coloane, 4 Storey Commercial Building

(Ref: 17040646)
4,003sq. ft. HKD 198,000
The property is a licensed commercial space spread over 4 floors including a basement, ground floor retail, and two upper floors in the heart of the unique Coloane village situated next door to the famous 'Lord Stow's Bakery'. The property features an elevator and staircase to access all floors, and is perfectly suited for a wide range of commercial activities.



Cheoc Van, Coloane

(Ref: 17060651)
6,222sq. ft. HKD 79,800
Combining dazzling sea views, stylish interiors and cavernous comfort, this multi-storey property is a rare find in Macao. In the lower ground floor sits a private swimming pool alongside a large entertainment area that is perfect for entertaining guests during a hot Macau summer. On the ground floor, you'll find a jazzy living space with the perfect amount of natural light entry. If you can take the elevator up to the 1st floor, you'll find two kitchens (yes, two)



Manhattan Car Park

(Ref: 17075528)
00sq. ft. HKD1,800
Single Car park available for rent in Manhattan.

For Sale



Fountainside

(Ref: 17045516)
1,712sq. ft. HKD 15.49M
Rate: HKD 9,052sq ft

Stunning 3 bedroom apartment with unique terrace off the living and master rooms. Central location in the heart of the City of Macau. Modern interior, fixtures and fittings.



Hellene Gardens, Buttercup Court, G Unit

(Ref: 17055520)
1,663sq. ft. HKD 7.98M
Rate: HKD 4,798sq ft

Stunning apartment with open view across towards the back of Hac Sa Beach. Renovated five years ago to a very high standard. The owner opened up the kitchen making a wonderful entertainment area for both living and dining, off the living room is a great size balcony for Al Fresco dining. Further renovations not required.



Cheoc Van, House912 Coloane

(Ref: 17065524)
5,972sq. ft. HKD 98M
Rate: HKD 16,409sq ft

This magnificent property is newly renovated, and has unobstructed sea views from all 5 floors. Both the interior and exterior of the property brandishes stylish and contemporary designs with a mix of beautiful light colours that accentuates the spaciousness and abundance of natural light. An exclusive lap pool and Jacuzzi comes ready to be enjoyed, as well as a state of the art kitchen.



Mandarin Residences Serviced Duplex

(Ref: 17065522)
3,487sq. ft. HKD 88M
Rate: HKD 25,236sq ft

The property comes tastefully designed with elegant, high-grade furnishing and floor-to-ceiling windows that provides a breath-taking panoramic view of the sea and Macau. The modern galley kitchen on the first floor comes fully-fitted with high-grade and stylish appliances from Miele and plenty of space, and the private study room offers the quiet that you need to complete your business affairs.



Old Taipa, Nam Long (I Unit)

(Ref: 16095500)
515sq. ft. HKD3.88M
Rate: HKD 7,378sq ft

Unique property located at the beginning of old Taipa village. A great investment property which was renovated in 2015, making the original two small bedrooms into one spacious bright room bedroom. The kitchen has also been opened up and is now just off the living area, giving the apartment a lofty feeling. The kitchen is small however well equipped with most appliances built in. The shower room has a walk in shower area and modern built in cabinets for storage. Furnished throughout with modern furniture which can be included in the sale if desired. This property is centrally located with a bus stop outside the main door. plenty of cafe.

Office: (853) 2835 2699



Hellene Gardens, Lot IV, Unit B, Carnation Court, Coloane

(Ref: 17025509)
1,663sq. ft. HKD 8.88M
Rate: HKD5,339sq ft

Located in the clean, beautiful island of Coloane, this stunning 3 bedroom, 2 bath apartment has incredible sea views from the living room and master bedroom, and green mountain views from all other rooms. The apartment has been renovated to a high standard with modern bathrooms and kitchen, new balcony construction with high quality heavy storm doors. The white good and appliances included are a large stainless steel refrigerator, Siemens dishwasher, washer, dryer and newly installed Mitsubishi reverse cycle air conditioner in the living room. Asking price includes one car park space.

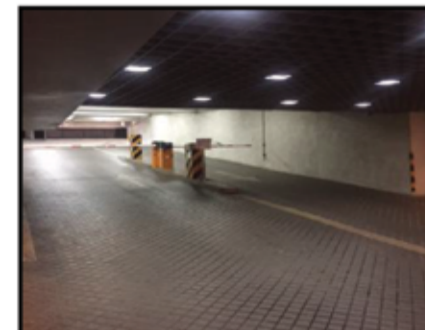
Email: Info@JMLProperty.com



St Pauls Ruins- Central Macau

(Ref: 17035511)
716sq. ft. HKD3.98M
Rate: HKD5,558sq ft

Modern one bedroom apartment situated on the steps of the Ruins of St Pauls. Beautifully fitted out with stylish modern fixtures and fittings. Once an office for JML now converted to a lovely apartment. Great size living & dining area with galley style kitchen including kitchen & flat ware. Small bedroom with King size bed and wall of clothes cabinets, mirrored sliding door style. Cute balcony overlooking the Ruins, plenty of room for dinner or drinks, possible even a small BBQ. Second floor easy walk up, only two apartments per floors.



Manhattan Car Park

(Ref: 17035514)
00sq. ft. HKD 1.9M

Parking space is getting more and more difficult, and investing on one may seem right for the end user.

Centrally situated in Taipa is this 1st level car park space, that requires little effort to get on the ground level without the wait for the elevator. Asking price HKD1.9 million or nearest offer.

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(English Speaker)
T: (853) 6680 9804
Juliet@JMLProperty.com

Renato Marques

POETRY

Dedicated Pessanha museum depends on public favor

JOURNALIST and director of Portuguese-language newspaper Hoje Macau Carlos Morais José has long called for a museum dedicated to Camilo Pessanha, the Portuguese writer and symbolist poet who lived most of his life in Macau.

Speaking to the Times on the sidelines of an event celebrating 150 years since the poet's birth, Morais José – known for in-depth studies on Pessanha's works – expressed his hopes for the establishment of a Pessanha museum.

"If that is the will of the community I think it is possible to do anything in Macau," he said. "This is something that makes sense."

Morais José said the experience and feedback that he had gathered from people during the celebrations were very encouraging, and added that the understanding expressed by the authorities was another positive factor.

"If everyone contributes with a little [of their own help] I think it is very easy to do anything in Macau, because it's a place that has resources and if there is [a] will, [it] is in fact possible," Morais José reaffirmed.

The Old Court building is



RENATO MARQUES

currently hosting an exhibition of local and Portuguese paintings and other artworks, as well as a photography exhibition by Portuguese artist António Falcão, who lived in Macau for many years.

A new missal edition of one of Pessanha's most celebrated works, "Clepsidra," was also

launched at the grand opening last Friday.

As Morais José explained to the Times, the idea for this new "pocket-size" edition has its roots in a famous quote about "Clepsidra" by another Portuguese writer, António Ferro, who said in the 1920s that "our generation finally

has a missal."

He described "Clepsidra" as a book that sends the readers to a transcendental world, in the same way a Roman missal brings people to the universe of the Christian God.

Morais José also noted that the event would not only address the poet's history and past works, but highlight how he will continue to inspire future generations.

"We can't always talk about Camilo Pessanha with eyes

on the past. He has to be a source of inspiration," Morais José said, explaining that the event was supported by the participation of new writers who were "somehow inspired by Pessanha" and hoped "to stimulate contemporary creation [based on] reflection on Pessanha's work."

The Celebrations of 150 Years of Camilo Pessanha opened on September 1 and will run until September 7 at the Old Court Building.

WHO IS CAMILO PESSANHA?

CAMILLO PESSANHA, best known as one of the world's greatest symbolist poets, was born on September 7, 1867 in Coimbra, Portugal and died in Macau on March 1, 1926. Pessanha arrived in Macau on April 10, 1894 to teach philosophy in the newly established Gymnasium of Macau. Pessanha's masterpiece "Clepsidra"

(1920) is the result of his habit of giving his poems away to friends, which led to several pieces being lost or destroyed. The idea for "Clepsidra" came about when Ana de Castro Osório suggested compiling all of Pessanha's works into a single volume. Pessanha agreed, and rewrote many of the lost poems in "Clepsidra" from memory.

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Seminar

Creative Industries

a tool for development

Professor Jorge Barreto Xavier

Professor of Public Policies for Culture and Management of Creative Industries at ISCTE-IUL, Lisbon

Date
September 5th, 2017 (Tuesday)
Time
19:00
Language
English
Venue
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Anbang said to prepare new products as three-month ban ends

ANBANG Insurance Group Co. is going back to basics. The acquisitive Chinese firm, which landed in Beijing's crosshairs after funding a global buyout spree with sales of high-yield investment products, is adopting a more traditional approach as it emerges from a three-month regulatory ban on new client offerings.

Anbang is preparing to sell more than 20 new products, the majority of which are plain-vanilla, protection-type policies, according to people familiar with the matter.

The pivot illustrates how China's crackdown on financial risk is changing the nation's insurance industry. Gone are the days when firms like Anbang could fund explosive growth by offering short-term policies with juicy yields. The company will now have to go head-to-head with more traditional players, including China Life Insurance Co. and Ping An Insurance (Group) Co., that have much larger armies of agents. While Anbang's sales will probably pick up as the ban on new products at its life unit ends, the boost is likely to be limited, according to Grace Zhou, a Hong Kong-based analyst at ICBC International.



Anbang Chairman Wu Xiaohui

"The new products will certainly help with sales to some extent," Zhou said by phone. "But you can't expect a revival any time soon given the difficulty in selling such protection type products" without a sizable agent force, she said.

The Beijing-based insurer's life unit, the firm's main source of revenue, is preparing to

sell the new products after the China Insurance Regulatory Commission allowed Anbang to register them, said the people, who asked not to be identified because the information hasn't been publicly announced. More than 10 of those products are traditional, protection type, regular-premium policies, and the remainder are

corporate and personal annuity products, the people said.

An Anbang representative confirmed the new products, while the CIRC didn't immediately reply to a faxed request for comment.

The regulator has been cracking down on short-term, high-yield offerings as policy makers try to reduce the risks

from asset-liability mismatches at insurers. Anbang was banned from selling new life products for three months in May and saw its revenues plunge amid a crackdown that resulted in the detention of Chairman Wu Xiaohui by Chinese authorities in June.

Anbang Life Insurance Co. had its rating cut by China's Dagong Global Credit Rating last month on signs the company's ability to repay debt is weakening. The life unit's gross premiums from traditional products in July slumped 99.6 percent from a year earlier, while sales of investment-type products plunged 94.4 percent, according to Bloomberg News calculations based on government data.

Anbang Life is facing rising liquidity pressure amid lower investment returns and restrictions on capital-replenishment channels, according to Dagong. The unit made a net loss in the first half after some revenue slumped, according to the ratings company.

Among assets acquired by Anbang in its more than \$10 billion global takeover binge were New York's Waldorf Astoria hotel, Dutch insurer Vivat NV and South Korea's Tong Yang Life Insurance Co. **Bloomberg**

As Uber drove into PR pot hole, Lyft stepped on the gas

WHEN management upheaval, allegations of corporate espionage, and revelations of sexual harassment sent Uber into a public relations sinkhole, its long overshadowed rival Lyft shifted into overdrive.

The company seized the opportunity to recruit disillusioned drivers so it could be more responsive to passengers searching for a ride-hailing alternative to Uber. It upgraded its smartphone app, stepped up marketing efforts to attract more riders and expanded its U.S.-only service into 160 more cities for a total of about 350.

On Thursday, Lyft made a big expansion move by announcing that it is adding statewide coverage to 32 states, bringing its total to 40.

The aggressive tactics

cast the much smaller Lyft in a new light. After five years of being content in its role as the fun-loving, pink-mustached underdog of ride hailing, Lyft is proving to be a wily opportunist and a more imposing threat to Uber.

But a huge chasm still separates the foes in terms of financial resources, ridership and breadth of operations. While Lyft's rides are in the millions per year and only in the U.S., Uber makes 10 million trips per day worldwide and has carried more than 5 billion passengers in over 80 countries since 2009. Uber has raised nearly USD14 billion in capital since its inception, compared with Lyft's \$2.6 billion.

For its part, Uber is doing all it can to keep its lead. The company this week hired Expedia CEO Dara

Khosrowshahi as its top executive. And while it concedes that this year's missteps have slowed its growth, it says ridership is still rising because customers value the service. It's in the midst of self-proclaimed "180 days of change" in an effort to alter a culture that fostered rapid growth but also encouraged bad behavior.

Yet the ground that Lyft has been gaining can't be ignored. By the time Uber's board ousted abrasive CEO Travis Kalanick in June, Lyft had more than doubled its ridership from the first six months of last year. At the end of June, it had passed 2016's full-year ride total of 162.5 million.

To be sure, Lyft already was growing fast before Uber went into self-destruct mode. Lyft's share

of the U.S. ride-hailing market in the past two years grew at double the rate of Uber, rising from 12 percent to just over 30 percent, according to Lyft's internal metrics.

Logan Green and John Zimmer, Lyft's low-key 33-year-old founders, insist they haven't done much except adhere to a belief that passengers should be treated like guests at a friendly hotel or even Disneyland. Both dress casually and blend into the headquarters' workforce. While the soft-spoken Green and more animated Zimmer are careful not to gloat, they concede that the turmoil at Uber is accelerating Lyft's growth.

"As we get service levels to parity and pickup times are equal, people prefer using Lyft," Green said in



a recent interview at the company's airy offices in a block-long office complex near San Francisco Bay. "They like that we treat our drivers better. They like that we treat our customers better. And they like that we have a brand that sort of stands for taking care of people, where Uber has done a lot to build the opposite type of brand."

Nick Raef, 23, who works at Northwestern University near Chicago, considers price and brand image each time he chooses between Uber and Lyft. Service in Chicago, he says, is

close to even between the two. But if Uber happens to be misbehaving on a particular day, he'll go with Lyft even if it's more expensive.

"I've told myself this controversy is worth a dollar or \$2 depending on how bad the story was that day," he said.

In the Maryland suburbs of Washington, federal employee Whitlee Dean, 28, says she takes Lyft whenever she goes into the city, not so much because of Uber's behavior but because of Lyft's customer service. **AP**



Ai Weiwei (center) snaps selfie photographs during the photo call for the film "Human Flow" at the 74th Venice Film Festival

Ai Weiwei puts human face on migrant crisis in 'Human Flow'

Jill Lawless, Venice

THE United Nations says there are 65 million forcibly displaced people around the world — a number so huge it can be overwhelming to contemplate.

Artist Ai Weiwei wants to make viewers see both the scale of the crisis and the humanity of the migrants with his documentary "Human Flow," premiering Friday at the Venice Film Festival.

The film, one of 21 competing for the festival's Golden Lion prize, draws on a deep empathy with his subjects — one the artist came to through direct experience.

"It's in my blood," said Ai, who

spent his childhood in a remote Chinese community after his poet father was exiled by the country's Communist authorities.

"I was born when my father was a refugee," the artist said Friday. "I understood how low humanity can go from [when I was] very, very young, and how wrong things can go."

"I feel I am part of it," he said of the migrant crisis. "I know them so well. They are part of me."

Many other people feel detached and powerless when faced with images of migrants making perilous journeys by land and sea. Ai says that is due in part to news reports, which inform people but can

also dull the senses.

"Because you feel, 'This is senseless,'" Ai told The Associated Press in Venice. "Then you shut off because the crisis is getting too big, you cannot do anything about it."

"That is the most dangerous moment."

The 60-year-old Ai is one of

■ Ai's team of around 200 crew members traveled to 23 countries and territories

the world's most successful artists, famous around the world for his installations of bicycles and sunflower seeds. In his native China, he was alternately encouraged, tolerated and harassed, spending time in detention and being barred for years from leaving the country.

Now based in Berlin, Ai frequently draws on images of flight and exile for his work. And he often thinks big: Last year, he wrapped the columns of the German capital's Konzerthaus in thousands of orange life jackets left behind by migrants on the Greek island of Lesbos.

"Human Flow" is on an even larger scale. Ai's team of around 200 crew members traveled to

23 countries and territories, visiting Syrian refugees in Jordan and Lebanon, Rohingya from Myanmar in Bangladesh, Afghan refugees returning home from exile in Pakistan and Mexicans on the border with the U.S.

The film also follows the route taken by more than 1 million people since 2015, across the Aegean Sea to Greece and then by land through Europe. Some in the film are halted by police and barbed wire at borders, while others make it to a reception center in Germany, or head for the English Channel in hope of getting to Britain.

Ai wanders through the film as a compassionate observer, taking pictures on his phone, talking to people and even cutting one man's hair. Interspersed with those scenes are aerial shots that turn teeming crowds into almost abstract tableaux.

"With this kind of tragedy you are trying to find a language to deal with this large topic," Ai said.

"Sometimes my iPhone has to touch the [person's] face or drop in the water. Sometimes you have to use drones to capture this kind of mass of meaningless humans, like ants."

Ai said he wanted to avoid traditional movie structures such as following one character along their journey.

"I wanted the film to be chaotic, in a way," he said.

The film's high-profile slot at Venice, where it's the only documentary in the main competition, should help it reach a broad audience, as should a release by Amazon in the U.S. this fall.

Ai said he hoped politicians would see the film, and resolve "not to just avoid the situation, not just to build borders, not just to say 'them' and 'us' but rather to see we are all as one."

"History tells us we have to sit down and come up with the best solution," Ai said. "And I believe this is a possibility, because all policies are designed by human beings, and deep in our hearts we have this compassion and we have the ability to make something nicer for each other." **AP**

A federal panel is recommending that President Donald Trump reject or suspend the pending USD1.3 billion sale of Portland, Oregon's largest tech company to a Chinese-backed investment firm.

The Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States ruled against the deal Friday, The Oregonian/OregonLive reported. The deal has been under scrutiny since it became clear

Federal panel opposes tech company sale to Chinese investors

that the newly-formed private equity firm, Canyon Bridge Capital Partners, that Lattice Semiconductor announced it would sell to in November is funded by the Chinese government. The transaction could threaten national security, lawmakers

have said.

Lattice manufactures a relatively low-tech class of programmable computer chips that can be adapted for a variety of uses. It had 1,000 employees worldwide at the end of the last year, but that number dwindled after Lattice sold a

division in India and a round of layoffs.

Lattice Semiconductors hopes the federal panel will change its recommendation or the president will take a different course.

"Lattice and Canyon Bridge plan to continue to engage in further

discussions with CFIUS and the President to explore measures that may resolve any outstanding national security concerns and that could allow the parties to proceed with the transaction," Lattice wrote in a securities filing Friday.

Former presidents

have followed four similar recommendations the federal panel has made since 1990. Trump has 15 days from the panel's ruling to decide whether he will follow the recommendation.

"We believe President Trump will recognize the benefits this investment will provide — to keep and grow jobs in the U.S., as well as expand Lattice's product portfolio," Canyon Bridge wrote in a separate statement. **AP**

Louise Watt, Xiamen

Xi says BRICS nations should stand up against protectionism

CHINESE President Xi Jinping yesterday called for the world to reject protectionism even as American and European pressure mounts on Beijing to lower market barriers, speaking at the start of a Chinese-led summit of five large emerging economies now overshadowed by North Korea's sixth nuclear test.

Lamenting that "protectionism and an inward-looking mentality are on the rise," Xi said that "only openness delivers progress and only inclusiveness sustains such progress."

Xi was speaking to business representatives of the BRICS nations — Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa — a day before he opens a summit with the leaders of these major emerging markets in the southeastern Chinese city of Xiamen. This will be the ninth summit of the BRICS grouping, which came together about a decade ago to push for an alternative world order that wasn't dominated by Western nations.

Xi said the BRICS nations had led the way in increasing the say of emerging economies and developing countries.

"The law of the jungle where the strong prey on the weak and the zero-sum game are rejected," he told the audience, which included Brazilian President Michel Temer and South African President Jacob Zuma.

"We should not ignore problems arising from economic globalization or just complain about them," he said. Rather, BRICS nations should work together with other members of the international community to find solutions, he said.

China has long been accused of putting up unfair barriers to foreign companies. However, Xi has become a leader who speaks out in favor of globalization at a time when



Xi Jinping takes the stage to speak during the opening ceremony of the BRICS Business Forum

protectionist sentiments are on the rise in Western countries. In January, Xi became the first Chinese president to attend the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, where he cast his country as a champion of free trade in contrast to the protectionist rhetoric of U.S. President Donald Trump.

Yet, foreign companies complain Beijing is reducing

access to its markets for electric cars, computer security technology and other promising fields, at the same time as Chinese companies have been on buying sprees abroad. Beijing also faces U.S. and European complaints it is exporting steel, aluminum, solar panels and other goods at improperly low prices, threatening thousands of jobs in other countries.

Yesterday, Xi said: "The Chinese government will continue to encourage Chinese companies to operate and take root in other countries and likewise we also warmly welcome foreign companies to invest and operate in China."

The summit is another chance for Xi to showcase his leadership of a country that wants to project itself as

a central pillar of 21st-century global governance. But the event has been overshadowed by North Korea conducting its sixth nuclear test earlier yesterday, apparently its most powerful yet.

Though Xi did not address the North's nuclear test in his speech, China's foreign ministry strongly condemned the detonation and urged Pyongyang to "stop taking erroneous actions that deteriorate the situation."

Protectionism and an inward-looking mentality are on the rise

A Chinese expert on North Korea with the Renmin University in Beijing said North Korea deliberately chose to conduct the test yesterday in a bid to "damage the atmosphere" at the BRICS summit.

The latest test means "the Korean Peninsula situation will be at a stage of new crisis, that means the world must either recognize that [North Korea] possesses nuclear weapons or try to realize a nuclear-free peninsula," said Cheng Xiaohe, an assistant professor at Renmin University.

Cheng said North Korea has demonstrated through the test that it is not afraid of any pressure, which leaves other parties with few options.

"This issue may be resolved by force or by putting the greatest pressure, including economic pressure, on North Korea in the future. There are not many choices now," he said. AP

BRAZILIAN President Michel Temer is visiting China as his country seeks investments to shore up its flagging economy.

Temer met with Chinese President Xi Jinping in Beijing on Friday ahead of next week's summit of BRICS nations in the southeastern Chinese city of Xiamen that also includes the leaders of Russia, India and South Africa.

Temer was greeted with full military honors by President Xi Jinping at the Great Hall of the People, the seat of the ceremonial legislature

Temer in Beijing amid push for investment

in the heart of Beijing.

In remarks at the start of their meeting, Xi noted that bilateral cooperation in trade, investment and finance has grown and pointed to new Chinese investment in Brazil in power, agriculture, infrastructure and other fields.

"The Brazil-China relationship has global strategic significance and the two countries should deepen their cooperation and pro-

ceed ahead in harmony," Xi said. "I fully concur with this and wish to endeavor with you to bring it to fruition."

Temer said before his departure that he saw China as a major investor in Brazilian airports, shipping terminals and other infrastructure.

Brazilian officials have also said they hope for Chinese technology and financial backing to finish the country's third nuclear power plant.

Temer has been seeking ways to revive the economy and help save his embattled presidency. China is also a huge market for Brazilian food and natural resource exports.

Following their meeting, Temer and Xi presided over the signing of 14 agreements in areas including film production, football, hydro-power and railways. No monetary value for the agreements was announced. AP



Michel Temer (right) and Xi Jinping review an honor guard during a welcome ceremony outside the Great Hall of the People

North Korea says sixth nuke test was H-bomb, 'perfect success'

NORTH Korea announced it detonated a thermonuclear device yesterday in its sixth and most powerful nuclear test to date. The North called the test a "perfect success" while its neighbors condemned the blast immediately.

Though the precise strength of the blast has yet to be determined, the artificial earthquake it caused was several times stronger than tremors generated by its previous tests. It reportedly shook buildings in China and in Russia.

The test was carried out at 12:29 p.m. local time at the Punggye-ri site where North Korea has conducted nearly all of its past nuclear tests. Officials in Seoul put the magnitude at 5.7, while the U.S. Geological Survey said it was a magnitude 6.3.

North Korea's state-run television broadcast a special bulletin yesterday afternoon to announce the test. It said leader Kim Jong Un attended a meeting of the ruling party's presidium and signed the go-ahead order. Earlier in the day, the party's newspaper ran a



front-page story showing photos of Kim examining what it said was a nuclear warhead being fitted onto the nose of an intercontinental ballistic missile.

The U.S. State Department had no immediate reaction.

China's foreign ministry said in a statement that the Chinese government has "expressed firm opposition and strong condemnation." It urged North Korea to "stop taking erroneous actions that deteriorate the situation."

South Korea held a National Security Council meeting chaired by President Moon Jae-in. Natio-

nal Security Director Chung Eui-yong said Moon will seek every available measure, including new U.N. sanctions or the deployment of more U.S. military assets, to further isolate Pyongyang.

Japan's Prime Minister Shinzo Abe called a test "absolutely unacceptable."

The nuclear test is the North's first since U.S. President Donald Trump assumed office in January. Trump has been talking tough with the North over its stepped-up missile tests, including a comment that Pyongyang wou-

ld see fire, fury and power unlike any the world had ever witnessed if it continued even verbal threats.

The North claimed the device it tested was a thermonuclear weapon — commonly called an H-bomb. That could be hard to independently confirm. It said the underground test site did not leak radioactive materials, which would make such a determination even harder.

North Korea says sixth nuke test was H-bomb, 'perfect success'

North Korea conducted two nuclear tests last year, the last nearly a year ago, on the Sept. 9 anniversary of the nation's founding. It has been launching missiles at a record pace this year. It con-

ducted its most provocative test yet last month, in response to ongoing U.S.-South Korea military exercises, when it fired a potentially nuclear-capable midrange missile over northern Japan.

It said that launch was the "curtain-raiser" for more activity to come.

The photos released yesterday showed Kim talking with his lieutenants as he observed a silver, peanut-shaped device that the state-run media said was a thermonuclear weapon designed to be mounted on the North's "Hwasong-14" ICBM.

The North claims the device was made domestically and has explosive power that can range from tens to hundreds of kilotons. Outside experts suggested the yield of the device tested yesterday might be in that ballpark, though closer to the lower range. For context, the bomb dropped on Hiroshima by the United States had a 15-kiloton yield.

North Korea's nuclear and missile program has made huge strides since Kim rose to power following his father's death in late 2011.

A long line of U.S. presidents has failed to check North Korea's persistent pursuit of missiles and nuclear weapons. Six-nation negotiations on dismantling North Korea's nuclear program in exchange for aid fell apart in early 2009. **MDT/AP**

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Todd Pitman & Sopheng Cheang,
Phnom Penh

Cambodia arrests opposition leader, alleging treason

CAMBODIAN authorities arrested the leader of the main opposition party yesterday, accusing him of treason in a move that sharply escalated political tensions in the Southeast Asian nation ahead of national elections next year. His party denied the allegations and said the charges were politically motivated.

The arrest of Kem Sokha during a midnight raid on his Phnom Penh home appeared to be part of a broader push by the government of Prime Minister Hun Sen, one of the world's longest serving rulers, to crush opponents and silence critics ahead of the vote.

The government in recent weeks has closed down radio stations that gave air-time to the opposition party and threatened to shut down other independent media outlets on charges of violating tax laws that analysts say are politically motivated.

Kem Sokha was taken away in handcuffs after a force of between 100 to 200 officers swept his home, according to his daughter, Monovithya Kem, who is also a member of his embattled Cambodia National Rescue Party.

Monovithya Kem said on Twitter that police showed no warrant for her father's arrest. She said later that his whereabouts were unknown. But Interior Ministry



Kem Sokha (center), leader of the Cambodia National Rescue Party

spokesman Gen. Khieu Sopheak said Kem Sokha was being held at the Tropeang Phlong prison facility in Tbuong Khmum province, some 130 kilometers east

of Phnom Penh. He said the next step will be his court appearance to officially face the charges, which carry a prison sentence of 15 to 30 years.

The government said it had obtained a video clip and other evidence indicating "secret plans of a conspiracy between Kem Sokha [...] and foreigners to harm the Kingdom of Cambodia."

The statement gave no details but called the actions "treason." Khieu Sopheak said that Kem Sokha had admitted in the video that "he was trained and received funding from a powerful foreign country to topple the government."

"This is a clear crime and there's no need to make further investigation because he has confessed already," he added.

Mu Sochua, a vice-president of the opposition party, insisted the charges were fabricated.

She also said that police could not legally arrest Kem Sokha, who as a lawmaker is entitled to parliamentary immunity. The arrest violated the constitution, she told The Associated Press, but "this government has not cared about the law in quite some time."

The arrest "sends a very clear signal that democracy in Cam-

bodia is under severe threat," she said, adding that if Kem Sokha it is not released, "it's very clear there will be no free and fair elections" in 2018.

Analysts say the government of Hun Sen, an authoritarian leader who held a tight grip on Cambodia for more than three decades, has grown increasingly concerned about steady opposition gains at the ballot box over the last decade, including local elections held in June.

Legal threats forced Kem Sokha's predecessor, Sam Rainsy, to resign this year from the Cambodia National Rescue Party he once led. He now lives in exile.

John Sifton, Asia advocacy director at Human Rights Watch, said the arrest was "an extremely disturbing development and a setback for democracy in Cambodia."

"The government's charges lack credibility, given its long record of misusing its legal system to silence or intimidate critics and political opponents," Sifton said. **AP**



MYANMAR

Rohingya pour over border into Bangladesh

AID officials said relief camps were reaching full capacity as thousands of Rohingya refugees continued to pour into Bangladesh yesterday fleeing violence in western Myanmar.

Some 73,000 people have crossed the border since violence erupted Aug. 25 in Myanmar's Rakhine state, said U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees spokeswoman Vivian Tan.

The violence and the exodus began after Rohingya insurgents attacked Myanmar police and paramilitary posts in what they said was an effort to

protect their ethnic minority from persecution by security forces in the majority Buddhist country. In response, the military unleashed what it called "clearance operations" to root out the insurgents.

Another aid official said Saturday that more than 50 refugees had arrived with bullet injuries and were moved to hospitals in Cox's Bazar, on the border with Myanmar. Refugees reaching the Bangladeshi fishing village of Shah Porir Dwip described bombs exploding near their homes and Rohingya being

burned alive.

Both Myanmar's security officials and Rohingya insurgents are accusing each other of atrocities. The military has said nearly 400 people, most of them insurgents, have died in clashes.

Aid workers said that large numbers of refugees required immediate medical attention as they were suffering from respiratory diseases, infection and malnutrition. The existing medical facilities in the border area were insufficient to cope up with the influx and more aid and

paramedics were needed, aid workers said.

"We fled to Bangladesh to save our lives," said a man who only gave his first name, Karim. "The military and extremist Rakhine are burning us, burning us, killing us, setting our village on fire."

"The military destroyed everything. After killing some Rohingya, the military burned their houses and shops," he said. "We have a baby who is 8 days only, and an old woman who is 105."

Satellite imagery analyzed by Human Rights Watch shows hundreds of buildings had been destroyed in at least 17 sites across Rakhine state since Aug. 25, including some 700 structures that appeared to have been burned down in just the village of Chein Khar Li, the rights watchdog said.

The government blames the insurgents for burning their own homes and killing Buddhists in Rakhine. Longstanding tension between the Rohingya Muslims and Buddhists erupted in bloody rioting in 2012, forcing more than 100,000 Rohingya into displacement camps, where many still live. **MDT/AP**

Filipinos accused of links to Marawi siege ordered freed

PHILIPPINE prosecutors have dismissed rebellion complaints against 59 men who were stopped by police and army troops at two checkpoints in the south and accused of attempting to join Islamic State-linked militants who laid siege to a southern city. Senior government prosecutor Peter Ong said Thursday the complaints filed by the military against the Muslim men were dismissed because of a lack of strong evidence, and authorities were ordered to free all the men.

"It is clear that respondents were not committing the crime of rebellion or any crime at the time of their arrests," Ong and two other prosecutors said in their findings, a copy of which was seen by The Associated Press.

The men, who traveled

in two big groups, may have sparked the suspicion of troops and police at checkpoints because of the Marawi siege, "but suspicion alone is not sufficient to arrest, detain, charge and indict respondents," the prosecutors said.

Military spokesman Brig. Gen. Restituto Padilla said the military respects the prosecutors' decision but that security officials still believe the men could "perhaps be eventually deployed to Marawi."

The ruling shows that the rule of law continues to work under martial law that was declared in the south by President Rodrigo Duterte to deal with the Marawi crisis, Padilla said, adding that the men were treated well and would be flown back to the south on an air force plane. **MDT/AP**

Aid group calls on Libya to end refugee detention

An international medical aid group has called on Libyan authorities to end arbitrary detention of refugees, migrants and asylum seekers, slamming conditions inside detention facilities in the North African country as “dire,” “unhealthy” and “abusive.” Doctors Without Borders said in a statement that medical conditions in detention centers in Tripoli, where the United Nations-backed government is based, are either caused or aggravated by “squalid detention conditions and ill treatment.” The European Union earmarked tens of millions of euros to improve conditions for migrants inside Libyan detention centers. But the group says international funding to Libya is not the solution and fears the narrow focus on improving facilities legitimizes the arbitrary detention system.

60,000 evacuate Frankfurt before bomb disposal

German authorities were making final preparations in Frankfurt yesterday before experts defused a huge World War II-era bomb in an operation that included evacuating more than 60,000 residents. Hospital patients and the elderly were among those affected in what was Germany’s biggest evacuation in recent history. Construction workers found the 1.8-ton British bomb on Tuesday. Officials have ordered residents to evacuate homes within a 1.5-kilometer radius of the site in Germany’s financial capital. Similar operations are still common 72 years after the war ended. About 20,000 people were evacuated from the western city of Koblenz before specialists disarmed a 500-kilogram U.S. bomb Saturday.

Spanish police arrest 12 Britons in drug bust

Spanish police have arrested 14 people, including 12 British nationals, in an operation to bust a drug trafficking ring in a resort town on the Mediterranean island of Mallorca. Spain’s Civil Guard said Saturday that it made the arrests during raids of 12 different residences. Police confiscated three kilograms of cocaine, unspecified quantities of other drugs, more than 100,000 euros (USD118,000), and four vehicles used by the alleged drug dealers. A police video showed officers with weapons drawn breaking down an apartment door while a helicopter hovered overhead. The dealers allegedly sold the drugs in Magaluf, a seaside resort that has become a popular destination for tourists and partygoers seeking nightlife.

Kenya’s ruling to nullify vote could influence other nations

Christopher Torchia,
Johannesburg

FEW expected the landmark decision by Kenya’s top court to invalidate the August 8 election victory by President Uhuru Kenyatta and order a new vote, an extraordinary turnaround that some observers believe could positively reverberate across Africa and even beyond.

The role of the courts as a recourse for those who suspect an election was tainted by fraud or other problems is meant to bolster the democratic process, but many judges can be subject to political pressure and the temptation to favor perceived stability over uncertainty. The fact that Kenya’s Supreme Court bucked the trend on Friday shows independence in the judicial system of the East African economic power that has been in question in the past.

“In the African context, it’s very rare to see a court ruling against the incumbent even when processes are more or less free and fair. The state machinery usually tends to favor whoever is in charge and rule against the opposition,” said Yarik Turianskyi, a governance expert at the South African Institute of International Affairs, a research institute based in Johannesburg.

“I think it creates a lot of expectations for the region, for the continent, sending out a very positive example,” Turianskyi said. “And then next time something like this happens, everybody will be mentioning this example and hoping that due process will also be followed up.”

Such expectations will face a tough test, particularly in countries that have more state control than Kenya, whose 2010 constitution is considered to be among the most progressive in Africa despite the ethnic allegiances and personality politics that overshadow its democracy.

In Angola, the opposition UNITA party and a smaller opposition group are contesting provisional results from the Aug. 23 vote that gave the win to the ruling MPLA party, which said Defense Minister Joao Lourenco will succeed President Jose Eduardo dos Santos after his 38-year rule. Angola’s electoral panel says it is assessing opposition complaints that legal procedures were flouted in a country where human rights groups have long accused the

AP PHOTO



Kenyan opposition leader Raila Odinga

government of silencing dissenting voices.

Some African nations face more severe challenges, even if votes are held more often and in many cases are seen to be less vulnerable to manipulation than in past decades.

Tensions are growing in Congo after officials failed to organize elections late last year. A deal brokered by the Catholic church calls for the vote to be held this year, but Congo’s electoral commission has indicated that the deadline will not be met.

■ The court ruling calls for an election re-run within 60 days

Kenya’s surprise court ruling came after longtime opposition candidate Raila Odinga alleged that last month’s vote was manipulated. He challenged the results despite intense pressure from business leaders and others to concede defeat and let the country resume normal life.

The court’s decision in Odinga’s favor, unprecedented in

Africa, was all the more surprising because judges threw out his challenge after he lost to Kenyatta in the 2013 election.

Friday’s court ruling that there were “illegalities and irregularities” in last month’s election calls for a re-run within 60 days. It is, election experts say, an opportunity for Kenya to get it right this time.

Kenya’s election commission should organize the new election in a way that “promotes transparency, accountability and is verifiable,” and political parties as well as the government and security forces should ensure a credible, peaceful process, said the National Democratic Institute, a non-profit group based in Washington.

In his first public comments after the court ruling, Kenyatta criticized the decision but said he respects it and called for calm in a country where some elections have been followed by deadly violence.

But in comments since then, Kenyatta has called the court’s judges “crooks” and accused them of overturning the will of the people, which has alarmed some observers who see the statements as an attack on judicial independence.

There are rare examples of

African courts stepping in and changing the course of an election in the past.

The 2010 presidential election in Ivory Coast, where some 3,000 people were killed after then-President Laurent Gbagbo refused to concede defeat, was an example of how things can go wrong when state institutions are sidestepped or subject to manipulation. The election commission had declared opposition leader Alassane Ouattara as the winner, but the head of the country’s constitutional council ruled for Gbagbo. Ouattara eventually became president, and Gbagbo was arrested after international forces intervened.

Elsewhere in Africa, some opposition leaders have expressed faith in independent courts as a potential source of reform.

In Zambia, once-praised democratic institutions have come under scrutiny since President Edgar Lungu was re-elected last year in a disputed contest. Treason charges were recently dropped against main opposition leader Hakainde Hichilema. On Thursday during a visit to South Africa, Hichilema said Zambia needs an independent electoral commission “if democracy is to be resuscitated.”

Josh Lederman, Washington

US seizes control of Russian posts in San Fran, DC, NY

THE United States seized control Saturday of three Russian diplomatic posts in the U.S. after confirming the Russians had complied with the Trump administration's order to get out within two days, officials said.

As the Kremlin cried foul, accusing Washington of bullying tactics, the U.S. disputed Moscow's claims that American officials had threatened to "break down the entrance door" to one of the facilities, and that the FBI was "clearing the premises." Not true, said a senior State Department official, adding that U.S. officials had joined Russian Embassy personnel for walk-throughs of the three buildings.

"These inspections were carried out to secure and protect the facilities and to confirm the Russian government had vacated the premises," the official said in a statement emailed Saturday to reporters by the State Department on condition the official not be named.

Russia has been incensed by the move to shutter Russia's consulate in San Francisco and trade offices in Washington and New York, actions the U.S. took in retaliation for Moscow's decision last month to force the U.S. to cut its diplomatic personnel in Russia to 455. Moscow has accused the U.S. of

violating international law by shuttering the facilities, a charge the U.S. disputes.

On Saturday, Russia's Foreign Ministry said it had summoned the U.S. deputy chief of mission in Moscow, Anthony Godfrey, to deliver a formal protest note calling the purported trade office search an "unprecedented aggressive action."

The Foreign Ministry also posted video on Facebook that it said showed FBI agents inspecting the consulate general building in San Francisco. In the video, a man in a tie knocks on several numbered doors and enters what appears to be apartment units, taking a quick glance inside before declaring everything in order.

There was no additional comment from the U.S. about whether the FBI was involved in the inspections. The State Department declined to answer additional questions about whether the premises might be searched for intelligence-gathering purposes now that the



Black smoke coming from the roof of the Consulate-General of Russia in San Francisco

Russians have left.

On Saturday night, lights shined brightly on several floors of the consulate in San Francisco and some windows were wide open.

A day earlier, black smoke was seen billowing from the chimney at the consulate as the Russians rushed to meet the Saturday deadline, and workers could be seen hauling boxes out of the stately building.

The U.S. did appear to bow to one Russian complaint — that they were given a mere 48 hours to vacate homes used by diplomats and their families. Softening the original order, the U.S. said it had made "separate arrangements" to give families "sufficient time" to pack their belongings and vacate apartments on the consulate grounds.

The U.S. wouldn't disclose how long the Russians would have to

move out of the residential part of the consulate, other than to say that Moscow had been informed of the new deadline. In the meantime, the State Department will control all access to the properties, along with the responsibility for securing and maintaining them, the official said.

The closures on both U.S. coasts mark perhaps the most drastic diplomatic measure by the United States against Russia since 1986, near the end of the Cold War, when the nuclear-armed powers expelled dozens of each other's diplomats.

And it comes amid some of the broadest strains in their relationship ever since. The two countries have clashed over the wars in Ukraine and Syria, but most significantly over American allegations that Russia meddled in the 2016 U.S. election to boost President Donald Trump's chances of victory. Investigations continue into whether Trump's campaign colluded with Moscow. **AP**

AD

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what's ON



SMALL CITY STORIES: MEMORIES AND ANECDOTES FROM THE THREE LAMPS

TIME: 12pm-9pm

UNTIL: September 27, 2017

ADMISSION: Free

VENUE: Ox Warehouse, intersection of Av. Coronel Mesquita and Av. do Almirante Lacerda

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2853 0026

WHATEVER YOU MAKE, MAKE IT YOURS - 14TH ANNIVERSARY EXHIBITION

TIME: 2pm-7pm

UNTIL: September 23, 2017

VENUE: Creative Macau (G/F Macau Cultural Centre Building)

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2875 3282

CONSTELLATION - WORKS BY NICOLAS DELAROCHE

TIME: 10am-9pm

UNTIL: October 8, 2017

VENUE: Tap Seac Gallery

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2836 6866

Offbeat

COAL TRAINS FEWER AS APPALACHIAN RAILROADS KEEP ROLLING



It's the car coming back from a watery grave. A blue Peugeot 104 stolen in the heart of France's Champagne country in 1979 is being reunited with its owner — 38 years later — after French police pulled it, in surprisingly good shape but crawling with crayfish, from a murky swamp.

In a Facebook posting, police said the pond owner alerted officers in Chalons-en-Champagne, 160 kilometers east of Paris, on Monday about the discovery. The car became visible because drought dropped the water level.

After police divers checked there wasn't a corpse inside, the long-lost vehicle was towed onto dry land.

"It still looks like a 104. It's still blue and there is still chrome on the bumpers. It's surprising," Franck Menard, a mechanic who hauled it back to the local garage where he works, said in a phone interview. "It's relatively well preserved given that it spent so long in the water."

"The seats are still in good condition, beige," he added.

Police said the compact four-door hatchback — as much a feature of its time as flared trousers and disco — was four years old and on its third owner when it was declared stolen in the Champagne town of Reims in 1979. Too old to figure in computer databases, investigators dusted off paper archives to find the proprietor, who lives in the Reims area.

In their Facebook posting, headlined "Cold Case," police said plans are afoot to reunite car and owner in the next few days.

Menard said that because it was declared stolen, the car technically now belongs to the owner's insurer.

Still, he is expecting the owner to drop by his garage "to come and see the car for nostalgia's sake."

The owner was stunned when officers tracked her down via family and neighbors, said Lt. Col. Pierre-Damien Igau, of the gendarmerie in Chalons-en-Champagne.

"She was surprised that we contacted her because even for her this was very ancient history," he said. "She appeared quite moved by the fact that we had found her car so long after the fact and especially that we had made the effort to contact her."

Menard said he doesn't expect the little Peugeot will ever run again, because the rusty engine block was muddied up.

But he said they scooped up the crayfish that had been living inside and freed them into a canal. "At least they get a second life," he said.

TV canal macau



13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
14:50	RTPi Live
19:10	The Brazilians (Repeated)
19:40	Soap Opera
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:00	Portuguese in Hamburg
21:50	Ui Di Sabroso Sr. 2
22:10	The Brazilians
22:40	Miscellaneous
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Miscellaneous
00:15	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)
00:45	RTPi Live

cinema



CINETEATRO

30 AUG - 6 SEP

CRAYON SHINCHAN MOVIE 2017

ROOM 1

2:30, 7:30pm

Director: Masakazu Hashimoto

Starring: Tamao Hayashi, Tôru Hotohara, Teiyû Ichiryûsai

Language: Cantonese

Duration: 107min



THE ADVERTURERS

ROOM 1

4:30, 9:30pm

Director: Stephen Fung

Starring: Andy Lau, Shu Qi, Zhang Jingchu

Language: English

Duration: 131min



THE DARK TOWER

ROOM 2

2:30, 4:15, 6:00, 9:45pm

Director: Nikolaj Arcel

Starring: Idris Elba, Matthew McConaughey, Tom Taylor

Language: English

Duration: 132min



A DOG'S PURPOSE

ROOM 2

7:45pm

Director: Lasse Hallstrom

Starring: Josh Gad, Dennis Quaid, Brit Robertson

Language: English

Duration: 95min

DANGAL

ROOM 3

2:30, 6:00, 9:00pm

Director: Nitesh Tiwari

Starring: Aamir Khan, Sakshi Tanwar, Fatima Sana Shaikh

Language: Hindi (Chinese & English)

Duration: 164min

this day in history



1985 TITANIC WRECK CAPTURED ON FILM

The first pictures of the wreck of the Titanic have been released 73 years after the liner sank with the loss of 1,500 lives.

The wreck was discovered three days ago by a joint American-French expedition lead by the explorer Dr Robert Ballard.

The ship is lying at a depth of 4 km and was filmed by an unmanned submarine called Argo.

Enhanced images taken from the film have allowed researchers to identify the ship's boilers sitting on the sea bed. The research team have sent down more colour cameras, but say they have no plans to attempt to salvage the wreck or explore its contents.

A survivor of the sinking, Eva Hart, said she was relieved they were not planning to disturb the site. "I feel that it's my father's grave, and the grave of 1,500 people," she said.

Salvage expert Kendall McDonald said it would be impossible to raise the hull from that depth. "It couldn't withstand any kind of lifting... It's a scrap yard", he told the BBC.

It has taken two ships, the assistance of the US Navy, a huge amount of sophisticated equipment and eight weeks of searching to make the discovery.

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

Robert Ballard returned the following year on a US Navy vessel and made 11 dives to the wreck in a three man submarine. Many more expeditions have visited the Titanic since, despite objections from some survivors and their relatives who believe the site should be left untouched.

In 1994 a US court granted the New York-based company RMS Titanic, Inc. exclusive salvage rights to the wreck. Eva Hart died in 1996 aged 91.

YOUR STARS

Aries Mar. 21-Apr. 19 It's just not possible now. Don't you dare feel bad about it. After all, when was the last time you said no to anyone, under any circumstances? Exactly. It's time to think of yourself.

Taurus April 20-May 20 A whole new way of earning your daily bread may be well within your reach now, so if someone comes along with a good offer, don't automatically turn it down.

Gemini May 21-Jun. 21 That cavey you were in is all but forgotten now. You've left it behind - that and anything that even remotely reminds you of the dark. Yes, you're done hibernating and ready to celebrate by being as excessive as possible.

Cancer Jun. 22-Jul. 22 Your skills at negotiation and mediation are unparalleled - and quite well-known. You're usually the first person anyone thinks of when they need a third party to help them either smooth over a bad situation.

Leo Jul. 23-Aug. 22 Your friends have your back - and not just when you ask for it. They're willing to take your side even before you ask. That's a good feeling, and you'll have a chance to enjoy it now.

Virgo Aug. 23-Sept. 22 You're just not ready to quit, are you? You realize this means you'll need to stay up late and call in late tomorrow - or that you should consider taking the entire day off.

Libra Sep.23-Oct. 22 An opportunity you've been dreaming of will arrive soon - really soon, so prepare yourself. If you're not sure about any part of what's offered, however, don't be shy about asking for some time to think it over.

Scorpio Oct. 23 - Nov. 21 Willpower is at the very top of your list of assets - and it's a good thing too. Right about now, it will take everything you have to stay on track, even if you know there's nothing you'd rather do.

Sagittarius Nov. 22-Dec. 21 There may also be one particular person in the vicinity you're really happy to see without a desk, computer or authority figure coming between you. Enjoy the company, no matter who you're with.

Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 19 For the past two days, you've been wooing and romancing - not to mention being wooed and romanced - and it hasn't been all that hard to handle. This means that tomorrow, it will be time to get to the heart of the matter.

Aquarius Jan. 20-Feb. 18 You've accepted the invitation, put in your request for time off and marked the dates off on your calendar. You've spent at least one evening laying out every last piece of clothing you own on your bed.

Pisces Feb.19-Mar. 20 A family member or an old, dear friend is about to reveal something that will absolutely knock your socks off. Of course, you won't want them to know how you feel - at least, not the extent of your surprise.

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

Easy

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

Easy+

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

Medium

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

Hard

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

WEATHER

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

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- Leopardlike cat; 7- Gave grub; 10- Lopsided victory; 14- "West Side Story" Oscar winner; 15- ___ Lingus; 16- Inventor Rubik; 17- Pollen producer; 18- Altdorf's canton; 19- Actor Estrada; 20- Rule of a prince; 23- Foundation; 26- Shoebox marking; 27- "Exodus" actor Sal; 28- Affirm; 29- Choose; 30- Ages; 31- Variety of rummy; 33- ___ de cologne; 34- Fallen space station; 37- Hobby shop buy; 38- "You've got mail" co.; 39- AOL alternative; 40- Fury; 41- Hearst kidnap grp.; 42- Circle of flowers; 43- Monetary unit of Mozambique; 45- ___ Kapital; 46- Affirmative reply; 47- Child's plea; 48- Introduction; 51- Ran into; 52- Moral principle; 53- Cultivation of forests; 56- Et ___; 57- City in GA; 58- With extremeness; 62- Tolstoy and Gorcey; 63- Classical beginning; 64- Newspaper executive; 65- Gds.; 66- Compass reading; 67- Break;

DOWN: 1- Mantric syllables; 2- Camp bed; 3- Division of geologic time; 4- Monetary unit of Honduras; 5- Lulus; 6- Singer Braxton; 7- Tap; 8- Causing goose bumps; 9- Faucet fault; 10- Land, as a fish; 11- Senator Hatch; 12- Bring together; 13- Capital of Japan; 21- Kathmandu native; 22- Quantity; 23- Supports; 24- Be of use; 25- Actress Berger; 29- Siouan speakers; 30- Moves with care; 32- Italian sausage; 33- Clown Kelly; 34- Book after Jonah; 35- Teheran native; 36- Museum artifact; 44- Jaundiced; 45- Contrive; 46- Egg yolk; 48- Sacred song; 49- Irritated; 50- Mixed bags; 51- Tones down; 52- Wear down; 54- Tins; 55- Consumer; 59- Parisian season; 60- ___ Angeles; 61- Decade divs.;

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

Large crossword puzzle grid with some numbers and letters.

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.

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JML Property logo and contact information.



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LEWIS Hamilton won the Italian Grand Prix virtually unchallenged from pole position yesterday and moved ahead of Sebastian Vettel to take the lead in the drivers' standings.

Hamilton finished nearly five seconds ahead of Mercedes teammate Valtteri Bottas while Vettel came third in his Ferrari, more than half a minute behind.

Hamilton now has 238 points, three more than Vettel with seven races remaining in what has developed into a riveting Formula One season.

Vettel had led the standings all season but Ferrari struggled in rainy qualifying conditions Saturday and couldn't match Mercedes' race pace, either, on a Monza circuit featuring long straights and high speeds better suited to Mercedes' power.

After getting out of his car, Hamilton first greeted Bottas then jumped into a crowd of Mercedes team members. The British driver was met with a mix of cheers and boos during Monza's famed podium celebration, with a sea of red-clad Ferrari fans invading the track.

"You know what? I love it here in Italy and I love the passion of the Ferrari fans," Hamilton said on the podium. "We don't get to see this energy anywhere else, apart from maybe Silverstone."



F1 Hamilton wins Italian GP to move ahead of Vettel

The Ferrari supporters were hoping for more on a weekend celebrating the automaker's 70th anniversary.

"Mercedes power is definitely better than Ferrari power," Hamilton said. "So it worked well this weekend."

After a brilliant start to the season, Vettel has now won

just one of the last seven races.

It was Hamilton's 59th career win and second consecutive after posting a harder-fought victory in Belgium last weekend.

Red Bull's Daniel Ricciardo finished fourth, having climbed through the field after starting 16th with a grid penalty.

Kimi Raikkonen crossed fifth

— exactly where he started — in the other Ferrari.

As drivers gathered at the front of the grid for the national anthem ahead of the race, air force jets flew low overhead emitting a trail of smoke in the green, white and red of the Italian flag.

Hamilton got off to a clean

start and Bottas quickly moved up from fourth to put Mercedes 1-2 after only four laps.

Raikkonen battled with Bottas early on but then went off course and had to slalom through the barriers.

"I have damage on the rear of the car," Raikkonen said via team radio.

But Ferrari told the Finn they couldn't see anything.

"I don't know to fix it," Raikkonen replied.

Fly-away races make up the rest of the F1 calendar

Meanwhile, Vettel slipstreamed past Esteban Ocon down the main straight to move into third but he too then reported problems with the rear of his car and kept dropping further and further behind the Mercedes cars.

Hamilton's only hiccup came when he skidded onto the edge of the gravel briefly midway through the race. Otherwise, he and Bottas were gaining half a second per lap on the Ferraris.

Fly-away races make up the rest of the F1 calendar, starting with the Singapore GP in two weeks. **AP**

FOOTBALL

Spain beats Italy 3-0 to close in on World Cup spot

Tales Azzoni

SPAIN ended Italy's 11-year unbeaten run in qualifiers with a 3-0 win on Saturday and moved closer to securing a World Cup spot.

The Italians hadn't lost a qualifier — World Cup or European Championship — in 56 games, since September 2006.

Two first-half strikes by Francisco "Isco" Alarcon and a late goal by substitute Alvaro Morata gave the hosts the important Group G victory.

Isco got the better of Italy goalkeeper Gianluigi Buffon from a free kick early in the game, then outsmarted the Italian defense with a low shot just before halftime at Santiago Bernabeu Stadium.

"It was a great match by Isco," Spain coach Julen Lopetegui said. "Not only because of the goals, which helped open things up for us. He played well with and without the ball, with great personality."

The result left Spain in control of Group G with

19 points, three more than Italy, with three games left in the European qualifying for the 2018 World Cup in Russia. Albania is third with 12 points.

Only the group winner automatically qualifies.

Both Italy and Spain had won all their group matches apart from a 1-1 draw against each other in Turin.

Spain's final qualifiers are at last-place Liechtenstein on Tuesday, against third-place Albania on Oct. 6 and at Israel on Oct. 9.

Italy's remaining games are at Israel on Tuesday, against Macedonia on Oct. 6 and at Albania on Oct. 9.

Spain's last loss in World Cup qualifying was in November 1993. Its unbeaten run now stands at 60 matches.

Also Saturday, Albania needed two second-half goals to beat last-place Liechtenstein 2-0 to stay within reach of the group leaders.

Macedonia beat Israel 1-0 in Haifa to damage the hosts' chances of a playoff spot.

Spain was in control during most of its 3-0 win in front of more than 73,000

fans at Real Madrid's Bernabeu stadium.

After Marco Asensio was fouled outside the area in the 13th minute, Isco fired a well-placed shot over the Italian wall and past the outstretched arms of Buffon.

The Real Madrid forward struck again in the 40th after clearing a defender with a neat cut back outside the area before sending a low shot into the corner.

The half ended with the Spanish fans chanting "Ole, ole" as their team overwhelmed Italy.

Isco continued to delight the crowd in the second half. In one nifty move, he rolled the ball between the legs of an opponent. A few minutes later, he flicked the ball over another Italian player before putting Morata in a goal-scoring position.

Isco got a standing ovation from the crowd when he was substituted in the final minutes.

Morata closed the scoring from close range after a low cross by defender Sergio Ramos in a breakaway near the end of the match.

Italy had a goal disallowed

because of offside in the 75th. Morata also was caught offside when he scored what would have been his second goal in the final minutes.

Veteran striker David Villa came off the bench to replace Isco, making his return to the Spanish national team three years after his last match at the 2014 World Cup. **AP**



Isco celebrates after scoring his side's second goal

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opinion

Views on China

Shuli Ren, Bloomberg

WAKE UP, CHINA BANKS. THE BULL MARKET'S BACK, FOR NOW

Dreams don't die in China's financial markets; they just go into hibernation. Two years after a collapsing bull market stymied banks' plans to recapitalize, they're rushing again to raise funds before it's too late.

Postal Savings Bank of China Co., the sixth largest by assets, is aiming to sell shares in Shanghai and has also received the government's blessing to issue USD7.8 billion of contingent convertible bonds in Hong Kong.

Postal Savings is a good trial case. Its Tier-1 capital ratio is the lowest among major Chinese banks, which means a fresh injection is sorely needed. The government will only let lenders sell new stock at more than book value, but if any bank can manage this it's Postal Savings, which has the cleanest balance sheet among its peers.

Until 2007, when the bank received its first commercial lending license, Postal Savings could only take deposits. As a result, it's been spared the legacy of state-owned "zombie" debt that weighs down rivals. The company's nonperforming loan ratio is only 0.82 percent - half the level of China Construction Bank Corp. and Industrial & Commercial Bank of China Ltd.

Rather than a buffer against bad loans, Postal Savings needs capital only because it has been expanding rapidly: In the second quarter, its loan book grew 21 percent from a year earlier.

China desperately wants to capitalize its mid-sized joint-stock commercial banks, which it sees as posing systemic risks. Last year, the People's Bank of China said that if a mid-sized bank were to default, on average four to five other lenders would be affected and more than 8 percent of the industry's capital would be wiped out.

A successful IPO for Postal Savings would help these institutions, which aren't as well capitalized as the big four state-owned lenders.

China's stock markets are looking tempting, with the Shanghai Composite Index having risen more than 10 percent from its May low. On a market-cap weighted basis, Chinese banks are now trading at book value in Shanghai, compared with 0.9 times in Hong Kong. Depressed valuations and Beijing's prohibition on selling shares below book mean there hasn't been a bank IPO on a mainland exchange since July 2015.

So-called CoCo bonds offer another way to strengthen capital, with Postal Savings and China Merchants Bank Co. both getting approval this month to sell the securities, which can be converted to equity or written down to absorb losses if a credit event is triggered.

To be sure, they come at a steep price. China Minsheng Banking Corp., for instance, issued a CoCo at a 4.95 percent coupon last December. Its three-year straight debenture, sold this May, pays only 2.5 percent. The higher cost reflects the risk of conversion; a straight bond will always remain a liability.

Market conditions for CoCos have also improved. This March, China Zheshang Bank Co., a small lender, sold one at a 5.45 percent coupon. Two years ago, Bank of Communications Co., China's fifth largest by assets, issued a CoCo at 5 percent. Zheshang's bond is now yielding only 5.17 percent.

After a two-year wait, will China's banks move swiftly enough to complete their fundraising before the latest bull market ends? Time will tell.

THE TYPHOON MAWAR LANDS IN SOUTH CHINA

Mawar, the 16th typhoon this year, landed around 9:30 p.m. yesterday in Lufeng, Guangdong Province, bringing gales of 20 meters per second at its eye, according to local meteorological authorities. Heavy rain battered the landing areas. According to Xinhua, local government said about 2,200 fishing boats had returned to the harbor while more than 15,000 people were relocated to safe places.

The provincial meteorological bureau forecast that the typhoon would weaken rapidly after the landing and move towards northwest at a speed of about 10 km per hour, bringing downpours and gales to other cities in the province until today.

Flights and trains were suspended. Authorities have been on alert for secondary disasters. Mawar is the third typhoon that landed in Guangdong in the recent half month after Hato and Pakhar.

JAPAN

Princess engaged to college love; wedding next year

Mari Yamaguchi, Tokyo

JAPANESE Emperor Akihito's oldest grandchild, Princess Mako, said yesterday she is getting married to a university classmate who won her heart with bright smiles and sincerity.

Mako and fiance Kei Komuro, both 25, said at a news conference that their relationship started when the princess sat behind him at a campus meeting five years ago at Tokyo's International Christian University, where they graduated.

"First I was attracted by his bright smiles like the sun," Mako said, smiling shyly. They talked for the first time at the event for students ahead of a study-abroad program, and then started dating.

Over time, she said she learned he is "a sincere, strong-minded, hard worker, and he has a big heart," Mako said.

The couple had a long-distance relationship while studying overseas - Mako in Britain and Komuro in the U.S. - for one year. Then Komuro proposed to her after dinner in December 2013.

Mako has since introduced him to her parents, Prince Akishino, second in line to the Chrysanthemum throne, and Princess Kiko, as someo-



Princess Mako (right) and her fiance Kei Komuro

ne she wished to "share her future with."

Komuro said he was so thankful and happy to have been accepted by her parents, and her grandparents, Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko. Komuro, a legal assistant who loves playing jazz piano, pledged to have "a relaxed and peaceful" home together.

"Having a family still goes beyond my imagination, but I hope to make one that is warm, comfortable and filled with smiles," Mako said.

Details of their wedding have not been decided, and palace officials say the ceremony is expected sometime around autumn next year after a series of rituals, including one that authorizes the engagement.

The happy news is not necessarily good news for the future of a royal family facing concerns about a declining population to keep their

2,000-year-old bloodline going.

Women aren't allowed to succeed Japan's throne. Mako will lose her royal status after marrying Komuro, who is a commoner.

Mako's 83-year-old grandfather, Emperor Akihito, has expressed a desire to abdicate and is expected to do so in late 2018. He'll be succeeded by his eldest son, Crown Prince Naruhito. Next in line is Akishino, Naruhito's younger brother. After that, the only person left in the line of succession is Mako's little brother. Akihito's three other grandchildren are all women.

Those who are concerned about the future of the royal family want to allow women to succeed the throne and others to keep their royal status so they can keep performing public duties, but a government panel on the emperor's abdication avoided the divisive issue. AP

THE DECISIVE MOMENT

Xinhua/Li Peng



Wong Yu Cho, collector of stone sculpture, poses for a photo beside a piece of his collection in his courtyard in Hong Kong. Born in a family that has invested countless fortune in stone sculptures for generations, Wong is himself an enthusiastic collector. He cherishes a hope that his collection can be exhibited in a theme park or an exhibition hall in Hong Kong.

Station	Air quality
Roadside	45-65 Moderate
High Density Residential Area	70-100 Moderate
Ambient	70-100 Moderate

SOURCE: DSMG

WORLD BRIEFS

SRI LANKA's president yesterday vowed to protect his former ambassador to six South American nations, an ex-army chief accused of crimes in the bloody final phase of the country's civil war.

RUSSIA-MOLDOVA Moscow's foreign minister has criticized a move by Moldova to call for the removal of Russian troops from a pro-Russia separatist region at an upcoming U.N. meeting.



ZIMBABWE's first lady made her first public statement since being accused of assaulting a young model in neighboring South Africa. Grace Mugabe appeared with her 93-year-old husband at a political rally ahead of next year's elections.



GERMANY Residents in two German cities evacuated their homes yesterday as authorities prepared to dispose of World War II-era bombs found during construction work last week. Officials in the financial capital Frankfurt carried out an evacuation of 60,000 people, described as Germany's biggest operation of its kind. More on p14

CUBA Mysterious incidents affecting the health of American diplomats in Cuba continued as recently as August, the United States said Friday, despite earlier U.S. assessments that the attacks had long stopped. The U.S. increased its tally of government personnel affected to 19.

MEXICO President Enrique Pena Nieto said that security is his government's top priority, amid growing violence and that is marring his fifth year in office and despite figures showing significant drops in crime-fighting results.