



MORE PROPERTY SUPPLY THAN DEMAND
A report predicts that in the long-term 250,000 residential units will be needed, but 40,000 more will be in supply

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LUSOFONIA FESTIVAL RETURNS

P4



TSAI VOWS TO PROTECT REGIONAL STABILITY
In an annual National Day address, Taiwan's leader pledged to defend the self-governing island's freedoms

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Oct 2017

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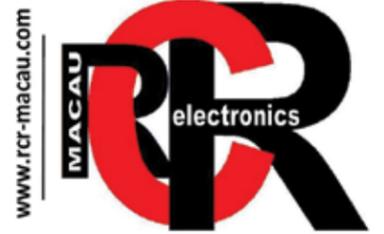
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"THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN'"

8

days to go

MACAU

Online payments soar during Golden Week

P3



WORLD BRIEFS



AP PHOTO

THAILAND More than three years after seizing power in a coup, the head of Thailand's military government yesterday promised elections in November next year. Prime Minister Prayuth Chan-ocha told reporters that his government will give the exact election day in mid-2018. Thailand's military seized power in 2014 and has postponed several deadlines for elections, citing national security concerns and the need to pass new election laws.

CAMBODIA The European Union and rights groups say the Cambodian government's move to dissolve the main opposition party would be a serious blow to democracy and undermine the credibility of elections next year.

More on backpage



AL NEW VOICES | AGNES LAM

'I don't want to be the populist or the protectionist'

P5 MDT INTERVIEW

Renato Marques

THE establishment of the minimum wage for cleaning and security staff working in residential buildings or hired by property management service suppliers, which came into force on January 2016, has caused an increase of about 20 percent (on average) of condominium fees paid by the property owners, the Secretary General of the Standing Committee for the Coordination of the Social Affairs (CPCS) and deputy-director of the Labor Affairs Bureau (DSAL), Ng Wai Han revealed.

On the sidelines of the plenary meeting of the committee, the representative of the workers and recently elected lawmaker Leong Sun Iok mentioned the minimum wage, saying that an update was proposed "in order to keep the quality of life of these workers." Leong added that such a raise should be of about 5 percent, "taking into account factors such as inflation and living costs."

The idea of bringing the current minimum wage of MOP30 per hour of work to the proposed MOP31.50 found neither a rejection nor an approval from side of the employers and the government; The DSAL director said: "We need to take into account both parties and moderate in order to achieve a solution that suits both." Wong Chi Hong noted that to increase the salaries of condominium workers

Minimum wage responsible for 20pct condominium fee increase



Leong Sun Iok (center)

will necessarily cause financial consequences for residents. Ng was in agreement: "The salaries [of the staff] are the most important factor in the final expenses [calculation]."

Both workers and employers complained about the lack of information from the government, a situation that Wong said the

government would solve within the agreed period of 10 days (to supplement to information pack that is expected today).

Wong did not want to reveal details about the meeting where the government presented a report on the implementation of the new minimum wage, saying he, "needed to respect both parties."

The meeting also served as an opportunity for the representative of the Social Security Fund (FSS), - its president, Iong Kong Io - to propose that the temporary subsidy for permanent disability should become a long-term program.

"We want to extend the scope of such a plan to become a per-

manent mechanism. In this sense we want to review the law and we have obtained the agreement of the CPCS members."

The amount of this subsidy will be MOP3,450 per month. The subsidy will be available to permanent residents of Macau who have contributed to the FSS for at least a period of 36 months.

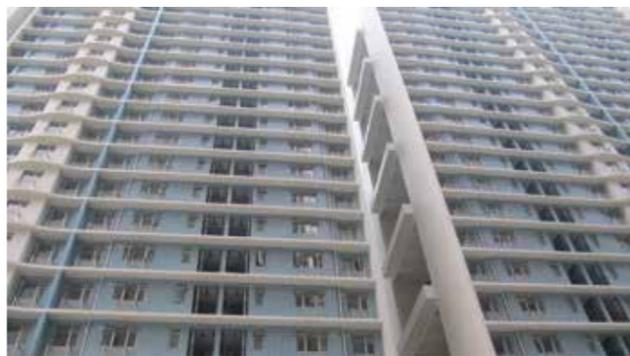
PROPERTY

Housing Bureau predicts more supply than demand

THE Housing Bureau (IH) has published the final report about the demand for public housing in Macau. According to the document, which was drafted by a local think tank, the demand for public housing could reach 36,000 units by 2026, including 15,000 social housing units and 21,000 affordable housing units.

For the medium and long-term, the supply of public housing will exceed 40,000 units, according to the report.

Considering both public and private houses, the IH-commissioned report predicts that in the medium and long-term there will



be the need for 250,000 residential units in Macau to host residents, non-resident workers and students. However, the IH expects that the number of units built by 2026 may reach 290,000. This discrepancy may result in "the exist-

tence of some unoccupied units."

The IH stated that the report will serve as "a reference to the long-term development of public housing in Macau." The document is now available at the IH website.

EU-MACAU COOPERATION

Over 150 interpreters receive specialized training

A two-day conference on interpretation and translation concludes today at the Macao Polytechnic Institute (IPM), marking 10 years of cooperation between Macau and the European Commission in the field of interpretation.

According to a statement issued yesterday by the European Union Office to Hong Kong and Macau, over 150 interpreters have received specialized interpretation training in Macau and Brussels since 2006.

The decade-long European-Macau cooperation has contributed to the improvement of inter-

pretation quality "by providing training for trainers for government ministries and course leaders from universities in Macau and mainland China at special summer courses." A further cooperation with the Public Administration and Civil Service Bureau (SAFP) of Macau allows current and aspiring civil servants to develop and enhance their interpretation skills at interpretation training courses in Portuguese and Chinese in Macau and at the European Commission in Brussels.

According to the statement, the European Commission has a stra-

tegy to assist in the development of high-level professional standards for conference interpreters in many countries across the world. "Our cooperation goes beyond a purely linguistic or training dimension as it contributes to building bridges between the European Union and Macau as well as Portuguese speaking countries," said Fink-Hooijer, director general of DG Interpretation. At the conference in Macau, Fink-Hooijer spoke about the challenges ahead for interpretation and interpretation training in a changing world.

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Times

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ALIPAY transactions throughout the eight-day Golden Week holiday numbered eight times as many as in last year's seven-day period, according to data released by service operator, Ant Financial Services Group, with Asia dominating the list of top-ten destinations in terms of in-store transaction volume.

Hong Kong topped the list in terms of destination transaction volume, followed by Thailand, Taiwan, Japan, South Korea, Macau, Malaysia, Sin-

GOLDEN WEEK

Macau among most popular places for Alipay transactions

gapore, Australia and New Zealand.

Despite the high spending in Macau, among the other listed countries and territories, the eight-day holiday was reportedly a disappointment for the lo-

cal gaming industry even as tourism authorities assured visitor figures were up.

Nevertheless, Ant Financial Services noted that Asia saw considerable growth in the use of Alipay

this year, with Singapore in the lead, where transaction volumes increased by a factor of 30.

In Japan, transaction volumes were 16 times higher than last year's figure, while Hong Kong and Taiwan saw 13-fold growth. Thailand registered six times the transaction volume of last year.

Meanwhile, in Australia, transaction volumes increased 20 times, and New Zealand saw a six-fold increase.

Similar growth was seen in Europe, where six times as many transactions were also recorded this year. Germany, the UK and France accounted for 40 percent, 23 percent and 22 percent of European transaction volumes. Italy, where Alipay launched just this April, accounted for a further 5 percent.

Average per capita spend



through Alipay increased by about 50 percent compared with 2016, to RMB1,301, according to the company. Per capita spending was considerably higher in destinations outside of Asia, particularly Europe, where users spent an average of RMB3,150 through Alipay.

Switzerland posted the

highest per-capita spend of any country or region at RMB3,298, well over ten times the average for Europe as a whole.

Ant Financial Services Group is an affiliate company of the Chinese Alibaba Group responsible for operating Alipay, the world's largest mobile and online payments platform.

ONE SHOT NEWS



The ownership of a land plot located in Ilha Verde was returned to the government yesterday. Located at Travessa do Crisântemo, the plot has 400 square meters. The land concessionaire had previously agreed to return the land, but in the intervening period, it was illegally occupied. A temporary station for the Fire Service will be built on the plot.

Macau Daily Times contest

Oktoberfest 2017

MGM is hosting Oktoberfest from October 12 to 22. We are giving away a total of 10 sets of entry tickets and F&B coupons. Readers will have to correctly answer today's question to be in with a chance of winning. Each prize set includes:

Oktoberfest entry tickets x 2	\$340
F&B coupons	\$200
Oktoberfest sunglasses x 2	\$80
Total value	\$620

Question for readers:
In which city did Oktoberfest's long history originate from?

Please email the answer to: oktoberfest2017@macaudailytimes.com along with your name and contact details.

MGM MACAU will bring the ninth Oktoberfest Macau at MGM between October 12 and 22 this year! Locals and guests will again get to experience Macau's most authentic bierfest outside of Germany!

History of Oktoberfest
Oktoberfest began in Munich with over 200 years of long history. It was originally launched for the Münchners to attend the festivities held on the fields in front of the city gates to celebrate the royal wedding, as well as to promote the good Bavarian harvest. Nowadays, Oktoberfest has transformed into one of the most influential annual beer carnivals in the world.

Since 2009, MGM MACAU has welcomed over 110,000 beer lovers with over 106,000 liters of beer, 23,485 kilograms of pork knuckles, 10,416 roasted chickens and 15,238 pieces of homemade pretzels served.

The 11-day beer fest at MGM MACAU captures the essence of Bavarian festivities through German beers, cuisines, live entertainments and the Bavarian party atmosphere. MGM MACAU will serve Löwenbräu, one of only six official Oktoberfest brews from Munich, with other wheat beer to pair with classic German comfort foods. Enjoy the rhythmic accordion, ompah music and folk dances along with the Bavarian beer maids in dirndls. The huge beer tent with traditional decorations, including ceiling wreaths, bunting and carnival game booths, will be a guaranteed fun and alive experience that is just like the Munich Oktoberfest. Once again, MGM is flying the beloved Högl Fun Band all the way from Munich over to Macau to fill the nights with dynamic live performances.

For guests who would like to enjoy the authentic German party with children and family, the Special Day Time Oktoberfest between 11am and 3pm on October 21 is the perfect option. Non-alcoholic beers and a range of beverages are also available as alternatives.

Oktoberfest Macau at MGM 2017 will be held in The Vista II between October 12 and 22. Admission tickets and food and beverage coupons will be available for sale from September 11. The number of tickets and tables are limited, so get them soon before they are out!

Ticket & reservation counter:
Date: September 11 - October 22, 2017
Time: 1 - 9pm daily
Venue: Oktoberfest Reservation Counter, 1/F, MGM MACAU (opposite Pastry Bar)
Entry ticket: MOP 170 per person (including one standard beer or drink)
Phone: (852) 8802 2666

Student receives funding to present paper

Li Meng, a master's student of medicinal administration from the University of Macau's (UM) Institute of Chinese Medical Sciences (ICMS), has received full funding to present his paper, titled "Development Challenges for Maternal and Child Health Care Institutions in China: A Qualitative Study in Chengdu, Southwest of China," at the 2017 Annual Meeting of the Drug Information Association (DIA) in the United States. This year's event received over 3,000 student paper abstracts from around the world. Only 20 students were given full funding to present their findings in the Student Poster session of the meeting. This is the 11th consecutive year since 2007 that a student from the ICMS has received full funding from the DIA's annual meeting.

Qatar Airways to hold recruitment drive

Qatar Airways will be holding a recruitment event on October 21 at Sofitel Macau for full time cabin crew staff members. The event starts at 9 a.m. and applicants are instructed to wear formal business attire. Applicants must be at least 21 years of age, proficient in written and spoken English and willing to relocate to Doha, Qatar. They should bring with them a resume, a photocopy of their passport, a passport photograph, a full-body photograph and a copy of their highest educational certificate in its original language.



20th Lusofonia Festival to run for four days

THE 20th Lusofonia Festival will be held from October 19 to 22 in the area of the Taipa-Houses Museum. This year the event is being extended to run for a total of four days.

The festival offers a variety of games, gastronomic activities, music and dance performances.

Different booths will be set up for each of Macau's Portuguese-speaking communities. The-

se communities hail from ten countries and regions including Angola, Brazil, Cape Verde, Guinea-Bissau and Goa. The booths will enable members of these communities to introduce their native countries or regions' traditional music, photography, arts and crafts, costumes, literature and cuisine.

On each day of the event, groups from the Portuguese-speaking countries and regions will perform different styles of

music and dance. Several Macau-based art groups will also perform at the Carmo Square, according to a statement issued by the Cultural Affairs Bureau (IC).

The event will also feature a pop-up restaurant serving Portuguese delicacies such as grilled meats.

Visitors can also participate in traditional Portuguese games and table football tournaments, as well as experience the

sensation of racing on the Guia Circuit through a Macau Grand Prix Simulator.

The first edition of the Lusofonia Festival was held in 1998 as part of various activities celebrating Portuguese National Day on June 10. The event honors the Portuguese-speaking communities in Macau for their contributions to the region's development.

The festival is organized mainly by the IC and the Permanent Secretariat of Forum for Economic and Trade Co-operation between China and the Portuguese-speaking Countries (Macau). Other organizers include the Macau Government Tourism Office and the Civic and Municipal Affairs Bureau.

AD



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EM MACAU 澳門葡人之家協會

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JOALHARIA/JEWELLERY

FIMO

monitora/monitor:
Cristina Vinhas

horário/schedule:
Terças
Tuesdays
18h00 - 21h00

total: 15 horas/hours
05 sessões/sessions

Início/starts: 17/10/2017
fim/finishes: 14/11/2017

propina/fee:
MOP 600 *

língua/language: Português e Inglês/Portuguese and English ** patrocínio/sponsor: Fundação Macau

local/venue: Avenida do Dr. Francisco Vieira Machado n° 431- 487 Edif. Industrial Nam Fung 8° andar B, sala 1, Macau

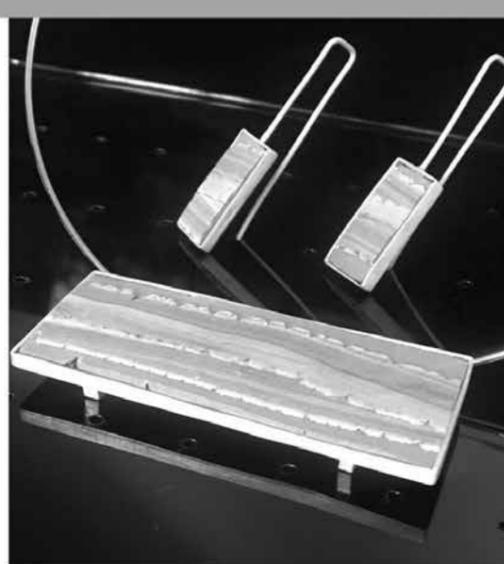
número máximo de participantes/maximum number of participants:
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Renato Marques

WHEN it resumes, the Legislative Assembly will have new faces, as a result of the direct election and the new appointments made by the Chief Executive (CE).

Regarding the lawmakers chosen by the CE, Chui Sai On decided on an almost complete reorganization of the members seated in the chamber, appointing six new faces to the seven seats. In the elected positions decided by the popular vote, there will be three new faces. In the first installment of a series of interviews to the new lawmakers chosen by popular vote, the Times spoke to newly elected lawmaker Agnes Lam.

A professor at the University of Macau, where she is also an Assistant Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences, Lam has been leading the association Macau Civil Power for over nine years. Through this work she gained most of her momentum and expressed many of her ideas about how to address issues that affect the livelihoods of the people of Macau.

Running for the third time for a seat at the Legislative Assembly, Lam was finally elected grabbing the 10th seat with a total of 9,590 votes.

Macau Daily Times (MDT) - What will be your first priority when the Legislative Assembly resumes its works?

Agnes Lam (AL) - My first priority will be on matters related with Typhoon Hato. As we saw [during the passage of the typhoon] the infrastructure here in Macau cannot cope with a typhoon like that and so I think we need to have some new measures in place as soon as possible. We will focus mostly on safety measures for all the buildings in general and special measures to be enforced in the rebuilding of the Patane area [most subjected to be affected by flooding].

MDT - You said before that you want to be a middle-ground between opposing lawmakers at the AL. In which topics do you think your position can make a

Q&A AGNES LAM
NEWLY ELECTED LAWMAKER

'I don't want to be the populist or the protectionist'



Agnes Lam pictured during the campaign

difference?

AL - We know that there are several factions and some of them are very eager to ask for compensation for people [regarding several aspects]. I can say I also agree with that but I must say [our way to approach the topic] is not only about the compensation itself but about how we should have a scheme to set some precedence and a system that could calculate what we should give

I think the way this new assembly works can influence the way the new CE will look at the political spectrum.

or how much we should give.

So it's not just about if I agree or not with some kind of compensation or subsidies but about a real planning and true suggestions [on how to make such a system work]. I don't want to be the populist - that is always calling for money - or the protectionist that always worried with public money. I will try to find out a way to make the compensation or the subsidy in a more thorough way.

MDT - You stated that you wouldn't like the CE to appoint only businessmen to the Legislative Assembly. Now that he appointed six new faces, of which four are scholars, how do you perceive these choices? Will they have a more fact-based contribution?

AL - I think it is good [that the CE appointed scholars] as [the appointment] of scho-

lars would always be better than [appointing] businessmen because I think business [interests] have enough representation already at the Legislative Assembly. I'm happy to see all those new faces now and I look forward to working with them. I think they will [have a more fact-based approach] as they come from diffe-

rent areas and they have different academic backgrounds and I think they can do a good job.

MDT - Do you think this new composition of the parliament in both directly elected and appointed lawmakers will be any different from previous ones?

AL - I'm not sure

about that but I sure hope so. I hope that even if they [the six appointed by the CE lawmakers] are appointed members they can still speak from their own discipline and from their own background [not restricting themselves to approve whatever the government proposes].

MDT - This legislature will include many important topics and during that period there will be a change of the CE. Do you think the way the Legislative Assembly will work with all the new lawmakers can affect the choice of the new Chief Executive (CE)?

AL - I think we have about 35 to 40 percent of new people [lawmakers] at the Legislative Assembly and I think these new people can make some difference. I wouldn't say they could influence the CE election directly but I think the way this new assembly works can influence the way the new CE will look at the political spectrum or dynamics in the society. I don't think it is realistic to think that the Legislative Assembly work can in anyway influence the possible choice for a certain person to be the CE.

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“ THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN’ ”

RENATO MARQUES



TYPHOON HATO

Owners of damaged vehicles given Oct. 20 deadline for cancellation

THE Transport Bureau (DSAT) has announced that the owners of vehicles with irreparable damage caused by Typhoon Hato should present all the documents to cancel their vehicle's registration before October 20.

The vehicle owners who wish to benefit from tax exemptions when buying a new vehicle must present documents and evidence of the damage, such as pictures attesting to the damage and receipts from their use of a tow truck service. "The delivery of the documents is essential to the canceling of the vehicle registration and the allowance of tax benefits," the DSAT stated.

Separately, DSAT said that it is doing all that it can to restore the car parks, which were flooded during the passage of Typhoon Hato, to working order.

The bureau informed that from the four flooded car parks during Typhoon Hato, the one located at Fai Tat Building requires the most

attention, as it was completely flooded and was the facility where most of the typhoon's casualties occurred.

At that car park, the ventilation system, the elevators, the access control system as well as fire fighting equipment is not functioning. The Bureau warned that the replacement of some of this equipment would take time. As the removal of vehicles inside the car park still continues, the DSAT is conducting a follow-up on the damages assessment and accelerating the administrative procedures with the aim of returning the facility to a functional state as soon as possible.

The DSAT said it expects to have the Fai Tat Building car park reopened during the first half of 2018.

The Transport Bureau also informed that, during the restoration of the four flooded car parks, it removed a total of 472 vehicles, of which 433 were cars and 39 were motorcycles.

Former Macau Liaison Office chief placed on probation

ANTI-CORRUPTION authorities on the mainland have placed Li Gang, the former head of the Liaison Office in Macau, on a year-long probation, citing "severe violations" of party discipline.

Li is only the latest high-profile official to fall to Chinese President Xi Jinping's anti-corruption drive, which began in 2012 and has thus far ensnared more than 250 senior officials and disciplined about 1.4 million allegedly corrupt party members.

The 62-year-old is being investigated on unspecified corruption charges that may be linked to his tenure as the director of the Liaison Office in Macau since 2014 and previously as the deputy director of the neighboring Liaison Office in Hong Kong from 2003.

The announcement of Li's detention was made at the 8th Plenary Session of the 18th Central Commission for Discipline Inspection (CCDI), China's highest body tasked with anti-corruption efforts. It comes just a week before the semi-decennial national party congress is expected to reaffirm Xi Jinping as the country's president for another five years.

However, the nature of Li's violations remains unspecified by mainland authorities. The time pe-



Li Gang

riod when they were allegedly committed also remain unspecified.

Last month, the National People's Congress announced that Li had been removed from the legislature as he was under investigation for "severe violations of party discipline." This was followed by the removal of Li from his position as deputy director of the Overseas Chinese Affairs Office on August 22. No details have been provided on the reason for his suspensions in either case.

Placing a party member under probation is the second most severe form of punishment - after expul-

sion - for individuals who violate the party's discipline.

According to the Chinese Communist Party Disciplinary Regulations, members that violate the Party Constitution, other regulations, "socialist ethics", or whose conduct harms the interests of the Party may face disciplinary measures.

"Where Party organizations discover during discipline inspections that Party members are suspected of crimes provided for in the Criminal law such as corruption, bribery, or dereliction of duty; they shall be given a sanction of removal from

internal Party positions, Party probation or expulsion from the Party," the regulations specify.

■ Placing a party member under probation is the second most severe form of punishment

But probation can also be a punishment for other, equally severe crimes, such as creating groups or cliques for personal gain, putting together political factions, cultivating private power within the party or seeking political capital by "exchanging interests or generating prestige in themselves."

The Party's rules also state that probationary measures can last either one or two years, but cannot extend for a longer period.

According to the South China Morning Post, Li is the most senior mainland official for Hong Kong affairs to be disciplined for a serious violation since the 1997 handover of the territory. **DB**

corporate bits

MGM HOSTS EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM ROADSHOW



Gaming resort operator MGM China hosted the Employee Assistance Program (EAP) Roadshow - "It Takes Love to Build a Home" for all

back-of-house employees on October 6.

The Roadshow included a premiere of MGM's second EAP short film titled, "Home

is where the Love is", as well as a host of interactive games with prizes.

"Home is where the Love is," the second short film in the Company's EAP short film series, was written and directed by MGM staff and features its own employees and their children. It serves as a reminder to team members to seek assistance through the EAP services, particularly the on-site counseling, when facing family or other issues.

Its intent was to "highlight the importance of harmony within the family and spread the message of love," according to a statement from MGM.

The short film is now available for public viewing on MGM's Facebook Page, as well as on YouTube.

DEAN & DELUCA OPENS THEIR FIRST CHINA STORE AT GALAXY



Galaxy Macau has invited New York style deli and specialty food purveyor Dean &

DeLuca to open its first café in Macau this week, offering guests an iconic New York

SoHo chic dining experience.

The new café is the first Dean & DeLuca site in the Greater China region and will be located in Galaxy's The Promenade Shops, which aims to feature a unique mix of first-to-market, world-class international brands.

Dean & DeLuca was founded by Joel Dean and Giorgio DeLuca in September 1977 in SoHo, a district in lower Manhattan, New York. Since then, it has earned a reputation as an icon of New York City's culture and lifestyle.

The local branch is incorporating a Macau flavor in its dishes, including African Chicken in Focaccia Croquette, made of fragrant, butter-rich sweet bread filled with minced chicken, carrot and celery.

Private bankers seeking break from Swiss crisis-era rules

A David vs. Goliath battle is brewing in the world's biggest hub for offshore wealth. Big banks are pushing back against Swiss plans to relax rules that are making it hard for small financial firms to compete against the likes of UBS Group AG and Credit Suisse Group AG. While Switzerland is home to about 300 banks and securities dealers, most - about 260 - have no more than a few billion francs in assets. Together they represent just 10 percent of total assets.

"There should be differentiation in regulation between different types of banks," said Yves Mirabaud, president of the Geneva Financial Center industry association and senior managing partner of family-owned Mirabaud & Cie. "This is contested by the large banks."

"The big banks prefer to have everyone treated the same way as they are, for obvious reasons," he said in an interview at his Geneva office.

Regulations in Switzerland have become more stringent and complex since UBS's state bailout in 2008, drawing complaints from



small banks that they are paying the price for a crisis they didn't cause. Now the country's financial regulator says some rules introduced to control big banks may have given them a competitive edge because the regulations are more expensive for smaller rivals to apply.

Major banks could be hard-wired to influence regulation to keep barriers to entry "nice and high," Finma President Mark Branson said last week in a speech outlining plans to make it easier

for small banks to report liquidity and capital adequacy. Other proposals include allowing them to perform audits every three years instead of annually.

Small banks are an advantage for the industry because they readily offer sophisticated services, have close contacts with customers and know the ins and outs of their localities. They are just right size for "road-testing and driving innovation," said Branson, a former banker at UBS.

Yet smallness has drawbacks.

Rural lenders and boutique wealth managers are generally less profitable than big banks because they don't benefit from cost-savings based on scale. UBS Chief Executive Officer Sergio Ermotti and Credit Suisse Chairman Urs Rohner have said Swiss banks need to consolidate to boost profitability.

"It is important to Finma that small banks have a fair chance to grow, progress and continue to operate profitably in their various value propositions," Branson said. "That is why the unnecessary hurdles and costs faced by small banks should be identified and wherever possible eliminated."

A fixture in Swiss banking for almost 200 years, Mirabaud manages about 31 billion francs (USD36 billion) in client assets. That's 60 times smaller than UBS, the world's largest wealth manager. About 10 percent of its workforce is employed in making sure the bank follows laws, regulations and business standards, areas that barely existed 20 years ago.

"Our concern is the cost of doing

business is more and more important," Mirabaud said. "It is proportionally more expensive for us to calculate ratios, do reporting, have yearly audits."

On a more positive note, Mirabaud said the bank's brokerage may break even this year after an overhaul prompted by several years of losses. The business has gone through "tremendous changes" to make it profitable again, he said.

Swiss banks manage the largest share of the world's privately held offshore wealth, a position under pressure from Singapore, Hong Kong and the Channel Islands.

Finma plans to set up an expert panel and to test proposals on some banks next year. The new rules would concern only the two smallest categories. The regulator classes banks in five categories based on total assets, assets under management, deposits and required capital.

Credit Suisse and UBS are in the first group, meaning they have the potential to destabilize the financial system. Mirabaud is a category four bank with a broad international clientele, mainly in South America, Eastern Europe and the Gulf countries. It employs around 700 people, half of them in Switzerland.

"It seems like Finma is taking this issue into their hands. Whether in a good way or not - it's too soon to say," Mirabaud said.

Bloomberg

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AP PHOTO



Ikea on Amazon? Swedish firm to test sales in online stores

IKEA will start selling furniture through third-party websites to find new ways to reach customers in the digital age, though "no decisions are made regarding what platforms/markets will be in the pilot."

Kaisa Lyckdal, spokeswoman for the Swedish home furnishing giant, says the aim is to start a trial in 2018 and that Ikea is "curious" as to how to broaden its sales base.

Lyckdal said yesterday

in an email to The Associated Press that Ikea would "develop it over the coming years."

However, Ikea's main focus "remains of course with our existing sales channels," including its own web sites and stores. The group says 2.3 billion people globally visited Ikea sites in 2017. Headquartered fiscally in Leiden, the Netherlands, Ikea has more than 400 stores in 49 countries. AP

Uber riders in Dubai can now select electric-powered Tesla

RIDE-HAILING service Uber yesterday began offering its customers in Dubai the option to ride in one of 50 new Tesla electric-powered vehicles — a stark contrast to the large gas-guzzling sedans and luxury sports cars that dominate the emirate's six-lane highways.

The U.S.-based ride-hailing app launched the UberONE option in partnership with Dubai Taxi Corporation, which added 50 Tesla Model X and Model S to its fleet last month. The vehicles, which Uber riders can select for a slightly higher fare, are equipped with self-driving components.

Dubai's transport authority is aiming to add another 150 Tesla vehicles to its fleet in 2018 and

AP PHOTO



2019, part of a wider push to have 25 percent of all journeys autonomous by 2030. Already, Dubai has the world's longest driverless metro network.

Uber's General Manager in the United Arab Emirates, Chris Free, said the partnership to introduce electric-powered rides for customers is line with the company's drive to provi-

de riders with "new and progressive experiences."

The forward-looking emirate of Dubai and the oil-rich seat of the federal government, Abu Dhabi, have embraced the push for electric-powered vehicles. In Dubai alone, there are electric vehicle power stations near the world's tallest skyscraper, the Burj Khalifa, and the Mi-

ddle East's largest mall, the Dubai Mall.

Tesla also opened a showroom in Dubai in February. The American electric car manufacturer's chief executive Elon Musk has said the company plans on investing millions of dollars across the United Arab Emirates to support building up an infrastructure for electric vehicles, despite facing competition from the region's subsidized lower gas prices.

There are currently more than two dozen Tesla chargers in the UAE, with another 50 planned.

Still, Teslas and other battery-operated models sold in the UAE, such as Renault's Twizy and Zoe, remain rare as soaring summer temperatures require drivers turn on air-conditioning. AP

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Central bank boss calls for reform amid congress countdown

PEOPLE'S Bank of China Governor Zhou Xiaochuan made a fresh call to open up the nation's financial sector, and warned that reform will become more difficult if the window of opportunity is missed.

In an interview published this week with the Chinese financial magazine *Caijing*, the nation's longest-serving central bank chief defined a "troika" of three drivers needed to further open up the economy, citing greater foreign trade and investment, a more market-based foreign-exchange rate mechanism with a "reasonable and balanced" yuan rate, and the relaxation of capital controls to allow use of the yuan to be gradually freed.

In timing his intervention just before China's Communist Party hunkers down for its once-in-five years leadership transition next week, Zhou is burnishing his position as an advocate of financial openness in the months before his expected retirement. While



People's Bank of China Governor Zhou Xiaochuan

China has ambitions to make its currency a global means of exchange, the world's second-largest economy still operates behind a barrier of exchange curbs and restrictions on foreign investment.

"There isn't a single country in the world that can achieve an open economy with strict foreign exchange controls," Zhou said in the wide-ran-

ging interview, which looked back at the country's financial and currency reforms over decades and marked one year since the International Monetary Fund added the yuan as the fifth component of its reserve-currency basket. "The time window is very important for reforms, an appropriate window must be seized. Once missed, the cost of reform will

be higher in the future."

Since taking the central bank's reins in December 2002, Zhou has steered the nation through global crises, overhauled monetary policy tools, ended a direct peg to the dollar, abolished a cap on deposit rates and overseen the elevation of the yuan to reserve-currency status.

"The main message of Zhou's interview is that China has passed the point of no return," said Raymond Yeung, chief economist for Greater China at Australia & New Zealand Banking Group Ltd. in Hong Kong. "After 40 years of opening-up policy, foreign participation in the financial industries has not been up to speed, requiring a bold reform to take it forward."

The yuan joined the dollar, euro, yen and pound in the IMF's Special Drawing Rights basket last year on Oct. 1, the anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic, marking a key accomplishment for Zhou, who has long

been seen as one of the nation's chief reformers.

But while that reflected rising economic clout after years of financial liberalization, the leaders of the world's second-largest economy soon clamped down on cross-border transactions to help prop up the weakening currency. Swift data show global transactions using yuan fell to 1.94 percent in August, down from a record 2.79 percent two years earlier.

With Zhou's comments raising the specter of imminent reform, bets on swings in the yuan ticked higher yesterday. One-month implied volatility jumped to the highest level since January and the currency also appreciated onshore.

But the PBOC boss' zeal for change doesn't necessarily signal that a shift will be forthcoming once the Communist Party seals its leadership transition, says Tom Orlik, chief Asia economist at Bloomberg Intelligence in Beijing.

The PBOC Governor argued that there's no ideal sequence for reform, but instead opportunities should be taken as they come - an approach demonstrated by his push for wider international use of the yuan during the global financial crisis. **Bloomberg**

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TAIWAN

Tsai vows to protect regional stability amid China tension

Ralph Jennings, Taipei

TAIWAN'S independence-leaning government will defend the self-governing island's freedoms and democratic system amid heightened tensions with rival China, President Tsai Ing-wen said yesterday.

In an annual National Day address, Tsai also repeated her positions that Taiwan would continue to extend "goodwill" to China, and would neither buckle under Beijing's pressure nor go down an adversarial path.

China cut off contact with Tsai's government shortly after her inauguration last year and has refused to renew contact until she endorses Beijing's view that Taiwan is a part of Chinese territory. Beijing threatens to use force to seize control of the island and has steadily increased diplomatic and economic pressure on Taipei over the last year and a half.

"We remain committed to maintaining peace and stability both in the Taiwan Strait and across the region," Tsai said, according to an official English translation released by her office.

"Meanwhile, we will continue to safeguard Taiwan's freedom, democracy and way of life, as well as ensure the Taiwanese people's right to decide our own future," she told a crowd of citizens and foreign dignitaries gathered outside the Presidential Office Building in central Taipei.

"And the right of the people of Taiwan to choose their own future will not be affected," she said.



AP PHOTO

Oct. 10 marks the 1911 founding of the Republic of China, which once ruled on the mainland but was forced to retreat to Taiwan in 1949 after Mao Zedong's Communists swept to power amid civil war against Chiang Kai-shek's Nationalists.

Under Tsai's Nationalist predecessor, Ma Ying-jeou, the sides signed a series of agreements promoting trade and tourism, while sidestepping tricky political issues. China insists that was only possible because Ma endorsed Beijing's "one-China principle," which it says underpins all dealings with the Taiwanese government bodies.

Tsai has called for a continuation of contacts and talks between the two sides, while setting aside their political differences.

"As I have stated on many occasions, our goodwill will not change, our commitments will not change, we will not revert to the old path of confrontation, and we will not bow to pressure," Tsai said in her speech. "This has been my consistent position on cross-strait relations."

While China had no immediate response to the speech, analyst Raymond Wu in Taipei said he doubted Beijing would be mollified.

"I'll guarantee you the official response [from China], whether it comes today or tomorrow, will be that 'no matter how you decorate it, you will have to go back to the 'one-China principle,'" said Wu, managing director of e-telligence, a political risk consultancy.

“And the right of the people of Taiwan to choose their own future will not be affected.”

TSAI ING-WEN
PRESIDENT, TAIWAN

Tsai, who has sought to bolster Taiwan's domestic arms industry, devoted much of her speech to the importance of military preparedness, along with moves to raise government efficiency and stimulate the island's high-tech economy.

"We must strengthen our military capabilities," she said. "Faced with the growing demands of modern warfare, we must ensure that our new-generation military focuses not on quantity, but quality."

In 2015, Tsai's Democratic Progressive Party said its defense policies would generate revenues of up to USD13.2 billion and create 8,000 jobs.

Tsai, who won election by a landslide in January last year, also pledged efforts to "find Taiwan's place in the new international order," including renewed outreach to countries in Southeast Asia that have drawn increasingly close to Beijing.

Following Panama's decision in June to break diplomatic relations in favor of China, Taiwan has just 20 remaining official allies, and there are constant fears that more could switch recognition to Beijing.

Tsai said Taiwan would step up economic relations with 10 Southeast Asian countries and another eight Asian-Pacific nations that her government considers prime economic development partners. Taiwan calls that mission its "New Southbound Policy."

To increase its influence around Asia, Taiwan is promoting Taiping Island, a disputed South China Sea islet, as a base for regional humanitarian aid, Tsai said. China and Vietnam also claim the tiny islet under Taiwan's control. Rescue crews on the island have previously helped Vietnamese sailors caught in storms.

Tsai said Taiwan plans to open a greenhouse gas monitoring station in the Pratas Islands, another South China Sea chain. She also said Taiwan has started helping Southeast Asian countries fight dengue fever. **AP**

UNITED NATIONS

Four ships banned from all ports for violating N. Korea sanctions

THE U.N. Security Council has banned all nations from allowing four ships that transported prohibited goods to and from North Korea to enter any port in their country.

Hugh Griffiths, head of the panel of experts investigating the implementation of U.N. sanctions against North Korea, announced the port bans at a briefing to U.N. member states yesterday [Macau time]. A North Korean diplomat atten-

ded the hour-long session.

Griffiths later told several reporters that "this is the first time in U.N. history" that the Security Council committee monitoring sanctions against Pyongyang has prohibited ships from entering all ports.

He identified the four cargo ships as the Petrel 8, Hao Fan 6, Tong San 2 and Jie Shun.

According to Marine-Traffic, a maritime database that monitors ves-

sels and their moments, Petrel 8 is registered in Comoros, Hao Fan 6 in St. Kitts and Nevis, and Tong San 2 in North Korea. It does not list the flag of Tong San 2 but said that on Oct. 3 it was in the Bohai Sea off north China.

Griffiths said the four ships were officially listed on Oct. 5 "for transporting prohibited goods," stressing that this was "swift action" by the sanctions committee following the Aug. 6

Security Council resolution that authorized port bans.

UN identified the four cargo ships as the Petrel 8, Hao Fan 6, Tong San 2 and Jie Shun

That resolution, which followed North Korea's first successful tests of intercontinental ballistic missiles capable of reaching the United States, also banned the country from exporting coal, iron, lead and seafood products. Those goods are estimated to be worth over USD1 billion — about one-third of the country's estimated \$3 billion in exports in 2016.

The Security Council unanimously approved more sanctions on Sept. 11, responding to North Korea's sixth and strongest nuclear test explosion on Sept. 3.

These latest sanctions ban North Korea from importing all natural gas liquids and condensates,

and cap its crude oil imports. They also prohibit all textile exports, ban all joint ventures and cooperative operations, and bars any country from authorizing new work permits for North Korean workers — key sources of hard currency for the northeast Asian nation.

Both resolutions are aimed at increasing economic pressure on the Democratic People's Republic of Korea — the country's official name — to return to negotiations on its nuclear and missile programs.

Griffiths told U.N. diplomats that the panel of experts is getting reports that the DPRK "is continuing its attempts to export coal" in violation of U.N. sanctions. **AP**

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Jim Gomez, Manila

Lawyer says Filipino doctor to fight US extradition, terror case

A Filipino doctor accused by U.S. authorities of plotting attacks in New York City, including in concert venues and Times Square, denies that he helped finance the disrupted plot and will fight a U.S. extradition request, his lawyer told The Associated Press yesterday.

Russell Salic donated money to charity but never to terrorists, renounces terrorism and has never held a gun in his life, lawyer Dalomilang Parahiman said in an interview.

U.S. prosecutors said last week that Salic was one of three Islamic State group sympathizers who plotted bombings and shootings to take place at New York City concert venues, subway stations and Times Square last year before U.S. agents thwarted the plot. A Canadian man arrested in the U.S. last year has pleaded guilty; the other man was arrested in Pakistan.

In May last year, Salic allegedly sent approximately USD423 from the Philippines to an undercover FBI agent posing as an Islamic extremist to help fund the planned New York attacks. Salic, who allegedly was known to fellow extremists as "Abu Khalid" or "the doctor," also informed the undercover agent

that he intended to continue sending additional money in support of the Islamic State group in the future, according to court documents made public in New York.

Salic allegedly told the undercover agent that his ultimate goal was to join the Islamic State group in Syria but that "it would be a great pleasure if we can slaughter" people in New York, the documents said.

"I only donated money for humanitarian consideration out of pity for the needy but I have never thought of giving funds to the ISIS," his lawyer quoted Salic as saying, using an acronym of the Islamic State group.

Once, Salic donated money to prevent students from losing their teacher, who has not been receiving his salary. An online posting about his good deed prompted many other people to seek the doctor's help, though he was only able to help about five nongovernment groups and people, including an Australian, Parahiman said.

The lawyer also said Salic told him his Facebook account was hacked, allowing the hacker chat with others while pretending to be the doctor. Salic decided to surrender to Manila's National Bureau of Investigation in April after being informed by Philippine airport officials that he was being sought for terrorism-linked charges.

Salic then had planned to travel to Hong Kong but did not proceed with the trip.

Chief State Counsel Ricardo Paras told AP the U.S. government sent an extradition request in May. The Philippine government filed the request before a Manila court on behalf of the U.S. and hearings on the request would start next week.

Aside from the U.S. charges, Salic is also facing separate criminal complaints for his alleged involvement in the abduction of six sawmill workers, two of whom were later beheaded, in the southern Philippine town of Butig in Lanao del Sur province in 2016, according to Philippine



Department of Justice Chief State Counsel Ricardo Paras shows an extradition request by the U.S. government for Filipino doctor Russell Salic

state prosecutors.

The kidnappings and beheadings have been blamed on the so-called Maute group, a band

of militants aligned with IS that was largely unknown until they led a siege of southern Marawi city in May. AP

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Vietnamese Doan Thi Huong, escorted by police as she leaves after the court hearing at Shah Alam court house, outside Kuala Lumpur

MALAYSIA

Chemist says Kim had 1.4 times lethal dosage of VX on face

Eileen Ng, Shah Alam

THE estranged half brother of North Korea's leader had about 1.4 times the lethal dosage of VX nerve agent on his face after he was attacked at a Malaysian airport, a government chemist testified yesterday.

VX was found on Kim Jong Nam's face, in his eye and in his blood plasma, Raja Subramaniam, who heads the Center of Chemical Weapons Analysis laboratory, said at the murder trial of two women accused of smearing the chemical weapon on Kim in the brazen assassination in February.

VX and related products were also detected on the clothes the

women were wearing on the day of the attack. On Monday the trial moved temporarily to a high-security laboratory so the judge, attorneys and the defendants could examine the clothing before it was officially accepted as evidence.

Resuming his testimony, Raja described VX's lethal potential. He said animal studies showed the lethal dosage is 0.142 milligrams per kilogram of body weight, and that 50 percent of the tested population will die when exposed to this dosage on their skin.

Raja estimated the concentration on Kim's facial skin was 0.2 milligram per kilogram of body weight.

Asked if this amount was enough to kill him, Raja said: "I can't give a direct answer on this. Based on concentrate estimate, it is about 1.4 times the lethal dosage."

He acknowledged that more of the poison might be needed to kill a heavier person but had no data on it.

He said the VX concentrate in Kim's eye was estimated at only 0.03 milligrams per kilogram of his body weight, but that correlated to VX penetrating faster through the eye than through the skin. VX was also found on the collar and sleeves of Kim's blazer, probably because he wiped his face on his blazer after the attack, Raja said.

The two defendants, Doan Thi Huong from Vietnam and Siti Aisyah from Indonesia, pleaded not guilty at the start of the trial last week to murder charges that carry a mandatory death sentence if they are convicted.

Raja's finding of VX on the women's clothing and on Huong's fingernails was the first evidence linking VX to the two suspects. Their attorneys have said the women were duped by suspected North Korean agents into believing they were playing a harmless prank for a hidden camera TV show.

Under cross-examination, Raja said it wasn't possible that the VX used to kill Kim was a "binary" concoction of two non-

fatal elements because high temperature would have been required to create VX.

He agreed with the defense's assertion that actual VX could have been smuggled into Malaysia or a non-fatal compound could have been smuggled into the country and mixed with sulfur to create VX in a clandestine laboratory.

One item where Raja detected VX was not officially admitted as evidence in the case: the blazer Kim was wearing when he was attacked. Raja testified it was not available because police told him to return Kim's personal belongings, including his blazer and bag, to North Korea.

Police officer Wan Azirul Nizam Che Wan Aziz, the chief investigating officer in the murder, told the court that an airport security video taken before the attack on Kim showed Huong softly wiping the face of another person at the same airport terminal, in what he described as a practice session for the attack on Kim. Huong then clasped her hands together and bowed her head as if she was apologizing before retreating slowly, he said.

However, a security video taken of the actual murder showed her being rough, "as if she was attacking" Kim, he said.

"To me, her action was quite aggressive," Wan Azirul said, adding that Huong then retreated in haste.

Prosecutor Wan Shaharuddin Wan Ladin told reporters that the earlier video was taken on Feb 11, two days before the murder. He said prosecutors will show videos to the court today of the two women carrying out the attack.

"We have an uphill battle in this case. We are the underdogs. They have the upper hand but we have our own strategy," he told reporters.

VX is banned by an international treaty as a weapon of mass destruction but is believed to be part of North Korea's chemical **AP**

JAPAN

Election campaign begins; PM Abe pledges stability

HUNDREDS of candidates took to the streets yesterday as the official 12-day campaigning period for Japan's Oct. 22 lower house election kicked off, with Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's ruling party facing challenges from regrouped opposition forces.

Up for grabs are 465 seats in the more powerful of Japan's two-chamber parliament.

Abe pledged his party's stable leadership as he sought voters' support, promising a tougher stan-

ce on North Korea, as well as social security reform to relieve burdens on younger generations in Japan's rapidly aging society.

"We should stay unwavering," Abe said. "It is the policies, rather than a boom or slogans, that can open the future."

As he did ahead of previous elections since taking office in late 2012, Abe traveled to Fukushima to appeal to voters affected by the nuclear disaster following the 2011 earthquake and tsunami in nor-

thern Japan.

Experts say Abe timed his call for an election when opposition parties were unprepared to solidify his grip within the party and extend his rule.

Abe's Liberal Democratic Party and its coalition partner, Komei, are expected to win a majority, though a surging new conservative group, the Party of Hope, led by Tokyo Gov. Yuriko Koike, and a liberal-leaning Constitutional Democratic Party are likely to take some seats away.

The two new groups were created in the process of breaking up what used to be the main opposition Democratic Party.

Constitutional Democratic Party leader Yukio Edano said Abe's nearly five years of pro-business policies have escalated Japan's social divide.

"We must regain decent lives," Edano said. "We are going to change politics into one that is based on the people's voices, not one that comes down from up above." **AP**



Prime Minister and leader of ruling Liberal Democratic Party Shinzo Abe waves to the crowd, during his party's election campaign in Fukushima yesterday

Ken Ritter & Michael Balsamo,
Las Vegas

USA

1,000 leads later, authorities still stumped by Vegas gunman

MORE than a week after the deadliest mass shooting in modern U.S. history, investigators are stumped about the key question: What led a 64-year-old high-stakes gambler to kill 58 people and wound hundreds of others at a country music concert?

It's an answer they may never find.

The FBI and Las Vegas police have sorted through more than a thousand leads and examined Stephen Paddock's politics, finances, any possible terrorist radicalization and his social behavior. By yesterday [Macau time] they had repeatedly searched his homes and interviewed his brother, girlfriend and others he's done business with.

But the typical investigative avenues that have helped uncover the motive in past shootings have yielded few clues about Paddock, a professional gambler who spent nearly every waking hour playing video poker at casinos. That closed-existence has covered the trail for investigators.

"This individual purposely hid his actions leading up to this event and it is difficult for us to find the answers to those actions," Clark County Sheriff Joe Lombardo said, conceding he's frustrated.

The FBI has brought in behavioral profilers as they continue questioning Paddock's live-in girlfriend, Marilou Danley, about his gun purchases and what she may have noticed about his behavior, Lombardo said.

Paddock had stockpiled 23 guns, a dozen of them modified to fire continuously like an automatic weapon inside his 32nd-floor Mandalay Bay hotel room, where he busted out two windows before opening fire on the crowd.

The sheriff changed the timeline of the shooting yesterday, explaining that a security guard in the hotel's hallway responding to a report of an open door heard drilling from Paddock's room. Paddock, who had installed three cameras to monitor the approach to his suite, opened fire through the door, spraying 200 shots down the hall and wounding the guard, who alerted other security officials.

A few minutes later, Paddock began the 10-minute attack on those on the ground.

Previously the sheriff had said the guard's arrival in the hallway may have caused Paddock to stop firing. He said he didn't know what prompted Paddock to end his deadly gunfire.

The gunman had shot at aviation fuel tanks, stocked his car with explosives and had personal protection gear as part of an escape plan, authorities said.

Paddock's life has remained somewhat of a mystery and most people who have interacted with him said nothing really stood out about him.

"It's his actual normalcy that

AP PHOTO



Clark County Sheriff Joe Lombardo discusses the Route 91 Harvest festival mass shooting at the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department headquarters

makes him a fascinating study," said David Gomez, a former FBI profiler.

The small group of people who knew Paddock well has said the one-time IRS agent and the son of a notorious bank robber did essentially nothing except gamble, sleep and travel between casinos. Investigators are sifting through every piece of Paddock's life from birth to death, Lombardo has said.

"Every piece of information we get is one more piece of the puzzle," the sheriff said.

Experts say it is extremely unusual to have so few clues more than a week after a mass shooting. In past mass killings or terrorist attacks, killers left notes, social media postings and information on a computer, or even phoned police.

It's Paddock's actual normalcy that makes him a fascinating study.

DAVID GOMEZ
FORMER FBI PROFILER

In this case, there was no suicide note, no manifesto, no evidence the gunman was motivated by any ideology and Paddock has no clear presence on social media, police said.

The FBI is working around-the-clock and a "comprehensive picture is being drawn as to the suspect's mental state," the sheriff said. Though at this point, they haven't found any one particular event in Paddock's life that triggered the shooting, he said.

Clark County Coroner John Fudenberg said this week an autopsy

was done but could not discuss results of whether it yielded any clues to Paddock's actions.

But even as investigators work to try to figure out what might've led Paddock to commit the shooting, there may never be a clear answer.

"Sometimes there isn't an understandable explanation for why someone commits a horrific crime," Gomez said.

What has become very clear to investigators is that Paddock meticulously planned the attack. He requested an upper-floor room overlooking the country music

festival and set up cameras inside and outside his room to watch for approaching officers.

After the shooting, police found a piece of paper on a nightstand in Paddock's hotel room that contained a series of numbers that helped him calculate a more precise aim, accounting for the trajectory of shots being fired from that height and the distance between his room and the concert, a federal official said. The official wasn't authorized to discuss the details of the ongoing investigation publicly and spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity.

THEY came quietly, in a steady stream looking for purses, wallets and cellphones. One person searched for a treasured wedding bracelet.

After the deadliest mass shooting in modern U.S. history, concertgoers and family members of those who attended a country music festival that ended in death for dozens of people sought yesterday [Macau time] to recover belongings left behind in panic.

Lawn chairs, baby strollers, cowboy hats, boots and thousands of other items were discarded as 22,000 people fled the concert venue while bullets flew from the Mandalay Bay hotel casino across Las Vegas Boulevard.

FBI investigators spent a week combing the crime scene, carefully cataloguing evidence and separating personal items before transporting them to an assistance center set up at the convention center.

"I can just tell you from taking a look at it, it's just thousands and thousands of items, many, many truckloads that have been picked up," Clark County Emergency Manager John Steinbeck said. "More than I would have ever

AP PHOTO



People start collecting items lost during shooting

expected."

People are being allowed to retrieve the belongings in groups based on where they were seated at the concert. The items available for retrieval are those that were found in an area west of the stage, which included Americans with Disabilities Act-compliant seating, as well as those recovered from inside and in front of the VIP tent and bleacher seating east of the stage.

The somber mood at the hall was occasionally deepened by weeping.

Volunteers filled out intake forms with detailed descriptions of lost items, and later, FBI victims'

In not leaving behind an easily accessible manifesto, Paddock defied societal expectations that mass murderers will want their disturbed motives known to the world, said Clint Van Zandt, a former FBI profiler and hostage negotiator.

"The reason you want to engage in an attack is you want to be promoting your extremist ideology — you want publicity," said Erroll Southers, director of homegrown violent extremism studies at the University of Southern California. "You want people to be afraid of what you believe and what you do."

But although most killers may want to take credit for their act, Paddock might have reveled in the riddle he's presented for investigators, Van Zandt said.

"He may even find some solace knowing that, 'I've left so few footprints, they're going to have a helluva time figuring out who I am.' And that, in his challenged mind, might bring him a terrible level of satisfaction," he said.

Despite the absence of easy answers, investigators may still be able to fill out a portrait of Paddock's mindset in the coming weeks, Van Zandt said.

"Instead of a eureka moment, I think what investigators are doing is they're putting an ounce of information at a time on the scale," he said. **AP**

assistance agents asked follow-up questions.

People received their belongings in re-sealable plastic bags. After identifying their items, some smiled and others hugged the FBI agents or Red Cross volunteers who helped them.

Those returning to claim their items first must pass through a vehicle checkpoint. Prominent signs indicate that no members of the media are allowed. Police SUVs are parked a few feet away from the entrance.

Officials restricted access to the assistance center to protect the privacy of victims and those traumatized by the shooting.

what's ON



BALLADE – ANIMAMIX CONTEMPORARY ART
TIME: 10am-7pm, last admission at 6:30pm (Closed on Mondays, open on public holidays)
UNTIL: October 15, 2017
VENUE: Macao Museum of Art, Av. Xian Xing Hai,
NAPE
ADMISSION: Free
ENQUIRIES: (853) 8791 9814

JAO TSUNG-I ACADEMY
TIME: 10am-6pm daily (Last admission at 5:30pm; closed on Mondays, open on public holidays)
ADDRESS: No. 95 C-D, Avenida do Conselheiro Ferreira de Almeida
ADMISSION: Free
ENQUIRIES: (853) 2852 2523 & 8399 6699

MACAU ILLUSTRATED - EXHIBITION OF CITY PLANS AND ARCHITECTURAL DRAWINGS FROM THE MACAU ARCHIVES' COLLECTION
TIME: 10am-6pm (Closed on Mondays)
UNTIL: December 3, 2017
VENUE: Archives of Macau
ADMISSION: Free
ENQUIRIES: (853) 2859 2919

MONKEY KING
TIME: 4pm & 8pm daily (Except on Thursdays)
VENUE: Sands Cotai Theatre
ADMISSION: MOP420, MOP480, MOP680, MOP880, MOP1080
COTAI TICKETING: (853) 2882 8818
KONG SENG TICKETING: (853) 2855 5555

A SCULPTURE - YANG XIAO HUA REPRESENTING WOMEN THROUGH MAM COLLECTION – 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY
TIME: 10am-7pm, last admission at 6:30pm (Closed on Mondays, open on public holidays)
UNTIL: December 31, 2017
VENUE: Macao Museum of Art, Av. Xian Xing Hai,
NAPE
ADMISSION: Free
ENQUIRIES: (853) 8791 9814

CERAMICS AND SEALS OF 108 HEROES OF SHUI HU LEGEND FROM THE MAM COLLECTION
TIME: 10am-7pm, last admission at 6:30pm (Closed on Mondays, open on public holidays)
UNTIL: November 19, 2017
VENUE: Macao Museum of Art, Av. Xian Xing Hai,
NAPE
ADMISSION: Free
ENQUIRIES: (853) 8791 9814

Offbeat

SHARK-SUIT WEARER RUNS AFOUL OF AUSTRIA'S 'BURQA BAN' LAW

An Austrian law that forbids any kind of full-face covering including Islamic veils has claimed an unusual victim — a man wearing a shark suit.

Police say they issued a citation this week after the man — part of a street advertising campaign for the McShark computer chain stores — refused several requests to take off his shark head.

In effect this month, most full face coverings are prohibited in public in Austria, including off-slope ski masks, surgical masks outside hospitals and party masks on the street. Popularly known as the "burqa ban," the law is mostly seen as directed at the clothing worn by some ultra-conservative Muslim women.

Violations carry a possible fine of 150 euros (nearly USD180). Only a handful of citations have been issued.

TV canal macau



13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	RTPi Live
15:00	Miscellaneous
16:20	Zig Zag
16:45	FIFA World Cup 2018 - Portugal x Switzerland (Repeated)
18:30	FIFA World Cup 2018 Qualifiers - Highlights (Repeated)
18:50	Brazilian Mini Serie (Repeated)
19:15	TDM Interview (Repeated)
19:50	Soap Opera
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:00	Non-daily Portuguese News
21:30	Brazilian Mini Serie
22:00	AFC Asian Cup 2019 Qualifiers: India x Macau (Live)
00:05	TDM News
00:40	FIFA World Cup Qualifiers - Highlights
01:05	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)
01:40	RTPi Live

cinema



CINETEATRO

05 Oct - 11 Oct



THE MOUNTAIN BETWEEN US

ROOM 1
2:30, 4:30, 7:30, 9:30 pm
Director: Hany Abu-Assad
Starring: Kate Winslet, Idris Elba
Language: English (Chinese)
Duration: 103 min



BLADE RUNNER 2049

ROOM 2
2:30, 6:15, 9:15 pm
Director: Denis Villeneuve
Starring: Ryan Gosling, Harrison Ford, Jared Leto
Language: English (Chinese)
Duration: 163min



THE LEGO NINJAGO MOVIE

ROOM 3
2:15, 4:30, 7:30 pm
Director: Charlie Bean
Starring: Jackie Chan, Dave Franco, Fred Armisen
Language: Chinese
Duration: 101 min

FIREWORKS, SHOULD WE SEE IT FROM THE SIDE OR THE BOTTOM

ROOM 3
7:45, 9:30 pm
Director: Akiuki Shimbo
Starring: Suzu Hirose, Masaki Suga, Mamoru Miyano
Language: Japanese (Chinese & English)
Duration: 90min

this day in history



1976 CHINA'S 'GANG OF FOUR' ARRESTED

The new chairman of China's Communist Party, Hua Guofeng, has ordered the arrest of four leading radicals in Peking.

It is a sign that China is changing political direction following the death last month of Chairman Mao Zedong.

The so-called Gang of Four is led by Chairman Mao's widow Jian Qing, and includes Wang Hongwen, Yao Wenyuan, and Zhang Chunqiao.

They were active proponents of the Cultural Revolution instigated ten years ago by Chairman Mao.

This was a political and ideological campaign aimed at reviving revolutionary fervour and resulted in enormous social, economic and political upheaval.

Ideological cleansing began with attacks by young Red Guards on so-called "intellectuals" to remove "bourgeois" influences. It is believed millions were forced into manual labour, and tens of thousands were executed.

Mr Zhang rose up the ranks during the first year of the Cultural Revolution in Shanghai and was until recently chief political commissar of the armed forces.

Mr Wang had less power but was regarded a wonderboy - he rose to number three in the party in 1973 while still only in his late thirties, relatively young by Chinese standards.

Mr Yao, also a member of the Politburo standing committee, is regarded as dedicated, if not fanatical, in his belief in Maoist ideals of social development.

Jian Qing, formerly an actress, became Chairman Mao's third wife in 1939. She is regarded as a radical and active proponent of Maoist principles but in the years before his death, had led an independent life from her husband.

News of the arrests have not been confirmed by China's officials but it is believed the four were attempting a coup in the wake of the death of Chairman Mao on 9 September.

Some reports say Jian Qing was in the process of forging Chairman Mao's will placing her as Mao's successor, when she and her associates were surrounded by Hua Guofeng's personal bodyguards and placed under house arrest.

They are being questioned about their campaign against former prime minister Zhou Enlai, who died in January.

Commentators say the arrests might lead to a liberalisation of foreign, cultural and economic policy - the Times newspaper editorial calls this latest move "the most potent sign of a new political direction" following 27 years of Maoist dogma.

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

The Gang of Four were kept under house arrest and, following a propaganda campaign against them, were expelled from the Communist Party in July 1977.

By the end of 1978 reformist Deng Xiaoping had effectively wrested power from Hua Guofeng - although he did not assume the title of premier of China and chair of the CCP until 1982.

On 20 November 1980 all members of the Gang of Four were put on trial charged with attempting to overthrow the government and establish a hardline Communist dictatorship.

They were sentenced to death, later commuted to long-term imprisonment. After a period of political indoctrination Jian Qing was released in 1991 and died soon after - some reports say she committed suicide.

Wang Hongwen died in 1992, Zhang Chunqiao died in April 2005 and Yao Wenyuan died in December 2005.

YOUR STARS

Aries Mar. 21-Apr. 19 Your love cutting to the chase, even when you're just chatting...

Taurus April 20-May 20 You don't usually have that much of a temper. It takes a lot to rile you...

Gemini May 21-Jun. 21 A love interest or partner has something on their mind that they're not talking about...

Cancer Jun. 22-Jul. 22 You're a natural born nurturer and caregiver, so when you've got the people you love under your roof...

Leo Jul. 23-Aug. 22 You don't mind working overtime, but you're certainly no workaholic. You just do whatever it takes to get the job done well...

Virgo Aug. 23-Sept. 22 There's nothing quite as dangerous as boredom. It can cause you to behave in quite erratic ways...

Libra Sep.23-Oct. 22 Anyone who tries to fast-talk (or sweet-talk) you by using surface blather or meaningless chatter had better be prepared...

Scorpio Oct. 23 - Nov. 21 Making it through today's weirdness may seem tough, but if anyone is up for the challenge - or any challenge, really - it's you...

Sagittarius Nov. 22-Dec. 21 You've never afraid to dig into hard work, but you've been doing more than your share lately...

Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 19 There's only one cure for any problem today: direct action. Unfortunately, you've almost certainly been feeling stuck lately...

Aquarius Jan. 20-Feb. 18 Whether you realize it or not, you've decided that your current situation just isn't working...

Pisces Feb.19-Mar. 20 You've just broken out of a metaphorical cell of some kind. It sure wasn't easy, but now that you've decided to stay out here in the sunshine...

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

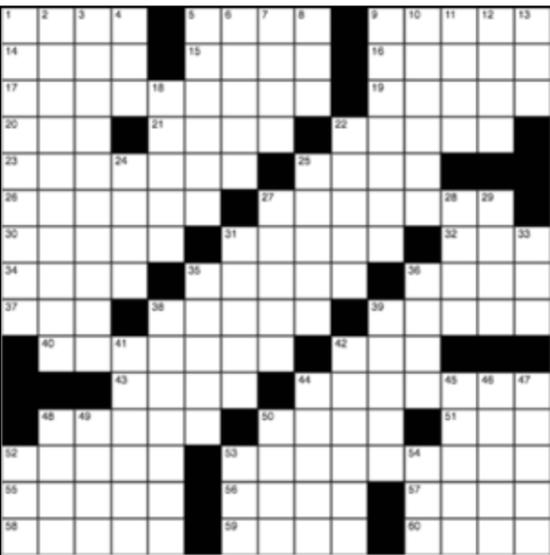
Sudoku puzzles categorized by difficulty: Easy, Easy+, Medium, and Hard. Each category contains a 9x9 grid with some numbers pre-filled.

WEATHER

Weather forecast table with columns for MIN, MAX, and CONDITION. It lists weather for various cities in CHINA and the WORLD.

CROSSWORDS

CROSSWORDS ACROSS: 1- Puts in stitches; 5- Weeps; 9- First name in photography; 14- Eastern nanny; 15- Suffix with buck; 16- The Wreck of the Mary... DOWN: 1- Gross irreverence; 2- Castrate; 3- Garbage; 4- Female pronoun...



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



Advertisement for JML property (卓雅物業) featuring the JML logo, a QR code, and text: 'Scan QR Code to Download the JML app - Find the right property for you - See property location and details - Find your JML contact and request viewing'.

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185 ps and 7-speed +/- CVT transmission seal, reduce the fuel consumption by 22.3% to 13.7km/L. Monitored by the omniscient 360° multi-view camera system and Smart Parking Assist System. The 300mm ultra low platform design provide convenience for kids and elderly.

The All New **ODYSSEY**



Photos shown here may be different from Macau local car photos.

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Honda Macau





Syrian players [in red] react to their loss to Australia in their Soccer World Cup qualifying match in Sydney yesterday

FOOTBALL

Syria's World Cup hopes end in extra-time loss to Australia

Keiran Smith, Sydney

WAR-TORN Syria's hopes of qualifying for next year's World Cup have ended in a 2-1 extra-time loss to Australia.

Tim Cahill again delivered for his country with two goals in a comeback win in an Asian playoff yesterday that ended moments after Omar al-Soma hit the post with a free kick that could have instead earned Syria the place in the final stage of qualifying.

Syria's improbable run toward a first World Cup attracted global attention, which heightened after it salvaged a 1-1 draw in the first leg last week at its adopted home ground in Malaysia. Syria's chances grew dramatically after it took a 1-0 lead in the return match in Sydney in the 6th minute, but Cahill's goals in the 13th minute and in extra time secured Australia's place in a playoff next month against the fourth-place team from North and Central America.

"I think we deserved to get through, a fantastic effort by the

players," Australia coach Ange Postecoglou said, before praising the composure of his veteran forward. "Timmy is Timmy, that's why he's a great Australian sportsman."

Qualifying in CONCACAF concludes today [Macau time], with the possibility that the United States — in third spot ahead of its last game — could still finish in the playoff spot.

"Whatever is needed they keep delivering. I have no doubt that in these games in November they will do what is needed," Postecoglou said of his Socceroos.

The Syrian squad arrived in Sydney as the underdog despite a remarkable campaign in the group stage, when it sealed third place in its group with a late equalizer in Tehran against the already-qualified Iran.

This time it went right to the wire again despite Syria being reduced to 10 men in the first half of extra time and with the game still locked at 1-1.

The Australians dominated the start of last week's match in Malaysia and were expecting to do the same again, but Syria got a perfect start when Mark Milli-

gan was lost control of the ball in midfield and al-Soma finished off the counter-attack with precision in the 6th minute.

It was al-Soma's second goal against Australia in five days after he won and converted a penalty kick in the 85th minute of the first leg.

But Australia soon leveled when Matt Leckie delivered a perfect cross to find captain Cahill at the far post, and the veteran attacker made no mistake from close range.

Star playmaker Firas al-Khatib came off the bench on the hour mark as Syria coach Ayman al-Hakim looked to create the goal-scoring chance.

Al-Khatib made an immediate impact, almost finding al-Soma in a scoring position after a well-timed run through Australia's defense.

As the game became stretched, Tomi Rogic thought he had scored for Australia in the 70th — latching on to Leckie's inside pass — but Alma produced a stunning save low to his left to deny the midfielder. Off the resulting corner, Rogic then curled his shot inches wide of the post to continue to the hosts' frustration.

Syria created a late chance after al-Soma combined with al-Khatib but the substitute lost his footing.

Rogic again found himself in a good shooting position in the 89th minute but his left strike deflected narrowly wide as the match went to extra time.

Syria had a serious setback when Mahmoud Almawas was sent off in the 94th after earning a second yellow card for a crude tackle on Robbie Kruse.

It took another incisive run from Cahill, powering home his 50th international goal from Kruse's cross to finally give Australia the edge, but Syria almost produced an epic upset win in the last minute as al-Soma's powerful free kick hit the post with keeper Mat Ryan beaten. **AP**

CRICKET

Sri Lanka hands Pakistan first test series defeat in UAE

DILRUWAN Perera grabbed 5-98 as the offspinner anchored Sri Lanka to a 68-run victory against Pakistan in the second test and clinched the two-match series 2-0 yesterday.

Chasing 317 to win, Asad Shafiq scored a valiant 112 before Pakistan was bowled out for 248 inside the first session on day five.

Sri Lanka won the first test by 21 runs at Abu Dhabi and handed Pakistan its first test series loss

in the United Arab Emirates since 2010, when the gulf country became its home away from home.

Sarfraz Ahmed scored a fighting 68, but when Perera induced a top edge of the Pakistan captain's mistimed sweep and broke the 173-run stand with Shafiq, Pakistan lost its last five wickets for 23 runs.

Resuming at the overnight 198-5, Pakistan started its pursuit positively on the fifth morning with Ahmed and Shafiq attacking

to lift the score to 225-5. However, they rode their luck.

Ahmed survived a stumping on 65, and in the same over, Shafiq reached his 11th century, off 151 balls. The next ball, Shafiq was dropped at first slip, and on 103 he successfully overturned an lbw decision against him.

Seamer Suranga Lakmal finally broke through Shafiq's defenses when he found an outside edge of the second new ball. Shafiq hit 10 boundaries in his attacking knock off 176 balls.

Left-arm spinner Rangana Herath wrapped up Pakistan's innings when last man Wahab Riaz was caught by captain Dinesh Chandimal.

The teams begin a five-match one-day international series, starting on Friday. That will be followed by three Twenty20s, with the last T20 scheduled to be played at Lahore. **AP**



Sri Lanka's captain Dinesh Chandimal celebrates after he catches the final ball during their last day at Second Test cricket match against Pakistan in Dubai yesterday

opinion

Macau Matters

Richard Whitfield



EMERGENCY BUTTON APP

Over Summer I spent two months living in the family home with my father in Australia. While there he explained the red emergency button on his old-fashioned traditional mobile phone - at any time in the case of a medical or other emergency he can simply press the button and the government emergency services and family members are contacted. My siblings organized this for him after my mother died because he now normally lives alone in the big house they shared for 60 years and which he will never leave.

Recently, I went for a long walk along the coast of Coloane Island and about halfway through it I realized that I had bitten off more than I could chew and was wishing that I had an emergency button on my mobile phone! (There are many excellent walks in Coloane, but they need lots, lots more seating - so you can stop, rest and enjoy the views. But this is a story for another day.)

Something like the RedPanicButton.com smartphone App would be really useful in Macau. With the App installed you simply "press" one button to send an sms and email to your emergency contacts. The message includes a Google maps link showing your current GPS location. This seems to be an excellent idea for children and elderly relatives, indeed, for everybody. The Australian government emergency services have also developed an App (Emergency+) so you can easily call police, the fire brigade, ambulance or other emergency services by pressing simple buttons on your smartphone.

I would happily pay MOP10/month for a good Macau Emergency App - I now pay this much for a virtually useless voice mailbox. Useful features of such an App might include:

- SMS/email/phone call directly to emergency services by pressing a single button with an operator at the other end answering the calls who speaks Cantonese, Mandarin and English; with secondary SMS/email messages going to my personalized contact list
- GPS location passed to emergency services - my wife once called a Macau ambulance for me but could not explain the location and we listened to the siren for some time as the ambulance hunted around looking for us
- Important medical information about me passed to emergency services - blood type, allergies, current medications, special needs, etc
- (Ideally), like Uber, a map showing the real-time location of the responding emergency services personnel

Perhaps the Macau government emergency services can do a contract with a smaller Macau based software company to develop such an App and thus improve our emergency services. All Macau residents could then be encouraged to install and use the App in case of emergency. Just once, I would really like to see Macau leading the way internationally in improving some aspect of the local quality of life. (I would be more than happy to consult with them to make sure a good service was developed.)

Tourists visiting Macau could even be encouraged to download and install this App so that they can easily call for emergency assistance - tourists often have particular difficulties in such situations.

Of course, such an App is no use if you do not have a smartphone, but people without one are becoming increasingly rare, and in the future I believe that virtually everybody from the age of about 5 upwards will carry one.

THE CATALAN PARLIAMENT NOT ACTING ON VOTE RESULTS

An official at the Catalan parliament says its governing board has "taken notice" of the results in last week's disputed independence referendum - but that it won't put the results through normal parliamentary procedures, at least for now.

The pro-secession Catalan government has said the results of the Oct. 1 referendum - showing a 90 percent victory for those favoring independence with a turnout of 43 percent of eligible voters - are valid.

The Spanish government says the vote was illegal.

The parliamentary official, who was speaking on condition of anonymity, said parliament's governing board will not take any action beyond acknowledging the vote results submitted last Friday by the regional government.

Catalans are awaiting an appearance by their regional leader in parliament with expectations divided between those who want to see the birth of a new republic and others opposed to such a move or fearing a backlash from the Spanish central authorities.

Smoke, wildfires damage California's famed wine country

WORKERS in Northern California's renowned wine country picked through charred debris and plotted what to do with pricey grapes after wildfires swept through lush vineyards, destroying at least two wineries and damaging many others.

The wind-driven wildfires came as Napa and Sonoma counties were finishing highly anticipated harvests of wine grapes. Monday normally would have found workers picking and processing the ripe grapes to make chardonnay and other wines.

Instead, melted and blackened wine bottles decorated the ruined Signorello Estate winery in Napa Valley. People at Paradise Ridge Winery in Sonoma County posted photos of debris and haze, saying they were "heartbroken to share the news" that the winery had burned.

A maintenance worker watched and hoped for the best yesterday as flames crept down a hillside by the Gundlach Bundschu Winery.

"It's right behind the main office. It's working its way down the hillside. What can I say? It's slowly working its way in," Tom Willis said.

The Napa Valley Vintners, a trade association, said that most wineries were closed because of power outages, evacuation orders and em-



Vineyards are lined up as a wildfire burns on a mountaintop in Napa, California

ployees who couldn't get to work. The organization said it did not have firm numbers on wineries burned or how the smoke might affect this year's harvest or the industry in general. But it said most grapes had already been picked.

About 12 percent of grapes grown in California are in Sonoma, Napa and surrounding counties, said Anita Oberholster, a cooperative extension specialist in enology at the University of California, Davis. But they are the highest value grapes, leading to the highest value wines, she said.

It's hard to predict correctly, but she said chances are good this year's crop won't carry much smoke damage.

"Even if wines now were heavily affected by smoke, it doesn't carry over to the next season, only in the fruit itself," she said.

Gloria Ferrer, Ravenswood and Kenwood were among well-known wineries closed for the day because of the fi-

res, according to social media posts. Chateau Montelena Winery, which helped put California on the global wine map when it won a French wine-tasting competition in 1976, escaped damage.

Wineries that escaped damage grappled with the lack of power, which they need to process the grapes.

"Some of our growers did pick for us last night. So we had to unload the fruit into our cold barrel room and wait until tomorrow to process it," said Alisa Jacobson, vice president of winemaking at Joel Gott Wines.

"I think we'll be OK, but it's not an ideal situation. But more importantly, all our employees seem to be doing OK," she said.

She said she was stunned by the speed of the fires, falling asleep around 10 p.m. Sunday only to wake during the night to the smell of smoke. By 3 a.m. people were being evacuated. **AP**

THE DECISIVE MOMENT



Hymn controversy. Hong Kong football fans turn their back during the Chinese national anthem at the AFC Asian Cup 2019 qualification soccer match against Malaysia, in Hong Kong yesterday.

Station	Air quality
Roadside	30-50 Good
High Density Residential Area	30-50 Good
Ambient	30-50 Good

SOURCE: DSI/MG

WORLD BRIEFS



PHILIPPINES-AUSTRALIA

Two Australian navy vessels arrived in the Philippines yesterday for a goodwill visit as Australia seeks an increased security presence and greater influence in the region. The ships are part of the Australian defense force joint task group Indo-Pacific Endeavor 2017.

INDIA

Four rebels and an army soldier were killed in three gunbattles in Indian-controlled Kashmir, officials said yesterday. Police said that three rebels were killed overnight as fighting broke out after government forces cordoned off the forested village of Kellar in southern Kashmir.



IRAN

The head of Iran's nuclear agency warned the United States yesterday against undermining the 2015 nuclear deal, saying international nonproliferation efforts as well as Washington's international standing would suffer as a result.

TURKEY-IRAQ

Iraq's Oil Ministry has ordered the restoration of an oil pipeline from the city of Kirkuk to Turkey that would bypass the country's northern Kurdish region in the wake of the area's pro-independence referendum.



FRANCE

While yesterday's demonstration in Paris over public sector job cuts and salary freezes was largely peaceful, a small group of protesters skirmished with police at the end of a march to the Place de la Nation in eastern Paris. Police were using tear gas and batons to push back protesters throwing projectiles.

COLOMBIA

The United Nations has denounced Colombia's anti-narcotics police for firing on a humanitarian mission it led to investigate the murder of several coca growers during clashes with security forces.