

VISION FOR BORDER GATE FUTURE

The government has published a report detailing its plans for the future of the Border Gate

P8



ACTIVISTS GUILTY OF CONTEMPT

A Hong Kong court convicted 20 activists, including prominent student leader Joshua Wong

P11



JAPAN'S NEW TOURIST HOT SPOT

A tourism boom has been an unexpected help for Osaka and the surrounding Kansai region

P20

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"THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN' "

3
days to go

TYPHOON KHANUN

Eighty taxi drivers caught overcharging

P3



WORLD BRIEFS



SOMALIA The death toll from the most powerful bomb blast witnessed in Somalia's capital rose to 231 with more than 275 injured, making it the deadliest single attack ever in this Horn of Africa nation, a senator said yesterday. Doctors struggled to assist horrifically wounded victims, many burned beyond recognition. "The hospital is overwhelmed by both dead and wounded," said Dr. Mohamed Yusuf, the director of Medina hospital. "This is really horrendous, unlike any other time in the past." **More on p14**

PHILIPPINES President Rodrigo Duterte said he has asked his finance secretary to reject an unspecified British financial aid package and that he's ready to cut diplomatic ties with all European countries critical of his deadly anti-drug crackdown. **More on p13**

IRAQ-IRAN Kurdish media says the three official border crossings between Iraq's Kurdish region and Iran have been closed. But Iran's Foreign Ministry says there has been no change to the status of the border.

More on backpage

Teaching at UM could be incompatible with being lawmaker

P7 MDT REPORT

Renato Marques

CULTURAL WEEK OF CHINA AND PORTUGUESE-SPEAKING COUNTRIES

Chefs present their takes on Lusophone cuisine

THE 20th Lusofonia Festival is offering its usual diverse range of activities as part of the Cultural Week of China and Portuguese-Speaking Countries.

Organized by the Permanent Secretariat of the Forum for Economic and Trade Co-operation between China and Portuguese-speaking Countries (Forum Macau), this year's festival has invited a group of chefs to present various culinary delicacies in Macau.

From October 14 to 18, chefs from several countries and regions will present the best of their respective homelands' cuisine at Macau Tower's Tromba Rija Restaurant.

Chef Marlon Lobo – who hails from Goa, India – will prepare beef olives with a special twist: traditional Goan gravy prepared with cumin, black pepper and other “secret” spices. He talked to the Times about the importance of showcasing Goan cuisine and the food he has brought to Macau; besides traditional dishes and desserts, he will also present a few modern Goan delicacies.

“I’m going to have a few takes on modern Goan cuisine too. For example, instead of the traditional potato croquette that usually has beef, I’ll be doing some using Goan chorizo and dates [which] make it spicy, sweet and crispy all at the same time,” he said, adding that there will be a few novelties to taste.

The chef has no doubts about the importance of displaying Goan cuisine in Macau.

“Goa is the smallest state in India, literally a speck on the map, and our cuisine stands [out] from the rest of the country precisely because of the Portuguese influence. We definitely feel that now is the time to start evolving as the whole world is evolving in food,” Lobo said, adding that sharing and educating people about new dishes is important for the

RENATO MARQUES



Gonçalo Caetano, Portugal



Marlon Lobo, Goa



Ângela Ferreira, Cape Verde

preservation of tradition as well as the modernization of the cuisine.

Sharing the same kitchen was Cape Verde representative, Chef Ângela Ferreira, cooking a Feijoada of “Congo” Beans, “Xerém” (a traditional corn flour-based dish) as well as a dessert that mixes salty and sweet, using Cape Verde’s “Queijo da Terra” (cheese) and a papaya jam.

Ferreira said she had chosen these traditional dishes to “represent my country in the best way possible.” She also noted that she felt it was important for her to bring traditional dishes, “so visitors [in Macau] can know more of our culture” – an approach that she thinks might even attract

some of them to visit the country in future.

“People nowadays want to experiment and to know a lot of new tastes... and I think they will want to visit our country [through our gastronomy].”

Gonçalo Caetano, Resident Chef at Tromba Rija, said, “the adaptation is very easy as all of them speak Portuguese – with the exception of Chef Lobo who can’t speak much but that can understand – and also the ingredients and procedures are very similar and familiar.”

Caetano said that all the cuisines on display bear elements of their shared Portuguese origins, which is “then adapted [with] local features from the countries

and places where they were developed so it is simple [to reproduce here].”

Chef Caetano sees in this event an opportunity to share and develop new ideas, as he says that something new always comes from these exchanges.

“We chefs are always looking for new flavors and possible [ways of] matching [ingredients and ideas] for new dishes,” he said.

Representing Macau is Chef Florita Alves, who promises to bring guests some of the “most wanted” Macanese dishes, such as the “Minchi,” “Xilicotes,” “Capela” and others.

“What we want [is] to have a little display of what is significant from Macanese cuisine, bringing

the classics,” Alves said.

Alves added that there have been a few small adjustments to the dishes, especially to ingredients that are “a bit weird” to some taste buds, such as “bali-chão” – a shrimp paste that smells sharp and pungent to some.

Chef Alves will be using it in a traditional “Lacassá” soup, a popular Christmas dish.

The gastronomic showcase is one of the many important aspects of the Cultural Week celebration. It will be extended to the Taipa Houses-Museum until October 22, so that members of the public have more opportunities to try delicacies from various Portuguese-speaking countries.

Outward direct investment decreases 31pct in 2016

OUTWARD direct investment flows of Macau enterprises recorded a value of negative MOP7.89 billion in 2016, due to loan repayments made by overseas companies of gaming enterprises.

This resulted in a net direct investment inflow of MOP19.70 billion, the Statistics and Census Service

(DSEC) stated.

As at the end of 2016, stock of outward direct investment decreased by 31.6 percent year-on-year to MOP17.13 billion.

Investment in Hong Kong and mainland China amounted to MOP6.5 billion and MOP5.61 billion respectively. For the latter category, invest-

ment was mainly concentrated in Guangdong Province (MOP3.91 billion), with Zhuhai taking up 62.8 percent (MOP2.45 billion).

Outward direct investment income earned by Macau enterprises dropped by 57.1 percent year-on-year to MOP359 million, with gaming en-

terprises’ income falling by 33.1 percent to MOP316 million.

Outward direct investment stock for gaming shrank by 51.7 percent year-on-year to MOP9.58 billion.

Inward direct investment flows increased by 31.9 percent year-on-year to MOP11.81 billion in 2016,

as some banks and gaming enterprises retained profits for reinvestment.

Analyzed by industry, direct investment inflows were recorded in banks and securities (MOP4.91 billion), insurance (MOP3.59 billion) and construction (MOP2.58 billion),

Analyzed by territories

of direct investors’ usual residence, inward direct investment flows came mainly from Hong Kong (MOP9.06 billion), mainland China (MOP4.87 billion) and the British Virgin Islands (MOP2.52 billion). The Cayman Islands continued to record a negative inflow of MOP10.04 billion.

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Clube Militar to hold 'Lusophone Painters Exhibition'

CLUBE Militar de Macau will hold a Lusophone Painters Exhibition from October 18 to November 5.

The exhibition aims to help deepen cultural relations between China and the Portuguese-speaking countries, according to a statement by Clube Militar.

Nine contemporary plastic artists from the Portuguese-speaking countries – including Angola, Brazil, Cape Verde, Guinea Bissau and Macau – will each produce 27 original works that illustrate a wide range of styles and themes. These works are designed to underline the di-

versity and creativity of the Portuguese-speaking visual arts community.

The exhibition is part of the annual "Pontes de Encontro" program, an initiative of the Military Club. Its pilot program featured a Portuguese painting exhibition.

"By its very nature, this exhibition reveals multiple creative approaches and themes, bringing together artists of different sensibilities and techniques," the statement said.

This program is supported by the Macao Foundation, the Macau Gaming Society, Sam Lei Group and Commander Ng Fok.

PAULO BARBOSA



SEVERE WEATHER

Typhoon Khanun injures seven in Macau

TYPHOON Khanun passed into the South China Sea over the weekend, initially on a trajectory headed for the Pearl River Estuary area, before banking West toward Leizhou Peninsula in Guangdong province.

As the typhoon edged closer to the MSAR, weather authorities in the city hoisted incrementally higher warning signals. By 10 a.m. yesterday morning, Signal No.8 was in effect and would last until 9 p.m. that same day.

Seven people were reportedly transported to hospital after they were wounded during the extreme weather phenomenon. One of the cases requires hospitalization. According to the Civil

Protection Action Center (COPC), a total of 67 incidents had been reported as of 9 p.m. last night. They included two cases of damage to buildings and falling objects, 40 cases of broken or suspended building components (e.g. windows and metal plates), four cases of scaffold suspension, 10 cases of fallen trees and antennas and two cases of obstruction or damage to the sewage system.

More seriously however, there were

108 taxi infractions were recorded

four reports of flooding in the city, 2 reports of fire and seven wounded people were transported to the hospital for medical treatment.

Reports of flooding in parts of the low-lying areas of Macau were confirmed by the COPC yesterday. The affected areas included Visconde Paço de Arcos Street between Ponte 16 and Auto-Silo Pak Kong as well as the area surrounding the Temple of the Bazaar on Rua Cinco De Outubro.

In a statement released yesterday by the COPC, the entity urged "all residents and tourists to move to safe locations as quickly as possible, avoiding the low-lying areas and those near the sea. [...] The population is also asked to be attentive to the information broadcast by radio and television."

Other activities and services were predictably disrupted yesterday due to Typhoon Khanun. They included civil service examinations, which had been previously postponed after Typhoon Hato breached the city on August 23.

Police authorities were also deployed yesterday to investigate rumors of illegal transportation services being offered to tourists at the Outer Harbor Ferry Terminal.

A total of 108 taxi infractions were recorded, including 80 cases of overcharging, 19 cases of refusing a passenger and nine cases of illegal taxis.

Shortly prior to the hoisting of Signal No.8 yesterday morning, chief executive Chui Sai On convened a meeting at the COPC to be briefed on the response measures to the typhoon. The COPC had been fully activated just two hours before signal number 8 was lifted. DB

AD

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

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, oompah 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 – 8pm 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: (853) 8802 2666

Question for readers:
How many homemade pretzels have been served by MGM MACAU since 2009?
Please email the answer to: oktoberfest2017@macaudailytimes.com along with your name and contact details.



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Micro-enterprise sees stable business growth with Sands China

A local micro-enterprise has seen a nearly 20 percent increase in its annual sales turnover following its contracts with Sands China.

Ocean Pride Food Company is one of the many micro-enterprises that participated in Sands China's Local Supplier Support Program in 2015 – a program in line with the government's initiative to “buy local.”

As the program demonstrates Sands China's commitment to supporting local enterprises as part of the company's corporate social responsibility efforts, Ocean Pride Food has seen a steady growth in its sales after its continuous partnership with Sands China.

The local enterprise currently supplies frozen commodities to the integrated resort including meat and seafood, along with dairy products.

Stanley Lo, director of Ocean Pride Food remarked that Sands China quickly placed an order totaling some MOP600,000 after learning about the enterprise and its food hygiene processes.

Stanley initially planned to supply local restaurants yet bravely targeted gaming operators when Sands China launched its SME program.

“Our target was to supply some restaurants. Luckily I saw Sands China's SME programs on the website so I joined,” Lo recalled.

The director is also grateful to the local government for helping SMEs launch businesses.

“When we started the company, we depended on local restaurants and supermarkets to stabilize our daily operations. Luckily, Sands China's SME program helps us build up the business more easily,” he said.

Along with government policy, the Sands China's SME program has contributed to the development of local SMEs including ‘Made in Macao’ products and young entrepreneurs. These elements are part of SCL's supplier relationship management strategy.

Ocean Pride Food started its partnership with Sands China after it submitted competitive product pricing to the gaming operator.

Thus, according to Lo, the company saw stable growth in the firm's annual sales once the partnership commenced.

Lo also noted that each contract is valid for some 6 to 12 months, which has resulted in being able to present much more competitive pricing to the gaming operator as it enabled the firm to gain longer term volume discounts from its own suppliers.

“Luckily the contracts are not only for one month so I will have this [client] to provide to for a period of time,” Lo re-



Dr Wilfred Wong, President of SCL, poses with Stanley Lo, director of Ocean Pride Food, who is pictured (right) at work



marked.

“Due to these contracts, we also get the best price from our suppliers which also adds to our profitability,” the director continued.

Meanwhile, the micro company - currently employing six staff - noted how beneficial the SME program is for Sands China as it contributed to the growth of its stakeholders.

According to Lo, as Sands China prioritizes local SMEs, it assists them in becoming more competitive in the local market.

“With the SME program, there is a higher chance of staying in business for a longer time because the procurement team [of Sands China] prioritizes local SMEs,” Lo shared.

“Since Sands China prioritizes the SMEs, it also helped us to cooperate with other hotels and gaming operators, and gave us a higher credibility,” he added.

Meanwhile the entrepreneur shared that he has participated in the new Sands China Procurement Academy in a bid to develop his business knowledge and skills to assist him in gaining experience.

Joining the program, local entrepreneurs can increase their capacity for working with

large-scale international clients such as Sands China, as it provides tailor-made practical training modules to local SMEs including micro-enterprises, young entrepreneurs, and “Made-in-Macao” enterprises.

Since Sands China prioritizes SMEs, it has also helped us to cooperate with other hotels and gaming operators, and gave us higher credibility.

STANLEY LO
DIRECTOR

“Sands China's F.I.T. program helps me improve my knowledge on purchasing and how to communicate with

Sands China and other hotels,” said the entrepreneur, noting that it will be both beneficial for him and his company's overall growth.

The director acknowledged that Sands China has given his company the credibility which has opened up opportunities to supply other gaming operators. Lo remarked that he is keen to join other programs that Sands China may initiate with local suppliers.

With the expansion of the business, Ocean Pride Food has recently acquired a larger office and will move to its new site soon, recognizing Sands China for its continuous support of local SMEs and young entrepreneurs including Lo.

“I will join a food safety program or other programs for the company [Sands China] to learn about how our company is doing and [set] safety measures for our food business,” said the entrepreneur.

Lo cited his belief that the knowledge and other skills he is learning through the SME program can be used as a base-point to supply other gaming operators and hotels, allowing the company to further boost its local sales.

Further, the director also said that he is interested in joining

Sands China Young Entrepreneur Advance Payment Program.

The program is being created to help local young entrepreneurs who have limited financial capacity to run their business.

It targets young Macau entrepreneurs with a staff of 15 or fewer, providing them with a 30 percent advance payment on purchase orders.

As a young entrepreneur, Lo acknowledged that working capital has always been an issue, particularly when its clients place orders in bulk.

Thus the financial support of Sands China would assist the micro-enterprise in easing its cash flow, allowing Ocean Pride Food to continually acquire clients without being troubled by its capital situation.

With the move to a larger office, Lo is optimistic that they will be able to expand their product range and would also be able to sell processed goods.

Despite market competition, the entrepreneur is quietly confident that its partnership with Sands China will contribute to its continued expansion.

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Manhattan F Unit, High Floor

(Ref: 16090612)
680 sq.ft. HKD 20,000

Wonderfully bright and modern property in the desirable complex of Manhattan. Three good size bedrooms all with plenty of wardrobe space. Master bedroom has en suite bathroom. Open plan living dining area over looks North East over the South China Sea to HK. Furnished throughout.



Coloane, 4 Storey Commercial Building

(Ref: 17040646)
4,003 sq.ft. HKD 1,68,000

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



Cheoc Van, Coloane

(Ref: 17060651)
6,222 sq.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



Houston Court, B Unit

(Ref: 17090657)
850 sq.ft. HKD 12,800

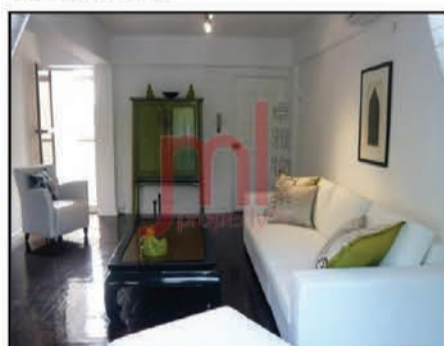
Situated in the heart of Coloane village. The apartment has a modern open plan kitchen, dining and living area. Great size double master bedroom with en suite shower room and masses of storage. Simply furnished throughout with stylish furniture. The kitchen comes fully fitted with good quality built in appliances



Va Nam, Taipa Village

(Ref: 17085531)
680 sq.ft. HKD 4.42M
Rate: HKD 6,500

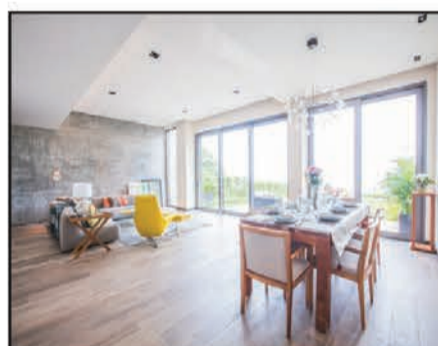
Top floor apartment Taipa Village. Fully renovated 4 years ago from a small two bedroom property to a large one bedroom. The bedroom has ample space for king bed and lots of storage, two fabulous windows giving lots of natural light into the room. Lovely shower room with walk in shower



Coloane Village (Investment Property) - Coloane

(Ref: 16095490)
664 sq.ft. HKD 4.252M
Rate: HKD 6,404

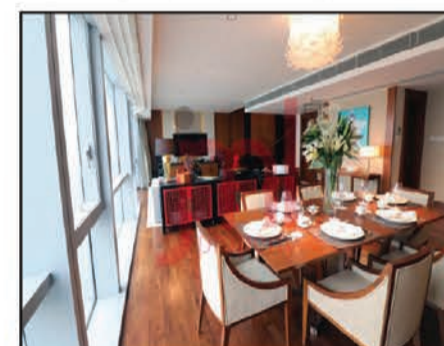
Located in the quiet village of Coloane. Renovated 3 years ago this apartment needs no further investment. 2 bedrooms; a double & single size. Shower room with built in cabinets. Fully fitted kitchen. Open views. Close to Coloane bus stop, village square, cafes



Check Van House, Coloane

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

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.



Mandarin Residences Serviced Duplex

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

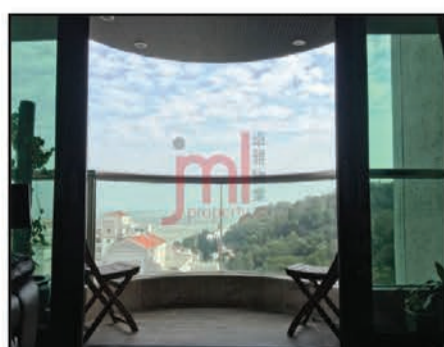
The property comes tastefully designed with elegant, high-grade furnishing and floor-to-ceiling windows that provides a breath-taking panoramic view of the sea and Macau. The modern galley kitchen on the first floor comes fully-fitted with high-grade



Old Taipa, Nam Long (I Unit)

(Ref: 16095500)
515 sq.ft. HKD 3.8M
Rate: HKD 7,378

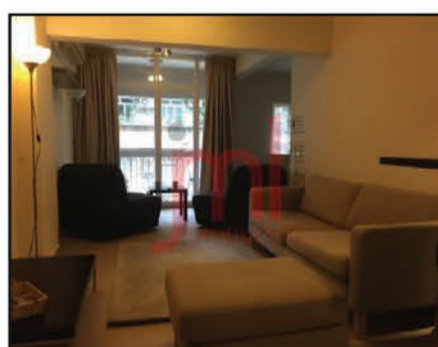
Unique property located at the beginning of old Taipa village. A great investment property which was renovated in 2015, making the original two small bedrooms into one spacious bright room bedroom. The kitchen has also been opened up and is now just off the living area, giving the apartment a lofty feeling. The kitchen is small however well equipped with most appliances built in.



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

(Ref: 17025509)
1,663 sq.ft. HKD 8.3M
Rate: HKD 4,990

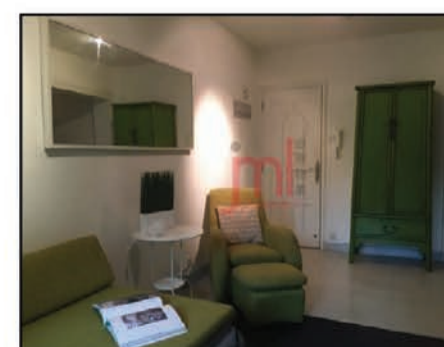
Located in the clean, beautiful island of Coloane, this stunning 3 bedroom, 2 bath apartment has incredible sea views from the living room and master bedroom, and green mountain views from all other rooms. The apartment has been renovated to a high standard with modern bathrooms etc



Nam Long, Taipa Village

(Ref: 17085534)
691 sq.ft. HKD 4.485M
Rate: HKD 6,490

Lovely apartment on the second floor of a three storey building in Taipa Village. Renovated 10 years ago from a two bedroom property to a great size one bedroom apartment, well maintained and managed by JML of the last ten years, historical maintenance data available on request. The bedroom has ample space for double bed and plenty of storage.



Va Fat, Taipa Village

(Ref: 17085533)
638 sq.ft. HKD 4.25M
Rate: HKD 6,661

Lovely apartment on the third floor of a five storey building in Taipa Village. Renovated 3 years ago the apartment has two good size bedrooms and separate walk in shower room. The apartment has been well maintained and managed by JML of the last eight years, historical maintenance data available on request. The main bedroom has ample space for double bed and plenty of storage.

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Paulo Barbosa

Teaching at UM could be incompatible with being lawmaker

THE new legislature is set to begin today with several new faces at the Legislative Assembly, including scholars at the University of Macau (UM).

The fact that some of those scholars intend to continue teaching at the public university while being lawmakers is raising doubts among legal experts contacted by the Times. While some say that the practice could be illegal due to the Electoral Law system of incompatibilities and other legal diplomas, others see no illegality in it.

The professors turned lawmakers who will start their tender at the AL today include the directly elected Agnes Lam, acting director of the Center for Macau Studies of the Department of Communication, according to the UM website.

Chief Executive Chui Sai On appointed three professors from the UM – Davis Fong (Associate Professor in International Resort Management and Director of the Institute for the Study of Commercial Gaming), Iau Ten Pio (Assistant Dean of Faculty of Law and Coordinator of the Bachelor of Law in Chinese Language Program) and Lao Chi Ngai (Research Manager of the Centre for Macau Studies).

According to the system of incompatibilities, lawmakers cannot simultaneously be “workers of the public administration of the Macau Special Administrative Region, individuals appointed by the chief executive to full-time jobs in public institutions, including autonomous funds and services [...] and to societies where the MSAR is a shareholder.”

Questioned by the Times, António Katchi, legal expert and lecturer at the Macau Polytechnic Institute, says that when the system of incompatibilities references workers of the MSAR’s public administration, the definition could include UM scholars.

Katchi, however, points out that there are more “restrictive” interpretations of this term. Workers hired through an individual work contract, such as the UM staff, may not be included.

However, he admitted that on analysis of the Statue of the Workers of the Public Administration and the AL Electoral



Law, there is little reason for UM staff to be exempted – the Electoral Law clearly states that the appointment as lawmaker ceases “any type of contract” by public administration workers.

I don't see any problem in the simultaneous exercise of the roles of scholar and lawmaker, be he appointed or not.

SÉRGIO DE ALMEIDA CORREIA

Katchi therefore reasons that the term “workers of the public administration,” used in the context of the Electoral Law, includes workers hired through an individual work contract. Otherwise, while some workers of the public administration would lose their

labor attachment upon becoming lawmakers, the ones with individual contracts “would not only not lose it – becoming placed in an advantageous position – but they could still accumulate their original work with their work as lawmakers.”

“This favoritism of the workers with individual contracts could be considered a privilege, breaching the principle of equality,” Katchi says, adding that there is “injustice” in cases where a lawmaker loses his previous job because of the provisions of the incompatibilities system. “I think that the employer should be obliged by law to keep the employment link.”

The Times also contacted another legal expert who wished to remain anonymous but tended to agree with the view that the UM scholars cannot simultaneously be lawmakers.

The expert said that a case that would raise more doubts is when the UM scholars in question are simultaneously heads of department.

However, lawyer Sérgio de Almeida Correia sees no incompatibility in this practice, nor does the local administration. In the previous legislature, lawmaker Gabriel Tong became the dean of the UM’s Faculty of Law in 2015.

“In any country in the world, this problem does not occur. Similarly, it is also normal that the only work that can be performed by magistrates is teaching work and there is usually no doubt regarding their independence and impartiality regarding their juridical work,” Sérgio de Almeida Correia says.

This favoritism toward workers with individual contracts could be considered a privilege, breaching the principle of equality.

ANTÓNIO KATCHI

“We can admit that the subordination of the UM to the CE [who is the University of Macau chancellor] can take away some of the autonomy they should have. Be-

sides, the interference of the executive power in the UM is great and there are talks of pressure targeting scholars, in most cases secretly, even to pick research themes and titles to organize conferences and talks.”

However, Sérgio de Almeida Correia says that given the small size of the MSAR, “there are not many qualified persons” to be lawmakers. In the case of the appointed lawmakers, he adds, “their independence would always be at stake given they way they are picked.”

“Personally, I don’t see any problem in the simultaneous exercise of the roles of scholar and lawmaker, be he appointed or not. I don’t see any incompatibility. However, a good or bad performance will depend on the way he [the lawmaker] fulfills his term and in the distance kept in relation to who appoints him.”

The lawyer also mentions the Teachers Statute, article 13 of which admits that a teacher can breach the exclusivity of his contract to enroll in activities of recognized public interest.

“I think the role of lawmaker can be included [in this category], which would solve any incompatibility issue.”

Slight increase in real estate management services

INFORMATION from the Statistics and Census Service (DSEC) indicated that a total of 217 establishments engaged in real estate management services in 2016, an increase of eight establishments year-on-year.

The number of persons engaged rose by 5.4 percent to 5,217; of these,

62 percent (3,236) were property caretakers or doorkeepers.

Industry income amounted to MOP1.39 billion, up by 8 percent year-on-year. Expenditure increased by 9.5 percent to MOP1.12 billion, of which employee compensation (MOP 589 million) and operating expenses (MOP 417 million)

rose by 14.3 percent and 2.1 percent respectively.

Gross value added, which measures the sectoral contribution to the economy, grew by 10.2 percent year-on-year to MOP 850 million. Gross surplus went up by 2.1 percent to MOP260 million.

Meanwhile, gross fixed capital formation tumb-

led by 94.3 percent year-on-year to MOP13.08 million, due to a reduction of property acquisition.

Still according to DSEC, there were 44 establishments providing security services in 2016, up by five year-on-year. Receipts amounted to MOP1.86 billion, up by 9.1 percent year-on-year.

A total of 176 establishments were operating in cleaning services in 2016, an increase of 13 year-on-year. Industry receipts increased by 13.5 percent year-on-year to MOP1.11 billion.

The number of establishments operating in advertising services increased to 639, up by 38 year-on-

year. Industry receipts decreased by 14.5 percent year-on-year to MOP 784 million.

Sales of services rendered by some advertising establishments for conferences, exhibitions and other events grew by 31.6 percent to MOP313 million (39.9 percent of the total).

GOLF

Hend leads a parade of former champions to try Macao Open glory

SCOTT Hend, the 2013 and 2015 Macao Open champion, will lead a group of seven former winners to challenge defending champion Pavit Tangkamolprasert for the 2017 crown. Taking place at the Macao Golf & Country Club between October 19 and 22, the tournament will once again field 144 of the world's most seasoned professionals and the region's upcoming amateur talents.

The picturesque venue has provided a happy hunting ground for Scott Hend. The Australian star, who was also runner-up in 2014, may potentially become the first golfer ever to hold aloft the Macao Open trophy for a third time. At age 44, Hend currently shares the distinction as two-time winner of the tournament with Chinese golfing legend Zhang Lian-wei, who won in 2001 and 2002.

"I am excited to return to Macao next week to try and win it for a third time. I have some wonderful memories at the Macao Golf & Country Club, where the course suits my game very well. I have had a solid season and a strong summer so I am quietly confident of my chances to regain my title," Hend



Scott Hend

said. "The Macao Open is a popular event because we are looked after very well there. Many of the players in the field are regulars who know the course very well so it will be a tough but satisfying one to win."

Zhang, who has played in every Macao Open since its inaugural event in 1998 except one because of an injury, is the first from his country to win both the European Tour and the European Senior Tour. The Chinese golf pioneer confirmed his participation last week alongside fellow countryman Liang

Wen-Chong.

Hend and Zhang will be joined by five former champions of the Macao Open - Gaganjeet Bhullar from India (2012), Chan Yih-shin from Taiwan (2011), Thaworn Wiratchant from Thailand (2009), David Gleeson from Australia (2008), and Jason Knutzon from the U.S. (2004).

The four-day tournament will continue to be jointly organized by Sports Bureau and the Golf Association of Macau. The tournament is sanctioned by the Asian Tour.

Gov't announces vision for Border Gate future

THE government has published a report detailing its plans for the future of the Border Gate, which will see the area transformed into a tourism, commercial and transportation hub. The plan, which follows five years of study from the government, is likely to take at least a decade to construct and cost in excess of MOP4 billion.

The plan suggests reclaiming land currently in use by the Police Tactical Intervention Unit and the Workers Stadium adjacent to the current site of the Border Gate. These would then be excavated to allow for deep, underground structures and facilities, and finally linked with each

other. Two specific proposals exist for the construction works, with one taking about a year longer to complete for an additional MOP200 million, public broadcaster TDM reported.

The Border Gate is the most popular conduit for visitor arrivals traveling to Macau. In August, around 1.41 million people - half of all visitors that month - entered Macau via the Border Gate.

The underground bus terminal is currently closed to allow public departments to carry out renovation works, which were badly affected by Typhoon Hato. It is expected to partially reopen in the second quarter of 2019. **DB**

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Joseph Pisani, New York

TOY INDUSTRY

New characters give 'Thomas & Friends' a jolt of girl power

GIRLS are finally getting a bigger role in Thomas the Tank Engine's boy-dominated world. Mattel, the toy maker that owns the Thomas brand, will add two female main characters to the "Thomas & Friends" TV series next year. Nia and Rebecca will appear in each episode and help fix the gender imbalance at the shed where Thomas and the other main characters live: Three of the seven engines at Tidmouth Sheds will be female, up from just one.

The gender shakeup is just one of the many changes coming to the 30-year-old show. Thomas visits real countries for the first time; the animation will move at a faster pace; there's a new theme song; the characters will crack more jokes; and the narrator will be gone, replaced by the voice of Thomas.

It's all an effort to shake Thomas' stodgy image, compete with flashier preschool shows and fight a drop in toy sales. It's a big risk for the franchise, which got its start as a book series more than 70 years ago. To avoid any missteps, Mattel consulted with parents, young fans and even the United Nations. In all, the company spent two years working on the makeover.

"It's such a huge shift," said Kate Schlomann, a vice president of branding at Mattel. "We want to make sure we're here another 70 years."

Nia, an engine from Kenya, will make her debut next summer in the movie "Big World! Big Adventures!" and then join the TV series in the fall. Experts at the U.N. advised producers with Nia's name (it means "purpose" in Swahili) and helped select the African pattern that runs across Nia's body.

"When you're designing an engine from any country, you want to be spot on," said Schlomann.

Rebecca's origins are less exotic. She'll come from the Mainland near Thomas' fictional island of Sodor. She'll first appear



on screens in the TV series next fall. Henry and Edward will get the boot from Tidmouth Sheds to make room for the two new girls, but the boy engines will still appear on the show from time to time. (Mattel refers to the characters as girls and boys, even though they are engines.) Producers wanted Nia and Rebecca to have starring roles, and they'll join Emily, who has been the only girl engine among the crew of main characters for about 13 years. Other girls in Thomas' universe have had smaller roles.

"We have added new female characters before, but I think, with a show like Thomas, they tend to fall into the background after initial introduction," said Ian McCue, a "Thomas & Friends" producer. "What we wanted to do here was really bring these two female characters to the forefront."

Thomas will meet other female characters, such as an airplane in

Australia. And in India, there's a female train controller in charge of the railway, another first for the show, Mattel said.

“Gender equality is something that's really important to us in this new series and going forward.”

MICAELA WINTER
PRODUCER

"Gender equality is something that's really important to us in this new series and going forward," said producer Micaela Winter.

Viewership of "Thomas & Friends" is evenly split between girls and boys, Mattel said, and girls are more likely than boys to watch every week. But the brand hasn't catered to them. Girls will be in more Thomas toy commercials and on the box. Nia toys will be on sale next fall after the movie release, and Rebecca toys will follow in 2019. More T-shirts, pajamas and bed sheets will be aimed at girls.

"I think it's actually giving them what they want," said Schlomann.

Mattel has made changes to its other toy brands in an attempt to be more inclusive and appeal to today's parents. Barbie and Ken dolls now come in different skin colors, body shapes and hair types. And the first boy doll was added to the American Girl lineup earlier this year.

Mattel took control of "Thomas & Friends" five years ago, after it bought production company Hit

Entertainment for \$680 million. Since then, it has tried to put its stamp on the brand. Engines from India and China, for example, rode into Sodor last year to add some diversity and appeal to viewers who live in the 110 countries that watch "Thomas & Friends."

But Thomas has big competition from shows on Disney Junior and Nick Jr., whose characters are also in toy stores with Thomas. Mattel said in July that second-quarter sales at its Fisher-Price unit, which Thomas is a part of, slipped 3 percent compared to the same period the year before. "Our Thomas business remains challenged," said Mattel Inc. Chief Operating Officer Richard Dickson in a July conference call with investors. But he said there were a couple of new opportunities for the franchise, including girls.

As for Thomas, Mattel said it was fans who wanted the blue engine to get out of Sodor more often.

"One was a little boy saying, 'Trains can go anywhere, but Thomas never goes anywhere,'" said McCue. "That really got us thinking."

Thomas will spend half of the 26 TV episodes on railroads in other countries, such as Australia and China. Producers and writers met with the U.N., which has an office that works with movie and TV productions, to help represent different cultures, such as when Thomas takes part in the Chinese New Year.

"It's really about learning about the world and bringing the world into the living room for a preschooler," said Schlomann. "Which we haven't done before." **AP**

IMF panel says 'no room for complacency' on global growth

Scott Lanman, Eric Martin

THE IMF's steering committee warned that global growth is at risk of faltering in coming years given uncomfortably low inflation and rising geopolitical risks, injecting a cautious note into an otherwise improving economic outlook.

"The recovery is not yet complete, with inflation below target in most advanced economies, and potential growth remains

weak in many countries," the International Monetary and Financial Committee said in a communique released Saturday in Washington. "Near-term risks are broadly balanced, but there is no room for complacency because medium-term economic risks are tilted to the downside and geopolitical tensions are rising."

The panel didn't specify which geopolitical risks it was most concerned about. In the past few

weeks the U.S. and North Korea have engaged in shrill rhetoric about Pyongyang's nuclear weapons. And on Friday, U.S. President Donald Trump took steps to confront Iran and renegotiate a 2015 multinational accord to curb Tehran's nuclear program. At the same time, the U.K. is in the middle of negotiations on the terms of its exit from the EU.

The panel nonetheless described the global outlook as strengthening,

with rising investment, industrial output and confidence - conditions that make it ripe for nations to "tackle key policy challenges" and enact policies that boost the speed limit of their economies.

"It's when the sun is shining that you need to fix the roof," IMF Managing Director Christine Lagarde said at a press briefing to discuss the statement.

The IMF panel released the statement during the annual meetings of the

IMF and World Bank. The IMFC is the IMF's top advisory panel, and is composed of 24 ministers and central bankers from nations including the U.S., China, Germany, Japan and France.

The panel also reiterated previous stances on currencies, such as saying that "we will refrain from competitive devaluations, and will not target our exchange rates for competitive purposes." In addition, "flexible exchange rates, where feasible, can serve as a shock absorber," the IMFC said.

The IMFC repeated that it's "working to strengthen" the contribution of trade to economies,

echoing its April statement as well as one made by Group of 20 leaders in Germany in July. Those reflect efforts to accommodate the positions of the administration on trade; a year ago, the IMFC called in its missive to "resist all forms of protectionism."

Asked about ongoing negotiations to overhaul the North American Free Trade Agreement, Lagarde said trade is a "very powerful engine" for growth, innovation and productivity. It's also legitimate to take a look at revisiting such longstanding agreements, and hopefully it can result in a "win win," she said. **Bloomberg**

Philanthropist commits USD1.5 billion to conservation

Nikki Ekstein

ON Saturday, He Qiaonv announced in Monaco the first step in a USD1.5 billion plan that may represent the largest-ever personal philanthropic commitment to wildlife conservation.

The number isn't the only thing that's surprising about the announcement. The source might equally raise eyebrows: The donation isn't coming from a known Western conservationist like Paul Allen, but from a landscape planner-turned-environmental steward who's based in Beijing.

Madame He represents a new wave of self-made Chinese philanthropists unafraid to spend; her seven-year pledge stands at more than a third of her current \$3.6 billion net worth, according to the Bloomberg Billionaires Index.

"[China is] pivoting to a new narrative in record speed," said Tom Kaplan, founder and chairman of Panthera, the leading wild cat conservation organization and He's first international partner. "Their [global] reputation has suffered by being viewed as the scourge of the elephant and tiger—and they want to reverse this."

As part of their partnership, He's namesake Beijing Qiaonv Foundation (BQF) is pledging \$20 million toward Chinese snow leopard and other projects at Panthera—significant for an organization whose annual operating budget hovers around \$14 million. And doubly significant given that threatened cats in China had yet to be put under such a bright spotlight as, say, lions in Africa.

With the emergence of Chinese leadership in this area, Kaplan says Qiaonv's pledge stands to change the face of cat conservation forever. "One day this event may be seen as a watershed."

In China, domestic private conservation work still requires the collaboration of the government, as private landownership—and therefore, privately managed na-

ture reserves—are not allowed under Chinese law. But under Xi Jinping's leadership, these private-public partnerships are becoming possible.

Xi has emerged as an unlikely environmental leader after the U.S. dropped out of the Paris climate accord. Skeptics may think of this as rhetoric aimed at filling a political gap, but he has already made moves by banning the illegal ivory trade by the end of 2017, putting forth a long-term proposal to eliminate gasoline-powered cars, and creating the country's first tiger and Amur leopard reserve near the Russian border. It's one of 30 to 50 new conservation zones the government has promised by 2020.

All this stands in sharp contrast with other realities in China: Combating air pollution, the most visible sign of China's environmental issues, continues to be a work in progress. And the country is still a major proponent of coal, despite cuts to its overall energy consumption.

But change is underway. "When the Chinese government decides to do something, they do it," Kathryn Sheridan, CEO of a Brussels-based sustainability communications consultancy, told Reuters. "It's not the talking shop that we see in Europe."

Kaplan likens this moment in Chinese history to 19th century America, when the U.S. was making the move from rural to industrial society. "The water and air were being polluted in the rush for economic growth, and wildlife was obliterated—we nearly destroyed our own national symbol, the bald eagle," he explained. "No nation has a monopoly on virtue, but it is also true that we can learn from history. The Chinese are experts at precisely that."

Madame He agrees that the collaboration of China's ultra-rich with their government marks a turning point for the country. "The public awareness of environmental pro-



He Qiaonv

tection is gradually increasing in China," she told Bloomberg.

Madame He's affinity for the environment is what drove her into landscaping and resource management in the first place. But her vision for how she could contribute toward the greater good of the planet has evolved over time.

"At the very beginning, the dream of our business was to build 100 of the most beautiful parks in 100 cities of China," said He of Beijing Orient Landscape Co., the company she built from scratch and continues to oversee as chairman. What she found along the way were polluted water systems and depleted urban ecology.

In 2012 she founded Beijing Qiaonv Foundation with the goal of resolving some of the world's most pressing environmental issues. Among her priorities were establishing key conservation areas within her home country; identifying native species in the greatest need of protection; and lobbying the government, partnering with international organizations, and supporting domestic NGOs to create meaningful change that could impact global biodiversity and carbon dioxide levels. As He put it, "We believe that protecting China is to protect the whole Earth."

Private investments like hers matter. As we see happening now in the U.S., official Chinese priorities could easily shift, unraveling

or putting a halt to progress that was quickly made. Partnerships with global players such as Kaplan and Bill Gates, who has worked with He through the China Global Philanthropy Institute (CGPI), mean that He's fundraising commitments are being given extra measures of accountability. Just as important, they're also being given a proven toolkit with which to succeed.

With 79 projects already underway in 26 provinces—including everything from Asian elephant conservation to wetland protection—BQF didn't need international validation or support to start making a difference. But at last year's East-West Sustainability Summit in Honolulu, which was convened in partnership with CGPI, He shared a table with some of the world's biggest players in conservation, including Nicole Mollo, the executive director of environmental philanthropy at the Recanati-Kaplan Foundation, the Panthera founder's private organization.

"Things [in China] are changing under the global radar," said Mollo, who went on to broker the partnership between Panthera and BQF, helping to establish both the financial scope and environmental goals that the partnership would support. "They have the will and frankly they have the resources—what they are missing is a middle tier of expertise. They don't

know what it means to manage a protected area, to train a ranger, or to work with communities and livestock."

That's why the partnership with Panthera marks a meaningful shift in He's work: With the organization's help, BQF will create and staff two protected snow leopard reserves that will serve as pilot areas and can be scaled over time, while simultaneously underwriting a wildlife management training program for Chinese conservationists. Then she'll turn her attention to building hundreds of urban classrooms where "hundreds of millions of people can visit and learn" about conservation.

Even if He only accomplishes a quarter of what she sets out to do with her \$1.5 billion pledge, she stands to make a massive impact.

In some ways, she already has. While the \$20 million contribution to Panthera matches the commitments made by several global figureheads—Mohammed bin Zayed, the crown prince of Abu Dhabi—a 10-figure pledge is "unheard of." That's according to Mollo, who has facilitated some of the largest recorded contributions to conservation organizations over her years at the African Parks Foundation and the Wildlife Conservation Society.

She said the largest donation she's seen on record was a \$65 million commitment over 10 years; pledges in the hundreds of millions, like Gates's recent \$5 billion pledge to his health care and education-focused foundation, are generally made to universities, hospitals, or cultural institutions with naming opportunities attached to them. In the conservation world? It's not something she'd ever seen before. To wit, a spokesperson for the National Audubon Society confirmed that the organization's recent "large donations" have rarely reached the seven-figure level—and its largest contributions have come from groups like the MacArthur Foundation rather than individuals.

Added Mollo, "I would be the first one to bash China for what they've done wrong, but that strategy will not get us anywhere. And when they put their money where their mouth is, it is our job to support them." **Bloomberg**

BMW looks to bring Mini production to China for the 1st time

BMW AG is in early talks with China's biggest maker of sport utility vehicles about the possible production of Mini cars in the country, potentially marking the brand's first manufacturing project outside of Europe.

Great Wall Motor Co. and BMW agreed in February to discuss cooperating on

Mini, though the discussions are still preliminary and the companies haven't entered a joint venture, the Chinese automaker said Friday in a Hong Kong stock exchange statement. Propelling Mini's growth in the country, where the U.K. nameplate has sold 25,000 vehicles this year, "is only possible with a local part-

ner," BMW said in an email without specifying Great Wall by name.

BMW already builds cars of its namesake brand in China in a venture with Brilliance China Automotive Holdings Ltd. BMW and Mini deliveries in the country rose 7.1 percent from a year earlier in September, according to figures the

Munich-based automaker released Friday, more than double the Chinese market's 3.3 percent growth for the month.

The discussions between Baoding, China-based Great Wall and BMW are focused on building the small car for export, people familiar with the discussions said Thursday. The German company

said Friday that its worldwide growth strategy for Mini "includes diversification of partnerships and new cooperation models," without specifying production targets.

The carmaker pledged in July to build electric models at its factory in Oxford, England, and any plans to expand in China don't affect the brand's commitment to Britain, BMW said.

Auto manufacturers have been concerned about how the U.K.'s move to exit the European Union will affect any tariffs on parts they

import and vehicles they export, as government talks have snagged on terms of the country's departure. The U.K. auto market shrank 9.3 percent in September, the first decline in the key sales month since 2011, in part because of uncertainty over Brexit.

Founded by billionaire Chairman Wei Jianjun, Great Wall has become China's leading SUV producer by offering consumers spacious models at prices cheaper than sedans from the likes of Volkswagen AG and General Motors. **Bloomberg**

Yi-Ling Liu

HONG KONG

Twenty activists guilty of contempt in 2014 protests

A Hong Kong court on Friday convicted 20 activists, including prominent student leader Joshua Wong, for defying authorities trying to clear a protest site during massive 2014 pro-democracy demonstrations in the Chinese-controlled city.

A High Court judge found the group guilty of criminal contempt of court for failing to comply with a court order to vacate a protest camp on a busy Kowloon street as they blocked major thoroughfares during the 79-day "Umbrella Movement" protests.

Wong, who has already been imprisoned in a separate case, and 10 others earlier admitted to the charge while nine others pleaded not guilty.

In a court summary of the verdict for the nine who pleaded not guilty, Judge Andrew Chan said, "The court has no doubt that the respondents' actions amounted to a serious interference with the administration of justice."

Sentencing was expected later. Under Hong Kong law, there is no maximum penalty for contempt, with the sentencing range subject to case law and legal precedents.

The ruling came the same day Wong turned 21 and supporters gathered outside a



Former student leader Lester Shum (center), one of the activists found guilty of contempt of court

packed courtroom to sing him "Happy Birthday." The activist, who rose to global fame for his part in leading the 2014 protests while still a teenager, was sent back to prison, where he will be moved to an adult ward.

In August, Wong and two

other student leaders were given prison sentences of six to eight months after the justice secretary requested the courts review their earlier, more lenient sentences for unlawful assembly related to the protests. The move sparked fears that authorities were under-

mining the city's independent judiciary.

Activists said the case is the latest sign that authorities are clamping down on dissent in Hong Kong. The city was promised wide autonomy after its 1997 handover from Britain to China but residents increas-

gly fear Beijing is tightening its grip.

“The court has no doubt that the respondents' actions amounted to a serious interference with the administration of justice.
”

JUDGE ANDREW CHAN

Lester Shum, another student leader convicted Friday, said after the ruling that "more and more political prosecutions will be forthcoming" under Hong Kong's Beijing-backed leader, Carrie Lam. **AP**

Trade growth accelerates in September

Joe McDonald, Beijing

CHINA'S trade growth accelerated in September in a sign of resilient global and domestic consumer demand.

Exports rose 8.1 percent to USD198.3 billion, up from August's 5.5 percent, trade data showed Friday. Imports rose 18.7 percent to \$169.8 billion, an improvement from the previous month's 13.3 percent.

The figures were a positive sign for Chinese demand despite forecasters' expectations that economic growth will slow this year as Beijing tightens controls on bank lending to rein in surging debt.

Business activity stepped up also due partly to the late timing of the country's Mid-Autumn Festival holiday, which left more working days in September than in the same month of 2016.

Export growth was unexpectedly strong in the first half of the year, a positive



sign for Chinese leaders who want to avoid job losses in trade-related industries as they try to nurture consumer-led economic growth.

China has been credited with helping to support global demand and weaker imports might hurt suppliers for whom this country is a major market.

The International Monetary Fund expects this year's economic growth to slip to 6.6 percent from last year's 6.7 percent and to below 6.2 percent in 2018.

China's global trade sur-

plus in September shrank 38.6 percent from the same time last year to \$28.5 billion.

The politically volatile surplus with the United States was \$28.1 billion. U.S. officials have resumed criticizing Chinese policy after President Donald Trump said in April he would temporarily shelve disputes while Washington and Beijing cooperated on North Korea.

The surplus with the 28-nation European Union, China's biggest trading partner, was \$9.2 billion. **AP**

'Enigma Network' crash spurs HK's largest financial raid

Benjamin Robertson

THE largest ever raid by Hong Kong's securities regulator was linked to the multi-billion dollar plunge in nearly three dozen small-cap stocks in June, according to a person familiar with the situation.

One hundred and thirty-six agents from the city's Securities and Futures Commission recently searched multiple premises, head of enforcement Tom Atkinson said in a speech last week, without disclosing what triggered the raid.

The search was related to the so-called Enigma Network, the person familiar said, a group of companies whose overlapping ownership ties and bubble-like qualities were publicized by activist investor David Webb in May. The stocks gained widespread attention



in Hong Kong after many of them suddenly plunged by as much as 90 percent on June 27.

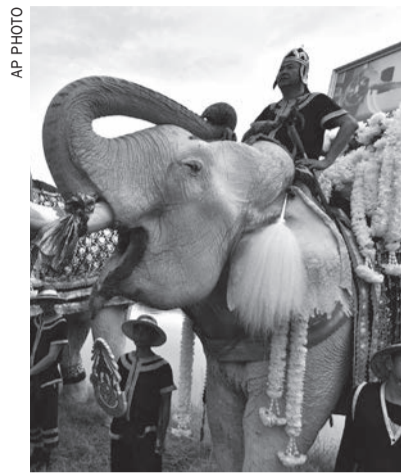
Jonathan Li, an SFC spokesman, declined to comment on links between the raids and Enigma.

The SFC and stock exchange have made cleaning up Hong Kong's small-cap market a priority over the past year, saying wild share-price swings and allegations of manipulation have damaged the city's reputation. Hong Kong Exchanges & Clearing Ltd. is reviewing the rules for its small-companies ex-

change, where many of the stocks highlighted by Webb are listed.

The raid was related to "nefarious groups of inter-related companies that work in coordination to extract value from unsuspecting investors," Atkinson said in his speech, adding that evidence was being processed. He didn't provide further details.

"Anyone who has been exploiting investors through this type of scheme should not underestimate our resolve to stop them," Atkinson said. **Bloomberg**



THAILAND

Elephants in tribute ceremony for late king

Eleven Thai elephants, doused in powder to appear an auspicious white, stood at attention and trumpeted grandly at a ceremony Friday in Thailand's ancient royal capital, Ayutthaya, marking one year since King Bhumibol Adulyadej's death. Mourners clad in black stood in front of the elephants and fell silent for 89 seconds from 3:52 p.m., the official time of Bhumibol's death in what Thailand's Buddhist culture recognized as his 89th year. Then they sang an uplifting royal anthem and held pictures of Bhumibol above their heads while others prostrated on the ground.

VIETNAM

Flooding death toll rises to 68

The death toll from landslides and heavy rain triggered by a tropical depression in Vietnam has climbed to 68, with another 34 people missing, officials said yesterday. The Vietnam Disaster Management Authority said in a statement that the disasters have also injured 32 people, damaged infrastructure and killed more than 230,000 livestock in central and northern regions. The storm hit Vietnam on Tuesday and authorities have been dealing with the fallout since.

PHILIPPINES

Plane veers off runway, passengers evacuated

A Philippine plane carrying more than 180 passengers and crewmen veered off the runway after landing in a central province, prompting the pilot to order an evacuation of the aircraft, officials said Saturday. The Civil Aviation Authority of the Philippines said all passengers and crew of Cebu Pacific airline's Airbus 320 aircraft were safe following late Friday's incident, which caused the plane's front landing gear to get stuck in a grassy area at the end of the runway at Iloilo province's international airport.

KOREA

Pyongyang ready for missile test any time as drill approaches

SOUTH Korean military officials are readying for another possible missile launch by Pyongyang as they prepare for a joint military drill with the U.S. on the disputed peninsula this week.

Multiple South Korean media reports citing unidentified military officials on Saturday and Sunday said North Korean missile vehicles "kept appearing and disappearing" from the map and "transporter erector launchers" had been spotted carrying ballistic missiles from near Pyongyang and North Pyongan province.

A joint military drill between the U.S. and South Korea will be held from today through Friday, Yonhap reported yesterday, citing an unidentified military source who said Pyongyang was ready to fire missiles "any time."

"Anything could happen especially before China's party convention on Oct. 18 and during the time between post-drills and Trump's visits in the region," said Shin Beomchul, a professor at the Korea National Diplomatic Academy in Seoul. "There is also the possibility for North Korea to test shorter-ranged ballistic missiles, which in the past did not lead to UN sanctions." Historically, the North had tended not to provoke directly during the military drills.

North Korea's state-run media agency KCNA on Saturday criticized the joint military exercise, calling it a "reckless act of war maniacs." Earlier, the White House said U.S. President Donald Trump will travel to Asia from Nov. 3-14, during which he will vi-



North Korean soldiers march on October 12

sit South Korea and possibly the demilitarized zone that separates the two Koreas.

As part of this week's drill, the U.S. has deployed the aircraft carrier USS Ronald Reagan to South Korea. The U.S. nuclear-powered submarine Michigan is also likely to take part.

Separately, U.S. weapons systems including F-35A and F-22 stealth fighter jets, B-1B bombers and RQ-4 surveillance drones, will participate in the Seoul International Aerospace & Defense Exhibition being held from tomorrow through Friday, although they won't be armed, according to a Yonhap report.

North Korea conducted its sixth and most powerful nuclear test on Sept. 3, and has launched more than a dozen missiles this year as Kim Jong Un's regime seeks the capability to hit the continental U.S. with an atomic weapon. The United Nations has imposed

stringent sanctions on North Korea for its weapons tests.

Trump has said all options - including military - are on the table to stop Kim, and the White House ruled out talks with Pyongyang.

A war of words has escalated between the two leaders in recent weeks, with Trump labeling Kim "Rocket Man" and telling the UN that the U.S. would "totally destroy" North Korea if it attacks. Kim

responded by calling Trump a "dotard" and warning of the "highest level of hard-line countermeasure in history."

Foreign Minister Ri Yong Ho suggested last month that could include testing a hydrogen bomb in the Pacific Ocean. He later said the U.S. had declared war and his country had the right to shoot down American warplanes flying in international airspace. **MDT/Bloomberg**

AUSTRALIA WARNED

NORTH KOREA also turned its focus on Australia at the weekend, warning the U.S. ally of the risks of siding with Trump. Joining the U.S. in seeking to increase pressure on North Korea would mean Australia "will not be able to avoid a disaster," the state-run Korean Central News Agency on Saturday cited a Foreign Ministry spokesman as saying. "Australia is showing dangerous moves of zealously joining the fren-

zied political and military provocations of the U.S.," the spokesman was quoted as saying, citing Foreign Minister Julie Bishop's visit last week to South Korea. Bishop and Australia's Defense Minister Marise Payne visited South Korea, and the demilitarized zone that separates the country from its neighbor, backing potential tougher measures aimed at compelling North Korea to negotiate.

SOUTH KOREA

Court extends detention of ex-President Park

Kim Tong-Hyung, Seoul

A South Korean court on Friday extended the detention of former President Park Geun-hye, who is on trial over broad corruption allegations that led to her removal from office and arrest in March.

The Seoul Central District Court issued an additional six-month arrest

warrant for Park which will take effect once the current warrant expires today, according to a court official who didn't want to be named, citing office rules.

Prosecutors said Park should be kept behind bars until the court reaches a verdict in her case, citing concerns she might try to destroy evidence if released. A verdict is

expected as early as before the end of the year.

Park faces the possibility of a lengthy prison term over charges that she colluded with a friend to take tens of millions of dollars from companies in bribes and extortion.

The scandal led to the indictments of dozens of people, including former Cabinet ministers,

senior presidential aides and billionaire Samsung scion Lee Jae-yong, who has appealed an August ruling that sentenced him to five years in prison for offering bribes to Park and her friend in exchange for business favors.

Park was arrested and jailed on the last day of March, weeks after Seoul's Constitutional

Court upheld an impeachment bill passed by lawmakers in December and formally removed her from office. Millions of people had angrily but peacefully marched in the streets for months calling for her ouster, turning a large boulevard near Seoul's presidential palace into a sea of candlelight over dozens of weekends.

THE Philippine president said he has asked his finance secretary to reject an unspecified British financial aid package and that he's ready to cut diplomatic ties with all European countries critical of his deadly anti-drug crackdown.

President Rodrigo Duterte also threatened in a state TV talk show late Friday "to declare a revolutionary government until the end of my term" to allow him to arrest opponents and launch an all-out war against communist guerrillas if they seriously attempt to destabilize his government.

Duterte's latest outburst against critics came after an independent poll made public this past week showed that his approval rating has dropped to its lowest level since he took office last year, amid an outcry over unabated drug killings and allegations that he has unexplained wealth.

The Social Weather Stations said its Sept. 23-27 nationwide survey showed Duterte's satisfaction rating dropping by 18 points to 48, a level classified as "good," compared from its last survey in June, when he got a "very good" 66-point rating.

Amid renewed criticisms of his anti-drug campaign, which has left thousands of mostly poor suspects dead, Duterte has barred the national police for the second time from enforcing his crackdown and designated

PHILIPPINES

Duterte says he refused British aid, ready to lose Europe

a small antinarcotics agency to spearhead his crackdown.

The volatile leader has also been incensed by concerns over the drug killings raised by a small group of European parliamentarians and human rights advocates, who recently visited Manila.

Duterte also warned he would declare 'a revolutionary government' to contain any serious threat by political opponents

"I am prepared to lose all diplomatic relationships with all of the European countries now. [...] You're not allowed to enter here now. I will write that letter,"



Duterte said, adding that the Philippines could drop European imports.

Duterte said his country could survive "as long as I have China, Russia and Eastern Europe," along with a bloc of Southeast Asian nations that he currently heads.

He said that Philippine Finance Secretary Carlos Dominguez III recently informed him of a financial package Britain wanted to provide, but that he told Dominguez to reject the offer.

"Tell them Duterte may use that to buy guns and ammunition to carry out extrajudicial killings, so keep your money," Duterte said he told his finance chief.

British officials were not immediately available for comment.

The 72-year-old president, known for his bombastic speeches, also warned that he would declare "a revolutionary government" to contain any serious threat by political opponents and communist rebels to undermine his administration. "I will arrest

all of you and we can go to a full-scale war against the Reds," Duterte said. "I'm prepared, that's why I've gotten more soldiers. [...] Why did I ask for new arms?"

Duterte has made such bold threats in the past but later walked back on his public remarks. He threatened Thursday to expel EU ambassadors and suggested they could be asked to leave the Philippines in 24 hours, but his spokesman later clarified that the diplomats would not face expulsion.

He has denied he has a policy condoning unlawful drug killings. Following public outrage over the shooting death of a teenage student in August, he has warned police officers that they would be locked up in jail if they murder drug suspects.

The president, however, has continued to threaten drug and crime suspects with death and mock human rights advocates. "The human rights of the criminals end where the survival of my country begins. Simple as that," Duterte said. **AP**

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SOMALIA

Death toll from blast in capital rises to 231

Abdi Guled, Mogadishu

THE death toll from the most powerful bomb blast witnessed in Somalia's capital rose to 231 with more than 275 injured, making it the deadliest single attack ever in the Horn of Africa nation, police and hospital sources said yesterday.

Doctors struggled to assist horrifically wounded victims, many burnt beyond recognition. Officials feared the toll would continue to climb from Saturday's truck bomb that targeted a busy street near key ministries.

Ambulance sirens still echoed across the city as bewildered families wandered in the rubble of buildings, looking for missing relatives. "In our 10 year experience as the first responder in #Mogadishu, we haven't seen anything like this," the Aamin Ambulance service tweeted.

Grief overwhelmed many. "There's nothing I can say. We have lost everything," wept Zainab Sharif, a mother of four who lost her husband. She sat outside a hospital where he was pronounced dead after hours of efforts by doctors to save him from an arterial injury.

President Mohamed Abdullahi Mohamed declared three days of mourning and joined thousands of people who responded to a desperate plea by hospitals to donate blood for the wounded victims. "I am appealing all Somali people to come forward and donate," he said.

"The hospital is overwhelmed by both dead and wounded. We also received people whose limbs were cut away by the bomb. This is really horrendous, unlike any other time in the past," said Dr. Mohamed Yusuf, the director of Medina hospital.

Overnight, rescue workers with torch lights searched for survivors trapped under the



rubble of the largely destroyed Safari Hotel, which is close to Somalia's foreign ministry. The explosion blew off metal gates and blast walls erected outside the hotel.

Somalia's government has blamed the al-Qaida-linked al-Shabab extremist group for the attack it called a "national disaster." However, al-Shabab, which often targets high-profile areas of the capital with bombings, had yet to comment.

"They don't care about the lives of Somali people, mothers, fathers and children," Prime Minister Hassan Ali Khaire said. "They have targeted the most populated area in Mogadishu, killing only civilians."

Somalia's information minister, Abdirahman Omar, said the

blast was the largest the city had ever seen. "It's a sad day. This how merciless and brutal they are, and we have to unite against them," he said, speaking to the state-run radio station.

The United States joined the condemnation, saying "such cowardly attacks reinvigorate

the commitment of the United States to assist our Somali and African Union partners to combat the scourge of terrorism."

The U.S. military has stepped up drone strikes and other efforts this year against al-Shabab, which is also fighting the Somali military and over 20,000 Afri-

can Union forces in the country.

Saturday's blast occurred two days after the head of the U.S. Africa Command was in Mogadishu to meet with Somalia's president, and two days after the country's defense minister and army chief resigned for undisclosed reasons. **AP**



SYRIA

US-allied forces begin final assault on IS

Bassem Mroue, Beirut

U.S.-BACKED Syrian fighters launched an operation to retake the last Islamic State-held pocket of the northern city of Raqqa yesterday after some 275 militants and their family members surrendered.

The Kurdish-led Syrian Democratic Forces said the operation will continue "until all the city is cleansed from terrorists who refused to surrender."

The SDF has been on the offensive in Raqqa since early June and now controls about 90 percent of the city that was once the extremist group's self-styled capital. Most of the fighters who remain in the pocket are foreigners, according to the SDF and opposition activists.

The operation was named after Adnan Abu Amjad, an Arab commander with the SDF who was killed in August while fighting against

IS in central Raqqa.

The loss of Raqqa would hand another major blow to IS, which has lost most of the territory it once held in Syria and Iraq. Iraqi forces captured the northern Iraqi city of Mosul — the largest ever held by the extremist group — in July, and Syrian government forces retook the eastern Syrian city of Mayadeen, near the border with Iraq, on Saturday.

IS still holds parts of

Syria's Deir el-Zour province and Iraq's Anbar province, as well as small, scattered pockets elsewhere.

On Saturday, the U.S.-led coalition and local officials said Syrian IS fighters and civilians would be allowed to leave Raqqa, but not foreign fighters. The evacuation appeared aimed at sparing the lives of civilians being used as human shields. As of last week, around 4,000 civilians were believed to still be in

the city.

The SDF said the initiative by local tribesmen and members of the Raqqa Civil Council "succeeded in evacuating civilians who were still in the city and the surrender of 275 local mercenaries and their families." It added that the ongoing offensive aims to "end the presence of mercenaries of the terrorist organization inside the city."

Rami Abdurrahman, who heads the Britain-based

Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, said among the fighters who remain in Raqqa is an official who planned attacks in France that killed and wounded dozens of people. Abdurrahman said the man is either a French or Belgian citizen of North African origin.

Two Kurdish officials, Nawaf Khalil and Nasser Haj Mansour, said the evacuation took place early Sunday, adding that some gunmen remained in a pocket they still control in Raqqa. Khalil said the civilians who left Raqqa included families of fighters. **AP**

Anita Snow, Las Vegas

USA

Hawaiians aim to help heal Las Vegas, survivors of shooting

A group of Hawaiians who now make their homes in Las Vegas on Saturday joined others who still live in the islands to bring the city's people a special lei (LAY) braided with leaves from a sacred plant in a gesture they hope will bring peace and healing after the deadliest mass shooting in modern U.S. history.

The largest of the three ceremonies took place outside the iconic "Welcome to Fabulous Las Vegas" sign. Several women in the group wept openly as they stood silently in a row, holding the long, whip-like lei of ti leaves draped on their right shoulders. The lei made by hundreds of volunteers did not include flowers, just the leaves.

Ron Panzo, one of the lead organizers from Kihei on the island of Maui, said the group had also delivered similar leis to Paris and Orlando, Florida, after shootings in those cities.

"There can be a small closure after we bring a lei like this," said Panzo, a restaurant owner. "This is a way to honor those lives that were lost, to make sure they are not forgotten."

Kawika Sabado, who also is from Kihei, said Hawaiians are

naturally empathetic and believe all people must strive to retain their connection to human kind.

"Hawaiians feel very strongly when something like this happens," said Sabado, who wore a kind of white loincloth and a crown of braided leaves.

"I think that with all of this technology people have forgotten to connect with one another. We all need to care for and love one another," he added.

The group's largest gathering was the first one it held at the sign, which over nearly two weeks has been transformed into a public homage to the 58 people who lost their lives when a gunman opened fire from the 32nd floor of the Mandalay Bay Hotel onto an outdoor country music festival below. White wooden crosses built by a Chicago carpenter are now covered with photographs of the victims, written notes, American flags and other items. The crosses

will be given a permanent home in Las Vegas' Clark County Museum next month.

Lehua Kekahuna, who teaches hula on Maui, performed a native ceremony designed to promote healing, chanting in the original language of her forefathers.

Pieces of the lei were strung between two palm trees and twisted around their trunks, adding to the collection of remembrances at the entrance to the city.

Later, the group traveled to the nearby Mandalay Bay Hotel, where they held a private gathering with employees, then continued on to the makeshift Healing Park, which was erected beginning the day after the Oct. 1 shooting on a city-owned empty lot that had been used for parking.

The ground was leveled, cement poured, a flower garden and trees planted and a remembrance wall erected. The wooden wall is to be replaced by a more permanent



AP PHOTO

one eventually, neighbors of the park said.

At Healing Park, the Hawaiians brought some more pieces of the lei to leave behind. Several stood before the wall to take in the photos and messages, then stopped to hug one another.

"This lei was put together by a

lot of people back home," said Raymond Donato, who was visiting a niece in Las Vegas when the shooting occurred. She's among thousands of Hawaiians who have settled in the Nevada city over the past two decades.

"There is a whole lot of healing in this lei," he said. AP

AD

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what's ON



OKTOBERFEST

TIME: 6pm – midnight (October 16-22)
11am – 3pm (October 21)

VENUE: MGM Macau

ADMISSION: MOP170 (includes 1 standard drink, except Champagne)

ORGANIZER: MGM Macau

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8802 8888

FLOW: GLASS ART EXHIBITION BY SUNNY WANG

TIME: 9am-9pm (Open on public holidays)

UNTIL: November 19, 2017

VENUE: Temporary Exhibition Gallery of IACM, No. 163, Av. Almeida Ribeiro

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8988 4000

A PROMENADE IN THE SMALL CITY: AN ILLUSTRATION EXHIBITION OF THE MACAU CULTURAL AND CREATIVE MAP

TIME: 11am-10pm

UNTIL: December 31, 2017

VENUE: Lakeside Gallery, Anim'Arte

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2836 6866

TREASURE OF SACRED ART OF ST. JOSEPH'S SEMINARY

TIME: 10am-5pm (Closed on Wednesdays, open on public holidays)

VENUE: St. Joseph's Seminary and Church, Rua do Seminário

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2835 7911

THE RECULTIVATION OF CULTURE: AN EXHIBITION OF CREATIVE SCRIPT HAND LETTERING

TIME: 9am-10pm daily

UNTIL: October 31, 2017

VENUE: Gallery at Team Building, IFT, Colina de Mong-Há,

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8598 1489

Offbeat

HALF-SMOKED WINSTON CHURCHILL CIGAR SELLS FOR USD12,000



A cigar half-smoked by British Prime Minister Winston Churchill during a 1947 trip to Paris has sold for just over USD12,000 during an online auction.

Boston-based RR Auction says the 4-inch (10-centimeter) cigar was bought Wednesday evening by a collector from Palm Beach, Florida. The buyer's name wasn't released.

The auction company says Churchill smoked the cigar on May 11, 1947, at Le Bourget Airport. Included in the auction was a photo signed by the prime minister that shows him with the cigar in his hand at the airport.

RR Auction says a British airman, Cpl. William Alan Turner, kept the cigar after his crew flew Churchill and his wife to and from Paris.

The label on the La Corona cigar from Havana, Cuba, includes Churchill's name.

TV canal macau



13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	RTPi Live
15:00	Miscellaneous
16:20	Zig Zag
18:50	Brazilian Mini Serie (Repeated)
19:15	Non-daily Portuguese News (Repeated)
19:50	Soap Opera
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:00	TDM Sports
21:40	Miscellaneous
22:10	Brazilian Mini Serie
22:40	Miscellaneous
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Miscellaneous
00:25	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)
01:05	RTPi Live

cinema



CINETEATRO

12 - 18 Oct



GEOSTORM

ROOM 1

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

Director: Dean Devlin

Starring: Gerard Butler, Jim Sturgess, Abbie Cornish, Daniel Wu

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 109 min



BLADE RUNNER 2049

ROOM 2

2:30, 6:15, 9:15pm

Director: Denis Villeneuve

Starring: Ryan Gosling, Harrison Ford, Jared Leto, Dave Bautista

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 141min



WHAT HAPPENED TO MONDAY

ROOM 3

2:30, 4:45, 7:15, 9:30pm

Director: Tommy Wirkola

Starring: Noomi Rapace, Glenn Close, Willem Dafoe

Language: Chinese

Duration: 123 min

this day in history



1996 HANDGUNS TO BE BANNED IN THE UK

The British Government has announced plans to outlaw almost all handguns following the shocking massacre at Dunblane in Scotland.

On 13 March Thomas Hamilton walked into the gym at Dunblane primary school and killed 16 young children and their teacher. He also injured 13 other children and three teachers. Hamilton, a former scout master, then shot himself.

Today's announcement follows publication of Lord Cullen's inquiry into the massacre which concluded Hamilton's horrific attack could not have been predicted.

But it made 23 recommendations to tighten rules on gun ownership and monitor those who work with children.

The proposal to ban all handguns - except .22-caliber target pistols - would leave Britain with some of the toughest laws on private possession of guns.

Home Secretary Michael Howard told a packed House of Commons he would make sure the measures were passed as quickly as possible through parliament.

But the move has angered both those for and against private gun ownership. The Snowdrop Campaign, set up by victims' families after Dunblane, wants to see a total ban on handguns and called the plan an "unacceptable compromise".

The opposition Labour Party welcomed the report and the government's swift reaction to it but urged ministers to bring about a complete ban.

Shadow Home Secretary Jack Straw said politicians should have acted in a similar vein nine years ago after the Hungerford massacre.

Former Tory cabinet minister David Mellor also felt the proposals did not go far enough.

He asked: "Isn't it time to conclude that, literally and metaphorically, the game is up for handguns now?"

But gun club owners warned thousands of jobs would be in jeopardy if the proposal became law.

Speaking to the Daily Mirror newspaper, Ross Armstrong, owner of Medway Shooting Club in Kent said: "People are killed by drunk drivers but no-one demands a ban on cars. Further restrictions suit no-one."

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

The Conservative Government's proposals became law in February 1997.

When Labour came to power three months later they brought in an amendment banning all handguns. This became law in November 1997. The Snowdrop Campaign was ended in the same year.

The Gun Control Network set up a few months after Dunblane as the UK's first gun control organization continues to campaign for - among other things - a national gun register.

Three months after the Dunblane massacre in March 1996, there was a national firearms amnesty that saw nearly 23,000 firearms and 700,000 rounds of ammunition surrendered.

This was considerably less than the 48,000 weapons surrendered after the Hungerford killings nine years before.

In January 2003 the killing of teenagers Charlene Ellis and Letisha Shakespeare in Birmingham provoked another gun amnesty.

Nearly 43,000 firearms and more than a million rounds of ammunition were handed in to police stations across the UK.

YOUR STARS

Aries Mar. 21-Apr. 19 It's time for you to get up close! That could mean getting together with a partner, a pet or a gang of friends.

Taurus April 20-May 20 Weigh in today - your opinion really counts! Now it's time to show others how valuable your thoughts are, even if you have to start by valuing them yourself.

Gemini May 21-Jun. 21 The answer might be as simple as working smarter (not harder) and getting rid of old habits that make you feel happy but don't accomplish as much as they should.

Cancer Jun. 22-Jul. 22 You're not in the mood for public displays - of affection, or much of anything else. When you're approached by someone who's more than willing to let the world in on private matters, you're less than receptive.

Leo Jul. 23-Aug. 22 You've got an outrageous, often hilarious, sense of humor, and usually, everyone loves your jokes - the more risqué, the better. However, just for now, it might be better to keep a lid on your tart tongue and trenchant wit.

Virgo Aug. 23-Sept. 22 The universe is giving you and your loved ones unusual eloquence and thoughtfulness today, so make the most of it. It's a great time to cut through the chit-chat and speak from the heart, difficult as it may seem.

Libra Sep.23-Oct. 22 Offer someone some kindness - a little more than usual - and you might just be surprised at what they offer back. It's easy to go through life on the defensive, but if you make an honest gesture from the heart at a time like this.

Scorpio Oct. 23 - Nov. 21 On a day like today, slow and steady wins the race - especially where business matters are concerned. Usually, you can rely on your fierce intuition and your preternatural ability to read people.

Sagittarius Nov. 22-Dec. 21 You may be tempted to skip ahead to the answers at the back of the book this time, but you know deep down that you're only cheating yourself that way. You know better than that!

Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 19 It's time for you to kick back and have some fun. Sure, you've got a lot of work to get done first, but once you finish, your perseverance pays off with a ton of fun. Invite your partner or some friends and enjoy yourselves to the fullest.

Aquarius Jan. 20-Feb. 18 You might be feeling some weird tugs of low self-esteem right now - but that's seriously crazy, so start getting over it right now! Your smarts and talent are pushing you in a new direction.

Pisces Feb.19-Mar. 20 In order to get other people to respect you, you first have to respect yourself. So tell yourself that you're worth it - because you are, whether you fully believe it or not yet.

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

Easy

6x6 grid for Easy Sudoku puzzle with numbers 1-6.

Easy+

6x6 grid for Easy+ Sudoku puzzle with numbers 1-6.

Medium

6x6 grid for Medium Sudoku puzzle with numbers 1-6.

Hard

6x6 grid for Hard Sudoku puzzle with numbers 1-6.

WEATHER

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

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- Old Testament book; 5- Take ___ from me...; 9- Cream-filled cookies; 14- Traditional passed-down knowledge; 15- Baseball team; 16- Twinned crystal; 17- Geographical expanse; 18- Alum; 19- Show host; 20- Having good intentions; 23- Snaky curve; 24- Antiquity, in antiquity; 25- Score; 27- Misanthrope; 31- Piercing places; 33- Consumes; 37- Immediately; 39- Complete collection; 40- Squabbling; 41- Frankie Carle's theme song; 44- Threesome; 45- Half a fly; 46- Star-related; 47- Business letter abbr.; 48- Env. notation; 50- Sheer fabric; 51- Behind schedule; 53- Swelled head; 55- Actor Vigoda; 58- Embroidery upon canvas; 64- Cowboy display; 66- Think; 67- Suffix with buck; 68- West Pointer; 69- Cupid's counterpart; 70- Revenuers, for short; 71- Fashion; 72- Completed; 73- Patriot Nathan;

DOWN: 1- What there oughta be; 2- Oliver Twist's request; 3- Hurler Hersheiser; 4- Authenticating mark; 5- Celestial being; 6- Vehement speech; 7- ___ instant; 8- Lineage; 9- Last Greek letter; 10- Male sheep; 11- ___ homo; 12- Corrida cheers; 13- Dates; 21- Paris "thanks"; 22- Cosa ___; 26- Simple shed; 27- Speed; 28- Take ___ for the worse; 29- Medicine; 30- Register; 32- Personal quality of material belonging; 34- Maker of Pong; 35- Wave-related; 36- Stone marker; 38- Fancy home; 42- Highly regarded; 43- Bar, legally; 49- Wrestling hold; 52- Make ___ of (write down); 54- Swan-like aquatic birds; 55- Circle segments; 56- Gravy ___; 57- Swirl; 59- Hard, in Havana; 60- Sworn thing; 61- ___ la Douce; 62- Seasonal song; 63- Sound quality; 65- Long fish;

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

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ATLETICO Madrid was able to contain Lionel Messi and yet still couldn't top Barcelona in the Spanish league on Saturday. Atletico was a few minutes away from ending a seven-year winless streak against Barcelona in the league until Luis Suarez produced an 82nd-minute equalizer for 1-1.

Suarez had been ineffective at Wanda Metropolitano Stadium before his late header that extended Barcelona's unbeaten streak against Atletico to 15 league matches.

Atletico did a decent job stopping Messi after his starring role to put Argentina in the World Cup. He has 14 goals in 12 matches with Barcelona but was unable to score at the Metropolitano. His best chance was a second-half free kick that hit the post.

The playmaker, coming off a long trip from Ecuador for Argentina's qualifier, had arrived with 27 goals in 34 matches against Atletico in all competitions.

"He certainly wasn't as tired as most people thought he would be because he played a tremendous match," Atletico coach Diego Simeone said of Messi. "We defended well, just couldn't put the game away on the counterattacks."

The result ended Barcelona's perfect league record and cut the club's lead to five points over Real Madrid, which defeated Getafe 2-1 with a late winner by Cristiano Ronaldo.

Atletico stayed in third place,

FOOTBALL

Suarez scores late as Barcelona draws Atletico Madrid 1-1

six points behind Barcelona, which won its first seven league matches. Sevilla dropped to fourth place, also six points off the lead, after losing at Athletic Bilbao 1-0.

Barcelona, which had outscored opponents 23-2, controlled possession but it was Atletico which was able to create the most significant opportunities. Antoine Griezmann had two clear chances denied by Barcelona goalkeeper Marc-Andre ter Stegen early.

The result ended Barcelona's perfect league record and cut the club's lead to five points over Real Madrid

Saul Niguez gave the hosts the lead with a well-placed shot from outside the area in the first half. Suarez jumped between Atletico

AP PHOTO



Barcelona's Luis Suarez (left) vies for the ball with Atletico Madrid's Diego Godin

defenders to head in a cross by substitute Sergi Roberto.

"Good job from all the team in a complicated game," Suarez said.

Two weeks after playing behind closed doors to protest the Spanish government's moves to halt Catalonia's independence referendum, Barcelona was met with Spanish flags, and outspoken defender Gerard Pique was loudly jeered by the local fans.

Ronaldo was mostly subdued for Madrid until scoring the 85th-minute winner at Alfonso Perez Coliseum in southern Madrid. After a perfect long pass by

Isco, Ronaldo let the ball bounce and fired in for his first league goal of the season.

"We know that when we need Cristiano, he is always there for us," Madrid left back Marcelo said.

Karim Benzema opened the scoring for Madrid with a great run into the area, getting past a defender with a quick touch before sending a low shot into the far corner. It was also his first league goal. The French striker was returning from injury.

Striker Jorge Molina equalized for the hosts early in the second

half. Replays showed Molina was offside. Getafe also conceded late goals in home losses to Sevilla and Barcelona. It dropped to 14th in the 20-team standings.

"We can't allow this to keep happening," Molina said of the late goals. "Maybe we shouldn't have stayed only on defense, maybe we could have pressed a little bit more."

Meanwhile, a Ronaldo lookalike was detained by security guards in the first half after entering the pitch wearing Madrid's uniform and approaching the Portugal forward. **MDT/AP**

TENNIS

Federer beats Nadal to win Shanghai Masters title



Roger Federer

Sandra Harwitt, Shanghai

ROGER Federer extended his winning streak over Rafael Nadal this year to four matches after beating the top-ranked Spaniard 6-4, 6-3 to win the Shanghai Masters yesterday.

The Swiss 19-time grand slam winner, who still trails Nadal 23-15 in their overall head-

to-head record, didn't face a break point and started and ended the match with service breaks.

Federer took advantage of three of seven break point opportunities in the match to snap Nadal's 16-game winning streak, which included his China Open victory last week.

Federer, who has won the last five encounters

between the pair dating back to the 2015 Basel final, also beat Nadal in the Australian Open final, a round of 16 match at Indian Wells and the Miami final this year.

The Shanghai Masters is Federer's 94th career title, moving him into a tie with Ivan Lendl in second place on the Open era list.

Nadal arrived on court with a bandage under

his right knee, the same leg he twice smacked with his racket after losing his serve for the first time this week in the semifinal.

Federer took advanta-

ge of a third break point in the first game of the match with a winning backhand passing shot. He broke Nadal's serve again on a second break point in the fifth game

of the second set when Nadal sailed a backhand crosscourt wide. In the final game, Nadal netted a forehand at 15-40 to end the 72-minute match. **AP**

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opinion

Views on China

Andy Mukherjee, Bloomberg

BANKING IN HONG KONG? PRETTY SOON, YOU MIGHT BE ANYWHERE

Hong Kong is needlessly inviting trouble - and dirty money. That would be the most obvious interpretation of the recent tweaks in the financial center's anti-money-laundering guidelines.

Banks, insurers and other institutions are being told by the Hong Kong Monetary Authority, the Securities and Futures Commission and other regulators that they don't need to collect documentary evidence of customers' addresses and make efforts to verify them: Pinning down the beneficial owners of a shell corporation to a permanent address somewhere won't be necessary.

The existing guidelines, laid out as part of "customer due diligence," will be formally amended next year, though if HSBC Holdings Plc wants, it can go ahead and shred the tenancy agreement it took from me while opening my bank account: it won't be breaking any rules.

It's definitely costly for banks to verify addresses - or to be on the regulatory hook for doing so. In September 2016, Hong Kong wrote to banks saying it didn't expect a "zero failure" regime in which institutions tightened the screws so much that they turned away legitimate businesses. The thinking goes, perhaps, that it's more sensible for banks to expend efforts on catching and reporting suspicious transactions than worrying about who might actually be the ultimate beneficiary of the money parked with them. That philosophy is probably the motivation behind the changes announced Wednesday.

Still, an eyebrow or two is bound to be raised. For one thing, the rules are being relaxed embarrassingly soon after the discovery of a major transnational crime in which billions of dollars were allegedly stolen from a Malaysian sovereign wealth fund and laundered around the world.

The 1MDB saga wasn't only about suspicious transactions, though there was a shocking number of them. The scandal was also about banks' willingness to take on board dubious customers. After all, Standard Chartered Plc did allow a Malaysian customer to open an account in Singapore in the name of Blackstone Asia Real Estate Partners, when this shell firm had nothing to do with Blackstone Group LP or its affiliate Blackstone Real Estate.

The timing of the move is off in another respect. Capital outflows from China may have abated for now, but the threat of mainland money swamping Hong Kong's asset markets and financial system is ever-present. Meanwhile, an equity trading link between the Hong Kong bourse and exchanges in Shanghai and Shenzhen has made illegal round-tripping of mainland Chinese money easier.

By the middle of next year, Hong Kong will put in place an investor ID system to get a better grip on who's trading stocks in the People's Republic from the former British colony. Given those priorities, it makes little sense to relax "know your customer" - or KYC - rules in the city's banking system.

If the idea is to boost competitiveness, Hong Kong need only draw a leaf from its arch-rival's playbook. Singapore, badly bruised by the 1MDB episode, is building a common KYC platform. Banks and fintech players can share it to cut down the cost of customer due diligence. That's probably a better route to go down than scrapping address verification.

THE BUZZ LARRY FLYNT OFFERS UP TO USD10 MILLION FOR DIRT ON TRUMP

Pornography publisher Larry Flynt is offering "up to USD10 million" to anyone who produces information that leads to President Donald Trump's impeachment and removal from office.

He lays out the offer in a full-page ad in the Sunday edition of The Washington Post.

During last year's presidential campaign, Flynt dangled \$1 million to anyone who could

turn over video or audio capturing Trump behaving in an illegal or sexually demeaning manner. That followed the release of the 2005 "Access Hollywood" video in which Trump bragged of imposing himself on women.

In Sunday's ad, Flynt asks for any "smoking gun" that is fit to publish and drives Trump from office. The White House didn't comment.

TOURISM

Osaka is Japan's new tourist hot spot for Asian visitors

Masahiro Hidaka

AMID the gloom and struggle that Osaka has gone through in recent years, a tourism boom has been an unexpected boon for Japan's gritty second city.

The commercial roots and boisterous and friendly people of Osaka and the surrounding Kansai region provides a contrast to the relative coolness and formality of Tokyo that's winning favor with tourists from Northeast Asia.

The boom is boosting the local economy. Duty-free sales at department stores in the region were up almost 60 percent in the first eight months of this year from the same period in 2016, according to the central bank. The area's relatively high unemployment rate has dropped considerably, to 4 percent last year, while the number of companies in Osaka grew 16 percent in the 12 months through March, faster than in Tokyo or across the whole nation.

While Japan as a whole has benefited from a massive increase in tourism recently, it's especially pronounced in Osaka. Almost 10 million overseas tourists visited the city in 2016, a 363 percent jump over five years, versus the 188 percent increase seen nationally.

The city is popular with tourists from Asia, partly due to increased flights by low-cost carriers, such as Spring Airlines Co. of China and Jeju Air Co. of South Korea. This year



looks to be another record, with 5.3 million visitors in the first six months of 2017, according to the city's tourism office.

Within Osaka itself, the southern part of the city around Shinsaibashi is attracting many people. The Daimaru department store in Shinsaibashi sold 11 billion yen (\$98 million) of duty-free goods in March-August this year.

"This inbound tourism has brought a growth chance to sectors such as the retail and restaurant business, which were shrinking due to population decline," said Kimihiro Etoh, a Bank of Japan executive and manager of the Osaka branch.

Osaka was traditionally the merchant capital of Japan, with many businesses in the early-modern Edo period based there.

The merchant spirit and tradition of bargaining is one of the things that Chinese probably find attractive, according to Xiaoxiao Liu, a Beijing-born economist at Mitsubishi Research Institute in Tokyo.

"Chinese tourists aren't just looking to buy stuff anymore, they want to have experiences while spending money. And on that point, Osaka is totally more fun," she said.

The whole shopping district of Shinsaibashi is entertaining, according to Masahisa Maeda, the head of the area's shopkeeper's association. You can eat while walking down the street, "talking to people in shop and stalls, and watching them cook before your very eyes," he said. And the buzz is being shared online in China, where travelers have reported the attractiveness of Osaka.

"Osaka has food, culture and shopping," said 67-year-old Mok Cheong Seng from Macau, while visiting the city recently for the seventh or eighth time. Her son Peter Lee, who was traveling with her, said, "Tokyo's too busy, but you can relax in Osaka."

The city plans to apply to host the 2025 Expo, and is also looking to host the first casino resort, when these are legalized in Japan. **Bloomberg**

MGM Resorts says police were in Vegas hotel when shooting began

MGM Resorts International said Las Vegas Metropolitan Police were on the premises of its Mandalay Bay hotel when a deranged guest began firing on concert goers in an Oct. 1 attack that killed 58 people.

The casino operator said the 9:59 p.m. time previously given out as the moment the shooting began isn't accurate. That report was collected manually after the fact and new information is now available, MGM Resorts said last week in a statement. Shots were being fired at the concert site within 40 seconds after MGM

security guard Jesus Campos was wounded, the company said.

"Metro officers were together with armed Mandalay Bay security officers in the building when Campos first reported that shots were fired over the radio," MGM Resorts said. "These Metro officers and armed Mandalay Bay security officers immediately responded to the 32nd floor."

MGM Resorts, the largest owner of casinos on the Las Vegas Strip, said it was responding to misinformation about the shooting. Las Vegas police on Wednesday gave

a new timeline for the events that night. The officials said Campos was shot before gunman Stephen Paddock began firing at fans attending the Route 91 Harvest festival. They had previously said Campos was shot after Paddock had stopped firing out of the window of his room.

The casino operator was named in a lawsuit this week by a woman wounded in the shooting who said the company shouldn't have allowed Paddock to bring weapons to his hotel room and didn't respond to the shooting in a timely manner. **Bloomberg**

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

SOURCE: DSMG

WORLD BRIEFS



KYRGYZSTAN Preliminary results from the presidential election in Kyrgyzstan show the governing party's candidate winning. The country's media report that Sooronbai Jeenbekov had received about 55 percent of the vote, based on a count of ballots from 95 percent of polling stations.

AUSTRIA Initial results showed the party of Austria's 31-year-old foreign minister leading in national elections yesterday, putting him on course to become the youngest head of government in Europe.

MOLDOVA A cargo plane chartered by the French military crashed into the Atlantic Ocean on its approach to the international airport in Abidjan, killing four crew members from Moldova and injuring six others from Moldova and France, officials said Saturday.



SPAIN Catalonia's president is facing a critical decision that could determine the course of the region's secessionist movement to break away from Spain. The Spanish government has given Carles Puigdemont until this afternoon (Macau time) to clarify if he did or didn't actually declare independence earlier this week.

ST. HELENA One of the world's most remote places became a little less isolated on Saturday when the first commercial flight arrived in St. Helena, a South Atlantic island that until recently was only accessible by boat and where Napoleon Bonaparte spent his last years in exile.



GUATEMALA The genocide trial of former Guatemala dictator Jose Efraim Rios Montt resumed behind closed doors Friday as the 90-year-old retired general faces charges related to the killing of 1,771 Ixil Indians during his brief time in power.