



### HENAN IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Ten years after UNESCO's World Heritage listing of Macau, Henan is at the center of the festivities

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### DRAWING CHILDREN'S DREAMS

Local artist Sandy Leong Sin U recounts her experience at a children's book illustration festival in Singapore

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### WORLD BRIEFS

**TIBET** A Chinese tour bus plunged off a cliff in Tibet early yesterday, killing 11 people, state media reported. The accident took place in Gonggar county just south of the regional capital of Lhasa, where the city's airport and many of Tibet's most famous tourist attractions are located, the official Xinhua News Agency reported. It said eight other people were injured in the accident, and that the cause was under investigation.

**CHINA** Peter Humphrey, a British private investigator who worked for GlaxoSmithKline Plc, was released from prison in China following his conviction last year for illegally obtaining information about Chinese citizens. Humphrey was tried in August and sentenced to 2 1/2 years in jail. He was released early for health reasons, according to the Financial Times. His American wife, Yu Yingzeng, is still being held on a 2-year sentence.



AP PHOTO

**VATICAN CITY** Pope Francis has created a new Vatican tribunal section to hear cases of bishops accused of failing to protect children from sexually abusive priests, the biggest step the Holy See has taken yet to hold bishops accountable.

**GREECE**'s prime minister is hoping to meet with the leaders of Germany and France in Brussels, in the latest effort to break a bailout negotiation deadlock that has revived fears his country could default and drop out of the euro.

## Park delays US trip, S Korea hit by 9th MERS death

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# Henan heritage highlighted as Macau marks 10 years of UNESCO recognition

Catarina Pinto

MACAU is celebrating the 10th anniversary of the induction of the city's historic center into the UNESCO World Heritage list with a special cooperative effort with Henan, since the Chinese province has vast experience in protecting its cultural heritage, the Cultural Affairs Bureau (IC) president, Ung Vai Meng, noted at a press conference yesterday.

"We always try to cooperate with different Chinese provinces to exchange views on cultural heritage preservation. This time we chose Henan because we believe it's a province with vast experience in safeguarding its intangible heritage," said Mr Ung. He added that, "we need to learn from each others' experiences," while furthering our knowledge of Henan's rich cultural heritage.

Ms Kang Jie, vice-director of the Henan province department of culture, revealed at yesterday's press conference that a number of Henan province's cultural artefacts will be showcased this Saturday at Galaxy

Macau's east square as part of an exhibition entitled "Genesis and Spirit."

Ten cultural heritage items will be on display, including clay dogs from the Huaiyang municipality, collages with wheat stems, and Yellow River carved Ink stones.

On Saturday afternoon, artistic performances will be held at St Paul's Ruins, featuring Shaolin martial arts, Tai Chi, and Henan opera. The activities are set to continue on Sunday at the Mandarin's House with a lecture on the protection of Henan's cultural heritage.

Marking the 10th anniversary of Macau's historic center being added to the UNESCO World



The Guia Lighthouse is one of the World Heritage sites

Heritage list, the IC will hold a series of activities in a total of 35 events, including exhibitions, cultural performances,

seminars, and book launches. Mr Ung revealed yesterday that the budget for these activities is MOP3.3 million.

The IC said that new and renovated historic and cultural facilities will begin operation in June. The Guia Fortress Information Center will be opened by the end of this month and will feature a brief introduction to the history of the Guia fortress.

Furthermore, local and foreign experts will be gathering to participate in the International Academic Seminar on the Conservation of Cultural Heritage to be held on July 12. Several works on Macau's cultural heritage and its protection will also be launched during the event.

The Macau Orchestra, the Macau Chinese Orchestra and the Macau Conservatory's Schools of Music and Theatre will be performing at the city's World Heritage sites.

Mr Ung reiterated Macau's efforts to preserve its listed sites. He added that the department has also conducted archeological excavations, namely in Coloane. He told reporters that they expect to have reach a decision on what do with artefacts discovered in the Coloane village excavation by the end of this month.

## Ten valuable properties to be added to city's heritage list

UNG Vai Meng has revealed that ten valuable properties will be added to the city's current 128-item heritage list. Mr Ung was speaking on the sidelines of a press conference to introduce activities marking the 10th anniversary of Macau's historic center being included on the UNESCO World He-

ritage list. He added that the IC is finalizing the draft of the list and will announce which properties will comprise it soon. A public consultation will also be held.

Since May last year, the IC has been examining properties that are considered valuable, and has revealed that 70 are likely to be

listed as part of the city's cultural heritage. The bureau then invited a group of specialists to present a first batch of properties to be added to the list. However, Mr Ung did not disclose the selected ten monuments or properties. He added that the list's planning process has only now reached its final stage.



Yesterday's Urban Planning Committee meeting

Brook Yang

THE Urban Planning Committee discussed 15 buildings as well as the conditions of planning land plots in its plenary meeting yesterday. Patane, the Catholic Cemetery and Taipa's new town center as well as the site near the airport were key areas of discussion.

Drawing on the fact that private property rights are often partially embedded with historical and cultural values and acknowledge surrounding land plots that are part of the landscape, some committee members indicated that incentive policies are needed to encourage owners to participate in heritage conservation and to develop land plots

### URBAN PLANNING COMMITTEE

## Owners should be more involved in conservation efforts

for public use.

Citing the successful heritage conservation practice in European countries and in Singapore, some members stressed that a historical building must be used properly rather than being maintained as idle and vacant, whilst some indicated that the property owners and citizens also need to uphold their own social responsibility to watch over and safeguard the city's cultural values.

On the other hand, some

members questioned the possibility of mobilizing owners to develop their private properties and spaces for public use, as they pointed out that some proposed conservation plans such as building a green park on the side of the street may not be sufficiently practical and feasible.

Furthermore, some members warned that the city's uncertain prospects in terms of fiscal revenue may suggest a declining budget in protecting his-

torical buildings, and thus the allocation of funds in conservation must be well planned. Others also suggested that developers should be allowed to build underground spaces as an incentive for them to develop vacant land plots.

During the meeting, representatives from the Cultural Institute (IC) also introduced their requests to revamp dilapidated heritage buildings, a process which will entail retaining the front façade, restoring the dismantled part and

demolishing the unauthorized building structure. It will be judged as to whether the absence or affixation of a structure will reduce the building's original cultural value.

Regarding some historical buildings whose structures and features are no longer complete, some members questioned why the government would rather rebuild a "counterfeiting" structure to protect them rather than having protected the original building in time.

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# MGTO studies implementing travel warning system

Catarina Pinto

**T**HE Macau Government Tourist Office (MGTO) is conducting an internal study on the implementation of a travel warning system similar to that of Hong Kong, MGTO's director Maria Helena de Senna Fernandes said yesterday on the sidelines of a press conference.

Ms Fernandes clarified that the Macau Tourism Crisis Management Office (GGCT) issued travel recommendations to Macau citizens after cases of Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS) in South Korea continued to rise, but the department does not have a formal travel warning system in place.

According to the MGTO director, the government is considering whether to introduce a travel alert system, as local travel operators and insurance companies have reported difficulties in solving cases in which Macau residents acquire travel packages in neighboring Hong Kong.

"We are studying the implementation of a system because our travel industry and insurance companies believe that if we have a system similar to that of Hong Kong, they could



Helena de Senna Fernandes

introduce other mechanisms to deal with this type of situation. Because [in Hong Kong] there are different insurance packages for different travel warning levels," she told reporters.

The HKSAR's Security Bureau operates a three-level Outbound Travel Alert system (OTA), comprising of a yellow alert (signs of threat), a red alert (significant threat) and a black alert (severe threat).

Hong Kong issued a "red alert" advisory on Tuesday against non-essential travel to South Korea.

On Monday, Macau's Health Bureau (SSM) announced that it would be raising its MERS response level from a "standard alert" to "a high-level alert."

Meanwhile, GGCT issued a statement advising Macau residents not to travel to South Korea unless it was absolutely necessary.

"We do not have a formal travel alert system yet. What we have is a press release issuing system, through which we release information when needed. What we are discussing is whether to implement a system like that of Hong Kong, with different colors and levels," said Ms Fernandes.

She recalled, however, that there are different opinions on the subject, with some believing that having a similar system would work best for the Macau travel industry and insurance companies. Others however, believe that there could be a need for different alert levels between the two cities depending on the situation.

Ms Fernandes added that the system could be implemented either through legislation, or like a typhoon signal system.

Meanwhile, the Health Bureau said yesterday that another suspected MERS case tested negative, this time involving a 30-year-old Korean woman who had recently been to South Korea. While she did have a fever, lab results tested negative for MERS.

# Alleged vote buying case is on trial

**T**HE biggest winner in the last Legislative Assembly (AL) election, the 13th team led by lawmakers Chan Meng Kam, Si Ka Lon and Song Pek Kei, is allegedly involved in an election bribery dispute. Two of its mobilizing staffers are being prosecuted for organizing free feasts and transportation for voters. A judgment in the ongoing trial that continued on Tuesday at the Court of First Instance is expected to be announced in mid July.

The campaign team, namely the Association of United Citizens of Macau, was representing the traditional association Aliança de Povo de Instituição de Macau (API) that was headed by Si Ka Lon and Song Pek Kei. The team secured 17 percent of the total votes and thus three seats in the AL.

The alleged bribery was revealed when a Commission Against Corruption (CCAC) officer received a campaign phone call from a 67-year-old housewife surnamed Wong, who was instructed by a 64-year-old API clerk surnamed Ho to assist in mobilizing the associations' members. Ho was allegedly calling the members and appealing to them to mobilize their families to vote for the team on polling day, where they would be offered a free feast and transportation to two upscale restaurants.

The defense lawyers claimed that the authorities' investigation into the case was inadequate and partial, while the prosecutor stated in the closing arguments that the two defendants' alleged acts could be confirmed by call records, contact lists, and the CCAC officer's testimony. **BY**

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"THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN' "

# Children's book illustrator joins Singapore festival

A storyboard made by local artist Sandy Leong Sin U titled "City of Losing Shadow" earned the 28-year-old writer-illustrator a valuable opportunity to meet other equally talented artists from around the globe at Singapore's Asian Festival of Children's Content (AFCC) 2015 last week.

The author highlighted to the Times the opportunity that she was given, as part of the event, to take part in a camp retreat at an Indonesian resort where the participants were able to freely exchange insights into each other's storyboards or literature for children through one-on-one consultations with publishers, award-winning writers and illustrators.

"Everybody talks about their roots [in their books] even though their books don't depict the changes in the cityscapes or in their own experiences. Yet for them, how they honestly faced their challenges reflects how much of their works have become genuine and sincere," said Leong who completed a master's degree in visual arts at Hong Kong Baptist University last year. "It is interesting to see so many people from different parts of the world striving to tell a story of their own, which is so close to their personal experiences."

Only 23 out of 33 entries submitted to the festival's organizers were selected for peer discussion at the Indonesian retreat. After her very first picture book, that outlines the historic assassination of a Portuguese governor who is slain by locals (published in 2012),



Sandy Leong Sin U



The artists depart for the Indonesian retreat

the aspiring writer-illustrator seeks to explore self-discovery in her next work, where all characters born shadow-less in a virtual town strive to keep themselves visible. "I would like them to find their own shadows at the end of the story," she described.

A fictional story can be told in pages of words and graphics, but the years of effort that go into such a work might not be understood unless told verbally. During one of the sharing sessions of the three-day camp, two Indonesian artists wept over their efforts while others also appeared moved about their own work, as Leong recalled. Some of them buckled under family pressure and were

forced to give up what they regarded as a life-long dream.

In comparison to their dilemmas, the young writer-illustrator admitted to the Times that, despite initial difficulties in finding a publisher, her first picture book was successfully printed after she received a substantial financial grant from the local government. "There is no mature market in Macau and it has something to do with the number of readers here. It is a headache for us to speak of a local market. However, the government and the public have grown quite supportive of publishing over the past few years, as it is very significant to a city's cultural abundance

and effective communication."

She decided to turn to publishers for her second offering, walking away from government subsidies. Leong realized that such an endorsement would not come easily. However, the 28-year-old was determined to give it a shot, in spite of the possible hardship she would face along the way.

Rather than ordinary novels, Leong believes that the simple messages conveyed in books targeted at children can be just as enlightening as those catering to adults. "Even now I still remember the books I read in childhood, and how I would every so often find the principles in the book applicable in the real world," said the author.

Aside from the inspiring messages they teach, books written for children might also serve as a bridge to connect the hearts of kids and adults alike, which was why children's reads were so appealing to the artist, who has had her work on display in at least five exhibitions over the past six years.

It can take a while for a writer-illustrator to develop ideas into works that are fit for printing. Having worked as a freelancer after school, Leong will soon begin a full-time job in publishing. Asked about how she would juggle work with creation, the artist seemed to be unbothered by the full-time commitment, saying it was a matter of time management. **Staff reporter**

## A taste of traditional Mozambican cuisine

THE Mozambique Friends' Association is organizing an event aimed at promoting traditional foods, to be held between June 18 and 28. This event will mark the 40th anniversary of the

Republic of Mozambique, after it gained independence from Portugal in 1975.

Chef Carlos Khan da Graça will be preparing a set of Mozambican delicacies at the Café Bela

Vista (Grand Lapa Hotel). The 40th anniversary of the Republic of Mozambique will be formally celebrated on June 26 at Café Bela Vista.

A selection of traditional dishes as part of

a dinner buffet will be available between June 18 and 21, as well as on June 25, 27 and 28. A semi-buffet lunch option will be available between June 18 and 28. In addition, there will

be a "Mozambique Dinner set menu" on June 22, 23 and 24.

Chef Carlos Khan da Graça was born in Quelimane, in northern Mozambique. Regarded as a true expert in the African nation's cuisine, he intends to showcase a wide range of national dishes

from across the country.

The Mozambique Traditional Cuisine Promotion will also feature Mozambican music, which will be played during meals.

The event is organized by the Mozambican Association, in cooperation with Grand Lapa.

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# Fifth lion dancing championship attracts international contestants

**M**ORE than 24 lion dance troupes from around the world will dance their way towards a grand prize and a champion's title in two separate tournaments at MGM Macau's annual Lion Dance Championship, which will take place this upcoming August and November.

The fifth edition of the championship was unveiled at a media briefing yesterday afternoon, where the company's CEO Grant Bowie explained that he wished to extend the popularity of the culturally significant sport beyond Asia by organizing tournaments where different teams could display this Chinese cultural asset in the same arena.

## GRANT BOWIE SHRUGS OFF MERGER RUMORS

**GRANT BOWIE** dismissed speculation of a possible merger between Wynn Resorts and MGM Resort International, asserting that it was nothing more than a rumor. "This report was mere speculation. Frankly we don't comment on speculation," said Bowie. Further asked if the rumor would materialise in the future he claimed, "As I said before, this is speculation. I don't think it does any good to continue on those discussions."



"Deeply rooted in tradition and culture, the Lion Dance has gained popularity across the globe over the years, and MGM Macau has invested much effort into helping promote this significant piece of Chinese culture into an internationally recognized sport," Mr Bowie said.

Apart from collaborating with three public departments and three other sports groups, the gaming operator will host with its sister company Diaoyutai MGM Hospitality the champion's regional leg in Beijing for the first time. As part of this leg, 10 teams will compete in Sanlitun in the Chaoyang district, while another 14 troupes will battle in Macau.

In order to inculcate the significance of such a traditional sport among youth, the gaming operator also partnered with the Hong Wai Sports and Recreation Association of Macau to launch a training program for children between the age of six to ten years of age this summer. Participants will be taught the history of lion dancing and offered tutorials together with classes on the instruments and props required for the process. **Staff reporter**

## Credit expansion announced

**M**GM China announced that it has agreed with its lenders to amend and expand its credit facilities to HKD23.4 billion as well as to extend the maturity by 18 months. According to a press release issued by the gaming operator yesterday, the amended and extended facilities will consist of a

HKD12.09 billion equivalent term loan, comprising of existing term loans of HK\$4.29 billion and new term loans of HK\$7.80 billion.

MGM China CEO and executive director Grant Bowie said: "We are very pleased with the support from our lenders, particularly our local banks in

Macau which have allowed us to upsize the credit facility. It indicates their confidence in MGM China, our development in Cotai as well as the future prospects of the Macau market.

"This financing will be used for general corporate purposes and will provide our company with the financial flexibility to continue to invest in MGM Macau, MGM Cotai and the Greater China region."

## MEDICAL MALPRACTICE

### Group of citizens against doctors' statement

**M**EMBERS from an online political group are trying to garner financial support from other netizens in a bid to express their unified opposition in print against the remarks of multiple medical associations in newspapers over a court verdict on a medical malpractice case.

The promoters of the idea are currently seeking several Chinese-language newspapers to publish their statement, which is still under revision.

The joint statement to be posted later was signed by "a group of Macau citizens who care about society." Its drafted content includes five points and has been made available online. The piece intends to denounce what is deemed as the attempts of 15 medical associations to challenge the city's jurisdiction through non-legal channels as well as their "irresponsible viewpoints" on the ruling in

six separate publications since the beginning of the month, including the front page (bought as an ad) of the Macau Daily News (also known as Ou Mun Yat Po).

The "concerned citizens" message states that anyone dissatisfied with the court's rulings should resort to legal means to seek justice, rather than pursuing any other methods to make the court compromise. It also urges for a court or committee to be established as soon as possible to handle medical malpractice in the city.

The statement also criticized the groups' response to the court ruling, claiming that the medical sector was being irresponsible and unprofessional in those written statements, one of which mentioned that "all sorts of medical check-ups would be imposed on patients before doctors proceed with their diagnosis," as a way to ensure that the diagnosis process is "well-done."

## ONE SHOT NEWS



Portugal's National Day was marked with several activities in Macau, including a reception at the official residence of the Portuguese Consul, located at the former Hotel Bela Vista. Four MSAR government secretaries were in attendance, as well as the Portuguese Secretary of State for Justice, António Costa Moura.





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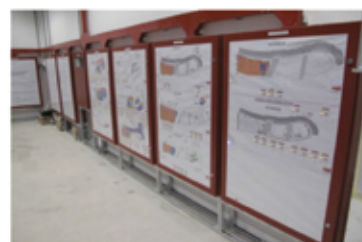
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# KKR-backed SMCP to boost Hong Kong shops as Coach, Prada suffer

Lisa Pham

**G**ROUPE SMCP, which sells fashion brands from Paris, is expanding its chain in Hong Kong amid confidence its brand of affordable luxury will attract shoppers despite the city's slumping retail market.

SMCP, 70 percent-owned by KKR & Co., is planning to open as many as five new outlets in Hong Kong over the next year, adding to its existing eight as brands including Burberry Group Plc and Prada SpA reconsider their strategies in the city. Hong Kong's retail sales fell 2.2 percent in April, a second straight month of decline as China's austerity campaign curbed spending.

The company's Hong Kong-based stores "are seeing an incredible demand for the products," SMCP Chief Executive Officer Daniel Lalonde said in an interview at a hotel near the city's Central financial and shopping district. "The Chinese consumers love the brands - they like the fit." The chain, which sells fashion labels Sandro, Maje, and Claudie Pierlot and targets "modern and elegant women," will also double its outlets in Macau to four in the coming months and look for opportunities to expand in mainland China, said Lalonde, who joined the French retailer from Ralph Lauren Corp. last year.

Same-store sales in the



SMCP CEO Daniel Lalonde

## ■ The chain will also double its outlets in Macau to four in the coming months

Greater China region rose in the high double digits in 2014 compared to a year earlier, Lalonde said, with the first few months of 2015 in line

with last year. SMCP's first point of sales in Asia opened in Hong Kong in 2012, according to its website.

Products such as SMCP's that categorize themselves as "accessible luxury" are enjoying support from a Chinese middle class that is becoming wealthier and more interested in higher quality brands, said Catherine Lim, a retail analyst at Bloomberg Intelligence.

Middle class consumers have been relatively unscathed by Beijing's anti-graft

campaign and "will remain a key support for consumption growth in China," said Lim. "Such affluence is driving greater demand for quality products to which Chinese consumers are willing to pay premium prices for."

The proportion of Chinese households with annual disposable income above USD15,000 is forecast to rise to 41 percent in 2019 from 30 percent last year, according to Bloomberg Intelligence, citing Euromonitor data.

Sales of luxury goods in Hong Kong have slumped amid a clampdown on extravagance and corruption in mainland China and as wealthy tourists choose other holiday destinations. Burberry and Prada are reconsidering their strategy in the city, including looking at property and staffing costs.

Handbag maker Coach Inc. sees "deteriorating conditions" in Hong Kong and Macau, Chief Financial Officer Jane Nielsen said on a conference call with analysts in April. Chinese tourist spending increased in Japan and Europe, she said.

Chinese customers make up about 10 percent of SMCP's sales globally, with an increase in mainland tourists buying from their stores in Europe since the beginning of the year, said Lalonde.

He said he isn't fazed by the bleak commentary from other Hong Kong-based retailers given the company's positioning as an accessible luxury brand.

"This is what I read and what I'm told - we haven't been able to see that at all," said Lalonde at the Upper House hotel's 49th floor lounge, overlooking shops whose rents are the second-priciest in the world after Manhattan. "We've seen very strong sales in all our stores that have been here more than two and a half years." **Bloomberg**

## Inditex net income rises most in two years on Zara expansion

Rodrigo Orihuela

**I**NDITEX SA, the world's largest clothing retailer, reported the fastest profit growth in more than two years as the Zara owner opened more stores and benefited from the weak euro. Net income rose 28 percent to 521 million euros (USD589 million) in the first quarter, which ran through April, Inditex said yesterday in a statement. The company signaled that revenue growth has accelerated slightly so far in the second quarter. Inditex has opened more than 400 stores annually on average over the past five years. Sales in Spain, Inditex's largest market, continue to rise after a 5 percent increase in the past financial year, Chief Executive Officer Pablo Isla said. The 3.1 percent growth that the International Monetary Fund forecasts for the Spanish economy is set to bolster sales. "What is really pleasing is current trading," Anne Critchlow, an analyst at Societe Generale in London, said by phone. Revenue rose to 4.37 billion euros, exceeding the consensus for 4.33 billion euros, gaining 13 percent excluding currency shifts. On that basis, sales rose 13.5 percent in the Feb. 1 to June 7 period. Inditex has more than 500 stores in China and 450 in Russia. The company operates in 88 countries. **Bloomberg**

### corporate bits

#### MGM MACAU RAISES FUNDS FOR ORBIS



For the seventh year in a row, MGM Macau has partnered with Orbis Macau to raise money through the "Orbis Raffle Sale Campaign 2015", and is once again the biggest corporate donor to the charity for the seventh consecutive year. Through fundraising, MGM hopes to help reduce cases of preventable and treatable blindness and visual impairment.

On the afternoon of June 9,

Mr. Grant Bowie, Chief Executive Officer and Executive Director of MGM China Holdings Limited and Ms. Wendy Yu, MGM's Senior Vice President of Human Resources, plus two Golden Lion Team members who were the highest donors among the team, welcomed Ms. Vivian Lo, Director of Development and Ms. Carmen Tavares, Assistant Development Manager of Orbis Macau at the Grande Praça. They then presented a check worth MOP254,000 to Orbis Macau.

The Golden Lion Team members participated the "Orbis Raffle Sale Campaign 2015" between March 23 and March 27. A total of MOP254,000 was raised and is the highest over the past six years.

#### ASIAN ATTRACTIONS EXPO 2015 IN HONG KONG

The International Association of Amusement Parks and Attractions (IAAPA) announced the trade show floor at Asian Attractions Expo 2015 will span more than 9,400 net square meters, setting a new show floor record for the fifth consecutive year. More than 7,000 attendees are expected to participate in Asian Attractions Expo 2015, which takes place 16-19 June at the Hong Kong Convention Centre.

The trade show floor will feature new products and services for the amusement parks and attractions industry, offered by 350 companies, including 70 first-time exhibitors, seeking to make new contacts and sign deals with an estimated 5,000 buyers from 65 countries.

Attendees can register on-site at the Expo in the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre Level 3, 16-19 June. Asian Attractions Expo 2015 is an international business event for attractions industry professionals only and is not open to the general public.

#### GUANGDONG, HK AND MACAU POWER INDUSTRY SUMMIT HELD IN MACAU

The fifth "Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macau Power Industry Summit" took place at Grand Hyatt Macau on 9 June. China Southern Power Grid Corporation Limited (CSG) initiated the event in 2011 so that the three regions' power companies, namely CSG, CLP Holdings Company Limited (CLP) and Companhia de Electricidade de Macau - CEM. S.A. (CEM), take turns to hold the Summit each year in the mainland, Hong Kong and Macau, respectively. China General Nuclear Power Corporation (CGNPC) has been invited to participate in the Summit since 2012. The Summit provides a platform for top executives from the four companies to enhance communications and cooperation through regular meetings and exchange sessions, in an effort to enhance the



quality of power supply and develop a multilateral partnership in the three regions.

Key executives, including Wang Jiuling, Vice President of CSG, Richard Lancaster, CLP Holdings CEO, He Yu, CGN Chairman and Xu Kaicheng, CEM's Chairman of the Board of Directors, attended the Summit and discussed topics based on the theme "Green and Renewable energy, sustainable development of Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macau".



# China plans to help Angola to overcome crisis

CHINA will assist Angola in “overcoming difficulties” created by the drop in oil prices “and resulting” decreased revenues, the Director of African Affairs of the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs said Tuesday in Beijing.

After signing several two-way cooperation agreements, some of which involved the Angolan Finance Ministry, Lin Songtian added that “both President Xi Jinping and the prime minister, Li Keqiang, said China will help Angola overcome difficulties it is experiencing and help to di-

versify the economy.”

The Director of African Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs declined, however, to disclose the amounts in question, saying “for now we will treat this issue as a private matter,” according to Portuguese news agency Lusa.

The ceremony to sign the agreements took place in the Great Hall of the People in Beijing, attended by the presidents of the two countries, Xi Jinping and José Eduardo dos Santos, respectively.

Eduardo dos Santos Monday

began a six-day visit to China, accompanied by nine ministers and, as well as with his Chinese counterpart, has met with the prime minister, Li Keqiang, and the Chairman of the Chinese People’s Political Consultative Conference, Yu Zhengsheng.

Jose Eduardo dos Santos schedule in China also includes a visit to Tianjin, the largest port in the north of the country, about 150 kilometers from the capital, and an economic forum with nearly 200 participants.

MDT/Macauhub



Xi Jinping and Eduardo dos Santos

# East-Timor conducts 3rd population and housing census

THE third East Timor National Census of Population and Housing begins officially on 11 July that, according to President Taur Matan Ruak will help understand “the needs of the population.”

This census, the third after those carried out in 2004 and 2010, will collect information on aspects such as the size of



Justice Minister Ivo Valente explains the census process

the population, education, health, labor market, agriculture, water and sanitation, electricity, mortality rate and poverty levels.

“Better understanding the reality of the country helps with proper planning and to develop policies and programs based on real information, to design a better future for all,” said Taur Matan Ruak, at the launch

meeting of the census, cited by Portuguese news agency Lusa.

The census is being prepared by the Directorate General of Statistics of the Ministry of Finance in collaboration with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the UN Women agency.

The previous census, conducted in 2010, revealed,

among other things, that both the population and unemployment had increased, rapid migration to the capital, more access to electricity, television and mobile phones and reduced illiteracy.

This study also revealed that the population of East-Timor increased 15 percent compared to 2004, and in 2010 the country had 1.06 million people, of which more than half were male. MDT/Macauhub

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# Gov't assembles 60-strong team to probe deadly ship sinking



Rescuers work on the raised capsized ship Eastern Star on the Yangtze River in Jianli county, in southern China's Hubei province

CHINA has assembled a team of 60 investigators to look into last week's river cruise ship sinking following orders from President Xi Jinping to find the cause of the country's

worst maritime disaster in nearly seven decades.

Just 14 people survived the capsizing of the Eastern Star on the evening of June 1 as the ship was carrying 456 people,

many of them elderly tourists, on a cruise to the Yangtze River port of Chongqing.

Authorities have attributed the sinking to a freak storm that generated tornado-like winds,

but also have placed the surviving captain and his first engineer in police custody.

Extensive interviews have been conducted with surviving crew members, witnesses, tho-

se who designed and modified the ship and others, state broadcaster CCTV reported yesterday. It said 60 specialists have been gathered for the investigative team.

Video footage and other evidence have been obtained from the ship, and weather, radar and other data was being analyzed for indications of what went wrong.

The disaster left 442 people dead or missing.

Passengers' relatives have raised questions about whether the ship should have continued its voyage despite a weather warning. The actions of the captain in the final 12 minutes before the sinking have come under scrutiny, with reports saying he altered speed and course in an attempt to manage the pressure on the ship.

DNA has been used to identify the remains, with more than 200 confirmed.

Along with the weather, investigators are expected to focus on alternations carried out on the ship in 1997 that lengthened it and may have altered its center of gravity, according to a report this week in the official newspaper Beijing News.

The ship, which was righted and raised in a swift operation last week, has been moved to a location away from river shipping where it can be stabilized. AP

## HONG KONG

# Opposition to vote plan ties support for first time

Fion Li

OPPOSITION to a China-backed plan for the first election of Hong Kong's chief executive rose, reaching parity with approval levels for the first time since the government unveiled the proposal in April.

Some 42.8 percent of respondents opposed the proposal, according to a tracking poll by a coalition of universities. That's up from 37.6 percent at the start of the survey in late April. Support for the proposal slipped to 42.8 percent.

The legislation requires candidates for the 2017 election to be chosen by a 1,200-member nominating committee before the public vote. Pro-democracy groups argue the system is designed to ensure only Beijing loyalists will be able to compete.

The result of the poll comes a week before the government is due to present the election plan for a vote in the city's legislature. Chief Executive Leung Chun-ying needs support from at least four pro-democracy lawmakers to secure the two-third majority needed for passage.



Yellow crosses are placed after pro-democracy lawmakers walked out of the legislative chamber to protest against Chief Secretary Carrie Lam who unveiled the Beijing-backed election reform package details, Wednesday, April 22

Carrie Lam, the city's No. 2 official, saw very slim chances of lawmakers approving the government's electoral plan as all 27 pro-democracy legislators continue to vow to oppose the plan, the South China Morning Post reported yesterday.

The proposal was the catalyst of nearly three months of street protests in the Asian financial hub last year.

The Chinese University of Hong Kong, the University of Hong Kong and Hong Kong Polytechnic University jointly conduct the survey. The poll queried 1,118

adults between June 2 and June 6 and didn't provide a margin of error. Bloomberg

42.8 pct

Percentage of respondents who opposed the proposal

# Hong Kong stocks retreat as fever case sparks MERS speculation

Kana Nishizawa and Natasha Khan

HONG Kong stocks fell, with the Hang Seng Index posting the lowest close in two months, after local officials said they were testing a woman for fever.

A 22-year-old woman who traveled last month to South Korea, where Middle East respiratory syndrome has killed nine people, is in an isolated ward of a Hong Kong hospital after developing a fever on Tuesday, the city's health department said in an e-mailed statement.

The city's benchmark gauge slid as much as 1.5 percent before paring declines to 1.1 percent at the close yesterday. Cathay Pacific Airways Ltd. slipped 1.6 percent, while retailer Chow Tai Fook Jewellery Group Ltd. fell 3.1 percent.

"Reports about MERS were a catalyst to bring the market down," said Mari Oshidari, a Hong Kong-based strategist at Okasan Securities Group Inc. "The

market has been unstable recently, so in this kind of environment, investors are taking any excuse to sell."

Hong Kong issued a red alert on outbound travel to South Korea this week, warning its citizens to avoid unnecessary visits to the country. China's only current MERS patient arrived on a flight from Korea, prompting criticism from the country's official Xinhua News Agency, and there hasn't been a confirmed case of the virus in Hong Kong.

Concern about infectious respiratory diseases is ingrained in the city's psyche after a widespread SARS outbreak in 2003. SARS infected 1,755 people in Hong Kong, killing 300, and caused economic losses totaling HKD3.8 billion (USD490 million) in two months alone as tourist arrivals dwindled. Despite officially being called Middle East respiratory syndrome, local press often refer to the disease as "new SARS" in bold headlines. Bloomberg



Louise Watt, Beijing

**M**YANMAR opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi will meet with Chinese leaders in Beijing this week to build ties with her country's giant neighbor, while China hopes to shore up its declining influence in the Southeast Asian nation following recent democratic reforms there.

The secluded, five-day visit, which started yesterday and includes no scheduled public appearances, gives the Beijing leadership a chance to get to know Suu Kyi at a time when her country has shifted toward Western countries, Japan and other potential investors.

Myanmar's citizens, now freer to protest, have stalled a Chinese-backed dam and other projects out of environmental concerns, and China is upset about fighting between Myanmar's military and rebels in the border area.

"There are question marks on both sides as to where that relationship is headed," said Jürgen Haacke, a political scientist at London School of Economics. "It is useful for (the Chinese leadership) to play the Suu Kyi card to try and have a different approach, a different avenue to get their message across."

Suu Kyi is an international democracy icon for her years long defiance of, and imprisonment at the hands of, an authoritarian military government in Myanmar that was supported at the time by China, which still keeps fellow Nobel Peace laureate Liu Xiaobo imprisoned for his calls for democracy. However, Suu Kyi has maintained since her release in 2010 that her country must maintain friendly relations with China, and the trip demonstrates her determination to accumulate the diplomatic credentials to potentially contest Myanmar's presidency no matter how it might clash with her past role.

When asked yesterday whether Suu Kyi's visit might be an occasion for China to release Liu, convicted in 2009 of subversion and sentenced to 11 years in prison, Foreign Ministry spokesman Hong Lei said no. "There's no reason to backpedal on the verdict that has been made by Chinese judicial authorities according to law,"



Myanmar's opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi, center, arrives at Yangon International Airport to depart for China

## Top leaders to host Suu Kyi on 1st Beijing visit

**Asked whether Suu Kyi's visit might be an occasion to release [fellow Nobel laureate] Liu Xiaobo, Foreign Ministry spokesman Hong Lei said no**

Hong said.

Suu Kyi's first trip to China is a party-to-party meeting between China's Communist Party and her opposition National League for Democracy, which is expected to perform stron-

gly in elections later this year. She is constitutionally barred from contesting the presidency because of a provision barring people who have been married to foreigners, but has campaigned for a change that would allow her candidacy.

She will meet President Xi Jinping and Premier Li Ke-qiang, NLD spokesman Han Tha Myint said.

Chinese officials have not confirmed which leaders she will meet, nor released details of her itinerary. In contrast to state visits, such party-to-party visits to China often are kept semi-secret, with little or no media access.

Suu Kyi arrived late yesterday afternoon at Beijing's international airport and was taken straight into a car with a police escort.

China began reaching out to Suu Kyi's party when she became a member of parliament in 2012, said another NLD

spokesman, Nyan Win. Chinese media now cover the party's events and news conferences, something they rarely did before 2010, he said.

As Myanmar has opened up, citizens have been emboldened to display anti-Chinese sentiment and protest Chinese-backed projects, succeeding in delaying some of them. Building of the Myitsone dam — a joint Chinese-Myanmar project on the Irrawaddy River — has been suspended since 2011.

Analysts expect the two sides to discuss controversial joint projects, also including a copper mine that has led to violent crackdowns by the Myanmar government on protesters, including Buddhist monks who were injured by smoke bombs. The sides also are likely to discuss fighting between Myanmar's military and rebels along the border that occasionally spills

into China, and how Suu Kyi sees Myanmar developing.

Qu Jianwen, a Southeast Asian affairs expert at China's Yunnan University, said Suu Kyi will be able to take "objective and reliable information" back to Myanmar's people about Beijing's intentions in their country to counter their negative image of China.

China considers Myanmar strategically important as a gateway to the Indian Ocean and Bay of Bengal, and wants to secure oil and gas pipelines in its Southeast Asian neighbor.

"In the medium-term, China is likely to remain the largest investor," said Omar Hamid, London-based head of Asia Pacific Country Risk at IHS, an independent economic consultant.

Meanwhile, Suu Kyi will seek to position herself as a leader who can draw support from both the West and China, Hamid said. **AP**

## HK grants USD1.2m to help Nepal quake victims

**T**HE Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) government yesterday approved two grants totaling HKD9.345 million (USD1.2 million U) for earthquake relief in Nepal.

The government made the decision advised by the region's Disaster Relief Fund Advisory Committee.

The two grants will be distributed to two agencies - one totaling HK\$5.846 million to

the Amity Foundation, Hong Kong and one of HK\$3.499 million to Habitat for Humanity Hong Kong. The organizations will facilitate the provision of relief to the victims and help them resume their daily lives.

The grants are further to the disbursement of HK\$57 million made earlier for the government of Nepal and an agency to provide emergency relief to victims affected by the earthquake, taking the accumulative value of the aid grants to

HK\$66.345 million.

A spokesman for the HKSAR government said that to ensure the money will be used for the designated purposes, Amity Foundation, Hong Kong and Habitat for Humanity Hong Kong would be asked to

submit evaluation reports and audited accounts on the use of the grants after the relief projects have been completed.

On April 25, Nepal was struck by a 7.9-magnitude earthquake, leaving more than 8,000 people dead. A 7.4-magnitude aftershock took place on May 12, causing further casualties. **Xinhua**



## MALAYSIA

# Gov't detains 4 accused of posing naked at quake-hit peak

**M**ALAYSIAN police said yesterday that they have detained four Westerners suspected of posing naked at the country's highest peak last month, just days before an earthquake killed 18 climbers on the mountain.

Police obtained a court order to detain them for four days while they're investigated for indecent behavior, said Sabah state police chief Jalaluddin Abdul Rahman.

Two Canadian siblings and a Dutch male surrendered themselves at a police station in Sabah on Tuesday evening, he said. A British woman was detained at a Sabah airport earlier Tuesday while trying to fly to Kuala Lumpur.

Malaysia's Foreign Affairs Ministry earlier identified the siblings to The Canadian Press news agency as Lindsey Petersen and Danielle Petersen.

They were believed to be part of a group of 10 people who stripped naked before taking photos at Mount Kinabalu on May 30.

A magnitude-5.9 earthquake

AP PHOTO



Malaysians light candles at a vigil for the victims of the earthquake in Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia on Monday, June 8

Friday sent rocks and boulders raining down the trekking routes on the 4,095-meter-high mountain in Sabah on Borneo island, killing 18 climbers.

The victims were nine Singaporeans, six Malaysians and a Filipino, a Chinese and a Japanese national.

The quake damaged roads and buildings, including schools and a hospital on Sabah's west coast.

It also broke one of the twin rock formations on the mountain known as the "Donkey's Ears."

Sabah Deputy Chief Minister Joseph Pairin Kitingan has blamed the tragedy on the foreigners for showing "disrespect to the sacred mountain" by posing naked at the peak. He has said a special ritual will be conducted to "appease the mountain spirit." **AP**

## INDIA

# Mumbai court bans joyriding in iconic horse-drawn carriages

**T**HE blingy joyrides will soon be ending in Mumbai.

Tourists hoping to roll down the city's cacophonous streets in one of its famed, horse-drawn carriages will have to do so before June 2016, when a court has ordered the carriages be banned, saying it was a form of animal cruelty.

The single-horse carriages — festooned with bright, flashy lights, plastic hibiscus blooms and tinsel ornaments — have long been a draw for visitors to India's cramped and cobblestoned financial capital. Known as Victoria carriages, they were once popular with wealthy families in 19th century England, and are recognizable for their large wheels and for allowing passengers to sit face-to-face.

But "the activity of using horse-driven carriages only for joyrides solely for human pleasure is an avoidable activity" and "illegal," the Mumbai High Court said in a ruling issued this week after a charity alleged cruelty to the blinkered beasts of burden, according to the Press Trust of India news agency.

The court also demanded all stables within the city be closed, and ordered Maharashtra's state government to come up with a plan for rehabilitating both the horses and the 700 or so families who depend on carriage driving for their livelihoods. That plan is due in December.

The court stopped short of banning carriages outside of Mumbai, however, noting that horses as well as oxen and camels are still used to pull work carts and carriages nationwide.

"But if it is noticed that carriages are used for joyrides, then that should be stopped by the concerned authority," the court ruling said. **AP**

AD

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People wearing face masks ride onboard a subway train in Incheon, South Korea

## SOUTH KOREA

# Park delays US trip as ninth MERS victim dies

Sam Kim, Cynthia Kim  
and Shinhye Kang

**S**OUTH Korea's President Park Geun Hye postponed a U.S. trip to oversee her government's handling of the Middle East respiratory syndrome outbreak, which claimed two more lives amid warnings of damage to the economy.

Park, facing pressure from lawmakers including one from her own party, postponed her U.S. visit due to start on June 14 that would have included a meeting with President Barack Obama. It will be rescheduled at the earliest possible time, her office said in a statement yesterday.

South Korea's MERS outbreak is the second-largest after Saudi Arabia, and comes at a time when the country's exports are shrinking and banks are lowering growth forecasts for Asia's fourth-largest economy. The government is trying to avoid a repeat of the slump in consumer spending that followed the Sewol ferry sinking last year.

"She's more worried about the economic implications of MERS than the virus itself," Hong Sung Gul, a professor of policy studies at Kookmin University in Seoul said by phone. "The economy faces structural difficulties and if the government botches its handling of MERS while she's away it wou-

ld seriously hurt South Korea's global reputation."

Park's decision followed Finance Minister Choi Kyung Hwan's announcement of 400 billion won (USD357 million) of support for small businesses affected by the outbreak, especially those related to tourism and entertainment. The government has pledged to end the virus's spread by this week.

## ■ The latest deaths are a 62-year-old man with a history of liver cancer and a 75-year-old female with a history of multiple myeloma

"Complete control is possible now because MERS has been spreading at medical institutions and not to the general public," Choi said at a meeting in Sejong, south of Seoul. "Having said that, I'm worried it's making life more difficult for small businesses, as well as or-

dinary citizens, if the situation goes on for long and public concern increases."

The number of new MERS cases rose by 13 to 108, with nine deaths, the country's health ministry said in an e-mailed statement. A total of 3,439 people are in isolation, of which 180 are in hospitals, and more than 2,400 schools are closed.

The World Health Organization yesterday urged South Korea to re-open the schools, saying they have not been linked to the transmission of the virus anywhere.

The latest deaths are a 62-year-old man with a history of liver cancer and a 75-year-old female with a history of multiple myeloma, a cancer of the plasma cells. Both came into contact with a MERS patient in the same hospital emergency room, the health ministry said.

Authorities have said all the infections have taken place in hospitals, indicating the virus hasn't spread into the community. Still, the government has faced criticism both at home and overseas for missteps in its response, in particular over its initial refusal to name the hospitals involved.

"This week is a critical period, considering the virus incubation period," Choi said at a latter televised briefing, speaking in his capacity as acting prime minister. "The situation will settle down if we manage to avoid

large numbers of additional infections."

Choi urged people to continue ordinary economic activity because the MERS virus cannot spread through the air. Tour operators in South Korea have reported cancellations including by groups from China.

Hong Kong and Macau on Tuesday issued warnings against unnecessary travel to South Korea, while Japan and China have said they've strengthened monitoring of inbound travelers to prevent the virus's spread. China's only current MERS patient arrived on a flight from South Korea, prompting criticism from the country's official Xinhua News Agency.

The MERS outbreak comes weeks after the anniversary of the Sewol ferry sinking that killed 300 people, and has drawn parallels with the government's botched handling of that tragedy. Park's approval rating is near an all-time low.

"She really desperately needs something momentous that's positive to redefine her legacy, otherwise it's Sewol," John De-

lury, a political science professor at Seoul's Yonsei University, said Tuesday. "This is having the opposite effect. It reminds everyone of many of the same things that didn't go right then or are not going right now."

South Korea's economy has yet to fully recover from the slump in sentiment caused by the outpouring of grief over the disaster. Expansion last year was 3.3 percent, compared with 4 percent projected by the Bank of Korea just a few days before the ferry went down with more than 300 people aboard.

The central bank's most recent outlook is for gross domestic product to increase 3.1 percent.

The political fallout from MERS and backlash against Park may grow if infections continue to rise, said Kookmin University's Hong.

"It's excessive to place all blame on her for the spread of MERS," Hong said. "Yet the final responsibility lies with her, and she has a chance to turn the situation around by making aggressive public gestures that she's doing all she can to fight MERS." **Bloomberg**

### WHO RECOMMENDS REOPENING SCHOOLS CLOSED OVER MERS

**EXPERTS FROM** the World Health Organization and South Korea yesterday urged the reopening of nearly 2,500 schools closed over fears of the deadly MERS virus. "Strong consideration should be given to re-opening schools, as schools have not been linked to transmission of" the MERS virus in South Korea, according to a release from the joint WHO-South Korea mission tasked with reviewing the outbreak. Other South Korean doctors have already described the massive school clo-

tures as nonsensical because there has been no evidence of the virus' transmission in the community. It's not known how many schools would follow the recommendation. But South Korean officials hope the outbreak will come under control around tomorrow, the last day of the virus' maximum two-week incubation period for those infected by a patient considered as the main source of the second round of the MERS outbreak. Officials say the first wave of the outbreak ended.





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Informative Talk

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Time  
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## EGYPT

# Suicide bomber targets ancient temple in Luxor

Haggag Salama, Luxor

A suicide bomber blew himself up yesterday just steps away from the ancient Egyptian temple of Karnak in Luxor, a southern city visited by millions of tourists every year, security and health officials said.

Shortly after the explosion, police exchanged fire with and killed two suspected Islamic militants who had arrived at the sprawling, Nile-side temple together with the suicide bomber, the officials said.

Four people, including two policemen, were wounded in the exchange, according to the Health Ministry in Cairo.

The governor of the southern Egyptian city of Luxor, Mohammed Sayed Badr, said no tourists were hurt in the bombing outside the famed temple. Speaking to The Associated Press over the phone, he said the attack was "an attempt to break into the temple of Karnak."

"They didn't make it in," he added of the attackers.

Yesterday's attack was the second this month by suspected Islamic militants at or near a major tourist attraction. On June 3, gunmen on a speeding motorcycle opened fire outside the famed Giza Pyramids on the outskirts of Cairo, killing two



A tourist has her picture taken at the ruins of the Karnak Temple in Luxor

police officers.

Badr also offered a slightly different version of how the attack unfolded. He said three men carrying bags got out of a car in the temple's parking lot, which immediately made the police suspicious and policemen ordered them to stop.

One of the three then began running, so the police fired at him and an explosive belt he was wearing blew up. A second man had a gun and started shooting at the police before he was shot and killed. The third attacker was wounded in the shootout and arrested by an

undercover policeman.

Badr said the nationalities of the three men have yet to be determined. Badr's account and that of the security officials could not immediately be reconciled, but that is common in the immediate aftermath of major attacks.

There were only a handful of tourists and Egyptians inside the temple at the time of the late morning attack, added the security officials, speaking on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to speak to the media.

Yesterday's attack was the first to target world-famous attractions in Luxor since November 1997, when Islamic militants opened fire on tourists at the city's 3,400-year-old Hatshepsut Temple on the west bank of the Nile, killing 58.

Tourism is the lifeblood of Luxor, home to some of Egypt's most famous ancient temples and pharaonic tombs, including that of King Tutankhamun. The city has been hit hard by a downturn in foreign visitors during the years of unrest since Egypt's 2011 uprising.

There was no immediate claim of responsibility for yesterday's attack, but it bore the hallmarks of Islamic militants who have been battling security forces in the strategic Sinai Peninsula for years. Extremists in Sinai have targeted tourism sites to try to deny the government a key source of revenue.

Last year, the Sinai-based insurgent group Ansar Beit al-Maqdis pledged allegiance to the Islamic State group, which has destroyed famed archaeological sites in Syria and Iraq, viewing them as idolatrous.

The campaign of violence in Sinai accelerated and spread to other parts of Egypt following the 2013 military overthrow of Islamist President Mohammed Morsi. The militants say the attacks are in revenge for a massive crackdown on Islamists underway in Egypt. **AP**

## IRAQ

# US to send more troops for expanded training mission

Robert Burns and  
Lolita C. Baldor, Jerusalem

An expected White House decision to send several hundred more troops to Iraq to expand training of Iraqi forces in Anbar province is not a shift in U.S. strategy but is aimed at helping Iraq retake the provincial capital, Ramadi, and eventually blunt the Islamic State's battlefield momentum.

The decision, which could be announced as soon as today, would increase the number of U.S. training sites in Iraq from four to five and enable a larger number of Iraqis — mostly Sunni tribal volunteers, in this case — to join the fight against the Islamic militant group. It is consistent with the over-



In this Sunday, May 10 photo, Sunni tribal fighters secure central Ramadi, the capital of Anbar province, 115 km west of Baghdad

all U.S. approach of building up Iraqi forces while simultaneously conducting aerial bombing of Islamic State targets.

U.S. officials have said repeatedly that getting the Sunnis more deeply

involved in the war is critical to ousting IS from Anbar.

It leaves open, however, the larger question of whether the Shiite-led Iraqi government will make the troop commit-

ments necessary to oust the Islamic State from Ramadi, which the militants captured last month, and Fallujah, which they have held for more than a year. Up to now, Iraqi officials have chosen to deploy most U.S.-trained Iraqi troops in defensive formations around Baghdad, the capital.

President Barack Obama has ruled out sending U.S. ground combat forces to Iraq. There now are slightly fewer than 3,100 U.S. troops there in training, advising, security and other support roles. The U.S. also is flying bombing missions as well as aerial reconnaissance and intelligence-gathering missions to degrade the Islamic State's forces, while counting on Iraqi ground troops to retake

lost territory.

A U.S. official said yesterday that the extra U.S. training site will be at al-Taqqadum, a desert air base that was a U.S. military hub during the 2003-2011 war. Establishing the training camp will require between 400 and 500 U.S. troops, including trainers, logisticians and security personnel, the official said, speaking on condition of anonymity because a final administration decision had not been announced.

The U.S. already is training Iraqi troops at four sites — two in the vicinity of Baghdad, one at al-Asad air base in Anbar province and one near Irbil in northern Iraq.

The addition of one training site is a modest tweak to the existing U.S.

approach in Iraq. It was unclear yesterday how many more Iraqi troops could be added to the fight against IS in coming months by opening one new training base. One official said the training at al-Taqqadum is likely to begin this summer.

Over the past year the U.S. has trained approximately 9,000 Iraqi troops.

The new plan is not likely to include the deployment of U.S. forces closer to the front lines to either call in airstrikes or advise smaller Iraqi units in battle, officials said. One official, however, said the adjustment may include a plan for expediting the delivery of arms and military equipment to some elements of the Iraqi military. **AP**



## what's ON

**MACAU HANDOVER HISTORICAL DOCUMENTS**  
DONATED BY LAU SIN PENG  
TIME: 10am-7pm  
(Closed on Mondays, No admission after 6:30 pm)  
UNTIL: December 31, 2015  
VENUE: Multi-function Hall,  
Handover Gifts Museum of Macao  
ADMISSION: MOP5  
(Free on Sundays and public holidays)  
ENQUIRIES: (853) 8791 9814

**MACAU GRAND PRIX MUSEUM & WINE MUSEUM**  
TIME: 10am-8pm daily (Except Tuesdays)  
VENUE: Rua Luis Gonzaga Gomes, 431, basement  
(Tourism Activities Centre-CAT)  
ADMISSION: Free  
ENQUIRIES: (853) 8798 4108 / 2833 3000

**PHOTOGRAPHS OF MACAU OLD SHOPS**  
TIME: 10am-7pm  
(Closed on Mondays, No admission after 6:30 pm)  
UNTIL: December 31, 2015  
VENUE: Macau Museum of Art,  
Av. Xian Xing Hai, s/n, NAPE  
ADMISSION: MOP5  
(Free on Sundays and public holidays)  
ENQUIRIES: (853) 8791 9814

**WESTERN VIEWS ON CHINA:  
PAINTS OF THE 19TH CENTURY ABOUT CHINA**  
TIME: 10am-7pm  
(Closed on Mondays, No admission after 6:30 pm)  
UNTIL: December 31, 2015  
VENUE: Macau Museum of Art,  
Av. Xian Xing Hai, s/n, NAPE  
ADMISSION: MOP5  
(Free on Sundays and public holidays)  
ENQUIRIES: (853) 8791 9814

**INSTALLATION 'VALKYRIE OCTOPUS'**  
BY JOANA VASCONCELOS  
TIME: 24 hours  
UNTIL: October 31, 2015  
VENUE: MGM MACAU, Av. Dr. Sun Yat Sen, NAPE  
ADMISSION: Free  
ENQUIRIES: (853) 8802 8888

**THE PAST – MASTERS OF MACAU:  
AN EXHIBITION OF POETRY, CALLIGRAPHY,  
PAINTING AND SEAL-CARVING 2015**  
TIME: 10am-7pm  
(Closed on Mondays, no admission after 6:30 pm)  
UNTIL: July 19, 2015  
VENUE: Macau Museum of Art,  
Av. Xian Xing Hai, s/n, NAPE  
ADMISSION: MOP5  
(Free on Sundays and public holidays)  
ENQUIRIES: (853) 8791 9814

## Offbeat

COLORADO SEES 1ST CAMP RESORT  
FOR POT USERS

Colorado is full of all-inclusive ranch resorts where guests hike, fish, play horseshoes and roast marshmallows. This one has a new offering – smoking pot.

The 170-acre CannaCamp opening July 1 in Durango in southwest Colorado calls itself the nation's first cannabis-friendly ranch resort.

Guests won't be given marijuana, because that violates state law. Instead, the resort allows guests to bring their own pot and use it while at the resort.

In addition to horseshoes and hiking, guests are offered yoga sessions and workshops on marijuana cultivation.

"We're bringing an element of luxury to that adventurous, exploratory vibe of childhood summer camp – in a beautiful setting where visitors can enjoy marijuana in a safe, comfortable, social environment," Joel Schneider, head of the management group opening CannaCamp, said in a statement.

Guests stay in cabins that allow smoking on porches but not inside. Rates start at USD395 per person per night. **AP**

## TV canal macau

13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
14:30	RTPi Live
18:20	The Illusionist (Repeated)
19:10	Montra do Lilau (Repeated)
19:40	Soap Opera
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:00	TDM Talk Show
21:30	Miscellaneous
22:10	The Illusionist
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Miscellaneous
00:20	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)

## cinema

## CINETEATRO

11 JUN - 17 JUN



## JURASSIC WORLD

ROOM 1  
(2D) 2.30, 4.45, 9.30 pm  
(3D) 7.15 pm  
Director: Colin Trevorrow  
Starring: Chris Pratt, Bryce Dallas Howard  
Language: English (Chinese)  
Duration: 124min

## SAN ANDREAS

ROOM 2  
(2D) 2.30, 4.30, 9.30 pm  
(3D) 7.30 pm  
Director: Brad Peyton  
Starring: Dwayne Johnson, Carla Gugino,  
Alexandra Daddario  
Language: Japanese (Chinese/English)  
Duration: 114min



## FORCE MAJEURE

ROOM 3  
2.30, 4.45, 7.15, 9.30 pm  
Director: Ruben Ostlund  
Starring: Johannes Kuhnke, Lisa Loven Kongsli  
Language: English (Chinese)  
Duration: 120min

## (13 JUNE) SLP 2: A TIME FOR CONSEQUENCES

ROOM 3  
9.30 pm  
Director: Cheang Pou-soi  
Starring: Tony Jaa, Loius Koo, Simon Yam  
Language: Cantonese (English/Chinese)  
Duration: 130min

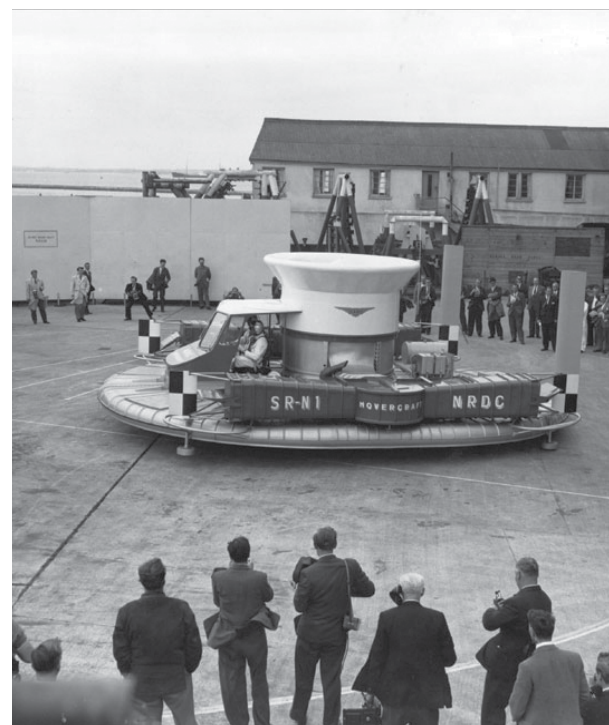
## MACAU TOWER

04 JUN - 01 JUL

## JURASSIC WORLD

(3D) 2.30, 4.45, 7.15, 9.30 pm  
Director: Colin Trevorrow  
Starring: Chris Pratt, Bryce Dallas Howard  
Language: English (Chinese)  
Duration: 124min

## this day in history

1959 HOVERCRAFT MARKS  
NEW ERA IN TRANSPORT

A revolutionary new form of transport which can operate on sea and land has been officially launched in the Solent, off England's south coast. The Hovercraft, which has been described as a cross between an aircraft, a boat and a land vehicle, was invented by boat-builder Christopher Cockerell.

Dubbed a "man-made flying saucer", the hovercraft is propelled on a cushion of air created by its own fan power. It therefore hovers just above the waves at sea and avoids any irregular surfaces on land.

Christopher Cockerell, from Lowestoft, began working on a hovercraft model in the mid-1950s. He said he first came up with the idea when he was thinking how to make a boat go faster by reducing the amount of friction caused when it travels through the water.

He first tested the 'hover' theory using a cat food tin inside a coffee tin, with an industrial air blower and a pair of kitchen scales.

In 1955 he convinced the Ministry of Supply to back him but he was not able to commercially develop the product immediately as his idea had been placed on the government's secret list because of its potential benefits to the military.

In 1959 Cockerell managed to get his idea removed from the secret list and formed the Hovercraft Development Company Ltd. He obtained funding from the National Research Development Council of £150,000 to develop the project.

A contract to build the first Hovercraft was awarded to Saunders Roe, the flying boat firm at Cowes, at the beginning of this year. The SRN-1, an experimental model, is 29 feet long and 24 feet wide and weighs 6,600lb.

Following today's launch of the SRN-1 hovercraft in the Solent, Saunders Roe announced it is now planning a prototype up to ten times as big and weighing 40 tons.

The hovercraft, which has controls very similar to those in a helicopter, can reach speeds of up to 25-knots and it is hoped that at some stage in the future it will be able to cross the English Channel in as little as 20 minutes.

Courtesy BBC News

## IN CONTEXT

**Sir** Christopher Cockerell died on 1 June 1999. Within weeks of its launch the Hovercraft crossed the English Channel from Calais to Dover. On 26 July it left Calais at 4.49am and arrived in Dover at 6.45am.

Since then more than 80 million people and 12 million cars have crossed the channel by hovercraft. The cross-channel service was stopped in October 2000 due to increased competition from ferries and the channel tunnel.

The use of an air cushion to speed ships was considered as early as the 18th century.

Sir John Thornycroft got as far as patenting an early design in the mid 1870s but engines that produced enough power to make hovercrafts practical were not available until this century.

Hovercrafts are still widely used in areas where land surface is uneven or sea levels low.



YOUR STARS

Aries Mar. 21-Apr. 19 Slow down a bit and try to enjoy what you've got...

Taurus April 20-May 20 You need to switch gears for a bit and see if you can find a new way of understanding your world...

Gemini May 21-Jun. 21 You can't just think through today's problems - you need to experiment to learn anything.

Cancer Jun. 22-Jul. 22 It's very hard to make yourself understood today - in fact, people may misunderstand you in some very basic ways.

Leo Jul. 23-Aug. 22 You need to pay attention - there are people close to you who need to be heard before you can take action.

Virgo Aug. 23-Sept. 22 Your ambitions are key to your success today - if you're not following up on your deepest desires, than you may find that your energy is diffuse and inefficient.

Libra Sep.23-Oct. 22 You feel weirder than usual - and that feeling isn't going away anytime soon. Just take a deep breath and work through it.

Scorpio Oct. 23 - Nov. 21 You and your colleagues or neighbors are unusually friendly today - which could mean that it's a love-fest!

Sagittarius Nov. 22-Dec. 21 It's a good day for you to consider your retirement or savings. Even if you're in debt, you can find ways to get back into the black more quickly.

Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 19 You've managed something big today - so make the most of it! A big accomplishment makes you wonder what comes next, but that shouldn't be a problem for you.

Aquarius Jan. 20-Feb. 18 Things aren't looking good right now - but don't try to fight it! Your energy is ebbing a bit, but it should come flowing back in the near future.

Pisces Feb.19-Mar. 20 You've got someone looking out for you - make the most of it! You may find a new opportunity coming your way or a set-up with a new cutie.

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

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

WEATHER

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

CROSSWORDS

Crossword puzzle with clues for Across and Down. Includes a 'Yesterday's solution' grid and a 'Crossword puzzles provided by BestCrosswords.com' watermark.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

List of useful telephone numbers including Emergency calls, Fire department, PJ (Open line), PJ (Picket), PSP, Customs, S. J. Hospital, Kiang Wu Hospital, Commission Against Corruption (CCAC), IACM, Tourism, and Airport.



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Graham Dunbar

# More turmoil for FIFA and World Cup bidding contests

**O**N another day of turmoil for FIFA and the World Cup, the bidding contest for the 2026 tournament was put on hold. FIFA secretary general Jerome Valcke said yesterday it would be “nonsense” to begin the next bidding process on schedule this week amid the American investigation into football corruption.

Valcke, speaking at a news conference in Russia hosted by organizers of the 2018 tournament, also defended his role in a USD10 million bribery scandal linked to the 2010 World Cup.

“I will answer all the questions. I have nothing to hide,” Valcke said.

The storm unleashed by separate U.S. and Swiss federal investigations has already further sullied FIFA’s image and led to the resignation of its president, Sepp Blatter.

The favorite to succeed Blatter, former protege turned adversary Michel Platini, criticized football’s governing body yesterday while also welcoming a delay in 2026 business.

“Today there is no leadership at FIFA so it’s normal that it’s been suspended,” the UEFA president and former France great said at a news conference in Paris.

The United States is among the expected contenders in the May 2017 vote.

FIFA also said yesterday its executive committee will meet to choose an election date in a special session next month — possibly July 24 in St. Petersburg, where Swiss and American investigators won’t get the chance to ask questions. The 209 FIFA member federations will vote for a new president four months after a deadline set for would-be candidates to apply.

Blatter’s prolonged departu-



UEFA President Michel Platini, center, and Euro 2016 chairman Jacques Lambert, right, present a facsimile of the first Euro 2016 ticket to French President Francois Hollande during yesterday’s meeting at the Elysee Palace in Paris

re is “not doing himself and the whole of football a favor,” said Wolfgang Niersbach of Germany, who is on the executive committee.

FIFA has been in crisis since the U.S. Department of Justice indicted 14 people on corruption charges ahead of Blatter’s re-election at the FIFA congress two weeks ago. Seven of them were arrested in Zurich and face extradition.

One of the seven has appealed for bail, but Swiss authorities did not identify which one. The Federal Criminal Court will rule on whether he will remain in custody, authorities said yesterday in a statement.

Although Blatter was not named in a 164-page indictment — which alleged \$150 million in bribes linked mostly to non-FIFA tournaments in

North and South America — officials familiar with the case have said he is a target.

Valcke, however, has been scrutinized for his direct links to payments totaling \$10 million from FIFA accounts which the U.S. Department of Justice says were bribes to FIFA executive committee members to vote for South Africa as 2010 World Cup host.

In an impassioned voice yes-

terday, Valcke repeated previous FIFA statements on his behalf: That he merely signed off on money transfers agreed to by South African officials from their World Cup funds, and authorized by the then-chairman of the FIFA finance panel, Julio Grondona of Argentina, who died last year.

“I’m signing all the contracts of FIFA,” said Valcke, who began his job several months before the money transfers in early 2008 to accounts controlled by disgraced former FIFA vice president Jack Warner.

Valcke insisted that the alleged bribe money did not belong to FIFA and questioned why he was targeted by international media.

“You have decided that after Blatter, my head is to be cut. Fine,” said the former television journalist from France. “But don’t say it is because of this \$10 million.”

Valcke and Russian sports minister Vitaly Mutko, who is also a FIFA executive committee member, repeated that the 2018 hosting victory was won clean.

The Swiss attorney general’s office is using a report by former FIFA ethics prosecutor Michael Garcia. His investigation team was denied key evidence because Russian bid officials did not provide an archive of emails, and also used computers which were leased and later destroyed.

Both Russia and Qatar, which was awarded the 2022 World Cup, risk losing their hosting rights if evidence of wrongdoing emerges. **AP**

# Messi, Neymar try not to be upstaged at Copa America

Ricardo Zuniga, Santiago

**L**IONEL Messi and Neymar aren’t used to being upstaged. It could happen as the Copa America — the South American championship — begins its 3 1/2-week run on today in the wake of the FIFA corruption scandal that forced President Sepp Blatter to announce his resignation.

Many of the corruption allegations have centered on the governing body of South American football. Its former president, Nicolas Leoz of Paraguay, was one of 14 people in-



Lionel Messi speaks during celebrations at the Camp Nou stadium in Barcelona after winning the Champions League final

dicted by the U.S. Department of Justice two weeks ago on charges of bribery, racketeering and money-

laundering. Eugenio Figueredo of Uruguay, who succeeded Leoz, was among seven

FIFA officials arrested in Zurich.

Messi and Argentina teammates Javier Mascherano and Carlos Tevez have traveled half way around the world from the Champions League final in Berlin, along with Brazil striker Neymar and Chile players Arturo Vidal and Claudio Bravo.

They’ll need to put on a show to claim back the main stage. But they are sure to be jet-lagged while tending to unfinished business from last year’s World Cup.

The major absence is Luis Suarez of Uruguay,

## Play opens today with Chile playing Ecuador in Santiago

who is ineligible and still serving a ban for biting Giorgio Chiellini at the World Cup.

The main story lines will revolve around Argentina and Brazil. Argentina, the loser in last year’s World Cup final against Germany, hasn’t won a major trophy in 22 years. The

last was the Copa America.

Brazil’s 7-1 battering by Germany in the World Cup semifinals will never be forgotten, but it could be softened by winning in Chile.

Colombia and Chile may have their best teams in a generation. Even without Suarez, defending champion Uruguay is a factor.

Play opens today with Chile playing Ecuador in Santiago. Argentina plays Saturday against Paraguay, and Brazil faces Peru on Sunday in its opener. The final is July 4. **AP**



opinion

**HK Observer**  
 Robert Carroll



**JUNE 4 REALITIES**

The annual June 4 marches are held here with several purposes in mind: to commemorate the deaths which occurred during the Tiananmen Square crackdown; to call for a reassessment of the events; and to ensure that those responsible are accountable. It also seeks to end the one-party rule regime and to democratize China. Are these realistic goals?

The Chinese Communist Party is far from being ready to overhaul its judgement, much less, to those responsible to account. Ending one-party rule is absolutely not on the cards, yet neither is introducing Western democracy and constitutional liberalism, which are considered problematic influences. On the contrary, the absolute and unchallenged nature of CCP official policy remains stronger than ever. Given this situation, and that 26 years of these marches have not had any significant effect on a shift towards democracy in China, isn't it about time the aims were made more realistic and less confrontational? The idea that Hong Kong would lead the way in democratizing the mainland was hard to swallow for many in the 1980s and 1990s and beyond, both here and abroad. But if we accept the notion that politics comprises of, in part, the art of the possible, isn't it about time to change tack?

Of course, these events cannot be dismissed easily. The protests and subsequent violent crackdowns saw hundreds of mostly peaceful pro-democracy and anti-corruption protesters killed by the Chinese army. The authorities justified their actions as necessary measures in suppressing a dangerous counter-revolutionary movement, one which threatened to generate chaos and to compromise the core values of the Chinese political system. Domestically, there was widespread outrage, and internationally, China was treated as a Pariah state by Western nations. There must have been a vast number of senior officials however, who at some point disagreed with former leader Deng Xiaoping's decision to declare martial law and send in the troops. This decision was supported by Prime Minister Lu Ping and some of the senior CCP officials.

If the protests had been quelled through diplomacy and negotiation and by employing realistic and empathic steps to address their concerns, along with non-fatal means such as tear gas, water cannons and forceful arrests, the issue would no doubt be less sensitive nowadays. However, the CCP leadership is not yet willing to criticize its former leaders for their action on that fateful day, and it's not hard to see why. The party was split, and still is, into liberalist - both political and economic - and conservative camps. With the liberalists mostly outplayed in power struggles since 1989, the conservatives are unlikely to want to provoke the reformists until they have succeeded in introducing sufficient reforms to warrant a claim to be substantial reformers or show enough progress themselves.

The need to combat endemic political corruption is another task which Chinese President Xi Jinping has seized upon as one of his main platforms. This has been pursued alongside the introduction of numerous other reforms to address injustice. How far-reaching and successful he will be at these tasks, given China's political precedents, remains to be seen, especially as he still has consolidated power in order to pursue these aims. These steps and his pronouncements do not appear to hail any significantly greater degree of civic freedoms. Developing the political climate for the kind of political reform advocated by the organizers of the June 4 marches therefore remains an elusive goal hardly to be expected in this president's term of office.

**THE BIG BAND LEADER JAMES LAST BUZZ DIES AT 86**

Big band leader James Last, who sold tens of millions of records over his 50-year career, has died. He was 86. Born Hans Last in 1929, he pioneered what became known as "Happy Sound" — light entertainment that appealed to a huge audience in his native Germany and abroad.

Known to his friends as "Hansi," Last composed, rearranged and produced hundreds of pieces ranging in style from swing

to jazz, from pop to classical.

Last's farewell tour included a concert at London's Royal Albert Hall in March.

His management company, Semmel Concerts, said on its website Wednesday that Last died at his home in Palm Beach, Florida, on Tuesday surrounded by his family.

The statement said a public memorial service would take place in Hamburg, Germany, in the coming weeks.



SOURCE: DSMG

Station	Air quality
Roadside	15-35 Good
High Density Residential Area	30-50 Good
Ambient	25-45 Good

MACAU

**TrailHiker team slots sold out**



Robert Kirby

**T**he 500 team slots available for this year's Sands China Macau Eco TrailHiker, taking place on October 31, have been filled in just ten days, said Macau TrailHiker director Robert Kirby.

Mr Kirby highlighted the community's great response to the event, as more people join TrailHiker this year.

"I think there's a growing awareness that we need to take better care of ourselves (...) there's a growing awareness about the event and the value it provides. And also about the environmental part, because people realize that we have not been taking the best care of the environment as we should have worldwide," he told the Times.

Mr Kirby added that organizers hope to encourage people to exercise regularly, and therefore have asked the Civic and Municipal Affairs Bureau (IACM) "to consider marking the TrailHiker course with permanent signage."

The annual charitable race has garnered overwhelming support from local communities and the corporate world. Last year, there were 450 slots, which sold out within 20 days. Organizers this year added 50 more slots to meet demand.

Mr Kirby recalled that from dealers to security guards or even VPs, casino resort employees, especially from title sponsor Sands China, have also

joined the event for team building purposes.

"We have senior executives in the gaming industry joining too. It's across the whole of Macau, because we are promoting communication between teams; it's not an individual event, but a team event; and that's why we get such good support from the corporate world," he added.

Mr Kirby also highlighted the race's charitable purpose: "I think people feel that they're enjoying the event while giving back to the community." This year, the Macau Special Olympics and the Macau Association for the Mentally Handicapped are the two chosen beneficiaries.

He believes that the title's sponsor commitment to TrailHiker has also played a role in the event's success: "Sands China have been a great title sponsor; we organize events around Asia and they make it so much easier for us as an organizer. Their heart is in it. They're fully involved, they want to be successful and see it as a very important event."

Mr Kirby acknowledged that they're hoping to grow the race slowly at about eight percent a year, so as to maintain current quality and security standards. He concluded by saying that, "we would like to keep the event growing, so next year we might get to 525 or 550. But the demand is there, clearly."

Macau Daily Times is the media partner for the event. **CP**

ENTERTAINMENT

**Bon Jovi to perform in Macau**

**B**on Jovi will perform at The Venetian Macao on September 25 and 26.

Fronted by the iconic Jon Bon Jovi, the American band carries a history of over 30 years of success and is considered one of the mainstays of rock music. They became known worldwide for a number of hits, including, "Livin' On A Prayer," "You Give Love A Bad Name," "Who Says You Can't Go Home" and "It's My Life."

"We are honored and excited to bring Bon Jovi to Macau for the very first time," said Dave Horton, the global chief marketing officer for Las Vegas Sands Corp & Sands China Ltd. "Bon Jovi are a global phenomenon and this announcement is more evidence of our continuing commitment to Macau," he added.

Priced from MOP/HKD3580 to MOP/HKD 580, tickets will go on sale from 10 a.m. on June 16 through Cotai ticketing



Jon Bon Jovi performs in concert with his band Bon Jovi on their "Because We Can Tour 2013," in Philadelphia

(www.cotaiticketing.com), Hong Kong ticketing (www.HKTicketing.com), and Macao Kong Seng Ticketing Network (www.macaoticket.com). The tour is a co-promo event presented by The Venetian Macao and AEG Live.

**WORLD BRIEFS**

**ITALY** Russian President Vladimir Putin is meeting with Italian officials and Pope Francis as the U.S. seeks to encourage the Vatican to join the West in condemning Moscow's actions in Ukraine. Putin will speak with Premier Matteo Renzi in Milan before heading to the Vatican, fresh from his latest snub by the Group of Seven developed nations, which reaffirmed sanctions against Moscow at a summit this week.

**GERMANY** The coffins of 15 of the 16 German high school students killed in the Germanwings plane crash are leaving Duesseldorf airport in a hearse convoy to their hometown of Haltern. Lufthansa airline has brought back the remains of the first 44 of the 150 people killed when a Germanwings plane smashed into the French Alps on March 24.

**PORTUGAL** A judge has ruled that former Portuguese Prime Minister Jose Socrates must remain in prison after refusing an offer of house detention requiring him to wear an ankle bracelet monitoring device. Socrates is being investigated on suspicion of corruption, money-laundering and tax fraud. He was jailed in November.

**BELGIUM** The European Union urged its 28 nations yesterday to swiftly endorse its plan to relocate 40,000 refugees — a plan that grew even more urgent as Greece saw a record number of migrants arrive by sea. The plan to relocate refugees arriving in Italy and Greece with their EU partners is part of efforts to cope with the massive influx of migrants that has already seen more than 100,000 people cross the Mediterranean into Europe this year. Around 2,000 have died or are missing.

**USA** New York City could become the first city in the U.S. to require a warning label on high-sodium menu items at chain restaurants. The city's Health Department will propose that all chain restaurants add a symbol resembling a salt shaker on menus next to food products that contain more than the recommended daily limit of 2,300 milligrams of sodium, equal to about 1 teaspoon of salt.

**USA** Texas police officer Eric Casebolt, who was seen on video forcing a teenage black girl to the ground and pulling his firearm at a pool party, resigned from the police force Tuesday. Chief Greg Conley called Casebolt's actions "indefensible," though he said the officer was not pressured to quit.