



DIVERSIFICATION CREATES OPPORTUNITIES
UK Trade and Investment Commissioner Frances Moffett-Kouadio praises local diversification efforts

P3 INTERVIEW



REVENUE MAY FALL TO LOWEST LEVEL IN 5 YEARS
Gaming revenue could drop to about 16 billion patacas in June, marking the lowest in five years

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ISLAMIC STATE: CREATING A NATION OF FEAR

P14 REPORT

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WORLD BRIEFS

CHINA's Qihoo 360 Technology Co. Ltd., a provider of internet security products and popular mobile browser, has received a USD9.1 billion offer from a group led by its chief executive to buy out its public shareholders.

AUSTRALIAN police issued an arrest warrant for an Australian doctor who appeared in an Islamic State movement recruitment video urging Western medical professionals to join him in Syria. Tareq Kamleh, a 29-year-old Australian born and educated doctor who had worked in several Australian public hospitals appeared in the video in April describing his medical work in Syria as his "jihad for Islam."

INDONESIA Efforts to rescue people buried by a cliff collapse at an Indonesian beach resort on Java were hampered by high tide.

INDONESIA The captain of a people-smuggling boat who says he was paid by Australian authorities to return the migrants to Indonesia has described a terrifying ordeal on the voyage back. The Indonesian captain, Johanes Humiang, said in an interview that his boat was seized by Australian authorities, who after interrogations and the offer of money transferred the crew and 65 migrants to two smaller vessels with insufficient fuel and food.

NEW ZEALAND's economy all but stalled in the first quarter as lower prices for milk and oil pushed down growth to 0.2 percent. It was the worst quarterly performance in two years and below market expectations.

NEW ZEALAND Australia's largest airline Qantas Airways plans to expand flights within New Zealand in a significant shakeup of the market.

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HK vetoes China-backed electoral reform plan

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Government to start paying cash handout in July

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AIR POLLUTION
URGENT ACTION NEEDED TO CLEAR CHINESE SKIES

Never mind knowing the rate of death from air pollution in Beijing and Hanoi. Bad air quality alone has caused the world's largest lung cancer epidemic in the last 10 years, according to a new report. P2

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INSIDE

ARTS

'Saudade' exhibition kicks off at MGM

Brook Yang

FEATURING a collection of 40 artworks created by 12 local Portuguese artists, the "Saudade" Art Exhibition was unveiled at MGM Macau on Wednesday evening, as a tribute to Portugal's National Day.

The exhibition's curator, along with one of the exhibiting artists, José Drummond, explained at the opening ceremony that "Saudade is one of the most complex feelings to explain," and "can be considered the most Portuguese of feelings."



We embrace the deep cultural roots, unique history and shared heritage between China and Portugal that Macau encompasses

PANSY HO

"We all have someone, a family member or a friend, with us in this world or not, that we miss dearly. We all possess a special sense of longing for a place or for a moment where and when we were truly happy. Sometimes we have this endless rapture about a moment in the past (...)," he explained.

"We know it will be different but we hold onto that promising feeling deep down in our souls and we go on in our paths carrying it, holding it inside us in our very own secret place. This is what we call 'saudade': this yearning of the soul; this

special feeling we hold inside us that is capable of giving us a deep emotional state of love," added Mr Drummond.

From photographs featuring numerous elements of Portuguese culture, to freehand brushworks capturing light and moment, illustrations which depict Macau's past and present, and even abstract canvas paintings expressing emotions, the art exhibition provides a collective narrative on the idea of saudade while also focusing on individual lived experiences.

"In this exhibition the artists acknowledge the memory of

their own roots, while, at the same time, they relate and assume their sense of community and belonging to the place that welcomed them – embracing and integrating them as a vibrant part of the city of Macau. The imagery, style and diversity of the artworks clearly show how the impact of Chinese inspiration and Portuguese saudade are incorporated into Macau culture," said the curator.

Ms Pansy Ho, co-chairperson and executive director of MGM China, also stated at the opening that the exhibition is aimed at "bringing diversified

arts to our community, helping to facilitate exchanges among different cultures."

"We embrace the deep cultural roots, unique history and shared heritage between China and Portugal that Macau encompasses. And with these ties, MGM Macau is committed to being the city's tourism and cultural ambassador. This is not solely because of our devotion to art, but also our belief that art is the spiritual pillar of cultural diversity and social sustainability, a key element to help develop Macau into a world tourism and leisure center," she said.

Families urged to join energy-saving lucky draw

THE Office for the Development of the Energy Sector (GDSE) has jointly launched a lucky draw activity with the CEM and the Macao General Union of Neighborhood Associations (known as Kai Fong), aiming to encourage "a five-percent reduction in electricity consumption" among local households.

"The objective of the event is to appeal to citizens to save energy. As local families are our main targets, we have set this goal for them," said GDSE representative Lio In Kuan at a media presentation this week. He

added that the authorities wished to extend the five-percent saving goal, which currently exists within public departments, to local families.

GDSE's estimate suggests that last year over 210,000 households across the region generated more than 1,080 gigawatt-hours of power. Factoring in a targeted five-percent reduction in every family every month, Macau's annual reductions could reach 54 million kilowatt-hours in electricity consumption. This amount roughly equates to the amount of carbon ab-



sorption that 3.1 million trees would be able to cope with.

Noting the significance of power-saving, the organizers invited the public to take part in the event, in which participants are required to minimize their power consumption by at least five percent from July to September. This goal compares to the consumption recorded in the equivalent period of last year. Target-achievers would compete for the top three grand prizes worth MOP10,000 in coupons each, while another 80 prizes, each

worth MOP500 in coupons, would also be up for grabs.

As part of the government's annual efforts to draw public attention to the benefits of energy-saving, the event is also the first of its kind in a series of events, which began on Sunday. The authorities said that they wish to gauge the public response to the event this year to see if it needs further refinement in the future.

The lucky draw will take place on November 16 this year, with its results being released one week later. **Staff reporter**

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Q&A FRANCES MOFFETT-KOUADIO
UKTI HONG KONG TRADE COMMISSIONER

'Economy diversification opens more opportunities for UK companies'

Catarina Pinto

UK Trade and Investment (UKTI) has initiated another trade mission to Macau and Hong Kong as it aims to encourage more UK companies to forge business relations here. UKTI Hong Kong Trade Commissioner Frances Moffett-Kouadio said in an interview with the Times that Macau's need to diversify its economy actually opens up more doors to British businesses. Creative companies are hoping to take part in casino resorts' ventures into the non-gaming market segment.

Macau Daily Times (MDT) – What are the main goals of this UK trade mission to Hong Kong and Macau?

Frances Moffett-Kouadio (FMK) – Macau has currently around 80,000 people working on the construction of the various new phases of casinos. So the companies we've brought are involved in theatre design, experience economy, virtual reality, and a whole range of resources that support those specialized lifts, for example, for theatres.

So what we need to do is to talk to all those resort developers to see what the opportunities are going to be long-term for these companies. A few of them are already working here; they've done projects here. But we need to look much longer term so that we can introduce them to those companies now, before the infrastructures are even finished.

MDT – How many UK creative companies are already doing business in Macau?

FMK – In this sector we probably have a handful. We had a



company that last year had an opportunity at City of Dreams to do some virtual reality work. Quite a few companies already work here. The wave pool, for example, at Galaxy – it was a UK company that put in the wave pool.

MDT – This is the second mission focusing on the creative sector. What strengths do UK companies have that could be of interest to Macau as a new wave of casino resorts takes shape on the Cotai Strip?

FMK – A lot of UK companies are working here on the construction; so that's one of the things we're good at in the UK: high-end engineering and architecture. The UK is a very

creative and innovative nation, so we punch above our weight in terms of the film industry, television and music. But I think the diversification of Macau's economy opens up even more opportunities for us beyond the resorts, and beyond retail, in healthcare, and education.

MDT – But do you believe that gaming revenue, which dropped again for the 12th straight month in May, will have an impact on the volume of business the UK does here?

FMK – Actually I don't at the moment. Obviously profits are lower than they were a year ago but they're still enormous. I think it's relative. The flipside of that is the pressure on the

Macau government to diversify, which creates a whole new raft of opportunities. And I am sure that over time the casino revenue will start to go back up again. But it's forcing them to be more creative in how they approach providing for their customers; they are trying to bring in more entertainment, more attractions for people outside the casino. So the drop-in profit is making them think about how they create their resorts and I think that's positive.

MDT – You've held a number of UKTI positions in other countries. Compared to other regions, what should UK companies bear in mind when attempting to do business here?

FMK – I think it's the same around the world. Companies need to be agile, versatile; they need to be able to go with the flow of whatever is happening, particularly when developing in economic high-growth markets. Wherever you are in the world, you can't replace having relationships. Companies need to be prepared to put in the time in building relationships with the right people, and then build those relationships until there's trust.

The other thing I think companies need to have is real confidence: understand their market; understand their audience; and have the right products for the right people. For Macau, that means really understanding what Chinese consumers in particular want from the resorts.

MDT – What role has the UKTI been taking to help UK companies do business here?

FMK – Our job is to help UK companies set up and invest overseas, and we do it through a range of tailored services. We are very proactive in identifying big prominent infrastructure projects, and then we will, as a government, help lobby to get a consortium of UK companies in on that contract. For example, on the rail project in Hong Kong, we have a number of UK companies working on those big contracts. Once we've got the big companies, it's easier for us to bring smaller companies in on the supply chain.

The other thing we help UK companies do is to help them find the right partner, because quite often you don't want necessarily to set up a business by yourself – you want a local partner who understands Macau.

MORE than a dozen government dignitaries raised a toast to 41 overseas-based Macanese youths last night at a welcome dinner held at the JW Marriott Macau, following the opening ceremony of the Macanese Community Youth Meeting.

Today the youths will visit the Chinese city of Zhongshan to learn more about their Chinese roots.

Some of the participants told the Times that they are eager to start the excursion, as a majority of

Macanese youth meeting begins



Alexis Tam poses for a group photo with guests taking part in the 2015 Macanese Community Youth Meeting

them have never set foot in mainland China.

"It's good to see the history and to learn more about that area, because I have never been there before and I have never been told much," said Jacky Chavez from Australia.

Lavon Lee and Michael Antonio, both from Canada, also said that they are excited to take a look

at how the mainland has developed over the years. "I'm very excited to go there to experience the culture there," exclaimed Antonio.

Duarte Alves, president of the Young Macanese Association, mentioned that the group's itinerary is intended to enlighten the participants regarding their roots. "If we are to contribute more to Macau and China, it's necessary to know the Chinese history and culture through the surrounding regions." **Staff reporter**

Incubation center established to promote youth entrepreneurship

Brook Yang

AIMING to encourage local youths to look beyond conventional career options, the government inaugurated a Youth Entrepreneurship Incubation Center at the Macao Trade and Investment Promotion Institute (IPIM)'s Business Support Centre yesterday.

The new center, operated under Macao Economic Services, provides entrepreneurship assistance in such forms as training courses, consultations, free temporary offices, and business matching. Moreover, it collaborates with IPIM and other departments to offer "one-stop" administrative services helping entrepreneurs to set up new companies.

As he inaugurated the new center, the Secretary for Economy and Finance, Lionel Leong, stated that this is the government's "new attempt" to provide youths



Lionel Leong attends the plaque unveiling ceremony for the Business Incubation Center

with greater support through a collaborative effort by public and private sectors.

"Society has been calling for more support from the MSAR government to assist youths in entrepreneurship and finding employment, other than funding them with our financial aid schemes. Thus, this center is expected to provide both hardware and software, (...) showing the government's support," he said.

The secretary stressed that the new center could eventually offer more employment opportunities to local

youths "if good results come from it."

"After all, young people's entrepreneurship can attract more of their peers to join the [entrepreneurship] sector and create more job opportunities," he said.

Leong also indicated further expectations of what the new facility should achieve. Given that it is jointly founded by various departments, the center will test the government's capacity for inter-departmental collaboration.

"This is also an experiment to see if collaboration

between our departments can reach society's expectations, and to reflect on where we can improve," he said, adding that the center will also cooperate with civil associations, training organizations and professional societies.

Furthermore, Leong said that the incubation center is aimed at "delivering cross-regional services" to Macau-based entrepreneurs who wish to reach out or expand to other regions; ideally, project promotions and even offsite administrative procedures could be facilitated by the center through cooperation mechanisms with other regions.

"In addition, we want to fully listen to users' opinions in this process, as to whether the structure of our departments, as well as the internal guidelines and related laws are meeting the public's demand for new services from our public administration," he added.

Casino revenue may fall to lowest level in 5 years

MACAU'S gaming revenue could drop to about 16 billion patacas (USD2 billion) in June, a government official said, marking the lowest in five years.

The Macau government may need to control its internal expenditure if the average casino revenue of the first six months of 2015 falls below 20 billion patacas, according to the Secretary for Economy and Finance Lionel Leong.

The average revenue in the first five months was 20.9 billion patacas, according to Bloomberg calculations. Casino revenue in June is typically weaker than in May, and some government departments have already started cost-saving measures, Leong told media. Nevertheless, he noted that cutbacks wouldn't be made to areas relating to social welfare such as education, healthcare, public works, salaries of public servants, and the annual cash handout to residents.

The June slump would add to Macau casinos' yearlong losing streak, which caused the city's first-half economic output to tumble 24.5 percent. Several analysts slashed gaming revenue forecasts in the world's largest gambling hub, citing figures in the first week of June that were poorer than they thought. **MDT/Bloomberg**

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Cash handout available from July 6

Catarina Pinto

BOTH temporary and permanent residents of Macau will be receiving government cash handouts starting July 6 and ending September 18, as the Executive Council (ExCo) has given its green light to this year's cash handout scheme.

ExCo's spokesperson Leong Heng Teng revealed at a press conference yesterday that the government is committed to sharing Macau's economic wealth with residents, even though gaming revenue dropped again for the 12th straight month in May.

"Truly, the gaming revenue drop does not have a great impact [on the cash handout policy] because we have other areas [of income]... What we are hoping for is to guarantee the population's general welfare," said Mr Leong.

For the second time since the implementation of the cash handout scheme in 2008, the Macau government has decided to maintain the subsidy value of the previous year. Permanent residents will be granted a MOP9,000



cash handout, while temporary residents will each receive MOP5,400.

The government will spend over MOP5.8 billion on this year's handout scheme.

All individuals who have held a Macau ID since the last day of 2014 are eligible to receive a cash handout. The government estimates that there are 607,465 permanent and 68,231 temporary residents who will be entitled to a subsidy this year.

The value of cash payouts has risen every year, except in 2010 and 2015.

Mr Leong stressed that the Executive Council reached a consensus while discussing this year's handout scheme. They agreed to maintain the cash amounts that were granted to residents the previous

year. He added that the Macau government wishes to continue providing residents with these cash handouts, as they are particularly important for families with lower incomes.

Mr Leong said that the government has never implemented a calculation mechanism to update the handout's value. Instead, it has determined the cash amount that would be provided to residents based on analysis of the overall budget and Macau's economic performance.

Nevertheless, he added that the government, taking into account previous experiences and opinions expressed by Macau society, "is trying to implement a regular mechanism [for the cash handout scheme]."

Rosário to explain 16 idle land plots' exclusion

Chief Executive Chui Sai On has clarified that the exclusion of 16 idle land plots from the government's recovery list completely followed legal and administrative procedures. This suggests that the failure to make use of those land plots was not attributed to the leaseholders but to the government. According to Chui, development in the 16 plots was hindered by factors such as changes in the location's urban planning and in the plot's intended use. Chui told media during his visit to Beijing yesterday that the Secretary for Transport and Public Works will further explain the matter to the Legislative Assembly next week.

Exercise simulates unlawful aircraft seizure



The annual security exercise at Macau International Airport took place early yesterday morning simulating an unlawful seizure of an aircraft. The exercise involved a simulated scenario where a foreign political organization, which committed several terrorist attacks in its own country, unlawfully seized an aircraft and requested to land at Macau International Airport. The airport immediately activated its emergency plan to handle the incident, and eventually rescued the passengers and crew members. The goal of the exercise was deemed to have been achieved.

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Kerkorian's final interview: A storied dealmaker with no regrets

Beth Jinks

KIRK Kerkorian rarely gave interviews over the course of his remarkable 98 years, but in 2011 he agreed to sit for questions from two Bloomberg News reporters. It turned out to be the last interview he gave to a media organization.

We were ushered into his Tracinda Corp. office in a nondescript Beverly Hills building, where Kerkorian, then 93, greeted my former colleague, Brett Pulley, and me. Still active, Kerkorian's gait was steady and smooth as he walked around his office, wearing a white leather jacket that matched his hair. He smiled easily and spoke softly.

For all his fearsome reputation as a deal-making titan across Detroit, Las Vegas and Hollywood, generating a net worth of USD3.6 billion, Kerkorian came off that day as gentle, media-shy and a little weary. He was most animated when the half-hour conversation touched on boxing, flying and his Lincy Foundation charity.

That week in April, Kerkorian had announced he was stepping down from the board of MGM Resorts - a decision he made because he'd had enough of long, tedious business meetings. "I just didn't care to keep going back," he said.

Kerkorian said his hearing had deteriorated, and two years before he had turned in his driver's license and given up playing tennis, a longtime passion.

"I have some eye problems from when I was a pilot,"



The MGM Resorts International Grand Hotel & Casino stands in Las Vegas, Nevada, U.S.

Kerkorian said. That didn't stop him from working out daily on a treadmill and lifting weights each day. "I exercise a lot," he said. "I try to stay healthy."

His few office decorations included a model Boeing aircraft and a painting of boxer Jack Dempsey - a gift from Frank Sinatra, he said, as he briefly reminisced on his earliest days in Las Vegas when "there were just two hotels," The Flamingo and the Last Frontier.

Each time he started to tell a tale - about Sinatra or Ted Turner or Bugsy Siegel - he'd

stop himself, saying that we didn't want to hear those old stories. We did.

The financial crisis, then three years old, dominated much of the conversation. Asked whether he was worried about the dismal times, he said, "I don't usually worry. We've got good people."

Pushed a bit, he said, "Sometimes we got a little concerned. But we've been through it before. Maybe not to that extent, but we've been through challenging times in some areas two or three times."

The global debt crisis and U.S.

recession walloped Las Vegas, nearly wiping out his casino company as it struggled to finish the \$8.5 billion CityCenter resort and fought with its also-troubled partner, Dubai World. A near \$1 billion side bet on Ford Motor Co., which was backed by his MGM Resorts stake, had to be unwound at a loss as both companies' share prices collapsed.

"I made a mistake," Kerkorian said simply of the Ford transactions.

Both MGM and Ford have since rebounded from crisis lows, and CityCenter is an

■ Kerkorian's best deal was buying the land that today houses Caesars Palace on the Las Vegas Strip for a mere \$800,000

enormous and vibrant presence on the Strip.

Always the dealmaker, he said there were other potential investments that still interested him though the search was complicated by the tough times.

"It's hard looking for new opportunities right now," Kerkorian said. "There might be some really young kids into high tech that would know more than I. I'm from the old school. I don't know if I'm up with that enough."

His best deal, Kerkorian said, was buying the land that today houses Caesars Palace on the Las Vegas Strip for a mere \$800,000.

With nearly three quarters of a century of deal-making behind him, surely there must have been some deals he really regretted; what was the worst one of them all?

"I can't think of any right now," Kerkorian said, smiling and shrugging his shoulders. "I've been lucky." **Bloomberg**

corporate bits

NEWSWEEK RANKS SANDS CHINA AMONG WORLD'S TOP GREEN COMPANIES



Sands China Ltd. has received its latest environmental accolade, earning a spot in Newsweek magazine's Top Green Companies in the World 2015. Newsweek's annual

Green Rankings examines the world's 500 largest publicly-traded companies, ranking them on corporate sustainability and environmental impact.

Sands China is ranked

99th globally, and is the only Macau company represented in this year's Newsweek Green Rankings. Sands China placed second globally in the list's Hotels, Restaurants & Leisure category, and is second among the 56 companies representing mainland China, Hong Kong, Macau and Taiwan.

"Sustainable operations is a central part of the thinking at Sands China," said Mark McWhinnie, senior vice president of resort operations and development. "We are keenly aware of our responsibility to the environment, to our community and to future generations; this recognition by Newsweek is welcome confirmation of the success of our continued efforts toward environmental sustainability."

MERCEDES UNVEILS NEW MAYBACH MODEL IN MACAU

Mercedes-Benz unveiled the new Maybach model on Tuesday at the Venetian Macao's Portofino restaurant, with one of its designs, the Mercedes-Maybach S-Class, currently on display outside the Italian restaurant until next Tuesday.

Apart from the S-Class limousine model, the Mercedes-Maybach Pullman is another option within the luxury goods sector. Mr Andreas Binder, President and CEO of Mercedes-Benz Hong Kong Limited, explained at the introduction event: "Since its launch in 2003, Maybach has been very popular among the business elites and both Hong Kong and Macau markets have one of the highest densities



of Maybach cars worldwide."

The CEO continued: "Today, we are here to launch the new sub-brand Mercedes-Maybach, a brand offering supremely exclusive automobiles, with peerless exclusivity, that have been developed and individualized based on Mercedes-Benz models. And the DNA of Maybach lives on in the Mercedes-Maybach S-Class."

The Maybach S-Class offers a

sense of spaciousness for passengers in the back with standard-fit executive seats equipped with adjustable backrests. The top-of-the-range model is the Mercedes-Maybach S 600, and its V12 biturbo engine has an output of 530 hp. The V8 biturbo engine in the Mercedes-Maybach S 500 generates an output of 455 hp. In spite of its power, the fuel consumption is still low.

REAL ESTATE MATTERS

The top 25 questions we are asked about Macau property - Part 3 of 5

Juliet Risdon is a Director of JML Property and a property investor. Having established the company in 1994, JML Property offers Investment Property & Homes. It specializes in managing properties for owners and investors, and providing attractive and comfortable homes for tenants.



JULIET RISDON

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info@JMLProperty.com

15. Question: I'm only here for 3 months, can I rent an apartment?

Yes, it is possible, but unlikely. There is usually great difficulty attached to renting an apartment for less than 6 months. Most owners consider it too much trouble, and many agents refuse to handle such short leases. However, it is possible to rent for shorter periods using a Corporate Rental program. Under the program, the rental agreement is signed under the company name, and the agreement provides the tenant with more flexibility than a traditional long-term lease.

14. Question: Where can I find a good home decoration company?

There are many good interior designers in Macau. The secret of course is finding someone that shares a similar taste to your own. Some of the more popular furniture stores in Macau such as 'Area' in Ocean Gardens, Taipa and WH Furniture in old Taipa and Macau also offer design services. At JML we handle renovations on investment property for clients, but do not take on home furnishing projects. We usually recommend Kelly Sou of WH Furniture, who has handled projects for many local and foreign

buyers over the years. Kelly has a good reputation and excellent language skills, which makes it very easy to communicate with her.

13. Question: What happens if I don't pay the rent?

Not paying rent is a bad idea in Macau. Once a rent is overdue for 9 days or more, the landlord is entitled to charge a late fee premium of 50% of the rental amount. If a rent remains overdue for 30 days or more, the landlord can now charge a late fee premium of 100% of the rental amount. In other words, once a rent is 30 days late, you would now owe DOUBLE the normal rental amount. This is why it is so important to pay rent at the end of a tenancy agreement. The 2-month security deposit cannot be used in lieu of rent, and if you don't pay rent for the last 2 months, the debt owed will be equal to 4 months rent.

12. Question: What's the difference between gross and net area?

The NET area is the area inside the walls of the apartment that can be used by the occupants. The GROSS area is the net area PLUS a proportional amount of the common areas of the building such

as the lobby, lift space and recreational club.

The net area in modern buildings with recreation facilities is usually around 70% of the gross area. This is sometimes referred to as the 'efficiency' or the 'ratio' of the building.

11. Question: What happens when the leasehold runs out on my property?

The leasehold property in Macau is under Portuguese law, and the leasehold is until 2049 (2 years after Hong Kong). Leases ending earlier than 2049 are renewed on a 10-year basis, and will continue to do so until 2049. At that point, the government will announce new lease terms and of course the price of the lease. The leasing of land is usually a government's main sources of income, but it is also a measure of their credibility. A government that tries to rebuke land ownership rights and property titles would effectively destroy any confidence in the country, and is therefore extremely unlikely. It is more likely that the government will, at that time, issue new leases that expire in 2099, by which time I will be approximately 130 years old and less able to move if I have to...

(A version of this article appeared during February 2014)

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Hopes low over Greece bailout as officials prepare to meet



A Greek Orthodox priest holding a national flag walks in front of a Presidential guard during an anti-austerity rally in front of the parliament in Athens

Lorne Cook and Pan Pylas, Luxembourg

OPTIMISM was in short supply over the prospects of a deal yesterday that might prevent Greece's bankruptcy, as officials gathered for a keenly awaited eurozone finance meeting.

With Greece fast approaching a potential default on June 30 and amid signs that Greeks are withdrawing money from their banks, officials acknowledged that a Greek exit — or Grexit — from the euro was now being discussed.

Pierre Moscovici, the European Union's top economy official, said the eurozone meeting will be "very difficult" but that he hoped everyone turns up "with cool heads and the political will to succeed."

Reiterating that the EU's executive arm will do what it can to get a deal, he acknowledged that talk of a Greek exit from the euro was being discussed by some.

"The stakes are extremely high for the Greek people and all of Europe," he said in Luxembourg.

Greece's radical left-led government has been locked in discussions with its international creditors since its election in January over what economic reforms and budget cuts it needs to make to get the remaining 7.2 billion euros (USD8.2 billion) available in its bailout fund.

It needs that money to pay upcoming debts — first and foremost 1.6

billion euros due to the International Monetary Fund at the end of the month.

While Europe's finance ministers were preparing for their discussions, Greek Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras was traveling to Russia to meet President Vladimir Putin — a visit that has prompted speculation Greece could be seeking Russian loans.

Asked whether Russia is going to offer Tsipras money, Russian Deputy Prime Minister Arkady Dvorkovich said he "cannot comment on specific decisions."

The blame game over the impasse in Greece's talks has gotten louder in recent days, with both sides claiming they've gone a long way to secure a deal. Tsipras has been adamant he won't back any deal that cuts pensions while European officials say they've made compromises to meet the Greek government's demands. For example, they dropped a budget surplus target from 3 percent of GDP to 1 percent this year.

The stalemate has become an increasing concern across financial markets as investors fret about the potential implications of a Greek default and exit from the euro. The Bank of Greece warned its own government on Wednesday to get a deal done quickly, or Greece would face an "uncontrollable crisis" that might jeopardize the country's membership in the European Union. **AP**

ADVERTORIAL

A MAN'S WORLD

Whether it's apparel or accessories, Sands Shoppes has everything you need to make this Father's Day — on 21 June — one for dad to remember. Try Salvatore Ferragamo for a pair of classic cufflinks, or Versace for its striking jewellery. Hugo Boss has smart briefcases — complement one with a leather card holder from Vivienne Westwood. Sharp jackets populate the racks at Ermenegildo Zegna, while Ralph Lauren is the place to go for a casual polo. Smarten dad up with a tie or hat from Giorgio Armani, or head to Hermès where sneakers and belts make great gifts. Montblanc probably has the perfect pen, while Bottega Veneta can provide a pair of sophisticated specs, and Etro has a great range of scarves.

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Shorn or hairy: Female underarms having a mainstream moment

Leanne Italie

ON social media and red carpets, from New York to China, hairy underarms are having a mainstream moment.

Women are proudly showing off their growth on Instagram and YouTube, and it's not just Miley Cyrus anymore. Jemima Kirke of "Girls" flashed her fair-colored au naturel look — earning some cringes — at the June 1 CFDA awards, one of the top fashion events of the year.

On Sina Weibo, a popular microblogging site in China, the women's rights activist known as Xiao Meili held an "Armpit Hair Competition," complete with prizes that included condoms and a vibrator, to protest societal pressure on women to shave under there.

Her effort earned more than 1.7 million hits.

"In the past two decades, there have been a lot of commercials and advertising for hair removal cream and laser removal of hair that have talked about women needing to shave their underarm hair and that the armpit area should be clean," said the 25-year-old Xiao, whose real name is Xiao Yue.

"My mother's generation didn't care about that, but now it has become a headache for women in the summer as they have to consider whether to



Xiao Meili photographed her armpits to bring attention to issues of gender inequality

shave that area or not," she said.

Love it or hate it, not shaving under the arms has morphed into a call to action for other women as well who are looking to be free of the constraint or

choose for themselves without ridicule.

Xiao said in China, pressure to shave has come from the West.

"Women's underarm shaving in China only has about

20 years of history and that is because of advertising, which has changed people's minds," she said.

Xiao is known for eye-catching protests, and three of her contest participants were

among five women's rights activists whose detentions in March received worldwide attention. In 2013, she shaved her head to protest the way women have to get higher scores than men to be admitted to some university courses.

"To shave or not is up to the woman," she said. "The purpose of this contest is not to call on people not to shave their underarm hair. It's to not criticize those who don't."

"With the help of social media, the conversation is reaching a new level," said Angélique Serrano, beauty director for InStyle magazine. "People are sharing their personal choices in a public way."

Maria Del Russo, a beauty editor for the millennial-focused fashion, style and beauty site Refinery29, said expression of identity is key in the mix.

"I think the reason more and more women are using social media to show off their body hair choices is connectedness. Since the idea of women having body hair is not considered the 'norm,' women who feel that it is their norm are likely attempting to make connections with other women who feel the same way."

If there's any statement to be made, she said, it's this: "What one woman decides to do with her body hair is her business, and hers alone. For plenty of women, it's just hair." AP

CHINA'S leaders have long lamented a perceived lack of innovation in the country but, according to the Financial Times, there is at least one area where Chinese companies have taken the lead — male circumcision.

In article by Jamil Anderlini published on Wednesday, the FT reported that the World Health Organization has prequalified a Chinese-made sterile, single-use, disposable device called Shangring that is used to circumcise boys and men over 13 years old without resorting to surgery.

Male circumcision is recommended by the WHO as a strategy for reducing the transmission of Aids and other sexually transmitted infections.

Randomized controlled trials in Kenya, Uganda and South Africa have

FT: Circumcision device challenges mainland copycat image

found circumcision reduces the risk of heterosexually acquired HIV infection in men by about 60 per cent.

"Shangring will be particularly valuable in countries with high HIV transmission rates, such as many parts of Africa," the WHO said in a state-

Shangring is a great example of Chinese innovation

BERNHARD SCHWARTLÄNDER
WHO REPRESENTATIVE IN CHINA

ment, as quoted by the FT.

"WHO prequalification of Shangring is hugely exciting," the newspaper quoted Bernhard Schwartländer, WHO representative in China, as saying. "Shangring is a great example of Chinese innovation, and its prequalification by WHO is another example of the increasing role China is taking in global health through its world-class health and medical production capabilities."

Anderlini's article further details how the new device, produced by Wuhu Snnda Medical Treatment Appliance Technology Company, has already been used extensively to perform

circumcisions in China, where more than 1m devices have been sold in recent years.

But WHO prequalification will allow it to now be used in parts of the world with very high Aids transmission rates.

According to the company, as quoted by the FT, the Shangring "consists of two concentric plastic rings that sandwich the foreskin of the penis, allowing circumcision without stitches or notable bleeding."

The device works by cutting off blood supply to the skin, which shrivels and falls off after several days.

The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation helped fund clinical trials and

pilot studies on the safety and acceptability of Shangring and provided technical assistance to support WHO prequalification of the device.

For decades Chinese industries have been accused of copying products from developed markets and for years the government has tried to encourage innovation in virtually every field.

But in even the most cutting-edge industries, such as IT and computing, Chinese companies tend to emulate successful models from other markets rather than come up with ground-breaking advances.

Within China, experts and officials have blamed everything from the

complexity of the Chinese language and traditional education methods to political repression from the authoritarian Communist party for a lack of innovation.

In the healthcare sector more broadly, China is still in the process of catching up, but according to the FT many analysts believe there will be much more innovation in future.

"There is very little innovation in the pharmaceutical sector in China, for example. It is very much behind when it comes to research and development," said Dr Schwartländer.

"But what I see is many, many very smart people and a new generation of researchers who are much more oriented towards global markets, toward end quality assurance, and I believe there will be much more innovation in the future."

Kelvin Chan, Hong Kong

HONG KONG

Lawmakers reject Beijing backed election plan

HONG Kong lawmakers defeated the government's Beijing-backed election plan yesterday, vindicating pro-democracy activists who flooded the streets last year in protest but leaving the city's long-term political future up in the air.

Lawmakers spent two days debating the proposal, which would have allowed Hong Kong citizens to vote for the top leader for the first time in 2017, but require that all candidates be approved by Beijing.

But the crucial legislature vote ended in a confusing anticlimax when most pro-establishment lawmakers walked out moments before it began. The proposal was rejected after 28 lawmakers, all but one from pro-democracy parties, voted against it. Eight others were in favor and 34 did not cast votes.

Even if the lawmakers had remained, the proposal would have been rejected because the government needed at least 47 of 70 votes for approval.

Outside the legislature, pro-democracy supporters cheered after hearing the result.

"This is the result that we want, so everyone is very happy," said 19-year-old student Sylvia Leung.

The defeat marks the end of the territory's most tumultuous year since Beijing took control in 1997. Known for being a stable and prosperous Asian financial center, Hong Kong has been hit by chaotic and unruly protests since Beijing decreed last summer that it wanted elections to be restricted. Tens of thousands of people, most of them students, took to the streets in response, occupying busy thoroughfares in three neighborhoods for 11 weeks last autumn to protest what they



Pro-democracy lawmakers celebrate outside the Legislative Council in Hong Kong

called "fake democracy."

The defeat raises the prospect of a political stalemate for years to come.

Hong Kong Chief Secretary Carrie Lam told lawmakers just before the vote that she was "sad and disappointed" knowing that the proposal would be defeated.

"I don't know when democratization can be taken forward," she said. Hong Kong and Beijing officials have said that in the event of a defeat, leaders would continue to be handpicked by a 1,200-member panel of local elites.

Hong Kong retains its own le-

■ The vote ended in a confusing anticlimax when most pro establishment lawmakers walked out moments before it began

gal and financial system and civil liberties such as freedom of speech not seen on the mainland. Even during colonial times, residents were unable to choose their leader, then known as the governor, who was dispatched from London.

Hong Kong's unpopular current leader, Chief Executive Leung Chun-ying, said he was "disappointed" with the defeat and signaled that the government would not attempt to restart democratic development during the two years remaining in his term.

"It's time for the community to move on," Leung told reporters. "In the coming two years, the Hong Kong government will focus efforts on the various economic development and livelihood issues."

Pro-democracy leaders vowed to continue fighting for genuine democracy.

"We do not want our votes to be used to legitimize a pre-vetting system," said Alan Leong, leader of the Civic Party. "We do not want our votes to be used to legitimize a chief executive that belongs and is accountable to only the vested interests."

"Today is not the end of the democracy movement," he added. "Quite the contrary, this is the starting point of another wave of democratic movement."

"They're trying to pass something that's fake as genuine," said Ming Shum, 48, who was part of a crowd protesting against the bill outside the Legislative Council. "We won't take it."

Chinese state media blamed radical pro-democracy lawmakers.

"This is a saddening moment in Hong Kong's path toward democracy," the nationalist tabloid Global Times opined. "One person, one vote becomes a phan-

tom with the opposition of the pro-democracy legislators. All who cast the no vote might feel smug today but they eventually must face up to their historical duties. History will not judge what they did today to be glorious."

After two days of heated discussion, the debate came to a bizarre end when most of the pro-establishment lawmakers walked out of the legislature chamber moments before the vote. It was not clear whether it was an attempt to delay the vote, perhaps by depriving it of quorum.

Lawmaker Jeffrey Lam blamed a "communication gap," explaining that they were waiting for a fellow lawmaker who was ill to return to the chamber. They left even after their request for a 15-minute break was rejected by the legislature president. **AP/Bloomberg**

NPC SAYS DECISION ON UNIVERSAL SUFFRAGE TO STAND

CHINA'S TOP legislature said its decision on Hong Kong's electoral reforms last August will remain in force in the future, despite Hong Kong Legislative Council's veto of the universal suffrage motion yesterday. "Although the universal suffrage motion was not passed at the Legislative Council, the direction towards universal suffrage and the legal principles laid down in the decision of the National People's Congress (NPC) Standing Committee, must continue to be upheld in future efforts to pursue universal suffrage," read a statement from the office of the NPC Standing Committee. "The decision shall continue to serve as the constitutional ground for Hong Kong in the future as it enforces universal suffrage in the chief executive election, and its legal force is unquestionable," it read.

BEIJING VOICES REGRET OVER HK ELECTORAL PLAN DEFEAT

CHINA YESTERDAY expressed regret over the defeat of Hong Kong's controversial Beijing-backed electoral plans, saying the result of the vote was something it was "unwilling to see." However, Foreign Ministry spokesman Lu Kang reiterated Beijing's support for the proposals, saying it remained the best hope for the semi-autonomous Chinese territory's continued

prosperity. "That the chief executive of the Special Administrative Region's government should not be elected as such in 2017 is a result we are unwilling to see," Lu told reporters at a regularly scheduled news briefing yesterday. Since Hong Kong was a part of China, the reforms were a domestic matter with no other countries permitted to intervene, Lu said.

Macau Conscience backs decision to veto reform package

LOCAL pro-democracy organization Macau Conscience issued a statement yesterday expressing its support for the 27 pan-democratic Hong Kong lawmakers ahead of the historic vote at the Hong Kong

legislative council to address the Beijing-backed political reform package. The group titled the bilingual statement "Genuine Universal Suffrage for Hong Kong and Macau," implying that Beijing should grant local

citizens the right to elect their city's leaders. Additionally, the group slammed the Chinese "8.31 resolution," claiming that it "distorts the definition of universal suffrage," and serves only to "reinforce the

interests of the present ruling class." Under the proposed plan, the rights of Hong Kong voters would in fact be denied. China's only two special administrative regions often garner attention from both locals

and mainland Chinese when significant political events are to take place. The group also depicted the "political fates of the two cities" as being "closely related," adding that the citizens of both regions should

enjoy "free and fair elections."

In the last paragraph of their statement, the group reiterates its support for the HK legislators' collective determination to veto the Beijing proposal, which they regard as offering "fake universal suffrage." **Staff reporter**



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Kim Tong-hyung, Seoul

SOUTH KOREA

WHO chief reassures country as MERS deaths reach 23

THE head of the World Health Organization yesterday praised beleaguered South Korean officials and exhausted health workers, saying their efforts to contain a deadly MERS virus outbreak have put the country on good footing and lowered the public risk.

Margaret Chan said it's a good sign the disease has so far been confined to a handful of hospitals and isn't spreading in the wider community.

"All the new information is reassuring, but that reassurance must be qualified," Chan said at a news conference in Seoul. She cautioned that much about MERS is unknown and there's still a need to strengthen monitoring and quarantine efforts.

Despite the optimism, there is still widespread worry here, and the discovery of new cases among people who managed to slip through quarantine measures has raised questions about officials' ability to control the outbreak.

Middle East respiratory syndrome has killed 23 people in South Korea, the biggest outbreak outside the region where it was first seen in 2012. More than 6,700 people are isolated at home and in medical facilities, and more than 160 have been diagnosed with MERS nearly a month after the outbreak started with a 68-year-old man who had traveled to the Middle East, according to Seoul's Health Ministry.

Most of the fatalities have been people with existing medical conditions, such as respiratory problems or cancer.

Chan said South Korea's initial sluggish reaction might have contributed to the wider-than-expected spread of a virus that usually moves poorly between people. South Korean officials early on struggled to trace and identify the contacts of those infected, and their initial refusal to name the hospitals where MERS patients



Members of the South Korean Red Cross unload relief items from a truck for people who are suspected of infection and isolated at their homes after having close contact with MERS patients, at the Red Cross Emergency Relief Operation Center in Seoul

■ The coming week could test the gov't as the number of people isolated at home and in medical facilities approaches 7,000

had been treated was blamed for fanning public fear and unwillingness to cooperate. "After a slow start, the go-

vernment put in place one of the strongest responses I've seen," Chan said.

Officials say the outbreak has already peaked and could be defused by the end of the month. Experts say the coming week could test the government as the number of people isolated at home and in medical facilities approaches 7,000.

Critics, including Seoul Mayor Park Won-soon, say government officials accelerated the spread of MERS by failing to enforce tight control measures at Seoul's Samsung Medical Center, which was belatedly shut down over the weekend because it continued to be the main source of infections.

Dozens of patients, medical

staff and visitors have been infected with MERS at the hospital, one of the country's biggest, and are believed to have contacted thousands of other people before their conditions were confirmed.

The sheer size of the exposure at the hospital suggests the country could see another large wave of infections, according to Jacob Lee from the infectious disease department at Seoul's Kangnam Sacred Heart Hospital.

Lee said infected medical staff at Samsung could be the next major spreaders of the virus. The country's recent MERS cases include a Samsung doctor, nurse, X-ray technician and an ambulance worker.

Government officials said

they are monitoring the health of some 3,000 people who had various levels of contact with the Samsung ambulance worker, who transported dozens of patients to the hospital and used the subway to commute before his condition was confirmed. Officials are also calling and texting some 50,000 people who visited the hospital in late May and early June to ask if they are experiencing MERS-related symptoms such as fever, cough and shortness of breath.

There is no vaccine to prevent the disease.

WHO said in a statement Wednesday that the spread of MERS in South Korea doesn't merit being declared a global emergency. AP

SOUTH Korea's ruling party-controlled legislature yesterday approved President Park Geun-hye's choice for prime minister, ending a lengthy merry-go-round at the country's No. 2 job caused by political wrangling and corruption scandals.

The National Assembly approved the appointment of Hwang Kyo-ahn by a vote of 156-120. Two lawmakers abstained, parliamentary officials said.

Hwang has been the country's justice minister. He successfully pe-

South Korean lawmakers approve new premier

tioned the country's constitutional court last year to disband a small leftist party accused of pro-North Korea views, a decision critics said exposed the limits of freedom of expression in a nation once ruled by military dictators.

Hwang will succeed Lee Wan Koo, who resigned in April amid allegations that he was

among several members of Park's administration who received bribes from a businessman who committed suicide weeks earlier.

Lee in February had replaced Chung Hong-won, who stepped down over the government's handling of a ferry disaster that killed more than 300 people last year. Chung offered to resign shortly

after the ferry sank to take responsibility over the disaster, but two possible replacements abandoned their nominations because of questions over past behavior, forcing Park to retain him.

South Korea's executive power is concentrated in the president, but the prime minister leads the country if the president becomes incapacitated. AP



South Korea's new Prime Minister Hwang Kyo-ahn speaks during his inauguration ceremony at the government complex building in Gwacheon

Zeina Karam, Vivian Salama, Bram Janssen and Lee Keath, Eski Mosul

ISLAMIC STATE

Creating a nation of fear

WHEN the Islamic State fighters burst into the Iraqi village of Eski Mosul, Sheikh Abdullah Ibrahim knew his wife was in trouble.

Buthaina Ibrahim was an outspoken human rights advocate who had once run for the provincial council in Mosul. The IS fighters demanded she apply for a “repentance card.” Under the rule of the extremist group, all former police officers, soldiers and people whose activities are deemed “heretical” must sign the card and carry it with them at all times.

“She said she’d never stoop so low,” her husband said.

Buthaina Ibrahim was an outlier in her defiance of the Islamic State. It would cost her dearly.

The “caliphate,” declared a year ago, demands obedience. Untold numbers have been killed because they were deemed dangerous to the IS, or insufficiently pious; 5-8 million endure a regime that has swiftly turned their world upside down, extending its control into every corner of life to enforce its own radical interpretation of Islamic law, or Shariah.

The Islamic State is a place where men douse themselves with cologne to hide the odor of forbidden cigarettes; where taxi drivers or motorists usually play the IS radio station, since music can get a driver 10 lashes; where women must be entirely covered, in black, and in flat-soled shoes; where shops must close during Muslim prayers, and everyone found outdoors must attend.

There is no safe way out. People vanish — their disappearance sometimes explained by an uninformative death certificate, or worse, a video of their beheading.

“People hate them, but they’ve despaired, and they don’t see anyone supporting them if they rise up,” said a

AP PHOTO



In this photo released on April 17 by a militant website, a member of the Islamic State group's vice police known as “Hisba,” patrols a market in Raqqa City, Syria

■ The Islamic State is a place where men douse themselves with cologne to hide the odor of forbidden cigarettes

28-year-old Syrian who asked to be identified only by the nickname he uses in political activism, Adnan, in order to protect his family, which still lives under IS rule. “People feel that nobody is with them.”

The Associated Press interviewed more than 20 Iraqis and Syrians describing life under the group’s rule. One

AP team travelled to Eski Mosul, a village on a bend in the Tigris River north of Mosul where residents emerged from nearly seven months under IS rule after Kurdish fighters drove the extremists out in January. IS forces remain dug in only a few miles away, so close that smoke is visible from fighting on the front lines.

Another AP team travelled to the Turkish border cities of Gaziantep and Sanliurfa, refuges for Syrians who have fled IS territory.

The picture they paint suggests the Islamic State’s “caliphate” has evolved into an entrenched pseudo-state, based on a bureaucracy of terror. Interviewees provided AP with some documents produced by the IS ruling machine — repentance cards, lists inventorying weapons held by local fighters, leaflets detailing rules of women’s dress,

detailed forms for applying for permission to travel outside IS territory. All emblazoned with the IS black banner and logo “Caliphate in the path of the prophet.”

Adnan described the transformation that the Syrian city of Raqqa underwent after the Islamic State took it over in January 2014. At the time, he fled, but after a few months of missing his family, the 28-year-old returned to see if he could endure life under the extremists. He lasted for almost a year in the city, now the IS de facto capital. He spoke to AP in the Turkish border town of Gaziantep.

The once colorful, cosmopolitan Syrian provincial capital has been transformed, he said. Now, women covered head to toe in black scurried quickly to markets before rushing home. Families often didn’t leave home to avoid any contact

with the “Hisba” committees, the dreaded enforcers of the innumerable IS regulations.

IS fighters turned a soccer stadium into a prison and interrogation center, known as “Point 11.” The city’s central square was referred to by residents as “Jaheem” Square — Hell Square, an execution site where Adnan said he saw the corpses of three men left dangling for days as a warning.

Armed members of the Hisba patrolled the streets, cruising in SUVs and wearing Afghan-style baggy pants and long shirts. They sniffed people for the odor of cigarettes, and chastised women they considered improperly covered or men who wore Western clothes or hair styles. Adnan said he once was dealt 10 lashes for playing music in his car.

In this world, the outspoken Buthaina Ibrahim was clearly in danger. The sheikh tried to save his wife, sending her away to safety, but she soon returned, missing their three daughters and two sons, he said. In early October, the militants surrounded the house and dragged her away.

Not long after, Ibrahim received the death certificate. A simple sheet of paper from an “Islamic court” with a judge’s signature, it said only that Buthaina’s death was verified, nothing more. He has no idea where her body is.

Delivery from IS came to Eski Mosul at the hands of Kurdish fighters. Amid the joy over liberation, many residents discarded documents from the Islamic State.

But Ibrahim is keeping the death certificate as a connection to his wife, “because it has her name on it.”

A former soldier in the village, Salim Ahmed, said he is keeping his repentance card. IS might be gone, but the fear it instilled in him is not.

“We live very close to their front line,” he said. “One day, they might come back and ask me for my repentance card again.” AP

AP PHOTO



A member of the Islamic State group writes in Arabic, “we are a people whom God has honored with Islam,” on a newly painted wall



A member of the Islamic State group's vice police known as “Hisba,” right, reads a verdict handed down by an Islamic court sentencing many they accused of adultery to lashing

Alex Sanz and David Goldman, Charleston

USA

9 fatally shot at black South Carolina church

A white man opened fire during a prayer meeting inside a historic black church in downtown Charleston on Wednesday night (yesterday, Macau time), killing nine people, including the pastor, in an assault that authorities described as a hate crime. The shooter remained at large yesterday morning.

Police Chief Greg Mullen said he believed the attack at the Emanuel AME Church was a hate crime, and police were looking for a white male in his early 20s. Mullen said the scene was chaotic when police arrived, and the officers thought they had the suspect tracked with a police dog, but he got away.

"We will put all effort, we will put all resources and we will put all of our energy into finding this individual who committed this crime tonight," he said.

The FBI will aid the investigation, Mullen told a news conference that was attended by FBI Special Agent in Charge David A. Thomas.

Charleston Mayor Joseph P. Riley called the shooting "the most unspeakable and heartbreaking tragedy."

"The only reason that someo-



Worshippers gather to pray down the street from the Emanuel AME Church following a shooting in Charleston, S.C.

ne could walk into a church and shoot people praying is out of hate," Riley said. "It is the most dastardly act that one could possibly imagine, and we will

bring that person to justice. ... This is one hateful person."

State House Minority leader Todd Rutherford told The Associated Press that the church's

pastor, state Sen. Clementa Pinckney, was among those killed.

Pinckney 41, was a married father of two who was elected to the state house at age 23, making him the youngest member of the House at the time.

"He never had anything bad to say about anybody, even when I thought he should," Rutherford said. "He was always out doing work either for his parishioners or his constituents. He touched everybody."

The attack came two months after the fatal shooting of an unarmed black man, Walter Scott, by a white police officer in neighboring North Charleston that sparked major protests and highlighted racial tensions in the area. The officer has been charged with murder, and the shooting prompted South Carolina lawmakers to push through a bill helping all police agencies in the state get body cameras. Pinckney was a sponsor of that bill.

In a statement, Gov. Nikki Ha-

ley asked South Carolinians to pray for the victims and their families and decried violence at religious institutions.

"We'll never understand what motivates anyone to enter one of our places of worship and take the life of another," Haley said.

Soon after Wednesday night's shooting, a group of pastors huddled together praying in a circle across the street.

Community organizer Christopher Cason said he felt certain the shootings were racially motivated.

"I am very tired of people telling me that I don't have the right to be angry," Cason said. "I am very angry right now."

Even before Scott's shooting in April, Cason said he had been part of a group meeting with police and local leaders to try to shore up relations.

The Emmanuel AME church is a historic African-American church that traces its roots to 1816, when several churches split from Charleston's Methodist Episcopal church.

One of its founders, Denmark Vesey, tried to organize a slave revolt in 1822. He was caught, and white landowners had his church burned in revenge. Parishioners worshipped underground until after the Civil War. AP

AD

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TV canal macau



FRIDAY

- 13:00 TDM News (Repeated)
- 13:30 News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
- 14:30 RTPi Live
- 18:20 The Illusionist (Repeated)
- 19:10 TDM Talkshow (Repeated)
- 19:40 Soap Opera
- 20:30 Main News, Financial & Weather Report
- 21:30 Revenge S2
- 22:10 The Illusionist
- 23:00 TDM News
- 23:30 Portuguese Film
- 00:50 Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)

SATURDAY

- 09:25 2015 Macau International Dragon Boat Races (Live)
- 12:35 News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
- 13:40 2015 Macau International Dragon Boat Races (Live)
- 17:30 Soap Opera
- 19:00 Contest
- 20:00 Miscellaneous
- 20:30 Main News, Financial & Weather Report
- 21:10 Drama
- 22:10 Comedy
- 23:00 TDM News
- 23:30 2015 Macau International Dragon Boat Races (Highlights)
- 00:05 Shorts
- 00:55 Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)

SUNDAY

- 11:00 Sunday Mass
- 12:00 Miscellaneous
- 13:00 TDM News (Repeated)
- 13:30 News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
- 14:30 Animation
- 16:15 Miscellaneous
- 17:45 Non-Daily Portuguese News
- 18:10 Miscellaneous
- 19:40 Comedy
- 20:30 Main News, Financial & Weather Report
- 21:00 Non-Daily Portuguese News
- 22:00 Sacred Rivers with Simon Reeve
- 23:00 TDM News
- 23:30 Documentary Series
- 00:05 Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)

offbeat

UK MAN SNEAKS MARRIAGE PROPOSAL INTO NEWSPAPER CROSSWORD



It's a case of two down: the aisle. A crossword-loving British lawyer hid a marriage proposal in The Times newspaper's daily puzzle. Matthew Dick thought of the cryptic way of popping the question to girlfriend Delyth Hughes and persuaded the newspaper to agree.

Tuesday's Times crossword opened with one across: "Pretty Welsh girl widely thought not to be all there." The answer: Delyth. Other clues included "Will you marry me, say, that's forward also rude." The answer was proposal.

Dick, 38, told Wednesday's edition of the newspaper that he showed Hughes the crossword at breakfast, with some key words underlined, then "reached into my pocket to reveal the ring."

"She looked so surprised and didn't say anything for about 30 seconds, before then saying 'No', which she thought was hilarious," he said. "But she did then say 'Yes' and I had to tell her this was the real Times crossword, not something I had printed out myself."

Hughes says she was "dumbfounded that he'd gone to such lengths."

"It was also bloody typical, as he's a smart-arse at the best of times," she said. "I've heard all the engagement stories but this one trumps them all. It's so special and such a geeky way of doing it."

Times crossword editor Richard Rogan said he believed this was the first time the newspaper had included a proposal in a puzzle. He said it was "a one-off" that wouldn't be repeated. AP

cinema



CINETEATRO

18 JUN - 24 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



SPL 2: A TIME FOR CONSEQUENCES

ROOM 2
 2.30, 4.45, 7.15, 9.30 pm
 Director: Cheang Pou-soi
 Starring: Tony Jaa, Wu Jing, Simon Yam, Zhang Jin, Louis Koo
 Language: Cantonese/Mandarin (Cantonese/English)
 Duration: 120min



THE LAST FIVE YEARS

ROOM 3
 2.15, 4.00, 7.45, 9.30 pm
 Director: Richard LaGravenese
 Starring: Anna Kendrick, Jeremy Jordan
 Language: English (Chinese)
 Duration: 94min

SAN ANDREAS

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

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



1980 GUNBATTLE AT BRITISH EMBASSY IN IRAQ

Iraqi security forces have shot dead three gunmen who attacked the British embassy in Baghdad. The unknown attackers, armed with automatic weapons and grenades, burst into the embassy grounds and set off explosions near the main entrances.

But they failed to enter the building and were killed in the embassy gardens by Iraqi security men, sent at the urgent request of the British ambassador, Alex Stirling.

Mr Stirling was inside the embassy at the time of the attack but neither he nor any other embassy staff were hurt.

Embassy press officer David Richmond said: "We all rushed for the secure part of the embassy as soon as the alarm was set off, immediately after two explosions shook the building."

"I do not know exactly what happened. We were all keeping our heads down and as you can imagine there is still a lot of confusion around here". Once the attack was over Mr Stirling visited the foreign ministry. The embassy, along with the ambassador's residence, has been kept under heavy guard.

The embassy's entrance is splintered and marked by bullet holes from the attack. Attention will now turn to the attackers' identities and possible motives for the assault.

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

The attack came on the eve of Iraq's first national assembly elections for 20 years. Iraqi officials said the attack on the British embassy was an attempt to disrupt the ballot.

But others saw it as an attempt to avenge the deaths of the masked gunmen shot dead during the storming of the Iranian embassy in London by the SAS the previous month.

YOUR STARS

Aries
Mar. 21-Apr. 19
It sure looks like the wrong time to be spending money, but when it comes to computer equipment -- buy some. You're not kidding yourself this time when you call it an investment.

Taurus
April 20-May 20
Don't plan any long term, retirement stuff, don't sign any legal documents -- oh, and don't forget that it's Saturday, so none of that advice applies. Take your mind off of finances altogether for the next 48 hours.

Gemini
May 21-Jun. 21
Forget about follow through, unless it has to do with connecting with long lost friends or meeting new people. Be social, be totally flirtatious, be anything but practical and frugal.

Cancer
Jun. 22-Jul. 22
Ignore your internal chatter if it's ceaselessly telling you to work. Yes, a lot of tasks need completing, but you are a human being, not a money making machine. Don't forget the point of needing rest and relaxation.

Leo
Jul. 23-Aug. 22
Party, socialize, listen to friends and do it all without guilt. If it helps, know you could stumble across a pearl of wisdom or a nugget of truth. Now that has real value.

Virgo
Aug. 23-Sept. 22
Work issues won't leave you alone. Going over and over them in your head will only exhaust you. Besides, the finer details are too small to see clearly, even with your imaginary magnifying glass. Relax instead.

Libra
Sep.23-Oct. 22
It sure looks like the wrong time to be spending money, but when it comes to your skills and education -- spend on them. You're not kidding yourself this time when you call it an investment.

Scorpio
Oct. 23 - Nov. 21
The temptation is there to use someone else's money. And why not? You gamble with what you have not earned. But give that attitude the day off, because it just won't pay off.

Sagittarius
Nov. 22-Dec. 21
Socializing is the bottom line today. Taking your mind off of all things financial should be easy. With so much going on, you have no excuses for not keeping busy.

Capricorn
Dec. 22-Jan. 19
You'll be attracting flighty people, and don't bother avoiding them. After all, it is the weekend. When it comes to the business week, you can discard the extra if they don't do it for you. For now, enjoy.

Aquarius
Jan. 20-Feb. 18
You could have a satisfying intellectual connection, or a sizzling affair -- or both. If you could bottle the combination, you'd make a fortune. In the mean time, enjoy it for what it's worth.

Pisces
Feb.19-Mar. 20
Keep busy, but don't be too specific with your schedule. Using pencil instead of pen is not going far enough. Keep your day loose and open. The only thing you should keep under tight control is your spending.

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

Easy

7			5	6				
6		8		3	5			
		1		8				
9	3		1					
5			9			8		
			6	3	1			
	4			5				
	2	7		1			8	
	5	3					7	

Easy+

3				7	4			
9	4		7			1		
5		1		8				
6			2		8	9		
	5			1				
9	1		8		3			
	8			4		7		
7		3		6	1			
4	1					2		

Medium

			2	7	6	3		
3								5
	7		6		2	9		
		9		1	7			
9			5			6		
6	8			1				
2	9		4	8				
8								2
4	3	7	8					

Hard

2	6							
		4				1		
3						9		
7					8			
		9	3					
		1		4				
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1								
			8					

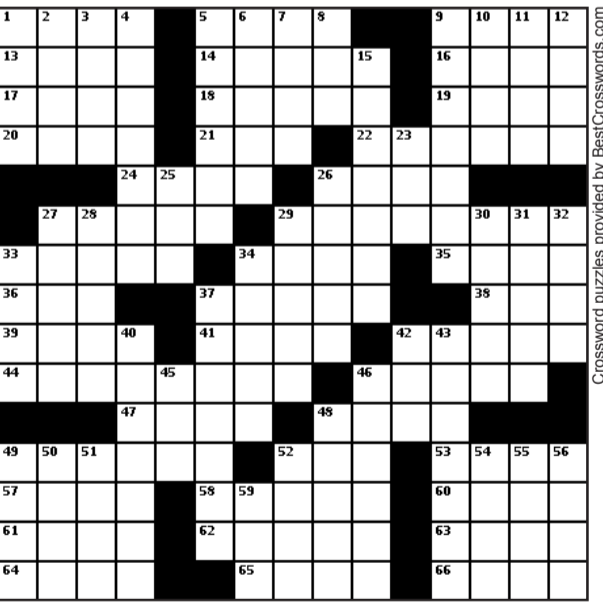
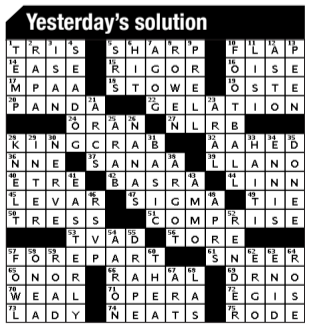
WEATHER

	MIN	MAX	CONDITION
CHINA			
Beijing	20	26	thundershower
Harbin	18	28	cloudy/thundershower
Tianjin	20	26	thundershower/moderate
Urumqi	14	23	rain
Xi'an	21	34	shower/cloudy
Lhasa	13	25	cloudy
Chengdu	22	32	cloudy/shower
Chongqing	22	31	shower
Kunming	18	25	cloudy
Nanjing	20	30	moderate rain
Shanghai	20	28	cloudy
Wuhan	20	30	cloudy
Hangzhou	19	29	cloudy
Taipei	27	35	overcast/cloudy
Guangzhou	27	35	cloudy/drizzle
Hong Kong	28	32	clear cloudy
WORLD			
Moscow	17	24	clear/cloudy
Frankfurt	10	21	drizzle
Paris	10	22	drizzle/clear
London	10	19	clear/drizzle
New York	22	26	drizzle

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- According to the Bible, he was the first man; 5- Russian range; 9- ___ ll (razor brand); 13- Poisonous pufferfish; 14- Five: Prefix; 16- Mandlikova of tennis; 17- Prepared to drive; 18- Abbreviated time off; 19- French summers; 20- Husky burden; 21- Palindromic preposition; 22- Rebuke; 24- Good earth; 26- De Valera's land; 27- ___ is human; 29- Sociable; 33- Top; 34- Put on the payroll; 35- Turn tail and run; 36- Baseball's Mel; 37- Poetic grief; 38- Mound stat; 39- Winter air; 41- Squeezes (out); 42- Big name in travel guides; 44- Apprehended; 46- Misplaces; 47- Glenn of the Eagles; 48- ___ Cong; 49- Some mattresses; 52- Dearie; 53- Simplicity; 57- Prefix with meter; 58- Fulcrum for an oar; 60- Raw materials; 61- Pub pints; 62- Capital of Yemen; 63- Words before "many words"; 64- Jute or ramie; 65- German Mister; 66- Poor grades;

DOWN: 1- PM. times; 2- Shootout; 3- "A Death in the Family" author James; 4- Woozy; 5- Raise; 6- Give guns again; 7- Green Gables girl; 8- Inc., in Britain; 9- Of that; 10- Pro ___ (proportionally); 11- Work without ___; 12- Matter for Holmes; 15- Judge; 23- Unit of work; 25- Acapulco gold; 26- Continental cash; 27- Teacher; 28- Web-footed mammal; 29- Lubricated; 30- ___ France; 31- Peter and a Wolfe; 32- Paraphernalia; 33- Eugene O'Neill's daughter; 34- Mawkish; 37- Hates intensely; 40- Radical; 42- Opponent; 43- Bone-like; 45- Madrid Mrs.; 46- Straight; 48- Pertaining to the palm of the hand; 49- Swedish import; 50- First name in jazz; 51- Hwys.; 52- Sharpen; 54- "Rule, Britannia" composer; 55- Zaire's Mobutu ___ Seko; 56- Those, to Juan; 59- Yeah, right!



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- PJ (Picket) 28 557 775
- PSP 28 573 333
- Customs 28 559 944
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- Kiang Wu Hospital 28 371 333
- Commission Against Corruption (CCAC) 28326 300
- IACM 28 387 333
- Tourism 28 333 000
- Airport 59 888 88
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Ref: 1505502

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Brian Mahoney, Cleveland

NBA

LeBron can't deliver title to Cleveland despite great effort

LEBRON James pulled off his sunglasses, and there was no hiding the hurt in his eyes. He had given everything he had, the best player turning into a better teammate, and it wasn't enough.

"If I could have gave more, I would have done it, but I gave everything I had," he said Tuesday (US time) after Cleveland's 105-97 loss to Golden State in Game 6 of the NBA Finals.

And that's more than just points, rebounds and assists. Throughout the year had proven what it meant not just to be the star but to be the leader, even more during the NBA Finals.

"What's evident to everyone is what a spectacular basketball player that LeBron is. But he has become a great leader of his team," coach David Blatt said. "He's become a guy that has evolved in terms of his role within the team and within the whole concept of what it is that we want to be about."

James believed he could will Cleveland to a championship, with a confidence that turned almost defiance. Even as the Golden State Warriors had asserted themselves as the series went on, James said he didn't doubt the Cavaliers could win



Cleveland Cavaliers forward LeBron James (23) hangs his head during the second half of Game 6 of basketball's NBA Finals against the Golden State Warriors

until the clock reached zero.

James finished with 32 points, 18 rebounds and nine assists in another tremendous individual effort, but his outmanned Cavaliers lost the final three games.

His fourth loss in six NBA Finals trips left him wondering briefly if he'd be better off just missing the playoffs entirely, so it would hurt less.

"I didn't win a championship," he said, "but I've done a lot of good things in this first year back and hopefully I can continue it."

He couldn't end Cleveland pro sports' lengthy title drought, a 51-year stretch that's been so tough even some local fans believe in the so-called Cleveland Curse.

But they also believe in James, the 30-year-old Northeast Ohio son who came home from Miami last summer and brought life back to the Cavaliers franchise.

He couldn't bring them their first title, not with what he had left around him in these NBA Finals. Kevin Love had been lost to a dislocated left shoulder in the first round. Then Kyrie Irving went down with a fractured left kneecap in Game 1 of this series.

James still willed the Cavaliers to a 2-1 lead and was so good there was even talk that he could join Jerry West as the only NBA Finals MVPs from losing teams.

Cavaliers fans sure believed he should have, the ones who remained to watch the award celebration booing loudly when Golden State's Andre Iguodala was announced as the winner.

His departure for Miami in 2010 had turned the locals against him, led them to burn his jerseys in the streets. There

was anger, hurt, even hatred in their voices when they jeered him when he came back for the first time with the Heat.

He became a two-time champion in Miami, but more importantly grew up, learned what it would take to lead a team. He returned more mature than when he left, announcing his decision with a thoughtful essay, a sharp contrast to his widely criticized TV special in 2010.

He became a more assertive leader. He was already the best player.

It was a little surprising to hear him call himself that after Game 5, when he said he was still confident because he was the best player in the world. He usually leaves talking about his greatness to others.

But having belief is one thing; having sufficient help is another. James didn't, and the effort in trying to carry a team was too much even for one of sports' most gifted athletes. **AP**

AD

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LOOK BEYOND AND BE INSPIRED

It's summer. Get out, I implore you. Travel. Go into the countryside, breathe the air, or go to a big city, one of those amazing cities with tons of character – it doesn't have to be London, Paris, Tokyo or New York, but they're good options if that's where your heart takes you. Meet the people, visit iconic landmarks, learn history, eat the food, drink the wine. Stop for a while. Watch and listen. Listen to what people have to say, watch what they do. If you're lucky, you'll find someone who knows more about something than you do, something you can admire and appreciate. Seek uncommon wisdom. Refresh your mind, refresh your spirit and come back with something to propel you forward, or just see things differently. Summer's a fabulous opportunity to get out of that rut and maybe you'll find that hole has magically been filled in by the time you get back.

I've just been to a conference in Singapore and I've been inspired. I was vaguely unenthusiastic about an e-learning conference and couldn't quite work out how I'd come to be presenting there. I imagined technical talks about Big Data, learning analytics, and how to run on-line examinations but the discussions were surprisingly grounded in human behaviour. The keynote speaker presented us with "Our issues aren't technological but more sociological." In a country where 85% of the population have smartphones and 3.3 devices each, to learn that consistently across studies over 80% of tertiary students prefer to read from print and that there are now pretty solid pedagogical explanations for this made me sit up. This was going to be fun - a conference that starts by questioning the rationale for its own existence.

I've listened to some great people with big visions, an eye to detail and the energy to see ideas through to implementation. And they've been fortunate: they've had resources at their disposal and the ability or passion to convince others of the value of their innovations, or had leaders with a similar vision. It's easier when that happens. Too energy sapping without it. "The bottleneck is at the top of the bottle," observed a member from the audience. And it's true, oh, so very true.

Tertiary education is going to be big in the Asia Pacific. The massification of education is a positive change in the region as middle-class incomes and aspirations have given huge numbers of people opportunities not known before. Growth in the industry since 2000 has been substantial but future projections are astounding. Data from UNESCO and estimates from Melbourne's RMIT suggest that by 2035 42% of global enrolments will be in this region with a population participation rate in tertiary education of 10% by 2033, the highest in the world (for reference, in 2009 North America and Western Europe sat at 6.01%). The infrastructural and intellectual capital needed to sustain this growth is going to be immense. Educators, you have a job.

Macau, you have an opportunity. And this is where e-learning might become relevant. Technology in this industry gives an opportunity to extend beyond old ways and physical limitations in terms of space, infrastructure, and accommodation. In current implementations of technology "old models of learning are being questioned". They have to be because we are no longer teaching to the top 15% of the intellectually able population. Learning requires face-to-face and other forms of interaction: Socratic learning, learning with others, learning through making, learning through exploration guided and structured by teachers, learning in and across settings. The Nesta Report out of the UK says use of technology is about linking to learning through other people and other places. Macau's always done this linking and we're now building educational capacity. We have the money and are required to diversify. With the right education consultants, we can build this industry. We can explore how best to assess student development, develop life and work competencies and graduate attributes. The system developed by the Hong Kong Baptist University, for example, and now given inspiration to seven other Hong Kong universities, might be a worthwhile place to start.

Macau, you have an opportunity.

THE BUZZ PUERTO RICO LOOKS TO SLOT MACHINES FOR CASH

Facing a cash crisis, Puerto Rico is turning to desperate measures to pay the bills: It's delaying tax refunds, borrowing from its insurance company and may even legalize the black-market slot machines in grocery stores. Lawmakers have yet to agree on a budget, with less than two weeks before the start of the new fiscal year. Without a spending plan

in place, the junk-rated commonwealth won't be able to raise as much as \$1 billion from investors to keep the government running as it waits for tax revenue to flow in. "I have to prioritize," Treasury Secretary Juan Zaragoza said in an interview. "I have to choose between paying for education and tax refunds. It's a clear choice."

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

SOURCE: DSI/MG

CLIMATE CHANGE

Pope urges revolution to save Earth, fix 'perverse' economy



Pope Francis kisses a baby as he leaves at the end of his weekly general audience, in St. Peter's Square at the Vatican

Nicole Winfield, Rachel Zoll and Seth Borenstein, Vatican City

In a sweeping environmental manifesto aimed at spurring concrete action, Pope Francis called yesterday for a bold cultural revolution to correct what he described as a "structurally perverse" economic system where the rich exploit the poor, turning Earth into an "immense pile of filth."

Francis framed climate change as an urgent moral issue to address in his eagerly anticipated encyclical, blaming global warming on an unfair, fossil fuel-based industrial model that harms the poor most.

Citing Scripture, his predecessors and bishops from around the world,

the pope urged people of every faith and even no faith to undergo an awakening to save God's creation for future generations.

The document released yesterday was a stinging indictment of big business and climate doubters alike, aimed at spurring courageous changes at U.N. climate negotiations later this year, in domestic politics and in everyday life.

"It is not enough to balance, in the medium term, the protection of nature with financial gain, or the preservation of the environment with progress," he writes. "Halfway measures simply delay the inevitable disaster. Put simply, it is a matter of redefining our notion of progress."

Environmental scientists said the first-ever encyclical, or teaching document, on the environment could have a dramatic effect on the climate debate, lending the moral authority of the immensely popular Francis to an issue that has long been cast in purely political, economic or scientific terms.

"This clarion call should guide the world toward a strong and durable universal climate agreement in Paris at the end of this year," said Christiana Figueres, the U.N.'s top climate official. "Coupled with the economic imperative, the moral imperative leaves no doubt that we must act on climate change now."

Veerabhadran Ramanaathan, a Scripps Institution of Oceanography scientist, said the encyclical is a "game-changer in making people think about this."

"It's not politics anymore," he said, adding that science is often difficult to understand but that people respond to arguments framed by morality and ethics.

Francis said he hoped his effort would lead ordinary people in their daily lives and decision-makers at the Paris U.N. climate meetings to a wholesale change of mind and heart, saying "both the cry of the Earth and the cry of the poor" must now be heard. **AP**

WORLD BRIEFS



SYRIA overtook Afghanistan to become the world's biggest source of refugees last year, while the number of people forced from their homes by conflicts worldwide rose to a record 59.5 million, the United Nations' refugee agency say. Pointing to crises in Syria, Iraq, Yemen, Burundi and elsewhere, U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees Antonio Guterres said he doesn't expect any improvement in 2015.



BELGIAN King Philippe is leading royalty and dignitaries in the commemoration of the 1815 Battle of Waterloo, a watershed in European history that marked the end of Napoleon and French domination and the beginning of the British century. Under overcast skies, hundreds of invited guests and thousands of re-enactors gathered under the Lion's Mount monument exactly 200 years after the half-day battle killed more than 10,000 soldiers in a closely fought encounter between French troops and an international coalition led by Britain's Duke of Wellington.

SERBIA Hungary's plans to build a fence along the border with Serbia to stop a flow of migrants reaching the country were met with criticism both in the Balkans and the European Union yesterday, with the Serbian prime minister saying he was "shocked and surprised" by the project that could isolate his country.

USA The prison worker charged with helping two convicted murderers escape from a maximum-security facility had discussed with them a murder-for-hire plot involving her husband, a district attorney says.

times square by rodrigo

