



### GROWING DEMAND FOR QUALITY

IFT presented certificates to fifteen hospitality professionals from local hotels and resorts yesterday

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### HANDS-ON JOB EXPERIENCE

Sands China's Gene Capuano talks about a course that gives students a glimpse of the MICE industry

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### BAN ON AUNG SAN SUU KYI BECOMING PRESIDENT

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"THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN'"

## WORLD BRIEFS



BLOOMBERG

**CHINA** An early morning fire killed 13 people in an apartment building in central China yesterday, state media said. The fire erupted on the ground level of the seven-story building in Zhengzhou, capital of Henan province, but did not spread far on a rainy night, CCTV reported. It said the deaths occurred on the top floor, meaning the victims likely died from carbon monoxide poisoning. Multiple people were hospitalized with burn injuries, the broadcaster said. The Zhengzhou No. 1 People's Hospital confirmed that four people were under urgent medical treatment for burns.

**HONG KONG** Regulators reject an application for a budget airline joint venture involving Australia's Qantas and China Eastern Airlines after local carriers objected.

**NORTH KOREA** Instagram appears to be back to normal in North Korea after a week of warnings on user accounts saying the popular photo-sharing app had been blacklisted for harmful content.

**NEPAL** Foreign donors and agencies announce billions of dollars in aid for Nepal, but it falls short by half of what the Himalayan nation wants to rebuild from the devastating earthquakes that killed more than 8,800 people and made millions homeless.

**INDONESIA's** Foreign Ministry says a French citizen sentenced to death for drug offenses has exhausted all options in his legal fight to avoid execution.

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# CCAC to investigate excluded idle land lots

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BLOOMBERG

## Slump spreading from gambling tables to property market

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# Extra

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INSIDE



Michelle Yun

MACAU'S six-year lucky streak has come to an end. That's become evident not just at the baccarat tables but at real estate agencies, too. After more than quintupling over six years, residential prices are heading for their first year of declines since 2008, tracking a gambling revenue slump in the world's largest casino hub. Home prices may drop 15 percent this year, real estate broker Jones Lang LaSalle Inc. forecasts.

Homeowners - mostly local residents who had been enriched by Macau's casino boom - have been selling properties at lower prices as the drying up of high-stakes gambling ripple through the city's economy. Residential prices will stay under pressure as gaming revenue shows few signs of recovery, falling for the 12th straight month in May.

"We don't see any upturn in Macau's gaming industry in the near term, so I don't see residential prices going back up," said Gregory Ku, managing director for JLL in Macau. "Most economic figures are dropping to various degrees."

Transaction volumes fell in the first quarter to the lowest in six years, according to Macau's statistics and census bureau. Luxury residential values have been the hardest hit, dropping 13.4 percent this year, almost double the pace of declines for mass-market homes.

For example, prices fell as much as 26 percent at One Central Residences, high-end serviced apartments located next to casinos owned by MGM China Holdings Ltd. and Wynn Macau Ltd., according to Franco Liu, Macau head of Savills Plc.

"Those in the casino industry are concentrated in the luxury home segment," Liu said. "They've made lots of money in the past and spent it on properties or cars. These past few months, the drop is more significant because they're offloading some of their investments."



Residential buildings stand in Macau

## Slump spreading from gambling tables to property market

China President Xi Jinping's drive to eradicate corruption and a slowing economy has kept high rollers away, dragging down the city's economic output 24.5 percent in the first

### Residential prices are heading for their first year of declines since 2008

quarter.

Gross gaming revenue in June may drop as much as 38 percent from a year earlier, which would mark the worst month in five years, JPMorgan Chase & Co. analyst DS Kim said in a June 23 note. For the full year, gaming receipts are expected to slump by about a fifth.

Macau's low unemployment

rate and strong incomes will likely help put a floor under price declines, Savills's Liu said. The city's jobless rate has stood at a record low of 1.7 percent for more than a year, one of the lowest in Asia. Gross domestic product per capita ranks fourth globally behind Luxembourg, Norway and Qatar, according to The World Bank.

The home market is dominated by Macau residents, with non-local buyers making up just 2 percent of total transactions last year, according to Savills. That compares with mainland Chinese and foreigners accounting for 13 percent of purchases in 2011 amid the casino boom and before the government imposed extra taxes to rein in home prices.

Investors are returning with the latest sale of Shun Tak Holdings Ltd.'s Nova Park, according to Midland Holdings Ltd. The Hong Kong-based developer is luring buyers with a plan

that allows them to pay for the apartments over 28 months, including a 25 percent down payment.

Tom Ashworth, principal of Sniper Capital Ltd., expects housing prices to recover next year as new resorts begin to open, drawing more visitors and bringing in more foreign workers. Sniper Capital manages London-listed Macau Property Opportunities Fund Ltd., which has about USD550 million of assets in the city, including luxury residence The Fountainside.

"The current pullback is healthy and welcomed," Ashworth said. "Long-term drivers of property values - population growth, rising incomes, scarcity of land and a tight housing supply - remain firmly in place."

Whether prices rebound next year might ultimately depend on Xi's determination to root out graft and curb ostentatious display of wealth by officials.

"No one is predicting casino

Long-term drivers of property values - population growth, rising incomes, scarcity of land and a tight housing supply - remain firmly in place

TOM ASHWORTH

revenue will rebound and rise in the short term," Liu of Savills said. "And I can't see President Xi will stop the anti-corruption campaign for at least the rest of the year." **Bloomberg**

## New subsidies for frontline civil servants to be rolled out by July

THE government is planning to implement new relief measures for frontline civil servants, including subsidies to assist with the care of children and elderly family members.

The Secretary for Administration and Justice, Sonia Chan, said yesterday that the scheme is currently awaiting the finalisation of administrative procedures, and will be implemented as soon as

the beginning of July.

Chan explained that the subsidies will be allocated to eligible civil servants who are experiencing financial difficulties. She added that the subsidies are neither for the long-

term nor will they be fixed, and that they will be an expenditure of the Public Service Welfare Association's earmarked funding.

"The general plan has been formulated; after the

administrative procedure finishes, we will be able to implement it to basic-rank civil servants. (...) It will not be a long-term fixed measure, but only for those who meet certain requirements," she ex-

plained.

In addition, Chan said that the MSAR government is expected to sign an agreement with its Hong Kong counterpart for bilateral mutual legal assistance.

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# CCAC to launch probe into 16 idle land parcels

**C**HIEF Executive Chui Sai On has requested the Commission Against Corruption (CCAC) carry out a comprehensive investigation into the processes leading to the exclusion of 16 idle land plots from the government's recovery list.

RENATO MARQUES



CCAC revealed in a statement yesterday that it will be launching a probe into "the incident concerning the 16 plots of leased land."

"If any illegal acts or disciplinary offences are identified during the investigation, the CCAC will deal with them according to the law," it said.

Macau's anti-graft agency added that it will also review whether or not administrative procedures used during the process to recover these land lots were legal and rational. CCAC will then provide further recommendations for improvements.

Upon completing its investigation, the CCAC said that it will notify the Chief Executive of its findings and make an announcement to the general public within a reasonable ti-

meframe.

Five of these land parcels – covering a total of 162,948 square meters – had been set aside for hotel projects. These included a project to build a theme park in Cotai, a project planned by Angela Leong and Chan Chak Mo, and an area to build facilities for Studio City.

Seven other plots were intended to be used for building residential, commercial and office buildings, including areas around the Macau Jockey Club.

Four were intended for industrial purposes. Among these was a section of land for logistics facilities in the Pac On area, and a section reserved for a yacht marina in Cotai.

On Tuesday, the government disclosed information on the 16 idle land lots that had been excluded from the recovery list. The parcels cover a size of nearly 370,000 square meters in total.

The Chief Executive clarified last week that the exclusion

of the plots from the government's recovery list by the last administration was in line with legal and administrative procedures, suggesting that the land remained unused not because of the leaseholders but because of the government.

According to Mr Chui, development within the 16 plots was hampered by either changes in the location's urban planning schemes, or in the plot's intended use, among other reasons.

This week, the Secretary for Transport and Public Works, Raimundo do Rosario, informed reporters that 16 of the 48 idle plots that the government was hoping to recover had failed to be legally recognized as 'idle land.'

Lawmaker Ho Ion Sang, head of the Legislative Assembly's Follow-up Committee on Land and Public Concession Affairs, said that the government eventually realized that the delay in development or lack of use of the idle plots was not attributed to leaseholders.

Instead, he drew on other reasons, explaining: "The government couldn't provide the drawing of urban planning conditions [for the area], delay in responding to the leaseholder's project proposal, or [the leaseholder] didn't thoroughly implement administrative formalities for the building project." CP

## New agreement to invest in Guangdong signed



Chief Executive Chui Sai On revealed yesterday that the MSAR and Guangdong province have fulfilled the expectations for their recent cooperative efforts, as eight agreements and letters of intent were signed at yesterday's Guangdong-Macau Cooperation Joint Conference. Chui noted that a joint intent was approved for Macau to invest part of its financial reserves in the major infrastructure constructions of Guangdong province. He stressed that the MSAR government is fully confident in the safety and profit return of these reserves, as the province is the country's biggest economic hub with both financial prowess and rich experience. Chui hopes that Macau's investments will be into projects that start in a timely manner, with these inputs gradually being increased.

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## British Monopoly players compete for Macau trip

British national Terri Ross, who was awarded first place in the UK final of the Monopoly championship, will be competing in Macau at the world championships, The Newcastle Chronicle & Journal reported. A 26-year-old mother of two, Ross was crowned the Monopoly champion of the North East. Ms Ross, who hails from Consett in County Durham, admitted she is not a regular Monopoly player and signed up to the competition as a joke. She was therefore surprised to have won the regional heat of the contest. Ms Ross will be competing against 11 other players from across the country in the national final in London on July 19. If she wins, she will be traveling to Macau to compete against champions from other countries.

## Indonesia now visa-free for MSAR passport holders



The Indonesian President Joko Widodo signed legislation this month granting visa-free visits to nationals of 45 countries and regions, including Macau. Other Asian

destinations that benefited from the visa free policy include Brunei, Cambodia, China, Hong Kong, Japan, Laos, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, South Korea and Vietnam. Visa-free visits can be used when entering through the following immigration offices at the airports and ports of: Soekarno Hatta (Jakarta), Ngurah Rai (Bali), Kuala Namu (Medan), Juanda (Surabaya), Hang Nadim (Batam), Seaport Sri Bintan, Seaports Sekupang, Batam Center Sea Ports and Sea Port of Tanjung Uban (Riau).

## EDUCATION

# Anglican College launches work-shadowing program

**T**HE Macau Anglican College (MAC) launched a new work-shadowing program for its senior students this week. As part of the scheme, each participant spends two days in a workplace with a 'work mentor' to observe their daily activities and learn about their work mentor's career path.

With the program being offered as a pilot for a group of Form 5 students, the school explained that "work-shadowing is an invaluable way of introducing students to workplace culture. It enables them to test out their possible career interests and to learn about career pathways and employment opportunities in their area of interest."

"Programs such as this also benefit organizations and employers. By allowing high school students to



Constança Pereira and Ms Winly

gain early insights into how workplaces are organized, as well as what skills are useful for specific careers, and about career pathways into different professions, the quality of the future workforce will also improve," said a representative from MAC in a statement

sent to the Times.

Sixteen students who have signed up to trial the new program in June have been placed in a wide range of organizations and professions, including performing arts, accounting, health, engineering, architecture, education, and

tourism. "Most work mentors are volunteers from the school's extensive parent network," they added.

Form-5 student Constança Pereira has been completing her work placement at an early learning center called Learn With Me Macau. She recognized that the environment she was located in "built her confidence and determination to strive in this career path." "Despite not being stationed exactly where I see myself in the future, being with the kids and observing their routine motivates me to do well in my studies and accomplish my goals," she added.

Her work mentor at the organisation, Ms Winly, said, "Constança did a great job here! It's been my pleasure to help the work-shadowing program".

AD



## Recruitment

The Roadhouse Macau is opening a new branch located inside a Casino/Hotel in Macau and is NOW recruiting for the following positions:

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Western/Asian kitchen Sous-Chef	Waiter
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TOURISM

# IFT sees demand growing for hotel professionals' enhancement

Brook Yang

**T**HE local hotel and hospitality industry has placed greater demands on its human resource personnel, Fanny Vong, president of the Institute for Tourism Studies (IFT), revealed.

Ms Vong presented certificates to fifteen hospitality professionals from local hotels and resorts yesterday, following the completion of a two-day executive development program entitled "Key to Personal Effectiveness" at the IFT.

The institute has been responsible for organizing two to three management seminars each year, offering diversified training opportunities to local hotel industry professionals with the purpose of enhancing the sector's overall development.

"There's always demand for executive-level training opportunities. As hotels' requirements grow higher and higher, they also expect their personnel to develop themselves, so they are very willing to sign up for these



courses to satisfy their executives and managers," said Ms Vong.

"We found these executive development programs can attract professionals because the topics suit their demands. Every time, the topic is different depending on the sector's expectations, so as to offer the content they need most urgently," she added.

The most recent seminar was co-organized by Switzerland's Ecole Hôtelière de Lausanne (EHL) with the support of senior hospitality consultant Mr Wei-Cheng Chen. The organizer outlined the purpose of the program as to "enable participants to recognize and understand the people they are dealing with and to develop the best approach for communication."

"As the tourism and hospitality industry is growing swiftly in

Macau, the demand for knowledgeable professionals is increasing and thus hotel management needs to develop itself to cope with the changing market trends. This module addresses the key requirements in the area of 'effective communication' to help participants to improve their leadership skills. It is hoped that participants can always strive towards fruitful collaboration with people they are dealing or negotiating with."

"It helped participants to understand that their perceptions of the world, work and the other people in their lives are affected by past experiences, their expectations and where they place their priorities. Their level of performance and overall teamwork results can be significantly impacted by an increased

self-understanding and understanding of others, by enhancing their ability to adapt and by improving their ability to connect with others in both personal and professional domains," the IFT stated in a press release.

The IFT has also been collaborating with Cornell University's School of Hotel Administration in organizing training programs. The most recent one was focused on Facilities Management. "Whether you are a local professional or from the mainland or overseas, you will encounter those topics as long as you work in hotel and hospitality," explained Ms Vong.

In addition, the president remains optimistic about the employment prospects of graduates, although the hospitality sector has been recently affected by the downturn of the gaming industry. "The industry has always been short of human resources; it's likely they will continue hiring staffers this year to be able to fill the positions, thus relieving the pressure of the manpower shortage," she explained.

## Anti-human trafficking hotlines reorganized

A new 24-hour Report and Assistance anti-human trafficking hotline will commence operation from July 1 this year. According to a statement, the revamp is intended to optimize the functioning of the telephone hotlines to combat human trafficking and to improve the usage and efficiency of assistance services. A 6-month transitional period will be allocated before the expiry of the two existing telephone lines. The merged line (2888-9911) will be attended to by designated staff of the Public Security Police Force.

## Young athletes depart for Dutch competition



The Macau delegation of 18 young athletes to the 49th International Children's Games departed for the Netherlands on Tuesday. The event is taking place in the city of Alkmaar from June 24 to 29. More than 1500 athletes between the ages of 12 through to 15, hailing from about 80 cities worldwide, will compete in track and field, golf, football, tennis, swimming, gymnastics, judo, beach volleyball and volleyball events. Macau's athletes will compete in track and field, swimming, judo and tennis competitions.

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# Students get MICE industry hands-on job experience



Gene Capuano

## Catarina Pinto

A group of Institute for Tourism Studies (IFT) students will have a unique opportunity to gain practical experience tomorrow as they develop and organize an entire exhibition featuring the work of local artists at The Venetian Macao.

The group is being assisted by professor Gene Capuano, Sands China's Vice President of Convention & Exhibition Operations, who has been giving MICE-related lectures and an Event Preparations course, at IFT.

"This is the second 30-hour course that I have taught there. The structure of it is to really allow the students to create a conceptual idea of an event. So from start to finish it really gives them the opportunity to see what it's like as an organizer and also from the hotel side, what it's like to organize an event," he said in an interview with the Times.

Mr Capuano stressed that by allowing students to organize an event by themselves, "it's a good rounded way to expose them to the MICE industry and really get them to unders-

tand if it's something that they're interested in or not."

The group of 23 students who are organizing the event has invited 30 local artists to display their artwork tomorrow in a total of 30 booths. Local musicians will be performing and there will also be workshops for kids.

Last year, IFT students were afforded a similar opportunity, organizing a gala-type event.

The exhibition will run from noon until 8 p.m. at Expo Hall D of the Venetian. IFT president Fanny Vong will be attending the opening ceremony.

Mr Capuano believes that by obtaining hands-on job exper-

ience, students will have a clearer idea of their preferred career path.

"When you talk about events and exhibitions you only think about the operational part, but when students start to see that they can design, market the event to individual businesses, and learn how to use social media... they see the different areas of the hotel industry that they can work in first hand," he reiterated.

Furthermore, the experience will help them understand that "you really have to start from the bottom and work your way up."

"You can't just walk out of school with a degree and then

expect to become a manager and all of a sudden deal with challenges in a 3,000-room hotel," he noted.

Students will also be looking at sustainability in relation to the event, as Sands China's green initiatives are also extended to MICE events.

A team within the convention and exhibition operations department is in charge of "green meetings", and staff may be assigned to help organizers develop a sustainable event, by saving water or utilizing water bottles.

"The students will also understand what happens with the materials used. We have an impact assessment. And they will get to see how thin-

gs get re-used," Mr Capuano explained.

The number of MICE-sector events in this year's first quarter reached 200, down by 9 percent year-on-year, according to data released last month by the Statistics and Census Service (DSEC).

But from Sands China's perspective, the number of attendees has been increasing throughout the first quarter.

“It [the course] really gives them the opportunity to see what it's like as an organizer and also from the hotel side, what it's like to organize an event

Mr Capuano said that although there has been a decrease in the overall number of MICE events, more people have been in attendance.

He recalled that the company has been in a good position, since it has built large spaces for MICE events, which will expand once the Parisian opens.

As Macau wishes to expose itself to more international events, general attendance will increase even though there will be fewer events, he said.

Mr Capuano says Macau has a few advantages over, for instance, Hong Kong in terms of expanding its MICE business.

He stressed that, "Macau is more convenient because the amount of rooms that you have in a condensed area is much more compared to when you go to Hong Kong. So from an organizer's perspective if I want do an event for 2,000 or 3,000 people in Hong Kong, that will probably take seven or eight hotels plus a convention center."

## Airport expansion would be 'a game changer'

GENE Capuano, says that current infrastructure under development in Macau will help boost the MICE industry. But the real game-changer would be the expansion of Macau's airport.

"The game-changer in Macau from my opinion is the airport expansion, and getting more international flights directly into Macau," he said.

Mr Capuano recalled that an airport expansion would allow more people to visit Macau for MICE events, improving access to hotels in Macau when combined with a short taxi or shuttle bus ride. He concluded by saying that, "it's a big convenience for international business travellers. So as long as the infrastructure continues to grow I think

that we will see over time that the MICE business will continue to grow as well."

Mr Capuano recalled that infrastructural developments like the Hong Kong-Macau-Zhuhai bridge or the LRT will diffuse congestion at the ferry terminal and on Macau's streets. "Those infrastructural things are going to help the industry quite a bit."

REAL ESTATE MATTERS

The top 25 questions we are asked about Macau property - Part 4 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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10. Question: How much notice do I have to give on my rental apartment?

As a tenant, you have a few choices. When the tenancy agreement is coming to an end, you can let the owner know you will not extend at any point leading up to the end of the lease. If it is prior to the end of the agreement, you can give notice in accordance with the contract. For example, it may say that the agreement can be terminated with 2 months notice. If the agreement does not have a termination clause, you can give the owner 3 months notice. When a lease is broken, the owner has the right to retain part or all of the security deposit dependent on the notice period and the wording in the tenancy agreement.

9. Question: Who is responsible for looking after my rental apartment?

The tenant is responsible for the safekeeping and care of the contents of the apartment, and returning the apartment in the same condition that it was handed over with an allowance for reasonable wear and tear. The owner is responsible for the

infrastructure of the apartment such as the shell of the apartment itself, the plumbing, the provision of power etc. In other words, providing reasonable and safe conditions for habitation.

8. Question: I have a family, where's the best place to live?

With a family, the best place to live is in a complex that provides a club facility. As Macau suffers from a lack of space, the absence of a garden or recreational areas make a club facility extremely important. Complexes such as Nova City or Ocean Gardens have large club areas, whilst buildings such as The Manhattan and The Buckingham also have club facilities such as a swimming pool and Gym.

7. Question: I'm alone, where's the best place to live?

If you have access to recreation facilities through your work, or have joined a recreation club such as The Westin, then an older block in Taipa is probably the best place to reside as a single person. You have convenient access

to stores and restaurants, you are central to Macau, Cotai or Coloane, and there is a bigger choice of accommodation than you might find in Macau.

6. Question: Is it a good time to buy property in Macau?

If you are buying with the long term in mind, it's still a good time to buy in Macau. As more new casinos and resorts take shape on Cotai, the demand for housing will increase as the population grows. Property of a 'livable' quality is in short supply, and basic economics tell us that prices will continue to rise. However, rising prices cannot continue indefinitely, and we are currently experiencing a slowdown of course. But we have to live somewhere, and it makes good financial sense to own the property we live in. Apart from anything else, we are at least in control of our living arrangements, and not looking for a new place to live every 2 years.

Next week look out for our Top 5 and final part of the 25 Questions we are asked about macau property.

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# Greece, creditors at loggerheads as debt deadline looms

Derek Gatopoulos and Lorne Cook, Brussels

**G**REECE and its international creditors remained at loggerheads yesterday over reform measures that Athens must introduce to unlock billions of euros in loans and prevent a likely bankruptcy of the country.

At talks in Brussels, leaders from the International Monetary Fund, the European Central Bank and the European Commission reached agreement on the kind of reforms needed to secure Greece a financial lifeline.

But Greece was still not on board, preferring a compromise reached in previous meetings, raising fresh doubts about whether it is possible to clinch a deal before Athens must make a payment to the IMF on Tuesday.

An EU official said a "set of proposals, agreed upon unanimously by the institutions, has been forwarded" to finance ministers from the 19 nations

AP PHOTO



Greek Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras leaves after a meeting on Greece at EU headquarters in Brussels

using the single currency. The official, who declined to be named with the negotiations still in flux, said that this "can form the basis of an agreement."

But a Greek government official said that Athens remains

"steadfast in support of the proposals that formed the basis for talks several days ago."

"The Greek side has shown responsibility and the will to find an agreement. The responsibility of each party involved

will now be determined," the official said.

The latest gambit came after Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras met with the lenders under pressure to seal a deal before facing other European Union leaders at a summit.

Tsipras is also under massive pressure from Greeks themselves as the compromises suggested so far will mean fresh hardship for citizens already suffering the impact of past austerity measures to bring public spending back into line.

Representatives from almost every Greek party were in Brussels, following developments blow by blow, to see whether they would be able to back any new deal in the Greek parliament, where a vote must pass by Monday.

"We are at a critical moment," Greek Labor Minister Panos Skourletis warned on private Antenna television.

"There are issues that for us are paramount — that must be included in an agreement. The-

se are tackling the debt so that it can go on a sustainable course, and the financing of the economy," he said.

A senior lawmaker in Tsipras' radical left governing party denounced the international demands for new spending cuts as "blackmail."

"The effort to restore exhausting measures shows the blackmail and pressure against Greece is culminating," Syriza party parliamentary spokesman Nikos Filis said on Mega television.

Greece has a 1.6 billion-euro (USD1.8 billion) debt to pay on Tuesday which it cannot afford unless the creditors unfreeze 7.2 billion euros (8.1 billion dollars) in bailout money.

A failure to reach agreement with its creditors and a default on its debts could force Greece out of the eurozone, which would be hugely painful for the country. Some experts say it could be manageable for Europe and the world economy, but that remains unclear and any failure would likely shake global markets.

As the meetings were getting underway yesterday in Brussels, the Athens stock exchange fell 2.1 percent minutes after opening, but later recovered and was marginally up 0.6 percent in late morning trading. **AP**

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# Chinese workers contracted by Uniqlo strike over plant closure

Didi Tang, Beijing

**M**ORE than 300 Chinese workers at a garment factory that supplies international brands such as Uniqlo have been protesting for about two weeks what they say is a unilateral decision by the management to close down.

The strike is one of more than 1,000 collective actions since January by Chinese workers, who are increasingly turning to group actions in fighting for their rights.

Hong Kong-based China Labor Bulletin has reported 1,379 workers' strikes in China in 2014, up from 656 the previous year, as China's economy slows down and workers have become more aware of their legal rights.

To defend their rights, Chinese workers — as advised by labor activists — are opting for collective



actions, such as group negotiations, but they also see interventions from local governments that are wary of any organized activity.

Workers at Shenzhen Artigas Clothing & Leatherware in southern China said the management is forcing them to move to another factory and they demand a proper negotiation for the relocation.

Officials at Lever Style Limited, which manages Artigas, have refused to comment, while Uniqlo Co., Ltd. has issued a statement urging for a peaceful resolution.

The Japanese retailer said it could terminate its contract with the supplier if the matter is unresolved.

"We are concerned by the reported strike, and have urged Lever Style Limited to undertake thorough discussions with the workers, for a peaceful resolution," said the Uniqlo statement, issued about a week ago.

Asked if its public statement has had any sway on Lever Style, Uniqlo said it will continue "to monitor the situation and keep request-

ing the supplier to discuss with the workers."

Artigas workers said the management is yet to sit down for negotiations. The workers said they would like to receive proper payouts, including back payments for social security, overtime work, and unused holidays, before they would sign new, proper contracts to work in the new location, which is 20 minutes away by public transportation.

"They have removed the needles from the machines, so we have not been able to work at all," said a female worker who requested anonymity for fear of retaliation from both the management and the local government.

"Before we should say whether we are willing to move to the new location, the management should have asked us and discussed the matter with us," she said. "Instead, they made the announcement in the morning and began to move machines in the afternoon."

"This should not have been a unilateral thing," the worker said. **AP**

## H&M sees Q2 revenue increase by 21 percent

**SWEDISH** budget fashion chain Hennes & Mauritz AB says its second-quarter revenue increased 21 percent to 45.9 billion kronor (USD5.6 billion), despite an unusually cold spring in many of its European markets.

The three-month net profit was at 6.5 billion kronor (\$788 million), up 11 percent from the same period a year earlier.

CEO Karl-Johan Persson said yesterday the Stockholm-based group continued its expansion. In the spring, H&M opened eight new online markets and still aims to open about 400 new stores by year's end.

"In parallel with our online expansion, we are continuing to open stores at a fast pace," Persson said.

He highlighted the opening of the group's first shop in Lima, Peru, and an H&M's flagship store that opened on Herald Square in New York, which will be one of the group's largest stores in the U.S. Most new stores in 2015 are planned in China and the US.

Germany remains H&M's largest market, followed by the United States, Britain, China and Sweden.

The company's stock fell more than 7 percent to 332.6 kronor in morning trading in Stockholm.

As of July, the group will roll out H&M Beauty with makeup, body and hair care in 900 stores in 40 markets and online. Persson said it was an "example of all the investments we are making in order to broaden H&M's product range even further."

Persson cautioned that a number of factors, including uncertainties related to fashion, weather conditions and negative macro-economic changes, may affect H&M's results and business.

Founded in 1947, H&M is known for its fashionable, low-price collections for mainstream consumers. It has more than 3,600 stores worldwide. Its brands also include higher-priced COS and urban fashion labels such as Monki, Weekday, Cheap Monday and & Other Stories.

**Bloomberg**



### UNIQLO IN HK AND MACAU

**JAPANESE CASUAL** fashion brand Uniqlo currently has 24 stores in Hong Kong, with one branch also located in Macau at The Venetian. Known for selling a spread of basics, Uniqlo has 1,200 stores worldwide. The chain is one of seven brands from its Tokyo-based parent company Fast Retailing Co., which also owns Comptoir des Cotonniers, GU, Helmut Lang, J Brand, Princesse tam.tam and Theory.

### corporate bits

#### BNU EXHIBITION — 'A NEW CENTURY TOGETHER WITH YOU'



To celebrate BNU's 113th anniversary, the Bank is holding an exhibition "A New Century Together With You", at the Residence of the Consul-General of Portugal, from June 25 to July 31. An opening ceremony was held on Wednesday at the exhibition venue. Honorable guests including Mr Edmund Ho, Vice Chairman of the National Committee of the CPPCC, Mr Lionel Leong, representative of the Chief Executive and Macau's Secretary for Economy and Finan-

ce, Mr Pan Yundong, Deputy Commissioner of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the PRC in Macau, Mr Gao Shangde, Assistant Director of the Economic Affairs Department of the PRC's Liaison Office, Mr Vitor Sereno, Consul General of Portugal in Macau, and around 500 other guests including government officials, business partners and clients of BNU, attended the opening ceremony.

In his welcome remarks, Mr Pedro Cardoso, BNU's CEO, said "for more than a century, BNU is part of the financial life of Macau, maintaining an active role in the social and economic development of the territory, supporting local business activities."

#### NEW SANDS CHINA CAREER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM POPULAR WITH STAFF

More than 1,000 Sands China team members have shown interest in the company's new Integrated Resort Career Development Program, with nearly 400 now participating in the first phase of the recently launched program. The initiative was announced in May, and team members have shown a keen interest in taking advantage of the opportunity it provides.

Participating staff are gaining experience working in several non-gaming departments throughout the company's integrated resorts, via voluntary six-month assignments. The program kicked off June 15, with close to 200 team members now working with the hotel operations team, in front office, public areas, con-



cierge, recreation, housekeeping, guest services and retail. Another 60 have started working with the entertainment team, and over 100 will begin working with the food and beverage department later this month.

Another batch will soon begin taking their posts for the second phase of the program in July, with opportunities to work in departments including finance, convention and exhibition, facilities, information technology and others.

#### MELCO AND DRAGONE INSPIRE CREATIVE CAREERS FOR LOCAL TALENTS

As a company with deep roots in Macau, Melco Crown Entertainment has been dedicated to developing local talents. With its business partner Dragone, the company organized a new backstage journey at The House of Dancing Water to showcase non-gaming career opportunities to attract local talents to join the HKD2 billion show in Macau.

Over 80 educators from local universities and educational institutes, as well as representatives of labor unions, were invited to the backstage journey for an encounter with the production and the backstage secrets of the show. Through this, Melco aims to introduce to the local educational community the



extensive career choices the spectacle provides to local people, and inspire insights on the curriculum preparation to meet the demands of Macau's creative and entertainment industry.



# Conservationists: New policy could save elephants

Christopher Torchia, Johannesburg

**CONSERVATIONISTS** hail it as a possible game-changer in the struggle to curb the slaughter of elephants: an unexpected pledge by a senior Chinese official to stop the ivory trade in a country whose vast, increasingly affluent consumer market drives elephant poaching across Africa.

Now they are waiting in suspense for China to outline how and when it would ban an industry that criminal syndicates use as cover for their illicit business in tusks.

The ban could happen in 2017 when a legal stockpile of ivory in China is possibly depleted, predicted Zhou Fei, head of the China office of TRAFFIC, a wildlife trade monitoring organization. He said he is encouraged by the political will of China's top leadership to combat poaching that, by some estimates, has killed more than 100,000 African elephants in the past several years and



The U.S. government displays confiscated illegal ivory before crushing more than a ton in an effort to halt elephant poaching and ivory trafficking, Friday, June 19, at Times Square in New York

prompted governments to publicly destroy confiscated ivory in major cities, including New York City last week.

The May 29 comment by Zhao

Shucong, head of China's State Forestry Administration, came at a Beijing event in which 660 kilograms of ivory were crushed, rendering tusks, car-

ved statues and other ornaments useless for sale.

"Under the legal framework of CITES and domestic laws and regulations, we will strictly control ivory processing and trade until the commercial processing and sale of ivory and its products are eventually halted," Zhao said in an English-language translation of his speech that was provided by his office.

CITES is the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, which seeks to regulate the multi-billion dollar trade in wild animals and plants. China allows trade in ivory acquired before a 1989 CITES ban and from a one-time, CITES-approved purchase by China and Japan of an ivory stockpile from several African countries in 2008. Conservation groups say China's illegal trade has since flourished.

"The fact that China is now talking about shutting down its own market could be huge," GINETTE Hemley, senior vice presi-

dent of wildlife conservation at the World Wildlife Fund, said in a telephone interview with The Associated Press.

Hemley said, though, that a total ban was not "something that can happen overnight" and that it should be implemented carefully to prevent criminal groups funneling as much ivory as possible through the legal system before it ends.

In his speech, Zhao referred to an ivory trade ban as the seventh of 10 "major measures" on wildlife conservation, including tougher law enforcement and publicity campaigns aimed at Chinese abroad. The State Forestry Administration has relatively limited resources and would require the support of multiple Chinese government agencies to enforce a ban.

China has backed an ivory-carving industry as part of its cultural heritage, and Zhao did not say whether that industry, a valuable source of jobs, would also end.

In an email to the AP, Zhou of TRAFFIC China said he is confident about his 2017 prediction because he heard more encouraging comments from Zhao at a meeting last week on an anti-poaching operation dubbed Cobra III that netted several hundred arrests across Asia, Africa and Europe. **AP**

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Christopher Bodeen, Beijing

# War veterans protest over missing benefits

**D**ISGRUNTLED Chinese military veterans converged on Beijing this week in a protest over what they say is the government's failure to make good on promised pensions, medical insurance and other benefits.

Yesterday, a website maintained by a veterans group and postings on Chinese social media said about 1,000 former soldiers from around the country joined in a sit-in protest Tuesday at the petitions office under the central military command.

The reports said they were part of a group of about 3,000 that had arrived recently in the capital, while several thousand more had been prevented from coming to Beijing by authorities in their hometowns.

Such protests have grown increasingly common among aging veterans and are treated as extremely politically sensitive by the ruling Communist Party that commands total control over the armed forces. China's entirely state-controlled media made no mention of Tuesday's protest and military spokesmen said they had no knowledge of it.

In a petition posted on the site junhunw.cn, the veterans said they were now aged in their 50s, 60s and 70s and in need of health care, income subsidies and other benefits promised to them under more than 40 laws and decrees issued by the central government.

The veterans represented



Newly retired soldiers hold up their retirement certificates on a train leaving for the eastern city of Jinan from Chongqing municipality in southwest China on Nov 25, 2012

fought in 1969 border clashes with the former Soviet Union and China's 1979 invasion of northern Vietnam and also participated in the Chinese nuclear bomb development program.

The petition said local governments had consistently failed to provide the services, adding that the central government's orders were unclear. Officials in Beijing, meanwhile, referred them back to the local

governments for assistance, while several veterans who'd protested their treatment had been arrested, detained and given multi-year prison sentences, it said.

"This is a show of disrespect

to the veterans, a rank injustice, and black mark on the nation and a blow to the credibility of the law," the statement said.

In Tuesday's sit-in, the bulk of the veterans were bussed to a sprawling detention center used to house petitioners from out of town while their chief representatives held talks with military officials.

While they were promised that their concerns would be addressed, they were warned that the sit-in was illegal, the website said, adding that the talks ended on an "unpleasant note." Organizers decided to end the action that evening and the veterans began returning home, the site said.

Organizer Tang Xin told The Associated Press by telephone that Tuesday's action had been part of a nationwide mobilization of veterans to better assert their rights.

"This was a highly organized action," Tang said.

There was no indication any veterans had been arrested, although the U.S. government-funded station Radio Free Asia said several had been intercepted and forcibly returned home by police from their places of residence.

China's ruling communists seized power in a civil war in 1949 and have long drawn their legitimacy from their control of the armed forces and defender of Chinese sovereignty. Despite that, veterans from World War II, the Chinese civil war, the Korean War and other conflicts have long complained of shabby treatment. **AP**

# Sino-US talks see progress on currency, cyberspace issues

Matthew Pennington, Washington

**T**HE United States claimed progress Wednesday (yesterday, Macau time) with China on currency issues and toward negotiating a code of conduct for cyberspace after two days of high-level talks that underscored sharp differences but paved the way for a visit by China's leader in the fall.

President Barack Obama rounded out the annual U.S.-China Security and Economic Dialogue by raising concerns to leaders of the Chinese delegation about Chinese cyber behavior and tensions over disputed seas of East Asia that have weighed on effor-

ts by the two powers to forge a more cooperative relationship.

"He urged China to take concrete steps to lower tensions," the White House said in a statement after the meeting.

While Secretary of State John Kerry described the U.S.-China dialogue as "ascending," he said cyber intrusions have raised security questions and harmed U.S. businesses. He said the two countries should be working together for a shared understanding of appropriate state behavior in cyberspace.

Kerry said there are acceptable international norms of behavior. "We need to work together in order to define those, and then live by them. I think that message was

clearly delivered and received and hopefully that work will begin in earnest very, very quickly," he told reporters.

In the past two years, mounting U.S. pressure on cyber issues has had little apparent impact on Chinese behavior. Obama raised it directly with Chinese President Xi Jinping when he last visited the U.S. in 2013, but allegations of state-backed cybertheft and espionage have only intensified.

Administration officials have said they are increasingly confident that China's government was responsible for a massive breach of personnel records of as many as 14 million of federal employees and contractors. But

the administration has stopped short of publicly blaming the break-in on China.

State Councilor Yang Jiechi said China cracks down on hacking and is ready to cooperate with the U.S. on cybersecurity. But he urged the U.S. to "respect facts." China has directly denied involvement in the massive breach of data from the U.S. Office of Personnel Management.

Treasury Secretary Jacob Lew cited significant progress on a long-standing U.S. concern that China's currency is undervalued against the dollar, which helps Chinese exports.

He acknowledged that the renminbi, or RMB, has appreciated in value and said that China's fo-



Secretary of State John Kerry shakes hands with China's State Councilor Yang Jiechi at the State Department in Washington

reign exchange intervention has declined over the past year. He said China has committed to intervene in the foreign exchange market only when necessitated by disorderly market conditions.

But he added that the "real test" would be when there's upward pressure on the RMB.

"Will China refrain from intervening? That is still an open issue," Lew said. "They still need

to work toward having a fully market-determined exchange rate."

He also voiced U.S. concerns over access to Chinese markets, and said the two sides had a long way to go in negotiating a bilateral investment treaty. He said they had agreed to narrow their respective lists of sectors that would be exempted from foreign investment by early September, when Xi visits Washington. **AP**



## MYANMAR

# Parliament blocks Aung San Suu Kyi from presidency

Aye Aye Win, Yangon

**M**YANMAR'S parliament voted against constitutional amendments yesterday, ensuring that the military's veto power remains intact and that opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi cannot become president in an election this year.

The legislature ended a 3-day debate on proposed changes to the 2008 constitution, which bars Suu Kyi, a Nobel Peace Prize laureate, from seeking the presidency and gives the military an effective veto over constitutional amendments.

Changes to both those clauses were rejected in the vote. Suu Kyi's National League for Democracy is expected to see heavy gains against the ruling Union Solidarity and Development Party in an election likely to take place by November. No date has been set.

"I am not surprised with the



Myanmar's opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi

**This makes it very clear that the constitution can never be changed if the military is opposed**

AUNG SAN SUU KYI

result," Suu Kyi told reporters after the vote. "This makes it very clear that the constitution can never be changed if the military representatives are opposed."

Suu Kyi and her party had said that the current constitution needed to be amended to meet democratic norms and that the amendments were essential for a free and fair election.

The NLD swept the last free general election in 1990 but the

then-ruling military junta ignored the results and kept Suu Kyi under house arrest and detention for a total of 15 years.

The nation's transition from a half-century of brutal military rule to a nominally civilian government in 2011 was marked by early, fast-moving successes. Suu Kyi's 2010 release and her 2012 election to parliament were a catalyst for the West to end years of diplomatic isolation of Myanmar, also

called Burma, and roll back sanctions.

But four years after President Thein Sein took office, the military has refused to loosen its grip on parliament or amend the junta-era constitution, which ensures the military's continuing influence in government. It gives the military a mandatory 25 percent of parliamentary seats, handing it veto power over any change in the constitution, which re-

quires greater than 75 percent approval, followed by a nationwide referendum.

Yesterday's vote rejected a proposal to trim the share of ballots required to amend the constitution from over 75 percent to 70 percent, a change that would essentially have removed the veto power.

Many viewed the proposed amendment, which could have paved the way for more constitutional change, as key to Suu Kyi's chances for gaining eligibility for the presidency. The opposition leader turned 70 last Friday, raising concerns that time is running out in her political career.

The parliament also rejected amending a clause that bars anyone whose spouse or children are loyal to foreign countries from becoming president or vice president. Suu Kyi's late husband and her two sons are British citizens. The proposed amendment would not have stricken the clause entirely, just dropped the reference to foreign spouses as an obstacle to candidacy.

During this week's debate, lawmakers in military uniforms said it was necessary to keep the clauses intact.

"If the person who will become the country's head of state and his or her family members owe allegiance to foreign countries, the country will indirectly fall under foreign subjugation," Brig. Gen. Tin Soe, one of 166 military appointees in parliament, told fellow lawmakers on Wednesday.

Brig. Gen. Tin San Naing said Tuesday that the military's veto power helped ensure stability as the country moves away from military rule.

"Myanmar is in a democratic transition period," he said. "It has not reached its maturity in democratic practices to ensure peace and security in the country." AP

## NEW ZEALAND

# Environmental protesters scale parliament roof

Nick Perry, Wellington

**F**OUR environmental protesters breached security yesterday at New Zealand's parliamentary complex by scaling the roof and perching themselves on a ledge above the main entrance.

The Greenpeace protesters hauled up solar panels and unfurled a banner to protest what they say is the government's lack of action in promoting renewable energy and dealing with climate change. The four



Greenpeace environmental perch themselves on a ledge above the main entrance of parliament buildings in Wellington

secured themselves on the ledge with climbing harnesses and ropes. The protest began at dawn and continued throughout the mor-

ning. Police issued the four with trespass notices but authorities said they planned to allow the protesters to come down on their own.

The breach will come as an embarrassment to the parliament's security services.

David Stevenson, the general manager of Parliamentary Service, said in a statement he had ordered a full review of security procedures as a result of the breach.

"Trespassing in or on the buildings is totally inappropriate, regar-

dless of the motivations of those involved," he said. "We are therefore taking this incident very seriously and will be looking for any lessons we can draw from it."

The forecourt in front of the main entrance is frequently used for sanctioned protests.

Speaking from a cellphone, protester Johno Smith told The Associated Press that the four were experienced climbers and that they planned to come down yesterday afternoon once they had got their

message out and "before it gets too cold."

He said he hoped the protest would inspire people to act.

"We need to take clean-energy action," he said. "Our society is based around fossil fuels."

About 77 percent of New Zealand's electricity generation comes from renewable sources, including hydroelectric, geothermal and wind. The country's vehicle fleet, on the other hand, primarily uses gasoline and diesel. AP



Macau Daily Times contest



Beauty and the Beast production, international tour cast photographed by Helen Mayoanis. © Disney



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Disney Theatrical Productions, NETworks and Broadway Entertainment Group are delighted to announce that, in celebration of Disney's Beauty and the Beast's 20th anniversary on the stage, the show is visiting Macao for the very first time as part of the forthcoming International tour. The English-language production is playing at The Venetian Theatre of The Venetian Macao from June 13 to July 26, 2015 as part of a tour

which also visits Turkey, United Arab Emirates, Kazakhstan, the Philippines, Thailand, Singapore, and Indonesia. This is another Broadway musical that Sands China Ltd. has brought to Macao. Based on the 1991 Academy-Award winning animated feature film, Disney's Beauty and the Beast premiered on Broadway in 1994, where it was nominated for nine prestigious Tony Awards and ran for 13 years. It still ranks as one of the

longest-running and highest-grossing Broadway shows of all time. Since its debut, the title's visibility and success have expanded globally with subsequent productions produced around the world. Since licensing of the title began in 2004, there have been productions in 22 countries, seen by more than 35 million people, translated into 8 different languages with over 28 thousand performances - equivalent to a run of 67 years, generating over \$1.7B in revenue.

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SYRIA

# Islamic State attacks Kobani to halt Kurdish gains

**I**SLAMIC State militants attacked the Syrian Kurdish stronghold of Kobani, site of one of the group's biggest setbacks, in an effort to halt the Kurds' military advance in the country's north.

At least 12 people and as many as 32 were killed in clashes in the town near the Turkish border, according to Turkish media reports. The Islamic State also attacked a village on the southern outskirts of Kobani, executing at least 20 people by direct gunfire, according to Rami Abdurrahman, head of the U.K.-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, which tracks Syria's civil war through a network of activists.

Kurdish fighters, who repelled the Islamic State march on Kobani in January after months of street battles, captured two towns from the al-Qaeda breakaway group this month with the help of U.S.-led airstrikes. The advance put them in control of more than two-thirds of the border with Turkey and within 50 kilometers of Raqqa, the de facto capital of the Islamic State's self-declared caliphate in Syria and Iraq.



A Syrian Kurdish sniper looks at the rubble in the Syrian city of Ain al-Arab, also known as Kobani

Wresting control of Kobani would extend the Islamic State's grip along Syria's border with NATO-member Turkey. The jihadists' loss of another border town, Tal Abyad, to Kurdish fighters earlier this month deprived the Islamic State of a major route used to bring in foreign fighters and supplies.

Islamic State gunmen were dressed in the uniforms of Syrian Kurdish fighters when they entered the city, Ibrahim Kurdo, an official with the provincial government of Kobani, said by phone.

"Clashes began around 5 a.m. and most of the civilians here thought sounds of gunfire were from nearby areas," he said. "They were later surprised that Islamic State militants were inside."

The fighting followed a car bombing near the border crossing with Turkey, SOHR said.

"Classic Islamic State strategy unfolding in northern Syria this morning," Charles Lister, visiting fellow at the Brookings Doha Center and author of "The Syrian Jihad," said on Twitter. "To divert Kurds from Raqqa, a three-pronged assault on" Kobani, as well as an offensive in Hasakah, he said.

The militants' simultaneous offensive in Hasakah in the northeast put them in control of several neighborhoods in their attempt to take control of a key prison and security headquarters, according to SOHR. Syrian government forces repelled the attacks, state-run television said. **Bloomberg**

USA

## Boston Marathon bomber 'sorry' for attack after 2-year silence

Denise Lavoie  
Legal Affairs Writer, Boston

**B**OSTON Marathon bomber Dzhokhar Tsarnaev broke his silence on the death and devastation he caused two years ago with words that were not a political tirade or a justification.

He apologized to his victims and their families at his formal sentencing Wednesday (yesterday, Macau time) in federal court.

"I am sorry for the lives that I've taken, for the suffering that I've caused you, for the damage that I've done — irreparable damage," the 21-year-old former college student said, speaking haltingly in his Russian accent.

But some bombing survivors saw his apology as disingenuous and incomplete.

"After we heard it, we wished we hadn't," said Lynn Julian, who suffered a traumatic brain injury and a back injury, and now suffers from post-traumatic stress disorder.

"He threw in an apology to the survivors that seemed insincere," she said.

U.S. Attorney Carmen Ortiz said Tsarnaev's statement was more noteworthy for what he didn't say.

"He didn't renounced terrorism. He didn't renounce violent extremism," she said.

After Tsarnaev said his piece, U.S. District Judge George O'Toole Jr. quoted a line from Shakespeare. "The evil that men do lives after them. The good is often interred with their bones," he said.

"So it will be for Dzhokhar Tsarnaev," the judge said, telling Tsarnaev that no



In this courtroom sketch, Boston Marathon bomber Dzhokhar Tsarnaev, right, stands before U.S. District Judge George O'Toole Jr. as he addresses the court during his sentencing

one will remember that his teachers were fond of him, that his friends found him fun to be with or that he showed compassion to disabled people.

"What will be remembered is that you murdered and maimed innocent people, and that you did it willfully and intentionally," O'Toole said.

Tsarnaev looked down and rubbed his hands together as the judge pronounced his fate: execution, the punishment decided by the jury last month for the 2013 attack that killed three people and wounded more than 260 others.

The apology came after Tsarnaev listened for about three hours as a procession of 24 victims and survivors lashed out at him for his "cowardly" and "disgusting" acts.

"He can't possibly have had a soul to do such a horrible thing," said Karen Rand McWatters, who lost a leg in the attack and whose best friend, 29-year-old Krystle Campbell, was killed. **AP**

FRANCE

## Taxis strike after weeks of rising tension over Uber

Lori Hinnant, Paris

**F**RENCH taxis went on a nationwide strike yesterday, snarling traffic in major cities after weeks of rising and sometimes violent tensions over Uber. Travelers hoping to catch a flight walked alongside the highway, rolling their bags behind them, as riot police fired tear gas canisters to hold back some strikers.

Despite repeated rulings outlawing Uber's lowest-cost service, its drivers continue to ply French roads and the American company is actively recruiting.

Uber's more expensive livery service is still legal but a source of intense frustration for taxi drivers, who pay tens of thousands of euros (dollars) for their medallions and who face customer complaints that they are being resistant to changes such as credit cards and geo-location.

Taxi drivers complain that Uber unfairly undercuts them and in recent weeks nearly 100 Uber drivers have been attacked, sometimes while carrying customers. In one case, a taxi passenger was left with a broken face and black eye after he praised Uber.

The government, meanwhile, said nearly 500 legal cases have been filed across France involving complaints about UberPop. The officials reiterated concerns about safety of passengers, insisting they are not protected in case of an accident by an UberPop driver.



A Paris cab with posters reading "Uber get out" parks during a blockade by taxi drivers in Paris

"The economy is not the law of the jungle," Claude Bartolone, head of France's National Assembly, told BFM television.

Strikers darted by the dozens onto Paris' ring road near a main entrance to the city, then dashed away as riot police tried to catch them. Liberation newspaper's

deputy director, Johan Hufnagel, said taxi drivers attacked one photographer.

Images from around the city captured a sense of the taxis' rage, with an Uber-style livery car overturned, others with tires slashed and windshields covered with a web of cracks.

At the airports, police were checking entering cars in hopes of avoiding more violence.

Even Interior Ministry officials admit the emergence of Uber and similar services — which can feature perks such as free bottled water for customers and polite, door-opening drivers, not to mention the chance to pay by credit card — have created a competitive market that has forced changes in the taxi industry. **AP**



## 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
01:10	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)
02:00	RTPi Live

## SATURDAY

10:45	Boonie Bears
11:35	Documentary Serie
12:00	Cooking
13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
14:30	Soap Opera
18:15	Non-Daily Portuguese News
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	Shorts
00:20	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)
01:00	RTPi Live

## SUNDAY

11:00	Sunday Mass
12:00	Miscellaneous
12:30	Miscellaneous
13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
14:30	Animation
16:10	Miscellaneous
17:00	Miscellaneous
17:45	Non-Daily Portuguese News
18:10	Miscellaneous
18:45	Miscellaneous
19:30	Comedy
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:00	Non-Daily Portuguese News
22:00	Man on Mars: Mission to the Red Planet
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Documentary Series
00:05	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)
00:40	RTPi Live

## offbeat

## SPAIN: MAN DIES AFTER BEING GORED BY BULL IN TOWN FIESTA

A Spanish man has died after being gored by bull during a summer festival in a southwestern Spanish town. Coria town spokeswoman Clara Iglesias said yesterday the man was standing at a protective barrier in the town's bull ring when the bull charged and managed to get a horn between the barrier's vertical tube bars to gore him twice. A video of the goring, which occurred Wednesday evening, was posted on several Spanish news websites.

A town hall statement said the 43-year-old man died later from injuries to the abdomen and chest in Coria's hospital. He was from a neighboring town.

Fiestas featuring bulls are common in Spain and many people are injured each year. Spain's most famous bull-running event is in the San Fermin festival in Pamplona in July.

## cinema



## CINETEATRO

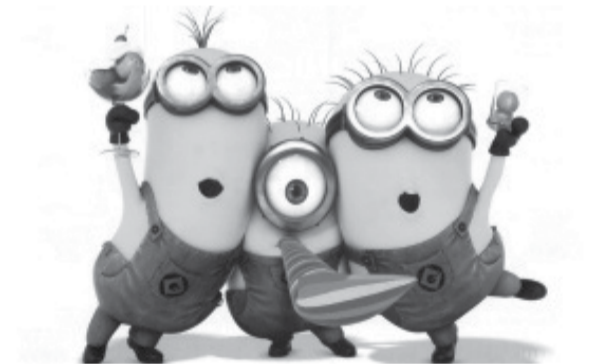
25 JUN - 2 JUL



**TED 2**  
ROOM 1  
2.30, 4.30, 7.30, 9.30 pm  
Director: Seth MacFarlane  
Starring: Mark Wahlberg, Amanda Seyfried, Morgan Freeman  
Language: English (Chinese)  
Duration: 115min



**SPL 2: A TIME FOR CONSEQUENCES**  
ROOM 2  
2.30, 4.45, 7.15pm  
(1 - 2 JUL) 2.30, 4.45  
Director: Cheang Pou-soi  
Starring: Tony Jaa, Wu Jing, Simon Yam, Zhang Jin, Louis Koo  
Language: Cantonese/Mandarin (Cantonese/English)  
Duration: 120min



**MINIONS**  
ROOM 2  
(1 - 2 JUL) 7.30 pm  
Director: Pierre Coffin, Kyle Balda  
Language: Cantonese (Chinese/English)  
Duration: 91min

**JURASSIC WORLD**  
9.30 pm  
Director: Colin Trevorrow  
Starring: Chris Pratt, Bryce Dallas Howard  
Language: English (Chinese)  
Duration: 124min

**FAR FROM THE MADDING CROWD**  
ROOM 3  
2.30, 4.45, 7.15, 9.30 pm  
Director: Thomas Vinterberg  
Starring: Carey Mulligan, Matthias Schoenaerts  
Language: English (Chinese)  
Duration: 94min

## 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 QUEEN AND EISENHOWER OPEN SEAWAY

The Queen and US President Dwight D Eisenhower have inaugurated the 2,300-mile St Lawrence Seaway in Canada that links the Atlantic with the Great Lakes in North America.

Crowds cheered and waved flags, church bells rang out, sirens wailed and bands played as the Royal Yacht Britannia began the first leg of the journey from Montreal harbour to the Atlantic Ocean.

On board were the Queen, representing Canada, and President Eisenhower who could be seen chatting together on deck and waving to the crowds. Balloons and fireworks were released when the ship's bow passed a symbolic gate at St Lambert Lock made of old timbers from the lock of the Lachine canal which was built to bypass the Lachine rapids. The seaway takes a different route avoiding the rapids and rendering the Lachine canal obsolete. Then all the whistles and sirens of ships in Montreal harbor went off.

At one point an American congressman called to the president from the lock side: "We have all fallen in love with the Queen, Ike!" Earlier, the Queen as head of the Commonwealth welcomed President Eisenhower to Canada at Montreal airport. After inspecting a Royal Canadian Air Force guard of honour they took an open-top car to the St Lawrence River.

There the two heads of state were each presented with a commemorative book with the names of the men who built the seaway. The Queen then made a speech welcoming the president and his wife to Canada to mark the inauguration of a "great joint enterprise between our two countries". She acknowledged the project would open up the center of America to world trade and enhance Canadian commerce in the process.

Courtesy BBC News

## IN CONTEXT

The ambitious joint project between Canada and the USA cost \$470m to build of which £336.2m was paid by Canada and USD133.8m by the US.

Construction began in 1954 after 250 years of planning and setbacks, dating back to French attempts to bypass rapids near Montreal with a canal in the 17th century.

About 259 sq km were flooded and at least 6,500 people resettled before the seaway was completed in April 1959. By the end of the year, the massive system of canals, locks and dredged waterways had seen more than 6,500 ships pass through.

On average the St Lawrence Seaway handles 50 million tons of cargo, mainly grain, iron ore, coal and steel.

The Queen is still Canada's head of state represented by the governor-general. In 1982 Canada adopted a new constitution free from the United Kingdom.



**YOUR STARS**

**Aries**  
Mar. 21-Apr. 19  
Yesterday | Today | Tomorrow  
Today, making money may still be on your mind, but you can still take your time starting your day. Consider a long morning something to do to get healthy.

**Taurus**  
April 20-May 20  
Cash comes into your wallet, and cash goes out. It's one of those 'goes out' days. Don't open the floodgates, but spending money on fun or romance is within your budget.

**Gemini**  
May 21-Jun. 21  
You may have a hard time communicating with family, but unless you get your point across, your thoughts will be misread. Let them know it's all about calculating the costs, not the desire.

**Cancer**  
Jun. 22-Jul. 22  
Ah, it's a good day. You don't have to be analytical or worry about the global economy. Focus on smaller issues, like making plans and communicating with others.

**Leo**  
Jul. 23-Aug. 22  
Every single day of the week revolves around finances. You're just not impulsive anymore. It's not just the new you, it's the new economy. Stick to your thrifty and conservative persona.

**Virgo**  
Aug. 23-Sept. 22  
The financial world may seem like a disorganized mess to some, but it makes perfect sense to you. That won't help you make a buck but it will make you popular at parties. Cash in!

**Libra**  
Sep. 23-Oct. 22  
It's a good time for socializing, if that nagging voice in your head will let you off the hook. Worrying about money is turning you into a dog with a bone. Don't let it make you do nothing at all.

**Scorpio**  
Oct. 23 - Nov. 21  
It's a good day for all things uneconomic, which is not to say uneconomical. Things that suck money out of your wallet should be avoided, while those that don't open it at all should be embraced.

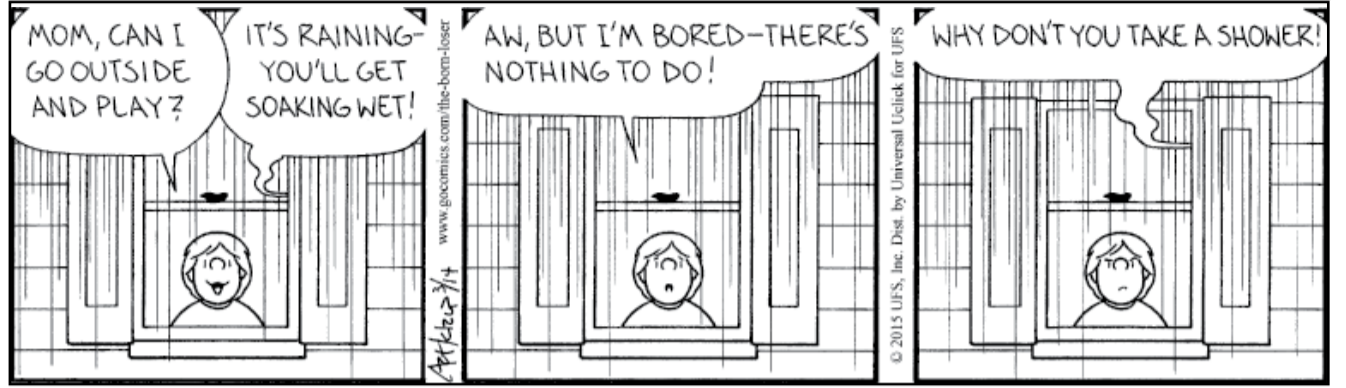
**Sagittarius**  
Nov. 22-Dec. 21  
Some aspects of today are to die for, while others drive you crazy. If you're going through numbers withdrawal, rush out to the movies or a spend time with friends.

**Capricorn**  
Dec. 22-Jan. 19  
Connect with your friends, around the corner and long distance. An email exchange can be just as valuable as a face-to-face chat, and just as free.

**Aquarius**  
Jan. 20-Feb. 18  
It may be a slow day, but you still need to be careful in business deals. You could use every day of the week to cover the details and still miss something beneath the surface, so don't slack off now.

**Pisces**  
Feb. 19-Mar. 20  
Don't waste time casting your work issues onto private relationships. If any projecting is to be involved, it should be at the movies. Go out and enjoy.

**THE BORN LOSER** by Chip Sansom



**SUDOKU**

**Easy**

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

**Easy+**

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

**Medium**

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

**Hard**

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

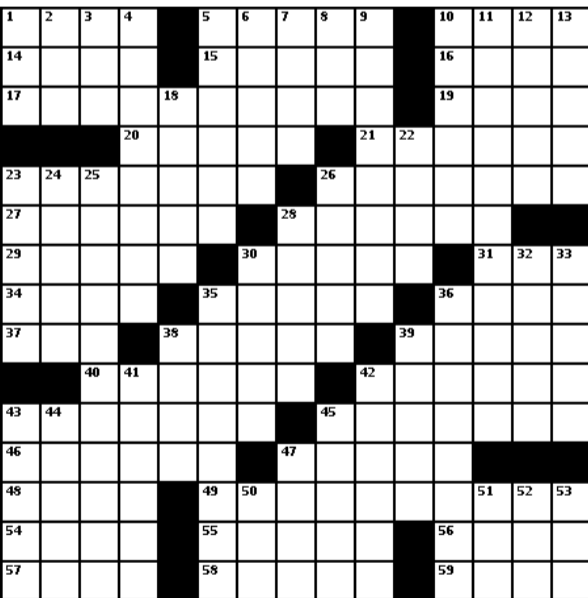
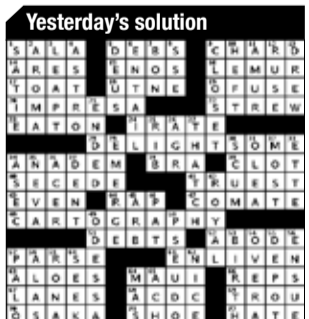
**WEATHER**

	MIN	MAX	CONDITION
<b>CHINA</b>			
Beijing	21	30	thundershower
Harbin	20	29	thundershower
Tianjin	22	30	shower/overcast
Urumqi	23	34	clear
Xi'an	21	27	cloudy/overcast
Lhasa	12	25	drizzle/overcast
Chengdu	23	31	cloudy
Chongqing	26	35	overcast/cloudy
Kunming	19	27	moderate rain/shower
Nanjing	22	27	moderate rain/heavy rain
Shanghai	24	30	moderate rain/heavy rain
Wuhan	25	31	moderate rain/shower
Hangzhou	25	32	cloudy/thundershower
Taipei	26	34	clear/drizzle
Guangzhou	27	34	cloudy/thundershower
Hong Kong	28	32	shower/cloudy
<b>WORLD</b>			
Moscow	17	29	clear/drizzle
Frankfurt	13	24	cloudy
Paris	14	26	cloudy
London	13	21	overcast
New York	18	28	cloudy/drizzle

**CROSSWORDS**

**ACROSS:** 1- Manhattan neighborhood; 5- Donnybrook; 10- Send packing; 14- Copycat; 15- Anouk of "La Dolce Vita"; 16- Feminizing suffix; 17- Unremitting; 19- Oopsl; 20- Locations; 21- Harsh; 23- Left out; 26- Saw-toothed; 27- Facade; 28- Herb; 29- Light \_\_\_; 30- Copland ballet; 31- Due follower; 34- Spanish snack; 35- Assorted; 36- Burn slightly; 37- Clairvoyant's gift; 38- Stream of water; 39- Balkan capital; 40- Rubbed out; 42- Taste carefully; 43- Tense; 45- U.S. space probe to Jupiter; 46- Full assembly; 47- Try to bite; 48- Lacking; 49- Illiterate; 54- Suffix with exist; 55- Fishhook line; 56- "Mon Oncle" director; 57- Summer shirts; 58- "Steppenwolf" author; 59- Chapters of history;

**DOWN:** 1- Mediterranean isl.; 2- Poetically ajar; 3- Norse goddess; 4- Aeschylus trilogy; 5- Pound steadily; 6- Seeing red; 7- Singing brothers' surname; 8- Basketball Hall of Famer Unseld; 9- Diminished; 10- Body of work; 11- Unwholesome; 12- Stable sound; 13- Snickering sound; 18- Fertilizer ingredient; 22- Inventor Rubik; 23- Like Humpty Dumpty; 24- Flat-topped formations; 25- Lack of appetite; 26- Exodus commemoration; 28- Deceived; 30- Metal pin; 32- Poker ploy; 33- One of the Muses; 35- Jumble; 36- Meditate; 38- Prego rival; 39- Psalms interjection; 41- Salon jobs; 42- Mottled marking; 43- Disturbed; 44- Flat surface; 45- Breathing organs of fish; 47- Scottish refusals; 50- Compass dir.; 51- Tavern; 52- Sorority letter; 53- \_\_\_ the season...



**USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS**

- Emergency calls 999
- Fire department 28 572 222
- PJ (Open line) 993
- PJ (Picket) 28 557 775
- PSP 28 573 333
- Customs 28 559 944
- S. J. Hospital 28 313 731
- Kiang Wu Hospital 28 371 333
- Commission Against Corruption (CCAC) 28326 300
- IACM 28 387 333
- Tourism 28 333 000
- Airport 59 888 88
- Taxi 28 939 939 / 2828 3283
- Water Supply - Report 1990 992
- Telephone - Report 1000
- Electricity - Report 28 339 922
- Macau Daily Times 28 716 081



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**Hellene Gardens**  
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HKD 5,292sq ft  
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**Iau Lei Garden**  
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Ref: 1505503

**Nam Ngon Garden Tower 3**  
Macau  
1,840 sq ft / HKD 11.8M  
HKD 6,413sq ft  
Good Size Sitting Room  
Ref: 14045398

**Houston Court, Coloane Village**  
Coloane  
1 Bedroom Apartment  
Recently Upgraded  
HKD 14,400 / 800 sq ft  
Ref: 1505502

**Chun Fok Village, Wai Heng Kok**  
Taipa  
993sq ft / HKD 6.88M  
HKD 6,928sq ft  
Located in OLD TAIPA VILLAGE  
Ref: 15015431

**Hellene Gardens**  
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HKD 20,000 / 1,663 sq ft  
Ref: 1505506

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Honda Macau





## Yachtsman Laurent Bourgnon reported missing after dive



Laurent Bourgnon of Switzerland

**LEADING** Swiss yachtsman Laurent Bourgnon was reported missing by authorities in French Polynesia yesterday after a diving incident. The Papeete rescue center in Tahiti said the 49-year-old Bourgnon, who twice won the Route du Rhum trans-Atlantic sailing race, was diving on his own. Crew members and passengers

of the boat alerted emergency services on Wednesday when he did not return.

Marie Bavielle, the cabinet director for the head of Polynesia's governing council, told The Associated Press that Bourgnon organized the trip with tourists on his boat, which was anchored in the Toau atoll, about 400 kilometers from Tahiti in the Tuamotu Archipelago, when the incident happened. "This is not a particularly dangerous area," Bavielle said.

Bourgnon, whose brother Yvan this week completed a sail around the world on a 20-foot (six-meter) boat without on-board accommodation, is one of the most accomplished sailors of his generation.

Yvan Bourgnon said he will join the research crew "to look for my brother night and day, as long as there will be hope. Laurent is a fighter, I know he can hold out several days adrift in the open sea." **AP**

# Chinese hurdler Liu Xiang announces divorce

**FORMER** Olympic champion hurdler Liu Xiang, one of China's best-known athletes, announced yesterday he is getting a divorce after a nine-month marriage to actress Ge Tian.

Liu, who won gold in the 110-meter hurdles at the 2004 Athens Olympics, made the announcement on his personal social media account. He cited incompatibility as the reason for the divorce.

"We are ending this marriage today," he wrote. "We hope we can each have a better life from now on. We bless each other."

The 31-year-old Shanghai native married Ge in September last year after a four-month courtship.

Ge was recently embroiled in a controversy after a Chinese television drama she starred in was pulled off the air following a public outcry over a scene in which a hidden grenade is pulled from her character's crotch by her lover, a man being held captive by the Japanese during World War II.

Within two hours of his announcement, there were about 100,000 comments on his account, mostly showing support for the former athlete. Jokes about Ge's tele-



Former Olympic champion hurdler Liu Xiang waves to spectators during his retirement ceremony at the IAAF Diamond League Track and Field in Shanghai, China

vision controversy also surged following Liu's announcement.

Liu was one of China's biggest hopes going into the 2008 Beijing Games but had to withdraw from

the heats with a foot injury. Four years later, he was injured again in the heats at the London Olympics. He retired from athletics in April. **AP**

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opinion

**Kapok**  
Eric Sautede



**SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**

The summary of the 2014 Chief Executive policy address included a small box, oddly entitled "Tips for the Elderly", in which we were told that elderly citizens were entitled to a significant subsidy of MOP62,000 per year "or approximately MOP5,166 per month". This supposedly included the wealth partaking scheme, to which the healthcare vouchers of MOP600 should be added. For the 2015 fiscal year, this subsidy increased slightly, inching towards MOP70,000 a year, and then there are also many other subventions for "disadvantaged people" and citizens with disabilities, including a one-year waiver for public housing, a daily food aid budget or a disability pension of up to MOP15,000 per year. All of these measures are real and substantial, even though I do not know anybody around me who could live on that kind of budget, except of course for Filipino, Indonesian or Vietnamese domestic helpers, who as full-time employees working six-days a week—and often more—are entitled to a meager minimum of MOP3,000 per month, including their lodging allowance.

The video of a middle-aged lady slapping an elderly woman in a wheelchair that went viral on social media earlier this week is a clear reminder that poverty, disability or ageing issues cannot be quantified, whatever the amount of money granted. True, the "slapping incident" almost immediately prompted a swift reaction from authorities: the Public Security Police quickly referred the case to the Social Welfare Bureau, resulting in the perpetrator being deferred to the Public Prosecutions Office—for having harmed the physical integrity of another person—and the abused elder being transferred to an elderly residential care home. But even though this family was clearly identified by social services and has since benefitted from government-sponsored financial aid as well as counseling, this "incident" has also triggered a community-wide soul-searching campaign onto the how and why this kind of situation transpired. As Cecilia Ho, a social worker, pointed out, "in this case, the result is suspected domestic violence, but the cause is social responsibility."

Beyond financial aid and legal dispositions, many issues are at stake: the fact that Macau is a rapidly ageing society; the availability and quality of welfare infrastructure and the general quality of life of citizens.

The ageing ratio (the elderly to the youth population) has dramatically increased between the two censuses from 33.6 in 2001 to 60.7% in 2011, and even stood at 73.8 in 2014! The elderly now account for 8.4% of the total population. Facilities for elderly or mentally-challenged people are limited and not sufficiently staffed, be them run by NGOs or private entities, and Paul Pun, the director of Caritas, has stressed that the occurrence of such a dramatic and "shocking" situation might actually be "the tip of the iceberg" and not really the exception.

One of the big ideas proposed by the government is to develop additional facilities on Hengqin Island, as stated again in April by Alexis Tam. But then, what will be the terms and with what kind of consequences for the cohesiveness of the community and inter-generational relations? If Secretary Tam is right to urge his services to do more and better, the head of the Family and Community Service department, Au Chi Keung, is equally right when he explains that beyond the widely-shared revulsion, there was an extraordinary amount of "stress" affecting the perpetrator that led to that horrific occurrence: the scene took place in one of the most densely populated districts of Macao, Fai Chi Kei, and it was confirmed later that the old lady was the mother of the one slapping her, and had suffered a stroke. Reports by the media and social workers then indicated that the middle-aged lady was the only breadwinner in the family and that besides her handicapped mother—who was smacked because she refused to activate the break on her wheelchair—she also had to take care of an unemployed father and a mentally-challenged brother. When one has to work 48 hours a week to ensure the mere survival of a family, with no prospects of improving her situation and almost no holidays, along with deficient social services and degraded neighborhoods, what are the conditions ripe for?

**THE BUZZ** MAN ARRESTED FOR PLAYING PORN ON ADVERTISING SCREEN

A man in northeast China's Heilongjiang Province has been arrested after he accidentally played porn movies on an outdoor screen, local police said yesterday. The man, surnamed Meng, randomly opened several files on the computer that controlled an advertisement screen of real estate company Hongyun in the city of Mudanjiang, and some of

the files were clips of porn movies, the police said. The screening lasted for several minutes last Sunday afternoon. The company said the screen had not been in use since May but they did not disconnect the computer. Meng is an employee of the property developer. Meng was ordered to stay in a detention center for 10 days, Mudanjiang police said.

**Studio City to feature movie-inspired ferris wheel**



**MELCO** Crown Entertainment's USD3.2 billion new resort, which is currently under development in Cotai, will feature a movie-inspired Golden Reel Ferris Wheel as its "iconic centerpiece attraction," the company announced yesterday in a press release.

The 130-meter-high ferris wheel will be located at the central point between the re-

sort's twin hotel towers, which are described as having a theme of "Art Deco meets Gotham City."

As envisioned by Lawrence Ho, co-chairman and CEO of Melco Crown Entertainment, the Golden Reel was built "in traditional Hollywood blockbuster movie fashion," which depicted two flaming asteroids which crashed through the building façade

to create a figure-8 form."

"Every aspect of the Golden Reel is currently undergoing rigorous mechanical testing following the final installation of passenger cabins earlier this month," Melco said.

"The Golden Reel is a totally unique entertainment offering to Asia, and indeed to the world, and we continue to deliver on our commitment to expanding the non-gaming leisure and entertainment offerings available in Macau, as a continuing strategy in supporting its evolution into a highly diversified and world class leisure and tourism destination," said Mr Ho.

Studio City is scheduled to open later this year and is expected to feature more non-gaming attractions, including Warner Brothers-themed rides, and a Batman flight simulator.

**ENTERTAINMENT**

**'Bend It Like Beckham' stage musical scores big in London**

**BEND** It Like Beckham" has scored with critics in London. A new stage musical based on the 2002 film about aspiring female soccer players has opened to rave reviews. The musical is directed and co-written by Gurinder Chadha, who also made the movie, with music by Howard Goodall and lyrics by Charles Hart.

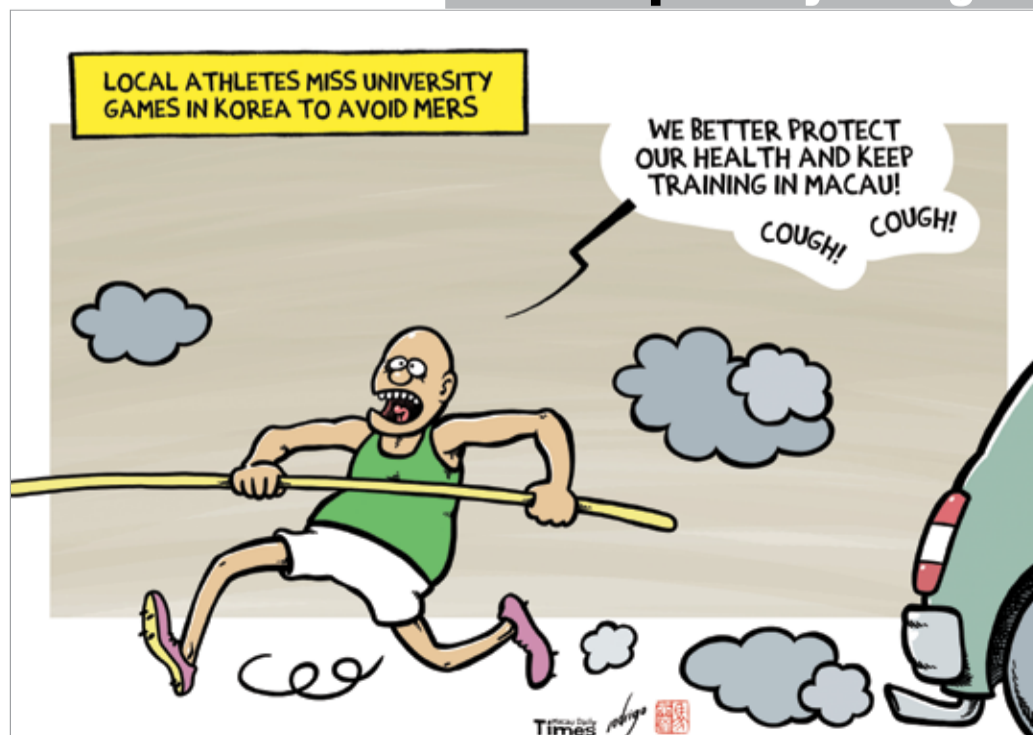
Most reviewers adored its warm heart and good humor, catchy songs infused with bhangra rhythms and Bollywood-in-

fluenced choreography.

Daily Telegraph critic Dominic Cavendish gave it five stars out of five Thursday, calling it "melting-pot Britain on one irresistible plate." The Independent's Paul Taylor said it was "the most irresistibly joyous musical-theatre make-over" since "Billy Elliot."

And the Daily Mail's Quentin Letts called it "end-to-end entertainment, full of feisty shimmers and heart-stopping melodrama."

**times square by rodrigo**



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

**WORLD BRIEFS**



**PAKISTAN** A cool wind from the sea and pre-monsoon rains brought the first signs of respite to southern Pakistan yesterday as the death toll from a scorching heat wave climbed to 838 — a high figure even for a nation accustomed to sizzling hot summers. Temperatures in hard-hit Karachi, the country's largest city and its commercial hub where the overwhelming majority of the deaths were reported, dropped to 34 degrees Celsius, meteorologist Abdur Rasheed said.

**IRAN** With significant gaps standing in the way of an Iran nuclear deal, foreign ministers at the seven-nation talks are adding their diplomatic muscle to the negotiations ahead of a June 30 target date for an agreement. France announced yesterday that Foreign Minister Laurent Fabius is joining the talks in Vienna on Saturday. Iranian media reported earlier that Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif will fly to Vienna today. That's the day U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry departs Washington for the Austrian capital.



**USA** Emanuel African Methodist Church, the site of an unspeakable crime a week ago, is being reclaimed by parishioners who are pledging to remember the loved ones they lost in a shooting massacre while carrying on the work of the beloved pastor who was slain beside them.

**USA** A maximum-security prison guard who delivered frozen meat with tools hidden inside to two inmates before they escaped will be arraigned on charges of promoting prison contraband and other offenses.