



INVESTMENT FUND OPEN TO RESIDENTS

Residents will be able to put money into the future Fund for Development and Investment, Lionel Leong revealed

P2 POLICY ADDRESS



GIANT PANDA RETURNS TO CHENGDU

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ACTIVIST SENTENCED TO 6 YEARS IN JAIL

A Guangzhou court sentenced a leading activist who organized rallies for media freedom to six years in prison

P10 CHINA

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Times

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WORLD BRIEFS



CHINA Air pollution in Beijing reached hazardous levels on Saturday as smog engulfed large parts of China despite efforts to clean up the foul air. At noon, the U.S. Embassy in Beijing reported the level of the poisonous, tiny particles of PM2.5 at 391 micrograms per cubic meter. The WHO considers the safe level at 25 micrograms per cubic meter of the particulates.

More on p10



CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC Pope Francis arrived Sunday in the conflict-torn African country, brushing aside security concerns to bring a message of peace and reconciliation to a country where violence between Christian and Muslim militants has forced nearly 1 million from their homes over the last two years.

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2016 POLICY ADDRESS

Lionel Leong says investment fund will be open to residents

Renato Marques

LOCAL residents will be able to put money into the future Fund for Development and Investment (FDI), a public initiative to improve the management of financial reserves

According to the Secretary for Economy and Finance, Lionel Leong, who spoke at last Friday's Legislative Assembly (AL) on the second day of the Policy Address debate for the areas under his jurisdiction, the government will "develop the fund with the participation of citizens as soon as they can ensure the security of that investment."

Mr Leong acknowledged that the fund may initially experience low revenue or even a small loss, but is expected to gain stability after some time.

"We will develop the Fund for Development and Investment initially and when we can ensure the security of that invest-



Lionel Leong

ment we will accept the participation of citizens," he said.

On the closing day of the sectorial debate, Lionel Leong explained that a work group is being created to address Ma-

cau's participation, following Beijing's international strategy of "one belt, one road", in order to further develop the sector of conventions and exhibitions, to which Mr Leong has referred as a sector on which "Macau's economy relies heavily."

According to the secretary, the "professional visitors" that are attracted to Macau's conventions and exhibitions are very important, since they "have a higher purchasing power when compared with other tourists."

Remaining on the topic of internationalization, lawmaker Ng Kuok Cheong suggested that Macau should participate in the Trans-Pacific Strategic Economic Partnership Agreement, as promoted by the United States of America. The secretary replied that the "possibility will

be studied by his office" but the priority at the moment is following Beijing's strategy of "one belt, one road."

The secretary was also questioned about the legislation of employment agencies. The Labor Affairs Bureau director revealed that a project to tighten the regulations of those agencies is being finalized and will be delivered to the Standing Committee for the Coordination of Social Affairs in the first quarter of 2016.

If the plan proceeds, the recruitment of domestic helpers will be subject to changes, since the proposal aims to increase the oversight of employment agencies.

Mr Wong Chi Hong added that with the encouragement of tighter rules, rogue employment agencies have been duly

penalized.

Employment was one of the topics highlighted during the afternoon, with several lawmakers expressing concerns about the introduction of a minimum wage for some sectors and how this will allegedly contribute to unemployment. "I don't think this mechanism for the minimum wage is going to work. I think this will increase the unemployment. It will be a deception," Ng Kuok Cheong said.

Employment was one of the topics highlighted during the debate

Near the end of the debate, Chan Chak Mo questioned the accuracy and quality of the data of the current unemployment rates, which Statistics and Census Service (DSEC) indicated as having stabilized at 1.9 percent. In the lawmaker's opinion, there is limited information about "who these people are, what their academic qualifications are, what their age range is and the reasons why they are unemployed".

At the request of the secretary, the DSEC director explained that the two sectors most affected by unemployment are the gaming and hotel industries. However, he was unable to provide more data, leaving the secretary to pledge to provide it to the AL.

This answer caused tensions among the AL, since local employment rate issues have recently been mostly related to workers in the construction sector with low academic qualifications.

YOUNG ENTREPRENEURISM IN QUESTION

LAWMAKER CHAN Chak Mo questioned the policy of entrepreneurship from the younger generation, a recurring topic in many of the inquiries delivered by the secretary and his team. The legislator raised the fact that many have not only spoken about the government's support of "young entrepreneurship" but also about the limits to be imposed to the import of labor.

"It seems like we are pushing the younger generation to be their

own boss from one side, but putting strict limits on their access to manpower from another. If we are going to tell all the youngsters they should create their own jobs but they cannot hire staff, who is going to work in their shops?" he asked. The secretary clarified that it is not the government's intention to "appeal to the young people to create their own business. We are only helping and supporting the ones that have the wish to follow that path."

SECRETARY for Transport and Public Works Raimundo do Rosario revealed to media representatives last Friday, after a meeting with a Legislative Assembly (AL) sub-committee, that it would be challenging to fully implement his secretariat's allocated 2016 budget.

A chunk of the government's expected expenditure for prospective in-

Rosario finds MOP8.6b budget challenging to implement

vestment, known as PID-DA, will be in the hands of the secretariat, and will amount to MOP8.6 billion out of the total MOP11.07 billion.

Following financial au-

thorities' realization at last week's legislative assembly that the secretary has emphasized the downsizing of the budget for investment purposes, Rosario explained

to media representatives that his 3400-strong force was incapable of meeting the target.

He said that his cabinet's competence was reflected in the low exe-

cution rate of the projects in the previous years, which in general hovers around half the scale of 100 percent. Rosario said he wished to be more "down-to-earth"

with a more achievable budget.

"It's like having a buffet. Are you able to handle a dishful of food? It looks nice with a 10 or 20 billion pataca budget, yet we failed to work it out over the past few years, and it's the same for next year," the official said, adding that the budget issue boiled down to capability rather than willingness.

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COOPERATION

Macau and China sign new trade agreement

MACAU and mainland China signed a new agreement on Saturday under the framework of the Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement (CEPA), signifying the full bilateral enactment of the policy of the Liberalization of Trade in Services.

Under the new agreement, 153 sectors of the mainland economy are now fully or partially open to Macau service providers. This accounts for 95.6 percent of the 160 trade and service sectors recognized and classed as such by the World Trade Organization (WTO).

The Acting Chief Executive and Secretary for Economy and Finance, Lionel Leong, represented the MSAR at the signing of the latest agreement and at the official ceremony, held after the CEPA High-Level Meeting of the 2015 Steering



Committee.

The Mainland and Macau Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement (CEPA) was initiated in 2004 to promote mutual economic prosperity and development, and to enhance the level of economic and trade cooperation between Ma-

cau and mainland China.

The Agreement on Trade in Services states that national treatment will be applied to Macau's service providers in certain sectors, while the updated list under the CEPA framework adds new areas of cooperation, which would impact Ma-

cau's fledgling conferences and exhibitions (MICE) industry.

With the agreement, Macau will have greater opportunities to strengthen its commercial ties in mainland China. The agreement will come into effect on June 1, 2016.

MGTO did not send gaming promotion message

The Macau Government Tourist Office (MGTO) has denied claims that the office distributed promotional material for online gaming, as some mobile users claim to have received messages encouraging them to participate in online gaming as part of the MGTO's theme, "Experience Macau." The content encouraged users to join an online casino in exchange for cash rewards. The bureau clarified that the messages did not originate from the organization. MGTO has reported the case to the Gaming Inspection and Coordination bureau, the Judiciary Police and the Bureau of Telecommunications Regulation.

Suspected fire causes workers' evacuation at Lisboa Palace



More than 10 construction workers were evacuated after a fire broke out at the Lisboa Palace construction site in Cotai on Saturday morning. The Fire Services Bureau has revealed that it suspects the fire to be a case of arson, while the Judiciary Police say they are investigating the case. The bureau clarified

that the timber framing on the construction site had caught fire, but no dangerous goods were involved. "We received the report this morning at [6 a.m.]. We found timber framing which is 20 meters wide, 40 meters long, and 10 meters high when we arrived at the construction site. It's big timber framing and the structure was a little bit complicated, so we tried to put out the fire from different directions," explained Chan Chi Man from the Fire Services Bureau, as cited by TDM. The bureau added that it took a total of 48 firemen to extinguish the flames.

Injured Moto GP rider leaves hospital today



Russell Mountford pictured before the Macau crash

RUSSELL Mountford, the 33-year-old British rider who was involved in a serious accident at the Macau Grand Prix on November 19, is expected to be released from hospital today.

Mountford, who suffered several non-lethal bone fractures, will be dismissed today from the Public Hospital (CHCSJ). He will return to the U.K., where he will convalesce for another three or four months.

Mountford's condition is stable, and he explained that he was treated very well in the public hospital, having registered major progress over the last six days. "In the last six days, I have recovered massively. I couldn't move my legs, I couldn't move anything. Now I have quite good movement in my legs

and I can feel them, I'm just struggling with sleeping," he said yesterday during a meeting with local journalists, as cited by TDM.

According to the surgeon from CHCSJ, "the first part of the surgeries has been done and it is now possible for him to go back home."

The CHCSJ said that Mountford would be transported by helicopter to Hong Kong, where a medical team will escort him during the trip.

Fellow rider Tom McHale, who suffered a serious accident in the morning session of November 20, is still in the Intensive Care Unit with several fractures and serious injuries. However, according to the public hospital, his condition is not life-threatening. **RM**

Hundreds of protesters march on home developer's HQ

HUNDREDS of Pearl Horizon home buyers took to the streets on Saturday afternoon, gathering outside Polytec Group's headquarters to protest the lack of construction work on the Areia Preta project. They demanded to meet the president of the company, chanting, "come out to meet us." No Polytec representatives emerged.

This is not the first time that the buyers have made this complaint. Last month, hundreds marched to the company's headquarters to demand a meeting with project representatives.

Angered at the countless hurdles they have encountered, the protesters are now requesting a meeting with the developer's president and a follow-up solution to the ongoing problem.

"We've asked the government what would happen if we delayed paying the stamp tax. They said we can't. We will be fined if we don't [pay]," one homebuyer told TDM. She added that she had called Polytec the previous night and demanded to know why the company appeared to be shifting responsibility to the government.

Polytec Group has long since pledged to accelerate its construction work, and aims to complete and hand the homes over to buyers in 2018. However, under the terms of the land concession, the project must be completed on or before Dec. 25 this year.

The developer says that it has asked the government for an extension until 2020, and that it expects to secure the renewal of land-use rights. However, Raimundo do Rosário, the Secretary for Transport Works, said in October that extensions are unlikely to be granted to developers who fail to complete their project within the stipulated period.

The authority has pledged to make a decision by Dec. 10.

New night bus route to link Seac Pai Van to ZAPE

From December 1, a new night bus route will connect the Seac Pai Van (Coloane) and ZAPE areas. Named the N5, the route will operate between 12am and 6am, with a departure frequency of about 15 minutes. The route will start at Seac Pai Van and stop at the Cotai Border, MUST-Hospital, Airport, Taipa Temporary Ferry Terminal, Outer Harbor Ferry Terminal, and Macau Cultural Center; the return route will stop at similar locations. The route, as explained in a statement issued by the Transport Bureau, will improve the commute of Seac Pai Van residents who have expressed a need for better nighttime transportation to the border points and the hospital.

Sonia Chan expects Raymond Tam to return to work



Raymond Tam

The Secretary for Administration and Justice, Sonia Chan, hopes that the former president and vice-president of the Civic and Municipal Affairs Bureau, Raymond Tam and Lei Wai Nong, will "return to work later this year." The comments made

yesterday come after the Court of Second Instance upheld the decision of the Court of First Instance last week, which had acquitted Raymond Tam, Lei Wai Nong and another two defendants of a malfeasance crime regarding a delay in the delivery of documents to the prosecutor about ten graves in the cemetery of S Miguel Arcanjo. Ms Chan said she was "satisfied" with a "fair judgment." The decision is final and not subject to further appeal.

SPORTS

Jeon Hyeok Jin's surprise win at Badminton Open

Renato Marques

IN a surprise twist, South Korean national Jeon Hyeok Jin – ranked number 32 in the world by BWF (Badminton World Federation) – won the men's single category of the Macau Open of Badminton.

Jeon beat Chinese national Tian Houwei, ranked number 9 in the world, by 2-1 (21-11, 13-21, and 23-21). Jeon beat all opponents by 2-0 until the final.

At the women's single competition draw, the winner was India's P. Venkata Sindhu, who defeated Japan's Minatsu Mitani in the final to claim her third Macau Open title. Sindhu, a two-time bronze medalist at the world championship, beat Mitani by 2-1 (21-9, 21-23, and 21-14) in a thrilling match that lasted one hour and six minutes.



Jeon Hyeok Jin



P. Venkata Sindhu

As for the doubles, the men's draw was won by Korean duo Ko Sung Hyun and Shin Baek Cheol, seizing the trophy from Indonesians Angriawan Berry and Saputra Ryan Agung. They won the match by 2-0 (22-20, 21-14) in only thirty-seven minutes.

Koreans Jung Kyung Eun and Shin Seung Chan won

the women's draw, thanks to the early retirement of Hong Kong double Poon Lok Yan and Tse Ying Suet.

The Koreans dominated the Mix Double draw with two Korean pairs competing for the title in the final match.

After only twenty-nine minutes, victory went to the duo Shin Baek Cheol

and Chae Yoo Jung, with a 21-18, 21-13 over fellow Korean nationals Solgyu Choi and Eom Hye Won, in the shortest match of all the finals.

The 2015 Macau Open took place at Tap Seac Multisport Pavilion from November 24 to 29. Around 260 players participated in 5 different categories.

CE to attend cooperation conference in Shenzhen

THE Chief Executive will lead an official delegation to Shenzhen from 2 to 3 December, to attend the Shenzhen-Macau Cooperation Conference 2015.

According to a statement issued by the Government Information Bureau, the meeting will review the progress and achievements of cooperation projects initiated this year. Opportunities for further partnership next year will also be analyzed.

Officials from Macau and Shenzhen will also endorse two memoranda during the two-day conference. They are a memorandum of understanding on promoting development of "Dawan area", a coastal hub for logistics that serves Guangdong Province, Hong Kong and Macao; and a memorandum on tourism cooperation.

The relationship between Macau and Shenzhen is considered by the local government as an important part of regional integration efforts. During his stay, Chui Sai On will meet with municipal leaders of Shenzhen to exchange views on how to strengthen ties between the two cities.

AD



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Master Alfredo Ceynas

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Session A – 07, 09, 11, 14, 16 and 18 December, 2015 (19:00-21:00)
Session B – 08, 10, 12, 15, 17 and 19 December, 2015 (19:00-21:00)

Language
English (Supplement with Cantonese translation)

Fee
MOP \$150.00 (For enrolment, please bring 1.5" passport photo and ID copy)

Venue
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Model EU simulation sends 3 students on free study missions

THE third edition of the Macau Model European Union (EU) took place at the University of Macau (UM) over the weekend, with over 56 students from the six local tertiary institutions participating in the conference.

The participants were a mix of undergraduate and postgraduate students of 12 different nationalities. The top three participants were awarded free study missions to Europe for the summer of 2016, funded by the European Union Academic Programme in Macau. The three students all hailed from the University of Macau: Lin Shixiang, Liang Jianwei, and Flaminia Venturi - an exchange student from Italy, currently studying at UM.

This year's theme was the unprecedented migration crisis currently affecting Europe. Participants in the weekend's debates reached a consensus on the topic and identified potential solutions, such as strengthening external border controls, enhancing financial support to UN bodies for refugees, and adopting common legal instruments with which to fight illegal smuggling and human trafficking.



The 56 participants were selected from a total of 160 applicants from Macau's six institutions of tertiary education: UM, University of Science and Technology, Macau Polytechnic Institute, University of Saint Joseph, City University of Macau, and the Institute for Tourism Studies.

The event was co-organized by the European Union Academic Programme of Macau (EUAP-M) and the Youth Association of International Affairs of the University of Macau.

Model EU is an educational simulation in which participants recreate the political decision-making processes of a European Council, in order to learn about European politics and current affairs. The simulation helps students develop their diplomacy, debating, public speaking and negotiation skills.

Airport to replace runway, prepare for long-haul flights

THE Macau International Airport Company (CAM) plans to replace its runway surface to better handle heavier airplanes, such as those intended for long-haul flights.

CAM announced that it has begun preparing the airport for airplanes capable of long-haul flights. The preparations have included launching a tender to resurface the airport's only runway "to account for more damaging aircraft traffic," as well as extending the safety areas at the end of the runway.

The company wants the runway to be able to handle aircraft like the Boeing 747-400, which weighs up to seven tonnes and can carry 660 passengers. Once it is equipped to deal with this kind of airplane, the new runway should be able to handle 100,000 landings and take-offs during a 20-year period, the organization said.

The resurfacing works will take place at night so as not



to impact the airport's daily operations. The proposed extension of safety areas could start as early as 2017 in order to satisfy recommendations from the International Civil Aviation Organization.

In addition, the airport launched construction works last week to extend the passenger terminal building. CAM believes that the extension will allow the airport to expand its passenger capacity from 6 million to 7.8 million passengers per year.

The company says that the superstructure and façade will be ready by the end of next year, but the rest of the work will take longer.

The expansion plans come shortly after flag carrier Air Macau revealed that there was insufficient demand for long-haul flights in Macau. The company's chairman, Zheng Yan, said that the domestic aviation market was still too small to accommodate wide-body airplanes, some of which have more than 600 seats.

AD

Countdown Fever 2016 除夕倒數派對

1 2 3 4 5 10

Benjamin Yuen, Elanne Kwong, Linda Chung, Kenneth Ma, Mindy Wong, Simon Lee, Emily Kwan, Bo Luk, Vangie Tang, Colleen Lau, Kiki Li, MYAR, MC: Raymond Chiu, Eric, Galactic Cluster

2015/12/31 20:45~00:15
Rossio Square, Macau Fisherman's Wharf

The activities may be changed or cancelled due to inclement weather without prior notice.

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<p>Welcome 2016 2015/12/31 21:00-03:00</p> <p>MOP200 free flow San Miguel</p> <p>Participate in Beer Pong competition to win away laptop, hotel room night stay and more!</p> <p>(853) 8299 3678</p>	<p>New Year's Eve Dinner Buffet 2015/12/31 18:30-00:00</p> <p>MOP 458 adult MOP 228 child/senior</p> <p>Complimentary glass of Champagne</p> <p>Early Bird 20% Off - Book before 12/07</p> <p>PRAHA (853) 8799 6606</p>	<p>New Year's Eve Set Dinner 2015/12/31 18:00-00:00</p> <p>MOP 250 per person</p> <p>(853) 8295 6583</p>
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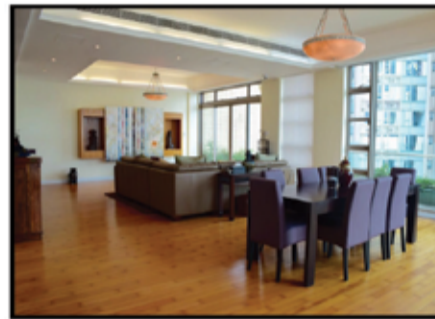


For Rent



Manhattan F Unit, Central Taipa

(Ref: 15090534)
1,720sq. ft. HKD 23,500
Large master bedroom with en suite bathroom. Two guest bedrooms (one single & one double). Each bedroom has plenty of free standing storage. Open plan living / dining room. Galley style modern kitchen with built white goods. Small laundry balcony. Resort style facilities; lap pool kids pool, kids playroom,



La Baie Du Noble

(Ref: 15090541)
3,700sq. ft. HKD 45,000
Fabulous spacious two terrace duplex Asian contemporary furnished apartment for rent in Macau. The terrace is completely surrounded by a beautiful view with a some greenery which includes patio furniture and grill for entertaining. Lots of sunlight. It's includes: 3 on suite master bedroom, one office room, 4 bathrooms, Maids room, Laundry room washer and dryer, microwave etc...



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850sq. ft. HKD 10,000
Lovely furnished one bedroom apartment near Senado Square. Bright open planned living room, dining room and kitchen. Great size double bedrooms built in wardrobe in bedroom. Fourth floor of a walk up building very close to cafes, shops, banks, bus stop, a unique chance to live in Central Macau.



One Central, Tower 7, Unit E Macau

(Ref: 15090533)
1,300sq. ft. HKD 30,800
Premier Apartment Building. Central Location. Bright & Airy. Master bedroom with en suite. Guest bedroom. Newly furnished / Colour Palette Grey Blues, White & Yellow. Modern Fitted Kitchen, galley style. Available from December 2015.



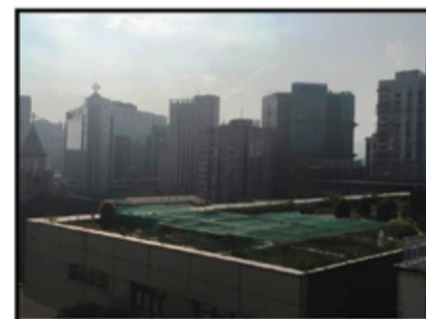
Houston Court, Coloane Village - Coloane

(Ref: 15090532)
800sq. ft. HKD13,500
Stunning two bedroom apartment in heart of Coloane village. Double bedroom with built in storage with modern en suite shower room Second bedroom also has built cabinets and can accommodate a double bed. A separate shower room services



Soi Cheung, Taipa Village

(Ref: 15090530)
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Patio da Guia

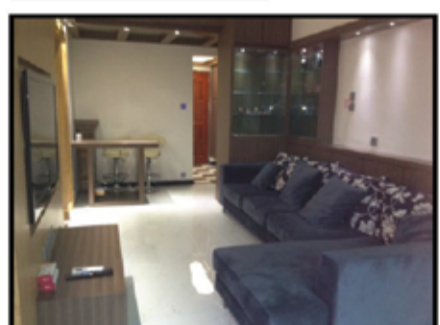
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Meng FUNG St Paul

(Ref: 15115461)
1570sq. ft. HKD 9.8M
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Giant panda Shu Xiang returns home

THE Giant Panda, Shu Xiang, was sent back to the mainland yesterday as part of a national breeding program for the species.

Shu Xiang, who has been in Macau since 2010, lost his female giant panda companion last year when she died from kidney failure. Now that Shu Xiang has reached a suitable breeding age, experts have suggested that he return to Chengdu for better

breeding opportunities.

The departure date was decided after consultation between the Civic and Municipal Affairs Bureau as well as mainland authorities. The decision took into consideration weather conditions and the timeline for the necessary logistics – such as the issuing of an export permit, the quarantine process and transportation arrangements.

Shu Xiang was kept in quarantine at a local facility, prior to leaving

the MSAR for the Chengdu Research Base of Giant Panda Breeding.

The giant pandas are a gift from China and can be visited at Seac Pai Van's Macau Giant Panda Pavilion. President Xi Jinping announced the central government's intention to offer two new giant pandas when he visited Macau last December. The new pandas replace another pair, comprised of a female who died last year and a male panda that was returned to Sichuan for breeding.

Construction of infectious diseases building must proceed, Tam says

THE Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture, Alexis Tam, explained on Saturday that after considering population safety and the protection of heritage, the government will demolish two buildings beside the public hospital, where they will build the infectious diseases building.

As reported by the Times on Friday, Mr Tam told media representatives that the construction of this



Alexis Tam

building is long overdue and has been planned since 1999. After the SARS epidemic in 2003, as well as the recent outbreak of infectious diseases in neighboring regions, the government decided to build the facility to effectively address such diseases.

The secretary reminded the media that in order for the health services to properly isolate and treat the patients, the new building

needed to be located near the main hospital facility. Mr Tam added that this was why the Cultural Heritage Council of Macau had green-lit the demolition of two buildings currently in use by the Social Welfare Bureau. One of the buildings was being used as a rehabilitation center for drug addicts; the other served as a storage unit for the CHCSJ.

Mr Tam stated that in order to preserve Guia's Hill heritage and landscape, the height of the Infectious Diseases building had been changed. The architectural works have already been completed. **RM**

Unemployment remains stable

The unemployment rate, which now sits at 1.9 percent, remained stable for the August-October period – as did the underemployment rate, at 0.5 percent – according to information from the Statistics and Census Service. Little change was observed from the previous July-September period. The total labor force for the August-October period stood at 402,000, while labor force participation rate was 73.2 percent. The number of employed persons decreased by just 400 from the previous period, at 394,500. The number of unemployed persons was 7,500, indicating a decrease of by 100 from July-September. Labor force entrants searching for their first job accounted for 11.9 percent of the total number of unemployed individuals. In comparison with the same period last year, August-October 2014, the labor force participation rate decreased by 1 percentage point, while both the unemployment and the underemployment rates increased by 0.2 percentage points.

Veteran gaming exec joins Saipan casino resort

Veteran casino executive Yiu Ling Kwong has been appointed Chief Operating Officer (COO) of the Hong Kong-listed, Imperial Pacific International Holdings' Saipan casino resort project. Yiu Ling Kwong, who has over 40 years of experience in the Macau gaming industry, most recently served as executive vice-president of casino operations for Macau-based MGM China Holdings Ltd. Imperial Pacific commended his experience in a filing to the Hong Kong Stock Exchange and noted his "support of casino and gaming operations, as well as of staff training and development." Friday marked the official opening of the company's "temporary casino" on the island of Saipan in the Pacific ocean. According to previous filings, the VIP gaming operations began on November 1, and the firm expects collaboration with junket operators to commence next month.

Macau Hotel Association expects stable rates

The vice-president of the Macau Hotel Association noted that overall hotel rates receded this year as more new hotels were developed. He said that some market participants even recorded a decline of over 10 percent. As for the coming Christmas holiday period, the vice-president expects that the hotels won't significantly lift their rates although some of the members could increase it as much as 10 percent.

AD



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SANDS CHINA ADDS MORE LOCAL SUPPLIERS



Sands China's local supplier support program is gaining momentum, with over 200 new local suppliers having been added to the list following August's Sands China Local Supplier Open Day.

As of October 31, the Company has invited new local suppliers for bidding, including 170 small and micro companies, six "Made in Macau" companies, and three dozen of Macau's young entrepreneurs.

This is the result of previous collaboration between the company and the Macau Chamber of Commerce, which identified three types of local companies that Sands China could support.

According to a press release issued by Sands China, the company has contacted most of the new suppliers, noting their resources, capabilities, and status. It plans to start the first phase of business with purchases from 40 of the new suppliers. The purchase amount is estimated to reach nearly MOP10 million by the end of December.

Karl Rove opens his Rolodex for Ben Carson

Kevin Cirilli and Ben Brody

REPUBLICAN strategist Karl Rove helped set up a meeting between top fundraisers for Ben Carson and casino mogul Steve Wynn. Rove confirmed to Bloomberg Politics that he acted as the go-between for the Carson camp and Wynn, a sometimes business competitor of Donald Trump, the rival Carson has been battling all fall for the Republican nomination. "I introduced them but I don't know anything further about that," said Rove, who added that he did not attend the meeting.

The mastermind of George W. Bush's presidential victories in 2000 and 2004, Rove has not signed on with any of the presidential candidates this year, though he says he has dispensed advice to a number who have asked. Trump's camp is viewing the effort to help the billionaire real estate mogul's chief rival as an attack on the front-runner.

"Karl Rove is at the center of the GOP establishment — fear-



Steve Wynn

ful of what real leadership in Washington D.C. will accomplish," said Trump campaign manager Corey Lewandowski in a statement when asked about Rove's role in facilitating the meeting between Carson and Wynn. "Mr. Trump continues to expose the all-talk, no action politicians propped up their dark money super PACs that have failed the American people for far too long." Rove helped found one of the pioneering dark money groups, Crossroads GPS, which as a non-profit does not have to disclose the identities of its donors.

Lewandowski did not address the role of Wynn, who, accor-

ding to a Fox Business Network report in September, has repaired his sometimes rocky relationship with Trump and become a campaign adviser. Wynn and Trump have a complicated history dating back to the 1990s, where the two businessmen battled in the casino real estate market.

Wynn and Trump have a complicated history dating back to the 1990s

Michael Weaver, a spokesman for Wynn, said in an e-mail that he so far has not been able to confirm the meeting with his boss. Weaver added that Wynn "is not an advisor to Mr. Trump; Mr. Wynn speaks occasionally and informally with many candidates."

In June, according to records

on file at the Federal Election Commission, Wynn donated USD25,000 to America Leads, a super political action committee (one that can take contributions in unlimited amounts) that backs New Jersey Governor Chris Christie's presidential bid. Wynn and his wife, Andrea, also donated \$5,000 apiece to Christie's traditional political action committee, Leadership Matters for America.

Rove's role in setting up the meeting between Wynn and Carson advisers raised some eyebrows within Carson's political orbit, with some advisers questioning Rove's intentions, said one source familiar with the meeting and the campaign.

The source said they were skeptical that Rove was only acting to inflate Carson in an effort to ultimately take out Trump. "Karl Rove isn't just going just to help Ben Carson out of the goodness of his heart," the source said. Terry Giles, a Texas lawyer who was one of the Carson advisers at the meeting, is no longer formally associated with Carson's campaign or a pro-Carson super PAC.

News of Rove's work as a go-between for Carson comes amid reports that other Republican activists are trying to stop Trump. **Bloomberg**

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SpiceJet says it received interest from Gulf airlines

Matthew Martin

INDIAN budget carrier SpiceJet Ltd., which has surged more than 280 percent this year, said it's received interest from Gulf airlines looking to acquire a stake.

"Some of the Gulf airlines have expressed an interest in SpiceJet as we have come back into the market, but this is not the right time to be diluting the equity," Chairman Ajay Singh said in Dubai yesterday, without naming the companies. "There is some dialogue which is ongoing and we continue to explore other types of relationships we could have," he said, adding now isn't the right time to sell a stake as the shares remain undervalued.

Gulf carriers including Abu Dhabi-based Etihad Airways PJSC and Qatar Airways Ltd. have acquired stakes in airlines to quickly expand their networks. Etihad has stakes in eight companies, while Qatar Airways Ltd. said earlier this month that it was interested in boosting its 10 percent holding in British Airways parent International Consolidated Airlines Group SA and taking up to 49 percent of Indian budget carrier IndiGo.

SpiceJet is planning to order new planes after co-founder Singh rescued the company from the verge of shutdown last year. After reporting a



profit for the past three quarters, the airline is planning to finalize an order for over 150 single-aisle jets from either Boeing Co. or Airbus Group SE during the current financial year, which ends March 31, Singh said. The company is also planning an additional order of up to 50 regional jets and is in talks with suppliers including Bombardier Inc., he said.

"Spicejet is generating enough cash internally to sustain those orders," said Singh. "If we need to raise any money to fund those orders, which looks unlikely at this time, there are enough unutilised credit lines available to us."

New aircraft would be used to open new routes and increase the frequency of flights to existing destinations, he said. SpiceJet currently has 25 Boeing 737 jets, two Airbus planes, and 14 Bombardier aircraft and flies to 40 destinations, including the Maldives, Dubai and Sri Lanka and 34 domestic locations. **Bloomberg**

Citic, Haitong, Guosen probed on alleged margin-trading breaches

CHINA'S securities regulator is investigating Citic Securities Co., Haitong Securities Co. and Guosen Securities Co. over alleged breaches of rules on margin and short-selling contracts.

The China Securities Regulatory Commission probes involve contracts the three brokerages signed with clients on margin finances and short-selling, according to exchange filings by the companies Sunday. The firms said their operations will remain normal and they will cooperate with the regulator.

Shares of Chinese brokerages led a decline in China stocks on Friday, with Citic down by the 10 percent daily limit in Shanghai. Haitong shares dropped 3.8 percent before trading was suspended in Hong Kong. Both companies said they received notices from the CSRC on Nov. 26 about the probes. Guosen Securities closed 10 percent lower on Friday in Shenzhen.

The Chinese government has stepped up its clampdown on malpractice in the securities industry after a USD5 trillion stock-market rout this summer. The crackdown since the sell-off has ensnared executives and regulators. The Securities Association of China on Friday banned brokerages from entering into new client contracts that use derivatives to provide financing in stock trading.

Citic President Cheng Boming was held for alleged insider trading and leaking information, the state-run Xinhua News Agency reported in September.

ADVERTORIAL

SANDS CHINA NEWS

Sands China's New Programme Training Multi-Talented Team Members

Integrated Resort Team Member Programme offers chance to develop new skills and management potential

Sands China Ltd. is pioneering an innovative new programme, giving team members an opportunity to invest in their future career growth by mastering cross-departmental skills.

Sands China team members who join the **Integrated Resort Team Member Programme** will have the chance to train in a department of their choice, including entertainment, food and beverage, conventions and exhibitions, Sands Rewards Club, and hotel operations. As a result, they will enjoy expanded skill sets, paving the way for diverse career opportunities compared to a singular career ladder. As the programme continues to develop, new departments will gradually be added, providing an even wider multi-career development path.

Team members enrolling in the new long-term programme will work in this new **Integrated Resort Team Member** group. The multi-talented team members will operate cross-departmentally in their newly created positions – their newly acquired skill sets will give them the ability to rotate between their original and their newly trained department, to support the needs of both. The training and skills also help prepare these team members to become future leaders in integrated resort management. The programme essentially creates a new definition of team member – employees who are cross-departmental and multi-skill proficient, in contrast with the traditional setup of single-department employees.

After the programme was announced Sept. 21, team members showed themselves eager for a chance to grab one of the first 300 available openings, with more than 2,000 team members signing up to train in the new programme. As a result of the overwhelming response, it is estimated that the first group of team members will start training Nov. 30, with other groups to begin training later.

"We want to help create team members who are truly multi-talented leaders in the integrated resort industry," said Ciaran Carruthers, senior vice president of property operations for Sands China Ltd. "This innovative new initiative does that by investing in our workforce. Helping them develop new skill sets further strengthens an already solid foundation, and that benefits our team members, the industry, and Macao as a whole. We hope efforts like this will help support the Macao government's push to diversify the city and its labour force beyond gaming."

The Integrated Resort Team Member Programme is aimed at developing local talent, especially young locals who are interested in the integrated resort industry, while also providing them with additional benefits and incentives, such as incentive pay and bonus paid leave. The programme is the most recent initiative of the Sands China Academy, a platform focusing on team member training and development, and the professional development of Macao locals, including non-employees, such as staff hired by Sands China's partner retailers.

Lou Chi Man, one of the team members participating in the new programme said: "I'm very excited that the company has offered us this opportunity to try and learn something new. I'm really looking forward to beginning training and am optimistic about the career options I'll have ahead of me."

Developing a well-trained workforce is important to Sands China, as a way to further support Macao's rise as a world centre of tourism and leisure. The Integrated Resort Team Member Programme contributes to the push for non-gaming diversification in Macao, and is a recent example of Sands China's commitment to developing local talent, giving them opportunities to move upward in their career development paths.



New programmes from the Sands China Academy provide interested Sands China team members (pictured) an opportunity to learn new skills in their paths toward upward career mobility.

Chinese activist sentenced to 6 years in jail

Didi Tang

A court in southern China sentenced a leading activist who organized rallies for media freedom to six years in prison Friday in what his lawyer described as an unfair trial with an extra criminal charge added at the last minute.

Lawyer Li Jinxing said a district court in the city of Guangzhou found Yang Maodong guilty of disturbing public order. It also convicted him of provoking troubles, a charge Li said was announced minutes before the trial and which added to the stiff sentence.

Yang — better known by his penname Guo Feixiong — helped organize demonstrations



In this Jan. 10, 2013 file photo, a policeman stands near a supporter, center in wheelchair, of the Southern Weekly during a protest near the newspaper's headquarters in Guangzhou

and spoke in support of the editorial staff at the newspaper Southern Weekly in Guangzhou in January 2013, after its journalists complained of censorship. Journalists said the paper's New Year's message calling for stricter adherence to China's constitution was altered under orders of censors.

Although China's ruling Communist Party leadership under

“It's the abuse of the judiciary powers at its worst.”

LI JINXING

Xi Jinping proclaims rule of law as a priority, calls from outside the party for greater adherence to China's constitution are seen as attempts to undermine the party's monopoly on power.

The charge of disturbing public order typically is punishable by up to three years in jail, and the charge of provoking troubles carries a maximum sentence of five years. The addition of the second charge moments before Friday's trial drew immediate protests from the defense team, Li said.

Calls to the Tianhe District Court in Guangzhou rang unanswered Friday.

Li said the last-minute addition was against procedural rules and allowed the defense no time to prepare. He also said that a printed verdict was issued immediately after the trial, showing that it had been prepared in advance.

“It's the abuse of the judiciary powers at its worst,” Li said.

Yang Maoping, the activist's sister, confirmed the lawyer's account and said the trial amounted to “cruelty and political persecution.” AP

Hong Kong needs agreement with China, Macau over bridge

TRANSPORT officials in Hong Kong have said that the region cannot independently determine when the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macau Bridge (HZMB) will open, and that they must commit to a deadline shared with mainland China and Macau.

The under-secretary for transport and housing, Yau Shing Mu, said initial talks with Zhuhai and Macau had begun in September but that no opening date had been decided. He said that the HKSAR government would meet with mainland Chinese and Macau officials in December to discuss the matter.

“We will need an agreement among the three governments,” he said on Friday, cited by the South China Morning Post.

At a Legislative Council meeting tomorrow, the



Hong Kong government will seek approval for an additional HKD 5.46 billion to build structures on an artificial island near Hong Kong International Airport.

The requested HKD 5.46 billion would, according to Director of Highways Lau Ka Keung, cover the remaining works on the project — including settling claims for delays from the contractor, of which there are now 30 cases amounting to HKD 1.2 billion.

The supplement will add to the HKD 30.4 billion that

the project has already secured.

Lau and the under-secretary for transport and housing both promised that the SAR would be able to meet its new target of completing Hong Kong's section of the bridge by the end of 2017.

Lau added that the main works would be completed and ready for use by late 2017.

“We don't think we will need to increase the budget,” he added, when asked about the possible need for future funding. Staff reporter

Air pollution in Beijing hits hazardous levels

AIR pollution in Beijing reached hazardous levels on Saturday as smog engulfed large parts of China despite efforts to clean up the foul air.

At noon, the U.S. Embassy in Beijing reported the level of the poisonous, tiny particles of PM2.5 at 391 micrograms per cubic meter. The World Health Organization considers the safe level at 25 micrograms per cubic meter of the particulates.

The city has been shrouded in gray smog since Friday, reducing visibility to a few hundred meters (yards).

The Ministry of Environmental Protection has forecast severe pollution for the greater Beijing region, the western part of Shandong province and the northern part of Henan province until Tuesday, when strong winds from the north are expected to blow away air pollutants.

The ministry has advised people to stay indoors.

Authorities blame coal burning for winter heating as a major cul-



A woman sells paper kites at Tiananmen Square on a day with poor air quality in Beijing, Saturday, Nov. 28

prit for the air pollution. The ministry said it had sent teams to check on illegal emissions by factories in several northern Chinese cities.

In the past, authorities have shut down factories and pulled half of the vehicles off the roads to curb pollution. But such drastic measures are disruptive and are used only when the government feels it needs to present a better image to the world, such as when China hosts major global events or leaders. AP

Experts call for more input in smaller Chinese cities

URBAN experts have underscored the role smaller cities would play in relieving the pressure larger cities are under due to rising population. Large cities are pressed for space due to urbanization, thus, smaller cities should accommodate more residents, said Ye Xingqing, head of the agricultural economy department of the Development Research Center under the State Council, at a forum on China's urbanization Saturday.

The government should spend more



on public services such as schools and hospitals in smaller cities to make them more attractive, said Zhang Liqun, an economist with the Development Research Center of the State Council. On infrastructure, the government should provide equal basic public services in all cities to meet the demands of new residents, Zhang said.

At present, around 55 percent of the total population are permanent urban residents, higher than the global average of

52 percent, but lower than developed nations' average of 70 percent, Zhang said.

More people will live in cities in the future, leading to increased demand for property and other consumption needs, and thus urbanization will be a key engine for economic growth, Zhang said.

By 2020, China's ratio of permanent urban residents to total population should reach about 60 percent, while residents with urban “hukou” (permanent resident permits) should account for about 45 percent of total population, according to the urbanization plan released in March last year. Xinhua

Hyung-Jin Kim, Nonsan

In S. Korea, a town of Kims - and an unusual shared history

MANY of his students are Kims. So are his fellow teachers, an elementary school alumnus and the owners of restaurants and pubs that he patronizes in his small farming village. Lots of Kims in his neighborhood, too. Such is everyday life for Kim Sun Won, who, obviously, is a Kim too.

He's lived all his 70 years in a tile-roofed home in a clan village, surrounded by people who share his connection to an illustrious ancestor from centuries ago. Other clan villages in South Korea are dominated by Hwangs, Yuns and many other names.

"This is the house where my father, grandfather, great-grandfather and great-great-grandfather lived," Kim said, walking down a small hill dotted with his ancestors' tombs and gravestones. "I've never wanted to abandon my hometown."

Modernization is turning the villages into a fading tradition. Dozens with at least 100 clan members remain, but there were once hundreds. The others have been lost to the frenzy of construction across much of the country, and to young people leaving small-town life for bigger opportunities in Asia's fourth-largest economy. Ancestry does not have the pull it once did for some, perhaps because some Koreans generations ago gained their prestigious surnames by buying them, not through birth.

For Kim, however, ancient family ties remain as tangible as the large earthen tombs behind his house. As a direct descendant of 17th-century Confucian scholar Kim Jang-saeng, the 70-year-old holds about 15 memorial services per year for his ancestors at his home, a responsibility he calls his "destiny."

The role of ancestral ties in North Korean life is minimal compared to that in the South

"I don't mind living near the tombs," said Kim Sun Won, a retired local civil servant in the city of Nonsan who now teaches filial piety, the life of Kim Jang-saeng and local history at a traditional Confucian school. "I feel secure here because I have the support of all my family clan members here."

Clan villages thrived under Confucian, traditional value systems that prize family connections, filial duty, respect for



Hwang You Yeon, left, points at his family's two-volume genealogical book written in 1723 at a museum commemorating one of his prominent ancestors in Paju

ancestors and regional ties.

In Kim's Yeonsan village there are now about 130 households associated with his family clan, but there are many more non-Kim households. A generation ago, Kim said there were about up to 300 clan households, mostly extended families.

Clan villages are usually made up of people who share prominent ancestors: royal princes, top officials, revered scholars. The villages preserve ancestral shrines and regularly hold memorial services by burning incense, offering food and liquor at altars and deeply bowing.

In Paju, a city near the North Korean border, two villages are home to dozens of people with the surname Hwang who claim as an ancestor Hwang Hui, a 15th-century prime minister renowned for his moral integrity and righteousness.

"He's like our religion," said Hwang You Yeon, a 69-year-old resident in one of the two villages where Hwang Hui spent most of his post-retirement years. "He's our pride."

Last spring, the Hwangs made headlines when they confronted a ruling-party lawmaker who alleged Hwang Hui took bribes and committed adultery. The lawmaker apologized after the Hwangs threatened to campaign against him.

These days, it's largely the elderly who live in villages associated with their clans. Young people migrate to cities, and while some eventually return, others with different surnames have moved in too. In some cases high-rise apartments have

changed the character of once-rural villages.

In a nearby Paju village, seven out of 10 households were once associated with a Yun family. Now the number is about three in 10.

"In those times, there was less individual action. Young people today are spoiled. Aren't they?" said Yun Hoon Duk, a resident in the Yun village. "We had grown up with our grandfathers, uncles and nephews ... so we naturally learned the rules of etiquette."

The clan clusters reveal a fascinating feature of South Korea, where a handful of surnames far outweighs the rest in popularity. More than 20 percent of the country's 50 million people are Kims, from two former South Korean presidents to the South's only Olympic figure skating gold medalist.

All Kims do not belong to the same clan. They are divided among about 350 "bongwans" that are associated with particular locations. Kim Sun Won, for instance, is a Gwangsan Kim, named after a southern town where his first ancestor is believed to have settled. Government surveys in 2000, the most recent census data available, showed there were 286 South Korean surnames and 4,179 bongwans.

The dominance of a few surnames is closely linked to Korea's feudal and Confucian history and the legacy of Japan's colonization of the Korean Peninsula from 1910-1945.

Surnames were usually reserved for nobility and royalty un-

til the 18th century, when some bankrupt aristocrats allowed commoners to be added to their genealogical books, called "jokbo," in return for money.

There are no official records on how many commoners got surnames, but it's believed to be significant because rampant poverty and the lack of efficient state surveillance systems made the forgery of jokbos widespread.

During the Joseon Dynasty, which ruled from 1392 to 1910, the aristocracy grew from less than 10 percent of the population to as much as 70 percent, in large part because of forged jokbos, said Park HongGab, an expert on Korean surnames at the state-run National Institute of Korean History.

When Japan colonized the Korean Peninsula in the early 20th century, it forced every Korean to have a surname. Slaves took their masters' surnames and the poor often picked ones used by high-level aristocrats: Kim, Lee and Park.

"There were slaves, many slaves in the past. But now there's no one who says they are the descendant of slaves," said Kim Jin Woo, a specialist on Korean surnames. "This is why many people don't trust jokbos."

Those who want a prominent lineage can still hire jokbo brokers to fabricate genealogical books. The forgery of the books is linked to Korea's traditional reverence for family background, which has long determined business, social and marital success. More prominent ancestors boost status.

Some records, however, would be quite difficult to fake. Historic clan villages keep centuries-old genealogical books that they say have been handed down from generation to generation. The Hwangs in Paju have a two-volume book written in 1723; the Yun family in Paju keeps woodblocks used to publish its family tree from 1630 to 1863; and Kim Sun Won has a modern version of genealogical books at his home.

The role of ancestral ties in North Korean life is minimal compared to that in the South, though the countries share similar surnames. The North, founded as a socialist republic, has tried to abolish clan systems it calls the legacy of feudalism.

Even so, the system's legacy remains. During a landmark 2000 summit between then-South Korean President Kim Dae-jung and then-North Korean leader Kim Jong Il — father of current leader Kim Jong Un — the two Kims joked about their shared surname but different clans.

"We're really from the same family and we've finally met each other," Kim Jong Il was quoted as saying in North Korean state media. **AP**



Kim Yong Won walks in the compound of Donam Seowon, a Confucian academy built in commemoration of his 17th Century ancestor and renowned scholar Kim Jang-saeng, in Nonsan

NORTH KOREA

Launch of missile from sub may have failed

A North Korean launch of a ballistic missile from a submarine appears to have failed, Yonhap News reported, underscoring the technological limitations of the isolated nation's weapons program.

AUSTRALIA

Gov't plans child-care subsidy changes

The Australian government will put a revised child-care subsidy plan to parliament this week in which grandparents will have easier access to funds while payments to high-income earners will be scaled back.

Philippines gets 1st fighter jets in a decade amid sea feud

Bullit Marquez, Philippines

THE Philippines on Saturday took delivery of two Korean-made fighter jets — the country's first supersonic combat aircraft in a decade — as it strengthens its underfunded military amid an escalating territorial feud with China.

The FA-50 jets touched down at Clark Freeport, a former U.S. Air Force base north of Manila, as Philippine defense officials applauded and fire trucks sprayed water as a traditional welcome salute for the still-unnamed aircraft.

The Philippines bought 12 FA-50s, which are primarily trainer jets that the military converted to also serve as multi-role combat aircraft, from Korea Aerospace Industries at a cost of 18.9 billion pesos (\$402 million). The other jets will be delivered in batches through 2017.

Weapons for the FA-50s, including bombs and rockets, will be purchased later.

"We're glad we're finally back to the supersonic age," Defense



One of two newly-acquired FA-50PH fighter jets taxis on the runway upon landing Saturday, Nov. 28

Secretary Voltaire Gazmin said.

The Philippine military decommissioned its last fleet of supersonic combat aircraft, the F-5, in 2005. A military modernization program that included plans for the purchase of at least a squadron of fighter jets and naval frigates didn't happen for several years largely because of a lack of funds.

Over the years, the military has deteriorated to become one of Asia's weakest.

Under current President Benigno Aquino III, however, territorial spats with China over islands in the South China Sea have escalated and resulted in the Chinese seizure of a dispu-

ted shoal in 2012, prompting the military to scramble to acquire new navy ships and air force planes with the help of the United States, the Philippines' longtime defense treaty ally.

Last week, Aquino authorized Gazmin to enter into major contracts to acquire 44 billion pesos (\$936 million) worth of military hardware, including two frigates, anti-submarine helicopters and amphibious assault vehicles for the navy, and long-range patrol aircraft, munitions for the FA-50s and surveillance radar for the air force, Defense Undersecretary Fernando Manalo said.

The new ships, aircraft and

military equipment were expected to be purchased from this year up to 2018, according to Manalo.

Lt. Col. Rolando Condrad Pena III, one of three Filipino air force pilots who received training in Korea to fly the FA-50s, said that the jets could carry enough munitions payload and could be used in air-to-air and air-to-ground combat.

"Now that we have a supersonic aircraft our reaction time will be faster," Pena told reporters.

Still, the Philippines has ruled out a military solution to the territorial conflicts with its limited defense capabilities. In January 2013, the Philippines brought its disputes with China to international arbitration, but Beijing refused to participate and pressed for one-on-one negotiations.

An international tribunal in The Hague, however, dismissed China's legal arguments last month and ruled that it has authority to hear the Philippines' case. It said it expects to hand down a decision next year on several issues raised by the Philippines, including the validity of China's sweeping territorial claims under the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea. AP

AD

Advertisement for Sound & Image Challenge Festival 2015. Includes dates (1-5 DEC and 6-7 DEC), venues (Theatre Dom Pedro V and Cinema Alegria), and a QR code. Text: SOUND & IMAGE CHALLENGE FESTIVAL 2015 FREE ADMISSION.

Advertisement for 2015 Team Event Pool Tournament. Includes MPPA logo, dates (8-9 & 10 BALL), and prize information (GRAND PRIZE MOP\$10,000 FOR THE WINNING TEAM). Text: 2015 TEAM EVENT POOL TOURNAMENT 8-9 & 10 BALL.

Obama joins Xi in Paris for UN climate talks

AS more than 140 world leaders converge on Paris for the opening of United Nations-sponsored talks on lowering carbon emissions, French Environment Minister Segolene Royal said a deal may fall short of what's needed to curb global warming.

"There is a risk that the accord won't meet the challenges," Royal said in a television interview yesterday. A deal that is "ambitious, binding and universal" hasn't yet been reached, she said.

A march in Paris organized by environmental groups was canceled

The French minister was speaking against the backdrop of tight security in Paris that led authorities to close major highways and urge residents to stay home, if possible, on Monday. With leaders including U.S. President Barack Obama and China's Xi Jinping traveling for the opening of the cli-



A man walks between shoes as hundreds of pairs of shoes are displayed at the place de la Republique, as part of a symbolic and peaceful rally called by the NGO Avaaz "Paris sets off for climate"

mate meeting today, a massive police presence was on hand in central parts of the city such as the Champs-Elysees.

"We are on the right track" toward a deal, Royal said in the interview. More than

170 countries have pledged to lower emissions, although only enough to keep the world on a trajectory for a 3-degree Celsius increase in global temperatures and not the 2-degree target set in previous

climate talks, she said.

France remains under a state of emergency following the Nov. 13 terrorist attacks that left 130 dead. As part of heightened security following the killings and surrounding the

climate talks, the highways leading north and south out of Paris is shut to normal traffic from yesterday afternoon to late today, as will a northern stretch of the "peripherique," the road that circles the city.

With public demonstrations banned across the country and a march in Paris organized by environmental groups canceled, people left hundreds of pairs of shoes at the central Place de la Republique Sunday as a symbol of their support for a climate deal. Hundreds of people were also gathering to form a human chain. **Bloomberg**

FRENCH POLICE DETAIN CLIMATE PROTESTERS

FRENCH AUTHORITIES detained at least 150 people for questioning after a demonstration in favor of a global climate accord in central Paris turned into a violent clash between protesters and riot police. Television images yesterday showed demonstrators throwing projectiles at police who charged crowds and dragged people away near the Place de la Republique, a traditional rallying place for marches in the capital.

Pope brings peace message to Central African Republic



Crowds cheer at Pope Francis upon his arrival in Bangui, Central African Republic

POPE Francis arrived yesterday in the conflict-torn Central African Republic, brushing aside security concerns to bring a message of peace and reconciliation to a country where violence between Christian and Muslim militants has forced nearly 1 million from their homes over the last two years and divided the capital city.

Schoolgirls in yellow and white dresses — the colors of the Holy See flag — joined government and church authorities to welcome Francis at the heavily secu-

red Bangui airport. The pope's Alitalia charter landed just beyond the settlement for displaced residents that has cropped up on the airport's edge, housing some of the people displaced by the violence.

As Francis emerged, a huge cheer broke out from the small crowd and the cheers continued along his motorcade route into town, where he was welcomed by Interim President Catherine Samba-Panza and the diplomatic corps.

The precarious security situation in Bangui, the

capital, raised the possibility in recent weeks that the pope could cancel his visit. Less than a year ago, mobs beat Muslims to death in the streets, even decapitating and dismembering some. While sectarian clashes have left at least 100 people dead over the last two months, in recent days Bangui has been relatively free of gunfire.

Many hope that the pope's message of peace and reconciliation can encourage longer-term stability in this nation of 4.8 million. As part of his trip, the pope

plans to visit a camp for displaced people where Christians have sought refuge. He also will venture into the capital's Muslim enclave, known as PK5, to meet with community leaders and the uprooted.

Samba-Panza told reporters Saturday that the pope is being welcomed as a "peace messenger."

"Many Central Africans hope that the messages he will deliver will inspire a national mobilization and realization that Central Africans learn to accept each other again, learn to live together again and learn to go toward peace and reconstruction of their country," she said.

That's a message Francis brought to a Mass and vigil service Sunday at Bangui's cathedral. Francis also heard confessions from several young people, underscoring his message of the need for forgiveness and mercy in the country.

"It is a great joy and we are very touched that he is coming to visit," said Merline Bambou, 24, as she left Sunday Mass wearing a two-piece dress made of traditional African fabric emblazoned with Pope Francis' face. "For two years we have been crying. We hope the visit of people will change things for the better." **AP**

SYRIAN OPPOSITION

Dozens killed, wounded in Russian strikes



A Russian S-400 air defense missile systems being unloaded from an An-124 Ruslan cargo plane at the Hemeimeem air base in Syria

SYRIAN opposition media is reporting that airstrikes believed to be carried out by Russian warplanes have killed and wounded dozens of people in a northwestern Syrian market.

The Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights says yesterday's airstrikes struck the northwestern rebel-held town of Ariha. The Local Coordination Committees, an activist collective, says the airstrike struck a busy market, inflicting heavy casualties. Neither group provided a precise toll.

Opposition activists say scores of people have been killed by Russian strikes since the air campaign began on Sept. 30.

Russia says its airstrikes are targeting the Islamic State group and other "terrorists," but Western officials and Syrian rebels say most of the strikes have focused on central and northern Syria, where IS does not have a strong presence. **AP**

Thousands of Syrian refugee children left in legal limbo



Syrian refugee Simav Nuh, rests inside an informal tented settlement in Irbil, northern Iraq

Balint Szlanko, Iraq

ARIA is stateless. Like thousands of other children born to Syrian refugees living in Iraq, the 10-month-old girl is beginning her life in legal limbo.

Some 240,000 refugees who fled the fighting in Syria now live in Iraq, where among many other hardships, they are often unable to get their children citizenship in either country.

"It's required to have a nationality," said Azad Khalil, the girl's father. "She doesn't exist in any records (in Syria) because she was born here."

Syrian refugees who have chil-

dren in Iraq's Kurdistan region are entitled to apply for official birth certificates from local authorities, but many families don't. Refugee camps are often far away from government buildings in major cities, so many children are left without the most basic documentation.

Khalil said he can only apply for citizenship for his daughter if the family returns to Syria. But with the country in the fifth year of a civil war that has killed more than 250,000 people, the odds of returning home are slim. He fears that even a temporary visit to apply for citizenship would be a waste of time.

"The document that we have from here is very simple, it doesn't show anything, only

12,516 Syrian children have been born in Iraq since the beginning of the Syrian crisis

that she was born here. If we take it back to Syria they might not recognize it," he said.

Other families said that even if they could return home, they would be afraid to present such documents in a Syrian government office. They worry that proof they were refugees would associate them with opposition groups, despite announcements from the Syrian government that all refugees are welcome to return.

For infants and toddlers living in refugee camps, the lack of national identity documents doesn't pose immediate problems. But as children grow up, not having a nationality will prevent them from finding legal work, traveling and going to school.

"If the situation is prolonged for a very long time, these children would become adults," said Frederic Cussigh, senior field coordinator for the UNHCR, the United Nations refugee agency. "To legally work in Iraq, that could be a problem, (or) to get their residency... they would face an impressive amount of problems all along, possibly for the rest of their life."

Even collecting the required paperwork in Iraq, Cussigh explained, can be hard for refugees who often have limited financial resources. "In terms of means, just bearing the cost of the taxi to go to the public (authorities) can be difficult," he said.

According to the U.N., 12,516 Syrian children have been born in Iraq since the beginning of the Syrian crisis. Their families are among the more than 4 million Syrians who have fled the country since the conflict broke out in 2011. Most remain in nearby countries, though hundreds of thousands have also made their way to Europe.

Majide Mohammed's son Ahmed also lacks national identity documents. She gave birth to the 14-month-old in Syria, but was then forced to flee with her family, and was unable to register the newborn in her hometown.

"He doesn't have any documents," Mohammed explained. "They say we have to go to Syria (to register him). And my husband used to be in the military, so we cannot go back."

The legal limbo has already prevented her from reuniting with her family in Turkey.

"I haven't seen them for two years and I can't visit them because my child has no proper papers. It's not allowed." **AP**

Boko Haram claims responsibility for Nigerian suicide bombing

Mustapha Muhammad

THE Islamist militant group Boko Haram has claimed responsibility for Friday's suicide bombing that killed at least 21 people and injured dozens of others near Kano, Nigeria's second largest city.

A message written in Arabic on a social media forum on Saturday, claiming to be from Boko Haram, identified the bomber, who targeted a procession of hundreds of Shiite Muslims in the northern city, as Abu Suleiman Al-Ansari, and said he had died a martyr.

The message praised the "glorious attack" and said actions "will continue against Shiite polytheists

until we purify the earth of their contamination." Polytheism refers to the worship of multiple gods.

Boko Haram has stepped up suicide attacks across northern Nigeria since troops retook most of the territory they held in 2014, and intensified the offensive to end a six-year-old insurgency.

A second bomber was captured during Friday's attack before he could detonate an explosive belt, said Muhammad Ture, leader of Kano's Shiite Muslims.

The attack followed another on Nov. 18, in which two women blew themselves up in Kano's mobile phone market, killing more than a dozen people. **Bloomberg**

Apoll shows three parties are evenly matched three weeks ahead of the general election that will determine who governs Spain for the next four years.

The survey by private pollster Metroscopia — published yesterday by newspaper El Pais — shows the ruling conservative Popular Party has the support of 22.7 percent voters ahead of the Dec. 20 election against 22.6 percent for the centrist newcomer Ciudadanos (Citizens) party and 22.5 percent for the main opposition Socialist Party.

The radical leftist Podemos (We Can) party, led by pony-tailed professor Pablo Iglesias, lags behind the others,

SPAIN

3 parties evenly-matched ahead of election



The leader of the left wing Podemos party, Pablo Iglesias

obtaining 17.1 percent of the vote in the poll. Metroscopia says the poll quizzed 1,200 adults in a Nov. 23-25 survey and has a margin of error of 2.9 percentage points. **AP**



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what's ON



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TIME: 10am-6pm daily
(Except Wednesdays, open on public holidays)
VENUE: 76, Rua Almirante Costa Cabral
ADMISSION: Free
ENQUIRIES: (853) 8399 6699

MACAU GRAND PRIX MUSEUM & WINE MUSEUM

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

'SCAPE' - DRAWINGS BY RUI RASQUINHO

TIME: 12pm-8pm (closed on Tuesdays)
UNTIL: December 31, 2015
ADMISSION: Free
VENUE: Signum Living Store,
Rua do Almirante Sérgio, no. 285, R/C, Macau
ENQUIRIES: (853) 2896 8925

REMINISCENCE - MACAU OLD PHOTOS COLLECTION EXHIBITION

TIME: 9am-10m
VENUE: Team Building, Institute for Tourism Studies, Colina de Mong-Ha, Macau
TIME: 12pm-10pm
(Closed on Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays)
VENUE: Educational Restaurant, Institute for Tourism Studies, Colina de Mong-Ha, Macau
ADMISSION: Free
ENQUIRIES: (853) 2856 1252

EXHIBITION - THE JOURNEY OF A MASTER: JÚLIO POMAR AND FRIENDS

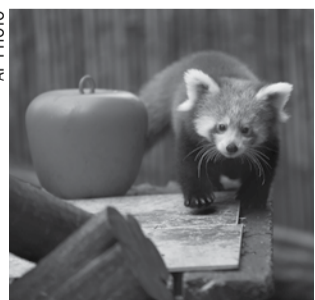
TIME: 2pm-8pm (Tuesdays to Sundays); 3pm-8pm (Mondays; Open on public holidays)
UNTIL: January 15, 2016
VENUE: Albergue SCM, Calçada da Igreja de São Lázaro No.8, Macau Gallery A2
ADMISSION: Free
ENQUIRIES: (853) 2852 2550 / 2852 3205

MACAU X LEGO® EXHIBITION

TIME: 9am-6pm
UNTIL: December 28, 2015
VENUE: Ritz Building, Largo do Senado,
N° 9, Edif. Ritz
ADMISSION: Free
ENQUIRIES: (853) 2833 3000

Offbeat

BABY RED PANDAS AT PHILLY ZOO NAMED BETSY AND BEN, OF COURSE



A female red panda cub, born in June, explores her habitat as she and a male cub make their public debut at the Philadelphia Zoo

Two baby red pandas at the Philadelphia Zoo have been named after two of the city's most famous residents: Betsy and Benjamin.

Zoo officials said Friday that the monikers received overwhelming support in a public naming contest. The names pay homage to American revolutionary figures Betsy Ross and Benjamin Franklin.

Officials say the cubs' birth on June 26 was important for red panda conservation,

since the species is considered vulnerable in the wild. The brother and sister made their public debut Nov. 18.

Unlike giant pandas, red pandas are not members of the bear family. They are slightly larger than domestic cats and look similar to raccoons. They are native to Asia.

TV canal macau

13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
14:30	Publicity
14:55	Debate on Security Policy Report for 2016 (Live)
20:00	Documentary Series
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:00	TDM Sports
22:10	Trail of Lies
23:00	TDM News
23:30	UEFA Champions League 2015/2016 Magazine Programme
00:05	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)
00:40	RTPi Live

cinema

CINETEATRO

26 Nov - 02 Dec



THE HUNGER GAMES: MOCKINGJAY PART 2

ROOM 1
(2D) 2.15, 4.45, 9.45 pm
(3D) 7.15 pm

Director: Francis Lawrence
Starring: Jennifer Lawrence, Josh Hutcherson, Liam Hemsworth
Language: English (Cantonese)
Duration: 137min

KEEPER OF DARKNESS

ROOM 2

2.30, 4.30, 9.30 pm

Director: Nick Cheung
Starring: Nick Cheung, Kuo Tsai Chieh, Louis Chueng
Language: Cantonese (Cantonese/English)
Duration: 105min

RETURN OF THE CUCKOO

ROOM 2

7.30 pm

Director: Patrick Kong
Starring: Chi Lam Cheung, Chairmaine Sheh
Language: Cantonese (Cantonese/English)
Duration: 86min



VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN

ROOM 3

2.30, 4.30, 7.30, 9.30 pm

Director: Paul McGuigan
Starring: James McAvoy, Daniel Radcliffe
Language: English (Cantonese)
Duration: 109min

MACAU TOWER

26 Nov - 16 Dec

KEEPER OF DARKNESS

2.30, 4.45, 7.15, 9.30 pm

Director: Nick Cheung
Starring: Nick Cheung, Kuo Tsai Chieh, Louis Chueng
Language: Cantonese (Cantonese/English)
Duration: 105min

this day in history



1954 WINSTON CHURCHILL TURNS 80

The Prime Minister, Sir Winston Churchill, has been celebrating his 80th birthday in a day of ceremonies and tributes to his remarkable career.

The festivities began at midday, with a presentation of gifts from both Houses of Parliament in Westminster Hall.

An audience of 2,500, including cabinet ministers and opposition leaders, filled the hall for the televised ceremony.

As Sir Winston and Lady Churchill appeared through St Stephen's entrance, a drummer beat out a "V" in morse code - a tribute to the victory salute which became the prime minister's trademark.

As the cheers died down, the Leader of the Opposition, Clement Attlee, gave the first speech. He paid tribute to his formidable opponent, calling him "the last of the great orators who can touch the heights."

Then blue hangings were drawn back from a new portrait of Sir Winston by the artist Graham Sutherland, a gift from both Houses to the prime minister. The Father of the House, David Grenfell, then presented him with an illuminated book signed by almost every member of parliament.

In his speech of thanks, Sir Winston referred to the period in his career for which he is most revered - his leadership through the dark years of the Second World War.

"I have never accepted what many people have kindly said - namely, that I inspired the nation," he told them. "Their will was resolute and remorseless, and as it proved unconquerable."

"It was the nation and the race dwelling all round the globe that had the lion's heart. I had the luck to be called upon to give the roar."

Finally, he acknowledged that age was inevitably drawing his 54 years in politics to a close. "I am now nearing the end of my journey," he said. "I hope I still have some service to render. However that may be, whatever may befall, I am sure I shall never forget the emotions of this day."

Tributes and birthday gifts have been pouring in from all over the world. Among the presents arriving at Number 10 Downing Street were a floral arrangement in the shape of a cigar, sent from Israel, and a sixpenny postal order - the pocket money of a boy from Hereford.

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

Sir Winston was to resign as prime minister less than a year later, on 5 April 1955, due to his increasing ill-health. He spent much of his retirement painting and writing *The History of the English-Speaking People*.

In 1963, the US Congress conferred on him honorary American citizenship.

He suffered a stroke on 24 January 1965 and died, aged 90. His body lay in state for three days at Westminster Hall before he was given a full state funeral. He is buried not far from his birthplace at Blenheim Palace in Oxfordshire.

The Sutherland portrait of Sir Winston Churchill was destroyed by his wife, Clementine, in 1956. She said her husband had always disliked it and it had preyed on his mind.

Graham Sutherland later described the destruction as "an act of vandalism".

A number of studies made for the portrait have survived, however, and are displayed in the National Portrait Gallery in London.

YOUR STARS

Aries Mar. 21-Apr. 19 Keeping things short and sweet is the wrong approach. No financial detail is too small to pass up. After all, you don't have much to go on these days. Drag out every conversation or email.

Taurus April 20-May 20 Planning long term stuff is just a waste of time, not to mention money. For once, you need to live in the present, if only where finances are concerned. You're getting a Zen lesson, totally free.

Gemini May 21-Jun. 21 There are lots of things going on, but none of them involve making money, at least not directly. Consider it an investment if you simply have an interesting discussion or get some ideas generated.

Cancer Jun. 22-Jul. 22 The voice in your head is getting a bit frenzied. Is that internal chatter deafening or appealing? Decide if it's the voice of reason or a symptom of something more sinister.

Leo Jul. 23-Aug. 22 Which do you deserve, a tongue lashing or a lashing with a wet noodle? Those seem like your only choices today. As much as you hate to be lectured, you have to admit you brought it on yourself.

Virgo Aug. 23-Sept. 22 Logic has you breaking out in a cold sweat. But you can't stay in your fantasy bubble forever. Face the facts while you still have a chance to control some of the finer details.

Libra Sep.23-Oct. 22 You're facing demons that lurk in your innermost self. Should you share them with others or keep them stuffed inside forever? If they're the old standbys of debt and gluttony, at least you've got company. Open up.

Scorpio Oct. 23 - Nov. 21 You're not the only one being more cautious than ever in business deals. When someone goes over yours with a fine toothed comb, you'll both be surprised at what they find. An unusual minor detail has you cringing.

Sagittarius Nov. 22-Dec. 21 You get to indulge your worst personality traits, and be better off for it. Being all talk and no action is actually your safest bet today. At least you won't be bored, even if those around you are.

Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 19 Don't waste time talking a thing to death. You've heard the phrase before. Striking while the iron is hot is your only hope of making a profit, today or any day. Don't miss the opportunity.

Aquarius Jan. 20-Feb. 18 You're in love. With an idea. Something on paper has you cooing, but don't expect to see your feelings matched any time soon. Let the sparks fly while you wait for the market to thaw.

Pisces Feb.19-Mar. 20 Don't make drastic decisions just because you're feeling overwhelmed. It's not a good day to move your money. Keep it where it is, whether that's in investments or under the mattress.

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

Easy

9x9 grid for Easy Sudoku puzzle with numbers 1-9 in various positions.

Easy+

9x9 grid for Easy+ Sudoku puzzle with numbers 1-9 in various positions.

Medium

9x9 grid for Medium Sudoku puzzle with numbers 1-9 in various positions.

Hard

9x9 grid for Hard Sudoku puzzle with numbers 1-9 in various positions.

WEATHER

Weather forecast table for CHINA and WORLD with columns for MIN, MAX, and CONDITION. Locations include Beijing, Harbin, Tianjin, Urumqi, Xi'an, Lhasa, Chengdu, Chongqing, Kunming, Nanjing, Shanghai, Wuhan, Hangzhou, Taipei, Guangzhou, Hong Kong, Moscow, Frankfurt, Paris, London, and New York.

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- Meets one's maker; 5- Bashful; 8- Hawaiian goose; 12- Caper; 14- Hook's helper; 15- St. crosses; 16- Italian lady; 17- Caucus state; 18- Nair rival; 19- Farewell appearance; 21- Girl in a Beach Boys song; 23- No-win situation; 24- UK honor; 25- Bar bill; 26- Too; 30- Dean Martin's 'That's ___'; 32- Cubic meter; 33- Fate; 37- French actor Jacques; 38- Sneak; 39- Exultation; 40- Political union; 42- Aquarium fish; 43- Become less intense, die off; 44- Sharon's land; 45- Pack animal; 48- From ___ Z; 49- Compass point opposite WSW; 50- Leave; 52- Veteran; 57- Opaque gemstone; 58- ___ uncertain terms; 60- Nasal grunt; 61- Indian princess; 62- Dresden denial; 63- ___ nous; 64- Otherwise; 65- Obtain; 66- Cong. meeting;

DOWN: 1- Pops; 2- ___ pronounce you...; 3- 2002 erupter; 4- ___ Fein; 5- Air pollution; 6- Fell; 7- High school memento; 8- Second start?; 9- Incident; 10- ___ lift?; 11- Founded: abbr; 13- Fortified feudal residence; 14- Trigonometric function; 20- Vinegar's partner; 22- Munich mister; 24- Signs; 26- 'The Thin Man' dog; 27- Ollie's pal; 28- Dampens; 29- 'Fear of Flying' author Jong; 30- Come up; 31- Gardener's tool; 33- Disney dog; 34- Neighbor of Sask.; 35- Able was ___; 36- Actress Patricia; 38- Boards that support a mattress; 41- Girder type; 42- African fly; 44- Neither Rep. nor Dem.; 45- Love deeply; 46- Calyx component; 47- Bridges; 49- North Carolina university; 51- That's ___; 52- Put a lid ___; 53- Taverns; 54- Speck of dust; 55- Miscalculates; 56- Numbered rds.; 59- Maiden name preceder

Friday's solution

Completed crossword puzzle grid with words filled in.

Large crossword puzzle grid with some numbers and letters pre-filled.

Crossword puzzles provided by BestCrosswords.com

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

- Emergency calls 999 Taxi 28 939 939 / 2828 3283
Fire department 28 572 222 Water Supply - Report 1990 992
PJ (Open line) 993 Telephone - Report 1000
PJ (Picket) 28 557 775 Electricity - Report 28 339 922
PSP 28 573 333 Macau Daily Times 28 716 081
Customs 28 559 944
S. J. Hospital 28 313 731
Kiang Wu Hospital 28 371 333
Commission Against Corruption (CCAC) 28326 300
IACM 28 387 333
Tourism 28 333 000
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F1

Rosberg beats Hamilton to win Abu Dhabi GP

Chris Lines

NICO Rosberg completed a hat trick of victories to end the Formula One season when he won the Abu Dhabi Grand Prix yesterday, profiting from a questionable tire strategy by his Mercedes teammate Lewis Hamilton.

The German won by 8.2 seconds at the Yas Marina circuit to complete Mercedes' 12th one-two finish of the season, establishing a new F1 record.

Ferrari's Kimi Raikkonen finished third, ahead of his teammate Sebastian Vettel, who drove impressively after starting 15th on the grid.

Force India's Sergio Perez and Nico Hulkenberg finished fifth and seventh, separated by Red Bull's Daniel Ricciardo.

Felipe Massa of Williams was eighth, Romain Grosjean ninth in his last race for Lotus, and Daniil Kvyat of Red Bull took the last point in 10th.

Rosberg finished the season on a high, with three consecutive wins and six straight pole positions, but it came too late to prevent Hamilton taking the drivers' championship.

Rosberg finished the season on a high, with three consecutive wins and six straight pole positions

"I am excited about how the end of the season went," Rosberg said. "Next year can come tomorrow for me, I don't need any holidays. I'll try and keep the current form going next year. I am sure the team will give us a great car

once again."

Rosberg started from pole and pushed his lead over Hamilton out to 4.7 seconds before the first set of pit stops. The German suffered from tire graining late in his second stint, with Hamilton cutting the deficit from 7.1 seconds on lap 15 of 55 to 1.3 seconds when Rosberg pitted for the second time at the end of lap 31.

The victory was up for grabs at that point, and it was expected Hamilton would immediately pit and make it a tight race to the finish, but instead the team elected to keep him out on track for another 10 laps.

Having gone that long, Hamilton asked over the radio whether he could try to race to the end on the current tires and try to hold off Rosberg on fresher rubber, only to be firmly told by the team that "it wouldn't work."

He pitted after lap 41 but instead of switching to the softer option tires for the last 14 laps — Vettel had gone onto the op-



Nico Rosberg of Germany celebrates after winning the Emirates F1 Grand Prix

tions two laps earlier and raced strongly to the end — Hamilton was fitted with another set of the harder prime tires and stood no chance of making up the deficit.

There were mixed messages after the race, with Mercedes team principal Toto Wolff saying "we gave Lewis the option to choose which tire he wanted on the car at the last pit stop" but Hamilton said "it was down to the team whether I went to the option or the prime tires."

"In hindsight, once Nico had pitted I would have backed off a bit and made those tires go a lot longer," Hamilton said. "The tires were still fine at the end. So I honestly felt I could have potentially taken them to the end. Going too long was probably not the right thing to do.

"Some part of me wishes I just gave it a go," he said.

Wolff said "even though the car was light, it wouldn't have lasted to the end with options." AP

EPL

Tottenham extends unbeaten run by holding Chelsea 0-0

RARELY has a goalless stalemate satisfied Jose Mourinho so much. Chelsea's draw at Tottenham yesterday left the Premier League champions 15 points behind leader Manchester City and still without back-to-back wins in the team's title defense.

But the Blues were facing a Tottenham side that extended its unbeaten run in the league to 14 matches — the best since the 1984-85 season — and sits 10 points ahead of Chelsea in fifth place.

What the trip to White Hart Lane showed Mourinho is that his team is gradually rediscovering its spirit and defensive solidity with a third consecutive clean sheet, including the mid-week Champions League win against Maccabi Tel Aviv.

"It's the best Chelsea (performance) of the season as a team," Mourinho said. "We deserved a bit more than we've got. I'm really happy with the performance. The team defended like a team ... against a team that presses really well and aggressively."

Chelsea, though, is still closer to the relegation zone than the Champions League places in 14th. But there are 13 matches gone and another 25 to go.

"I think we have the team again and we look to the future with a better spirit," Mourinho said.



Jose Mourinho looks across the pitch before the English Premier League soccer match between Tottenham Hotspur and Chelsea at White Hart Lane in London

Although Diego Costa ended Chelsea's three-match losing run in the league with the only goal last weekend against Norwich, the striker was dropped because Mourinho believes "things are not going really well for his confidence." Such was Costa's frustration at not even coming off the bench that in the final moments of the game he threw his substitutes' bib over his shoulder in the direction of Mourinho.

"If he wants to hurt me, it's not with a bib," Mourinho said. "I have a good relationship with him, no problems. I think Diego is very privileged because he was the last one [in the squad] to be [put] on the bench." AP

Andy Murray gives Britain Davis Cup title after 79 years

ANDY Murray gave Britain its first Davis Cup title in 79 years when he beat Belgium's David Goffin 6-3, 7-5, 6-3 in the first of reverse singles yesterday.

The win gave Britain an unassailable 3-1 lead in the best-of-five series and the final singles match was not played.

"I can't believe we did it," Murray said on court. "We may never get an opportunity to do this again. We should celebrate tonight."

Britain is the only nation to have competed in all Davis Cup editions since 1900 and its 10th title makes it the third most successful nation after the United States (32) and Australia (28).

But it was a long way coming. Britain last won it in 1936 with Fred Perry as its star and last played in the final in 1978.

Murray, ranked No. 2 in the world, is unbeaten in Davis Cup play this year.

After hitting a backhand lob that clinched the match, Murray fell on his back on the clay at the Flanders Expo arena.



Britain's Andy Murray returns against Belgium's David Goffin during their singles Davis Cup final tennis match at the Flanders Expo in Ghent, Belgium

His teammates piled atop him but Murray was quick to wiggle himself out and ran toward the Belgian bench to congratulate his opponents, before being hoisted by his teammates.

Murray, who ended Britain's 77-year wait for a men's Wimbledon champion in 2013, then sat on the British team's bench, his face hidden behind a Union Jack flag. He now has two Grand Slam titles and an Olympic gold medal to go with the Davis Cup title.

Murray became only the third player after John

McEnroe in 1982 and Mats Wilander in 1983 to achieve an 8-0 singles record in one calendar year since the introduction of the World Group in 1981.

After teaming with brother Jamie to win the doubles on Saturday, he is the first player since Pete Sampras in 1995 to win three live matches in a Davis Cup final. He is also only the second player to win 11 live matches in the same Davis Cup year after Ivan Ljubicic in 2005.

McEnroe had a 12-0 record in 1982 and Michael Stich had 11 wins in 1993. AP

opinion

World Views
The Editors, Bloomberg

CHINA NEEDS A NEW APPROACH TO FINANCIAL REGULATION

China has set about taming its unruly financial sector with characteristic vigor. Its government is busy investigating dubious banks, detaining suspected insider traders, and proposing overhauls of its regulatory system. All of which would be fine, so long as the authorities were also focused on a deeper concern.

More than anything else, China's financial regulators need independence. Financial regulation should be mainly about promoting prudence and safety, not advancing the government's aims in industrial and economic policy. That's a principle Beijing hasn't yet fully embraced.

Recently, authorities busted a USD64 billion underground bank for illicitly shifting funds overseas. They've detained at least 16 people - from a hedge-fund high flyer to top securities regulators - on suspicion of insider trading. And they're reportedly considering merging various agencies into a single "super-regulator" to oversee an increasingly complicated and sprawling financial sector.

One can understand the government's urge to clamp down. China's casino like financial sector is rife with bad behavior. But the authorities' initiatives too often seem erratic and arbitrary: It's anybody's guess where their attention will turn next. This discourages not just the misconduct the authorities want to stop, but honest risk-taking as well -- and it blocks the investment that China needs to diversify and develop its financial sector. It may help to explain why trading volumes on the Shanghai bourse are sharply lower since last summer's meltdown, and why a vaunted Hong Kong-Shanghai stock-trading link has failed to entice outside investors.

At first sight, the proposal to unify banking, securities and insurance regulators looks sensible. China's financial sector has grown enormously more complex since the current system of oversight was established more than a decade ago. E-commerce companies such as Alibaba now offer retail investment plans; banks invest in securities through shadowy umbrella trusts; and the central bank, securities regulator and economic planning agency all oversee different bits of the bond market.

To detect budding problems, regulators need a view of the whole financial system. Efforts to improve coordination among the three main regulators and the People's Bank of China haven't fared well, largely because of bureaucratic turf battles. Closer integration, perhaps under the PBOC's leadership, might help.

Yet a so-called super-regulator is no panacea. The growing sophistication of China's financial sector demands many different kinds of expertise. Acquiring these skills needs to come first. With few exceptions, Chinese regulators are inexperienced and poorly paid. The securities regulator pays its department heads around \$24,000 a year; they could make multiples of that in the private sector.

The biggest problem, though, is that regulators have conflicting aims. They are Communist Party bureaucrats whose careers depend on supporting party goals -- goals that aren't always aligned with financial rectitude. Chinese securities regulators, for instance, didn't miss the startling buildup of credit that sent the Shanghai index skyrocketing early in the summer; they encouraged it. Instead of concentrating on systemic risk, they worried more about the political consequences of bursting the bubble.

Breaking that habit won't be easy. Under the current system, the party's survival is bound up with ensuring rapid growth, come what may. That's why, in some cases, it might be better to just ask regulators to do less. For instance, the current system for initial public offerings asks regulators to approve every listing, which lends itself to rent-seeking. Authorities say they've drafted rules to switch to a Western-style registration system instead. It should be implemented swiftly.

The main thing is that Chinese regulators, like their counterparts elsewhere, should concentrate on stability: monitoring risks, controlling leverage, building up adequate capital buffers. Make the rules an instrument of industrial policy, and they're likely to fail.

THE BUZZ 7 MORE KENYAN ATHLETES BANNED FOR DOPING

Two-time cross-country world champion Emily Chebet was among seven Kenyan athletes banned for doping Friday, another indication that the country has a serious problem of cheating among its famed distance runners.

Chebet, the cross-country world champion in 2010 and 2013, was banned for four years after testing positive for the diuretic

and masking agent furosemide, the Kenyan athletics federation said.

The list of sanctions announced by Athletics Kenya included bans for the two runners that failed doping tests at the world championships in Beijing in August. Joyce Zakary and Koki Manunga, who were provisionally suspended at the worlds, also received four-year bans for furosemide.

Australian Christmas tree sets record with 518,838 lights



People gather to observe a Guinness World Records attempt for the most lights on an artificial Christmas tree in Canberra

AN Australian set his third Christmas-themed world record in as many years Friday by illuminating a tree in downtown Canberra with 518,838 twinkling lights.

Guinness World Records confirmed that David Richards had broken the record for the most lights on an artificial Christmas tree that had been held for five years by Universal Studios Japan in Osaka. That 36-meter Japanese tree had set a new benchmark of 374,280 lights this month.

Richards, a Canberra lawyer and businessman, brought together a team of volunteers including an electrical engineer, structural engineer, welders, carpenters, masons and steel fixers to erect the dazzling display on a 22-meter steel tree.

Richards creates such Christmas extravaganzas

to raise money for Canberra's Sudden Infant Death Syndrome charity, SIDS and Kids, by drawing large crowds and inviting them to donate.

"Some people say I've got quite a knack for getting people to do things for nothing," Richards said.

Universal Studios Japan was the previous record holder

"I get people to do things for nothing because they know that I do things for nothing and I'm contributing my own money, resources, time and effort as well -- so maybe they feel sorry for me," he added.

Station	Air quality
Roadside	65-95 Moderate
High Density Residential Area	65-95 Moderate
Ambient	65-95 Moderate

SOURCE: DSMG

WORLD BRIEFS

UK British Defense Secretary Michael Fallon told the Sunday Telegraph that "what happened in Paris and Brussels could easily happen in London." Speaking in an interview, Fallon said the threat from Islamic State "is as potent here as it was real in Paris and Brussels."

TURKEY's prime minister says the country has taken delivery of the body of a Russian pilot who was killed after Turkish F-16s shot down a Russian warplane.

Ahmet Davutoglu says the pilot's body was brought to the border province of Hatay "through Turkey's initiatives" early on Sunday and will be flown back to Russia. He said the local Orthodox church in Hatay performed religious rites for the pilot.

GREECE's Piraeus Bank SA won approval from the European Union for USD2.88 billion in state aid on the basis of an amended restructuring plan. "The European Commission concluded that the measures already implemented as part of the bank's existing restructuring plan of July 2014, in addition to those envisaged in the amended plan, will enable Piraeus Bank to ensure lending to the Greek economy in line with EU state-aid rules," EU said in a statement yesterday.



IRAN's official news agency is quoting the country's supreme leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, as calling the recent Paris attacks "blind terrorism." The comments, reported by the IRNA news agency yesterday, were Khamenei's first reaction to the attacks, in which extremist jihadists killed 130 people and injured scores of others. The government had previously condemned the attacks immediately after they occurred.

USA Bill Gates and fellow philanthropists today will unveil a multibillion-dollar fund for clean-energy technology that's key to combating climate change, according to an environmental group briefed on the announcement. The effort, described as the biggest clean-energy research commitment in history, is intended to boost United Nations talks on climate change.

THE DECISIVE MOMENT



The Macau Cultural Center (CCM) opened its winter season with the grand premiere of the ballet Anna Karenina by Russian choreographer Boris Eifman. According to CCM, the weekend shows opened to a full house and great applause from the audience in the venue's grand auditorium.