



RECESSION EASING

Macau's economy contracted by 7.1 percent y-o-y in real terms during Q2 of 2016, showing signs of improvement

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WYNN PALACE IS SEEN OFF TO SLOW START

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BEIJING-VEGAS FLYOVER

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"THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN' "

WORLD BRIEFS



MYANMAR Peace talks aimed at ending more than half a century of conflict between Myanmar's army and an array of armed ethnic rebel groups are due to start in the capital, Naypyitaw, today. The talks are the first formal peace negotiations since Myanmar leader Aung San Suu Kyi's party took office in April, vowing that national unity would be its top priority. **More on p12**



JAPAN A typhoon slammed into northern Japan last night, threatening to bring floods to an area still recovering from the 2011 tsunami. Typhoon Lionrock made landfall near the city of Ofunato, about 500 kilometers northeast of Tokyo.

AUSTRALIA's opposition said yesterday that it would test Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull's weakened grip on power following last month's general election by proposing its own legislation to legalize gay marriage. The bill underscores a stark policy difference between the conservative government and the opposition center-left Labor Party on gay marriage.

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Public servants told to avoid Uber petition, demo

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UNEXPECTED

Olympians share stories of pain and overcoming hardship

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UBER CONTROVERSY

Gov't employees told not to support last-ditch ePetition and demonstration

Daniel Beitler

GOVERNMENT employees have allegedly been instructed not to sign an online petition or join a demonstration next week that will urge local authorities to legalize and regulate ride-hailing app Uber.

According to our sources, who asked not to be identified as they are not authorized to speak to the media, the directive (sent in some cases by email and in others by SMS) instructs the employees of at least three government departments to avoid publicly supporting the company.

One of the sources said that, regardless of the instruction, he intends to stand behind the ride-hailing app. "No matter what, I am going to support Uber," he told the Times.

However, another three public servants contacted by MDT said they "haven't received any such instruction" and two of them admitted to having signed the petition.

The Times was able to review an alleged SMS message delivered from an unidentified broadcast service number, offering a "warm reminder" to government employees. If this did not originate from the government, due questions must be raised how the



service was able to acquire the contact details of government employees.

The alleged SMS reads: "Warm reminder: Public servants should not take [app-based] taxi services, otherwise the Transport Bureau, once it has discovered such acts, will make an internal report to the [relevant] department [where the employee works]. There was one case involving a guard of the prison, so please do not attempt to do so."

Ride-hailing app Uber, which is set to withdraw from Macau on September 9 if its last-ditch efforts to negotiate legalization with the government fail, has appealed to its users to sign an online petition to back the service's continued presence in the region.

The service is exiting the MSAR due to hefty fines that the company says has now exceeded MOP10 million, following what is suspected to have been a police

crackdown in recent weeks.

In response, residents have taken to social media to rally each other in support of the company. Some are also noting what they claim is an immediate return of traditional taxi drivers to the poor behavior of the past.

One social media user on the popular Facebook group, Macau Taxi Driver Shame, questioned how the police are "so [adept at] fining the Uber drivers and not the fishing taxis," while another simply observed, "now that the police [have] won the fight against Uber, they are resting".

In a statement uploaded to the Uber Macau website (<https://action.uber.org/ubermacau/>), the company appealed to the community to sign an ePetition calling for the service's legalization and regulation under Macau law.

"This is a critical moment for Uber in Macau," the statement read. "Without a clear path to regulatory progress and continued impact and heavy enforcement on riders and drivers, we face a

No matter what, I am going to support Uber.

difficult decision regarding our operations in Macau."

"We need your help. If you want Uber to be able to keep serving Macau, please sign [the petition] to show your support today," the statement continued. "Let the government know that you believe in choice and innovation in transportation."

The statement, which is available in Chinese and English, claims that outreach attempts to the government and the submission of over 3,000 letters from the public have not been successful in creating a "meaningful dialogue" with the government.

A similar email was sent to Uber customers, which thanked the community for the thousands of locals who have shown support in "grassroots petition and polls organized by community groups."

"Now, please join us in our final push," the company's message pleaded.

A demonstration organized by the Macao Community Development Initiative (MCDI) will be held in the afternoon of September 4 in Tap Seac Square in support of the ride-hailing app. It is being led by lawmaker and MCDI vice chairman Au Kam San, who insists that the government is able to draft policies to regulate such services if it wants to.

Last month, China gave the green light to online ride-hailing services, issuing guidelines for the industry and clearing a great deal of uncertainty for firms such as Uber and Didi Chuxing. A few days later it was announced that Uber would sell its China operations to Didi in exchange for a stake in the company.

New Central Library might cost less than MOP900m

Renato Marques

THE Central Library might not cost the previously announced MOP900 million, the president of the Cultural Affairs Bureau (IC), Ung Vai Meng, admitted yesterday at a press conference held by the IC in order to "clarify" the project to the public.

According to Ung "it all depends on the inflation rate. If the inflation rate is not that high the final budget might [be as little as] MOP700 million," he said, adding that the amount of



Tang Mei Lin and Ung Vai Meng (left)

MOP900 million was merely "an estimation based on the estimated cost by square meter from 2015." To that cost was added an inflation factor of 5 percent per year until 2019, when it was, at that time, expected that the project would be completed.

He also said that the sum is considered "reasonable" by the IC, taking into consideration the scope of the project and the value of what is to be built.

As advanced by Tang Mei Lin, director of the Department of Management of Public Libraries: "This

will be a smart building." She added, "we are paying a great deal of attention to the budget," noting the "long-term" vision of the project and its importance.

Another piece of information put forward yesterday during the press conference, was a statement by Ung who said, "we have chosen not to have an international public tender for this construction as we are aiming for greater participation of local architects." He said that the decision would not only contribute to the "technicality" of the pro-

ject but also would bring "local culture" knowledge to its design.

It was previously announced that the old court building would serve as the site for a new 11-story building, preserving only the façade and part of the interior structure - like stairways - of the structure. Tang reaffirmed that "the location is of easy access [as it] is located in the city center and has several bus stops and a public car park in the surrounding." Her comments were echoed by Ung, who remarked: "The location in the city center [is an ad-

vantage as the building] will also make more services available to citizens."

It was also made known yesterday that the architecture budget was not included in the MOP900 million estimate.

The project of the Central Library and namely its costs and location have been heavily criticized by several sectors of the society, highlighted by last week's comments by the president of the Legislative Assembly, Ho Iat Seng, calling for a clarification on the need to spend such resources on a library.

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RENATO MARQUES



Renato Marques

THE national delegation of China's Olympic athletes which has been touring the region in a four-day visit met yesterday with local Macau students.

In a meeting held at the Macau Forum, eight athletes had the opportunity to share their stories with an excited and cheerful audience of around 1,500 students from different schools of the territory as well as members of the local government's highest authorities.

The meeting was presented by the director of the Education and Youth Affairs Bureau (DSEJ), Leong Lai. While both the athletes and Lai highlighted the health benefits of sport, the meeting was primarily held to share the experiences and motivational messages of the athletes with local youngsters as well as providing them with an opportunity to meet some of their sporting idols. Contrary to expectations however, most of the stories that surfaced during the Q&A dealt with episodes of difficulties, pain and how the athletes managed to overcome such adversities.

Zhang Mengxue, winner of a gold medal in the women's 10 meters air pistol event at the Rio Games, was very happy to have the chance to participate in the Games and the fact that she managed to bring home the gold. When asked about overcoming issues such as the stress of the competition, she said "just the participation made me very happy so I didn't feel much stress," adding that moments of stress do happen in different stages of preparation and the way to solve it is "to fight it with concentration." Al-

Olympians share stories of pain and overcoming hardship



though she did not take home a gold medal from Rio, the highly regarded and popular athlete, Fu Yuanhui, a swimmer famous for her honesty and joyful spontaneity, was in a different mood as she addressed the issue.

On the topic Fu said, "we all have stress," adding that many things during the intense training for the Olympics are "left behind", such as school duties.

"Study comes second most of the time. We only have time to study at night and sometimes we are so tired that we can't put [anything] inside our heads," adding as advice, "don't think you are the only ones to have a

hard life. Everybody has. You must find ways to overcome that." Fu remarked that she had moments of heavy depression during the training period held in Australia before the games and concluding by saying "when you are in pain, the secret is to be persistent and not to go complain to your coach." Still, the unconventional Fu appeared in front of the audience with her trademark irreverent style that she is known for; in this case including a relaxed pose, a prominent wristwatch and flashy nail polish.

Replying to the students' questions, Zhu Ting and Hui Ruoqi, both members of China's na-

tional women's volleyball team also shared similar stories of pain and overcoming with team. Captain Hui shared a personal episode of a heart condition that required a surgery in order to prevent her leaving the sport prematurely.

"During those times everyone gave me a lot of support," she said, adding like Fu before that "persistence in the 'down moments' is the key to success." The event ended with some words from DSEJ's director, citing China's president Xi Jinping that "to be a hero we have to fight for glory."

As a surprise for the fans, all the athletes of the delegation

joined the eight presenters on stage for a victory round of the Forum. Fourteen-year-old Li, a student from Santa Rosa de Lima – Chinese Section, when questioned by the Times as the event finished said "I'm very happy. I came to see mostly Fu Yuanhui. She is awesome."

Chi Kin (15) from Hou Kong School was a little disappointed. "I wish[ed] to ask something of my fan [idol] Lin Dan but he was not on stage," he said, adding that he is a keen badminton player.

After the event at the Forum, the delegation continued to tour the city, namely the Ruins of St Paul and the Macau Museum.

Last day to name panda cubs



Today is the last day for Macau residents to nominate names for the two panda cubs born in June. The Civic and Municipal Affairs Bureau (IACM) has encouraged the public to seize this final chance to name the duo with "meaningful and creative" Chinese names. Participants must provide a brief paragraph of 150 words or less explaining the reason for the selection of their nominated name. Entries are limited to one per person. Final results will be co-selected by the IACM and the Chengdu Research Base of Giant Panda Breeding. They will choose four winners and offer prizes to another 200 participants. Currently, IACM has received more than 2,300 filled applications with names suggested by the public.

Data Protection Office investigated fewer cases in 2015

THE number of cases investigated by the Office for Personal Data Protection (GPDP) in 2015 fell 20.1 percent year-on-year, the Office informed in statement. According to the same statement, the majority (63.2 percent) of some 155 investigation cases

were related to the illegitimate treatment of personal data while 45.2 percent concern violations of the rules for data treatment. The GPDP also noted that 67.1 percent of the investigations were set in motion by complaints of victims.

Topping the list of the complaints are gaming sector companies followed by the wholesale and retail sector, which together account for two-thirds of the total number. In 8 percent of the cases, sanctions were applied to the companies in question, whereas in 28 per-

cent of them the office made only recommendations on the improvement on data treatment. In 2015 the GPDP received 41 requests of advice regarding legal works, 14 requests for authorization as well as 466 notifications of personal data treatment. **RM**

IT innovation awards announced

THE Seventh InnoICT Business Plan Competition, organized by the Macau New Technologies Incubator Centre (Manetic) and the Tertiary Education Services Office (GAES), has recently awarded its winners, according to a report by Jornal Va Kio. The champion, IMMO APP, alongside the teams who took the second and third places, will be provided a platform to pursue their ideas in addition to cash amounts of MOP30,000, MOP 18,000 and

MOP12,000 respectively. A business start-up fund of MOP50,000 was also provided to the creators of IMMO APP. If the group decides that their first business step will be to implement their awarded program in Macau, they will also have access to Manetic business incubation facilities and support services. This year, the competition was attended by 24 teams in total, 13 of which came from Macau higher edu-

cation institutions. The remaining 11 teams were from Mainland China, Hong Kong, Taiwan and the United Kingdom. A total of 67 people registered for the competition, of which 54 were Macau residents. Launched in 2010, the InnoICT Business Plan Competition was expected to help Macau in establishing more local companies funded by local residents, as well as promoting the development of communication technologies in the city.

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MACAU'S economy contracted by 7.1 percent year-on-year in real terms during the second quarter of 2016, showing signs of improvement compared to the first quarter of 2016, which was down 13.3 percent year-on-year, according to a statement from the Statistics and Census Service (DSEC).

External demand for Macau's goods and services remained weak in this period, as was highlighted by a year-on-year contraction of nearly a quarter (-24.7 percent) in the export of goods; the same as in the previous quarter.

In the same period, the export of gaming services and tourism services fell by 12 percent and 7.4 percent respectively, less than the decline observed in the first quarter of 17.1 percent and 11 percent respectively.

Domestic demand experienced continued slowdown, of which private consumption expenditure diminished by 2.2 percent. In addition, the investment and imports of goods decreased by 15.2 percent and 16.2 percent respectively.

On the other hand, the government final consumption expenditure grew by 4.5 percent.

According to DSEC, residents tended to be cautious with their

ECONOMY

Q2 improvement suggests recession is easing



spending during this period, with private consumption expenditure dropping by 2.2 percent year-on-year. Household final consumption expenditure fell by 2 percent in the period.

Government final consump-

tion expenditure registered a larger increase, expanding by 4.5 percent year-on-year, higher than the 1.5 percent growth year-on-year growth of the first quarter. Compensation to public employees and net pur-

chases of goods and services went up by 3 percent and 7.3 percent respectively.

Meanwhile, in the first half of 2016, Macau's economy contracted 10.3 percent in real terms compared to the first half of last year.

Macau's economy has been pummeled as gambling revenue plunged 26 straight months in July after China's crackdown on corruption scared off high-stakes VIP gamblers. City officials have sought to diversify the economy by pushing operators to build family-friendly resorts that offer more entertainment options aside from gambling.

Macau gaming stocks mostly advanced before the economic data was released, led by Sands China Ltd. which rose 3.5 percent to HKD31 by the close of trading in Hong Kong. The Bloomberg Intelligence Macau gaming stocks index rose 1.4 percent.

The gambling slump has seen

signs of easing in recent months with the shift to new resorts that focus on tourists and recreational gamblers. Galaxy Entertainment Group Ltd. last week reported better-than-expected earnings boosted by its new resorts. Wynn Palace opened this month while Sands China Ltd.'s Parisian will debut mid-September.

Gross gaming revenue fell 9.2 percent in the three months ended June, the smallest drop since the third quarter of 2014. That comes as revenue at gaming tables frequented by recreational gamblers, also known as the mass market, narrowed to 1.1 percent following casino operators' shift to target tourists. By contrast, VIP baccarat – the favored card game for high-stakes gamblers in Macau – plunged 15.7 percent.

Macau is expected to announce gaming revenue for August tomorrow. **DB/Agencies**

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Left to right: Martyn Jaques, Morten Christensen (portraying Hamlet) and Adrian Stout

Lynzy Valles

BRITISH cult band Tiger Lillies is back on the road and set to bring their version of Hamlet to the Cultural Centre tomorrow.

English group Tiger Lillies and Danish Theatre Republique will co-stage a visual and musical performance of Shakespeare's tragic masterpiece, Hamlet; featuring a blend of circus acts, video projections and live music.

Conceived by theatre director Martin Tulinius and bandleader Martyn Jaques, the two-hour piece will showcase the sounds and images that finely illustrate Hamlet's downfall through this creative venture between the performers.

Tulinius said in a statement

The Tiger Lillies returns with Hamlet

that he originally wanted to stage King Lear, another tragedy written by Shakespeare. Nevertheless, a collaboration with the English band was decided to better fit the staging of Hamlet as it features "insanity and strange sexual relations."

"I wanted to cut the story down to the bone, find the essence of the story and intensify it," he wrote. "Rather than making a historical staging, I would like the audience to be able to see

themselves in the story."

Meanwhile in a meet-the-press event yesterday at the Cultural Center, Jaques revealed that the theatrical show will not feature the "traditional play" of Hamlet but will largely focus on the incorporation of musical elements to emphasize key moments in the plot.

"The madness is the theme we explored a lot," he explained. "Lust and various other kinds of forms of revenge. [...] It's

much more musical than visual [when compared to] the classic Hamlet."

Echoing the sentiments, bass player Adrian Stout described the production as a "moving show," stressing the emotional themes, visual and musical elements.

"It's not a passive show. It's just not another classic version [of Hamlet] with different costumes and [a] different interpretation. And I think the visuals are particularly very

strong," he said.

The Tiger Lillies trio is an underground band, making them a perfect match for Theatre Republique's production of Hamlet.

The play is an exploration of the dark side of human nature: murder, revenge and betrayal. The band will bring the tunes that kept the trio on the dark trail of earlier shows such as their show in the region five years ago.

Macau is the first stop of the band's Asian tour and is set to perform next in Hong Kong.

When asked what the band expects from the local audience, Jaques joked, "we hope they like it and they clap. That's it really." Stout added, "We just wanna be loved."

Series of astronomical phenomena to occur in September

THE Astronomical Society of Tianjin has announced that six astronomical phenomena will be visible to the naked eye in September, including the Delta Aurigids meteor shower, an annular eclipse, the Neptune at opposition, the Mars Saturn Antares conjunction, the penumbral lunar eclipse and Mercury at greatest elongation west, according to a report by Xinhua.

Tomorrow (September 1), the Delta Aurigids meteor shower is likely to commence around 3 a.m. Zhao Zhiyan, director of the society, advanced that the meteor shower's flow will be small in scale and that

interested observers will have to be patient and expect to wait for some time until a shooting star may finally appear in the sky. On the same day, an annular eclipse will occur as well, although it will not be visible from Chinese territory. It will commence becoming visible from Mid-Atlantic lands through Gabon, the Republic of Congo, and other regions in Africa before it ends over the east Indian Ocean.

On Friday, Neptune, the farthest planet from the sun, will be well placed for observation. During the following 20 or more days if given a clear night sky, the public can use telescopes

with a 100mm diameter lens to observe the planet.

Next week, on September 9, the Mars Saturn Antares conjunction will also be visible, marking the last time this year the star and the two planets can be seen shining around the moon.

On September 17, according to Zhao, almost everywhere across China a partial lunar eclipse may be seen, starting from 0:56 a.m. and ending at 4:56 a.m..

Finally, on September 29, planet Mercury will sit itself at the greatest elongation west. This is the third and last time this year that Mercury can be seen from that position. **Staff Reporter**



Photo taken on Aug. 24 showing the special astronomical phenomenon seen at the Forbidden City of the Ming Dynasty in Nanjing

POKEMON GO

**Chicago
lawmaker
proposes
cracking down
on game sites**

A popular site for "Pokemon Go" characters in a conservation area on the north Chicago lakefront has attracted hundreds of players and inspired legislation to protect ecologically sensitive areas.

Volunteers have spent years trying to restore the Loyola Dunes area in the Rogers Park neighborhood. They say gamers in search of a rare Pokemon have been trampling on grassland that helps prevent erosion.

Nianca, the developer of "Pokemon Go," removed the "PokeStop" after several complaints, but not before a Chicago lawmaker introduced a bill to fine developers USD100 a day for not complying with requests to remove a location.

The National Conference of State Legislatures says the proposal is among the first of its kind. New York lawmakers are considering legislation to restrict sex offenders' use of augmented reality games. **AP**

AP PHOTO



BLOOMBERG



Christopher Palmeri

WYNN Resorts Ltd.'s USD4.2 billion Cotai resort is drawing lackluster numbers of new tourists and may be taking business from local rivals, said analysts who are tracking activity in the casino's first few days.

The part of the casino floor catering to mass market customers at the Wynn Palace "felt slow" relative to other recent openings, Union Gaming analyst Grant Govertsen said in a research note this week. The new casino has led to a marginal increase in mass-market customers in Macau, while the VIP business in the Chinese enclave remained flat, according to Kenneth Fong of Credit Suisse.

Premium customers at the new resort could mainly be coming from Wynn's older casino on the Macau peninsula,

**Wynn Palace is seen
off to slow start**

analyst Praveen Choudhary of Morgan Stanley said in a note dated Sunday.

The Wynn Palace, the most expensive property yet from billionaire Steve Wynn, opened on Aug. 22 amid a slump in gambling in Macau. Betting in the former Portuguese colony has fallen by 36 percent over the past two years after a government crackdown on corruption on mainland China prompted a sharp drop in business. Wynn and other casino operators have said they believe new casinos will attract more tourists to the region.

A spokesman for Wynn Resorts didn't return a call

seeking comment, while Wynn Macau Ltd.'s spokesman didn't immediately respond to a request for comment.

Wynn Macau shares rose 1.8 percent to HKD11.28 in Hong Kong trading, while the city's benchmark Hang Seng Index gained 0.9 percent.

The 1,700-room resort features floral sculptures that move and a \$100 million fountain show. A spa offers a \$450 facial using gold leaf and crushed diamonds. Walk-in traffic may be impaired by light rail construction in front of the resort, Govertsen said in his note. Visitors are balking at the cost of a gondola ride to the resort and

the long walk around the lake to get to the entrance, he said.

Unlike competitors such as Las Vegas Sands Corp. Chairman Sheldon Adelson and MGM Resorts International Chairman Jim Murren, who have said they believe a turnaround is under way in Macau, Wynn was more cautious in an interview before the new casino's opening.

"The last two places that opened did not cause the market to grow, did they? No. Will this one? Good question," Wynn said. "We'll get an answer to that in September or October. I'm anxious to see it myself." **Bloomberg**

corporate bits**SANDS CHINA ANNOUNCES FESTIVE MENUS**

Restaurants at the Sands Resorts Cotai Strip Macao and Sands Macao will be offering an array of menus to celebrate the upcoming

Mid-Autumn Festival. Canton at The Venetian Macao offers two menu options, available between September 16 and October

7, while North, a signature Chinese restaurant at the resort, will launch a special à la carte menu between September 28 and October 11 to commemorate the Golden Week holidays.

Dynasty 8 at Conrad Macao, home of classic and authentic high-end Chinese cuisine, will be presenting a special "Dynasty 8 Mid-Autumn Festival Gift Hamper" from September 9 to 18. The hamper includes delicacies from the sea such as dried abalone, dry sea conch and flower mushrooms amongst others.

The 888 Buffet at Sands Macao, on offer between September 14 to 17, will also add special delicacies to its menu this coming festival.

SHUN TAK RECORDS REVENUE DECLINE

Shun Tak Holdings Limited posted revenue of approximately HKD1,868 million over the first six months of 2016, showing a 12.2 percent year-on-year decline.

Excluding the unrealized fair value changes on investment properties, the profit attributable to shareholders demon-

strated a 12.3 percent decline at HKD239 million for the first half of 2016, the company revealed in a statement.

The property division of the group experienced a significant year-on-year decline in revenue as the combined impact of a time lag in revenue recognition from property

sales and the revaluation of investment properties contributed to a weakened profit of HKD55 million.

The hospitality division registered a HKD44 million profit, representing a 11 percent year-on-year decline while the investment division posted a profit of HKD167 million, on par with the performance of the same period last year.

According to the managing director of the group, Pansy Ho, the company's transportation division has "maintained resilient despite a downturn in visitor arrivals."

"The first six months of 2016 has been a trying period. Undercurrents in the macro environment and volatility in the global market has significantly impeded a wide spectrum of our economy," said Ho in a statement.

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Honda Macau



US finances management plans for two natural parks in Angola

THE United States Agency for International Development (USAID) this week in Menongue submitted the management plans for two recently created natural parks in Angola, said the United States embassy in Angola.

The two new natural parks – Mavinga and Luengue-Luiana – are located in Kwando Kubango province, southwest Angola, and cover an area of 6.8 million hectares or 68,000 square kilometres.

The management plans, according to the Embassy's statement, will help to guide the development of the parks in the critical first few years, safeguarding natural resources so as to benefit around 12,000 people living in the five main villages inside the boundaries of the parks.

Without giving a figure, the document said the management plans were financed through the USAID Southern Africa Regional Environmental Development Programme.

This six-year project supports the schemes of the Southern Africa Development Community to deal with threats to biodiversity and the environment within the Okavango river basin, which includes parts of Angola, Botswana and Namibia, as well as the Okavango river delta, which is a World Heritage site. **MDT/Macauhub**



Luanda

ANGOLA

Largest Special Economic Zone opens up to private investors

THE largest Special Economic Zone in Angola, the Luanda-Bengo SEZ (ZEELB), which was built with the support of China, will open most of its industrial units to private investment in an effort to rationalise resources and stimulate economic diversification.

The latest investment project in the ZEELB belongs to CITIC Construction (Angola), which will invest USD40 million in an aluminium smelter to reduce imports of this material, with a positive impact on Angola's balance of trade.

The Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU) said in its latest report on Angola's decision was "a positive step" in a context of slow economic growth due to the downturn in the oil sector, as the "involvement of private companies will help boost the non-oil sectors for a

government which remains highly state focused."

The sale of the industrial units, 53 of a total of 73 in the ZEELB, is an effort by Angolan state oil company Sonangol, which since 2011 has managed this 8,300 hectare facility, to reduce costs and increase efficiency.

"The sale will help the authorities to raise revenue in the short term and reduce maintenance costs, although it involves loss of long-term income," said the EIU.

"The measure is in line with the government's wider policy response to the oil price crisis, which is to raise skills and private sector capital to help expand non-oil production and create more jobs," it added.

Funded in part with Chinese credit lines, the ZEELB was intended to support the diversification of the economy, offering preferential terms to com-

panies that set themselves up there, such as electricity, road access, customs clearance and administrative support and tax incentives.

The project has attracted several companies and led to the creation of nearly 5,000 jobs, but, according to the EIU, various units are only half full or completely empty, in a context of adverse economic and financial difficulties facing industrial companies.

The SEZ includes plants linked to engineering, metal containers, taps, plastic bags, electroplating and metal pavilions, and for manufacture of furniture and mattresses, among others.

Published in June, the presidential order stipulated the sale of industrial units in the ZEELB by the end of August to private companies with capital, skills and enough technology to leve-

rage those industries.

In 2006, the China-Africa Forum gave "significant priority" to the objective of creating up to 50 SEZ abroad, which are now being implemented, with investment of \$700 million by Chinese companies in 16 SEZ, according to figures from the Chinese Trade Ministry.

In the recent study entitled "The role of special economic zones in the development of African countries and Chinese foreign direct investment," researchers Fernanda Ilhéu and Hao Zhang of the Lisbon Institute of Economics and Management noted that over 35 years, the special economic zones have had "a decisive role in the development of places like Shenzhen, Zhuhai, Xiamen, Shantou, Hainan and Shanghai and that African countries can and should take advantage of this experience. **MDT/Macauhub**

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FLYOVER

Vegas, Asian investors betting on Sin City's Chinese tourism

Sally Ho, Las Vegas

SIN City and Asian investors are going all in on Chinese tourism, as some of Las Vegas' latest developments on and off the Strip target Chinese nationals and Chinese-Americans.

The Chinese have been regulars along the resort corridor for decades. Now officials and developers, intent on capitalizing on burgeoning Chinese wealth and Asian-American population growth, are courting them in a major way.

Nonstop flights from mainland China are planned for the first time, and two Asian-themed casinos will be among the first post-recession additions to Sin City's glittering skyline.

The new hotel-casinos boast of plans to feature what some other resorts such as the MGM Grand, Wynn and Venetian have quietly offered for years. Guests will be treated to familiar foods, Chinese-speaking service employees and the table game of choice, baccarat.

"The Chinese do quite enjoy a very Chinese experience. They do gravitate toward Asian amenities. At Wynn Macau, it's mostly Chinese restaurants and menus in Chinese," said Alex Bumazhny, gambling analyst with Fitch Ratings.

The Lucky Dragon Hotel and Casino is expected to open this fall, and Resorts World Las Vegas is set to begin construction in earnest by the end of the year.

By Las Vegas' standards, Lucky Dragon is a modestly sized property set on 3 acres just off the Strip. It will have 200 hotel rooms and a casino floor spanning 27,000 square feet.

Lucky Dragon executives said the new casino will focus on domestic Chinese gamblers, calling them an underserved niche market made up of Chinese-Americans and Chinese people who live in America's ethnic

AP PHOTO



A wall with symbols of China partially blocks the view of the Resorts World property in Las Vegas

enclaves, including local Las Vegas, the reliable weekend hordes from California, and tourists from the Pacific Northwest and East Coast.

The mega resorts catering to Chinese gamblers target "ultra-high-end players," while the more casual Chinese bettors are left with more generic amenities designed for "American white people," said Dave Jacoby, Lucky Dragon's chief operating officer.

"We're playing on the existing market that isn't served well," Jacoby said.

The developer is a privately held entity known as the Las Vegas Economic Impact Regional Center. The casino is financed with money from Chinese investors through the EB-5 visa program, which grants green cards to foreigners in return for investments of at least USD500,000 on job-creating projects. Jacoby said Lucky Dragon was an easy sell given Las Vegas' appeal in China.

For the years-delayed Resorts World on the Strip's northern end, the blossoming Chinese tourism business will be a bonus by the time it opens, now projected for March 2019.

The \$4 billion casino resort property has been in the works since 2013, with an original opening date of 2016. It is planned to have 3,100 rooms and 100,000 square feet of gambling space, along with restaurants and shops spread across its 88-acre site. Plans for a con-

vention center, panda habitat and 4,000-seat theater are on hold for the initial construction phase.

Resorts World marks the latest entry into the U.S. market for the Malaysia-based Genting Group, which owns resort and casino properties around the world.

Gerald Gardner, the casino's general counsel and senior vice president of government affairs, said Resorts World expects to build its Las Vegas business through its existing

■ Tourism officials said that although Macau remains a competitor for Vegas' gambling revenue, the new nonstop flight [Beijing-Vegas] will be a catalyst for the Chinese to see and spend their money in other parts of the state

branding among Chinese already familiar with its Asian properties. In Sin City, the primary target will be domestic visitors because no other Asian-themed properties exist on the Strip. On the radar, though, is a plan to capture Chinese tourists as they begin to visit in greater numbers.

"The real spikes in Las Vegas revenue occur when several things happen in a short period of time," Gardner said.

China's Hainan Airlines announced Aug. 4 that it was seeking final U.S. approval to start nonstop flights between Las Vegas and Beijing. The service is expected to begin in December with flights three days a week at McCarran International Airport. The only other direct flights to or from Asia are offered on a Korean Air route out of Seoul.

Just 16 percent of Las Vegas' record 42 million tourists in 2015 came from other countries, according to the city's tourism board. The most recent figures from 2014 also show that while the Chinese account for a large share, travelers from Canada, Mexico and the United Kingdom make up the bulk of international visitors.

Officials said Chinese tourists largely have been undercounted because of the lack of nonstop flight service. Those travelers come to Las Vegas after entering the U.S. through other hubs, such as Los Angeles, Seattle or Chicago, according to Joel Chusid, Hainan Airlines' executive director in the U.S.

"The market is there," Chusid said. "It just hasn't fully been touched."

Tourism officials and experts said that although Macau's casino empire remains a competitor for Las Vegas' gambling revenue, the new nonstop flight will be a catalyst for the Chinese to see — and spend their money on — other parts of the state and region, such as the Grand Canyon, Lake Tahoe and Death Valley.

"The growth opportunity is just so huge," said Bethany Drysdale, spokeswoman for the state tourism board, which has deployed marketing efforts in China for more than a decade. "It's huge for Las Vegas, and since Las Vegas is a gateway to the rest of the state, it's huge for Nevada." AP

American woman indicted on charges of spying

AN American woman detained in China for more than a year has been indicted by prosecutors on charges of spying, a court confirmed yesterday.

The Nanning Intermedia-

te People's Court in southern China accepted the case against Phan "Sandy" Phan-Gillis on July 11, and no date has been set yet for a hearing, said a court official who gave only her surname, Chen.

Authorities detained the international business consultant in March 2015 when she visited China as part of an American trade delegation that was promoting business opportunities in her hometown of Houston,

Texas.

Phan-Gillis' husband, Jeff Gillis, said that her lawyer received the indictment "weeks after it was issued to the court."

He said in a statement that she is charged with being

a spy for a foreign government from 1996 to 1998, and that the charges are "absolutely false."

Spying convictions carry a maximum sentence of life imprisonment.

A U.N. panel ruled in June

that China was arbitrarily detaining Phan-Gillis, 56, in violation of international human rights norms because she hadn't been brought before judicial authorities or given access to legal assistance. AP

AP PHOTO



Smoke rises above the Chinese Embassy in Bishkek

Three hurt as suicide bomber hits China's Embassy in Kyrgyzstan

Leila Saralayeva, Bishkek

A suspected suicide bomber yesterday crashed a car through the entrance of the Chinese Embassy in the Kyrgyzstan capital of Bishkek, detonating a bomb that killed the attacker and wounded three embassy employees.

China denounced the attack and appealed to Kyrgyz authorities to identify and harshly punish anyone involved. No group claimed responsibility.

The Central Asian nation's interior ministry said the person who drove the vehicle through the gate died when the bomb detonated. The three people injured are Kyrgyz nationals: two 17-year-old embassy gardeners and an unidentified woman.

Almaz Kubatbekov, chief physician at the Bishkek National Trauma and Orthopedics Institute, said the three victims suffered concussions and multiple bruises.

Photos from the scene showed the inner courtyard of the embassy compound littered with debris. Windows of one building were smashed and the plastered walls pockmarked with shrapnel.

The embassy in Bishkek's southern suburbs neighbors the U.S. embassy.

Kyrgyzstan's interior ministry described it as a terrorist attack. Deputy Prime Minister Zhenish Razakov told the Interfax news agency it was a suicide bombing.

Kyrgyzstan, a landlocked former Soviet republic that borders China, has a predominantly Muslim population that is considered moderate in outlook.

A Kyrgyz news website, Kloop.kg, quoted Razakov as saying that he lead a meeting yesterday on tightening security ahead of Kyrgyz Independence Day today and a

China denounced the attack and appealed to Kyrgyz authorities to identify and harshly punish anyone involved

summit of former Soviet nations in mid-September.

In Beijing, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Hua Chunying described the three victims' injuries as minor but called for a stern security response.

"China is appalled and strongly condemns the violent act," Hua told reporters at a daily briefing.

She said China's foreign ministry has "demanded that Kyrgyz authorities take all necessary measures to ensure the safety of Chinese institutions and personnel in Kyrgyzstan, launch a thorough investigation to find out the truth of the incident and harshly punish the perpetrators."

Kyrgyz authorities offered no guidance on the attacker or a possible motive.

The Chinese regularly have blamed separatists and religious extremists for attacks in China's northwest region of Xinjiang, which borders Kyrgyzstan. Al-Qaida and the Islamic State group also have threatened to attack Chinese targets in retaliation for alleged repression of Chinese Muslims, particularly those from the Turkic-speaking Uighur majority native to Xinjiang. **AP**

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ROTARY AND POLIO ERADICATION

Rotary launched its polio immunization program PolioPlus in 1985, and in 1988 Rotary became a spearheading partner in the Global Polio Eradication Initiative, joined by the World Health Organization, UNICEF, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and later, by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. Rotary members have since contributed more than USD 1.2 billion and countless volunteer hours to protect more than two billion children in 122 countries from polio. Since then, the incidence of polio has plummeted by more than 99 percent, from about 350,000 cases a year to only 416 for all of 2013.



Rotary's main responsibilities within the initiative are fundraising, advocacy, and social mobilization. Through 2018, every new dollar Rotary commits to polio eradication will be matched two-to-one by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation up to \$35 million a year.

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PEACE talks aimed at ending more than half a century of conflict between Myanmar's army and an array of armed ethnic rebel groups are due to start in the capital, Naypyitaw, today.

The talks are the first formal peace negotiations since Myanmar leader Aung San Suu Kyi's National League for Democracy party swept elections last November and took office in April, vowing that national unity would be its top priority.

Suu Kyi is expected to address the five-day conference, along with the powerful head of the nation's military, Senior Gen. Min Aung Hlaing, United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, and representatives of at least 17 of the 20 main armed groups. Hundreds of delegates are expected to attend.

The rebel armies control a patchwork of remote territories rich in jade and timber that are located mostly in the north and east along the borders with China and Thailand. They represent various ethnic groups that for decades have been fighting for autonomy while resisting "Burmanization," a push by the Burman ethnic majority to propagate its language, religion and culture in ethnic minority regions.

A look at why this week's meeting is significant:

WHAT'S AT STAKE

Armed ethnic conflict has plagued Myanmar for decades. The first uprising — launched by ethnic Karen insurgents — began shortly after the country gained independence from Britain in 1948.

Restoring stability nationwide is crucial to Myanmar's long-term political and economic health. Ethnic minorities make up about 40 percent of the population, and stability can't be achieved without their support.

Fighting is not only bad for business, it's a threat to the fragile democratic reform

FIVE-DAY CONFERENCE STARTS TODAY

Myanmar to hold historic peace talks with ethnic armies



Myanmar's Foreign Minister Aung San Suu Kyi (center), and United Wa State Army (UWSA) pose for photographers after a meeting of armed ethnic groups

process that began in earnest when the military ceded some of its formal power to a nominally civilian government in 2011.

Skirmishes, particularly in northern zones where Kachin insurgents are fighting the army, have displaced more than 100,000 civilians since 2011 alone. At least 100,000 more have sought refuge in squalid camps in neighboring Thailand, and are unlikely to return home until true peace takes hold.

WHY NOW

Suu Kyi promised that bringing peace would be her top priority when her government assumed power.

The previous military-backed government brokered individual truces with various in-

surgent groups and oversaw a cease-fire covering eight minor insurgencies last year that fell short of a nationwide deal.

Suu Kyi's administration is hoping to build on those gains, but there are still skirmishes between the army and rebels, particularly in Kachin and Shan states.

WHO IS TAKING PART, AND WHO ISN'T

Suu Kyi said all ethnic armed groups would be invited to the talks, and most of the main rebel movements are taking part, including the Karen, Kachin, Shan and Wa ethnic groups.

At least three smaller groups are not: the Myanmar National Democratic Alliance Army, the Ta'ang National Libera-

tion Army, and the Arakan Army. The MNDAA, made up of ethnic Chinese Kokangs, waged fierce battles with the army in 2015 that displaced tens of thousands of people.

THE HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

This week's talks are called the "21st Century Panglong Conference," a reference to the Panglong Agreement brokered in 1947 by Suu Kyi's late father, independence hero Gen. Aung San.

The deal granted ethnic minorities autonomy and the right to secede if they worked with the federal government to break away from Britain together.

Aung San was assassinated the following year and the deal fell apart. Since then, ethnic groups

have accused successive, mostly military governments of failing to honor the 1947 pact.

PROSPECTS FOR PEACE IN THE NEAR TERM

The short answer: slim.

Although the formal start of negotiations is a positive step, this week's meeting is likely to be largely ceremonial, with discussions of contentious issues delayed until later rounds.

That has happened plenty of times before — including in January, when Suu Kyi met leaders of the ethnic groups a few months before taking office. An official representing a coalition of rebel groups, the United Nationalities Federal Council, called those talks "a meeting that led to constructive intentions for the future meeting."

Some ethnic rebel groups have said they are not fully prepared for talks yet, and complained the government set the date without consulting them. It's also not clear whether the handful of rebel groups not attending will join later; the ethnic minorities believe that only a comprehensive agreement including all can succeed.

Part of the problem is that distrust between ethnic groups and the army is profound, and the military has retained enormous influence even though Suu Kyi's party has assumed nominal control of the government. Rebel representatives in Naypyitaw also said yesterday that Suu Kyi was playing her cards close, and they could not clearly gauge her government's stance. **AP**

NEW ZEALAND

500 cows rustled from farm in unusual case

HOW do you steal 500 cows?

Probably not all at once. That's according to New Zealand police, who said yesterday that they were investigating reports of the unlikely crime at a South Island farm.

Locals said they'd never before heard of cattle rustling on such a massive scale. And that's in a nation that's home to some 10 million cows, more than double the number of people.

The farmer involved is feeling too sheepish to



talk about what happened, according to friend Willy Leferink.

"He's absolutely gobs-

macked, and deeply embarrassed," Leferink said. "If you had three-quarters of a million dollars

go missing, you wouldn't want to talk about it either."

Leferink said each milking cow was worth about 1,500 New Zealand dollars (USD1,090) and weighed more than half a ton. He said the cows could have been taken from the herd of 1,300 near the town of Ashburton anytime between early July, when they were last counted, and late August.

He said the cows weren't being milked because it was winter, but the farmer did notice they we-

ren't chewing through as much feed as normal.

Police said the incident came as a reminder to farmers that they should be checking their fences and counting their stock regularly.

"It's unlikely the theft of hundreds of animals could be completed at once, and is more likely that multiple thefts could be carried out over a period of time," Senior Sgt. Scott Banfield said in a statement.

Leferink said a trailer-truck would need to be

loaded 13 times over to move all the cattle.

"There have to be a number of people involved," Leferink said. "That's the biggest chance we have, of somebody cracking at some stage."

He said the thieves would face a tough time trying to fence the cows, because each one comes with an electronic identification tag in its ear. He said the tags could be removed, but that an honest dealer wouldn't buy a cow without a tag.

Leferink said farmers can sometimes be relaxed about security.

"They're good-natured and haven't got evil thoughts in them," he said. "This is very hard to deal with."



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BRAZIL'S president, Dilma Rousseff, mounted a forceful defense of her time leading Latin America's most populous nation at her own impeachment trial, warning senators that ousting her would hurt a young democracy while defiantly promising to go down fighting in what many see as a losing battle.

Rousseff, who has been suspended since May, delivered a 30-minute address on Monday at her impeachment trial in the Senate, then sat for questioning by senators that ran for more than 14 hours, until just before midnight.

Some exchanges were heated, but most were civil and traversed themes that the country has been wrestling with since an impeachment measure was introduced in the lower House of Deputies late last year, polarizing the nation.

Opposition senators accused Rousseff of breaking fiscal responsibility laws to hide holes in the federal budget, saying that exacerbated a recession that has led to 10 percent inflation and daily announcements of layoffs.

She called that nonsense, contending she broke no laws and noting previous presidents used similar accounting measures. She said she was forced to make tough choices on the budget in the face of declining revenues and a refusal by opponents in Congress to work with her.

If anything, she said, the im-

BRAZILIAN POLITICAL CRISIS

Rousseff defends self ahead of Senate's ouster vote

peachment process had hurt the economy, placing the blame on the opposition, which has argued that she has to be removed for the financial climate to improve.

"I know I will be judged, but my conscience is clear. I did not commit a crime," Rousseff told senators, who listened intently in contrast to the chamber's usual raucousness.

Watching the proceedings, Rousseff's mentor and predecessor as president, Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva, who is himself under investigation, said: "She said what she had to say."

Yet many top leaders, including Silva, have acknowledged that Rousseff's chances of surviving the Senate's final vote are slim.

For Rousseff to be removed, at least 54 of the 81 senators need to vote in favor. Counts by local media say 52 senators have said they plan on voting for removal, while 18 are opposed and 11 have not said one way or another. In May, the same body voted 55-22 to impeach and suspend her.

"I need all of you, regardless of political parties," Rousseff



Brazil's suspended President Dilma Rousseff (far right) speaks at her impeachment trial, in Brasilia on Monday

said in her closing remarks to senators, urging them to keep her on the job. Their response was tepid.

Earlier, Rousseff had sharp words for her vice president, Michel Temer, who took over when she was impeached and

suspended and will finish her term if the Senate permanently removes her.

She called him a "usurper," and argued Brazilians would never have elected a man who named a Cabinet of all white men in a country that is more

than 50 percent non-white. The Cabinet that Temer put in place in May has been roundly criticized for its lack of diversity, and three of his ministers were forced to step down within a month of taking office because of corruption allegations.

"I'm not sure when, but at some point he began to change," said Rousseff, who has repeatedly accused Temer of being the ringleader pushing for her ouster.

Temer, who stayed out of sight on Monday, issued a statement calling "lies" many of the claims made about him over the last several months. The statement said Temer would not raise the retirement age to 70 or 75, eliminate sick pay or roll back labor laws.

But Monday was about Rousseff, who often appeared to be holding court, dominating the conversation as she contended that Brazil's democracy was at stake.

She reminded those in attendance that she was re-elected in 2014, garnering more than 54 million votes, which she says should be not silenced. **MDT/AP**

European ships rescue thousands of migrants off Libyan coast

Emilio Morenatti

ITALIAN naval ships and vessels from non-government groups rescued thousands of migrants off the Libyan coast on Monday, the latest surge in desperate attempts to flee to Europe driven by war, poverty, and human traffickers.

The dramatic operation took place just 21 kilometers north of the town of Sabratha in Libya. Groups such as Proactiva Open Arms and Doctors Without Borders helped take on some 3,000 people who had been travelling in some 20 small wooden boats.

Migrants from Eritrea and Somalia cheered as the rescue boats arrived, with some jumping into the water and swimming toward them while others carefully carried babies onto the rescue ships.

Their boats too weak and technically unequipped for a voyage across the stretch of the Mediterranean to the shores of Italy, the migrants had set off with a bit of gasoline in the overcrowded vessels, hoping to make it at least 15-20 miles out to sea and reach awaiting



Migrants jump into the water from a crowded wooden boat as members of an NGO help them during a rescue operation on August 29

rescuers.

Tens of thousands of Africans take the dangerous Mediterranean Sea route as a gateway to a better life in Europe, alongside those fleeing wars from Syria to Afghanistan.

Libya's chaos and lack of border controls have made it into a transit route. Since the 2011 ouster and killing of longtime Libyan dictator Moammar Gadhafi, the country has sunk into lawlessness, facing a myriad of militias vying for influence and an emerging Islamic State affiliate.

In June, the European Union expanded its anti-smuggling operation in the central Mediterranean to include training Libyan coastal and naval forces, which are intercepting boats and returning migrants to Libya, where some are being held in abusive conditions.

Rights groups and experts estimate that there are about 3,500 migrants held in roughly 20 official detention facilities across Libya. Others are held in informal detention centers controlled by criminal gangs or armed groups. **AP**

EU rules Apple to pay 13 billion euros back

THE European Union says Ireland has given illegal tax benefits worth up to 13 billion euros (USD14.5 billion) to Apple Inc. and must now recover the unpaid back taxes from the U.S. technology company, plus interest.

EU Competition Commissioner Margrethe Vestager said yesterday: "Member states cannot give tax benefits to selected companies [...] this is illegal under EU state aid rules."

She said a three-year investigation found Ireland granted such lavish tax breaks to Apple over many years that the multinational's effective corporate tax rate on its European profits dropped from 1 percent in 2003 to a mere 0.0005 percent in 2014.

The Commission said "Ireland must now recover the unpaid taxes in Ireland from Apple for the years 2003 to 2014 of up

to 13 billion euros [\$14.5 billion], plus interest."

The Irish government denied granting favorable fiscal treatment to the maker of the iPhone and other consumer electronics products, computer software and online services. "Ireland's position remains that the full amount of tax was paid in this case and no state aid was provided," the Irish statement said. "Ireland does not do deals with taxpayers."

The Irish finance minister, Michael Noonan, said he would seek approval from the Irish Cabinet to appeal the EU Commission's ruling to European courts.

"It is important that we send a strong message that Ireland remains an attractive and stable location of choice for long-term substantive investment," Noonan said. "Apple has been in Ireland since the 1980s and employs thousands of people in Cork." **AP**

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what's ON



HERE AND NOW

TIME: 2pm-7pm

UNTIL: September 30, 2016

ADMISSION: Free

VENUE: Creative Macau - Center for Creative Industries, G/F Macao Cultural Centre Building, Xian Xing Hai Avenue

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2875 3282

SELECTED COLLECTION OF PRINTS

TIME: 9am-6pm (Reservation required, closed on Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays)

UNTIL: September 30, 2016

VENUE: Macpro Gallery, Avenida da Praia Grande, no.429, Centro Comercial Praia Grande, 2° andar, Macau (nearby the Old Court)

ADMISSION: free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2833 7828

MYSTERIOUS 'DEER' ENDEMIC TO CHINA:

MUNTIACUS CRINIFRONS

TIME: 10am-5pm (closed on Mondays, closed on the following day instead if a public holiday falls on Monday)

UNTIL: September 11, 2016

ADMISSION: Free

VENUE: Macao Giant Panda Information Centre, Seac Pai Van Park, Coloane

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2833 7676

ABSTRACT PAINTINGS FROM THE MAM COLLECTION

TIME: 10am-7pm (no admittance after 6:30 pm, closed on Mondays)

UNTIL: December 31, 2016

VENUE: Macau Museum of Art, Av. Xian Xing Hai, s/n, NAPE

ADMISSION: MOP5 (Free on Sundays and public holidays)

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8791 9814

"MEMORIES OF MOMENTS - MACAO AND LUSOPHONE AFRICAN AND ASIAN REGIONS IN PHOTOGRAPH POSTCARDS" EXHIBITION

TIME: 10am-6pm (no admission after 6:30 pm, closed on Mondays)

UNTIL: December 4, 2016

VENUE: Archives of Macao, No. 91-93, Avenida do Conselheiro Ferreira de Almeida, Macau

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2836 6866

ART COURSES STUDENT'S EXHIBITION OF THE MACAO MUSEUM OF ART

TIME: 10am-7pm (no admission after 6:30 pm, closed on Mondays)

UNTIL: November 27, 2106

VENUE: Macao Museum of Art, Av. Xian Xing Hai, s/n, NAPE

ADMISSION: MOP5 (free admission on Sundays and public holidays)

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8791 9814

Offbeat

USD210 LOBSTER BOUGHT FROM FISH MARKET, SET FREE IS FOUND DEAD

A lobster bought from a Massachusetts fish market for USD210 and set free by twin brothers who didn't want it to become someone's dinner has apparently died.

Chris and David Schmidt, of New Jersey, bought the 22-pound lobster and released it last week in the waters off Chatham. They dubbed the crustacean Big Lobi after Boston Red Sox star David Ortiz, whose nickname is Big Papi.

The Cape Cod Times (bit.ly/2bMc02V) reports that a local retiree found a dead 22-pound lobster in the same area on Saturday. Experts say it appears to be the same one.

The director of marine fisheries research at the Center for Coastal Studies says lobsters live in deep, cold water, and the shallows where Big Lobi was released were likely too warm.

TV canal macau

13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
14:45	RTPi Live
18:15	Once Upon A Time S1 (Repeated)
19:00	The Hunter (Repeated)
19:50	Soap Opera
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:00	Hooked On Painkillers
21:30	Criminal Minds S10
22:10	The Hunter
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Miscellaneous
00:15	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)

cinema

CINETEATRO

25 Aug - 31 Aug



BEN-HUR

ROOM 1

(2D) 2.30, 7.15 pm

Director: Timur Bekmambetov

Starring: Morgan Freeman, Rodrigo Santoro, Jack Huston

Language: English (Cantonese)

Duration: 124min

SHIN GODZILLA

ROOM 1

4.45, 9.30 pm

Director: Hideaki Anno

Language: Japanese (Cantonese/English)

Duration: 97min

TRAIN TO BUSAN

ROOM 2

2.30, 7.15, 9.30 pm

Director: Yeon Sang-ho

Starring: Gong Yoo, Jung Tu-mi, Ma Dong-seok

Language: Korean (Cantonese/English)

Duration: 97min

CHIBI MARUKO CHAN- A BOY FROM ITALY

ROOM 2

4.45 pm

Director: Jun Takagi

Language: Cantonese (Cantonese/ English)

Duration: 120min



THE LETTERS

ROOM 3

2.30, 7.15 pm

Director: William Riead

Starring: Juliet Stevenson, Max Von Sydow, Rutger Hauer

Language: English (Cantonese)

Duration: 114min

BFG

ROOM 3

4.45, 9.30 pm

Director: Steven Spielberg

Starring: Mark Rylance, Ruby Barnhill, Penelope Wilton

Language: Cantonese (Cantonese/English)

Duration: 117min

MACAU TOWER

18 Aug - 31 Aug

HEARTFALL ARISES

2.30, 4.30, 7.30, 9.30 pm

Director: Ng Ban Yu

Starring: Sixuan Chen, Babyjohn Choi, Mavis Fan

Language: Cantonese (Cantonese/ English)

Duration: 106min

this day in history



1997 PRINCESS DIANA DIES IN PARIS CRASH

Diana, Princess of Wales, has died after a car crash in Paris.

She was taken to hospital in the early hours of Sunday morning where surgeons tried for two hours to save her life but she died at 0300 BST.

In a statement Buckingham Palace said the Queen and the Prince of Wales were "deeply shocked and distressed".

Prince Charles broke the news of their mother's death to Princes William and Harry at Balmoral Castle in Scotland where the royal family had been spending the summer.

The accident happened after the princess left the Ritz Hotel in the French capital with her companion, Dodi Al Fayed - son of Harrods owner, Mohammed Al Fayed.

Dodi Al Fayed and the vehicle's driver were also killed in the collision in a tunnel under the Place de l'Alma in the centre of the city.

The princess' Mercedes car was apparently being pursued at high speed by photographers on motorbikes when it hit a pillar and smashed into a wall.

Mr Al Fayed and the chauffeur died at the scene but the princess and her bodyguard were cut from the wreckage and rushed to hospital.

The French authorities have begun a criminal investigation and are questioning seven photographers.

Tributes to the princess have been pouring in from around the world.

Speaking from his home in South Africa, the princess' brother, Lord Charles Spencer, said his sister had been "unique".

While it was not the time for recriminations there was no doubt the press had played a part in her death, the earl added.

Hundreds of mourners have gathered at the princess' London home, Kensington Palace and many have laid flowers at the gates.

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

Only Princess Diana's bodyguard, Trevor Rees-Jones, survived the crash.

Blood tests showed the driver, Henri Paul, had taken both drugs and a large amount of alcohol before the accident. The royal family was criticised for its reserve during a time when there was an unprecedented national outpouring of grief.

Around one million people lined the streets to see the princess' funeral cortege as it made its way to Westminster Abbey in early September.

No charges were brought against the paparazzi who had been pursuing the princess' car. But the behaviour of the press came under close scrutiny and the code governing the British media was tightened in December 1997.

An inquest into the princess's death was opened in the UK in 2004. It has been adjourned while the Metropolitan police, led by Lord Stevens, carry out an investigation into the crash. Retired judge Lady Elizabeth Butler-Sloss will conduct preliminary hearings into the inquests in early 2007.

YOUR STARS

Aries Mar. 21-Apr. 19 An uncomfortable social situation awaits...

Taurus April 20-May 20 You aren't always jealous - but when you are, things heat up fast!

Gemini May 21-Jun. 21 Your backbone is unbendable today - metaphorically speaking!

Cancer Jun. 22-Jul. 22 You trust your intuition more than most - and with good reason!

Leo Jul. 23-Aug. 22 A family member needs you - and that could work both ways.

Virgo Aug. 23-Sept. 22 You've been ignoring someone lately - but now it's time to pay attention.

Libra Sep.23-Oct. 22 Is it time for a garage sale? Well, the weather may not be quite right for it.

Scorpio Oct. 23 - Nov. 21 Strength of vision and purpose are yours today, so lead the way toward something truly special.

Sagittarius Nov. 22-Dec. 21 You need to ask yourself some tough questions today - why are you feeling what you're feeling?

Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 19 A friend calls on you for some serious help - and that's the kind you're best at!

Aquarius Jan. 20-Feb. 18 You may be frustrated with career advancement or other long-range goals.

Pisces Feb.19-Mar. 20 You make up your mind - and then almost immediately switch back.

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

Easy

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Easy+

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	8							

WEATHER

MIN MAX CONDITION

CHINA

Beijing 19 29 cloudy
Harbin 14 21 moderate rain
Tianjin 21 31 clear/cloudy
Urumqi 20 31 clear
Xi'an 20 29 overcast/cloudy
Lhasa 13 25 thundershower/cloudy
Chengdu 20 24 heavy rain
Chongqing 21 26 moderate rain
Kunming 19 25 shower
Nanjing 20 31 clear
Shanghai 23 32 clear/cloudy
Wuhan 19 30 cloudy
Hangzhou 21 32 clear
Taipei 24 31 drizzle/cloudy
Guangzhou 26 33 cloudy
Hong Kong 26 30 drizzle

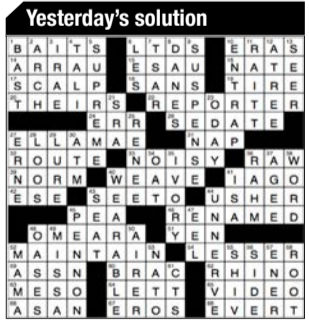
WORLD

Moscow 10 25 clear/overcast
Frankfurt 13 25 drizzle/clear
Paris 14 24 drizzle/clear
London 12 23 clear
New York 21 33 clear

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- ___ precedent; 5- Parade spoiler; 9- Spanish aunt; 12- Poetic foot; 13- Little hooter; 15- Campus military org.; 16- Russian ruler; 17- Member of a motorcycle gang; 18- Utah city; 19- Elected legislator; 21- Between sunrise and sunset; 23- Loathe; 24- Acknowledgment of debt; 25- Flower parts; 28- Composure; 33- Thin glutinous mud; 34- Fish-eating eagle; 35- "James and the Giant Peach" author; 36- Fair-hiring abbr.; 37- Campaign tactic; 38- ___ few rounds; 39- ___ arms (angry); 41- Rewards for waiting; 42- Seductively beautiful woman; 44- Make bare; 46- Most reasonable; 47- Bit; 48- Toll rds.; 49- Citadel of Moscow; 53- Pensive; 57- Mysterious character; 58- Stomach woe; 60- Kiln for drying hops; 61- ___ to differ; 62- 1957 hit for the Bobbettes; 63- Lemon peel; 64- Isr. neighbor; 65- Bread rolls; 66- Greek vowels;

DOWN: 1- Poses; 2- Relaxation; 3- Govt. agent; 4- First Biblical patriarch; 5- Automaton; 6- "Bird on ___" (Gibson film); 7- Kind; 8- Call for; 9- Singer Amos; 10- Tabloid twosome; 11- Wile E. Coyote's supplier; 14- Mobile home; 15- Plump; 20- Story; 22- ___ Kippur; 25- Prefix meaning "false"; 26- Get hitched quick; 27- Connection; 28- Classy pancake; 29- Collections of anecdotes; 30- Tidal bore; 31- Clogs, e.g.; 32- Bias; 34- Give out; 37- Sports arena; 40- Spice; 42- Fifth Avenue store; 43- Waiting; 45- Lentil and spice dish; 46- Steeples; 48- Twix's partner; 49- Actor Kristofferson; 50- Red gem; 51- Steven Chu's cabinet dept.; 52- Workers' rights org.; 54- ___ accompli; 55- Annapolis inst.; 56- Old Fords; 59- Actor Gulager;



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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
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IACM 28 387 333
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The Buckingham, Mid Floor Unit D, Taipa 2 Bedroom Apartment Fully Furnished HKD 18,000 / 1,147 sq ft Ref: 16020558

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South Sudan supporter of Infantino to run in FIFA Council vote

THE only African voter to publicly support FIFA President Gianni Infantino's election campaign is competing for a seat on FIFA's ruling council.

South Sudan soccer federation president Chabur Goc is among seven entries for two vacant FIFA Council seats in a Sept. 29 election in Cairo, the Confederation for African Football (CAF) said on Monday in agenda documents sent to its 54 member federations.

CAF said all candidates are undergoing integrity checks by FIFA to be confirmed as eligible for the seats, which have initial mandates until March.

South Sudan hosted Infantino in February during his campaign, while the CAF leadership was urging its members to vote for Asian soccer leader Sheikh Salman of Bahrain.

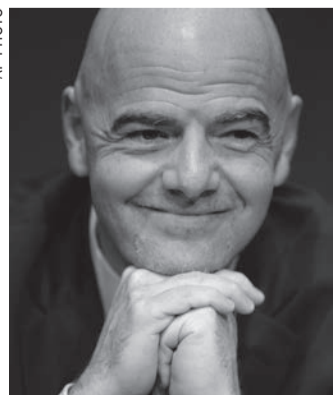
Infantino made South Sudan the first member federation he visited in March as president. He won the election in a second-round vote after taking a two-vote lead over Sheikh Salman in the first poll.

Goc's six rivals in the African vote next month include four CAF executive committee members aiming to join the recently expanded FIFA Council.

They are: Ahmad (Madagascar), Almamy Kabele Camara (Guinea), Kwesi Nyantakyi (Ghana) and Suketu Patel (Seychelles).

The other contenders are: Djibrilla Hima Hamidou (Niger) and Augustin Senghor (Senegal).

Africa now has a quota of seven FIFA Council seats among the 36 allocated to FIFA's six continental confederations. **AP**



FIFA-President Gianni Infantino smiles during a press conference on March 18



Everton's Gareth Barry (right), attempts to block Manchester United's Wayne Rooney during testimonial match for Rooney, at Old Trafford, Manchester, on August 3

FOOTBALL

Rooney remains captain, back as forward for England

Steve Douglas

WAYNE Rooney will remain as England captain but his midfield experiment with the national team is over, with the Manchester United veteran set to revert to playing as a deep-lying forward under new coach Sam Allardyce. "Wayne has been an excellent captain for England and the manner in which he has fulfilled the role made it an easy decision for me to ask him to continue," Allardyce said on Monday, having taken his time to settle on who should have the armband after being hired in July.

Rooney received the symbolically prestigious honor of captaining England on a permanent basis in 2014, taking over the role from Steven Gerrard. Rooney has played 115 times for England, putting him level with David Beckham as the country's most-capped outfield player.

England plays Slovakia in its opening World Cup qualifier on Sunday, for what will be Allardyce's first game in charge.

"Wayne's record speaks for itself. He is the most senior member of the squad and he is hugely respected by his peers," Allardyce said. "All of these factors point towards him being the right choice to lead the team."

Rooney finished last season playing as a central midfielder for United under Louis van Gaal, and played there for

England during its European Championship campaign that ended with an embarrassing last-16 loss to Iceland.

New United manager Jose Mourinho has returned Rooney to the No. 10 role behind the striker, and Allardyce also thinks that's his best position.

"Wayne's position has changed at Manchester United," Allardyce said, "and that's the sort of position I'd be looking for him to be playing in."

The player most affected by that positional tweak is Ross Barkley, who was dropped on Sunday by Allardyce in his first squad announcement since replacing Roy Hodgson as England coach. Barkley plays in the same position as United captain Rooney at Everton, and has started the season in good form for his club with two goals in four games.

With Dele Alli included in England's squad, it appears there was no room for another attacking playmaker.

"We have had to make some very difficult decisions, none more so than obviously I would think Ross Barkley," Allardyce said. "But you have to make these decisions. The door will always be open for Ross, but at this moment I felt the squad I picked is the right one."

Looking to put his own stamp on the national team, Allardyce has recalled winger Theo Walcott and also picked an uncapped wide player in Michail Antonio of West Ham. It would suggest Allardyce is looking to

play with more width than England did under Hodgson.

Antonio's rise to the national team is being compared to that of Leicester striker Jamie Vardy, in that he started out in non-league football — with Tooting and Mitcham, a club in south London — rather than in an academy of a big club.

He had spells on loan at lowly clubs before joining Sheffield Wednesday and then Nottingham Forest. Antonio moved to West Ham last year and has impressed as a right-sided midfielder, especially in the air. He has scored eight headed goals since the start of last season — including one in each of his last two league games.

"His journey is something that deserves to be in this squad and me to have a look at as a potential player going forward," Allardyce said. "It's a bit similar to Jamie Vardy — it shows if you have got guts and determination and desire, how much it means."

"He goes forward, creates a

career for himself and finally ends up in the Premier League and with us in this squad. I'm looking forward to meeting him."

Marcus Rashford wasn't included by Allardyce, despite going on as a substitute to score United's injury-time winner against Hull in the Premier League on Saturday in his first appearance of the season. Zlatan Ibrahimovic has displaced 18-year-old Rashford up front at United.

Rashford will instead play for England under-21s this week to get some game time.

"Having international experience with the under-21s will be invaluable for us later down the line," Allardyce said. "If he plays for Manchester United on a regular basis, he would certainly — if he is breaking into the Manchester United team — be in my squad."

"He made a massive impact last season, yes, but he's only a young man, let's not heap too much pressure on him just yet." **AP**

HART LEAVES ENGLAND CAMP TO COMPLETE MOVE

THE ENGLISH Football Association says goalkeeper Joe Hart has been given permission to leave the England camp, amid speculation he is about to complete a loan move to Italian side Torino. Hart has lost his starting spot at Manchester City since the arrival of new coach Pep Guardiola during the offseason, and has been told he can leave the Premier

League club. Despite being dropped by City, the 29-year-old Hart was still called up by England as one of three goalkeepers for the 2018 World Cup qualifier against Slovakia on Sunday. He linked up with the England squad on Monday at St. George's Park, but coach Sam Allardyce was aware that Hart may need to sort out his club future.

opinion

Obituary

Jake Coyle, AP Film Writer

APPRECIATION: IN GENE WILDER'S MADCAP ROLES, A MAGICAL MANIA

Gene Wilder was terrific when he was calm and collected. But when he lost it, he was transcendent.

Often playing opposite enormous, big performers like Zero Mostel and Richard Pryor, Wilder was a straight man who often wound up in a straight jacket. His enormous range was everything in between: from a quiet sweetness to a madcap lunacy.

Wilder died Sunday in Stamford, Connecticut, from complications of Alzheimer's disease at age 83.

With wild, Harpo-like hair, a melancholy face and a mad glint in his eye, Wilder was an earthquake of neuroses that tremored with blinks and sweat before cracking and quivering in hysteria.

"I can't stop! I'm hysterical!" he screamed as Leo Bloom in "The Producers" when the well-planned flop refused to flop. His partner (Mostel) tries to calm him by throwing a glass of water in his face. A beat. "I'm wet! I'm wet! I'm hysterical and I'm wet!"

Born Jerome Silberman in Milwaukee, Wilder first began performing for his mother, who was badly marred by a heart attack when Wilder was six, as a way to entertain and cheer her up. He would later be schooled by Lee Strasberg at the Actor's Studio, but that early aura — of laughter with darkness around — never left Wilder.

"Come with me and you'll be in a world of pure imagination," he sang in "Willy Wonka & the Chocolate Factory." His Wonka was at once iconic and impossible to pin down. His combination of charm and whimsy, darkness and strangeness breathed life into Roald Dahl's tale. His Wonka was too much for initial audiences (the film was a box-office disappointment) but grew to be adored for its off-kilter complexity.

"I'm an actor not a clown," Wilder was fond of saying.

His early big-screen roles were feats of lunacy: the kidnapped undertaker of "Bonnie and Clyde," the doctor who falls for a sheep named Daisy in Woody Allen's "Everything You Wanted to Know About Sex."

"My quiet exterior used to be a mask for hysteria," he told Time magazine in 1970. "After seven years of analysis, it just became a habit."

Wilder's bug-eyed knack for neurotic extremes, though, was only so winning because of his underlying tenderness. Fully embodying his characters, Wilder was utterly unpredictable, moment to moment.

In Mel Brooks' "Young Frankenstein," in which he plays Dr. Frankenstein, might be his greatest performance: a mad scientist with his own demons and an acute sensitivity to the pronunciation of "Frankenstein." He and the monster, in tuxes, singing and dancing to "Putting on the Ritz" might sum up Wilder, in all his bizarre glory, more than any other scene.

He could be sentimental, too. The title of his 2005 memoir, "Kiss Me Like a Stranger," came from his then-late third wife, Gilda Radner, whom he met while filming 1982's "Hanky Panky." It was a phrase Radner would say to him, its meaning mysterious to Wilder. He acted rarely after her death in 1989.

Wilder was much more than a comic actor, too. He was a screenwriter (he co-wrote "Young Frankenstein" with Mel Brooks), a director of four films, a novelist and a stage actor. He met Brooks through Anne Bancroft, with whom he starred in the Brecht play "Mother Courage."

Their collaboration together — "Blazing Saddles," "Young Frankenstein," "The Producer" — constitutes one of the great pairings in comedy. Wilder and Pryor, too, were an exceptional duo, albeit with more mixed results: "Stir Crazy" and "Silver Streak" as well as the lesser "See No Evil, Hear No Evil" and "Another You."

Wilder, who shied away from interviews, remained delightfully enigmatic through his many decades in show business. We knew his characters better than him.

"Time is a precious thing. Never waste it," he told Veruca Salt in "Wonka," before tossing a clock into bubbling tub.

THE BUZZ LAWYER: DON'T PUNISH CLIENT FOR BUYING CAR FROM DRUG DEALER

A lawyer for a Massachusetts man found with 95 packets of heroin in his car says his client shouldn't be punished for unknowingly buying a vehicle from a drug dealer.

The Republican newspaper reports that a lawyer for Sean Deglis said in court that his client had no idea heroin was stashed in a hidden compartment of the car he bought over the weekend.

Attorney Tony LaCasse says it was unfair to expect Deglis to "hire a drug-sniffing dog to inspect a car before purchasing it."

Prosecutors say narcotics detectives, acting on a tip from a confidential informant, arrested the 29-year-old Southwick man Saturday night. Prosecutors say Deglis has a long criminal record, including drug possession convictions.

UN Diplomat: Portugal's Guterres tops third poll for UN chief



Antonio Guterres

PORTUGAL'S former prime minister Antonio Guterres topped the third successive poll of candidates seeking to succeed Ban Ki-moon as the next U.N. secretary-general, making him the clear front-runner for the job as the world's top diplomat, U.N. diplomats said.

Slovakia's Foreign Minister Miroslav Lajcak was the big surprise of the informal vote — jumping to second place after finishing next to last in the second "straw" poll, said the diplomats, speaking on condition of anonymity because voting is supposed to be kept secret.

Irina Bokova of Bulgaria, who heads UNESCO, and Serbia's former foreign minister Vuk Jeremic were tied for third place followed by Argentina's Foreign Minister Susana Malcorra, the

diplomats said.

By tradition, the job of secretary-general has rotated among regions. Asia, Africa, Latin America and Europe have all held the post. East European nations, including Russia, argue that they have never had a secretary-general and it is their turn.

There has also never been a woman secretary-general and more than 50 nations are campaigning to elect the first female U.N. chief, along with many organizations.

Secretary-General Ban, whose term expires on Dec. 31, said earlier this month that after eight men "it's high time now" for a woman to head the United Nations.

Russia's U.N. Ambassador Vitaly Churkin told The Associated Press yesterday that there should be a woman secretary-general. "And you know what? The time will come."

But is this the time? "This is the big question," Churkin replied, laughing.

The secretary-general is chosen by the 193-member General Assembly on the recommendation of the 15-member Security Council. In practice, this has meant that the council's five permanent members — the

U.S., Russia, China, Britain and France — have veto power over the candidates.

In the informal poll, council members voted whether to "encourage," "discourage," or express "no opinion" about the 10 candidates — five men and five women.

No women has placed above third in any of the polls and Malcorra was quoted by the Argentine newspaper Clarin as saying that "there is still a biased vote against women" at the U.N.

The results of yesterday's poll quickly leaked.

General Assembly President Mogens Lykkesoft again criticized the Security Council for not releasing the vote, saying U.N. members who participated in question-and-answer sessions with every candidate for the first time this year expect a "new standard of openness and transparency."

Guterres, who was Portugal's center-left Socialist prime minister from 1995-2002 and U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees until the end of 2015, got 11 "encourage" votes, three "discourage" and one "no opinion" in the poll. In the first "straw" poll he had no "discourage" votes, and in the second he had two. AP

Station	Air quality
Roadside	50-70 Moderate
High Density Residential Area	90-120 Bad
Ambient	100-130 Bad

SOURCE: D5M/G

WORLD BRIEFS

KYRGYZSTAN A suspected suicide bomber yesterday crashed a car through the entrance of the Chinese Embassy in the Kyrgyzstan capital of Bishkek, detonating a bomb that killed the attacker and wounded three embassy employees. More on p11

AFGHANISTAN The Taliban have appointed a new military chief as the insurgents try to gain more ground in Afghanistan rather than talk peace under a new leadership, Taliban officials said. They said that the appointment of Mullah Ibrahim Sadar, heralds a commitment to confrontation at a time when many are trying to coax the group to the negotiating table.



IRELAND The European Union says Ireland has given illegal tax benefits worth up to 13 billion euros (USD14.5 billion) to Apple Inc. and must now recover the unpaid back taxes. More on p14

EU Germany's European Union commissioner says public opinion in Britain could shift against leaving the bloc if the economy worsens as a result of the country's decision to exit. However he also warned yesterday that EU leaders consider the referendum result "politically binding" for the British government.



BRAZIL's president, Dilma Rousseff, mounted a forceful defense of her time leading Latin America's most populous nation at her own impeachment trial, warning senators that ousting her would hurt a young democracy. More on p14

THE DECISIVE MOMENT

AP Photo/Richard Drew



Actor Gene Wilder died Sunday (yesterday, Macau time) in Stamford, Connecticut, from complications of Alzheimer's disease at age 83 (see obituary on this page).