

PATUÁ SEEKS CONSENSUS ON ITS WRITING

P2 MACAU



BAYER BUYS MONSANTO FOR USD66 BILLION

Bayer agreed to buy Monsanto in a deal valued at USD66b, creating the world's biggest supplier of seeds and pesticides

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U.N. SECRETARY-GENERAL DISAPPOINTED

Ban Ki-moon says he's disappointed by many world leaders who care more about retaining power than improving the lives of their people

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"THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN"

WORLD BRIEFS



CHINA Four employees at Chinese internet giant Alibaba have lost their jobs after being accused of reprogramming an internal system to steal more than 100 boxes of mooncakes, a traditional delicacy shared during this week's Mid-Autumn Festival.



US-MYANMAR
Aung San Suu
Kyi's latest visit to
Washington signals
her transformation
from long-imprisoned
heroine of Myanmar's
democracy struggle
to a national leader
focused on economic
growth. More on p12

INDONESIA A senior figure from the East Indonesia Mujahideen militant group has been captured and one of the group's members killed in a joint operation with the military, Indonesian police say.



MALDIVES The first democratically elected president of the Maldives said from exile in Britain that he has an agreement with the country's former strongman to counter the current president, who is increasing his stranglehold on power.

More on backpage

DIVIDED AMERICA

Chinese competition fuels Trump support.

Portuguese wine could be ideal product for China-Lusophone cooperation APS MDT REPORT







Elisabela Larrea

Miguel de Senna Fernandes

Renato Marques

HE endangered Patuá language (a Macanese creole) is going to change its orthography in order to seek consensus among the community. This statement was made by the president of the board of the Macanese Association (ADM) and president of the Association for Macanese Education (APIM), Miguel de Senna Fernandes yesterday on the sidelines of a conference on language contact in Asia and the Pacific held by the University of Macau (UM).

The so-called "spelling agreement" is based on the fact that the current orthographic system is based on the Portuguese language and not all people who are interested in the language are able to read it.

"Maybe this will shock some people a bit but I propose a new orthography for the Patuá," he said.

Macanese creole Patuá seeks consensus on its writing

"There current writing does not convey the phonetics that should be in the language for people interested in learning," he added, concluding that the task will involve "new mental gymnastics and a new technique to approach the language."

However, he reaffirmed that the adoption of a new system should not be "that difficult" as other forms of creole language have successfully undergone similar transitions, such as in Cape Verde.

There is currently no concrete timeline for the plan that is supported by Alan Baxter, who recently returned to Macau and

is an expert in Portuguese-based creoles in Asia.

Senna Fernandes – one of the faces of the Patuá dialect revival and member of theater group "Dóci Papiaçám di Macau", which has performed on stage for every Macau Arts Festival to date – recalled that the language "fell into profound disuse" but had its importance shifted from practicality to a "deeper meaning related to the identity [of the community]."

In his opinion, the importance of the language is not restricted to the Macanese people but also for many others who are "interested in the multiculMaybe this will shock some people a bit but I propose a new orthography for the Patuá.

> MIGUEL DE SENNA **FERNANDES**

turalism of Macau."

The motivation for the preservation of the language is not in terms of retaining its "utility' or even any "nostalgic feeling", he said, but as "something that we preserve from our ancestors, the same way we keep some of their objects to recall where we came from."

Senna Fernandes claims that there is a rising interest in the language, even among those who are not learning it to regain their own heritage.

"There are people totally new [to the language] that want to learn it. Naturally they learn [from] it a totally different perspective of the Macanese people," he said, commenting that for the time being, "my answers to these people are ne-

ver satisfactory, since we do not have much resources and hardware to offer them in order to support a learning method as I wish to do."

For the stage director of the "Dóci Papiaçám di Macau" group, "if people laugh [in our shows, it] is because somehow they got touched by the message and they understood it and that's very important."

For him, the efforts to protect the creole language are necessary and become even more important in times when the "[Macanese] community is shrinking and losing its characteristics.

In order to protect that language, he added, "collective memory" is more important than any "textbooks, grammar or even pronunciation."

"Our community is a statement and should prevail. We want to give to the young generations enough materials so they can 'dig up' about their roots," he said, when asked about the goals of the theatrical

Elisabela Larrea, who is studying the shift of the Patuá from a "home language to a performing language", addressed the same topic.

According to her study, there are fewer than 50 confident, fluent, Patuá speakers.

Teaching Cantonese is a matter of 'good sense'

Education (APIM), said that the decision to teach Cantonese at the D. Jose da Costa Nunes Kindergarten – a Portuguese school – this year was "a matter of good sense."

"It's a strategy ... focused on people's integration into the [local] environment," he said.

"I'm going to propose that the Macau Portuguese School (EPM) do the same [implementing the language teaching] and I'm certain that there will be no arguments against it."

MIGUEL de Senna Fernandes, the president of the Association for Macanese

The APIM president explained that the classes have been planned as an extracurricular activity, which he thinks is the best approach.

"[The] campaign in favor of the Cantonese is not a matter of position or attitude, but an imperative matter, so the communities that do not have the Chinese language as their mother tongue can help integrate their children." Senna Fernandes added that not teaching a dialect spoken by the majority of the population would be the loss of "a golden opportunity", as the students are at the right age to learn new languages.

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DESIGN EDITOR João Jorge Magalhães magalhaes@macaudailytimes.com | NEWSROOM AND CONTRIBUTORS Albano Martins, Annabel Jackson, Daniel Beitler, Emilie Tran, Grace Yu, Irene Sam, Ivo Carneiro de Sousa, Jacky I.F. Cheong, Jenny Lao-Phillips, João Palla Martins, Joseph Cheung, Julie Zhu, Juliet Risdon, Lynzy Valles, Renato Marques, Richarc Whitfield, Rodrigo de Matos (cartoonist), Ruan Du Toit Bester, Sandra Norte (designer), Viviana Seguí | ASSOCIATE CONTRIBUTORS_JML Property, MacauHR, MdME Lawyers, PokerStars | NEWS AGENCIES_ Associated Press,

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SECRETARY Denise Lo denis ADDRESS Av. da Praia Grande, 599, Edif, Comercial Rodrigues, 12 Floor C. MACAU SAR Telephones: +853 287 160 81/2 Fax: +853 287 160 84

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HEALTH

Locals prefer Hong Kong even for minor medical treatments



Conde de São Januário hospital

MACAU'S medical professionals, as well as the medical system itself, are leading residents to give more money to neighboring Hong Kong as more and more Macau residents seek medical help in the neighboring region.

Data from the public hospital Conde de São Januário indicates that in 2014 2,000 patients were sent to Hong Kong for medical treatments. On average Macau spent about HKD200 million per year in providing the trips, according to a report by South China Morning Post.

In 2015, the region spent HKD7 billion on public health care, representing a jump from the HKD5 billion registered in the previous year.

Any non-local patients are obliged to pay HKD4,680 per day in order to stay in a Hong Kong hospital, whereas Hong Kong residents only have to pay HKD100 per day.

Despite the fact that Macau residents need to pay more in order to receive treatment in Hong Kong, they often still choose to go to the neighboring city for medical attention, even for minor treatments or medical check ups, the SCMP report points out.

Reasons behind this trend have been discussed at length in the city, and they mostly relate to the skills of Macau's doctors.

The three hospitals in Macau, Kiang Wu Hospital, Centro Hospitalar Conde de Sao Januário, and the University Hospital of the Macau University of Science and Technology, have a significant number of doctors graduated from medical schools in mainland China.

The Kiang Wu hospital employs over 340 doctors, two thirds of which have graduated from Zhongshan School of Medicine or are trainees from the School of Medicine of Jinan University.



Port wines displayed during a workshop held in Macau

Portuguese wine could be ideal product for China-Lusophone cooperation

Daniel Beitler

Luís de Herédia, director of Macau-based Vinomac Fine Wines, a six-year-old distributor in the territory offering a portfolio of wines from countries such as Portugal, France and Australia, says that wine is an ideal product for exchange on the China-Lusophone platform, which some hope that Macau can become.

Macau has for some time held a reputation for being the goto-place for Portuguese wine in Asia, drawing on the expertise of its local Portuguese community and a history of involvement with both the Lusophonic world and the sea routes linking the West with the East. Today is no exception, Herédia told the Times in an interview this week. He said that visitors from parts of Asia such as Hong Kong and Japan keenly recognize this, and stock up on Portuguese wines when passing through the city.

However, there is still more work to be done because, outside of these key markets, Portuguese wine is still overshadowed by its French, and to some extent Australian, rivals

"There was a time when [wine] distributors were the only ones to recognize the quality of Portuguese wines. Now, [with the involvement of the public] things are starting to change," said Herédia. "But there is still work to do; much more promotion is needed because this can become a great product for Macau to offer."

Herédia told the Times that wine is both a cultural product as well as a food and beverage one. As such, it could be an ideal product to be floated on Beijing's envisioned "One Center, One Platform" initiative, connecting Portuguese goods with the enormous Chinese market.

"Of course, there is an appreciation of the flavor [of wine] and so on, but the wine culture is equally important. It reveals things... about rules, religion, geography, history, climate, culture... there are many, many curious things in each bottle," he said.

"I believe it is an ideal product for that [China-Lusophonic] market," he continued. "Portuguese wine in Asia is linked to Macau's identity [...] wine has been in Macau for many, many years... it's not something new."

Portuguese wine in Asia is linked to Macau's identity.

LUÍS DE HERÉDIA DIRECTOR OF VINOMAC FINE WINES

According to Herédia, Macau stands as one of the highest per-capita wine consumption levels in the Asia-Pacific region - far outstripping Hong Kong and China – which he believes is due to its historical connection with the beverage.

The local director also believes that the government is taking positive and genuine steps to both promoting and supporting the work of local distributors of Portuguese wine.

"The local government has been a great supporter of Portuguese wine. Some of these people [in the government] know Macau very well and are supportive of the Portuguese culture here – I must say, I am very impressed with this," he said.

"It's not just a political issue; I think that they really appreciate [Portuguese wine]. I mean, they use it regularly at their [government] functions," added Heredia

Imports of Portuguese wine to Macau during the first six months of 2016 fell by around 14 percent year-on-year, amounting to MOP28.3 million. Nevertheless, the European country ranks as the third largest supplier of wine to the territory.

ONE SHOT NEWS



Macau students in Portugal take a selfie picture with the Chief Executive, Chui Sai On, during his official visit to Portugal. Chui is expected to arrive in Macau today.

Albergue SCM postpones Mid-Autumn Celebration



Due to inclement weather, Albergue SCM has cancelled tomorrow evening's "Celebration of Mid-Autumn Festival 2016", originally scheduled to take place at 7.30 p.m. Next week, Albergue SCM will be providing mooncakes and fruits for visitors, free of charge. The giveaway will be held at 7 p.m. on 21 September (Wednesday) and will run on a first come, first served basis. Children will also receive gifts of traditional rabbit-shaped lanterns. The opening of "Little Rabbit Lanterns - An Exhibition by Carlos Marreiros and Friends Part 11" will be launched at 6.30 p.m. on the same evening.

Air Macau plans daily flights to Fukuoka next year

Air Macau plans to offer daily flights between the city to Fukuoka next year, according to a report by Macao Daily News. The information was revealed during recent tourism-related meetings co-organized by the airline, Hong Kong and Japan. Air Macau's management said additional flights will be available for the public starting from the first quarter of next year. Currently, the company flies to Fukuoka four times a week, and will introduce another flight on 3 October. Air Macau started operating Macau-Fukuoka flights in March, with one flight every Monday, Tuesday, Friday, and Saturday.

Cultural Centre to present VFAF next month

THE Macao Cultural Centre (CCM) will bring "The View Finder to Asian Film 2016" (VFAF) to its premises between October 21 and 30. The film cycle will present a selection of 12 screenings from over ten countries, showcasing the new movies in the Asian film industry.

According to a statement from CCM, this edition will explore "rich themes, from dark, heart-warming and passionate stories to thrilling, controversial and heart-breaking features."

Among those to be showcased next month is "After the Storm," a powerful and touching story of family ties, a remake of the original by the multi-award winning Japanese director Kore-eda Hirokazu.

A Palestinian feature, "The Idol," recounts the life of a Gazan wedding singer who became a worldwide sensation after winning the Arab Idol contest in 2013. "Dheepan," Meanwhile,



Macao Cultural Centre

winner of the Palm d'Or at the 2015 Cannes Film Festival, provides insight into the life of a group of Sri Lankan refugees in France.

The cinematic selection also includes "Faces of Pakistan," a double bill screening of the insightful documentaries, "A Girl in the River: The Price of Forgiveness" - addressing the Pakistani human rights crisis surrounding the honor killings of women - and "Song of Lahore."

There will also be country-specific features, providing accounts of some of the most secretive and hard-to-visit countries worldwide, namely "Under the Sun" and "Frame by Frame," which delve respectively into North Korea and Afghanistan. According to CCM, both unveils the mysteries surrounding the two

countries through undercover camera footage.

Besides the film screenings, on October 23 there will be a talk hosted at CCM on how cinema reflects society, exploring and presenting insights on topics depicted in four edgy films to be shown.

Tickets to "View Finder to Asian Film 2016" are now available at CCM's box office and Macau Ticketing Network outlets.

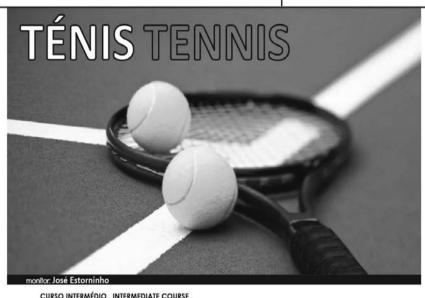
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lingua/language: Português e Inglês/Portuguese and English *

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número máximo de participantes/maximum number of participants

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THE "Culture of China, **▲** Global Concert of Chinese

Artists" will debut September

MUSIC

'Global Concert of Chinese Artists' to premiere in Macau

24, at 3 p.m. at the University Hall of the University of Ma-

The event celebrates the 67th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China, and features works commemorating what would have been the 150th anniversary of the birth of Sun Yat-Sen.

Lü Jia, music director of the Macau Orchestra, will be the artistic director and will conduct the "Overseas Chinese Orchestra", which comprises nearly 100 musicians from 40 national or international orchestras.

The concert is organized by the Overseas Chinese Affairs Office of the State Council. The program includes the works "Cheers for Sunrise" and "Romeo and Juliet Fantasy-Overture" by Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky, excerpts from the opera "Peony Pavilion"; folk music "Chinese Sights" and "Sounds" arranged for orchestra by Bao Yuankai; the "4th movement of Symphony No. 9 in E minor" by Antonín Dvořák, the epic orchestral overture "Our Sun Yat-sen", "I Love You, China", "Mother"; "Toreador Song" from the opera "Carmen", and the choral piece "I Love Mountain Wuzhi" and "River Wanquan".

After the Macau performance, the next concert will be held at the National Centre for the Performing Arts in Beijing on the evening of September 27.

Running event for Chinese national day announced



The Sports Bureau said yesterday that the "World Walking Day Fun Run" will commence at 8.15 a.m. on October 1 at the Golden Lotus Square. Participants can choose to walk or run. They will be divided into several groups: schools, sports organizations, clan societies, and public and private organizations, among others. The top ten runners of each gender will receive prizes. The walking participants will not be given prizes. All participants will receive a T-shirt as a souvenir, participation certificates and coupons to redeem drinking water. Interested parties can apply to enter before September 21.

Chinese resources conference to be held in town

THE "11th Conference on Cooperative of the Cultural Affairs Bureau and by the L Development and Sharing of Chinese Resources" (CCDSCR) will be held from 25 to 27 October at the MGM.

The CCDSCR is an international cooperation conference that aims to connect all libraries and research institutes around the world that possess Chinese documents, in order to improve the cooperation between them.

The event is co-organized by the Department of Public Library Management Macau Library and Information Management Association.

This year's conference will discuss digital works within libraries or information institutions. The topics discussed will include the dissemination and use of resources through technological means and cooperation and promotion, among others.

Participants from different countries and regions have been invited to attend the event. Aside from professionals from Macau, participants come from mainland China, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Singapore, Germany, the United States and the United Kingdom.

The conference will be conducted in Mandarin and English, with simultaneous interpretation of both languages.

Interested parties – including but not limited to representatives of libraries and news agencies from Macau and overseas, as well as those studying library science and information technology at the tertiary level – are welcome to register.

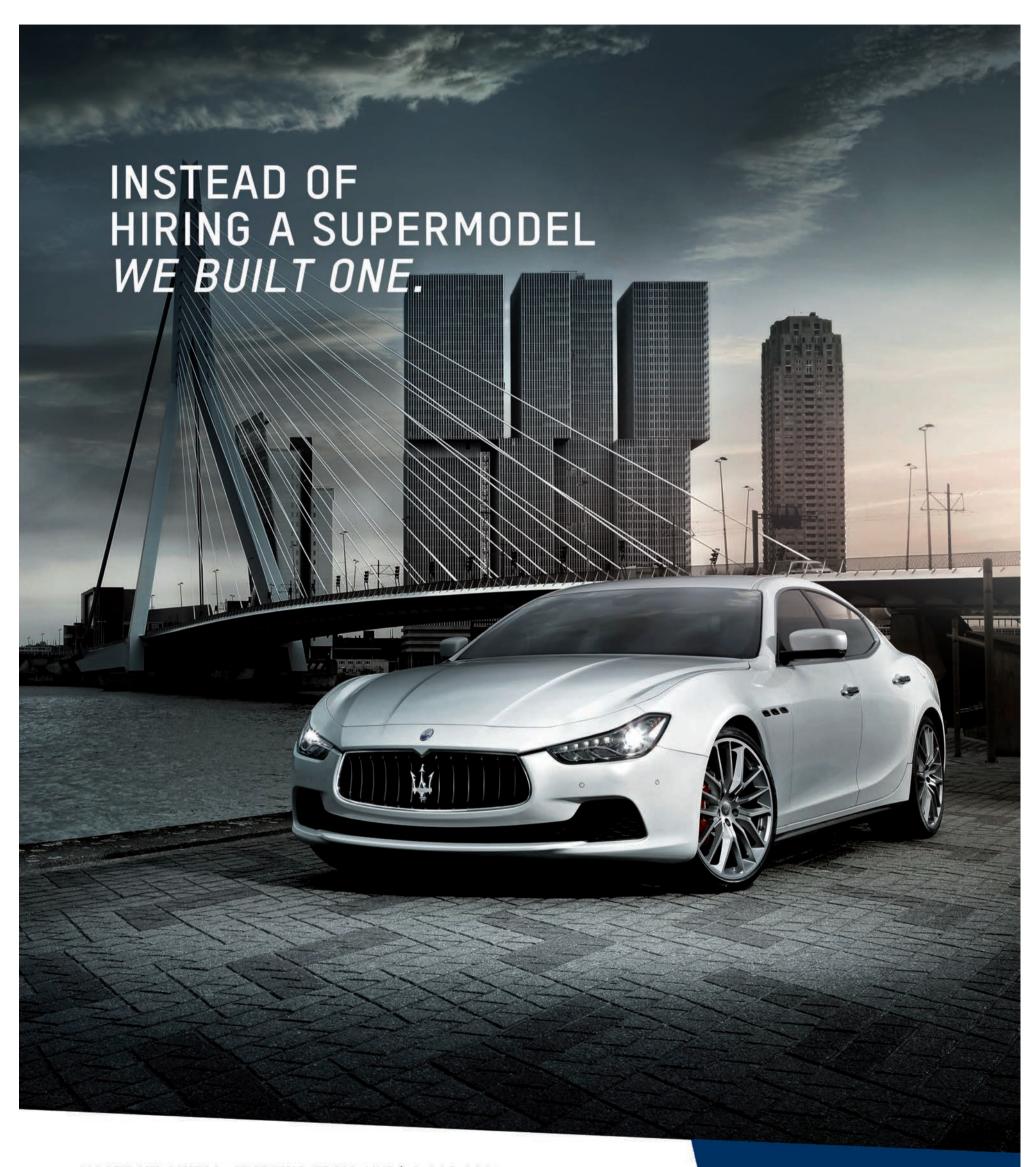
Macau's last Portuguese bishop passes away

D. Arquimínio Rodrigues da Costa, former bishop of Macau, passed away this Monday at the age of 92. Born in São Mateus, Azores on July 8, 1924, he came to Macau in 1938 with two other individuals. In 1976, Pope Paul VI appointed him as the bishop of the city. Rodrigues da Costa served in the position until 1988, when he resigned and returned to his hometown. He was Macau's last Portuguese bishop.

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Panda cub naming survey produces provocative names



THE people of Ma-Lau have voted "Tam Tam" (貪貪) and "Wu Wu" (污污) as the "Civil Nicknames" for the panda cubs born in Macau.

The unofficial nicknames are the result of an online voting event hosted by online media outlet Macau Concealer, which is linked to the New Macau Association (ANM).

Together, the Chinese nicknames mean "corruption"; "Tam" alone means "greedy and unsatisfied", while "Wu" has multiple meanings, including "dirty and corrupted".

During a seven-day voting period, 1,024 people – verified via mobile ced that it would select

phone numbers – voted on the cubs' names.

The organizers suggested a list with 216 nicknames to help netizens choose. Only 112 nicknames received votes. "Tam Tam" and "Wu Wu" came out tops with 561 votes, 521 more than the runners-up.

The ANM proposed that the public should frequently call the cubs by these names so that they gain widespread acceptance.

Previously, local authorities had allowed the public to name the cubs' parents "Hoi Hoi" and "Sam Sam". This time, the Civil and Municipal Affairs Bureau announnames to be chosen by the public, together with the Chengdu Research Base of Giant Panda Breeding.

The ANM said it "would like to reiterate the disappointment the Macau government's decision of not allowing the official names to be chosen by popular vote, as in the case of "Hoi Hoi" and "Sam Sam". It added that "the NMA would like to remind the citizens that the practice of "open nomination but closed selection process may be an attempt to construct an illusion of civic participation."

The official names will be announced on Oc-

HK-Macau Visual Art Biennale concluded in Beijing



THE "2016 Hong Kong-Macau Visual Art Biennale" recently finished its run at the Beijing Minsheng Art Museum. It is the fifth edition of the event, which launched in 2008.

The theme of the Biennale is "Interactive Times". The event introduces works of art and design from mainland China, Macau and Hong Kong.

In this edition, Macau's exhibition space has been dedicated to the theme of "Macau Good Design" and features a total of 16 art pieces in four categories: Graphic Design, Animation, Video Design and 3D Mapping..

A sharing session with the artists was held on the launch day. Nearly 20 curators and artists from the three regions were invited to share their creative experiences and discuss each region's arts scene.

The exhibition ended in Beijing on September 9, and will travel to Dunhuang in Gansu Province as part of the "Silk Road (Dunhuang) International Cultural Expo" from September 20 to October 8, before moving to the Henan Art Museum in Zhengzhou between October 19 and 30.





Naomi Kresge, Lydia Mulvany and Aaron Kirchfeld

AYER AG agreed to buy Monsanto Co. in a deal valued at USD66 billion, winding up four months of talks to create the world's biggest supplier of seeds and pesticides.

Bayer will pay \$128 a share in cash, the company said in a statement yesterday. The bid - this year's biggest deal and the largest foreign takeover ever by a German company - is 21 percent above Monsanto's closing price on Tuesday in New York. Bayer also agreed to pay Monsanto a break-up fee of \$2 billion if the deal is rejected on antitrust grounds.

The transaction caps a dramatic reshaping of the crop and seed industry. A year ago, the sector had at least a half-dozen global players. After Bayer and Monsanto tie up, creating a leader with \$26 billion in combined revenue from agriculture, that number will shrink to just four.

Falling crop prices and a quest for greater efficiency have triggered a cascade of deals over the past year. Last December DuPont Co. and Dow Chemical Co. agreed to merge and then carve out a new cropscience unit. And in February, China National Chemical Corp. agreed to acquire Switzerland's Syngenta AG, which Monsanto had pursued for years.

The deal values Monsanto at almost 21 times earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization, according to data compiled by Bloomberg. That compares to a median of about 9.4 times for comparable deals.

Bayer will fund the transaction with a combination of debt and equity. The equity component of about \$19 billion will be raised through an issuance of mandatory convertible bonds as well as a rights offer. In the





Bayer clinches Monsanto deal for USD66b with fourth bid

meantime, Bank of America Corp., Credit Suisse Group AG, Goldman Sachs Group Inc., HSBC Holdings Plc and JP-Morgan Chase & Co. agreed to provide bridge financing of \$57 billion.

Bank of America, Credit Suisse and Rothschild & Co. advised Bayer on the transaction, while Morgan Stanley and Ducera Partners LLC acted for Monsanto.

Taking advantage of a decline in Monsanto's share price, Bayer, based in the industrial city of Leverkusen, first made an unsolicited offer of \$122 a share in May, and then in July bumped that to \$125. Both proposals were rejected by Monsanto, but the company granted access to some financial accounts to conduct due diligence. Last week, Bayer made

a third offer of \$127.50, setting off the next round of negotiations that led to the agreement.

To hear Bayer and Monsanto executives speak on a media conference call at 3.30 p.m. CET, click here.

The transaction, which values shares of Monsanto at about \$56 billion, will add to core earnings per share in the first full year after the deal closes, likely at the end of next year, Bayer said. The combined seeds business will remain headquartered in St. Louis.

Shares of Monsanto rose 0.4 percent to \$106.50 in trading before the opening of U.S. markets. Bayer climbed almost 4 percent to 96.64 euros in Frankfurt.

Buying Monsanto will allow Bayer to tap growing demand as farmers seek to boost productivity to feed an estimated 10 billion people globally by 2050. The deal gives Bayer more than 2,000 varieties of seeds for crops such as corn, soybeans, and wheat. Adding that portfolio to its own vegetable, rice, cotton, and oilseed offerings give Bayer a virtually unassailable position at the head of the market.

In the past two decades Monsanto has pioneered the commercialization of genetically modified organisms, or GMOs. GMO varieties of corn and soybeans now account for more than 90 percent of those crops in the U.S., but have faced strong opposition from consumers across Europe and are banned or tightly controlled in many countries.

That may account for the high break-up fee. The combined

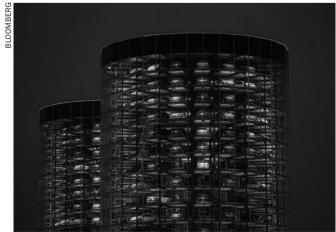
company could account for more than 30 percent of the global crop-inputs business, stoking concern that the deal could be rejected by competition authorities. The recent industry consolidation also leaves fewer buyers for any assets Bayer-Monsanto might need to sell to satisfy regulators.

Founded in 1901, Monsanto in the past also produced pharmaceuticals and industrial chemicals, including toxic substances such as polychlorinated biphenyls, now banned and commonly known as PCBs, and the herbicide Agent Orange, which was used by the U.S. military in Vietnam. Bayer, founded in 1863, trademarked the name "heroin" as a cough remedy in 1896 and then introduced aspirin - the first true blockbuster drug - in 1899. **Bloomberg**

VW gets flood of German suits on eve of imaginary deadline

VOLKSWAGEN AG investors are preparing to flood a German court with more lawsuits over the carmaker's emissions scandal to meet a deadline that lawyers say may be imaginary.

The Braunschweig Regional Court is bringing in extra staff for Sept. 19, the first business day after the one-year anniversary of VW's admission that it rigged its cars to cheat emissions tests. Shareholders who want to sue VW over their losses are concerned that the day may be the deadline to file. While most lawyers doubt the date is



The Volkswagen AG headquarters

really key, few are prepared to wait.

"Nobody wants to take the risk that courts may see that differently in the end," said Thomas Asmus, a lawyer at Lindenpartners in Berlin. "The herd instinct is strong. Everybody's filing now. I'll do it too.'

The flood of new shareholder suits in Germany adds to the carmaker's troubles. A year after admitting that about 11 million diesel vehicles had been equipped with software to cheat pollution tests, VW is far from resolving the fallout. It agreed to pay \$16.5 billion to settle suits by some American authorities and car owners. Shareholders are incensed because the stock price dropped 35 percent in the two trading days after U.S. regulators disclosed the so-called defeat device.

The carmaker is already facing 380 pending investor suits in Braunschweig, the legal district that includes the company's headquarters in Wolfsburg, claiming the leadership was aware as early as 2014 that U.S. authorities were probing test results and should have disclosed the investigation back then. One lawsuit bundles claims of almost 300 institutional investors and seeks 3.3 billion euros. Another group is seeking 700 million euros.

Instead of American-style class action suits, Germany gives plaintiffs a procedure that consolidates cases to centralize the evidence phase in capital-market actions in which a large number of investors claim to have been hurt by the same action.

VW continues to say the suits are unfounded because it informed the markets at each stage of the process.

"After a diligent review by internal and external legal experts, Volkswagen is of the view that the management board properly fulfilled its disclosure duties under capital-market rules," the company said Monday in an e-mailed statement. **Bloomberg**



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"The New Land Law: A Game Changer?" Seminar presented by DSL Lawyers

The recent decisions made by the Macau Government in relation to several land concessions have made the headlines in the last few months -

in fact, these decisions may be likened to an earthquake. The new policies under the New Land Law and the interpretations made thereon also have brought severe headaches to developers and investors, and concerns to home owners too.

This seminar will focus on the requirements of the New Land Law and its implications on new land concessions and on land concessions in relation to which the developers failed to complete the construction as required under their concession agreement.

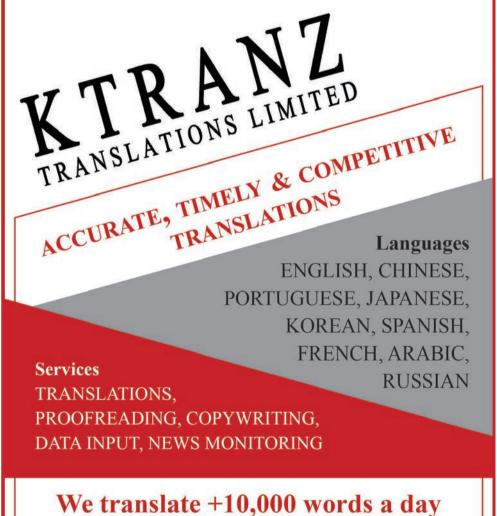
> **Speaker: Carlos Simoes Partner at DSL Lawyers**

Tuesday, 27th September 2016

6 - 8 pm Club Lounge, 17/F Grand Lapa, Macau 5.45 pm: Registration 6 pm: Presentation 6.45 PM: Q & A session 7 - 8 pm: Drinks and small groups' discussion

Members MOP/HKD 200 - Non-Members MOP/HKD 350.00 Strict No-Show/Late Cancellation policy applies for this event Drinks and snacks will be served after the presentation

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DIVIDED AMERICA

How China fueled pain and Trump support

Paul Wiseman, Hannibal (Ohio)

RUSHED by Chinese competition and feeling betrayed by mainstream politicians, workers in the hills of eastern Ohio are embracing Donald Trump and his tough talk on trade.

For decades, they and others living across the Ohio River in West Virginia found work in coal mines and at a local aluminum plant — union jobs, with good pay and generous benefits.

Coal is being wiped out by stricter environmental rules and competition from cheap natural gas. The aluminum plant? It's out of business, doomed by China's domination of the global aluminum market.

In an angry election year, some of America's angriest voters live in places like Monroe County where local economies have been punished by price competition with China. Their frustration has fueled support for the Republican presidential nominee, with his belligerent rhetoric about the need to outsmart America's economic rivals, tear up unfair trade deals and re-establish America as the world's dominant player.

"This is Trump country," says John Saunders, an official with the United Steelworkers in nearby Martins Ferry, Ohio.

The disaster that's unfolded here isn't obvious at first glance, not in a region known as the Switzerland of Ohio for its forested, rolling hills. In tiny Hannibal (population: 411), stately two-story homes overlook lawns that roll toward the banks of the Ohio. Nearby Woodsfield, seat of Monroe County, Ohio, looks like Main Street USA, its downtown dominated by a red brick courthouse displaying one of the world's biggest clocks.

But the misery is real. Monroe County's unemployment rate is Ohio's highest at 10.2 percent. Families have moved out to find work. The number of children in the local school district is down 223, or nearly 10 percent, since 2013.

"You're going to have to travel to find a job," says Fran Poole, whose husband, Cecil, worked at the Ormet plant here for 37 years before being laid off when it closed.

Some laid-off workers chose to retire early. Others found work in the energy business, only to see those jobs melt away, too, as oil and gas prices fell. Some are doing odd jobs — cutting grass, hauling gravel.

Much of the damage to this re-



A diesel tank at the former Ormet plant is seen at the site in Hannibal

gion can be traced to China's decision to become self-sufficient in aluminum production. Aluminum is used in construction and auto manufacturing, aerospace and consumer-product packaging. The surge in its production reflected a broader Chinese strategy: pour money into manufacturing to add jobs and accelerate economic growth.

Fueled by government subsidies and cheap loans from state-owned banks, Chinese aluminum producers went into overdrive: In 2000, the United States had produced a world-beating 15 percent of all aluminum, China just 11 percent. By 2015, China had escalated its output nearly 1,200 percent—and held 55 percent of the world's share.

As Chinese aluminum flooded the world, prices collapsed. A pound of raw aluminum now fetches 74 cents — down from USD1.25 five years ago. U.S. production has tumbled 56 percent since 2000, according to the U.S. Geological Survey. And America's share of world aluminum is below 3 percent.

Since 2011, U.S. aluminum companies have closed or idled nine of the 14 U.S. smelters, where aluminum oxide is turned into raw aluminum. Two surviving plants are running at half capacity or less. In Massena, New York; Columbia Falls, Montana; New Madrid, Missouri, plants have folded, idled production or laid off workers.

Hundreds of workers in New Madrid lost their jobs when

Noranda Aluminum Holding Corp. sought bankruptcy protection in February.

"If you take metal prices back to where they were before China started flooding the market, you're looking at somewhere between 90 cents and \$1.10 a pound," says Cameron Redd, a laid-off Noranda employee. At those prices, he says, the Noranda plant still "would be hiring."

Relief probably hasn't come. At this month's G-20 summit, U.S. and Chinese officials agreed to work together to reduce overproduction of aluminum, but the Chinese have long balked at cutting aluminum output — and jobs.

"They don't want unemployment," says Michael Komesaroff of Urandaline Investments, and Australian consulting firm.

Longtime residents recall how vital the Ormet plant here was for the area's economy and for supporting middle-class lifestyles. Workers regularly vacationed and bought houses and boats and all-terrain vehicles to tear up the Ohio countryside.

"If you didn't go to college or the military, you went to the coal mines or Ormet," says Bill Long, a former Ormet laborer who is a supervisor at the county's Department of Job and Family Services.

The plant used to burn more electricity than all of Pittsburgh. For nearly six decades, barges plied the Ohio River and trains clacked alongside State Highway 7, bearing Ormet aluminum to customers across America.



The pot line that housed the reduction cells for the former Ormet plant



One of the stacks from the furnace room





Bill Long, a former Ormet employee who is now a supervisor at the Monore County Job and Family Services

The factory drew workers from the hills of West Virginia and eastern Ohio, paying them about \$40,000 a year before overtime. Overtime was "sporadic," recalls Carl Davis, a former Ormet worker who is now a Monroe County commissioner. "But a few were known to gross around \$100,000."

"Even though the work was hard back then, it was best job I had ever had, and the most money I'd ever had my hands on," says Francis Blackstone, a 70-year-old Ormet retiree. "And the benefits were just unheard of" — including free health care.

"We were all family," says Danny Isaly, an Ormet worker who became the plant's head of industrial relations. "Everybody had a relative here."

After the plant closed, Isaly received unemployment benefits until they ran out. Then he retired at age 59.

Niagara Worldwide bought the 1,600-acre complex at auction in 2014 after Ormet Corp. sought bankruptcy protection. Dan Gerovac is overseeing the plant's destruction for Niagara. He and his crew are clearing the site in hopes of selling it to another industrial company. They are breaking down equipment—including the pots where aluminum oxide was turned into aluminum at temperatures of 1,800 degrees Fahrenheit—for sale as scrap metal.

"No aluminum will be made here anymore," Gerovac says.

Through most of the 2000s — aside from a sharp drop during

the Great Recession — world aluminum prices had withstood the surge in supply from China. China's own economy was growing so fast its demand for aluminum was nearly insatiable. Then its economy decelerated after 2010, and aluminum prices plunged.

Desperate, Ormet and the Steelworkers union sought to renegotiate electricity prices from the local utility, Appalachian Power. In 2012 and 2013, they urged Gov. John Kasich to lean on the state utility commission to help. Kasich wouldn't intervene, leaving the decision to the commission.

The plant went out of business.

■ Trump is viewed as a champion to many here who say America's political leaders have stood by while competition from China and other countries has wrecked communities [in US]



The area that housed the dry scrubber

Aluminum prices were so low the plant might not have survived anyway. But Kasich's refusal to intervene helps explains why animosity for the governor runs high in these parts. In the March Republican presidential primary, Monroe County overwhelmingly backed Trump and rejected Kasich, who otherwise won his home state handily.

"He just shunned us," Danny Isaly says.

Trump is viewed as a champion to many here who say America's political leaders have stood by while competition from China and other countries has wrecked communities like Hannibal.

"He says what a lot of people would like to say," says Cecil Poole, who feels the national Democratic Party has abandoned blue-collar workers. Trump's pledge to "Make America Great Again" resonates with those who feel they've lost their place in the middle class.

In a way, some of the laid-off Ormet workers were fortunate for a time. When the plant closed two years ago, the region was enjoying an energy boom. Oil and gas companies were fracking in the Marcellus Shale formation, from upstate New York through Pennsylvania, Maryland, Ohio and West Virginia. They needed drivers, electricians, welders.

Poole, 62, and out of work after nearly four decades at Ormet, got a commercial driver's license and found work hauling supplies for energy companies. He earned about what he made at Ormet, though he had to work twice as many hours for it. And Poole found the work exhausting. He traveled overnight and slept in his rig.

"It was tough on the old body," he says.

He retired in June.

The fracking boom, it turned out, didn't produce as many jobs as people here had hoped. The energy companies often brought in experienced oil-field workers. Then, energy prices started tumbling, and fracking work dried up.

Now, job openings are scarce, the pay and benefits no match for what Ormet offered.

"It's embarrassing what's out there," says Bill Long, who counsels the unemployed.

Peeking out from one jobseeker's file in his office is an application for a position at Dairy Queen. Long says some of the old Ormet workers seem in denial about their prospects. He recently ran into one.

"He said, 'I keep hoping the plant's going to fire back up," Long recalls. "I said, 'That's not going to happen, buddy." **AP**

EDITOR'S NOTE — This is part of Divided America, AP's ongoing exploration of the economic, social and political divisions in American society.

US voices concern over Chinese money in Australian politics



U.S. Ambassador John Berry

Rod McGuirk, Canberra

THE American ambassador to Australia has voiced U.S. concerns over China's impact on Australian politics, saying the United States wants the system reformed to remove the influence of Chinese political donations.

Ambassador John Berry said in an interview with The Australian newspaper that the United States is "surprised" by the amount of Chinese money and influence in Australian politics and wants Australia to resolve the foreign donation issue. The embassy confirmed in a statement that Berry had been accurately quoted in the interview, published yesterday.

Last week, the opposition Labor Party called for foreign political donations to be banned after Labor Sen. Sam Dastyari stepped down from a senior role for asking a Chinese company to pay a 1,670 Australian dollar (USD1,250) travel bill. While Dastyari broke no law, he acknowledged that having the Sydney-based company Top Education Institute pay a personal bill was wrong.

Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull pointed to a Chinese language news report that quoted Dastyari as saying, "The South China Sea is China's own affair."

Turnbull said that statement contradicted both the government and the opposition's foreign policy position that China should respect international law in territorial disputes. The prime minister accused Dastyari, who has been dubbed Shanghai Sam, of saying what Chinese donors paid him to say.

Dastyari said he might have misspoken during the Chinese interview, but said he supported his party's policy.

The issue is broader than Dastyari, with Top Education Institute donating more than AU\$230,000 to both Labor

and the ruling conservative Liberal Party.

Unlike the United States, which bans foreign donations, Australian law has never distinguished between donors from Australia and overseas.

Berry said the United States hopes that Australia will protect its "core responsibilities against undue influence from governments that don't share our values."

He said the U.S. objects to Beijing being able to fund political candidates in an Australian election campaign to advance Chinese interests.

"That, to us, is of concern," Berry said in the newspaper interview. "We cannot conceive of a case where a foreign donation from any government, friend or foe, would be considered legitimate in terms of that democracy."

"We have been surprised, quite frankly, at the extent of the involvement of the Chinese government in Australian politics," he added.

A Labor government introduced a bill to ban foreign donations to Parliament in 2010, but it never became law. The minor Greens party has proposed a similar bill in the current Parliament, but conservative government ministers have said there is no need for reform.

Australian Broadcasting Corp. reported last month that businesses with Chinese connections gave Australia's major political parties more than AU\$5.5 million from 2013 to 2015, making them easily the largest source of foreign-linked donations.

Australia struggles to balance its relationships with the United States, its most important strategic partner, and China, its most important trade partner.

Neither the Chinese Embassy in Australia nor Top Education Institute immediately responded to a request for comment. AP



MYANMAR | US

Sanctions relief on agenda as Suu Kyi meets Obama

Matthew Pennington, Washington

UNG San Suu Kyi's la-Atest visit to Washington signals her transformation from long-imprisoned heroine of Myanmar's democracy struggle to a national leader focused on economic growth.

President Barack Obama will meet with Suu Kyi at the White House on Wednesday to discuss rolling back more of the sanctions that were applied when the nation was under military rule. Suu Kyi will also be courting the American business community at a dinner where tables go for as much as USD25,000.

Suu Kyi's party swept historic elections last November, and the visit by the 71-year old Nobel peace laureate, deeply respected in Washington, is a crowning occasion in the administration's support for Myanmar's shift from pariah state to democracy, which it views as a major foreign policy achievement.



Barack Obama (left) smiles after greeting Myanmar's Foreign Minister Aung San Suu Kyi (right) during the **ASEAN-United States summit**

The U.S. has eased economic sanctions on the country also known as Burma since political reforms began five years ago but it still restricts dealings with military-owned companies and dozens of officials and associates of the former ruling junta. U.S.

companies and banks remain leery of involvement in one of Asia's last untapped markets.

Human rights groups, however, say there are powerful reasons for retaining sanctions. Military abuses continue in ethnic minority regions. Rohingya Muslims remain displaced by sectarian violence and denied citizenship.

Deputy National Security Adviser Ben Rhodes said the U.S. wants to balance concerns about the "outsized" role of the military in politics and the economy without impeding growth and offering a "democratic dividend" for an impoverished population.

"We hear frequently that the ongoing sanctions regime serves as a chill on investment from the United States and in some cases from other international firms, and so we want to make sure that our sanctions are not preventing the type of economic development and investment that we believe can improve the livelihoods of the people of Burma," Rhodes said Tuesday, adding that the administration's decisions would be guided by consultation with Suu Kyi and her government.

Suu Kyi, who will also be meeting with lawmakers, Vice President Joe Biden and Secretary of State John Kerry, last visited Washington in 2012 when she was still opposition leader. On that occasion, she was presented with the Congressional Gold Medal, the legislature's highest civilian honor, which she had been awarded in 2008 while under house arrest.

Now she meets Obama as the de facto leader of the country with the title of state counselor although a junta-era constitution still enshrines the military's role in politics and bars her from the presidency. When Obama last visited Myanmar in November 2014, he voiced support for constitutional reform. AP

Mongolia police arrest suspect in killing of British tourist

POLICE in Mongolia yesterday announced the arrest of a suspect in the killing a British tourist in a rare case of violent crime in the landlocked Asian nation.

The 31-year-old man, identified only by his first initial, T, was found in possession of the equivalent of USD400 in local currency and a passport believed to have been taken from Steve Nash, who had traveled to Mongolia as part of his paraglider adventures across the globe.

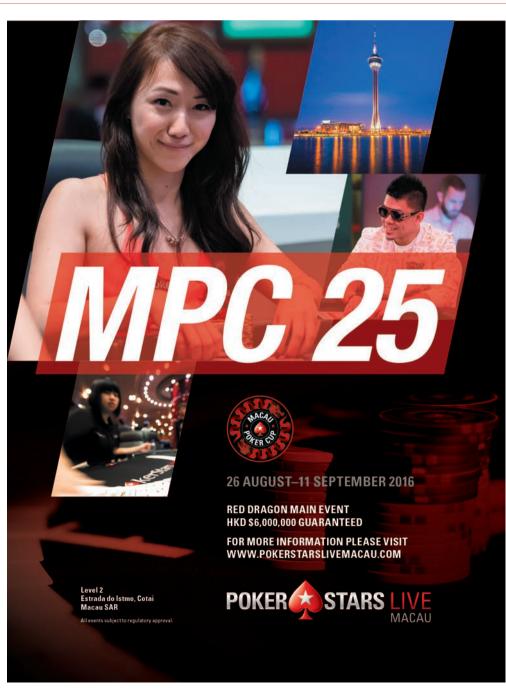
Police spokesman tarkhuu Buyant said Nash, 53, had been stabbed in the chest and died of blood loss. His body was found Sept. 1 in Arkhangai province in central Mongolia.

Buyant said the suspect had received a suspended sentence in 2016 for stealing.

While still relatively low, crime in Mongolia has risen as the country falls deeper into an economic slowdown. AP

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ASIA-PACIFIC 13

Thomas Cytrynowicz, Demul Village

OR centuries, the sleepy valley nestled in the Indian Himalayas remained a hidden Buddhist enclave forbidden to outsiders.

Enduring the harsh year -round conditions of the high mountain desert, the people of Spiti Valley lived by a simple communal code — share the Earth's bounty, be hospitable to neighbors, and eschew greed and temptation at all turns.

That's all starting to change, for better or worse. Since India began allowing its own citizens as well as outsiders to visit the valley in the early 1990s, tourism and trade have boomed. And the marks of modernization, such as solar panels, asphalt roads and concrete buildings, have begun to appear around some of the villages that dot the remote landscape at altitudes above 4,000 meters (13,000 feet).

"This year is busier than ever," said Ishita Khanna, co-founder of the eco-tourism agency Ecosphere. By Aug. 29, with at least a month left until the end of the tourism season, there had been 847 foreign visitors to the region in 2016, compared with 726 for all of last year, officials said.

They could not give a figure for how many Indians had traveled to the region in jeeps and buses across treacherous mountain roads, as Indian tourists do not need special permits. But additional district magistrate Jagan Thakur said that 70 percent of the tourists to the region were Indians.

Many of the valley's 13,000 or so residents — ethnically Tibe**INDIA**

Tourism transforms long-hidden Buddhist valley in Himalayas



Buddhist lama Tenzin Rigzin studies religious texts in his room at the Key monastery, Spiti Valley, India

tan yet long resident in the Indian state of Himachal Pradesh - welcome the influx of tourists eager to explore the mountains or simply enjoy the pristine surroundings.

"In years when the climate and roads are good, they flock in together in high numbers," Thakur said. "Villagers will actually convert their houses into homestays."

In the hillside village of De-

mul, with only around 250 residents, people have devised a system whereby half of the residents move in with their neighbors while renting their earthen-hut homes to travelers during the summer, and then share the earnings. That income is helping many invest in better schooling for their kids.

"They have a great system in this village ... everybody takes turns," said British traveler

Tom Welton. "They collectively bring all the money together and at the end of the year they distribute it equally to the whole village."

Tourism has become so important it now makes up at least half of most people's annual income, Khanna said. The rest of the people's wealth comes from traditional channels — herding sheep and goats, and growing crops like black beans, barley and, more recently, green peas.

For the crimson-robed Buddhist monks in the valley, the increase in visitors brings a chance to "teach Buddhism to others. More people should learn about it," said Lama Tenzin Rizzin, a resident of another hilltop village, Key, a half-hour drive from the valley's main town of Kaza.

Some villagers and travelers worry that the influx of new funds will bring competition, greed and environmentally taxing change — such as flush toilets that might empty straight into the Spiti River or put a strain on the region's already limited water sources.

"We cannot go beyond our limits. Mass tourism is not good for our culture," said Tenzin Thinley, 35, who runs a homestay in the valley village of Kibber and works as a tourist guide. "Hospitality is important in Spiti's culture, and we will not let it disappear."

While increasing trade with cities outside the valley has broadened the dinner table with lentils and grains that can't be grown in the valley, it has also brought an influx of junk food that the elders are struggling to keep away from the children.

"Too many tourists mean too much money," Thinley said. "I do not want to be greedy." AP

AUSTRALIA

Parliament gets bill to set up gay marriage vote

USTRALIA'S prime minister introduced legislation to Parliament yesterday that would allow a public but nonbinding vote on gay marriage early next year.

Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull, a marriage equality advocate who is the only serving prime minister to attend the Svdney's Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras, introduced the bill on the first anniversary of his ascension to the top government job.

He replaced Prime Minister Tony Abbott, a gay marriage opponent who proposed that the public decide the issue with a popular vote and avoid a bitter debate in Parlia-

But the Feb. 11 plebiscite — a compulsory vote



Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull

for all adult Australians would have no legal weight. Parliament would ultimately decide whether the law would be changed.

Although such a vote appears to be a move toward changing the law, most gay rights activists

are against a plebiscite, saying it should be decided in Parliament without the potential divisive public debate.

They fear that government plans to spend 15 million Australian dollars (USD11 million) on publicizing the cases for and against marriage equality would give legitimacy to bigoted and homophobic views.

Turnbull said the real reason marriage equality advocates opposed the plebiscite was because they thought enough lawmakers already supported the reform for it to become law.

"They don't want to run the risk of the Australian people giving them the wrong answer," Turnbull told Parliament.

"For our part, we put our faith in the Australian people and we know that their answer, whether it is 'yes' or 'no,' will be the right answer," he said.

The government does not have a majority in the Senate, and two minor parties that support same-sex marriage have said they won't vote for a plebiscite.

The government's only chance of a plebiscite is now the opposition Labor Party.

Labor leader Bill Shorten has argued that a plebiscite would "give the haters a chance to come out from underneath the rock and make life harder for" lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex people.

But Shorten, who backs marriage equality, has not ruled out supporting the plebiscite to avoid a stalemate in Parliament over gay marriage that could last until the next election in three years.

Lyle Shelton, managing director of Australian Christian Lobby, a group

that lobbies for Christian principles and opposes gay marriage, urged Labor to back the plebiscite.

He said he hoped that millions of Australians could participate in the debate without the fear of being labelled a bigot or a homophobe.

"It was great to hear the prime minister respecting the points of view of all Australians," Shelton said in a statement.

Turnbull opposed the plebiscite before striking a deal with hard-right party powerbrokers to become prime minister.

Shorten has also shifted his position, telling religious leaders in 2013 that he was "completely relaxed about having some form of plebiscite" on same-sex marriage. AP



After a decade, UN chief disappointed in

Edith M. Lederer, United Nations

ral Ban Ki-moon says he's disappointed by many world leaders who care more about retaining power than improving the lives of their people — and can't understand why Syria is being held hostage to "the destiny" of one man, President Bashar Assad

Nearing the end of his 10 years at the helm of the United Nations, Ban spoke frankly about the state of the world and his successes, failures and frustrations as U.N. chief in a wide-ranging interview with The Associated Press.

Ban is the public face of the organization but he said that in private leaders see a very different and much tougher side to him.

"People say I have been quiet, and I have not been speaking out about human rights, but I can tell you I have been speaking out (more) than any of the Western leaders" who "are



United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon

very cautious," he said. "You have not seen people as fearlessly speaking out as myself."

Ban also spoke candidly about his frustration at the way the U.N. operates.

It's unrealistic to expect any secretary-general "to be some almost almighty person," he said, because the world body's member states make decisions and the U.N. chief implements them — rather than implementing their own initiatives and policies, he said.

The U.N. could be far more efficient and effective if there were "some reasonable decision-making process" — not one that requires consensus on many issues before the General Assembly and statements by the Security Council, Ban said. This gives one country the power to block something all other nations agree on, or to water it down.

"Is it fair? Is it reasonable in the 21st century when you have 193 member states?" Ban said.

As an example, human rights groups have criticized the declaration set to be adopted at the U.N. summit on refugees and migrants on Monday, ahead of the General Assembly's annual gathering of world leaders, because it was watered down to reach consensus. The result was the elimination of Ban's proposal to

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Nepal's ne A member of opposition political party National Freedom Front, which is supporting former president Mahinda Rajapaksa holds a placard during a protest against current Sri Lanka tour of U.N. Secretary General Ban Ki-moon in Colombo

resettle 10 percent of the world's refugees annually.

Ban said member states have the power to change the consensus requirement easily and quickly.

In a recent interview over lunch, the secretary-general said his generation in South Korea was educated in the ancient Chinese teachings of Confucius, which emphasize harmony, humaneness, compassion, propriety and honesty. "And I have been putting public interest first, over private interest," he said.

Comparing his approach to Western leaders, Ban said they usually speak through statements, which is easy, and sometimes they have pressured him not to say something or visit some country. But he said he "proceeded as I wanted" because he believes face-to-face meetings with world leaders are critical to try to get support on ending conflicts or on issues like climate change and combatting poverty.

"I've been saying, I can issue a hundred statements from here, but if you really want to get that apple dropped, you have to go and shake the apple tree," he said

If you wait under the tree "until the apple drops into your mouth, it may happen if you wait 20 years," he said.

Sometimes, he said, when leaders urged him not to visit a hotspot and something later happened there, "it was they who really wanted to go there first, to get the credit." Ban said he could name names which "would be quite explosive" — but he won't.

When he advises foreign leaders, Ban said, he always tells them "this is private."

"I always told them ... if I don't think you will want to be seen as (having) your arm twisted by the secretary-general of the United Nations, make it your policy and change — and then I will support, I will welcome" it.

The turmoil the world is suffering today isn't from the people, but is "caused by the leaders," he said.

For many leaders, the key is to be elected "by whatever means," Ban said. "Once elected ... they rule over people, and they are mostly corrupted, and they do not respect the voices of the people."

He said that in January 2015 he told African leaders to respect constitutional term limits and not cling to power. U.S. President Barack Obama delivered the same message six months later at the African Union — and he repeated the message again in January.

But Africa and the Middle East, especially, remain rife with conflicts, including in South Sudan, Central African Republic, Congo, Syria and Yemen and the decades-old Israeli-Palestinian dispute including three wars in Hamas-ruled Gaza during Ban's nearly 10 years in office.

Speaking with evident frustration about the more than five -year conflict in Syria, Ban said "I simply cannot understand why we have not been able to resolve this issue."

He pointed to the "lack of commitment to principles," particularly by the Syrian leadership.

"Why is it so important for one man's destiny? One man's destiny should not work as a hostage of all this crisis," Ban said, referring to the dispute between pro-government and opposition supporters over whether Assad should have any role in Syria's future.

He said his legacy should be left to historians, but he cited three issues he devoted his time, energy and "passion" to, which are widely regarded as accomplishments:

— His successful campaign from day one after succeeding Kofi Annan as secretary-general on Jan. 1, 2007 to address climate change, which he hopes will lead to last December's Paris climate agreement entering into force before he leaves office on Dec. 31 — and possibly even next Wednesday when he has invited world leaders to submit their ratifications.

— His push for all countries to agree on 17 new U.N. goals last September, which establish 169 targets to fight poverty, protect the environment, achieve gender equality and ensure good governance by 2030.

— His promotion of "gender empowerment," including the establishment of UN Women, spurred by his belief that women are "the least utilized resources in humankind," and if their potential is used "we can at least double" economic productivity and improve social development.

People say
I have been
quiet, and I
have not been
speaking out
about human
rights, but I
have been
speaking out
(more) than any
of the Western
leaders.

BAN KI-MOON UN SECRETARY-GENERAL As for regrets, aside from not seeing an end to conflicts in Africa, and especially in Syria, he cited the injustice imposed "on many helpless people ... whose human rights and human dignity have been violated and abused," particularly women and girls.

He cited the sexual abuse and exploitation of women and girls by U.N. peacekeepers, stressed that he had fired the head of the U.N. mission in Central African Republic — a rarity at the U.N. — and his commitment and determination to end it. But he said he needs the help of member states to prosecute alleged perpetrators because the U.N. has no judicial enforcement measures.

The U.N.'s handling of the cholera epidemic in Haiti has also been widely criticized, and Ban stressed the U.N.'s "moral responsibility" to help improve the country's water and sanitation and eliminate the disease — but he said the Haitian government must also do more.

Rather than giving advice to his successor, Ban said he has some advice for member states: Be more united and work for the "common good" rather than your country's national interest.

As for his future, Ban said he will be returning home to South Korea but he deflects widespread rumors that he will be a candidate for president, saying his job is being secretary-general through Dec. 31. As a private citizen, he said, he will "spare no efforts" to help promote reconciliation with North Korea if there is an opportunity.

What about writing a book about his decade as secretary-general?

"One day, many years later, and I'm not in a position to write soon, but I can speak more freely because I do not want to criticize all of them while I'm in power," Ban said. AP



Myanmar's Foreign Minister Aung San Suu Kyi, right, talks with U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon during their meeting at Foreign Ministry office



what's ON



THE VOICE - THE EXHIBITION THAT SPEAKS TO

TIME: 9am-5:30pm (Closed on public holidays)

UNTIL: November 16, 2106

VENUE: Communications Museums of Macau,

No.7, Estrada de D. Maria II, Macao

ADMISSION: MOP10 ENQUIRIES: (853) 2871 8063

Edgar Degas: Figures in Motion - A COLLECTION OF 74 BRONZE SCULPTURES TIME: 12pm-9pm (Closed on Mondays, except

public holidays) UNTIL: November 20, 2106 VENUE: MGM Art Space, Macau

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (852) 3678 0150

Macau Giant Panda Pavilion

TIME: 10am-1pm and 2pm-5pm daily (Except Mondays, closed on the following day instead if a public holiday falls on Monday and no admission

after 4:45 pm; six viewings per day) VENUE: Seac Pai Van Park, Coloane

ADMISSION: MOP10

ENQUIRIES: Civil and Municipal Affairs Bureau (853)

2833 7676

THE COLLECTION EXHIBITION OF TAI FUNG TONG

ART HOUSE

TIME: 2pm-6pm daily (Except Mondays)

VENUE: Tai Fung Tong Art House, Calçada da Igreja

de S. Lázaro 7 ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2835 3537 / 2834 6626

Offbeat

NY GOP LAWMAKER WINS PRIMARY DAYS AFTER KILLING HIMSELF



Days after killing himself, a vocal advocate for gun rights and Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump has won a New York primary election.

Assemblyman Bill Nojay was facing a fraud trial in Cambodia and reportedly under FBI scrutiny when he went to his family's cemetery plot in Rochester and shot himself in front of an arriving police officer on Friday.

Now the defeat yesterday [Macau time] of challenger Richard Milne coupled with a guirk in state election law means that local GOP leaders, who encouraged voters to choose Nojay despite his death, get to pick someone to take on Democrat Barbara Baer in November. Nojay's Republican-leaning district in the Legislature's lower chamber covers parts of suburban Rochester and the Finger Lakes region.

"I really don't know what to say. It's such an unusual situation," Milne told The Associated Press as unofficial results showed him trailing by nearly 1,000 of the 4,500 votes cast.

Though he hopes the three county leaders put him on the ballot, Milne was critical of "robocalls" and other efforts by the "powers that be" to boost Nojay after his death.

"They really did some things in the past few days that were in poor taste in my opinion to sway the vote," he said.

While rare, posthumous elections happen, notably when Missouri Democratic Gov. Mel Carnahan died in a plane crash but defeated the Republican incumbent and future U.S. Attorney General John Ashcroft in a 2000 Senate race. That victory led to the appointment of Carnahan's widow, Jean Carnahan, to the Senate. Since 1962, four people who died close to Election Day have been elected to the House of Representatives.

TV canal macau

	13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
	13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
	14:45	RTPi Live
	18:15	Criminal Minds S10 (Repeated)
	18:59	Advisor
	19:00	The Hunter (Repeated)
	19:50	Soap Opera
	20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
	21:00	TDM Talk Show
	21:40	The Toque 12 S2 - Premier
	22:10	The Hunter
	23:00	TDM News
	23:30	Variety



CINETEATRO

15 SEP - 21 SEP

S STORM

ROOM 1

2.15, 4.00, 5.45, 9.45 pm **Director: David Lam**

Starring: Louis Koo, Julian Cheung, vic Chou, Ada Choi

Language: Cantonese (Cantonese/English)

Duration: 97min

TRAIN TO BUSAN

ROOM 1 7.30 pm

Director: Yeon Sang-ho

Starring: Gong Yoo, Jung Tu-mi, ma Domng-Seok Language: Korean (Cantonese/English)

Duration: 97min



ROOM 2

2.15, 4.00, 5.45, 9.30 pm

Director: Clint Eastwood, Aaron Eckhart

Starring: Tom Hanks Language: English (Cantonese)

Duration: 96min

AT CAFE 6 ROOM 2

Director: Neal Wu

Starring: Zijian Dong, Cherry Ngan, lin Bohong, Ouyang

Language: Mandarin (Cantonese/ English)

Duration: 103min

NINE LIVES

ROOM 3

2.15, 6.00, 7.45, 9.30 pm

Director: Barry Sonnenfeld

Starring: Kevin Spacey, Jennifer Garner, Christopher

Walken

Language: English (Cantonese) **Duration: 96min**

TRAIN TO BUSAN

коом 3 3.50 pm

Director: Yeon Sang-ho

Starring: Gong Yoo, Jung Tu-mi, ma Domng-Seok

Language: Korean (Cantonese/English)

Duration: 97min

MACAU TOWER

15 SEP - 28 SEP

2.30, 4.30, 7.30, 9.30 pm

Director: Clint Eastwood, Aaron Eckhart

Starring: Tom Hanks Language: English (Cantonese)

Duration: 96min

this dav in historv





1964 THE SUN NEWSPAPER IS BORN

The Sun newspaper is published today for the first

It is replacing the Mirror Group's Daily Herald, which has been losing readers and advertising revenue for

The newest arrival on Fleet Street is promising to follow a "radical" and "independent" agenda - unlike its predecessor which had strong ties to the Labour party. The TUC sold its 49% stake in the paper in

Mirror Group Newspapers (MGN) and the International Press Corporation (IPC) took over ownership of the Herald in 1961.

It was previously owned by Odhams Press, which had seen it reach a circulation of two million in 1933. the highest in the world at the time.

In a bid to broaden the Herald's appeal once more, MGN, is relaunching the paper as the Sun, with the slogan "A paper born of the age we live in". Editor Sydney Jacobson said his new paper wou-

Id be "totally independent, no ties with any party or movement... totally free to make up its own mind."

The paper's launch coincides with the announcement of a general election next month.

Prime Minister Sir Alec Douglas-Home, whose Conservative party has been in power for 13 years, will be up against the man described as Labour's thrusting new grammar school boy, Harold Wilson.

Asked where his party's loyalties would lie in the coming election battle, Mr Jacobson replied: "The Sun is a radical newspaper. Can a radical newspaper support the present government?" It is a competitive time for newspapers. Faced with

rising costs, the Daily Sketch was the first to raise its cover price from 3d to 4d in June, but others are expected to follow suit. The Daily Mirror - The Sun's stablemate - has a cur-

rent circulation of five million but even so it is not expected to be able to resist the price increase beyond the end of the year. The Mirror Group is splashing out on free beer and

christening mugs for new babies to promote the Sun's arrival and Herald's demise.

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

Five years after its arrival on Fleet Street, the Sun was up for sale partly because of losses dating back to its predecessor,

As a broadsheet, the paper was attracting a daily readership of one million.

There were two key players interested in buying: the millionaire Labour MP Robert Maxwell and the right-leaning Australian newspaper proprietor Rupert Murdoch, who already owned The News of the World.

Mr Murdoch clinched the deal and immediately relaunched the Sun as a tabloid - shortly followed by the introduction of the Page Three girls.

In 1978 The Sun overtook its closest rival The Mirror in the circulation war.

In 1986 Mr Murdoch introduced new print technology and moved the Sun to Wapping.

In 1997 the Sun returned to its Labour roots and backed Tony Blair for Prime Minister.

In early 2006 the paper's circulation was 3.1 million.

Aries

Mar. 21-Apr. 19

You can finally $\operatorname{relax} - \operatorname{your} \operatorname{hard}$ work has paid off in a big way! You should get news letting you know, but even if you don't, you can still feel the reverberations from a distance.



Gemini

May 21-Jun. 21

prefer seamless, fluid You movement, but today throws walls in your path. You can actually work better with these restrictions in place, but it's not nearly as much fun. You'll have more freedom tomorrow.



Leo

Jul. 23-Aug. 22

You are feeling avaricious today – which isn't always a bad thing! You may find it easier to ask for what you want, though that doesn't mean you're guaranteed to get it. Keep asking, though!



Libra

Sep.23-Oct. 22

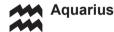
Let go of your biggest, weightiest issues - you know they're only temporary, really! If your mood is dark, the only answer is to lighten up the things you are thinking about. It's not impossible!



Sagittarius

Nov. 22-Dec. 21

Some people think you can be irresponsible — but they don't know what's really happening! You just try to take care of what you see as most important, and that doesn't always agree with their view.



Jan. 20-Feb. 18

You usually embrace change but even you sometimes feel that an idea is misguided. Today brings something new and unavoidable into your life that you would rather not deal with. It should pass!



Taurus

April 20-May 20

Try to indulge your artistic side today it's in need of a good workout! You feel terrific, and you probably have more to say than you realize, so grab your favorite tools and get busy on your next masterpiece!



Cancer

Jun. 22-Jul. 22

Has there been a weird project on the back burner for a little too long? Now is the time to check in with it and see what you can do to make it work. Your energy is great for bringing things back from the brink.



Virgo

Aug. 23-Sept. 22 Make sure that you're trying a

little of everything tonight - you need to branch out and explore new options! It's one of those days when your people are looking up to you for guidance.



Scorpio

Oct. 23 - Nov. 21

Try to be more flexible today you know that it's important, and you can tell that just a little effort on your part is all it takes to get things moving. Change course or be left behind!



Capricorn

Dec. 22-Jan. 19 Just have fun today - you know

you need it, and your friends are more than willing to give you the space to take care of it. Heck, they may join in and make things ten times better!



Pisces

Feb.19-Mar. 20

Your romantic side is powered up and ready to go - whether or not vou're actually partnered. It's a good time to either let someone know how you feel or go looking for someone new.







SUDOKU

MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

Easy

5 8 3 6 3 4 2 1 9 3

Medium

2

3

6

8

7

5

1 2

8

6

5

Easy+

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

Hard

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

WEATHER

	MIN	MAX	CONDITION
CHINA -			
Beijing	20	30	cloudy
Harbin	15	22	shower
Tianjin	21	32	clear
Urumqi	14	22	cloudy/clear
Xi'an	18	26	drizzle
Lhasa	9	22	moderate rain
Chengdu	19	26	drizzle/overcast
Chongqing	22	25	shower
Kunming	16	23	drizzle
Nanjing	21	24	shower/moderate rain
Shanghai	22	25	drizzle/heavy rain
Wuhan	22	30	cloudy/shower
Hangzhou	21	25	shower/heavy rain
Taipei	27	30	moderate rain
Guangzhou	26	34	cloudy/thundershower
Hong Kong	26	30	shower

WORLD

Moscow	7	13	drizzle
Frankfurt	18	30	clear
Paris	18	30	cloudy/moderate rain
London	18	29	clear/drizzle
New York	17	32	drizzle/clear

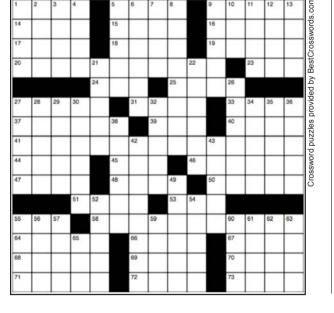
CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- Butter alternative; 5- According to the Bible, he was the first man; 9-Interlace; 14- Solid; 15- Explorer Vasco da ___; 16- High public esteem; 17- Mixture; 18- Banned orchard spray; 19- Light ___; 20- Powerfully binding; 23- NFL six-pointers; 24- Floor covering; 25- Supermodel Sastre; 27- Goatlike antelope; 31- Clock pointer; 33-Blues singer James; 37- Important; 39- This is what eyes do; 40- Victor's cry; 41- In spite saw Elba; 45- Shad delicacy; 46- Sisters' daughters; 47- Spanish muralist; 48- Tsp. and tbsp.; 50- Fold; 51- London's Park; 53- Tax pro; 55- River to the Volga; 58- Concerning the appreciation of beauty; 64- Pertaining to birth; 66- Dark cloud; 67-Red flower; 68- Uneven, as if gnawed away; 69- 1997 Peter Fonda role; 70- Furthermore; 71- Second-year students, for short; 72- Back of the neck; 73- Chamber workers: Abbr.;

DOWN: 1- Cries of discovery; 2- In _ _ land; 3- Slang expert Partridge; 4- Scent; 5-Brightly colored lizard: 6-4th letter of the Hebrew alphabet: 7for All Seasons: 8- Strict

disciplinarian; 9- Large marine mammal; 10-Dawn goddess; 11- Med. school class; 12-Empty; 13- Goes wrong; 21- Valuable violin; 22- Like llamas; 26- Large beer mug; 27-Loudness units; 28- Preceding, poetically; 29- Bury; 30- Accompany; 32- Item having exchange value; 34- More than once; 35-Fungal infection; 36- Emo anxiety; 38- Online brokerage; 42- Simple and unpretentious; 43- Try to bite; 49- Lug; 52- Some locks; 54- Martinique volcano; 55- Wallet fillers; 56- Corn syrup brand; 57- Looking down from; 59- Currency unit in Western Samoa; 60- Some nest eggs; 61- "Unforgettable" singer; 62- Org.; 63- Tolstoy and Gorcey; 65-Bat wood;





ÚSEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Emergency calls 999

Fire department 28 572 222 PJ (Open line) 993

PJ (Picket) 28 557 775

PSP 28 573 333

Customs 28 559 944

S. J. Hospital 28 313 731

Kiang Wu Hospital 28 371 333

Commission Against

Corruption (CCAC) 28326 300

IACM 28 387 333

Tourism 28 333 000 Airport 59 888 88

Taxi 28 939 939 / 2828 3283

Water Supply - Report 2822 0088

Electricity - Report 28 339 922

Telephone – Report 1000

Macau Daily Times 28 716 081



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Coloane Village (Investment)

Coloane 746 sq ft / HKD 5.67M HKD 7,602sq ft Open Views Ref: 14105422

One Central, Tower 7 Macau 2 Bedroom Apartment

Great location HKD 17,800 / 1,292 sq ft Ref: 16070598





LVS and Sands China celebrate grand opening of The Parisian Macao







Sheldon Adelson and Miriam Adelson



Lara Fabian











Ceremony performance







AMID FANFARE and celebration, The Parisian Macao opened its doors to the public for the first time on Tuesday at 8.18 p.m.

grand opening of the newest integrated resort from Sands China and parent company Las Vegas Sands represents the crowning achievement of company chairman and CEO Mr. Sheldon G. Adelson's vision for the Cotai Strip.

"What started with a Venetian and now adds a Parisian to the family, the Cotai Strip has become one of the world's greatest tourism marvels," said Adelson. "Before our very eyes, Macau is making a similar transition to the one it took Las Vegas decades to make, evolving from a destination only suited for gaming customers, to an environment which still provides a safe and reputable gaming experience, but also offers a wide variety of activities, attractions and amenities for people of all backgrounds, income levels and in-

Tuesday night's opening celebration included pyrotechnics and a lightshow at The Parisian Macao's halfscale authentic recreation of the Eiffel Tower, now a prominent feature on the Cotai skyline. The program's entertainment highlight was a performance by multi-award-winning Belgian singer Lara Fabian, who made her Macau debut.



Kennington Lloyd Smith III, Rio de Janeiro

THREE weeks ago, organizers **▲** and event fans were worried that the 2016 Paralympics would not be well-attended. But when São Paulo resident Marco Fumis arrived at a lively Olympic Park on Saturday, he was blown away with what he saw.

"I'm positively surprised by this," said Fumis. "We are really emotional people, and I think we realized how important it is for not only the Olympics but the Paralympics. A lot of us are here to better understand how these athletes do what they do, so we're here to support."

The fan support is significant. The 170,000 tickets sold for events at Olympic Park on Saturday, surpassed the one-day total for some days at recent Olympics.

"It was a really, really cool environment because usually we have like five people in the stands and now we have an entire gym," U.S women's sitting volleyball player Heather Erickson said after her team swept Iran 3-0.

On Sunday, 46,000 tickets were sold at Olympic Stadium, the track and field venue separate from Olympic Park, according to the International Paralympic Committee.

"Everybody wanted to talk about 'What about London?" IPC

Paralympics entertain bigger-than-expected crowds in Rio



Spectators dance and cheer during the women's sitting volleyball preliminary game between Iran and the USA at the 2016 Paralympic Games

spokesman Craig Spence said, referring to the 2012 London Paralympics, for which a record 2.7 million tickets were sold. "But (Saturday) surpassed it for me."

A last-minute campaign that originated in Great Britain, called #FillTheSeats and supported by donors such as Coldplay, Prince Harry and U.S. Paralympian Tatyana McFadden, boosted sales for tickets given to Brazilian chil-

Brazilians can buy tickets for as

low as 10 reais (about USD3) and pay for them on a four-month plan (2.5 reais per month), Rio 2016 spokesman Mario Andrada said.

Total ticket sales now sit at second-hi-1,863,000, the ghest Paralympic Games total ever, behind London. Spence admitted that the expectations were low but he said he's overjoyed at how well the games have come together.

"We've got full venues, the

athletes are loving it and the performance levels are what we expected," Spence said. "We said coming in this would be the best Paralympic Games in terms of athletic performance and they're clearly proving so."

Indeed, coming into Sunday, 89 world records had been broken. While Brazilians cheer hardest for Brazilian athletes, others have noticed the emotion that the fans have brought to the games.

"I think that we gain energy off of the crowd," U.S. women's sitting volleyball coach Bill Hamiter said. "It doesn't matter how many people, we were just gaining energy off of them.'

Andrada described a scene that he felt embodied the spirit of the fans. When the Algerian women's sitting volleyball team was a no -show in its first match against the U.S. on Friday, officials invited children onto the court to play. The crowd stayed to cheer on the children.

"They could have gone, there weren't any high-ranking athletes playing; only children," said Andrada. "But 8,000 people decided to stay and cheer on the kids as they learned the sport."

The IPC will continue to try raise the profile of para sports between Paralympics. Brazil will host the 2017 Parapan American Youth Games, at a new facility in São Paulo. Construction for the Rio 2016 museum will be underway soon, and the IPC is producing a Paralympic Rio 2016 film.

As for current media, 154 countries are broadcasting the games worldwide, a 39-country upgrade from 2012, according to the IPC.

While these are record numbers, São Paulo resident Cristina Fumis, who attended events at Olympic Park over the weekend, said she believes that the media exposure can be better.

"The announcement for the opening ceremony was not on the front page, only a small section in the back," said Fumis of how a São Paulo newspaper covered the Paralympics opening ceremony. "I think the media is powerful in the way that it can change the mindset of the population." AP

AD

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opinion

Girl About Globe

Linda Kennedy



MOONSHOT FOR MOONCAKES

I spent much of last week at a fashion event in Hong Kong, where Chinese domestic style brands talked of global ambitions.

But, at this time of mooncakes, I'm struck that Chinese domestic festivals aren't aspiring to wider recognition too.

Think of festivals like a brand. Which Chinese ones could most people in the West name? Probably just Chinese New Year. The Lenovo of

Back to the fashion analogy. Big global brands dominate the festival scene. Christmas is basically the Gucci of family get-togethers.

Mid-Autumn Festival can't challenge such a holiday super-brand. But, as in fashion, people are always looking for something new. Could Mid-Autumn Festival become a niche celebration, for edgy pioneers, to brighten up that long dark stretch in European countries and north America between the end of summer and Father Gucci's

First, let's remember, successfully exporting holiday brands is possible. Hallowe'en, for example. Ghouls went global after a big US push. In Britain, children used to go out 'guising'; now it's 'trick or treating'

Thus inspired, let's consider how to export Mid -Autumn Festival, by devising a Mooncake Brand Awareness, or MBA, strategy.

First, I'd suggest China has to make some Mid-Autumn Festival branding choices. Who would be the ideal Western consumer? The mooncake, at its simplest, is a pie. It's a thin crust, with filling. That carbohydrate form has been popular in Britain for years. In Scotland, it's called the bridie. In England, the Cornish pastie. Greggs, Britain's best-known pastie chain, has recently been reported to be selling sushi. It's already looking east. The market is ready.

With such carbohydrate heritage, another obvious starting point seems to be distribution at football games, especially as some British clubs are now owned by Chinese investors. New terrace chant? 'Who ate all the mooncakes?

But does the mooncake, and Mid-Autumn Festival seek to be more high-end? If so, getting mooncakes into Waitrose and Marks & Spencer Food is essential, and would also allow the MBA strategists to tackle a big issue head on. And that's the mooncake's high-calorie value. We are talking up to 1000 calories a cake. Gulp. Or rather don't. In the health-conscious West, a high-fat festival is a tough sell. But if the strategists get it right, there's an answer: have M & S sell a 'Count On Us' low-calorie mooncake. And pitch the 'one-day fast-feast' angle. Overall, a 24-hour mooncake-munch has got to be less ruinous to the silhouette than the entire Christmas holidavs.

In the US: there are other concerns. Could China accept re-branding to Mid-Fall Festival? Also. if Trump gets in, would this be unwanted cultural

And is all of this enough to launch a new global holiday brand? Perhaps more is needed.

Here, using the very name of the product seems a perfect opportunity. Mooncakes could surely be promoted by the Chinese space programme. Two manned missions are planned this autumn. How about a literal PR launch, taking mooncakes closer to their eponymous home than ever before? Might one of the spacecraft even be renamed the Lunar Cake Rover? Sky-high profile potential.

Although. Hang on. That heavy pie crust must be mentioned again. What if mooncakes were to defy weightlessness, and cause a Chinese mission to plummet from orbit? If that happened, it would be a diplomatic disaster. Shards of lotus seed paste filling turning into space junk would not please China.

Hey, no one said the globalization of Mid-Autumn Festival would be a piece of cake. But it's worthy trying. Meantime, writing this, I have eaten five mooncakes. My figure is certainly going

™ UBER GIVES RIDERS A PREVIEW OF THE DRIVERLESS FUTURE

Uber riders in Pittsburgh can get a glimpse of the future by summoning a car capable of handling most of the tasks of driving on its own.

Starting yesterday, a fleet of self-driving Ford Fusions are picking up Uber riders who opted to participate in a test program. While the vehicles are loaded with features that allow them to navigate on their own, an Uber engineer will sit in the driver's seat and seize control if things go awry.

Uber's test program is the latest move in an increasingly heated race between tech companies in Silicon Valley and traditional automakers to perfect fully driverless cars for regular people. Competitors such as Volvo and Google have invested hundreds of millions of dollars and logged millions of miles test driving autonomous vehicles, but Uber is the first company in the U.S. to make self-driving cars available to the general public.

SEVERE WEATHER

China on top alert as Typhoon Meranti approaches



A road sign is broken by strong wind on a highway from Pingtung to Kenting in typhoon-hit Taiwan

EASTERN and southern Chinese provinces are bracing for high ocean waves brought by Typhoon Meranti, which is expected to make landfall today.

China's National Marine **Environmental Forecasting** Center (NMEFC) upgraded its warning for ocean waves triggered by Typhoon Meranti to "red" yesterday, the highest alert in a four-color warning system.

Gales and record high waves up to 17 meters have been observed off the coast of Taiwan as the 14th typhoon this year moves westward and is expected to hit the coast of Fujian, Zhejiang and Guangdong provinces today.

The State Oceanic Administration has initiated a class-II emergency response, the second-highest level. Ships have been ordered to return to harbor and residents to stay indoors, according to the NMEFC. It also advised that dams should be reinforced.

Li Mei, a meteorologist in eastern China's Fujian, said that Meranti is among the strongest typhoons to hit China in recent years. Schools and kindergartens in coastal cities of Fuzhou, Xiamen, Zhangzhou, Quanzhou and Putian were closed yesterday.

"The typhoon will bring gales and heavy rain when it makes landfall," Li said.

"Parents are advised to keep children indoors and stay away from unsafe houses and advertising boards."

Provincial-level officials in Fujian are leading 13 work teams for disaster prevention work in areas most likely to be hit by the typhoon. More than 40,000 people have been evacuated from low-lying districts in Zhangpu County, which is close to the sea.

Industrial production, classes and businesses have been suspended in Xiamen, a coastal city in Fujian.

Passenger liners on eight routes between Fujian and Taiwan were canceled on Wednesday, as were at least 175 flights in and out of Fujian.

According to Chen Jianping, an official with Guangzhou Railway Group, services of many passenger trains have been stopped. Passengers may have their tickets refunded at railway stations.

More than 4,000 workers are patrolling railways to monitor potential risks, Chen said. Under China's four-tier severe weather warning system, red is the most serious, followed by orange, yellow and blue. Xinhua

Station Air quality Roadside 45-65 Moderate High **Density** 45-65 Residental Moderate **Area** 45-65 **Ambient** Moderate

WORLD BRIEFS

INDIA and Afghanistan called for an end to all sponsorship, support and sanctuaries to militants, including those who have committed violence in the two countries.

MONGOLIA Police announced the arrest of a man suspected of killing a British tourist in a rare case of violent crime in the landlocked Asian nation.

RUSSIA President Vladimir Putin's sports minister, who denied state involvement in doping at the Olympics, went on the offensive over accusations that Russian hackers leaked confidential medical records of U.S. athletes including tennis star Serena Williams and gymnast Simone Biles. "How can you prove that the hackers are Russian?" Vitaly Mutko, the minister, asked reporters yesterday in Athens.

IVORY COAST The Obama administration is lifting sanctions on the Ivory Coast in recognition of its steps to strengthen democratic institutions. White House spokesman Ned Price says the **Ivory Coast has** made "extraordinary progress" since its civil war ended in 2011. He's pointing to a successful election and better handling of arms and illicit trafficking.



VENEZUELA The South American trade block Mercosur will suspend Venezuela if it fails to meet a December deadline to comply with the group's human rights and immigration standards. The country failed to meet commitments it made when it joined in 2006 and was given a Dec. 1 deadline to avoid suspension

VEGAS-BEIJING ROUTE GETS US NOD

Hainan Airlines flying to Vegas starting in December



Chinese airline says it will start in December the first non-stop flight service between Las Vegas and mainland

China.

Hainan Airlines announced yesterday that it received final approval with the U.S. Department of Transportation to fly between Sin City and Beijing.

The flights going through McCarran International Airport will be on Boeing 787 Dreamliners planes.

Service is expected to start Dec. 2 and will run Mondays, Wednesdays and Fri-

The flights run 13 hours going west and 12 hours going east.

Vegas tourism officials are celebrating the news as casino companies continue to court Chinese nationals and Chinese-Americans on and off the Strip. AP