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**Extra** INSIDE



### WORLD BRIEFS



**BRICS** Expectations were high when five big, developing nations in 2009 joined as the so-called BRICS. The cooperation of the fast-rising economies driving world growth seemed to herald a new era. But at a summit in Goa this weekend, their leaders will be struggling to temper their tendency to compete, rather than collaborate.

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**CAMBODIA-CHINA** Chinese President Xi Jinping begins a two-day state visit to strong ally Cambodia during which he will strengthen their already firm relationship and witness the signing of nearly 30 agreements. More on p10



**AUSTRALIA-SINGAPORE** China should not see increased military cooperation between Singapore and Australia through a deal that will dramatically expand northern Australian training facilities as an attempt to contain it, the two prime ministers say. More on p13

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## Municipal body 'with no political power' raises many questions

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## Zhuhai fake police officer arrested for fraud

A Zhuhai male was arrested by the Zhuhai police on suspicion of involvement in five incidents of fraudulently acting as a police officer that took place in Zhuhai. The suspect, surnamed Li, cheated a Zhuhai driver, surnamed Xu. Li had been repeatedly taken Xu's car during the months of August and September, always wearing a police uniform and carrying a fake police ID. Li told Xu that he could sell him cheap cars, which had been previously seized by the police department. Li went along with Xu to a police station, where, standing by the fence, they checked the cars. Xu then gave Li RMB10,000 as a deposit. Police later ascertained that Li had allegedly committed four similar scams prior to Xu's case.

## 71 jaywalking cases recorded recently

In July, August and September combined, there was a total of 71 jaywalking offences recorded, according to the latest data released earlier this week by the Public Security Police Force. In addition, there have been 433 recorded occurrences of cars that did not give way to pedestrians on zebra crossings. 167, 113 and 153 cases were recorded in July, August and September, respectively. In the same period, 157 overloaded cars were reported; 72, 33 and 52 were recorded in July, August and September, respectively.

## Two tonnes of dead fish found in Macau's waters

On Tuesday and Wednesday, two tonnes of dead fish were collected by the Marine and Water Bureau, according to a notice published by the Bureau on Wednesday. The dead fish were found at the Inner Harbour, at the shoal in front of the Ocean Garden, and at Canal Dos Patos. The Environmental Protection Bureau took samples of the water for further examination. Both bureaus advised that dead fish might continue to float to the surface for a period of time. Meanwhile, both bureaus have called upon the public, in case greater amounts of dead fish are found, to report to either bureau. Officials have urged the public not to collect the dead fish for human consumption.

## PROFILE OF A TRENDING MUSICIAN

# Macau-born musician makes it in the mainland

Lynzy Valles

A Macau-born musician is back in the city after participating in a music talent show and joining gigs around the mainland, yet the singer is set to leave soon for more performances in China.

Ari Calangi is the only contestant who represented Macau in the Chinese reality talent show "Sing! China," formerly called "The Voice of China," that premiered in July on Zhejiang Television.

Before joining the competition, Ari was already a session musician, playing drums and guitar for different artists in China, Hong Kong and Taiwan.

Born to a Filipino family in Macau, Ari speaks the four languages that are used in the region. His mother taught him guitar at the age of seven, later adding piano and drums to his repertoire.

The "Sing! China" participant just arrived in Macau this week after playing shows in China and a gig with Chinese diva Huang Qishan at the China Open 2016.

Ari told the Times that he barely spoke Mandarin when he first went to Shanghai for the pre-blind audition, but he claims to have learned the language in as little as a week as he was already fluent in Cantonese.

Back in 2011, the singer-musician received a scholarship and was supported by the local government to enhance his drumming skills in Berklee College of Music in Boston.

Ari admitted that he did not have plans to become a singer, however his experience in the United States opened his eyes to new adventures and previously undiscovered skills.

"When I went to the States, I wanted to be professional drummer [...] but among such musicians I found my voice. When I started to sing, musicians were moved by it, even the audiences. My voice seems to be my strongest instrument," he explained.

Ari characterized his experience in Boston as a "discovery of my music voice," stressing that upon coming back to Macau, he had a "new direction, a new goal."

Meanwhile, the singer-musician told the Times that it is tough for local artists to have a breakthrough



in their music career, as there is no music market in Macau.

"There's no market in Macau. Even though when people like to say there is a small market, there's actually no market because Macau's music scene has not yet penetrated China nor Taiwan or any other music scene. It [Macau] has not (e)merged into any," he recalled.

Yet, Ari believes that hard work is the key for local artists to gain exposure in the music industry abroad, saying "they just have to do it smart."

"There are talent[ed people] in Macau that work really hard but I believe not hard enough," he said. "It was because when I went to the States, [I] saw a lot of passionate people then I got to see what hard work looks like. Coming back here to Macau, it's too relaxed, there's [low] competition where no sin-

ger really feels threaten[ed]," he explained.

The 26-year old singer also shared how the demand for local artists in the region has decreased, comparing 2005 through to 2010, local artists like him had three to four shows per month, compared to now where he only has one show every two to three months in Macau.

Although the artist was given offers to sign under companies in Macau and in the neighboring regions, he admitted that there are still no attractive offers from recording firms.

"I guess being in the music industry for four to five years, I've seen a lot of contracts to know what good deals look like," he said.

Aside from being a solo artist, Ari leads a band called "Wat De Funk," which officially started in May and consists of 11 musicians

There's actually no market because Macau's music scene has not yet penetrated China nor Taiwan or any other music scene.

ARI

and singers.

Ari is currently working on his album that will hopefully be released this year, and is now involved with a few projects that involve his band.

Ari is set to perform in Hong Kong this October 22 and 23 with Hong Kong singer-songwriter Eman Lam in "People Like Us" concert, and will perform a collaborative show with Erik Hargrove and also in Yoyo Sham's show on the 28th.

Aside from another gig in the neighboring region in November, he will also be in Taiwan for a musical festival called "Love Love Rock."

He also revealed that he is slated to participate in upcoming gigs in Singapore and Thailand before the year ends.



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# More non-gamblers visited Macau during Golden Week



**D**EREK Chen and family spent their Golden Week holiday in the world's biggest gambling center - and didn't place a single bet.

Chen and his wife, from Guangdong province, didn't go near a gaming table during their four-day vacation in Macau last week. Instead, they entertained their 3-year-old son at the fun zone in Melco Crown's Studio City, took in a magic show and rode on the resort's Ferris wheel.

"I was surprised when my friends suggested I take my son here to Macau," said Chen, 30, whose past trips to the city tended to be one-night gambling excursions with his friends. "Macau is different now. It's become a place where we can stay for a few days, find good restaurants and the kid can enjoy a magic show."

Macau's about-face appeal to families instead of its traditional base of high-stakes gamblers is

showing signs of paying off. The number of visitors from China rose 6.9 percent to 970,000 during the National Day holiday from October 1 to 7 known as Golden Week. That's the most tourists from the country in at least 10 years. Mainland vacationers came to the former Portuguese enclave even as China's slowing economy leaves many consumers cash-strapped and as the yuan weakens against the dollar. Expansion in the world's second-largest economy may have slowed to 6.6 percent in the third quarter, and the yuan fell the most in four months Monday.

"With the roll out of non-casino attractions, more non-gamblers will be attracted to these leisure places," said Catherine Lim, a retail analyst for Bloomberg Intelligence. "The 'one stop and you get it all for your family' concept definitely works for Chinese. The fa-

milies like to visit shopping malls where there are restaurants and playgrounds for their children."

The increase in Golden Week visitors is slower than the growth two years ago, when Macau's casino industry came off a record year in gaming revenue. Yet it helps support the city's efforts to reinvent itself as it comes under pressure from China's central government to scale back from gambling.

China President Xi Jinping ordered Macau to diversify its economy when he first visited in December 2014, and Premier Li Keqiang, who was in town this week, reiterated Beijing's push for those efforts and introduced a series of policies aimed at supporting the changes.

Still, Macau faces intensifying challenges from travel destinations in Asia and further afield, as countries court China's gamblers as well as its shoppers. South

Korea and the Philippines have been opening new casinos targeting Chinese high-stakes players, while Singapore came up with its own version of Golden Week that offers retail discounts and free limousine rides.

The number of Chinese who traveled during the National Day holiday rose 13 percent from a year ago to 593 million visitors, the China National Tourism Administration said on its website. Of those, agency-guided tourists leaving the country rose 12 percent to 1.4 million.

Their top destinations included South Korea, Japan, Russia and Thailand.

"It remains to be seen whether Macau's visitor growth rate can be sustained," Bloomberg Intelligence's Lim said. "The post-Golden Week performance could be weak and the outbound travel trend has introduced more competition to Macau." **MDT/Bloomberg**

## Gov't headquarters open to public during the weekend



The Government Headquarters Open Day sessions will this year be held during the weekend (15 and 16 October), from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. The sessions will include a series of performances and thematic flower displays. During the two days, members of the public will have the opportunity to visit the Protocol Palace of the Government Headquarters - a brightly colored landmark built more than 160 years ago - and its garden, located on Avenida da Praia Grande. There will also be guided tours of the ground floor of the headquarters. There will additionally be a display in the Multi-purpose Room of the Protocol Palace, titled "Exhibition of Old Photos of Macao".

## French May hails 25th anniversary

French May Arts Festival has marked its 25th edition as it hosted its 2017 Preview Cocktail reception on Tuesday at the Asia Society Hong Kong Center. During the reception, the festival unveiled its theme for the coming year - "Celebrating art and life the French Way." To celebrate its 25th edition, together with the 20th anniversary of the establishment of Hong Kong SAR, Le French May 2017 will invite audiences in Hong Kong and Macau to attend shows and exhibitions relating to French culture.

### LIAISON OFFICE HEAD

## Li leaves with 'unforgettable beautiful impression'



**W**ANG Zhi Min, head of the Central Government Liaison Office in Macau, commented on Li Keqiang's visit to Macau this week. "The Premier's visit to Macau is another big event for Macau's society, politics and life, following after President Xi Jinping's visit to Macau during the 15th anniversary of Macau's handover to the motherland," he said.

Wang believes that Macau will train more talented people who will in turn perpetuate the core value of "Love the

Country, Love Macau." Li Keqiang, while visiting a local school, encouraged local students to become "patriotic and responsible," as well as to become accomplished people who can build "a great motherland and a beautiful Macau." To Wang, Li's words correspond to the great expectations and hopes of the Premier towards Macau.

Wang believes that Macau will develop well by enhancing the One Country, Two Systems policies.

The Liaison Office head concluded by saying the meaning of Li's visit was fourfold: talking about Macau stories, planning Macau's development, carrying forward the Macau spirit, and, finally, looking towards the future of the SAR.

Wang noted that Li Keqiang's trip "was intense, rich, close to the people, pragmatic, a complete success, and left an unforgettable beautiful impression of our Macau compatriots."

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## Junket promoter fled Macau with HKD10b found in Cambodia

A former Macau junket promoter Huang Shan, a 40-year-old mainland resident from the Guizhou province was arrested in Cambodia yesterday morning. He had fled from Macau after stealing HKD10 billion from gaming investors.

The Macau Gaming Information Association (MGIA) revealed that Huang is currently in custody in Ha Long Bay, Vietnam. Huang's capture in Cambodia comes more than 900 days after his getaway from Macau.

Huang came to the city a few years ago and became involved in Macau's gaming industry, having had broad and well-developed relationships with mainland senior government officials and businessmen.

Holding a license as a junket promoter, Huang became active in casino VIP rooms, attracting a great number of mainland high-rollers.

In order to lure individuals into investing lar-

ge amounts of money in the VIP rooms, Huang offered a 2.5 percent monthly interest rate to his investors. The high interest rate proved to be enticing to investors, including many petty urban bourgeois from Macau and the mainland, which allowed Huang to raise HKD8 to HKD10 billion within a short period of time, according to a report by Apple Daily.

In April of 2014, Huang fled Macau with billions stolen from VIP room investments. The case was

■ Huang invited all his creditors to go to Ha Long Bay in Vietnam to discuss payment plans

revealed in the following month, upon which the casino stock prices took a downward turn, falling for several consecutive days.

Huang was found in Cambodia by three men who have been tracking him for 28 months. Huang, upon his capture, wrote a statement saying he is willing to give all the money back to his creditors, and expressed his "late, sincere apology to my friends from all sectors that suffered from the loss." He invited all his creditors to come to Ha Long Bay in Vietnam to discuss arrangements for payment plans, and promised to repay all the debts.

Previously, many mainland investors and triad members had Huang put on a wanted list in order to have him apprehended as soon as possible. An unnamed investor even offered HKD100 million as a reward to anyone who found Huang, according to a report by Apple Daily.

## Car on fire on Pak Wu scares passers-by



It was about 5 p.m. yesterday afternoon when flames were seen bursting out of a vehicle stopped at the entrance of the Nam Van public car park (on Pak Wu).

According to a spokesperson contacted by the Times at the Public Security Police Force, the driver involved was entering the car park after some time spent waiting when he noticed smoke building up inside his car.

The Fire Services were immediately

called and managed to quickly put out the fire.

Although the cause of the fire has not yet been discovered, the authorities believe that it might have been caused by a source external to the vehicle since the vehicle itself seemed to be relatively unaffected after the fire was put out.

All those involved in the unusual case escaped from the incident unhurt, according to the police. RM



Renato Marques

**A**LTHOUGH the idea of establishing a municipal body without political power is not new, it has regained prominence after the Secretary for Administration and Justice, Sonia Chan, said this month that a public consultation on the matter would take place this year.

Chan admitted that the creation of such a municipal body might lead to the termination of the current Civic and Municipal Affairs Bureau (IACM), and guaranteed that IACM staff would not come off badly from the expected major restructuring.

Chan previously said that the creation of the municipal body was allowed within the ambit of the Macau Basic Law.

In order to learn about both consequences and potential benefits of the creation of such a municipal body, the Times spoke with José Luís Sales Marques, the last president of Leal Senado (City Hall) between 1993 and 2001. That was when the Senado was abolished and led to the creation of the current IACM.

Sales Marques said that knowing which department or body would work in a better way is the most difficult issue to resolve since "it is difficult to evaluate something [that I don't know the form of yet]," he said.

Besides the uncertainty and the incapacity to judge the relative pros and cons of the possible abolition of the IACM, Sales Marques mentioned that the first issue to consider when creating the future municipal body is related to the competencies of such a body, "I don't know exactly if those competencies are the same as the IACM has for the time being [or] if new ones will be added," Sales Marques said. "What matters is that the bodies that will be defined will have to have an effective decision-making power and that they would take these decision on the matters they have competence to handle."

Sales Marques further added that "the decision-making bodies need to be able to reflect in a dynamic way Macau's pulse because these bodies will make decisions in order to solve problems directly related to the wellbeing of the population and

RENATO MARQUES



IACM headquarters

# Municipal body 'with no political power' raises more questions than answers

in order to raise citizens' quality of life."

In this way, Sales Marques highlights the need for clarification around these decisions.

"Will it be a department adapted from IACM? Will it be a brand new department? This is

**I also don't know yet what it means [the municipal body without political power]. We need to wait for the public consultation.**

JOSÉ TAVARES



José Sales Marques



José Tavares

something that needs to be clarified in order to grant its efficiency," he said.

"Municipal management is a facilities' management," Sales Marques noted, saying that the new body needs to be able to do "close-to-people management."

Questioned by the Times on the meaning of the future municipal power without political power, the current president of IACM, José Tavares, admitted, "I also don't know yet what it means, we need to wait for the public consultation that will be done [before] the year end as Secretary Chan said."

"How [it] is going to work, I don't know [that] either," said Tavares, adding, "the only thing

that was promised is that nobody will lose their job because of this [announced restructuring of IACM] and that's obviously a good sign."

Although he said that he is not yet aware of the consequences

**The decision-making bodies need to be able to reflect in a dynamic way Macau's pulse.**

JOSÉ SALES MARQUES

of the creation of the municipal body, the president of IACM thinks what is on the line is "maybe a change in a little bit of the structure, the name or of some member composition," he suggested, reaffirming that "at the time of the public consultation, people should be more informed in order to have an opinion."

For now, the issue of the future municipal body seems to raise more doubts than answers. According to the opinions heard by the Times, it will be clearer when an actual proposal for the creation of the municipal body without political powers is officially presented to the public and enters into public consultation before the end of 2016.

## MOP2.6 BILLION BUDGET IN 2016

ACCORDING TO information made available by the IACM to the Times, IACM currently employs 2,630 staff members, a reduced number due to the transfer of some of its functions and staff members to other governmental departments (around 270). The IACM also informed the Times that due to the transfer of some functions the

department's budget was also reduced by around MOP373 million from the original MOP2.6 billion in 2016 (which was largely unchanged from 2015, compared to 2.4 billion in 2014). IACM did not respond to other questions posed by the Times, namely if the creation of the new municipal body would lead to changes in the number of staff.



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Played at the picturesque Macau Golf & Country Club, the four-day event has all the ingredients for a fun day out for all the family, no matter the interest levels in the sport of golf. For the younger audience, the Kids Zone located behind the 18th green offers an array of educational and interactive activities where children can enjoy on their own, or experience them together with their parents.

Come visit tomorrow, Saturday 15 October, to enjoy a variety of innovative board games that are designed to develop concentration skills, memory techniques, and logical thinking in youngsters. There is also a parenting talk that enhance parental bonding through sports and household games and assist children's IQ development. For an extra special treat, an introductory golf clinic for kids will make its debut at the Venetian Macao Open to let those interested and curious to try this great sport. Face painting, a huge success at the tournament last year, will return as well.

Visit [www.thevenetianmacaopen.com](http://www.thevenetianmacaopen.com) to find out more!

The Venetian Macao Open is a free-entry tournament, and all activities mentioned above are free of charge on a first come first serve bases. Complimentary shuttle buses to the Macau Golf & Country Club at regular intervals depart from The Venetian and Sands Cotai Central (Holiday Inn).



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Lynzy Valles

# Oktoberfest kicks off with family-friendly format

**O**KTOBERFEST is back in Macau for the eighth consecutive year, this time with a family-friendly day-time schedule. Hosted by MGM Macau, the 11-day celebration of German culture and entertainment kicked off yesterday at the resort's The Vista II.

The resort is keen to bring the festivity to locals and tourists; the event will be held until October 23. A spokesperson for MGM Macau revealed that all tables are fully booked until the end of the celebration.

Commenting on the event, Consul General of Germany in Hong Kong, Nikolaus Graf Lambsdorff gave assurances that the celebration is similar to "stepping into the streets of Munich, in the comfort of Macau."

He also praised the event or-

ganizers for providing residents with an 'authentic' German experience.

CEO of MGM China Grant Bowie said yesterday during the opening ceremony that there has been continuous growth in the popularity of Oktoberfest in Macau, year after year.



Grant Bowie (center)

## MGM to focus on mass market despite GGR growth

**S**PEAKING on the sidelines of the event, MGM China CEO and executive director Grant Bowie told the press that MGM's future Cotai property will be retail, dining and entertainment oriented, as part of its diversification strategy.

"As I've said before, we understand that as part of diversification [...] we need to focus more on the mass market. It's where the people would likely come, they'd be looking for other things rather than just gambling," he explained.

Bowie did not specify exactly when the MGM Cotai property would open, due to the comple-

xity of ongoing construction work. When asked whether the second quarter of 2017 was a sure date, he said, "I can say for sure that we will open."

The CEO concluded by saying that MGM would continue to focus on attracting the mass market, in the face of an increase in the region's gross gaming revenue last month.

"We believe that the way we want to develop is correct and we will continue doing that. If things change, then also we'll be pragmatic and might take opportunities as they occur," he told the press. **LV**

As the resort is hosting a family-friendly day-time Oktoberfest, guests are invited to a Bavarian entertainment brunch on October 22 from 11 a.m. until mid-afternoon.

Bavarian beer maids in dirndl are also serving one of the six official Munich Oktoberfest beers, Spaten, along with other alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages.

Offering traditional décor, carnival houses, game booths, German cuisine, and folk music and dance performances, this year's MGM Oktoberfest features performances by Högl Fun Band, who has been performing at the event for the past seven years and has also composed the theme song for this year's event, "Nei Hou, Macau!"

**E**DWIN Cheung, chairman of Empresa de Fomento Industrial e Commercial Concordia, S. A., said that the government's recovery of land plots does not diminish his confidence in his next foray into real estate market development in Macau. The statement was offered on the sidelines of yesterday's launching ceremony of the property project "Sky Oasis."

Cheung admitted that he has always been looking for land in the city. "[...] any district is ok, even the north district, and some old parts. We are confident in [being able to] develop some high

quality apartments," Cheung said.

Recently, Zhuhai announced a change in its restrictions on house purchasing. Cheung believes that such policies will affect the prices of his projects if mainland investors move into the Macau and Hong Kong markets.

Cheung expects property prices to rise eight percent in the next couple years. "I think it [the property prices] will rise steadily, but not greatly," said Cheung, adding that he also does not want to see the prices rise too much. Cheung advised that tremendous in-

## Property developer confident in Macau's real estate market

creases in property prices are abnormal, exemplifying his remark by alluding to the situation three years ago, when small apartments were being sold at HKD15,000 to HKD16,000 per square foot. "We don't like abnormal prices, we like steady [prices]," affirmed Cheung.

Sky Oasis apartments range from 600 to 700 square feet in area. The apartmen-

ts are characterized by an 11-foot ceiling height and spacious layout. Additionally, they come supported with an attentive and considerate 24-hour concierge and clubhouse services.

Cheung informed that the first batch of apartments will be sold for around HKD9,000 per square foot, which he believes to be "reasonable." The properties are expected to be avail-

able for sale this weekend. 360 units in total will be put on the market in batches of 120 units each. In one month, Cheung expects to start selling larger apartments of 3,100 and 3,600 square feet. These larger properties will be sold for more than HKD30 million per unit. Cheung does not expect them to be sold within one or two weeks.

According to Cheung, the

forementioned project targets mainly the Macau market. He added that 4,000 marriages were registered in 2015, and more than 2,000 weddings already took place in the first half of 2016. He is of the belief that new families prefer to live in new homes, rather than live with parents, thus hinting that Sky Oasis could be the first choice of such couples. **JZ**

AD



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REAL ESTATE MATTERS

The Definitive Guide For Tenants

Part 5 - Ongoing Living & Termination

Juliet Risdon is a Director of JML Property and a property investor.

Having been established in 1994, JML Property offers Investment Property & Homes. It specializes in managing properties for owners and investors, and providing attractive and comfortable homes for tenants.

www.JMLProperty.com info@JMLProperty.com



JULIET RISDON

The Definitive Guide For Tenants

The Yearly Guide For Renting A Home

Welcome to the final part of the five part series on the rental process for tenants. This final installment is called "Ongoing Living and Termination".

Once you have spent the first few weeks in your new apartment and are nicely settled, it is important to ensure that you take responsibility for the ongoing upkeep and condition of the apartment.

Whilst the landlord is responsible for structural issues, you can check your contract for who is responsible for minor maintenance issues.

There are really only 4 key areas for a tenant to focus on

- Keep it Clean
- Keep it Dry
- Take care of the apartment
- Pay your bills

Keep it clean

This will minimize the chance of having an insect infestation such as beetles or cockroaches.

To help with this you should keep

all food stuffs in tightly sealed containers.

Keeping the place clean will also keep it smelling as nice as possible.

Keep it Dry

Keeping an area dry will keep mould at bay.

During humid the times of year, your best bet is to use a dehumidifier and air conditioner to dry the air.

If you do find mould starting to appear, treat it straight away. You can do this by cleaning it with a solution of water and white vinegar and making sure the area is dry.

Take care of the apartment

Make sure that you take responsibility for anything damage, even by accident, and repair it. Rectify any damage you or your family cause and keep the receipts. You may want to let the landlord know what has been done.

It is also a good idea to make sure that the air conditioners are serviced once a year and the filters cleaned regularly.

Making sure that the windows get cleaned once a year on the outside is a good idea as it brightens up the apartment and lets in the light.

Pay your bills

Make sure that you pay your bills on time and pay the final bills before check out. If you don't, the cost will be deducted from your deposit and you could face problems with the utility companies. This may also delay the security deposit refund process.

Giving notice

If you are intending to vacate the property, ensure that you give the landlord the appropriate notice which, under Macau Law, is 90 days. Also, do check your contract for any requirements.

Do not be tempted to use your deposit to pay the final months rent as this is in contravention of Macau law, and you will end up owing money to the landlord who is entitled to ask for late payment charges up to 100% of the rental amount.

Once you have given notice, your agent or landlord will arrange a check out and inspection with you and return the appropriate amount of the security deposit.

If you would like to know more about Tenancy Administration, please feel free to contact us at the e mail address below.

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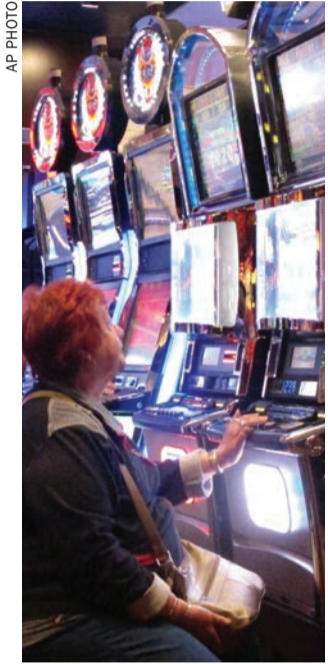
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# U.S. gambling regulators OK skill-based slots



Wayne Parry, Atlantic City

**N**ew Jersey gambling regulators have approved a New York firm to become the first in the United States to deploy skill-based slot machines on casino floors in which payout is determined by the player's ability.

The New Jersey Division of Gaming Enforcement gave approval yesterday [Macau time] to GameCo, Inc. to deploy its machines at three Atlantic City casinos owned by Caesars Entertainment. The machines could start being installed as soon as Monday at Harrah's, Caesars or Bally's.

The machines, called VGMs, are expected to undergo several weeks of testing, and are expected to usher in a new era of gambling aimed at attracting young people who grew up playing video games.

"With this approval from the DGE, the VGM is officially the first skill-based video game gambling product approved by any U.S.

gaming jurisdiction regulator," said Blaine Graboyes, the company's CEO and co-founder.

The company has been in a race with rival firm Gamblit, which last month announced plans to put similar machines in California and Nevada in October, also at Caesars-owned casinos. Other manufacturers working on similar products include IGT and NanoTech Gaming.

The machines are aimed squarely at millennials and those who like playing games on social media networks or on their phones, and who may be less inclined to play traditional push-button slot machines.

Titled "Danger Arena," the games give the player a brief tutorial, make sure the customer knows how to use the controls and that they are working properly, and then presents the customer with a map, or game scenario. This scenario will vary randomly, and constitutes the element of chance or randomness that is the hallmark of traditional slot machines. It is then up to the player to maneuver through the playing field in 45-to-90-second increments.

Each game also includes a secondary random winning opportunity, with a possible instant cash win ranging from USD1 to \$5,000, Graboyes added, so that even poorly skilled players have a chance at winning, he said.

GameCo plans to deploy three triple-unit carousels at Caesars, two at Harrah's and two at Bally's, with a total of 21 playing stations. It plans to expand them to additional states within the next six months. **AP**

## corporate bits

### CTM OFFERS IPHONE 7 TODAY



CTM will hold an iPhone 7 and iPhone 7 Plus sales event at an October 14 launch at CTM Telectro Concept Store (Taipa) and Praia Flagship CTM to serve its no. 1 Club members.

iPhone 7 customers who frequently travel between China, Hong Kong and Macau can also subscribe to the exclusive 'China-City Link (Macau & HK)' data plan, to enjoy an extra 48GB of data usage, while customers on an unlimited data plan can enjoy a half price deal on an Apple Watch Series 2.

According to a statement from the telecommunications company, customers who use CTM Visa Signature Card for payment can have their handset deposit waived and get an extra MOP100 discount.

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# Cooling property market is new economic growth threat

**ACTIONS** by China's policy makers to rein in property prices in the bubble-prone nation may prove so effective that the economy's growth rate could be affected next year.

At least 21 cities have introduced purchase restrictions and toughened mortgage lending since late September, reversing two years of easing to support home buyers. Goldman Sachs Group Inc. says more tightening is likely to follow if prices keep soaring, while Citigroup Inc. estimates shrinking demand may lead sales volume to contract in the fourth quarter.

"This is a round of substantial and high-profile property tightening, whose national impacts should not be underestimated," Harrison Hu, chief greater China economist at Royal Bank of Scotland Group Plc. in Singapore, wrote in a report. "A full-fledged property downturn will bring significant downward pressures on the real economy" and increase the potential for a hard-landing, he said.

The risk of a sharp property downturn threatens to derail an economy that's gaining momentum after reports that have shown improvement in manufacturing, new lending, industrial output, fixed-asset investment and retail sales. Underscoring headwinds confronting the world's second-largest economy, data yesterday showed exports dropped the most since February as global demand remained tepid.

Hu expects 6.6 percent growth next year, in line with projections in a Bloomberg survey of economists, but adds that risks are increasing. "Every 10 percent drop in national property sales and construction activities will lead to 2.5-3 percent drop in GDP, of which 0.5-0.6 percent would come from first-



tier and leading second-tier cities," he replied in e-mail.

Larry Hu, head of China economics at Macquarie Securities Ltd. in Hong Kong, has a similar view. He expects economic growth to drop by 0.5 percent in the first half of 2017 due to property tightening, at which time he says policy makers are likely to step in to ease mone-

**The sharp rise in property prices over the past year, fueled by a surge in mortgage lending, is clearly not sustainable.**

JULIAN EVANS-PRITCHARD  
CAPITAL ECONOMICS IN SINGAPORE

tary and fiscal policy to support growth.

With the economy stabilizing for now, policy makers do have some buffer to step up the reforms including easing housing inventories and reining in corporate debt. This week, China released a multi-agency plan to reduce corporate debt while saying that the government won't bear the final responsibility for borrowing by companies, in a sign that they're intensifying their fight against excessive leverage.

A day later, Premier Li Ke-qiang told an audience at a conference in Macau that the government will take effective measures to ensure a "healthy and sustainable" development of the property market. He also said he's confident that no systemic financial risk will occur.

Not everyone is so confident. The International Monetary Fund has been among those to warn of the potential threat China's growing debt pile may pose to the banking system and global growth.

Wei Yao, the China economist at Societe Generale SA in Pa-

ris, projected overall economic growth to lose momentum in the first half of 2017, as home sales will likely shrink as much as 20 percent nationwide in the next six months and further damp real estate investments.

"The sharp rise in property prices over the past year, fueled by a surge in mortgage lending, is clearly not sustainable and we expect a correction before long," Julian Evans-Pritchard, economist at Capital Economics in Singapore, wrote in a note. "This may not be the threat to financial stability that many fear. But it will result in a renewed drag on economic growth."

The Tsinghua UnionPay Advisors Real Estate Index showed property purchases accelerated 47 percent year-on-year in September, versus an 11 percent gain in August. The indexes are track transactions handled by China UnionPay Co., the nation's dominant payment network.

The latest official data show property prices rose by the most in six years in August. While gains have been most apparent in large cities such as

Shenzhen, where home prices are up about 60 percent in the past year, smaller cities such as Xiamen have also seen red-hot growth, with prices jumping more than 38 percent.

That's resulted in cities nationwide clamping down with curbs to cool buyer demand. Beijing on Sept. 30 increased down-payments for first-time home buyers to a minimum 35 percent, the highest level among the biggest cities. Shenzhen's measures include a minimum 70 percent down-payment for second properties and restrictions on non-residents.

Meanwhile, financial regulators plan to further tighten control on funds flowing into the property market in violation of current rules, people familiar with the matter said this week. And the Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development has ordered local regulators to intensify probes into rumor-mongering and "malicious" advertisements which play up rising housing prices, saying it was disrupting the market, according to a statement on the ministry's website.

The curbs are having their intended effect in some cities. Transactions in Beijing plunged 86 percent and prices dropped 24 percent in the seven days ended Oct. 9, according to Soufun Holdings Ltd., the owner of China's biggest property website. In Shanghai, the number of home sales declined 35 percent in the same period, with average prices down 8 percent.

Alan Jin, a Hong-Kong based property analyst at Mizuho Securities Asia Ltd. projected that September will mark the "peak" for both home-buying volumes and price appreciation, followed by a year-long decline in volume starting March or April and a decline in the nation's average home prices beginning in the middle of next year.

"The fierce tightening made by local municipalities are likely under the direction of the central government," Jin said. "The easing is officially over." **Bloomberg**

## Xi visits ally Cambodia to cement strong ties

nearly 30 agreements.

It is Xi's first trip to the impoverished Southeast Asian nation since he became head of state. He is due to meet with King Norodom Sihamoni and Prime Minister Hun Sen.

Hun Sen said that at least 28 cooperative agreements, mainly covering the economy, investments, agriculture and infrastructure, are set to be signed during Xi's visit.

China is Cambodia's key

ally and economic partner, providing millions of dollars in aid and investment over the past decade. China has granted Cambodia tariff-free status on hundreds of trade items and written off its debt. In July, Beijing gave nearly USD600 million in aid to support the country's election infrastructure, education and health.

In return, Cambodia supports China in international forums, including

in Beijing's ongoing dispute with other Southeast Asian countries in the South China Sea.

Security was tight for Xi's arrival at Phnom Penh International Airport, where several hundred students stood at both sides of the road to greet the president and his delegation by waving Xi's portraits and the two nations' flags. Several thousand security personnel also have been deployed along the streets

in the capital.

Xi signed an article in the largest Cambodian daily Rasmei Kampuchea in which he said that the two countries "enjoy deep political trust and win-win economic cooperation."

"China and Cambodia are devoted friends. On issues concerning each other's core interests and major concerns, our two countries have stood together and supported each other," he wrote. **AP**



Chinese president Xi Jinping waves from a plane during the arrival at Phnom Penh International Airport

**CHINESE** President Xi Jinping yesterday began a two-day state visit to strong ally Cambodia, during which he will strengthen the already firm relationship and witness the signing of



Denis D. Gray & Todd Pitman,  
Bangkok

**K**ING Bhumibol Adulyadej, revered in Thailand as a demigod, a humble father figure and an anchor of stability through decades of upheaval at home and abroad, died yesterday. He was 88 and had been the world's longest reigning monarch.

The Royal Palace said Bhumibol died "in a peaceful state" at Siriraj Hospital in Bangkok, where he had been treated for various health problems for most of the past decade.

During a reign that spanned 70 years Bhumibol became much more than Thailand's constitutional monarch. He was the nation's one constant as myriad governments rose and fell, a gentle leader who used the influence of the throne to unify the nation and rally troops through the Cold War as Thailand's neighbors fell under communist control. In his heyday, the frail-looking, soft-spoken man in spectacles wielded so much power and respect he was able to squelch coups and rebellions with a gesture or a few well-chosen words.

Bhumibol was viewed by many in the majority Buddhist nation as a bodhisattva, or holy being who delays entering nirvana to aid the human race. But while junta leaders, prime ministers and courtiers approached him only on their knees, Bhumibol was remarkably down-to-earth. He rolled up his sleeves and hiked into impoverished villages and remote rice paddies to assess the state of his country. He played half a dozen musical instruments and jammed with American jazz greats including Benny Goodman.

Bhumibol was the world's richest monarch and one of the planet's wealthiest people: Forbes magazine estimated his fortune at more than \$30 billion in 2011.

Over the last decade, Bhumibol had withdrawn from public life due to illness and was often ensconced at Siriraj Hospital. His wife, Queen Sirikit, has also long been ailing and has been even more rarely seen.

Since army-staged coups in 2006 and 2014, political rivals had increasingly invoked the need to protect the palace as a pretext to gain or hold power, and some politicians have been sidelined by opponents who accused them of disrespecting the king, a grave crime in this Southeast Asian country. Although Bhumibol once said he is not above criticism, Thailand's lese majeste law — the world's harshest — has been routinely employed in recent years, with anyone charged with defaming the palace facing 15 years in jail. Thai Prime Minister Prayuth



Thailand's King Bhumibol Adulyadej and Queen Sirikit review the honor guard during a ceremony ahead of his 78th birthday in Bangkok

THAILAND

# King Bhumibol, world's longest-reigning monarch, dies at 88

Chan-ocha said Crown Prince Maha Vajiralongkorn will become the new monarch after the death of his father, in accordance with the constitution. He said the government will notify the National Legislative Assembly, or parliament, of the king's successor, and it will act accordingly with the laws of succession in the constitution.

With the king's passing, the world's longest reigning monarch is Queen Elizabeth II, who ascended to the British throne in 1952.

Bhumibol Adulyadej was born Dec. 5, 1927, in Cambridge, Massachusetts, while his father, Prince Mahidol of Songkhla, was studying medicine at Harvard University.

Thailand has been a constitutional monarchy since 1932, with the prime minister and Parliament holding political power, and the king serving as head of state and placed in "a position of revered worship."

Bhumibol ascended to the throne in 1946, when his brother, 20-year-old King Ananda Mahidol, was found dead of a gunshot wound to the head in a palace bedroom under circumstances that remain mysterious.

After the shooting, Bhumibol returned to school in Switzerland. In 1948, he was seriously injured in a driving accident that deprived him of sight in his right eye; Sirikit Kitiyakara, the daughter of a Thai aristocrat and diplomat, helped nurse him back to health. Bhumibol and Sirikit wed in 1950, a week before the king's coronation ceremony.

The name Bhumibol means "Strength of the Land," and the bounty of Thailand's soil and waters was the king's passion. In 1952 he set out to breed a better freshwater fish, a staple of the Thai peasantry, in the ponds of his Chitralada Palace in Bangkok.

Over the course of his reign, as Thailand hurtled from a traditional agrarian society of 18 million people to a modern, industrializing nation of 70 million, Bhumibol spearheaded more than 4,300 development projects aimed at improving life for his people. He traveled to the farthest reaches of his nation to join village elders on a patch of grass to discuss the recent harvest or plot an irrigation ditch.

"They say that a kingdom is

like a pyramid: the king on top and the people below," he once told an Associated Press reporter. "But in this country it's upside down. That's why I sometimes have a pain around here." He pointed to his neck and shoulders.

While normally in the background of government theater, the king stepped to the forefront at crucial moments. During a pro-democracy uprising in 1973, he ordered the gates of the Grand Palace to be opened to students fleeing the gunfire of troops loyal to a dictatorial

**■ Crown Prince Maha Vajiralongkorn will become the new monarch after the death of his father, in accordance with the constitution**

triumvirate. The message was clear, and the trio went into exile. In 1992, during another bloody confrontation between the military and pro-democracy protesters, the king called in the two key protagonists, who prostrated themselves before him on nationwide TV and promised peace. The crisis ended immediately.

After mass protests against Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra began in 2006, Bhumibol urged the country's top courts to resolve the political crisis. A bloodless military coup followed, and part of the army rationale for intervening was Thaksin's alleged disrespect for the king.

By 2011, the king's health had worsened and Thaksin's sister Yingluck Shinawatra had become prime minister through elections. Mass protests helped fuel an unstable climate that triggered another army coup in 2014.

Through it all, Bhumibol himself remained adored and revered. His occasional public outings drew tens of thousands of people into the streets trying to catch a glimpse, with most dressed in the royal color of yellow. AP





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Rod McGuirk, Canberra

# Australia, Singapore say defense pact should not worry China

CHINA should not see increased military cooperation between Singapore and Australia through a deal that will dramatically expand northern Australian training facilities as an attempt to contain it, the two prime ministers said yesterday.

Australian and Singaporean officials signed a pact under which Singapore will spend up to 2.25 billion Australian dollars (USD1.7 billion) to double the capacity of its facilities in military training areas in Queensland state.

Singapore's Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong said China is the biggest trading partner of both Singapore and Australia. The agreement was part of regional cooperation, he said.

"I don't think that Singapore and Australia together could possibly be seen as a bloc" against China, Lee told reporters. "We are good friends, but we are not treaty allies and neither are we opposed to any countries in the region."

Australian Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull said he agreed with Lee and his view that the U.S. military presence in the Asia-Pacific region had underpinned the region's stability and prosperity for the past



Singapore's Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong (center), leaves Australian Parliament House in Canberra

40 years.

"That extraordinary growth, perhaps most of all in China, has been underpinned by that foundation of peace," Turnbull said. "The importance of Ame-

rican engagement in our region cannot be overstated."

As well as U.S. military involvement in the region, both prime ministers hoped the U.S. Congress would agree to join

the 12-country Trans-Pacific Partnership trade deal, even though both major presidential nominees, Republican Donald Trump and Democrat Hillary Clinton, have come out against

the pact.

Under the new defense deal, the Singapore military will triple its annual access to the Australian training grounds to 18 weeks. Singapore troop numbers will increase from 6,600 to 14,000.

The Chinese Embassy in Australia did not immediately respond to a request for comment. China has been critical of a comparable deal between Australia and the United States to make the northern Australian city of Darwin a growing training hub for U.S. Marines.

Australia and the United States last week struck a cost-sharing deal to pay for more than AU\$2 billion in infrastructure to accommodate up to 2,500 Marines.

The number of Marines rotating through Darwin has grown since the first contingent of 200 visited for six months in 2012. The latest rotation of 1,100 Marines left Darwin on Thursday after six months. AP

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Danica Kirka, London

UK

# Lawsuit challenges British PM Theresa May on Brexit

**T**HE case is considered the most important constitutional matter in a generation: can Prime Minister Theresa May start negotiating Britain's exit from the European Union without an act of Parliament?

Financial entrepreneur Gina Miller's lawsuit against the government seeks to answer this as well as much bigger questions about where power lies in this nation's democracy and whether rights can be revoked without a vote of lawmakers.

May says the June 23 referendum on EU membership gave her a mandate to take Britain out of the 28-nation bloc and that discussing the details of her strategy with Parliament would weaken the government's negotiating position. May has announced plans to invoke Article 50 of the EU treaty, starting talks on Britain's future relationship with the single market, by the end of March.

The lawsuit, hearings on which begin yesterday at the High Court in London, could derail those plans. But Miller, who supported the campaign to stay in the EU, says the case isn't about blocking Brexit — a British exit from the EU — or keeping Britain in the bloc.

"It's about democracy," she said. "To my mind, the most dangerous precedent we'd be setting is that a government can overrule Parliament and not consult it when we are making decisions about people's rights. And that to me is a very, very dangerous place."

Andrew Blick, an expert on the Magna Carta at King's College London, said the case involves an argument that dates back almost 400 years to the English Civil War as to whether power ultimately rests in the executive or Parliament.

"It's a long, long running dispute," he said. "It goes back to the

clash between the king and the representatives of the subjects. This is just another installment of it."

Underscoring the importance of the case, May put Attorney General Jeremy Wright in charge of the legal team fighting the suit. That announcement was made with a flourish at the recent Conservative Party conference as May underscored she would "make a success" of taking the country out of the EU.

Wright argues the suit is an attempt to put a legal obstacle in the way of enacting the referendum result.

"There must be no attempts to remain inside the EU, no attempts to re-join it through the back door, and no second referendum," he said in a statement. "We do not believe this case has legal merit. The result should be respected and the government intends to do just that."

■ **An expert on the Magna Carta at King's College London said the case involves an argument that dates back almost 400 years**



Gina Miller

At issue is May's attempt to use Royal Prerogative, historic powers officially held by the queen, to trigger Article 50. The powers, which have in reality passed to politicians, enable decisions to be made without a vote of Parliament and cover matters as basic as issuing passports.

Historically, Royal Prerogative has also applied to foreign affairs and the negotiation of treaties.

Miller argues that Parliament should decide whether to invoke Article 50 — after a full debate and vote — because the rights of individuals in Britain are being revoked in the process. The freedom of movement, the freedom of trade and the freedom to vote in European elections are among the rights that will change when Britain leaves the EU.

"You're taking away individual rights as a matter of national law," said Miller, 51, who runs SCM Direct, an online investment manager, and is also a lawyer.

Politically, though, there's growing cross-party pressure to give Parliament a say on Britain's Brexit strategy before Article 50 is invoked. A motion debated this week in the House of Commons demands that lawmakers have a chance to "properly scrutinize" the Brexit strategy before the formal exit process begins.

May faced a rebellion from members of her own party and was forced to concede that Conservative lawmakers could support the opposition Labour Party's motion yesterday [Macau time]. But she insisted on amendments stating that the re-

sult of the EU referendum must be respected and that the government's negotiating position should not be undermined.

Further complicating matters for lawyers on both sides of the issue is the fact that the U.K. constitution is not a single document as in other countries, such as the United States. Instead, it is a collection of laws and precedents established over centuries, leaving gray areas that need to be decided by the courts.

Regardless of how the High Court rules, the Supreme Court has cleared a place on its calendar in December to hear an appeal.

David Allen Green, a senior consultant at the law firm of Preiskel & Co., said the litigation may be "the most important constitutional case of a generation," due to the magnitude of the EU debate and because talented constitutional lawyers are involved on both sides.

"But its main importance is because it deals squarely with many legally unexplored areas at the very heart of constitutional law," said Green, who isn't involved in the lawsuit.

He said those areas include "the exact scope of executive power in regard to treaties, the impact of referendums, the proper roles of Parliament and the courts in such matters, the protection or removal of rights of UK and EU citizens, and the relationship of all of these with the devolved governments in Northern Ireland and Scotland."

"It could be mind-blowing stuff," he said. **AP**

## Slower growth, rivalries key issues at BRICS summit in Goa

**E**XPECTATIONS were high when five big, developing nations in 2009 joined as the so-called BRICS. The cooperation of the fast-rising economies driving world growth seemed to herald a new era of putting poverty alleviation and infrastructure development first.

The five BRICS countries — Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa — do not lack for heft. They represent nearly half the world's population and a quarter of its economy, at a combined USD16.6 trillion. But at a summit in the western Indian state of



Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi (left), and Russian President Vladimir Putin

Goa this weekend, their leaders will be struggling to temper their tendency to compete, rather than collaborate, in boosting their slowing economies.

The five nations face unique challenges that make coordination tricky.

The authoritarian systems in Russia and China diverge from the lively de-

mocracies in India, South Africa and Brazil. Conflicting alliances with non-BRICS countries mean the group is unlikely to reach a consensus over issues such as the war in Syria or tensions in the South China Sea.

Within their ranks, the four other nations are chafing at China's increasing dominance in manufacturing and trade and seem unlikely to support a push by Beijing for more open markets when they are striving to keep their own heads above water.

"BRICS is still a work in progress," says H.H.S. Vishwanathan, a former Indian diplomat in the

U.S. and several African countries. "If one looks at statements from the last seven summits, the agenda of the group is constantly evolving and expanding."

Chinese academics and analysts have floated the idea of pushing for a free-trade agreement among the BRICS. A Chinese Commerce Ministry spokesman said last month that, while China hasn't made such a proposal formally, it believes that removing tariffs and other barriers could be important for practical cooperation between the five nations.

Such an idea would

likely fall flat with other BRICS countries anxious over cheap Chinese goods flooding their markets and already burdened by huge trade deficits with Beijing.

"It is likely the Chinese may not bring it up at all, because they would not want to be in an embarrassing position," Vishwanathan said. "This is a nonstarter for the BRICS."

In Goa, the BRICS leaders are likely to buttress their development-focused economic agenda with a decision to establish their own credit-rating agency, which they argue would treat developing countries more fairly than existing ones favoring Western economies. **AP**



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## TV canal macau



## FRIDAY

13:00	TDM News (Repeat)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
14:45	RTPi Live
18:10	Precious Pearl (Repeated)
19:00	TDM Talk Show (Repeated)
19:30	Soap Opera
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:15	Documentary Serie
22:10	Precious Pearl
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Portuguese Movie
00:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)
01:20	RTPi Live

## SATURDAY

10:40	Comedy
11:05	Blaze Riders
11:30	Documentary Serie
12:00	Miscellaneous
13:00	TDM News (Repeat)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
14:50	Soap Opera
16:30	Miscellaneous
17:00	Documentary Serie
18:10	Miscellaneous
18:40	Contest
19:40	Miscellaneous
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:00	Drama
22:00	Revenge S.3
22:45	Non-Daily Portuguese News
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Comey
00:15	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)

## SUNDAY

10:40	Young Children
11:00	Sunday Mass (Live)
13:00	TDM News (Repeat)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
14:40	Zig Zag
16:55	ABU Radio Song Festival
16:50	Miscellaneous
17:05	Documentary Serie
19:05	Non-Daily Portuguese News
19:30	Comedy
20:10	Miscellaneous
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:00	Non-Daily Portuguese News
22:00	Boat People
22:40	Non-Daily Portuguese News
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Non-Daily Portuguese News
23:45	Europa League Magazine 2016/2017
00:40	Main News, Financial & Weather Report

## offbeat

## RAGING TUK-TUK DRIVER BASHES EGYPT ECONOMY, VIDEO GOES VIRAL

A video of an enraged tuk-tuk driver unloading on the state of Egypt's flagging economy went viral yesterday, underlining growing popular discontent in the country over shortages of food staples and broader business malaise.

Filed in the crowded lanes of a working class Cairo neighborhood, the video shows the driver, surrounded by crowds, slamming the government for spending money on pomp at recent state ceremonies while the poor suffer.

"You watch Egypt on television and it's like Vienna, you go out on the street and it's like Somalia's cousin," he says in the clip, originally aired on Wednesday night on the pro-government Al Hayat television channel.

By yesterday afternoon it had gained 1.6 million views and 48,000 likes on one Facebook page, with thousands more likes and supportive comments being added each hour to the criticism-heavy footage, rare on television.

In a sign of the sensitivity of the matter, the network quickly pulled the video from its own media sites. Egypt has a long history of suppressing news that can be seen as damaging to its image, a trend that intensified enormously under President Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi's rule.

El-Sissi, the former army chief who overthrew his elected but divisive Islamist predecessor in 2013, stamping out opposition and dissent from all corners and promising stability and a better economy for all.

## cinema



## CINETEATRO

13 Oct - 19 Oct



## CELL

ROOM 1

2.30, 4.30, 9.30 pm

Director: Tod Williams

Starring: John Cusack, Samuel L. Jackson, Isabelle

Fuhrman

Language: English (Cantonese)

Duration: 98min

## MISS PEREGRINE'S HOME FOR PECULIAR CHILDREN

ROOM 1

7.15 pm

Director: Tim Burton

Starring: Eva Green, Asa Butterfield, Samuel L. Jackson

Language: English (Cantonese)

Duration: 127min



## THE ACCOUNTANT

ROOM 2

2.30, 4.45, 7.15, 9.30 pm

Director: Gavin O'Connor

Starring: Ben Affleck, Anna Kendrick, J.K. Simmons

Language: Japanese (English and Cantonese)

Duration: 128min



## MR. RIGHT

ROOM 3

2.15, 5.50, 9.30 pm

Director: Paco Cabezas

Starring: Sam Rockwell, Anna Kendrick, Tim Roth

Language: English (Cantonese)

Duration: 90min

## SADAKO VS KAYAKO

ROOM 3

4.00, 7.30 pm

Director: Koji Shiraishi

Starring: Mizuki Yamamoto, Tina Tamashiro, Masanobu

Ando

Language: Japanese (English and Cantonese)

Duration: 98min

## MACAU TOWER

06 Oct - 19 Oct

## SNOWDEN

2.30, 4.30, 7.30, 9.30 pm

Director: Oliver Stone

Starring: Joseph Gordon-Levitt, Shailene Woodley,

Melissa Leo

Language: English (Cantonese)

Duration: 134min

## this day in history



## 1973 THAI ARMY SHOTS PROTESTERS

Dozens of people have been killed in the Thai capital of Bangkok in street battles between government troops and demonstrators.

Most of the victims were students from Thammasat University, who had gathered in large numbers for a second day of protests against the Thai military regime.

Violence broke out when several thousand students took to the streets demanding the military government step down. They are also calling for an early introduction of a constitution.

Today demonstrators barricaded streets leading to government offices. Witnesses say protesters threw stones and petrol bombs but were driven back by police and troops using live rounds.

Several people fell after shots were fired - reportedly the work of snipers.

There have also been reports of fire engines and buses being commandeered and driven into tanks.

Clashes between troops and students also occurred at Thammasat University after students began returning from the street demonstrations.

The students are angry with Field Marshal Thanom and his regime - successive military governments have ruled Thailand since 1947.

The field marshal abolished the existing constitution in a coup in November 1971, and less than 10 days ago 13 pro-democracy campaigners were arrested for calling for a permanent constitution.

After a peaceful protest march of about 200,000 people yesterday, the government pledged to introduce a new constitution within 12 months.

But there is considerable public scepticism about the government's promises - the last constitution took 10 years to be introduced.

Bangkok is now under a state of emergency. Newspaper censorship and curfews have been imposed, and schools in the capital will remain closed until the situation calms down.

Courtesy BBC News

## IN CONTEXT

Numerous testimonies indicate the regime opened fire on unarmed civilians. The official death toll was 77. Over 800 were wounded.

Later that day, Marshal Thanom resigned along with two other senior officers. The three were temporarily exiled.

Dr Sanya Dhammasak, rector of Thammasat University, became the new Prime Minister.

Civilian government survived until October 1976, when a military regime took over again.

There was another military coup in 1991. Elections in 1992 returned democracy to Thailand.

But in September 2006 the military intervened again, to remove Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra.

Most Thais celebrate the 'October 14 Uprising' anniversary as Thai People's Rights and Freedom Day.



**YOUR STARS**

**Aries**

Mar. 21-Apr. 19

A meeting may go far too long this morning, so make sure that you're keeping your remarks short and sweet. Things are sure to get weird if you don't keep everyone on track today!

**Gemini**

May 21-Jun. 21

It's time for a change of some kind, so push yourself to try something new or at least to make a move. The further you go, the more likely you are to end up in exactly the right place.

**Leo**

Jul. 23-Aug. 22

You've got a unique way of seeing the world — and today, that's a hot commodity! You should be able to show others a fresh perspective that helps them to come to terms with a big problem.

**Libra**

Sep. 23-Oct. 22

You walk through a familiar door early today — and end up somewhere entirely new and different! It's not magic, just a shift in perspective that is almost certain to be overwhelmingly positive.

**Sagittarius**

Nov. 22-Dec. 21

Your mind takes a philosophical bent today, but it's not so deep that you lose yourself entirely. You may find that someone new has arrived who can explain a difficult issue pretty easily.

**Aquarius**

Jan. 20-Feb. 18

Your creative energy is working its magic today — so much so that you might find yourself in a very different place by tonight! Just go with it, because you're sure to like where it leads.

**Taurus**

April 20-May 20

This is a hard time for thinking big — try to focus on the small stuff if you want to succeed. Of course, eventually you'll have to look at the big picture, but you should know when the time's right.

**Cancer**

Jun. 22-Jul. 22

If it feels as if your workload is too burdensome, that's because it is. You need to make sure that you're not just taking it all on yourself, though — make sure you've got reinforcements to help.

**Virgo**

Aug. 23-Sept. 22

You can't let emotion influence your judgment too much today — it's all about cold, hard logic. That might be hard to get across to people in your circles, but you can find a way to make it work.

**Scorpio**

Oct. 23 - Nov. 21

You are already pretty careful with your actions — as long as you know the risks. Today, though, you may not be fully informed. Take care that you learn as much as you can before you get moving.

**Capricorn**

Dec. 22-Jan. 19

An email or phone message comes your way this morning that is much more important than you realize. Take it seriously and get right to work on it — in fact, you may need to spread it around.

**Pisces**

Feb. 19-Mar. 20

It's an active, busy day — even if you've got nothing planned! Events fill up empty schedules quickly, so be ready to say 'no' more than once as you try to reclaim some down time.

**THE BORN LOSER** by Chip Sansom



**SUDOKU**

**Easy**

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

**Easy+**

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

**Medium**

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

**Hard**

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

**WEATHER**

	MIN	MAX	CONDITION
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**CHINA**

Beijing	10	28	cloudy/haze
Harbin	-1	18	clear
Tianjin	11	27	clear
Urumqi	9	25	clear
Xi'an	13	34	overcast/drizzle
Lhasa	8	23	cloudy
Chengdu	14	29	drizzle
Chongqing	15	32	drizzle
Kunming	16	22	shower
Nanjing	16	34	overcast
Shanghai	19	35	overcast
Wuhan	16	33	drizzle
Hangzhou	17	35	overcast/cloudy
Taipei	25	32	drizzle
Guangzhou	21	31	shower/moderate rain
Hong Kong	20	29	shower

**WORLD**

Moscow	10	19	drizzle
Frankfurt	11	17	cloudy/drizzle
Paris	9	12	clear/cloudy
London	10	15	clear/cloudy
New York	13	18	clear

**CROSSWORDS**

**ACROSS:** 1- Corn covering; 5- Effluent system; 10- Wild guess; 14- \_\_\_ even keel; 15- Moor; 16- Fast-food option; 17- Breadth of mind; 19- Graph line; 20- Flowing water; 21- The act of swimming; 23- Instructor; 25- Gesture of indifference; 26- With respect to; 28- Least significant; 31- Alka-Seltzer sound; 34- Salt Lake City college team; 36- Actress Berger; 37- Mazel \_\_\_; 38- Tardiest; 40- Debtor's note; 41- You \_\_\_ right!; 43- Bausch & Lomb brand; 44- Some TV's; 45- Angel of the highest order; 47- Soft; 49- Ghost; 51- Fortification; 55- Locomotive track; 58- Low-frequency loudspeaker; 59- "Splendor in the Grass" screenwriter; 60- Adapted for grasping; 62- Contented sighs; 63- Shoe ties; 64- Angers; 65- Fast jets, for short; 66- Video game pioneer; 67- Golf pegs, northern English river;

**DOWN:** 1- "The Planets" composer; 2- Join forces; 3- Native Israeli; 4- Patella; 5- Disgraceful; 6- It's a moray; 7- Farm wagon; 8- Kett and James; 9- Beat; 10- Height; 11- Producing toxins; 12- Currency exchange fee; 13- Cap'n's underling; 18- Stadium cheers; 22- Give it \_\_\_; 24- Chopper topper; 27- Marry again; 29- Greek portico; 30- Greek T's; 31- School orgs.; 32- Folk wisdom; 33- Careless omission; 35- Spanish Mister; 38- Lethargy; 39- Island in central Indonesia; 42- Withered; 44- Store for safekeeping; 46- Hype; 48- Let's go!; 50- Purity unit; 52- Flaming; 53- Noted Civil War biography; 54- Long lock of hair; 55- Narrow inlets; 56- Collections of anecdotes; 57- Word form for "ten"; 61- Not him;



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- PSP 28 573 333
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- Kiang Wu Hospital 28 371 333
- Commission Against Corruption (CCAC) 28326 300
- IACM 28 387 333
- Tourism 28 333 000
- Airport 59 888 88
- Taxi 28 939 939 / 2828 3283
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- Electricity - Report 28 339 922
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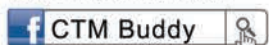
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# Poulter powers into joint first round lead

**E**NGLAND'S Ian Poulter marked his return from a four-month injury layoff with a stylish seven under par 64 to share the first round lead with Spaniard Carlos Pigem at The Venetian Macao Open yesterday.

The former Ryder Cup star birdied all the par five holes at Macau Golf and Country Club and did not drop a shot in the US\$1.1 million Asian Tour tournament. Pigem, who broke through for his first Asian win in July, caught Poulter later in the day, thanks to an outstanding outward 28 which included five birdies and an eagle.

Thailand's Chapchai Nirat led the chasing pack, with two closing birdies giving him a 65 to trail by one, while India's Anirban Lahiri, champion here in 2014, shot a bogey-free 66 to share third place with Australia's Marcus Fraser, who made two eagles after suffering an injury scare at the start of his round.

Birthday boy Miguel Tabuena of the Philippines, who turned 22 yesterday, signed for a 67 to share fourth place with back-in-form Australian Marcus



Ian Poulter

Both, last year's joint runner-up Chiragh Kumar of India and Australia's Kalem Richardson.

Poulter, a former world number five, was delighted to feature on the leaderboard at the tournament. "I just tried to get my game into shape coming out here. I birdied all the par fives which is obviously very helpful and I didn't make any mistakes. It's the type of course where if you don't make a mistake, you can piece together a very nice score."

After missing his last three cuts, Pigem, 26, bounced back to form as

he shot a career first 28, which included a chip-in eagle on the third. "To be honest, on mini golf, or pitch and putt, I may have shot [28] but certainly not in a tournament," he smiled. "I've been playing badly the past few weeks. So I'm happy today I enjoyed myself made birdies again, which is important, and hopefully I can keep it like this. I hope this is the beginning of good and new things."

Four-time Asian Tour winner Chapchai wielded a hot putter, needing only 27 strokes on the short grass. "I've not putted well the past few months

but the Thai players were giving me some tips on Wednesday, telling me to be more aggressive with my stroke. It worked," said the 33-year-old.

Reigning Asian Tour number one Lahiri took his customary place among the leaders with

**“It's the type of course where if you don't make a mistake, you can piece together a very nice score.”**

IAN POULTER

five birdies. Like Poulter, he was also returning from injury, but showed no rust after some early struggles in Indonesia last week.

"My shoulder is beginning to heal and the nerves are settling down. I'm happy and I'm definitely in a better place physically. When I get to

this golf course, I'm in a good place mentally," said Lahiri, who has been runner-up here twice and is 47 under par over the last three years.

Fraser, second on the Asian Tour Order of Merit, had a scare early on with back spasm. But after receiving treatment, the Aussie hit the ground running, knocking a superb three wood to eight feet for eagle on 18 and then holing out from the fairway on the eighth hole from about 65 yards out.

"It's a pretty colorful scorecard, that's for sure," said Fraser, who won in Malaysia earlier this season. "My back went into a spasm when we were about to go off from the tenth tee. Hopefully I'll be able to get it sorted as it wasn't feeling too good."

The 144-player championship is jointly organized by Sports Bureau of Macao SAR Government (MSB) and the Golf Association of Macau. It is sanctioned by both the Asian Tour and the Golf Association of Macau, and promoted by IMG.

Macau Daily Times is the tournament's official media partner.

## ONE SHOT NEWS



Zhang Lian-wei (left) and Scott Hend (right) took part at The Venetian Macao Open 2016 Tee-off Ceremony on Wednesday at the Macau Golf & Country Club.

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opinion

**Kapok**  
Eric Sautede



**PLUS ÇA CHANGE...**

When then Premier Wen Jiabao visited Macao in November 2010, he reminded the SAR government that "power [had] to operate under the sun" and that it was duty-bound "to spend more money on livelihood issues".

Those words sounded like a warning at a time when the discrepancy between public revenue and public spending was gaping: the government was getting richer by the day, and not much was being done in terms of infrastructure, urban development and meaningful public policies for the benefit of the population - think education, healthcare, retirement schemes, transport, lodging, sport facilities, greening of the city, etc.

In the second quarter of 2010, the government had spent only a quarter of what it had pocketed, and piling up resources while designing half-baked policies was the latest fad. "Scientific governance" had just started to bubble up in official speeches, and everybody was thus longing for things to change. Mr Wen had come to Macao to attend the third Ministerial Conference of the Forum for Economic and Trade Cooperation between China and Portuguese-speaking Countries (PSCs), that had concluded on an upbeat note with the announcement of the establishment of a US\$1 billion fund to help Asian and African PSCs in their development drive.

As often happens, high expectations are usually met with disappointment.

In Macao proper, things have barely improved, and we still don't know whether this is due to the appalling mess left by Mr Ho's tarnished second mandate or Mr Chui's ineffective first mandate, but clearly livelihood issues have not been addressed properly: traffic is worse than ever, air pollution has aggravated, economic housing plans and healthcare facilities are still simmering on the back burner, smoking is still allowed in casinos, etc.

And that was not for lack of resources: in 2013, the record year for gambling revenues, the government spent less than 30% of what it had "earned", and even if the "imbalance" in public finance significantly decreased with the decline in gambling revenue, the government spent a mere 41% of its fiscal revenue in 2014 and despite an adverse situation in 2015, spending only amounted to 70% of the revenue last year and surplus still equated to almost 45% of ordinary spending! No wonder we are in need of a new law on public finance for legislators to be able to more closely monitor the situation.

And yet, one can wonder: are most of the legislators part of the solution or actually part of the problem? Why is it that all these businessmen-turned-public-figures are so much against R&D and innovative investments when it comes to public spending? Could it be because they control land usage, public services and the maintenance of these services? Plus ça change, plus c'est la même chose: Mr Li Keqiang, now Prime minister and visiting Macao for the fifth Ministerial Forum is talking about "people-oriented governance, scientific decision-making and giving priority to the people's livelihood"...

Diversification, meaning gambling refitted with tourism, entertainment, culture and creative industries, is now the way to go, thanks to the admonition aired by President Xi Jinping when he visited Macao in December 2014, and the cooperation with PSCs appears to be one of the two key pillars, together with the integration of the Pearl River Delta, for this ambition to become a reality. The 19 measures to further cooperation between China and PSCs are thus worthy of careful consideration.

But facts are stubborn things: trade between China and these countries peaked in 2013, and the aim was for these exchanges to reach USD160 billion by 2016, whereas they declined by 26% last year, amounting to less than \$100 billion. The \$1 billion fund announced by Mr Wen six years ago has received a limited \$125 million in capital, and only two projects, one in Angola, the other in Mozambique, have been approved for partial funding.

Having the Fund for Development moved from Beijing to Macao might help, and yet for what purpose and to whose benefit? In Macao, the house always wins!

**THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY ELECTS GUTERRES AS SECRETARY-GENERAL**

The 193 U.N. member states have elected Portugal's former prime minister Antonio Guterres by acclamation as the next secretary-general of the United Nations.

Assembly President Peter Thompson introduced the resolution, said members wanted it approved by acclamation,

and banged his gavel in approval as diplomats broke into applause.

The 67-year-old Guterres, who served as the U.N. refugee chief for 10 years until last December, will take up the job of the world's top diplomat on Jan. 1 when Ban Ki-moon's second five-year term ends.



Station		
Roadside	50-70 Moderate	
High Density Residential Area	75-105 Bad	
Ambient	75-105 Bad	

SOURCE: DSMG

**WORLD BRIEFS**

**PHILIPPINES** Police say the bodies of three foreigners with gunshots to their heads have been found in a sugar cane field, and South Korea's Foreign Ministry identifies them as its nationals.



**PAKISTAN** A Spanish diplomat is found dead in his Islamabad home in what authorities suspect is a suicide. The 60-year-old man was found in his bedroom by a domestic servant with a revolver by his side, police said. There was no immediate reaction from the Spanish embassy.



**AUSTRALIA** A state Parliament in Australia unanimously passes a motion that describes U.S. presidential nominee Donald Trump as "a revolting slug unfit for public office."

**SOUTH KOREA** Samsung Electronics says it has expanded its recall of Galaxy Note 7 smartphones in the U.S. to include all replacement devices the company offered as a presumed safe alternative after the original Note 7s were found prone to catch fire.



**NIGERIA** 21 of Chibok schoolgirls kidnapped by Boko Haram more than two years ago have been freed in a swap for detained leaders of the Islamic extremist group, the government and military said yesterday. Some 197 girls remain captive, though it is not known how many of them may have died.

**RICH AND DISCRETE**

**China's low-profile takeover king shoots up rich list ranks**



Wang Jianlin, chairman of Wanda Group

**Kelvin Chan, Hong Kong**

A low-profile tycoon has rocketed up the ranks of China's wealthy after a hostile takeover he launched for the country's biggest property developer helped swell his fortunes, a report said yesterday.

Yao Zhenhua's wealth surged ninefold to USD17.2 billion, making him China's fourth richest person on the Hurun Report's annual ranking. Last year he was estimated to be worth just under \$2 billion, putting him at No. 231.

There was little change at

the top of Hurun's list.

Property and entertainment mogul Wang Jianlin held on to top spot, with Hurun putting his wealth \$32.1 billion.

Jack Ma, founder and chairman of Alibaba, stayed at second place even as his wealth swelled 41 percent to \$30.6 billion thanks to the e-commerce giant's rising share price this year. Ma Huateng of Tencent Ltd., which runs the popular WeChat social media service, moved up one spot to third with a fortune estimated at \$24.6 billion.

Hurun Chairman Rupert Hoogewerf said Yao's rise illustrated shifts in China's maturing economy.

"Yao's financial investment model represents the new wave of wealth creation in China," said Hoogewerf. "The first money made in China 20 years ago came from trading, followed by manufacturing, real estate, IT, and today it is about using the capital markets for financial investments."

Yao, 46, is chairman of Baoneng Group, a real estate and financial services group based in the southern boomtown of Shenzhen. His privately owned company has made waves over the past year by amassing 25 percent of China Vanke's shares, leading to a bitter and prolonged takeover battle for the homebuilder, which is based in the same city. Yao's wealth soared as speculation about Baoneng's bid sent Vanke's mainland China-listed shares surging.

Shanghai-based Hurun publishes a monthly magazine and releases yearly rankings and research about the world's richest people and their spending habits. AP

**times square by rodrigo**



Times Square by Rodrigo