



TOUR GROUPS DECLINE 20PCT IN SEPTEMBER

P2



'GREEN BUILDINGS HAVE A HIGHER VALUE'

Interview with Charles Landry, a British urban planning expert, who talks about the concept of creative cities

P5



15 DEAD, 18 MISSING IN COAL MINE GAS EXPLOSION

Fifteen miners have been confirmed dead after an explosion at a coal mine in southwest China's Chongqing Municipality yesterday

P10

TUE.01

Nov 2016

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"THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN'"

WORLD BRIEFS



IRAQ'S state-sanctioned Shiite militias claim that some 5,000 fighters have joined their push to encircle the country's second-largest city of Mosul and cut off Islamic State fighters there.

CHINA-PHILIPPINES China's Foreign Ministry yesterday confirmed a decision to allow Philippine fishermen access to a disputed shoal following a visit to Beijing by the Philippine president.



SINGAPORE A private banker charged with offenses in connection with the indebted Malaysian state fund 1MDB went on trial in Singapore yesterday. Yeo Jiawei is facing 11 charges for allegedly obstructing the course of justice, money laundering, cheating and forgery.

JAPAN Novelist Haruki Murakami warned against excluding outsiders and rewriting history as he accepted the Hans Christian Andersen Literature Award in Denmark. His speech was somewhat abstract, but Japanese media have interpreted it as a reference to refugees arriving in Europe and the protectionist response.
More on p20

LEBANON'S parliament yesterday elected Michel Aoun, an 81-year-old former army commander and strong ally of the militant group Hezbollah, as the country's president, ending a more than two-year vacuum in the top post and a political crisis that brought state institutions perilously close to collapse.
More on backpage

Macau eyes Vegas in mass market rebrand

P7 REPORT



Choi Soon-sil, a cult leader's daughter with a decades-long connection to President Park Geun-hye, is surrounded by prosecutor's officers and media upon her arrival at the Seoul Central District Prosecutors' Office in Seoul, South Korea, yesterday. South Korea is hoping for answers about its biggest scandal in years. At the center is Choi Soon-sil. Media speculation claims that Choi, who has no official ties to the administration, may have had a major role in government affairs by pulling strings from the shadows while exploiting her relationship with Park for money and favors.

Woman in scandal roiling S. Korea says she 'deserves death'

P13

UM to hold 14th Portuguese Speech Contest today

University of Macau's (UM) Department of Portuguese, under the Faculty of Arts and Humanities, will hold the 14th Portuguese Speech Contest today at 9:00 a.m. at UM. The contest aims to stimulate students' interest in learning Portuguese and enhance their language skills. Three local higher education institutions, namely UM, the Macao Polytechnic Institute, and the Macau University of Science and Technology, will each send their four best Portuguese-speaking students to participate in the contest. Organized annually by the Department of Portuguese, the contest aims to provide a platform for local college students majoring in Portuguese to showcase their language skills.

Group calls for compensation for overlapping holidays

Several representatives of the Macau Federation of Trade Unions delivered a letter to government headquarters urging the government to establish paid paternity leave as well as compensation for overlapping holidays. The letter was signed by 20,043 people. Lawmaker Lei Cheng I, speaking on behalf of the group, noted that the current labour law does not provide a solution for occasions when holidays and weekends overlap, depriving employees of their rights. She said that those who work for governmental departments are compensated with a special grant for exemption from work.

Fewer applications for temporary residency recorded

In the first half year of 2016, a total of 176 initial applications for temporary residency for managerial personnel, technical and professional qualification holders were received by the Macao Trade and Investment Promotion Institute (IPIM). This reflects a decrease of 60 compared with the same period last year, according to the information released yesterday by IPIM. Approved cases amounted to 46, up by 23 percent year-on-year. IPIM received 14 initial applications for major investment/investment plans (a decrease of 24 compared with the same period last year). Approved applications totaled one, representing five less compared to the first half of 2015.

CRIME

Uber motorist working without a valid driver's license

Renato Marques

THE Public Security Police Force (PSP) have found a resident working as an Uber driver while he was not qualified to drive as he did not possess a valid driver's license.

The information was aired during a press conference held yesterday at the Judiciary Police (PJ) headquarters.

According to the information from PSP, on October 28 around 1 p.m. a police patrol was assigned a crackdown on Uber operations. The patrol identified a car driving on the Estrada do Pac On in Taipa as an Uber vehicle from the fact that all the passengers were seated in the back and no passenger was in the front seat.

Ordered to stop and questioned, the passengers recounted that they had booked the ride through the mobile app and paid for the ride via a credit card.

The driver confessed that he used the mentioned application to his advantage and was running a car-hailing service. He had picked up the passengers at Taipa's Temporary Ferry Terminal.

Worst than the fact that he was providing a service considered to be illegal, was that the police found that the driver was not legally able to drive and more, he had previously been caught driving illegally four times since December 2008.

On the last time he was caught, in May this year, he had been sentenced to two months



of imprisonment, and his license was suspended for a period of 18 months.

The 38-year-old local resident was presented to the Public Prosecutions Officer (MP).

In a separate case, PSP reported that another Macau resident, (32) unemployed, was taken into custody on grounds of theft. He had entered a supermarket located on the Ave-

nida do Dr Rodrigo Rodrigues in ZAPE area on October 30 around 9:30 p.m. and noticing that since one of the cabinets used to keep the most expensive alcoholic beverages safe had the keys still in the lock, he took the opportunity to steal four bottles of wine, stashing them in a black backpack. He also stole beauty products and tried to leave the shop without being noticed. He was able to pass the cashier area without paying but he was asked by the security of the shop to show the contents of his bag and they then called the police.

The stolen goods were worth around MOP1,500.

Drug dealer operating in NAPE arrested by PJ

AFTER about one month pursuing a suspect, the Judiciary Police (PJ) has succeeded and arrested him on the accusation of drug dealing.

According to the information from the police the man (55), a resident from mainland China, was a recorded and wanted suspect of the PJ for about one month. He was suspected of smuggling drugs into the region and selling them to casino gamblers.

On October 28 he entered the territory in the possession of drugs and was followed, where through the surveillance the PJ were able to catch him in act of selling the drugs.

He was caught with 12 packages of Methamphetamines (Ice), with a total weight of 14.8 grams, as well as other instruments used to process and divide the drugs.

It is calculated that the drugs apprehended have a market value of about MOP50,000.

The suspect was sent to the Public Prosecution Office (MP) under the accusation of drug trafficking. In a separate case, the PJ reported

a complaint from a pawnshop over a fraudulent sale of fake watches.

The case goes back to June 20 when a man from the mainland pawned a wristwatch in a pawnshop from which he took HKD20,000 in cash. Later the same man returned to the shop to request a further HKD10,000 under the guarantee of the same product a request that was granted by the shop keeper.

On October 21 the same man returned to the same pawnshop not to pick up his watch left in June but instead to leave another from which he took the amount of HKD30,000 once again.

More recently when the shop staff was inspecting in detail the uncollected products left in the shop they noticed that both of the watches left under that person's name were in fact counterfeit, reporting the case to the PJ claiming a loss of HKD60,000.

The authorities have not yet found the previous owner.

TOURISM

Tour groups decline 20 percent in September

VISITORS to Macau on package tours decreased by 20 percent year-on-year to 596,000 in September 2016, according to a statement recently released by the Statistics and Census Service (DSEC).

In that period, visitors from mainland China (482,000) and Taiwan (33,000) dropped by 23 percent and 11.1 percent year-on-year respectively, while those from South Korea (25,000) recorded an increase of 44.9 percent.

For the first three quarters of 2016, visitors on package tours totaled around 5.42 million, down by 27.8 percent compared with the same period last year.

Meanwhile, outbound residents using the services of travel agencies totaled 93,000 in September 2016, down by 16.1 percent year-on-year. The number of residents traveling on package tours dropped by 26.8 percent year-on-year to fall to 32,000.

The decline was led by residents traveling to mainland China on package tours (23,000), which fell by 36.8 percent. On the other hand, it was partially offset by a more than 220 percent soar in the number traveling on package tours to South Korea (3,300).

As for the first three quarters of 2016, the number of residents using travel agencies numbered 910,000, down by 17.2 percent year-on-year.

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HEALTH

Hospital accused of delayed treatment during delivery

CONDE de São Januário Central Hospital (CH-CSJ) responded to a recent controversy in town, concerning the institution, that states the hospital did not provide appropriate treatment to a baby who was born in the hospital in July.

The hospital was accused by a female Vietnamese non-resident worker who gave birth to the baby and found out that the baby had been born with a congenital disease.

The mother accused the hospital of a delayed delivery process, and she believes this was the cause of the baby's disease.

Since the mother of the new born baby is not a Macau resident, the couple had to pay 200 percent fees for medical services.

The couple now owe the hospital more than MOP100,000 for all of the medical services CHSJC

provided before, during and after the baby's birth, according to a report by Macau Concealers.

On Friday, the CHSJC claimed that the Vietnamese patient did not attend appointments in Macau before the delivery. The doctors performed the delivery procedure in agreement with the mother.

After the baby boy was born, he was transferred to Pediatrics for treatment and enhanced observation. There, the boy was diagnosed with cerebral hypoxia sequelae, although the institution denies that the problem was caused by a delayed or a long-lasting medical treatment.

CHSJC in a statement assured that "the doctors, in this case, have provided necessary and timely treatment to the baby."

The hospital is now requesting immediate payment from the patient.

Participating stores increase for upcoming charity bazaar

THE 47th Caritas Macau Charity Bazaar themed "Build up character to nurture spirit. Gather aspirations for a meaningful life" will be held this weekend at the Nautical Centre at Nam Van Lake.

The annual fundraising event of Caritas Macau is one of the largest local charity events. The bazaar aims to raise funds for the organization to aid Caritas in providing support for the elderly, and the underprivileged residents in the coming year.

Paul Pun, secretary general of Caritas Macau told the Times that charity event raised nearly MOP8 million in its 46th edition. However, he noted that they are no longer anticipating to receive that amount.

"This year we will not expect that amount because it may be more or less," he said.

Pun highlighted that the bazaar is a family-oriented event as there will be a variety of food stalls and games, a children's play area and plenty of stage performances.

The 47th edition of the bazaar will welcome new participating



Paul Pun (center)

stores. The secretary said the bazaar is expecting some 90 stores; seven of them are new.

The charity raffle tickets will also be sold until Sunday. The pool of raffle prizes is estimated to be MOP100,000 worth of prizes.

The raffle tickets are on sale until November 6 with each ticket costing MOP10.

The Charity Raffle will be held

at the head office of Caritas Macau a day after the event.

Currently, Caritas Macau oversees 30 departments that delivers support to those in need. The organization's services include a home for the aged, a rehabilitation center, a family and child care center, hotline counseling, short-term food assistance and mainland and Macau labor services. LV



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A new study released in Hong Kong on the plight of Filipino domestic workers in the nearby city has brought to the surface further evidence of the systematic and illegal exploitation that many are subjected to.

The study, titled "Between a Rock and a Hard Place," includes interviews with 68 Filipino domestic workers as well as the results from inspections of and visits to 10 placement agencies between October 2015 and June this year.

Among the illegal activities highlighted in the study are "excessive" agency fees that in some cases amounted to 25 times the lawful limit, confiscation of passports and other important documentation, and denial of the freedom to leave their employers' homes for outings, at times forcing the workers to sever ties with family and friends in the Philippines.

Unlike the situation in Ma-

LABOR

New study sheds light on plight of HK domestic workers



In this 2014 file photo, foreign maids holding picture of 23-year-old Indonesia migrant Erwiana Sulistyarningsih who was brutally tortured by her employers for months in Hong Kong

cau, foreign domestic workers in Hong Kong are required to live-in with their employers. If they leave or lose their job, the workers have just two weeks to find another before they are required to leave the city.

Placement agencies in Hong Kong seek to profit from the two-week rule by arranging for Filipino workers to be sent to Macau while their new work visa is being processed. The study unveiled a total of 24 women who traveled to Macau after their contracts were terminated and

were subsequently charged an average of HKD5,778 in agency fees.

According to the study, the problematic and illegal treatment of foreign workers – which activists label as "forced labor" – is extremely prevalent in Hong Kong. Around 72 percent of study respondents said that they have been subject to at least some form of exploitation.

Hong Kong's Labor Department told the South China Morning Post that they deny accusations that forced labor is being

practiced in the city.

"We strongly refute any suggestion that foreign domestic helpers' work in Hong Kong is anything close to a form of forced labor," a spokesman for the Department told the newspaper.

The authors of "Between a Rock and a Hard Place" also drew attention to the fact that only 23 agencies have been fined in the last two and a half years for charging excessive placement fees (averaging HKD11,320), even though some 5,000 inspections have been carried out. **DB**

Sightseeing bridge soon to be under construction in Cotai Ecological Zone

A sightseeing bridge will be built at the Cotai Ecological Zone, according to a notice published last week by the Environmental Protection

Bureau (DSPA). The bridge is planned to be constructed close to the Ponte Flor de Lotus do Cotai and will be two meters wide and 110 meters long. The

main body of the bridge will hold a wooden path with the capacity to allow 50 people to walk across at one time. Two wooden doors at either end of the

bridge will also be constructed.

The bridge is expected to be completed by the end of the year. The bridge will connect the two ecological

zones at Cotai, so that visitors can enter the first zone to observe the trees and plants and then pass over the bridge to reach the nature that awaits on

the other side. According to DSPA, the Cotai Ecological Zone is a habitat for a wide variety of plant resources as well as for wetland animals.

AD



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Violin
Henning Kraggerud

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Violin Concerto No. 5 in A Major, K. 219, "Turkish"
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Julie Zhu

CHARLES Landry, a British urban planning expert and author of several books, among them "The Creative City: A Toolkit for Urban Innovators," was the keynote speaker of Sunday's "Lectures by Masters of Culture" event organized by the Cultural Affairs Bureau (IC).

Last Friday, on the sidelines of a press conference regarding his lecture, Landry talked to the Times about some of his ideas about Macau and urban planning around the world.

Macau Daily Times (MDT) - How is it possible to make large scale urban plans amid an economic recession?

Charles Landry (CL) - I think quite often, when the economy isn't doing well, it forces planning people to think hard about what works. When the economy is doing well, often people then go over the top. And so what often happens is they make plans that might very well fall through, even when the economy is doing well. When the economy is doing badly, you then think harder about, for example, how do you take an old building, how can you renovate it, all of these sorts of things. So often, you take more care, I found. And in terms of having a vision there are two sides; when the economy is going well, your vision is like this [broad], whereas when it is going badly, it's more constrained but you can also be rather interesting and creative within constraints - that's my main point. In terms of social things, usually when the economy is not doing well, of course these problems are merged strongly. In times of economic hardship, in Europe at least, people have tried to find different ways of dealing with problems. For example, co-creating solutions with the people affected, so working with the community, rather than providing for the community.

MDT - How do we keep building without diminishing the attractiveness of cities?

CL - It depends on how you build. I feel that we could have much more imaginative buildings. At the moment, most buildings we see here always adhere to a standard. Some of the new buildings I have seen here [in Macau], they are a bit depressing. But you know, in Singapore, for example, you have got sort of hydroponic buildings, buildings that have green layers like gardens on every layer. So these buildings are broken up, that's good for the environment, because it looks more attractive. [...] So it's all about imagination, or good design, or thinking together with other people. So I think the people who are doing

Q&A CHARLES LANDRY URBAN PLANNER

'Green buildings have a higher value, so financially it can work'



the building shouldn't just think I am the architect, or I am the construction engineer, they should collaborate with other disciplines.

MDT - How can urban planners build green?

CL - If your ambition is to be green, there are two things to that: green buildings have a higher value, so financially, it can work. Secondly, there is a financial pressure on a city state, like

Macau, because if you want the best people, they are beginning to expect green, energy efficient buildings. I don't think that's a contradiction, green and so on. In the past, it clearly was more expensive, but now that is becoming a cross-over point. Particularly, if you take a wider view of profitability, if you take it in terms of the city state as a whole, or the long life of the building, then it's actually quite cheap.

MDT - Do you think the world sees Macau as an attractive location in terms of creative urban planning?

CL - Macau needs to send a signal to the world. If it sends a signal to the world that it's trying to be like this, then of course people will be attracted. They are waiting, they are hungry, they want to places to act in this new way. Macau is already on the map in many ways and it could also come to be known as a hub of creative urban planning.

MDT - What would you advise to maintain a balance between the preservation of resources and cultural heritage and the constant increase in construction?

CL - Every city knows, if you just went according to the market in a wild way, then of course, you are knocking all these buildings down and putting skyscrapers on them. It would be easy to not put these buildings down here, and put more skyscrapers, people would make more money. We need a wider definition of profit. If you only take into consideration the profit received from the building, then you can say a culturally significant building is inefficient. If you add all the different forms of capital, heritage capital, cultural capital, social capital, memory capital, all of these capitals, this makes this building very valuable - more valuable than 20 stories' of apartments here. Cities that are lifeless and soulless, tend to have unhappy people, so it's a question of whether Macau

wants people to be more or less happy.

MDT - Do you think education, here in Macau, produces creativity?

CL - Probably not, that's the same in many other places. That is a general problem, but I am sure it's the same in Macau. We call it rote learning, that means repeating, this is the answer, this is what it is and so on. That does not help to strengthen creative thinking skills. Creativity requires a different skill set, which is about learning how to put different things together, understanding how to communicate, which is a different type of skill from learning a specific subject. I am not against learning but it is important to note that there are different forms of education.

If you just went according to the market in a wild way, then of course, you are knocking all these buildings down and putting skyscrapers on them.

CHARLES LANDRY

THE KEYS TO ESTABLISH A CREATIVE CITY

DURING A lecture held on Sunday at the Macao Science Centre Convention Hall, Charles Landry talked about famous "cultural cities" across the world. According to an IC statement, "ambition and creativity are the keys to establish a creative city, in addition to cultural events, imagination and creativity that he advocates for urban change." IC launched the "Lectures by Masters of Culture" in 2013, inviting world famous scholars, artists and individuals from cultural circles to come to Macau.



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Daniela Wei, Christopher Palmeri

MACAU gambling junket operator U Io Hung used to spend his days making travel arrangements for a handful of VIP customers. The gamblers, typically from Shanghai or Beijing, were flown to Macau International Airport on Gulfstream G200 jets costing USD4,000 an hour. Rolls-Royce Phantom limousines then whisked them to their luxury suites. In private gaming rooms, the high rollers bet as much as \$400,000 a hand on baccarat, with money loaned to them by U and his investors so they wouldn't run afoul of China's currency laws.

It's a different market now in Macau, where China's slowing economy and a government crackdown on corruption have caused high-stakes betting by top-tier customers to plunge 46 percent over the past two years. That's prompted operators in the world's biggest gambling market to focus on less wealthy tourists and families.

U, for instance, is working with travel agencies to attract guests from smaller cities in China and plans to bring in about 10 times more customers to make up for his lost revenue. Instead of shopping tours to Louis Vuitton or Prada, he'll take his new clients to more affordable Zara or H&M stores and arrange activities for their kids. Says U: "We need to find a way out of the dilemma."

Casino lords such as Wynn Resorts and Las Vegas Sands think they have a solution: Make the Asian gambling hub more like Las Vegas, which last year got 65 percent of its revenue from nongaming activities that draw a much wider demographic. That's led Macau lately to downplay its historical image—one of smoky casinos populated by prostitutes and gangsters—and rebrand itself as a resort for the masses.

"If you want to go on vacation, if you are in Taiwan, Bangkok, Laos, Cambodia, Phuket, you should come here," says Steve Wynn, Wynn Resorts' billionaire chairman, whose \$4.2 billion Wynn Palace opened in August, 10 years after his Wynn Macau. "The idea is that Macau will become, for the entire Pacific Rim, the destination resort city."

Wynn, who in the 1990s changed the face of Las Vegas with properties such as the Mirage, featuring nightly volcano eruptions, and Treasure Island, the first Vegas casino with a resident Cirque du Soleil, says he's seeing a similar transformation in Macau. Its Cotai Strip is now lined with attractions straight out of the Las Vegas playbook, including dancers in feathered costumes at Galaxy Entertainment Group's Broad-

BLOOMBERG



Vegas gives Macau a lesson in family values

dway Macau and a Ferris wheel built into the top floors of Melco Crown Entertainment's Studio City resort. There's a half-size replica of the Eiffel Tower on the grounds of the Sands Parisian Macao, which also features the Thriller Live homage show filled with Michael Jackson songs. And crowds line up to watch Wynn Palace's synchronized fountains, a feature introduced at the Bellagio in Las Vegas in 1998.

"There are lots of good lessons that we can learn from Las Vegas," says Maria Helena de Senna Fernandes, director of Macau's tourism office. The city added an international film festival this year to its list of attractions, which includes the Macau Grand Prix auto race and walking tours of its historic district. Fernandes says Macau should use its gambling strength to develop its convention business as well as other nongaming attractions.

Unlike Las Vegas, where the decades-long shift toward nongaming activities was a response to growing competition from casinos across the U.S., Macau's transition is being driven by government officials in Macau and Beijing. Officials have sharply limited the num-

ber of gambling tables new casinos can offer.

There's no assurance the transition will work, says Clifton Pannell, a professor of geography at the University of Georgia who's studied the region. Zaia, a Cirque du Soleil production at the Venetian Macao, closed in 2012, a sign the market isn't interested in Vegas-style entertainment, he says. "Gambling is king in Macau, and it is hard to shake that reputation," he says.

It won't be for lack of trying. Sands Chief Executive Officer Sheldon Adelson was early in

There's no assurance the transition will work. Gambling is king in Macau, and it is hard to shake that reputation.

CLIFTON PANNELL
SCHOLAR

seeing Macau's potential to attract a wide swath of bettors. Even as Sands and other casinos opened downtown, Adelson spearheaded an expansion in the Cotai area on reclaimed land between the islands of Coloane and Taipa. The Venetian, which opened there in 2007 and was modeled after his property in Las Vegas, has an arena for concerts, meeting rooms, and a shopping mall complete with canals and gondola rides. "When we first started building the Venetian Macao, Cotai wasn't exactly the most popular place on the block," Adelson says.

Sands's latest project is also designed to lure mass-market customers. The \$2.9 billion Parisian resort features 3,000 hotel rooms, a water park for families, and a shopping mall with artists and street performers. Sands is the local leader in increasing its non-gambling revenue, now about 15 percent of its Macau total, according to Sanford C. Bernstein. The company's properties in Las Vegas, though, get 77 percent of their revenue from things like hotel rooms, shopping, restaurants, and meetings.

Adelson's Vegas-style competition in Macau includes Mel-

co's Studio City, which opened last year at a cost of \$3.2 billion and features a Batman ride, and MGM Resorts International's \$3.1 billion MGM Cotai. Scheduled to open next year, the MGM property will include a theater that converts into a nightclub, one of the amenities Las Vegas has successfully used to lure younger guests.

The appeals to casual gamblers and tourists show signs of paying off. Mainland Chinese tourists, the bulk of visitors to Macau, rose to almost 1 million during the weeklong National Day holiday in October—the most tourists from China during Golden Week in at least a decade.

Erica Lim, 30, her husband, and their 3-year-old son, from Guangdong province, were among them. On her previous visits with girlfriends, Lim never stayed more than a night. "I was surprised there are much more fun things to do here now," she said while waiting in line to ride Studio City's Ferris wheel. "I've come this time to shop, eat good food, and play in the children's fun zone with my son. They are still not cheap, but worth the money for a non-gambler." **Bloomberg**

CHINA'S factories may be on the cusp of delivering a new shock to the global economy after years of undercutting rivals with cheaper costs. This time, increases in prices could reverberate around the world.

To understand why, consider the dilemma facing Jiangmen Luck Tissue Mfy Ltd., now caught in a squeeze between surging wages and tepid demand. The company has already slashed staff by half, shaved prices and automated production to survive. Now, with margins razor thin, it's weighing the first price increases since 2010.

"There's just no possibility for me to cut prices any more," says deputy director Roger Zhao, 52, whose company is based in the city of Jiangmen in southern Guangdong province. "Because costs are already pretty high and I don't see any possibility they'll go down, I'm seeking opportunities to raise prices a little bit."

That push to recover lost margins - even as demand remains muted - was shared by exporters of everything from clocks to hot tubs interviewed in Guangzhou last week at the Canton Fair, a biannual gathering where 25,000 exhibitors and 180,000 mostly foreign buyers ink export deals in booths spanning exhibition space equivalent to about 3,400 tennis courts.

For the world economy, decisions from companies like Jiangmen Tissue to stop cutting prices - and even raise them where demand allows - removes a source of disinflationary pressure. To be decided is whether China, the factory to the world, swings from becoming a drag on consumer prices to a source of pressure nudging them higher.

China's manufacturing prices rose in September for the first time in almost five years and overall producer prices also clambered out of negative territory. Those likely to feel the

China as factory to world mulls the unthinkable: Price hikes



biggest lift if Chinese export prices follow through with sustained increases would be the country's top five markets: the U.S., Hong Kong, Japan, South Korea and Mexico.

"China's return to positive growth in producer prices marks a very significant turning point in deflationary pressures both in China and globally," said Shane Oliver, head of investment strategy at AMP Capital Investors in Sydney. "This is only step one, though. We are still waiting for step two: stronger global demand and trade."

Countries where imports from China account for a large percentage of the total also will be affected, including Japan at almost 25 percent of total imports and Australia with about 23 percent.

"It will impact on Australian

import prices, a lot of those consumer durables such as household appliances and big-screen TVs that we like to import," said Michael Blythe, chief economist at Commonwealth Bank of Australia, the nation's biggest lender. "It does add to that range of indicators that suggest we are round about the low point for inflation."

China will probably let inflation run to overcome a high debt burden, as it has done in the past, and could start exporting price increases next year, according to Jefferies Group LLC strategists led by Hong Kong-based Sean Darby.

To be sure, headwinds to inflation remain strong, with global demand weak and the International Monetary Fund warning this month that the risk of persistent deflation in some

advanced economies has risen. A 10 percent slump in China's September exports underscored the funk while deflationary trends were on display Friday with data showing Japan's consumer prices fell for a seventh straight month in September.

Sandy Chang, owner of bathroom-accessories maker Dongguan City XinChen Gift Co. in Guangdong, has felt that lackluster demand from her major markets in Japan, Europe and the U.S. acutely. Sales have slumped 30 percent since 2012. As wages surged as much as fourfold in the past decade, she responded by halving staff from 2014 levels to about 100 today. Now, the cost of core materials including marble and resin are climbing.

"It's impossible to cut prices further," she said, speaking at her booth at the Canton Fair, which has run uninterrupted since it was launched in 1957. "The only way out is to increase efficiency, reduce waste and to get ahead by selling more."

It's a similar refrain from small and medium-sized exporters across the vast avenues of booths hawking goods that'll end up in your shopping trolley or under the Christmas tree.

Winmart Design founder Lin Haobin says his Shenzhen-based company has cut prices by 30 percent since 2013, helping sales of his decorative desktop

pot plants surge 50 percent annually to markets including South Korea and the U.S. With wages double their 2012 level, he can't go much lower. Jacuzzi maker Shenzhen Kingston Sanitary Ware Co. - with profits down 20 percent in five years - is no longer discounting.

Yet deflation remains a headache for some. At toy drone maker Shantou Chuangxiang Toys Factory in Guangdong, sales manager Sheila Yip says prices are falling on 90 percent of her products because of intense competition from new rivals. The company is only able to increase prices on products with innovative features, she said.

China's producer price index will weaken again after the first quarter of next year because the "root causes of disinflationary pressures - overall investment and excess capacity - are still very much alive," Morgan Stanley analysts led by New York-based economist Ted Wieseman wrote in a note yesterday.

At Jiangmen Luck Tissue, Zhao is watching to determine whether the market can withstand a price hike. But in the tissue business, there's not much room for innovation.

In the meantime, a depreciating currency is offering a buffer, helping exporters preserve some margin in local-currency terms even if they keep prices for their goods unchanged in dollars. That may slow any transmission to export prices - historically closely linked.

The weaker yuan is also one of the driving forces behind the PPI turnaround as it pushes up input prices of the raw materials China's factories need.

Bloomberg

A depreciating currency is offering a buffer

corporate bits

MGM CO-ORGANIZES SUSTAINABILITY SEMINAR



MGM and the Gaming Teaching and Research Centre (GTRC) of Macao Polytechnic Institute co-organized the Sustainability Seminar and Tour

for a group of 50 students from the Gaming and Recreation Management bachelor's degree program last week.

The seminar and tour was

the first tour of its kind ever organized by GTRC with a private sector enterprise.

As cited in a statement issued by MGM, the gaming operator has been supportive to green initiatives and this activity is one of the company's programs to spike interest and raise awareness on sustainability within the community.

During the seminar, Rebecca Donnellan, director of Sustainability at MGM, introduced the core concepts of sustainability as well as the roles and responsibilities of large corporations by using MGM as a case study.

The tour also included a visit to the Facilities Management Department for students to learn about the Building Management System, which MGM utilizes to monitor energy and water consumption.

SHERATON AND ST. REGIS COLLABORATE TO RAISE FUNDS



Marriott International in Asia Pacific yesterday announced that close to USD270,000 was raised from "Run to Give Hotel Charity Runs" that took place on October 16 across the Asia Pacific.

In Macau, Sheraton Grand Macao Hotel and The St. Regis Macao joined hands in their support of the Fu Hong Society of Macau, according to the joint

statement.

Run to Give is unique in each location and the events were organized by different Marriott International properties in various locations; some collaborating for the first time to organize such a large-scale event. Funds raised in each location benefited a local charity so that the impact was as broad and

relevant as possible.

Initiated in 2014 by the legacy Starwood Hotels & Resorts Asia Pacific under the 'Starwood Cares' umbrella as individual hotel charity runs, the inaugural event saw a response of over 20,000 runners take part this year in 92 locations across the Asia Pacific raising a total of close to USD228,000.

Fitch maintains Mozambique's CC risk rating

THE Fitch Ratings agency has maintained Mozambique's long-term risk rating at CC in both local and foreign currency, indicates a statement issued on Friday.

The CC rating implies that the so-defined debt is speculative, i.e. without quality for investment, and that the respective country is close to or already failing to meet its financial obligations.

The short-term debt, in both local and foreign currency, was rated at C, one level below CC. The agency states in its report that Mozambique's debt-servicing capacity is under severe distress. The government has announced that in 2017 it will have to pay out USD 803.8 million on public and publicly guaranteed external debt.

Mozambique's government officially admitted last week that the state would be unable to make the next payments on debt of public companies and called for servicing to be restructured and further financial assistance from the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

A 20-page document presented to investors by the Finance

Ministry states that "the profile of public debt guaranteed by the State of Mozambique is not sustainable."

The Finance Ministry indicates in the document that public debt should reach 130 percent of GDP in 2016. It also lowers to 3.7 percent the country's forecasted economic growth.

The current crisis associated to the debt and lower commodity prices has dented confidence in Mozambique and its currency, causing the value of the metical to fall nearly 40 against the US dollar and 45 percent against the South African rand.

Devaluation vis-à-vis the rand has led to a sharp rise in prices, since most consumer products are imported from South Africa. Fitch Ratings expects the inflation rate to hit 20 percent this year, the highest in two decades, before beginning to drop slightly in 2017/2018 due to more rigid monetary policy.

Mozambique should thus grow 3.5 percent this year, the lowest rate in the last 15 years, owing to the slowdown in economic activity across all sectors. **MDT/Macauhub**

ANGOLA

Economic growth should average 2.9 percent from 2017 to 2021

THE Angolan economy should post average growth of 2.9 percent during the period from 2017 to 2021, compared to the rate of 4.1 percent during the period from 2012 through 2016, the Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU) affirms in its latest report on Angola.

The EIU forecasts growth of just 0.6 percent this year, adding that the economy will recover in 2017 with a rate of 3 percent, increasing to 3.5 percent in 2018 and then wavering between 2.8 percent and 2.5 percent in the following three years.

Public revenue should remain weak due to the continuing slump in oil prices on international markets. The EIU expects budget execution to present a deficit that should average 4.4 percent during the 2017-2021 period.

The inflation rate should tend to fall in 2017-2021 in the wake of the high rate at end 2016, estimated to reach nearly 35 percent. It will nevertheless remain fairly high due to cuts in fuel subsidies and devaluation



Buildings under construction in downtown Luanda, capital of Angola

of the national currency.

The authors of the EIU report state that the kwanza should continue to lose value due to the shortage of US dollars caused by falling oil prices. The difference between official and parallel exchange rates should remain very high.

The Economist Intelligence Unit forecasts that Angola will begin to produce more than 2 million barrels of oil per day in 2018. This year's

production rate should be around 1.785 million barrels per day.

The report outlining the proposed state budget for 2017, submitted to Angola's National Assembly on Friday, forecasts economic growth of 2.1 percent in 2017, when production should rise to 1.8 million barrels of oil per day, a figure less than the EIU's forecast estimating 1.9 million barrels per day. **MDT/Macauhub**

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PESSOA
佩索阿**

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UM AR DE FADO
法朵的空氣**

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Caminhamos juntos perseguindo essa ilusão.**

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我們一起追逐這種錯覺。

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We walk together in pursuit of that vision.**

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painting teacher

美術老師

Aida Carreira
Ana Correia
Arlinda Frota
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Ralph Jennings, Taipei

HAVING taken up the cause of a fellow Taiwanese held by Somali pirates, former legislator Tsai Cheng-yuan faced one hurdle after another.

Government agencies at home and in three foreign capitals snubbed his pleas for help. Nervous donors who provided funds for a ransom demanded a money-back guarantee if the hostage wasn't released.

Even after the money was paid, the man refused to return home unless 25 others held with him were also freed. The group was finally released Oct. 22, after more than four and a half years — the second-longest period hostages had ever spent in Somalia.

"I just have this faith that if a country doesn't give up on its citizens in trouble, it will be loved by its people," said Tsai, 62, who served in Taiwan's legislature for 20 years and now runs the chief opposition Nationalist Party's central policy committee.

Tsai got involved while still serving in the legislature when the wife and daughter of Shen Jui-chang sought his help. Shen was chief engineer on the Omani-registered Naham 3 fishing boat, which had been hijacked in March 2012 by Somali pirates in the Indian Ocean, 120 kilometers (65 nautical miles) from the Seychelles islands.

The crew was taken to Somalia and held in "deplorable conditions," the Colorado-based nonprofit Oceans Beyond Piracy said. Everyone became malnourished and two hostages died of illness.

The engineer's family came to Tsai after having no luck with other elected officials in Taiwan, said the ex-legislator, who had gained fame for having helped a Taiwanese woman escape from Muslim rebel group Abu Sayyaf in the Philippines in 2012.

"They had been asking around for help without progress," Tsai said in an interview Friday. "They were afraid that Shen Jui-chang's health wasn't too good and that he couldn't handle Somalia."

Tsai said he first talked to government agencies in Taiwan but was refused help. Like some other governments, Taiwan does not negotiate with pirates for fear of encouraging future

AP PHOTO



Sailors who had been held hostage by pirates for more than four years, queue to board an airplane after being released in Galkayo

TAIWAN

Ex-legislator helped free sailors held off Somalia

abductions. However, Taiwan's foreign ministry said in a statement Oct. 23 that it had contacted Omani officials and kept in touch with hostage-release nonprofits to follow the case.

So Tsai contacted the governments of Shen's fellow hostages, who hail from Cambodia, China, Indonesia, the Philippines and Vietnam. A foreign affairs police official from the Philippines and the deputy general secretary of China's Association for Relations Across the Taiwan Straits — the agency responsible for contacts with Taiwan — joined his cause.

The Chinese official, Wang Xiaobing, knew the chairman of the Taiwanese charity Wei Ge Culture and Education Charity Foundation, Lee Chuan-hung. Lee donated \$500,000 in ransom money while its staff asked other charities to also contribute.

At a news conference last week, spokesman An Fengshan of Beijing's Taiwan Affairs Office said the association had played an active role in ob-

■ The engineer's family came to Tsai Cheng-yuan after having no luck with other elected officials in Taiwan

taining the hostages' release, assisted by the Chinese foreign ministry. An said international organizations and other "relevant parties" aided in the effort, without identifying them.

Tsai chased Taiwanese companies for donations to help pay ransom for the chief engineer. Some were reluctant to give money because they feared pirates would reject the final offer, so Tsai promised their money back if Shen wasn't released.

The former legislator also

found a law firm in Hong Kong that charged only a minor processing fee to hold the ransom money. For reasons they never gave, the pirates were requiring payment in hundred-dollar bills only issued in 2005, Tsai said. Such notes predate a 2013 redesign that included new safety features.

Tsai said he used an intermediary's name to sign the agreement with the law firm in order to hide his official connections. "Otherwise, if it was suspected the Taiwan government was involved, it would be hard to discuss ransom and could cost a lot," he said.

Once the money was raised for Shen, talks dragged on as the pirate gang repeatedly changed leaders because of infighting, Tsai said. Shen then threw a new kink into the negotiations when he insisted on staying, out of fear the other hostages might be killed or stranded without his help getting money for their release.

"I was thinking, 'I'm 58 and if I leave there's no one who can lead them,'" Shen said last week

following his return to Taiwan. "I told the pirates, 'If I go, then everyone has to go.'"

Faced with Shen's demand, Tsai went back to pleading for donations. His Philippine and Chinese backers kept chasing donors in their homelands.

Money raised would ultimately pay ransoms, aid to the impoverished families of the 10 mainland Chinese sailors and a fee for the hostage negotiator, a former U.N. official. Negotiations took 18 months.

Shen told reporters after reaching Taiwan he was "deeply moved" by the help he received.

Tsai declined to say how much was ultimately paid to the pirates for fear of encouraging more hostage-taking. Such cases have declined drastically in recent years in the wake of international naval patrols in the Gulf of Oman and stepped-up security aboard larger vessels.

Recalling the herculean effort to free Shen and his crew, Tsai said it was up to younger legislators to help in future. "I'm a retired man now." AP

Official: 15 coal miners dead, 18 missing following blast

A gas explosion ripped through a coal mine in western China yesterday, leaving 15 miners dead, a local government official said. Eighteen other miners are unaccounted for, ac-

ording to Xinhua.

The condition of those underground isn't known and rescue work is continuing, said the official, reached by phone at the Yongzhou district government propaganda office

in the sprawling Chongqing region. He refused to give his name, as is common with Chinese public servants.

The blast occurred shortly before noon, state media reported. Such ac-

cidents are often caused when a flame or electrical spark ignites gas leaking from the coal seam. Ventilation systems are supposed to prevent gas from becoming trapped.

China's mining indus-

try has long been among the world's deadliest, although safety improvements and the closure of smaller, more dangerous mines have reduced the death toll in recent years.

China is the world's largest producer and consumer of coal but has announced plans to shutter more than 1,000 outdated mines. The head of China's State Administration of Work Safety said this year that struggling coal mines might be likely to overlook maintenance. AP/Xinhua

China confirms allowing Philippine fishermen access to shoal

AP PHOTO



Chinese Coast Guard members approach Filipino fishermen as they confront them off Scarborough Shoal at South China Sea, also called the West Philippine

CHINA'S Foreign Ministry yesterday confirmed a decision to allow Philippine fishermen access to a disputed shoal following a visit to Beijing by the Philippine president.

Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Hua Chunying said Beijing made "proper arrangements" regarding Scarborough Shoal after Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte expressed concern about the matter.

China seized the shoal, located 228 kilometers (123 nautical miles) from the northern

Philippines, following a 2012 standoff between the sides, preventing Filipino fishermen from working in the area. Chinese coast guard ships sometimes used water cannons to drive off Filipino fishermen while protecting Chinese boats.

However, fishermen said over the weekend that the Chinese coast guard had allowed them to again fish in the area following Duterte's recent visit, which officials say resulted in a major improvement in bilateral ties.

The visit marked a "com-

prehensive improvement of China-Philippines relations. Given the circumstance, regarding the issue President Duterte was highly concerned about, China made proper arrangements on the issue based on the friendship between China and the Philippines," Hua told reporters at a daily briefing.

Philippine Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana said a navy plane spotted at least four Chinese coast guard ships around the shoal during a surveillance flight on Saturday.

The fishermen's return to

Scarborough was "a most welcome development" because it brings back their key source of making a living, Lorenzana said Sunday.

No written agreements guaranteeing continued access have been issued, and Hua made it clear that China would continue to exercise administration over the area as Chinese territory.

Farther south, in the Spratly Islands, China has in recent years constructed islands by piling sand and concrete atop coral reefs, despite protests from

other claimants and the U.S.

Last week, Secretary of State John Kerry said the U.S. and Vietnam share a commitment to the rule of law in the South China Sea.

Kerry was speaking ahead of talks with a top official in Vietnam's ruling Communist Party, Executive Secretary Dinh The Huynh.

The meeting came five months after President Barack Obama visited Vietnam and lifted restrictions on arms sales to the former U.S. enemy. It also takes place as longstanding U.S. ally in Southeast Asia, the Philippines, is strengthening ties with China.

President Rodrigo Duterte reiterated that he will not conduct drills with Americans in his presidency, while proposing joint military exercises with Japan during his recent visit to Tokyo.

Duterte made the proposal during a visit to a coast guard unit to observe an exercise from one of the patrol vessels Japan pledged to provide the Philippines to upgrade Manila's maritime security capabilities, largely in response to China's strong assertions of its South China Sea maritime claims.

A statement released by the Philippine presidential palace said Duterte told reporters that he discussed a possibility of the joint exercises "in general terms" when he held talks with Prime Minister Shinzo Abe last week. Duterte also reminded reporters that allowing the American military to stay in his country would be "difficult" and that he planned to review the military cooperation agreement and ask them "one of these days" to leave the country.

He did not elaborate on his comment on joint exercises with Japan, which could have mixed implications because Japan also has tensions with China over East China Sea islands, history and other issues. **MDT/AP**

FOLLOWING Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte's recent visit to China, Malaysia's prime minister is the latest leader of a nation that claims territory in the South China Sea to travel to Beijing.

Najib Razak arrives in the Chinese capital today for a six-day visit to the country whose claims to virtually the entire strategic waterbody overlaps with areas that Malaysia says belong to it.

Malaysia claims a swath of the South China Sea north of Borneo, along with islands and reefs, but has been relatively understated amid feuding

Malaysia's Najib to seek stronger ties with Beijing during visit



China's President Xi Jinping (front right), talks with Malaysia's Prime Minister Najib Razak (front left)

among fellow claimants China, Vietnam and the Philippines.

In a Facebook message, Najib said he hoped his visit would strengthen

Malaysia's ties with its largest trading partner, including on "regional

and international issues."

The message did not specifically mention the South China Sea, although Najib recently said Malaysia would not compromise on its claims but wanted them to be hashed out through dialogue and peaceful negotiations. Countries in the region should avoid provocative acts that could create tension, anxiety and suspicion, he was quoted as telling the nation's Parliament.

Peace and stability were of primary importance, he said.

Those comments suggest Najib will be as non-confrontational on the issue as Duterte was during his visit. In Beijing, Duterte repeatedly heaped praise on China and scorn on the United States, winning billions of dollars in deals to boost the Philippine economy and warm years of icy relations between Beijing and Manila.

Malaysian media reported that during his visit Najib will oversee the signing of more than 10 bilateral agreements, including ones on defense and economic cooperation. **AP**

Esther Htusan & Martha Mendoza, Yangon

MYANMAR

New reports emerge of army attacks on Rohingya

JUST five months after her party took power, Myanmar's Nobel Peace Prize-winning leader, Aung San Suu Kyi, is facing international pressure over recent reports that soldiers have been killing, raping and burning homes of the country's long-persecuted Rohingya Muslims.

The U.S. State Department joined activist and aid groups in raising concerns about new reports of rape and murder, while satellite imagery released yesterday by Human Rights Watch shows that at least three villages in the western state of Rakhine have been burned.

Myanmar government officials deny the reports of attacks, and presidential spokesman Zaw Htay said yesterday that United Nations representatives should visit "and see the actual situation in that region." The government has long made access to the region a challenge, generally banning foreign aid workers and journalists.

But the U.N.'s special rapporteur on human rights in Myanmar, Yanghee Lee, said serious violations, including torture, summary executions, arbitrary arrests and destruction of mosques and homes, threaten the country's fledgling democracy.



Myanmar police officers patrol along the border fence between Myanmar and Bangladesh in Maungdaw

"The big picture is that the government does not seem to have any influence over the military," said Chris Lewa, director of the Arakan Project, an advocacy group that focuses on the Rohingya. Myanmar's widely criticized constitution was designed to give the armed forces power and independence.

A three-week surge in violence by the military was prompted by the killings of nine police officers at border posts on Oct. 9 in Rakhine, home to Myanmar's 800,000 Rohingya. There have been no arrests, and a formerly unknown Islamist militant group has taken responsibility.

Although they've lived in

Myanmar for generations, Rohingya are barred from citizenship in the nation of 50 million, and instead live as some of the most oppressed people in the world. Since communal violence broke out in 2012, more than 100,000 people have been driven from their homes to live in squalid camps guarded by po-

lice. Some have tried to flee by boat, but many ended up becoming victims of human trafficking or were held for ransom.

When Suu Kyi's party was elected earlier this year after more than five decades of military rule, the political shift offered a short, tense window of peace. But that quickly ended as the former political prisoner and champion of human rights failed to clamp down on military atrocities.

The current crackdown has prompted an estimated 15,000 people in the Rakhine area to flee their homes in the past few weeks. The satellite images from Human Rights Watch show villages burning, and residents report food supplies are growing scarce as they are living under siege.

U.S. Ambassador Scot Marciel has urged Myanmar's Foreign Ministry to investigate the allegations of attacks and restore access for humanitarian groups trying to help. AP

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SOUTH KOREA

Woman in scandal roiling says she 'deserves death'

Foster Klug, Seoul

TELLING reporters yesterday that she "deserves death," the woman at the center of a scandal roiling South Korea met prosecutors examining whether she used her close ties to President Park Geun-hye to pull government strings from the shadows and amass an illicit fortune.

"Please, forgive me," Choi Soon-sil, a cult leader's daughter with a decades-long connection to Park, said through tears inside the Seoul prosecutor's building, according to Yonhap news agency. Using a common expression of deep repentance, she added, "I committed a sin that deserves death."

Choi, wearing a hat and a scarf, her hand pressed to her mouth, was nearly knocked off her feet several times as she tried to walk through a massive crowd of 300 journalists, as well as protesters and security, surrounding the building's entrance. YTN TV station said that Choi, 60, lost her shoe as the throng converged on her, and a protester reportedly tried to enter the building with a bucket full of animal feces.

Other protesters screamed, "Arrest Choi Soon-sil" and "Park Geun-hye should resign."

The scandal exploded last week when, after weeks of speculation, Park acknowledged that Choi had edited some of her speeches and provided public relations help. Widespread media reports say that Choi, who



Choi Soon-sil, a cult leader's daughter with a decades-long connection to President Park Geun-hye

has no official ties to the administration, may have had a major role in government affairs.

Choi has previously said she helped Park but didn't know if she was seeing confidential information.

Investigators are trying to determine the scope of access Choi had and whether she was given sensitive presidential documents. They have raided the homes of some officials in the presidential Blue House as part of the investigation.

Park has fired some of her closest aides to try to contain the fallout. Some lawmakers and the public have called for Park's resignation or impeachment, and thousands of people have protested in the streets.

It's not clear how much influence Choi had. But many South Koreans believe there is much more to the story than

Park has acknowledged, and the frenzy surrounding the scandal threatens her presidency.

Choi returned home Sunday from seclusion in Germany. It was unclear whether there would be any details revealed from her questioning, or how long she would be in the prosecutor's office. The questioning of Choi's former associates, including a purported former employee of a host bar, lasted two days.

Choi has been close to Park since Choi's father, the leader of a religious cult, gained Park's trust by reportedly convincing her that he could communicate with her assassinated mother. Choi's father denied this in a 1990 media interview.

The senior government official who later shot and killed Park's dictator father, President Park Chung-hee, is said to have claimed that he staged his attack in

part because Park Chung-hee wouldn't keep Choi's father away from the young Park Geun-

Choi Soon-sil, her hand pressed to her mouth, was nearly knocked off her feet several times as she tried to walk through a massive crowd of 300 journalists

hye.

Elected in 2012, Park has long been criticized for an aloof manner and for relying on only a few longtime confidantes. Most South Koreans, however, assumed those confidantes were in the government. That she may have been outsourcing decisions to someone outside of government, and someone connected with a murky, lurid backstory, has incensed many.

Media reports said the younger Choi used her connections to Park to pressure businesses to give money to two nonprofit organizations Choi controlled; Choi then allegedly used some of the organizations' official funds for personal purposes. South Korean media speculated that the two foundations collected about 80 billion won (USD70 million) in donations from business groups in just a few months.

The president of Ewha Womans University has resigned amid protests over allegations that Choi used her connections to Park to get her daughter into the elite school and then secure special academic treatment.

Political and business corruption remains widespread in South Korea, which has had full democracy only since the late 1980s, when it shook off decades of military dictatorship. But the current scandal has struck a chord in a way that previous ones have not.

Part of it has to do with Park Geun-hye and her past, which is deeply entwined with South Korea's recent, tumultuous history. The legacy of her father is still divisive. Supporters see him as saving South Korea from poverty and irrelevance by building up the economy from the rubble of the Korean War. Opponents say that the economic development came at the expense of massive human rights abuse, including the torture and death of dissidents. **AP**

PAKISTAN

Police detain 1,500 in crackdown on opposition

PAKISTANI police launched a nation-wide crackdown overnight, arresting at least 1,500 supporters of cricketer-turned-politician Imran Khan ahead of an opposition rally planned later this week in Islamabad, officials said yesterday.

The arrests followed intermittent clashes over the weekend between Khan's supporters and riot police in the capital that saw police using tear gas and batons to fight stone-throwing activists. The violence erupted again Sunday near Khan's suburban home and at



Pakistani security personal check vehicles entering in Islamabad

several places on Islamabad's outskirts.

Yesterday, a Pakistani court barred Khan's followers from demonstrating on Islamabad streets, restricting the rally to within the limits

of a city park, said government prosecutor Sadique Awan. As of last week, the government has already enforced a two-month ban on street rallies in the capital.

Khan's attorney Babar

Awan said the party would appeal. The party has called for massive street demonstrations for Wednesday, threatening to lock down Islamabad in a bid to force Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif to resign.

Sharif has been under pressure after his family members were named as holders of offshore bank accounts in leaked financial documents from Panamanian law firm Mossack Fonseca.

Police have conducted raids based on tips and information about planned violence, said government spokesman Zaeem Qadri.

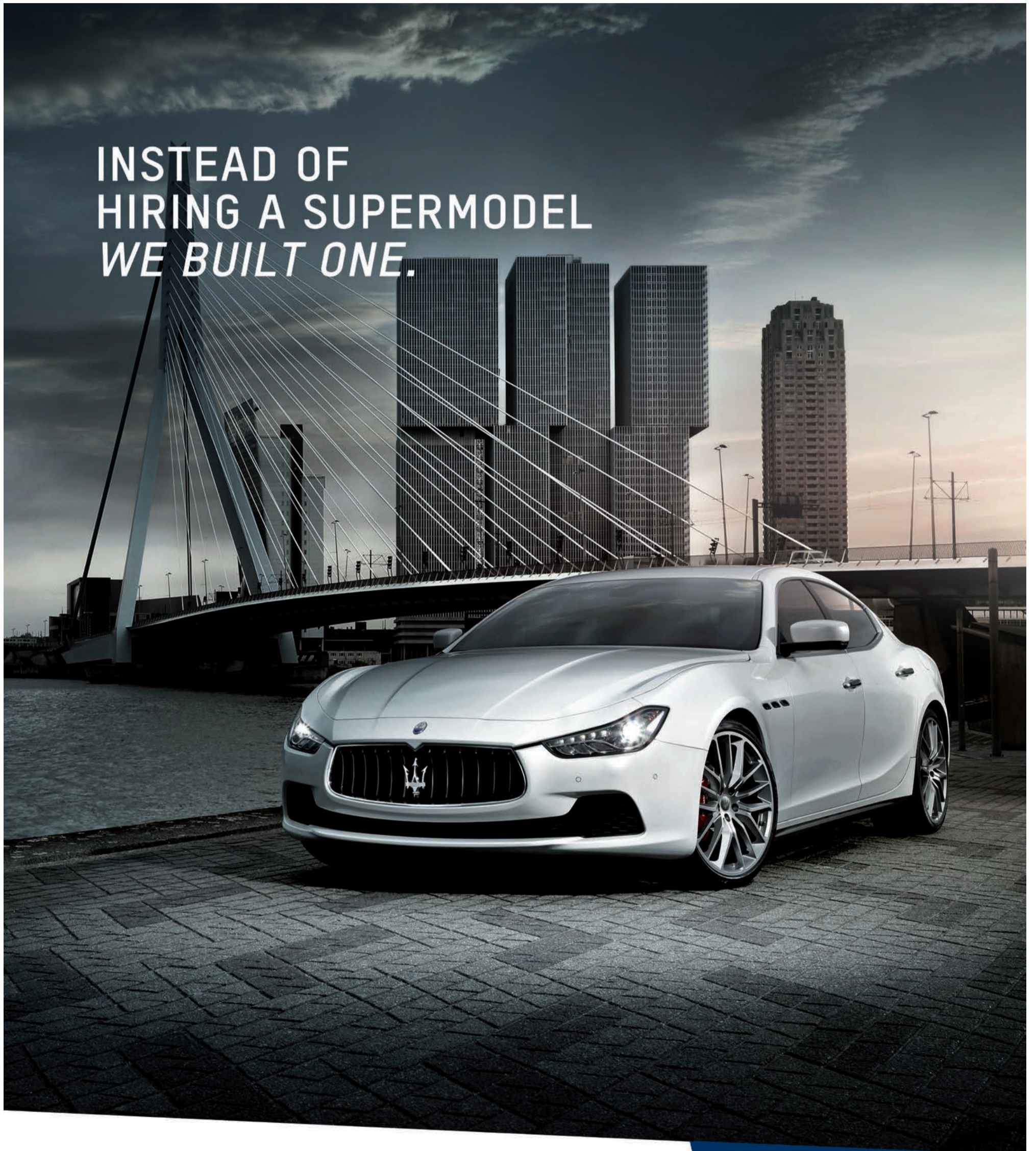
Those who pledge not to take part in violent actions are released, while those considered a threat remain in custody pending charges, he said.

Two security officials, speaking on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to talk to the media, said the number of those arrested overnight ranges between 1,500 and 1,800.

Police have placed shipping containers on key highways leading to Islamabad to stop Khan's party's convoys from across Pakistan from reaching the capital.

Interior Minister Chaudhry Nisar Ali Khan said Khan's followers had violent plans, which included the storming of government offices.

Khan's close aide Shah Mahmood Qureshi alleged that the police were manhandling and roughing up the family members of the workers. "The police are also trespassing on the houses of our leaders and activists," he said. He said two senior leaders of the party were forcibly bundled in a police van. Both were later released on orders from the interior minister. **AP**



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USA ELECTIONS

FBI email inquiry dominates as race enters final full week

HILLARY Clinton enters the final full week of the presidential race on defense once again over her use of a private email system. Meanwhile, a newly emboldened Donald Trump is seizing on the discovery of a trove of new emails that may be pertinent to the FBI's investigation and trying to open new paths to victory by campaigning in traditionally Democratic states.

Clinton vowed over the weekend that she would not be "knocked off course" in the election's final days by the discovery of new emails in an unrelated sexting investigation. It is unclear what is contained in the emails or if any of them was sent or received by Clinton herself.

"I'm not stopping now, we're just getting warmed up," Clinton declared during a packed rally with gay and lesbian supporters in battleground Florida yesterday [Macau time]. "We're not going to be distracted, no matter what our opponents throw at us."

Trump, who had been trailing Clinton nationally and across key battleground states, campaigned with new vigor over the weekend as he seized on the news in an effort to boost his

struggling candidacy. Trump headed to Michigan for a pair of rallies — a state that last voted for the Republican nominee for president in 1988.

"The polls have come out and they have been amazing, even before the big blow-up on Friday," Trump told a crowd of thousands packed into an airport in Albuquerque, New Mexico — another traditionally Democratic state that Trump said yesterday he believes he can win.

"Traditionally, you understand, Republicans aren't quite there, right?" Trump told the crowd. "But this is a Republican who is there and we're going to

I'm not stopping now, we're just getting warmed up.

CLINTON



Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton (right), speaks with Traveling Political Advisor Darren Peters (center left), as she leaves an early voting brunch at Fado Irish Pub in Miami

win this thing."

Clinton's advisers and fellow Democrats, furious over the vague letter sent by FBI Director James Comey to Congress Friday, have been pressuring him to release more details about

the emails, including whether Comey had even reviewed them himself. The emails were found on a computer that appears to belong to disgraced former New York Rep. Anthony Weiner, the estranged husband of

The polls have come out and they have been amazing, even before the big blow-up on Friday.

TRUMP

Huma Abedin, one of Clinton's closest advisers.

A law enforcement official confirmed that investigators had obtained a search warrant to begin the review of Abedin's emails on Weiner's computer. The official has knowledge of the investigation, but was not authorized to speak publicly and did so on condition of anonymity. The official said investigators would move expeditiously, but would not say when the review might be complete. AP

AD

Advertisement for LOTTO BAND. Features a group of five performers in white and pink outfits. Text includes: LOTTO BAND, Club & Bar, Starting: Nov 11, 2016, 10pm - 12mn, private party, Open to public at 12mn, From: 10:30 p.m - 3:00 a.m (every day except Monday). Includes logos for D2CLUB, Hennessy, Moët & Chandon, and Johnnie Walker.

Advertisement for SSGKC LaunchPad 2016. Features a green and blue geometric background with the text: 中新广州知识城创新创业大会2016, SSGKC LaunchPad 2016, Presents DCIC, Delta Creativity & Innovation Celebration. Includes QR codes for DCIC Presentation and Registration Form, and logos for various partners like San Jiao Ling, Lets Cultural District, and Sino-Singapore Guangzhou Knowledge City.

what's ON



THRILLER LIVE

TIME: 8pm (Mondays, Tuesdays Wednesdays and Fridays)

2pm & 8pm (Saturdays)

1pm & 6pm (Sundays)

UNTIL: November 13, 2016

VENUE: The Parisian Theatre

ADMISSION: MOP180, MOP280, MOP480

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2882 8818

THE TRUMPET OF THE TIMES: POET F. HUA-LIN

TIME: 10am-6pm (No admission after 5:30pm, closed on Mondays, opened on public holidays)

UNTIL: November 13, 2016

ADMISSION: free

VENUE: Jao Tsung-I Academy, Avenida do

Conselheiro Ferreira de Almeida, No. 95 C-D

ENQUIRES: (853) 2852 2523

60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MACAU ARTISTS SOCIETY – A RETROSPECTIVE

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

UNTIL: December 4, 2016

VENUE: Macao Museum of Art, Av. Xian Xing Hai,

s/n, NAPE

ADMISSION: MOP5 (free on Sundays and public holidays)

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8791 9814

MACAU ARTS WINDOW 2016: DWELLING ON OBJECTS – FRAGMENTS DRAWN BY YUEN-YI LO

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

UNTIL: December 4, 2016

VENUE: Macao Museum of Art, Av. Xian Xing Hai,

s/n, NAPE

ADMISSION: MOP5 (free on Sundays and public holidays)

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8791 9814

'HAVE FUN' CHU KIN FAT ARTWORK EXHIBITION

TIME: 10:30am-6:30pm (Closed on Mondays and public holidays)

UNTIL: November 13, 2016

ADMISSION: Free

VENUE: 10 Fantasia, Calçada da Igreja de S.Lazaro

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2835 4582

MACAU SCIENCE CENTRE

TIME: 10am-6pm daily, (Except Thursdays, open on public holidays)

VENUE: Macau Science Centre, Avenida Dr. Sun

Yat-Sen

ADMISSION: Exhibition Centre MOP25; Planetarium

MOP60-80

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2888 0822

Offbeat

IN LIEU OF FLOWERS, JUSTICE: PAPER RUNS 'WALKING DEAD' OBIT

Many viewers of AMC's "The Walking Dead" took the shocking deaths of two fan favorites in the latest season premiere as personally as a death in the family. One Arkansas newspaper took it a step further.

This week, the Batesville Guard newspaper published an obituary for — spoiler alert — the popular character of Glenn Rhee, who was brutally killed in the newest episode of the zombie apocalypse drama.

With a headline of "RIP, Glenn," the obituary says the character's "commitment to moral principles in a world-gone-mad breathed hope and promise into those around him." The obit seeks justice for Rhee's death in lieu of flowers.

The newspaper says the obituary was written by Frank Vaughn, a soldier currently stationed in Puerto Rico who writes occasional columns for the paper.

TV canal macau

13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
14:45	RTPi Live
16:00	Nos League: Vitória Setúbal - Porto (Repeated)
17:40	Precious Pearl (Repeated)
18:30	TDM Sport (Repeated)
19:30	Soap Opera
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:00	Non-Daily Portuguese News
21:10	TDM Interview
21:40	Once Upon A Time S1
22:10	Precious Pearl
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Miscellaneous
00:05	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)
00:40	RTPi Live
03:45	UEFA Champions League: Benfica - Dynamo Kyiv (Live)
05:45	RTPi Live

cinema

CINETEATRO

27 OCT - 2 NOV



DOCTOR STRANGE

ROOM 1

(2D) 2.30, 4.45, 9.30 pm

(3D) 7.15 pm

Director: Scott Derrickson

Starring: Benedict Cumberbatch, Chiwetel Ejiofor,

Rachel McAdams

Language: English (Cantonese)

Duration: 115min



JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK

ROOM 2

2.30, 4.45, 7.15, 9.30 pm

Director: Edward Zwick

Starring: Tom Cruise, Cobie Smulders, Damika Yarosh

Language: English (Cantonese)

Duration: 118min

HEARTFALL ARISES

ROOM3

2.30, 4.30, 7.30, 9.30 pm

Director: Ken Wu

Starring: Nicholas Tse, Sean Lau

Language: Chinese (English and Cantonese)

Duration: 108min

MACAU TOWER

27 OCT - 16 NOV

DOCTOR STRANGE

2.30, 4.30, 7.30, 9.30 pm

Director: Scott Derrickson

Starring: Benedict Cumberbatch, Chiwetel Ejiofor,

Rachel McAdams

Language: English (Cantonese)

Duration: 115min

this day in history



1990 HOWE RESIGNS OVER EUROPE POLICY

The UK's deputy Prime Minister, Sir Geoffrey Howe, has resigned.

He informed the Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher of his decision at around 1800 on Thursday.

Sir Geoffrey said the reasons for his resignation were the prime minister's policies towards Europe and her opposition to a single European currency.

He is the fourth member of the cabinet to leave after disputes over Europe.

The prime minister is said to have had no prior warning that Sir Geoffrey had decided to go.

A statement from the prime minister's office said Mrs Thatcher and Sir Geoffrey had talked for 30 minutes before she accepted his resignation "more in sorrow than in anger".

Sir Geoffrey, 63, was the last remaining member of Mrs Thatcher's original 1979 cabinet.

He served as both chancellor and foreign secretary.

A short statement from Sir Geoffrey was read to journalists by his parliamentary private secretary, David Harris.

There were few details but Mr Harris told reporters Sir Geoffrey had no intention of challenging for the party leadership.

"I have absolute authority from Sir Geoffrey to say that there is no question of his standing against Mrs Thatcher in a leadership election," Mr Harris said.

Labour leader Neil Kinnock said Mrs Thatcher had got what she deserved and had been bitten by the man she had treated as a "doormat".

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

The Labour MP Dennis Healey once famously said being attacked by Geoffrey Howe was "like being savaged by a dead sheep".

But the former deputy PM's attack on Mrs Thatcher in a dramatic

resignation speech on 13 November ultimately led to her downfall.

The speech spurred Mrs Thatcher's long-time adversary, Michael

Heseltine, to stand against her in a leadership contest.

When she failed to win the contest outright in the first round, Mrs

Thatcher resigned.

Geoffrey Howe retired from the Commons in 1992 and was given a

life peerage taking the title Baron Howe of Aberavon.

YOUR STARS

Aries

Mar. 21-Apr. 19

You need to deal with something weird today — so prepare for a little discomfort. Things are sure to get better by the end of the week, but for now, you have to slog through the mess.

Gemini

May 21-Jun. 21

You are pushing yourself in a new direction, but that could just mean that you're proving a point to yourself. Your willpower is strong, and you should find that things get a lot more interesting tomorrow.

Leo

Jul. 23-Aug. 22

Your deepest instincts are starting to make your life a lot more interesting. Trust them and move forward, as your rational mind may have a hard time decoding all the info coming your way.

Libra

Sep.23-Oct. 22

You need to deal with money issues today — so make sure that you're ready and willing to do so! They may not be problems, and you are likely to end up in a better position in the end.

Sagittarius

Nov. 22-Dec. 21

You're feeling a little more introverted today, which could mean that you need to just stay home and think about the big picture. Your energy is just right for meditation and achieving new insights.

Aquarius

Jan. 20-Feb. 18

What is your next big step? Today is the day for you to shift gears and think about what you want to do with the rest of your life, even if it feels pretty settled. Anything can change at any time!

Taurus

April 20-May 20

You can't always get what you want — and today brings that out in a big way! Your desires are a little larger than life today, and that means your disappointments are outsized as well.

Cancer

Jun. 22-Jul. 22

Try not to get too involved with stuff you don't completely believe in — you just don't have time or energy to waste on other stuff! You're feeling pretty good, but it's important to you to make sure you're doing right.

Virgo

Aug. 23-Sept. 22

Try not to reach for the stars today — but that doesn't mean you need to just mope around and give up! Your energy is better spent on attainable goals, like doing the laundry or polishing up your resume.

Scorpio

Oct. 23 - Nov. 21

You are in a stronger position today — so make the most of it! Your great energy is sure to help push you beyond your limits, and you need to be as active as possible to really reap the benefits.

Capricorn

Dec. 22-Jan. 19

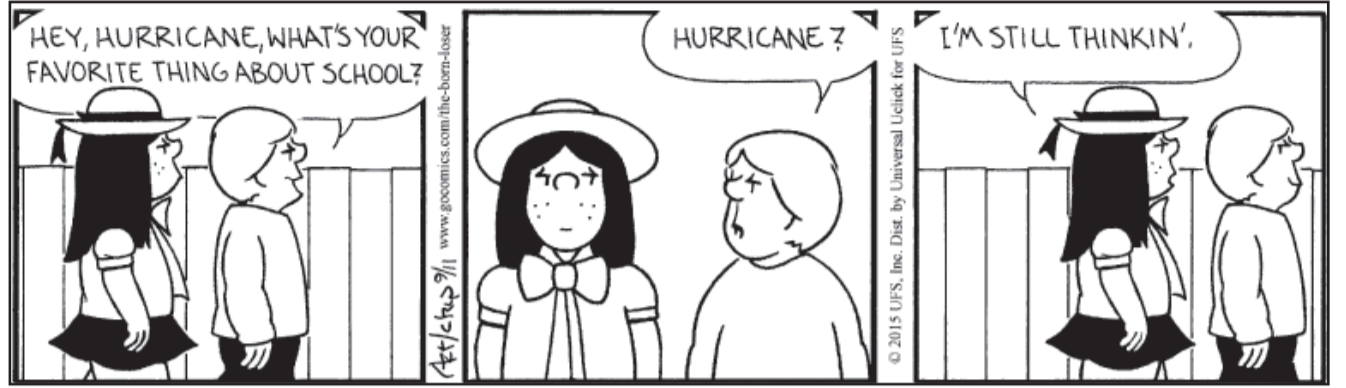
You have a settled mind, and you are ready for that big decision that's facing you. It's a good time to get your friends or family to pitch in, or at least to add their input to the process.

Pisces

Feb.19-Mar. 20

You are feeling a bit up in the air over some recent news — maybe just from a few minutes ago — but your emotional strength helps you keep from totally falling into a dark place.

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

Easy

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

Easy+

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

Medium

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

Hard

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

WEATHER

	MIN	MAX	CONDITION
--	-----	-----	-----------

CHINA

Beijing	-4	8	clear/cloudy
Harbin	-10	-1	clear
Tianjin	0	10	clear
Urumqi	-3	7	clear
Xi'an	6	17	cloudy
Lhasa	0	16	clear
Chengdu	11	19	cloudy/overcast
Chongqing	13	19	overcast
Kunming	12	19	moderate rain
Nanjing	9	15	overcast/cloudy
Shanghai	12	16	drizzle/cloudy
Wuhan	10	16	overcast
Hangzhou	12	16	drizzle/overcast
Taipei	22	25	drizzle
Guangzhou	18	26	cloudy
Hong Kong	22	26	cloudy

WORLD

Moscow	-4	1	flurry/sleet
Frankfurt	2	13	clear/cloudy
Paris	2	15	clear/overcast
London	5	15	overcast/drizzle
New York	2	17	clear

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- Asterisk; 5- Young deer; 9- U-turn from NNW; 12- Window piece; 13- Apple product; 15- Brazilian soccer star; 16- Send out; 17- Babbled; 18- Pack (quit); 19- Pertaining to the colon; 21- Mischievous; 23- Columnist Barrett; 24- ___ deferens; 25- Sale indicator; 28- Sugar apple; 33- Strap; 34- ___-Tass (Russian news agency); 35- 365 days; 36- Stumble; 37- Fret; 38- General on Chinese menus; 39- Word that can succeed building, web or burial; 41- Highway; 42- "Delta of Venus" author Nin; 44- Shaped like a bagel topping; 46- Deadly fly; 47- Freight weight; 48- "Saint Joan" playwright; 49- Farm measure; 53- Opposite of below; 57- Box; 58- Enthusiastic; 60- Heath; 61- Effortless; 62- Draw off liquid gradually; 63- ___ breve; 64- Snake; 65- Like some fir trees; 66- Scottish refusals;

DOWN: 1- Job detail, briefly; 2- ___-shanter (Scottish cap); 3- Indigo source; 4- Snappy comebacks; 5- Discharging; 6- Manila hemp plant; 7- Took the gold; 8- High time; 9- Adam's third son; 10- Narrow cut; 11- Start of a counting rhyme; 14- Trickery; 15- Pigpen; 20- Flood survivor; 22- Persian Gulf fed.; 25- Like non-oyster months; 26- Causing goose bumps; 27- Pub pastime; 28- Fine fiddle; 29- Division of a hospital; 30- Went after; 31- Fertile area in a desert; 32- Plain writing; 34- ___ Arabian Nights; 37- Treated unfairly; 40- Restaurant; 42- Pronto; 43- Reporter; 45- Bygone bird; 46- Prickly; 48- Beer mug; 49- Sailing; 50- Tax experts; Abbr.; 51- Coarse file, angry tone of voice; 52- Lawman Wyatt; 54- Kansas city; 55- Pineapple vendor; 56- Important times; 59- Moo goo ___ pan;

Yesterday's solution



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- PJ (Open line) 993
- PJ (Picket) 28 557 775
- PSP 28 573 333
- Customs 28 559 944
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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
- Water Supply - Report 2822 0088
- Telephone - Report 1000
- Electricity - Report 28 339 922
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HKD 5,800 sq ft
Loft Style Apartment
Ref: 15055441

Hoi Fu Garden Macau
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Unobstructed View
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Ref: 16020567

Edf. Vai Long Yuen Macau
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HKD 4,098sq ft
Near Portuguese Consulate
Ref: 16045472

Chun Leung Taipa
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HKD 8,800 / 700 sq ft
Ref: 16090615

La Cite Macau
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High Floor Apartment
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Tou Un Taipa
1 Bedroom Apartment
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GOLF

Hideki Matsuyama leaves Japan to conquer the world

NO one from Japan has more than Hideki Matsuyama's three PGA Tour victories. No one from Japan ever won a World Golf Championship.

None of this might have been possible if Matsuyama had never left home so quickly.

Even after he blew away a world-class field in the HSBC Champions to reach No. 6 in the world, the 24-year-old Matsuyama was not comfortable being mentioned with the five players ahead of him in the ranking or other Japanese players before his time.

That starts with Jumbo Ozaki, who won more than 100 tournaments and was inducted into the World Golf Hall of Fame five years ago.

But there's one big difference. Ozaki rarely played outside the Japan Golf Tour. His only victory away from home was the 1972 New Zealand PGA Championship. Matsuyama stopped playing a full Japanese schedule after one year, instead coming to America to see how he stacked up against the best.

His first PGA Tour victory in 2014 at the Memorial led tournament host Jack Nicklaus to say, "I think you've just seen the start of what's going to be truly one of your world's great players over the next 10 to 15 years."

Matsuyama won the Phoenix Open in a playoff over Rickie Fowler earlier this year. And then he played the final 45 holes at Sheshan International for a seven-shot victory over British Open champion Henrik Stenson and Daniel Berger to become the first Asian to win a World Golf Championship.

"If I would have just stayed in Japan, I don't think my golf game would have improved as much as it has," Matsuyama said. "I needed to go out. I needed to go to America. Winning this week proves to me that I did make the right decision, and it gives me more motiva-



Japan's Hideki Matsuyama poses with the spectator ushers for a group photo after winning the 2016 WGC-HSBC Champions golf tournament

tion to win more."

Told he was No. 6 in the world, Matsuyama paused from signing tournament flags and said with a smile, "That makes me very happy."

He speaks limited English, though he understands enough, and so when he heard words suggesting he was No. 1 in Japan, he stopped what he was doing. "I don't feel that I am the No. 1 player in Japan," he said. "There are so many greats that have paved the way, that have enabled me to be where I'm at today."

Early in his career, Matsuyama played in Japan with Ozaki. He said he didn't fully grasp Ozaki's feats until much later, and believes the legend he calls "Jumbosan" has established a standard that no one will ever touch.

At least in Japan.

Around the world, Matsuyama has been making his mark long

before his victory in Shanghai.

He won the Asia Amateur in 2010 by five shots to earn a spot in the 2011 Masters, made the cut at Augusta National and tied for 27th. Later that year, at 19 and still going to college, he won the Taiheiyo Masters, one of the top tournaments in Japan. Matsuyama also won another Asia Amateur, and then made another cut at the Masters.

Once he finished his college degree in Japan, he won four times as a rookie and finished the year at No. 23 in the world, one spot behind American rookie Jordan Spieth. Perhaps the reason he never received enough attention was that Japan didn't have a history of success away from home.

Now it does.

He said winning the Memorial "showed me that I can compete

with some of the best players in the world." The Phoenix Open was validation.

"And then today's win proves to me I can compete with everyone," he said. "It will give me great confidence going forward, especially in the ma-

If I would have just stayed in Japan, I don't think my golf game would have improved as much as it has.

MATSUYAMA

jors."

That's the next stop, and it's one reason he won't put himself in the same class as the five players ahead of him in the world ranking — Jason Day at No. 1, followed by Rory McIlroy, Dustin Johnson, Stenson and Spieth. All of them have won majors.

Matsuyama finished fifth and seventh at the Masters the past two years. He was in the mix at Muirfield in the 2013 British Open his rookie year before tying for sixth. He shot all four rounds in the 60s at Baltusrol and tied for fourth in the PGA Championship this year.

"I'm thrilled to be No. 6 in the world," he said. "But being on the same level as those other players, I've got to win a lot more to be considered with them."

Still to come is the World Cup later this month with Ryo Ishikawa, his close friend who has returned from back injury with five straight top 10s, including a victory. Matsuyama will never face the scrutiny of Ishikawa, who won a Japan Golf Tour event as a 15-year-old amateur and for years received the kind of rock-star treatment at home that only Tiger Woods could appreciate.

What makes them different is their youth. Ishikawa is only five months older.

"All the great players before me came to the United States when they were in their 30s," Matsuyama said. "Both of us have come earlier. If there's a difference, it's the age we came to the U.S."

It's a different path, indeed. But it's working. **AP**

AD



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opinion

Our Desk

Renato Marques



THE DIFFERENCE IS (NOT) MACAU!

I know this is a recurrent topic and despite the fact that almost everybody has had a few words on the topic, I still think it is necessary to address it over and over again from different angles and perspectives, as many times as the number of people in Macau - I guess.

I guess the (natural) resistance to "change" is impressed on our DNA and even the ones that judge themselves as the most "forward thinkers" can fall easily into the traps of human nature.

Macau and its people are no exception! Oh no! The difference is not Macau!

Like the tendency to avoid change, we humans also have other abilities, like "assuming" things and adopting the opinions expressed by those we sympathize with.

It is frequent for those residing in the territory to receive via Facebook, Instagram and others, sponsored advertising by local companies and namely the big hotels and resorts over their "promotional packages," some of them directed to Macau ID holders only.

If some of these promotion packages seem to be totally disconnected from the reality, others seem to be edging the ridiculous.

From Champagne Brunches at prohibitive prices (for Macau or any other place in the planet) to spa packages that would seem extravagant even to a spa addict, it seems like these institutions that we all think of as respectable are intending to lose the respect of residents.

I'm far from being a marketing expert but I don't think I need to be one to understand that campaigns like this are far from reaching the "supposed" target when the target is entirely made up of residents with a "normal" salary that although might have an interest for some "luxury" and "flaunting" cannot enroll in this kind of madness more than once a year (at most).

So, my question is: Can these places survive and be profitable on a "once a year" sale?

To me, cases like these (and many others) are mere expressions of the resort industry's inability to reform or reinvent themselves.

The example serves simply to show a picture, a picture that I see everyday and that seems to be ignored by a large number of government members and lawmakers, as well as administrators and CEOs - Macau has changed! Our tourism is not the same as it was two or three years ago and although tourism figures are tracked and logged into the system like "oil into the machine," the people in the streets, in the shops, in the restaurants and coffee shops and also in the casinos feel differently.

In my opinion we need to accept the new status Macau established by the all mighty Central Government of the People's Republic of China and move forward, reinvent ourselves, search for existing opportunities and create others, instead of standing still with the eyes pointed to China's border checkpoints like thirsty dogs looking at a tap waiting for someone to open it so we can finally drink the water.

Macau isn't different from any place in the world, other countries and territories had to change, while some decided not to and are withering.

As Jay Asher said in "Thirteen Reasons Why" - "You can't stop the future. You can't rewind the past. The only way to learn the secret... is to press play."

THE BUZZ VIETNAM REPORTS FIRST MICROCEPHALY BIRTH LIKELY LINKED TO ZIKA

Vietnam has reported its first case of microcephaly likely linked to the mosquito-borne Zika virus.

The 4-month-old girl with an abnormally small head was born in central Vietnam to a mother confirmed to have had the virus when she was pregnant.

The Ministry of Health's General Department of Preventive Medicine said on its website that

the case had a "high probability of being linked to Zika virus and also the first in Vietnam."

If confirmed, Vietnam would be the second country in Southeast Asia after Thailand to have microcephaly case linked to Zika. The virus generally causes a mild flu-like illness, but a major outbreak in Brazil last year revealed that it can result in severe birth defects when pregnant

Station	Air quality
Roadside	60-80 Moderate
High Density Residential Area	80-110 Moderate
Ambient	80-110 Moderate

SOURCE: DSI/MG

LITERATURE

Accepting award, Murakami warns against excluding outsiders



Japanese author Haruki Murakami (left), is presented the Hans Christian Andersen Literature Prize by Crown Princess Mary, during a presentation ceremony

JAPANESE novelist Haruki Murakami warned against excluding outsiders and rewriting history as he accepted the Hans Christian Andersen Literature Award.

Murakami spoke yesterday [Macau time] in Odense, Denmark, the birthplace of Andersen, the 19th-century fairytale writer. His speech, titled "The Meaning of Shadows," cited Andersen's dark fantasy "The Shadow," a story about a scholar who loses his shadow but is eventually taken over by it and killed.

"No matter how high a wall we build to keep intruders out, no matter how strictly we exclude outsiders, no matter how much we rewrite history to suit us, we just end up damaging and hurting ourselves," Murakami said.

His speech was somewhat abstract, but Japanese media have interpreted the wall and intruders as references to refugees arriving in Europe and the protectionist response.

"It's not just individuals who need to face their shadows. The same act is necessary for societies

and nations," Murakami said, according to a full transcript of his speech published by the Asahi newspaper.

As in Andersen's lifetime, "we have to, when necessary, face our own shadows, confront them, and sometimes even work with them," he said. "That requires the right kind of wisdom and courage. Of course it's not an easy task. Sometimes dangers arise. But if they avoid it people won't be able to truly grow and mature."

Worst case, he said, "they will end up like the scholar in the story 'The Shadow' destroyed by their own shadow."

Murakami, 67, usually shies away from the public, but he has spoken out on issues such as global peace and nuclear energy. He began writing while running a jazz bar in Tokyo after finishing college. His 1987 romantic novel "Norwegian Wood" was his first best-seller, establishing him as a young literary star. Recent best-sellers include "1Q84" and "Colorless Tsukuru Tazaki and His Years of Pilgrimage."

When the award commi-

tee chose Murakami, it said his imaginative prose embodies a global view and his capacity "to mix classic narrative art, pop culture, Japanese tradition, dream-like realism and philosophical discussion makes him a fitting heir to the Andersen legacy."

The award carries a prize of 500,000 Danish kroner (USD74,000), as well as a bronze sculpture and a diploma. Previous winners include "Harry Potter" author J.K. Rowling and Salman Rushdie, who wrote "Midnight's Children" and "The Satanic Verses."

In closing his speech, Murakami said doing away with shadows only leaves "a flat illusion," and he urged people to "learn to live together with your shadow," a remark interpreted as a caution against attempts to rewrite a painful past.

"If you don't, before long your shadow will grow ever stronger and will return, some night, and knock at the door of your house," he said. "Outstanding stories can teach us many things. Lessons that transcend time periods and cultures." AP

WORLD BRIEFS



PAKISTAN Police launched a nation-wide crackdown on Sunday night, arresting at least 1,500 supporters of cricketer-turned-politician Imran Khan ahead of an opposition rally planned later this week in Islamabad. The arrests followed intermittent clashes over the weekend between Khan's supporters and riot police that saw police using tear gas and batons to fight stone-throwing activists. More on p13

TURKEY Police detained the chief editor and at least 12 senior staff of Turkey's opposition Cumhuriyet newspaper yesterday, in a widening crackdown on dissenting voices. Editor-in-chief Murat Sabuncu, cartoonist Musa Kart, the paper's lawyer and several columnists were detained, some following raids at their homes.

UKRAINE Tens of thousands of Ukrainian officials and lawmakers have disclosed their incomes and assets in a publicly available database for the first time in what is commonly known in Ukraine as an e-declaration. Some Ukrainian politicians complained about filling in the elaborate forms for hours, and several lawmakers didn't meet the deadline.



FRANCE Paris police rounded up Afghan migrants yesterday and cleared away some of their tents in a makeshift camp that has resurged in recent weeks. Yesterday's operation was marked by tension and confusion. Riot police physically forced the migrants back and drew a cordon around them, as some migrants yelled and pushed back.