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"THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN'"

WORLD BRIEFS



HONG KONG A British banker was convicted of murder yesterday for killing two Indonesian women in Hong Kong, torturing one of them over three days while using cocaine in a gruesome case that shocked the Chinese financial hub. The nine-person jury returned unanimous verdicts against Rurik Jutting after a two-week trial in the High Court. More on p11

LAOS has notified its Southeast Asian neighbors that it's moving ahead with a third contentious hydroelectric dam on the Mekong River's mainstream. More on p13



THE PHILIPPINES' Supreme Court ruled yesterday that the late dictator Ferdinand Marcos can be buried at a heroes' cemetery, a decision that opponents said rolled back the democratic triumph of the "people power" revolt that ousted the strongman three decades ago. "While he was not all good," the 15-member court said, "he was not pure evil either." More on p12

SOUTH KOREA Scrambling to defuse a massive scandal, South Korean President Park Geun-hye concedes to lawmakers the power to name her new prime minister, a move that could seriously hurt, or even destroy, her ability to govern. More on p13

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Small churches second home for migrants

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D Day for America, world

P14-15 ELECTION DAY

Hong Kong stocks climb for second day as casinos lead advance



The Stock Exchange buildings in Hong Kong

Fox Hu

HONG Kong stocks heked out a gain for a second day as investor optimism that Hillary Clinton will clinch the U.S. presidential election offset a larger-than-expected drop in Chinese exports.

The Hang Seng Index closed 0.5 percent higher. Galaxy Entertainment Group Ltd. and Sands China Ltd. were among the top gainers, while Hong Kong Exchanges & Clearing Ltd. posted the biggest two-day increase in a month amid optimism the start of a stock link with Shenzhen is imminent. China's ex-

ports fell 7.3 percent in October, compared with the median estimate for a 6 percent decline. The Shanghai Composite Index rose 0.5 percent to a 10-month high.

Hong Kong's equities have taken their lead from the U.S. election this week, with the local currency's peg to the greenback ensuring that the city's monetary policy is tied to that of the Federal Reserve's. Property developers plunged on Monday as the government unveiled moves to limit home price gains. A Bloomberg Politics national poll puts Clinton ahead of Donald Trump by three percentage poin-

ts as Americans prepared to cast their votes.

"Hong Kong shares are rising as Hillary Clinton's prospects improve," said Ronald Wan, chief executive of Partners Capital International Ltd. in Hong Kong. "The rally will be limited by housing curbs whose negative impact will be felt in a longer term in sectors including retail and finance."

A gauge of property developers rallied after dropping the most since August 2015 on Monday. Sun Hung Kai Properties Ltd. added 1.6 percent and Cheung Kong Property Holdings Ltd. rose 1.3 percent. The two plunged at least 8 percent on Mon-

day after the Hong Kong government raised stamp duty to 15 percent to cool prices in the world's most expensive housing market.

The dip in property shares is an opportunity to accumulate because the stamp duty increase will impact the secondary market more than developers, Daiwa Capital Markets Hong Kong Ltd. analyst Jonas Kan wrote in a note. Developers are able to offer flexible payment terms and pricing, Kan said.

The Hang Seng Index closed at 22,909.47. The Shanghai Composite's 14-day relative strength index rose to 66, near the level of 70 that indicates to some traders that a reversal is due. The Hang Seng China Enterprises Index advanced 0.5 percent.

MGM China Holdings Ltd. climbed 2.8 percent to the highest close since August last year after its parent reported third-quarter earnings that beat analysts' estimates. Galaxy Entertainment advanced 1.5 percent, while Sands China added 0.9 percent. Hong Kong Exchanges & Clearing rose 0.5 percent, taking a two-day increase to 2 percent.

Bloomberg

Exhibition on the new Central Library project with guided visits



THE Cultural Affairs Bureau (IC) announced yesterday it will introduce guided tours to the exhibition on the project of the new Central Library. The exhibition is open until 7 December at the Old Court Building, where the facility is planned to be built.

The exhibition features the new Central Library planning works, the selection criteria for the location, the buildings' revitalization plan, the collection capacity after the opening, and the layout of functional areas.

According to the IC, this exhibition was set up in order to allow the public to better understand the details of the current plan for the construction of the new library and what it will offer when it is built.

Guided tours will be available from Tuesday to Friday, at 1.30 p.m., 3.30 p.m. and 6.30 p.m. and at 2 p.m., 4 p.m. and 6 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. Each guided tour will take around 40 minutes and will be conducted in Cantonese with no interpreting services provided. Interested individuals who wish to request guided tours in Portuguese or English may call the Macau Public Library to make a reservation.

On-street parking meters to increase fares

THE Transport Advisory Committee has agreed to increase the on-street parking meter rates, Kou Kun Pang, a member of the committee, stated.

According to Kou, the fare for light vehicles will increase to 12 patacas for two-hour limit meters, and to six patacas for one-hour limit meters. Previously, these rates were fixed at six and two patacas respectively.

Meters allowing vehicles to be parked for five hours will only allow from now on a maximum parking period of four hours.

The fare is suggested to increase to three patacas for light vehicles, and to remain unchanged in regard to motorbikes and heavy vehicles.

The two-hour limit meters for motorbikes and heavy vehicles will charge two patacas and ten patacas respectively. Previous values were of one and five patacas respectively.

Kou explained that a few reasons led to the increase in charges. One reason is that the fares had been the same for 30 years. Another reason is that meters' fares face a great disparity with those of the parking lots, which could lead drivers being to unwilling park in parking lots, which in turn would place greater pressure on to transportation on roads.

Wholesale and retail trade industry down 5.6 percent

INFORMATION from the Statistics and Census Service indicated that revenues of wholesale and retail trade industry amounted to MOP 108.72 billion in 2015, down by 5.6 percent year-on-year.

Expenditure decreased by 5.1 percent to MOP 99.19 billion, which led to a drop of 22.3 percent in Gross Surplus, while the Gross Value Added which measures the sectorial contribution to the economy, dropped by 10.7 percent to MOP 19.29 billion.

The Gross Fixed Capital Formation soared by 125.1 percent to

MOP 3.02 billion.

Receipts of wholesale establishments decreased by 7.5 percent to MOP 34.34 billion, while receipts of retail establishments recorded a decrease of 4.4 percent year-on-year, at MOP 65.90 billion.

Conversely, receipts from retail sales of adult clothing, household appliances and goods in supermarkets rose by 19.7 percent, 63.4 percent and 4 percent respectively.

Meanwhile market stalls and fixed stalls on the street totaled at 1,616 MOP. Revenues, while expenditure of these stalls amounted



to MOP 1.75 billion and MOP 1.46 billion respectively, up by 7.1 percent and 7.5 percent year-on-year.

In 2015, a total of 13,995 wholesale and retail establishments, market stalls and fixed stalls on the street were operating, down by 86 year-on-year.

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Former Moto GP winners gather for Golden Jubilee



Mick Grant



Steve Plater

THE Macau Grand Prix Organizing Committee (MGPOC) confirmed three-time champion Sadeo Asami will join former winners Mick Grant, Phillip McCallen and Steve Plater for the Golden Jubilee celebrations which will mark the 50th edition of the Macau Motorcycle Grand Prix.

The four returning champions each represent a decade in the history of what has become one of the most respected motorcycle road races in the world. Sadeo Asami took three wins in 1978, 1979 and 1980; Mick Grant straddled the decades, with Guia Circuit success in 1977 and 1984; Isle of Man legend Phillip McCallen won in 1996; while Steve Plater took two Macau victories in 2006 and 2007.

In addition to the returning champions, five former winners will compete against a strong international field for what will be a milestone victory: John McGuinness, Stuart Easton, Ian Hutchinson, defending champion Peter Hickman, and eight-time winner Michael Rutter.

The MGPOC has planned a number of activities to mark the Golden Jubilee, including a display of competing and classic motorcycles at Tap Seac Square the weekend before the Grand Prix, and a classic bike parade on the Guia Circuit on Saturday, November 19. Macau Post is also marking the occasion with a set of commemorative 50th anniversary postage stamps.

The Macau Grand Prix will be held from November 17-20.

ART

Bessmertny to exhibit 34 recent works

THE Macao Museum of Art (MAM) will host an exhibition showcasing the recent works of Russian-born painter Konstantin Bessmertny. The Macau-based artist will present some 34 pieces composed of multiple mediums including painting, sculpture, installation and mixed media.

The exhibition, titled “Ad Lib – Recent Works of Konstantin Bessmertny”, will be inaugurated on Friday on the 2nd floor of the museum at 6:30 p.m. After the ceremony, one hundred posters with the artist’s signature will be distributed on a first come, first served basis.

Bessmertny has resided in Macau since 1993, where he has devoted himself to artistic creation. His art reflects impressions and observations of the city’s dramatic changes since then, understood through the dual perspectives of a foreigner and an insider.

“Ad lib” is the shorthand for the Latin phrase “ad libitum”, which means “at one’s pleasure”. According to a statement from MAM, Bessmertny has expressed a desire to refrain from giving his exhibition a definite theme, instead opting “to bring us a bustling and humorous visual feast, in which he shares his personal musings and wittily responds to different phenomena happening in society.”



“By employing absurdity and humor, [Bessmertny] creates works that express ideas from philosophy, politics, theology, art history, cinema and music, leading viewers to reflect on various social issues from multiple angles,” surmises an additional statement issued by Macau’s Cultural Affairs Bureau.

The artist once told the Times in an interview in 2014 that he felt it was his “duty” to exhibit in Macau on a regular basis, even though the demand for art consumption was still lacking.

“It’s my duty [to exhibit here regularly]. I’m a local; I live here,” he told the Times. “Everything that comes up - like a museum request - of course I have to support it. I do my best.”

The exhibition opens on Friday and will run until May 28 next year. Admission is MOP5 except on Sundays and public holidays when it is free of charge. The museum is closed on Mondays. **DB**

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HEALTH

First organ transplant successfully performed in Macau

LAST Sunday, the Centro Hospitalar Conde de São Januário (CHCSJ) successfully conducted Macau's first organ transplant surgery.

The organ transplant was performed between two local sisters, with the donor and the recipient being 54 and 39 years old, respectively.

The kidney transplantation was completed after three surgical operations: a nephrectomy, a renal repair surgery and the kidney transplant surgery.

All stages of the operation were directed by the organ transplantation team from CHCSJ and were instructed and assisted by experts coming from the organ transplantation center of the first affiliated hospital of Sun Yat-Sen University.

In total, 12 medical professionals including urologists, anesthesiologists, nephrologists and nurses were involved in the transplant.

The Health Bureau (SSM) claims that the procedure was successful, resulting in a good

renal perfusion and good urination. The kidney is functioning well and the recipient's body is not showing any refusing reaction against the new organ.

Both the donor and the recipient are still in hospital to recover from the surgery.

The donor can move out from CHCSJ in seven to 10 days after the operation, whereas the recipient will be required to stay in hospital for two weeks' observation and she is also required to return to the hospital regularly.

The director of SSM, Lei Chin Ion, stated that each year, among the people who die in the city there are 10 to 20 corpses which are suitable for organ transplantation despite the fact that some of these people might not be willing to donate their organs.

Lei encouraged the public to donate their organs, and said that the authority will try to put Macau patients' names on the mainland's organ waiting list in order to have higher chances of finding suitable donors.



Cristina Morais ends her time at Macau Forum

CRISTINA Morais who was the coordinator of the Support Office to the Permanent Secretariat of the Forum for Economic and Trade Cooperation between China and Portuguese Speaking Countries (Macau Forum) has been reassigned, according to an order of the Macau Secretary for Economy and Finance.

The order from Secretary Leong Vai Tac moved Cristina Morais for a period of one year to the position of head of the Department of External Economic Relations of the Macau Economic Office. Her time in this position began on 3 November, immediately following the end of her term (November 2) as a coordinator connected to the Forum.

After replacing Echo Chan as coordinator of the Support Office to the Permanent Secretariat of Macau Forum in 2015, Morais now returns to the position she held from 2009 until November 2015. Her connection with the department began in 2003 when she was appointed as the interim head of this de-



Cristina Morais (left) pictured during her swearing-in ceremony

partment. The Macau Forum, was created through a Chinese government initiative in October 2003 in coordination with seven Portuguese-speaking countries; Angola, Brazil, Cape Verde, Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique, Portugal and East Timor, as well as the collaboration of the Government of the Macau Special Administrative Region.

The Macau Forum is a multilateral cooperation mechanism aimed at the consolidation of economic and trade exchange between China and Portuguese-speaking countries, using Macau as a connecting platform. **MDT/Macauhub**

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Cultural Industries Fund to enhance SMEs support

Julie Zhu

THE Cultural Industries Fund's Administrative Committee announced that it will increase the amount of funds given to support small sized enterprises between 2016 and 2018. This information was reported by Leong Heng Teng, president of the committee, during yesterday's press conference regarding the review of the cultural industries fund from the 2014-2016 period.

"Hopefully, next year, we can focus on small-sized enterprises," said Leong, who shared that in order to distribute the funds to appropriate candidates in a more prudent way, the committee turned to several scholars from Macau's higher education institutes to provide advice regarding their future actions.

Davina Chu, a member of the committee, told the media that in the face of the difficulties these enterprises have encountered over the past three years,



Leong Heng Teng (center)

the committee considered offering them additional help.

She further informed that this supplementary help will be given mostly to applicants consisting of fewer than five people. "In particular for those recreational enterprises located within the city's communities, we will launch specific funds to help them improve their businesses, as well as to create a special cultural belonging in the community," said Chu.

"[We will help] to develop recreational projects which have community specialties. [...] each community has its own

culture and soul."

Chu informed that aside from supporting small-sized enterprises, the committee will also increase during this period their support of specific fields such as the fashion industry, design, music, film, as well as cultural performance and exhibitions.

Another new measure the committee will adopt in the coming years is the establishment of an awards system. This will give awards to exceptional enterprises which have had a significant role in the cultural industry.

"Awards will also go to those projects which support the cultural and recreational development, or to projects used to train talented people in the creative industry, as well as those that have pushed cross-region cultural exchange," said Chu.

In 2014, the government launched the fund to support local cultural recreational business. Until the end of last month, the committee awarded MOP128

million to approximately 90 projects.

The total funds amounted to nearly MOP100 million in non-remunerated funds and MOP40 million in interest-free loans.

Over 400 local companies applied for the fund in the past three years. 113 of the applications were approved, although some of the approved applicants eventually returned the funds for a variety of reasons, such as shortage of human resources or issues concerning engineering projects.

As Chu noted, most applicants have been running their businesses successfully, and the small number of failed businesses were unable to continue on account of not being able to extend the lease of their office space.

The president Leong Heng Teng also reported that less than 20 percent of the approved applicants approached the committee to cancel the funds or did not sign an agreement with the committee.

Ted Chan resigns from Melco Crown

Ted Chan, chief operating officer of Melco Crown has resigned "for personal reasons," the company announced last night in a note to the stock exchange. Lawrence Ho, Melco Crown's CEO, said that he will "personally take on day-to-day operational leadership." The casino operator "is not naming a replacement COO. The company is using this opportunity to transform its leadership structure in a manner designed to streamline operations." Melco Crown Entertainment "has been actively evaluating its operations to optimize financial performance with a focus on improving its marketing initiatives and creating a more efficient reporting structure," the note reads.

IC continues selection for design subsidy program

The Cultural Affairs Bureau proceedings of the second review of the 2016 Subsidy Program for Fashion Design and Sample Making will be held this Sunday. According to the bureau's statement, a total of 24 applications were received, from which 15 fashion design works were selected for the second review. The second review, a closed-door session, will be held at the Dom Pedro V Theatre Mirror Hall. As a result, the hall will be closed from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. although the other facilities of the theatre will remain open to the public.

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Lynzy Valles

THE number of Christian churches, attended largely by the Filipino community in the region, has been increasing, with some located in buildings in Macau that are not traditionally used for religious practice. Macau now boasts a multitude of small churches that are popular amongst fervent Filipino believers.

The new churches in the territory have taken on unorthodox names, such as “Radiance of Christ Ministries,” “Emmanuel International Ministries,” “Jesus Alive Ministry,” and “Bordergate Baptist Church.” These churches have housed congregations consisting of a large number of Filipino and other overseas workers residing in the territory.

Although some Filipino workers remain faithful to their Roman Catholic religion, as it is the most popular faith in the Philippines, several of them are practicing Protestantism.

João Felix da Silva, a Brazilian pastor in Macau recalled he has seen a steady increase in the involvement of the Filipino community since he initiated a Portuguese protestant church some 18 years ago.

Since then, as the community grew, Felix da Silva saw a great need for a church where the increasing number of Filipino immigrants could congregate.

“They have always been in need [of a church], aside from the ones established here. They need support, especially those who come from different backgrounds,” he explained. Felix da Silva said that some churches attract particular groups of people belonging to

Filipino believers find solace in



Sunday church service

one ethnicity or another, as the numbers that make up the emerging parish community come from a select number of backgrounds.

The pastor claims that he helped register over 50 local churches

to function as part of the legal church association.

Yet despite the rapid development of establishing churches, the pastor admitted that one could not keep up with the number of congregations, as the majority

of the attendees do not settle permanently in Macau. The Filipino community has also found a home in smaller church communities and are attending church services on Sundays.

Most of the churches also pro-

“The overseas foreign workers treat the church as their second family.

GLENN PABLO
RADIANCE OF CHRIST
INTERNATIONAL MINISTRIES PASTOR

vide emotional support to those who have been oppressed or abused by their employers. “Filipinos nowadays like to feel at home, they have their own food stores, gatherings; and when they find some place [to be involved] they spend time there,” da Silva explained.

Echoing the same sentiments, Glenn Pablo, a pastor of a Filipino church said that a sense of belonging is one of the major factors that explains why this com-



‘A church group is a community’



Beto Beбето (center) and members of his religious community

BETO Beбето, a local Indonesian pastor, told the Times that an increase in the number of English-speaking non-resident workers has led to the increase of international churches or local churches commencing English services.

This includes particularly the Indonesian and

Filipino communities. As their numbers grow, those who are of Christian background certainly seek for a church to which to belong.

The Indonesian pastor believes that there are churches that will grow, while some churches will remain dedicated to small communities depending



An Indonesian church

on the religious group’s calling.

“There are churches serving domestic helpers [or] business people and there are churches that serve both. It’s really a matter of preference. You decide whether you like it, whether you feel comfortable,” Beto explained.

“A church group is a

community, so the increase in the number of people attending merely reflects the fact that more people respond to the message of the gospel [for the new members who decide to embrace the faith] or people feel more comfortable being part of that particular church [for those who are already

of Christian background],” he added.

Beto also said that any church group would hope to have more members joining the church and embracing Christianity.

“The gospel is good news. Again of course this is a personal preference for everyone, so when you have good news, naturally you want to share it with your loved ones, family and friends,” he said.

The pastor also stressed that these churches serve as a second home, especially to the Filipino and Indonesian community.

“We just love to be around the same culture as well, and so usually it’s not only about the speaking the same language or singing Indonesian or Filipino songs but it’s the church activities as a whole,” the Indonesian pastor explained.

In these types of churches the attendees can have a meal and experience a sense of fellowship af-

ter Sunday services. While some churches provide the meals for free using the churches’ funds, some hold potluck lunches.

According to the pastor, the church is not simply about the Sunday service, but also about the community.

“You’re far away from your home, culture and food but suddenly when Sunday comes, when fellowship comes, you

“We sometimes help them go back to Indonesia when they don’t have money.

BETO BEBETO

multitude of small churches



Glenn Pablo (middle)

munity is growing.

Unlike in traditionally designed churches where the community attends a mass on a Sunday, these protestant churches offer activities, just like any other Chris-

tian denomination.

"It's one of the major factors of church growth in Macau. Especially the overseas foreign workers, they treat the church as their second family. So they

give time to join the community because they look for comradeship," said Pablo.

Pablo, who is currently pastoring a Filipino church called Radiance of Christ International Ministries (RCMI), explained that Christianity is composed of different denominations including Evangelical, Baptist, Lutheran and Pentecostal, and such groups have seen opportunities to expand in Macau.

The expansion had caused the formation of several churches with different names but with the same goal: to "share the gospel and lead people to Christ."

Yet, with the growing number of attendees comes the surge of rentals, thus these churches have been affected by the extreme challenge of the region's rental rates.

"It's very unfortunate that a church can't do anything and there's no other option but to grab existing rental rates because otherwise you will not be able to

maintain and accommodate the number of attendees," he explained.

Most of these churches end up in industrial buildings as the median rent of commercial spaces in the region has so far tripled. Some churches pay rent that ranges between MOP15,000 and MOP30,000 per month.

"Macau is not a place to consider having an owned place, you have to keep up the rent. In the past it was easy but for the last ten years it has become a struggle for many churches," da Silva explained.

Protestant churches have also registered an association called "Macau Evangelical Ministerial Association" in a bid to support each other's activities. The association serves as a platform to better boost and promote their organizations.

The association conducts festive activities such as Christmas parties where they unite churches to show solidarity.

"It's also a way to show that these kinds of religious organi-

zations could help them in their times of need," Pablo added.

The pastor explained that these small churches also give financial support to those in need through voluntary contribution.

"We can ask for the congregation's help if we know someone is in need, to share the burden among us," he explained.

According to the pastors the Times interviewed, there is no financial commitment required from an individual to belong to a church.

Such churches operate through voluntary giving called "tithes and offerings."

"It's not compulsory to give but for those who are willing to become a part of the volunteer working force, [tithes and offerings] are part of their commitment," Pablo explained.

As different churches have diverse strategies to reach out to the local community, Pablo highlighted that the church he is pastoring also coordinates with local non-government associations.

Such associations include Caritas Macau's home for the aged, the drug rehabilitation center in Ka Ho and an orphanage.

"We do yearly [visits] to these organizations to become part of the community," he noted.



CONSULAR ASSISTANCE

THE RELIGIOUS groups also serve as a platform to disseminate information from the designated consulates. Previously, the Philippine Consulate General in Macau Lilybeth Deapera told the Times that meetings would be held with leaders of religious and non-

religious organizations to help disseminate relevant information to the community. These religious groups also provide assistance to migrant workers with visa and work issues by accommodating them and connecting them with the relevant authorities.

just feel at home because everybody is Indonesian [...] and communication is held in Bahasa," Beto stressed.

Beto also confirmed that the church financially helps its members who are in need.

"We sometimes help them go back to Indonesia when they don't have money. [...] We collect money from amongst us and we buy the ticket for them so they can go back," he shared.

Although these churches have unusual names, these communities provide a support system to different ethnic groups in the territory. Members of small churches that have been established for years also offer emotional support to community.

"Regardless of how many churches we have in town; we are one body, we are one," he said. "We're doing our best to really serve the people." LV

'I was a former gambler but I didn't feel condemned'

SOME of the believers who prefer to be a part of small religious groups rather than the traditional Church told the Times that they feel at home in belonging to a church community. These church attendees also confirmed that "tithes and offerings" are voluntarily given to the church.

Some attendees noted how they had tried participating in other church communities before settling in one particular group.

"We have tried other churches prior to the one we're currently attending. In this church we're now involved, we felt warmly welcomed when we first visited," said Mylene Pacada.

"I was a former gambler but I didn't feel condemned in that church and they just encouraged me to change for the better with the help of God and the church," she explained.

When asked whether church members are voluntarily providing financial support to other members of the community, Pacada answered, "The church is [also] helping us so I think that's what we should do too. Without our [financial] help how can churches continue to operate?"



Mylene Pacada (center)

An active member of another church, Joana Lambina said there is a sense of belonging when one is involved in a church group, as its members treat each other as a family.

"Those who feel homesick could find the comfort they are looking for in a

church. In these kinds of [small] churches, they can find a second family, a home, love and comfort," she explained.

According to information the Times acquired, there are over 50 Filipino churches and some five Indonesian churches active in Macau.

These Tagalog and Bahasa speaking communities also have church councils in the region, which hold several prayer groups and fellowships.

There are approximately 400 to 500 Indonesian attendees in those five churches and prayer groups. The membership of Filipino churches varies from 30 to over 200 members.

Further, these types of churches in the region collaborate to hold activities together, promoting unity among the Christian churches in Macau.

Just recently, 30 churches and organizations have again held the "Cheer Macao Float Parade." The event is an annual parade that gathers some 600 Christian participants to promote "love, joy, peace and unity."

According to the organizers, the parade also aimed at spreading "positive energy" in the region. LV

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Henrique Almeida

PORTUGAL'S success in getting the organizers of the Web Summit to move to Lisbon from Dublin, beating out contenders like Amsterdam and Paris, may have been the easy part. Now, it wants to convince participants to move some operations there.

The government is wooing the 50,000 tech leaders and their followers descending upon Lisbon this week for a gathering described as the "Davos for Geeks," hoping they will bolster investment and create much-needed jobs in the southern European country.

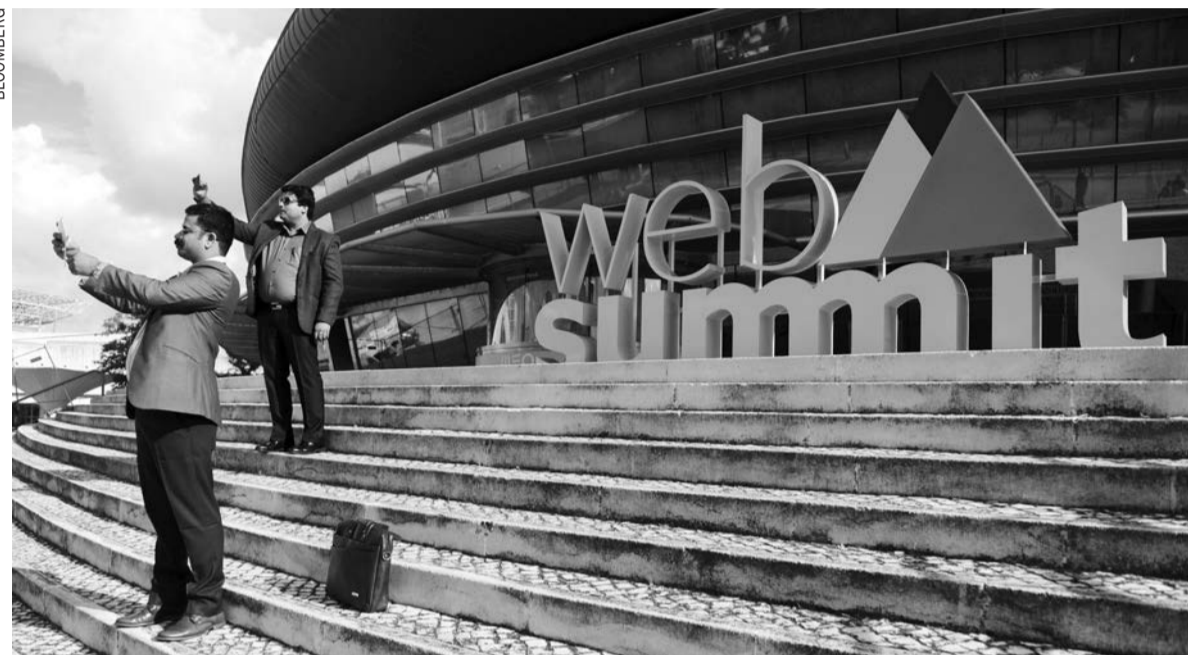
There are signs it may be already happening. Farfetch Ltd., a London-based startup which has half its staff in Portugal, is looking to add more.

"Ever since we won the Web Summit, companies have been telling me they want to move here," said Joao Vasconcelos, the secretary of state for industry and former director of incubator Startup Lisboa. "We're pitching to the entrepreneurs, the startup founders and their teams to move here."

Winning the bid last year to host the event was a big victory for Portugal, which is still picking up the pieces after the sovereign debt crisis and ensuing recession left its youth unemployment rate at close to 30 percent. The Web Summit from November 7th to the 10th features speakers including Portuguese Prime Minister Antonio Costa, Facebook Chief Technology Officer Mike Schroepfer, Nissan Motor Chief Executive Officer Carlos Ghosn and Tinder CEO Sean Rad.

The gathering will generate as much as 200 million (USD222 million) euros for Lisbon's economy through hotel bookings, restaurants and taxi rides, according to the Lisbon Tourism Association. It may also help bolster the reputation of the city, whose red suspension bri-

Portugal banks on 'Davos for geeks' to bolster cooling economy



dge, cable cars and nearby surfing locations often draw comparisons to San Francisco.

"The Web Summit is key to consolidate Lisbon and Portugal as a credible tech hub," said Stephan Morais, an executive board member at Caixa Capital, a Lisbon-based 500 million-euro venture capital and private equity firm that's part of state-owned bank Caixa Geral de Depositos SA. "Sooner or later it will generate investments in the Portuguese technology sector and lead to the creation of new companies both by Portuguese and foreign entrepreneurs."

Portugal's main selling points include cheap rents, 300 days a year of sunshine and legions of high-skilled, affordable, English-speaking engineers and developers eager to find jobs in the technology sector. The cost of employing a worker in Portugal was 13.20 euros per hour

last year, which is 55 percent less than the 29.50 euros per hour average cost for a worker in the euro region, according to the European Union's statistics office.

Farfetch, run from the U.K. by its Portuguese founder and valued at more than \$1 billion last year after completing another round of financing, already employs more than half of its 1,200 staff in Portugal. The e-commerce website, which sells designer fashion for more than 500 boutiques and brands worldwide, is looking to hire another 100 people in Portugal.

"Some key roles that we are looking for at the moment include developers, quality assurance engineers, performance engineers and product owners," CEO Jose Neves, whose grandfather ran a shoe factory in Portugal, said. "We see Portugal as a hub for great tech talent."

While many Portuguese left

the country to seek new opportunities after the country sought international aid in 2011, others decided to go it alone. A total of 37,924 new companies were set up in Portugal last year, the highest since 2007, according to business data pro-

Winning the bid last year to host the event was a big victory for Portugal, which is still picking up the pieces after the sovereign debt crisis

vider Dun & Bradstreet. Employment has improved more than initially forecast by the government this year, unlike the indebted economy, which is set to grow less than in 2015.

Portugal's unemployment rate fell to 10.8 percent in the second quarter and youth unemployment declined to 26.9 percent from 29.8 percent a year earlier, according to the national statistics institute. The government forecasts economic growth will slow to 1.2 percent this year from 1.6 percent in 2015.

Some of Portugal's most successful startups include Hole19, a golf app that works as an intelligent caddy and uses global positioning system technology; Uniplaces, a room-rental service that caters to university students in countries including Portugal, Spain, Italy, Germany, France and the U.K.; and Zaask, a web platform that connects tradesmen and professionals to potential clients.

"One of the challenges for Lisbon in its drive to become a relevant tech hub in Europe, alongside Berlin or Barcelona, is to produce very high quality startups that result in major exits, and at the same time, to keep building a sustainable ecosystem," said Pedro Rocha Vieira, president and co-founder of Lisbon-based Beta-I, a so-called accelerator. "Until now, Lisbon has been a source of attraction and inspiration, but now the game is getting much more serious, and it's really up to us to show that this is not just hype." **Bloomberg**

corporate bits

MGM TO CO-HOST LION DANCE COMPETITION



MGM and Wushu General Association of Macau are co-hosting the sixth annual signature event - "MGM Lion Dance Championship - Macau International Invitational" at the resort's Grande Praça on Saturday and Sunday.

This year's "Male Lion Dance Championship" features 15 teams from ten countries and regions including China, Hong Kong and Macau.

The two-day Championship will also see Macau's first "Female Traditional Lion Dance Championship" with an international standard rating system, which is an upgrade from the pioneering "Female Lion Dance Performance Competition" that has taken place since 2011.

This year's Championship features eight female lion dance troupes, stated MGM.

The Southern Lion Dance is a sport-oriented activity, performed by a team of two dancers and requiring a varied set of skills and strength so as to perform the moves and achieve various postures that serve to imitate and simulate the different moods and dance-like movements of lions.

CTM LAUNCHES FREE WI-FI AT CARITAS REHABUS



Following the collaboration to launch free CTM Wi-Fi service at Caritas Library last year, CTM said it has been working closely with Caritas Macau to extend the Wi-Fi coverage to other areas.

Yesterday CTM announced in a release that free Wi-Fi service is now available on three Caritas Rehabus vehicles.

CTM stated that with the corporate philosophy of "Giving back to the Community", it is committed to using its advantages and technology to promote the development of "Digital Macau."

Service users of Rehabus are able to enjoy free CTM Wi-Fi service for 30 minutes after successful login. According to the statement, there is no limit on the number of logins to enjoy free use of CTM Wi-Fi service while travelling on the bus.

Caritas Rehabus provides transportation to people who have difficulty traveling on public transport to hospitals or health centers due to physical disability, blindness or serious illnesses.

ST REGIS PRESENTS FESTIVE CULINARY MENU



To mark the start of the festive season, The Manor at The St. Regis Macao, Cotai Central is presenting festive culinary experiences for guests from December 12 to 31.

The resort's chefs will be preparing a traditional Christmas dish of 'Roasted Bresse chicken with organic farmed winter vegetables,' with a touch of yuzu to add an Asian twist to it, as part of its 'Festive Set Dinner.'

Throughout the Christmas

weekend, St. Regis also presents a 'Festive Lunch Buffet' that features an array of seafood.

According to a release, The 'Festive Family Dinner' also features the following dishes; a sumptuous seafood platter, "Australian Angus beef tongue with Sicilian red prawns, Seared foie gras escalope and Roast beef wellington."

For New Year's Eve, the gastronomy team at The Manor has designed a year-end fête with a six-course set dinner.

Highlights of the 'New Year's Eve Celebration Set Dinner' include 'Gillardeau oysters with coconut and lychee and' 'Rougié foie gras with candied pineapple and gingerbread crumble.'

The billionaire chairman of China's LeEco has admitted his technology empire is running out of cash to sustain a headlong rush into businesses from electric cars to smartphones.

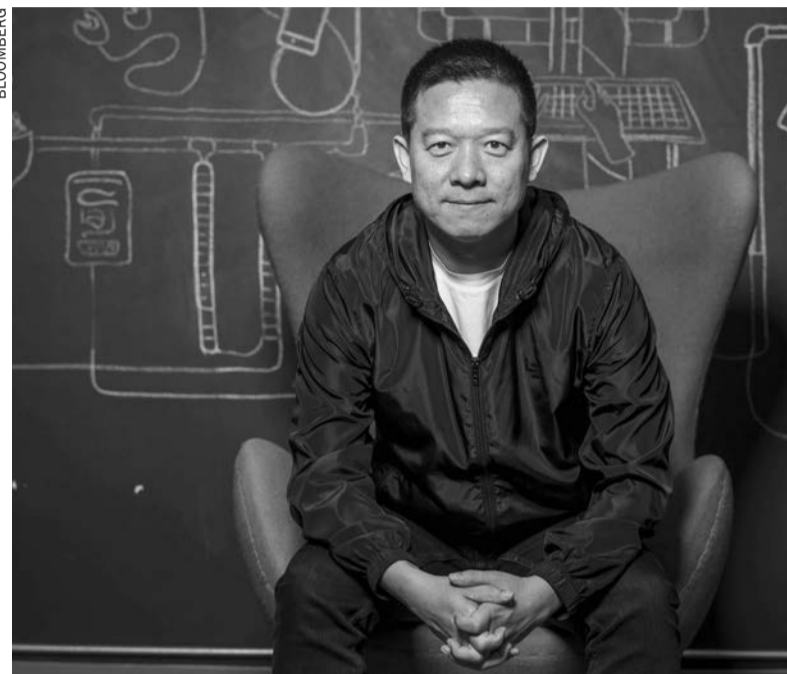
In a lengthy letter to employees, company co-founder Jia Yueting apologized to shareholders and pledged to slash his income to 1 yuan (15 cents), slow LeEco's madcap pace of expansion, and move the company toward a more moderate phase of growth.

LeEco is the umbrella holding company for a sprawling family of businesses that includes sports media, automobiles, smartphones and TVs. The company known for its LeTV streaming service has aggressively pursued funding and placed bets on new ventures, from an electric car plant in Nevada to a USD2 billion acquisition of California TV maker Vizio Inc.

"No company has had such an experience, a simultaneous time in ice and fire," Jia wrote in a letter, obtained by Bloomberg News, describing LeEco's rise and subsequent issues. "We blindly sped ahead, and our cash demand ballooned. We got over-extended in our global strategy. At the same time, our capital and resources were in fact limited."

Analysts have begun to question LeEco's longer-term prospects, given the opacity surrounding investments by its various subsidiaries and a reliance on equity-backed loans. Shares in Leshi Internet Information & Technology Corp. and Coolpad Group Ltd., the two listed companies Jia chairs, were little changed after Monday's

Billionaire cuts salary to 15 cents amid cash crunch



Jia "YT" Yueting, chief executive officer of LeEco Global Group

selloff. Coolpad, which assembles LeEco's phones alongside its own brand, dived almost 18 percent Monday to its lowest in more than three years. Leshi was up less than 1 percent after marking a one-year trough on Monday.

"The company spread itself too quickly. They have a big ambition to create an ecosystem for different devices, not only for phones and TVs and set-top boxes but for vehicles," said Sandy Shen, a research director with Gartner Inc. "They have a big ambition that is too big to swallow at this moment."

Jia's memo circulated widely on social media and prompted a testy exchange with rival smartphone maker Xiaomi Corp. Xiaomi co-founder Lei Jun called attention to the opacity surrounding LeEco's outstanding debt, according to a screengrab of his WeChat message account that LeEco posted. That prompted a sharp riposte from Jia's company, which blasted Xiaomi and Lei for spreading rumors. An hour later, one of Xiaomi's official Weibo accounts fired back, asking Jia to focus on LeEco's debt rather than distract the public.

Jia highlighted measures to lessen the company's burden in his memo. LeEco will immediately begin cost-cutting programs, decrease subsidies for customers and focus on existing businesses instead of new ones, he added, apologizing to shareholders of Leshi in response to criticism that he hasn't paid them enough attention.

"They definitely need to cut back quite a bit to sustain the cashflow," Shen said. "Their core business is still quite strong because they have a lot of good content."

A self-made billionaire who got his start working in IT at a local tax bureau, Jia founded Leshi Internet Information & Technology in 2004, one of the first companies in China to stream TV shows and movies to paying subscribers. He entered the smart TV businesses in 2013 and the smartphone

They [LeEco] have a big ambition that is too big to swallow at this moment.

SANDY SHEN
GARTNER INC.

market in 2015.

But his growing empire relies on a risky financing model. Leshi is publicly listed on the Shenzhen Stock Exchange and the only profitable entity, according to Winston Cheng, LeEco's head of corporate finance. Jia has borrowed against his shares in Leshi for cash that he invested into his other companies, regulatory filings show.

That practice has invited scrutiny in the U.S., where Jia is trying to get electric car-making venture Faraday Future off the ground. Nevada Treasurer Dan Schwartz has balked at issuing bonds needed to get the project up, citing doubts about Jia's ability to raise funds. The treasurer's office wasn't immediately available for comment outside of normal business hours.

Leshi's stock has plummeted by almost a third since the start of 2016. Jia has showed off an electronic concept car dubbed the LeSee, and in September raised more than \$1 billion from a consortium of Chinese investors to make it. But in his memo on Monday, Jia singled out the car division for its profligacy, saying it had already spent 10 billion yuan in early development.

"Our fundraising ability isn't strong," Jia wrote. "The scale of our external fundraising had trouble satisfying the demands of our rapid expansion." **Bloomberg**

Chinese companies look at new opportunities in Angola

HUNDREDS of Chinese business executives are attending an investment forum in Angola, a major supplier of oil to China.

Lusa, the Portuguese news agency, reports that Chinese entrepreneurs are looking at new business opportunities in agriculture, fisheries, construction and other areas. The forum in Luanda, Angola's capital, ends today [Macau time].

Lusa says China purchases almost half of Angola's oil production and that China surpassed Portugal, Angola's former colonial ruler, as the Angolan economy's leading supplier in 2015.

Francisco Viana, a Luanda business leader, said there are opportunities and dangers in doing business with China. He said, for example, that he is concerned about the destruction of natural resources such as timber, which is exported to China.

Angola's economy has struggled because of the global fall in commodity prices. **AP**

October exports fall in new sign of global weakness

CHINA'S exports fell again in October in a fresh sign of weak global demand that is complicating efforts by Beijing leaders to shore up economic growth and reduce reliance on trade and investment.

Exports contracted by 7.3 percent from a year earlier to USD178.1 billion, an improvement from September's 10 percent decline, customs data showed yesterday. Imports fell 1.4 percent to \$129.1 billion, compared with the previous month's 1.9 percent decline.

"Goods exports improved somewhat in October after the major setback in September, but not enough to prevent a further loss of momentum and underscoring that the recent trend toward somewhat stronger global demand growth remains fragile," Louis Kuijs of Oxford Economics said in a report.

Growth in the world's second-largest economy held steady at 6.7 percent in the three months ending in September, but that is the lowest quarter-

ly level since the 2008 global crisis. Growth was shored up by consumer spending and a bank lending boom but forecasters expect it to weaken because regulators are trying to cool a surge in real estate prices and credit.

Exports for the first 10 months of this year are down 7.7 percent from the same period of last year, while imports are off 7.5 percent.

China's global trade surplus widened to \$49 billion in October from September's \$42 billion. The surplus with the United States was \$23.7 billion and that with the 27-nation European Union, China's biggest trading partner, was \$12.1 billion.

Chinese leaders want to reduce reliance on trade but their plans call for keeping exports stable to avoid politically dangerous job losses.

The trade weakness has temporarily set back reform plans by forcing Beijing to shore up growth with higher spending on public works construction and bank lending.



Chinese leaders have warned the economic outlook will be "L-shaped," meaning its five-year-long decline is expected to level off but there is no sharp rebound in sight.

"Imports continued to do better than exports, signaling that domestic demand held up well through October, although we expect downward pressures on domestic demand to remain going forward," said Kuijs. **AP**

THE U.S. is expressing disappointment over China's intervention in a political dispute in the semiautonomous region of Hong Kong by barring two separatist lawmakers from office.

State Department spokesman Mark Toner yesterday urged the Chinese and Hong Kong governments to refrain from actions that "undermine confidence" in the so-called one-country two-systems principle — under which Hong Kong retains a separate economic and political system from the communist-governed Chinese mainland until 2047.

Toner said an open society with the highest possible degree of autonomy and government by rule of law "is essential for Hong Kong's continued stability and prosperity."

The dispute centers on two newly elected pro-independence lawmakers who altered their oaths of office. China's top legislative panel ruled Monday that those who advocate Hong Kong independence are disqualified from becoming lawmakers.

A political science expert in Hong Kong says China's move to intervene in a Hong Kong political dispute amounted to the

"strongest message yet" from China that Beijing would not tolerate serious talk of independence.

Linda Li, political science professor at City University of Hong Kong, said the vast majority of Hong Kong residents do not favor breaking away from China but are instead frustrated with governance issues that have stretched on for years.

Li says if Beijing retains a relatively restrained tone in the next few days and leaves the matter in the hands of Hong Kong's authorities, "it would help cool down the tension."

She urged the government to "limit the damage" and refrain from prosecuting the two lawmakers.

A by-election will be held to fill the seats of the two members of the Youthspiration party, Sixtus Leung, 30, and Yau Wai-ching, 25, who altered their oaths to insert a derogatory Japanese expression for China. The NPC made no ruling on whether the two could run again for their original seats.

Chief Executive Leung Chun-ying told the press yesterday that it was too early to decide on a date for a by-election. **MDT/AP**

US upset over China's Hong Kong intervention



A protester holds yellow umbrella in front of police officers after clashing as thousands of people march in a Hong Kong street

HONG KONG

British banker guilty of murdering Indonesians, sentenced to life

Kelvin Chan, Hong Kong

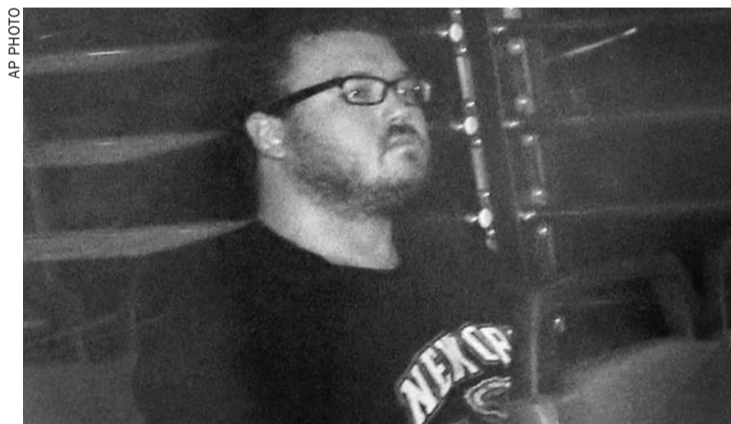
A British banker was convicted of murder yesterday for killing two Indonesian women in Hong Kong, torturing one of them over three days while using cocaine in a gruesome case that shocked the Chinese financial hub.

The nine-person jury returned unanimous verdicts against Rurik Jutting after a two-week trial in the High Court. The slayings in 2014 and disclosures as the case developed highlighted Hong Kong's significant inequality as well as the decadent lifestyles of some members of the former British colony's expatriate elite.

Jutting bowed his head briefly as the verdicts were read out to a packed courtroom but otherwise showed little reaction. He was given an automatic mandatory life sentence.

While he has the right to an appeal, his defense lawyer indicated ahead of the verdict that Jutting would request a transfer to a British prison to serve out his sentence there.

In a statement his lawyer asked to be read into the court record, Jutting said he was sorry and accepted the verdicts as "just and appropriate



Rurik George Caton Jutting

punishment." He also said he was haunted by his actions and the pain he'd caused to the women's loved ones.

Jutting, a Cambridge University graduate who worked for Bank of America-Merrill Lynch, was convicted of killing 23-year-old Sumarti Ningsih and then killing 26-year-old Seneng Mujiasih days later. The two originally came to Hong Kong as foreign maids but ended up as sex workers.

As statements from their families were read out by the prosecutor, Jutting stared at the floor.

Jurors were shown graphic smartphone video clips taken by Jutting of his apparent torture of Sumarti, which the judge deemed too graphic for the public to view. He slit her

throat and then nearly decapitated her when she didn't die immediately, according to facts agreed upon by both the prosecution and defense. He then stuffed her body inside a suitcase that he left on the balcony of his upscale apartment near Hong Kong's famous Wan Chai red-light district.

Jutting had planned to torture Mujiasih with about USD900 worth of tools and sex toys he had bought hours before. But he killed her when she spotted a gag in his apartment and wouldn't stop screaming, according to the two sides.

After the verdict, Judge Michael Stuart-Moore called the case "one of the most horrifying murder cases to come to the courts in Hong Kong."

"There are insufficient su-

perlatives to describe the cruelty" that Jutting inflicted on Ningsih and planned for Mujiasih, he said, adding that the defendant had not shown "one shred of remorse" and rejected his apology.

He called Jutting an "archetypal sexual predator" and cited testimony from an expert psychiatric witness who said Jutting would be prone to committing sexual violence again.

The judge said his sentencing remarks were aimed at notifying authorities in Britain, who must hold their own sentencing hearing if his transfer is granted, of the "immense danger" Jutting poses if he is allowed out of prison.

Ningsih's brother, Suyit Khaliman, said the family welcomed the verdict and was grateful that Jutting was given the maximum penalty under Hong Kong law.

"Justice finally has been upheld after two years," Khaliman said. "The sentence is still incomparable to the pain that is felt by us who lost Ningsih in such a terrible way."

Khaliman said the family, from Central Java province, has suffered financially and emotionally since the death of Ningsih, who has a son, now aged 7. **AP**

Famous pool-cue maker sentenced in attempted ivory smuggling



A famous custom pool-cue maker has been sentenced to two years of probation for his role in trying to help export protected African elephant ivory to Taiwan.

Seventy-five-year-old Cesar "Ernie" Gutierrez was also ordered to immediately pay a USD10,000 criminal fine yesterday.

Gutierrez pleaded guilty on Aug. 29 to aiding and abetting the attempted smuggling of African elephant ivory.

Prosecutors say Gutierrez manufactured and sold two people 41 sections of custom pool cues with inlays of the protected ivory for \$75,000 to \$85,000. Both individuals were later arrested at Los Angeles International Airport.

Gutierrez makes ornate cues with materials that include gold, jewels and exotic woods. His customers through the years have included stars like Frank Sinatra.

A telephone message left for Gutierrez was not immediately returned.

PHILIPPINES

Court says dictator Marcos can be buried at heroes' cemetery

Jim Gomez, Manila

THE Philippines' Supreme Court ruled yesterday that the late dictator Ferdinand Marcos can be buried at a heroes' cemetery, a decision that opponents said rolled back the democratic triumph of the "people power" revolt that ousted the strongman three decades ago.

"While he was not all good," the 15-member court said in passing judgment on one of Asia's most infamous strongmen, "he was not pure evil either."

Court spokesman Theodore Te said the justices voted 9-5 with one abstention to dismiss petitions opposing President Rodrigo Duterte's approval of the Marcos family's plea for the dictator to be buried at the Heroes' Cemetery in metropolitan Manila, where former presidents, soldiers and national artists have been interred.

The decision on a deeply emotional issue that has divided the poor Southeast Asian nation can be appealed.

Outside the court, more than 300 Marcos supporters erupted in celebration, chanting the dictator's name repeatedly. Some waved Philippine flags and wept in joy. Anti-Marcos activists were outraged, and some of the petitioners vowed to ask the court to reconsider.

Riot police stood between the opposing groups.

"We are disappointed. We are heartbroken. We are outraged," a coalition of nearly 40 groups opposed to Marcos's burial at the cemetery said in a joint statement. "With this decision, the very definition of hero is now in question."

Sen. Risa Hontiveros, an anti-Marcos activist in her younger years, lamented the decision. "No tombstone, no grandiose cemetery can change the fact

AP PHOTO



Governor Imee Marcos, the eldest daughter of the late Philippine dictator Ferdinand Marcos, flashes the victory sign after the Philippine Supreme Court voted 9-5, with one abstention, to rule that former dictator Ferdinand Marcos can be buried at a heroes' cemetery

that Marcos was not a hero," she said in a statement. "He was a plunderer, torturer and a thief with a family seeking to rewrite history to serve their interests."

The dictator's son and namesake, former Sen. Ferdinand "Bongbong" Marcos Jr., thanked the high court for its "magnanimous act to uphold the rule of law" and expressed his gratitude to Duterte.

"It is our sincerest hope that this will lead the nation towards healing," Marcos Jr. said in a statement, citing the decades of discord over his father's burial.

The Marcos family did not immediately announce a burial date.

Burying a dictator accused of massive rights violations and corruption by thousands of activists and dissenters at the heroes' cemetery has long been an emotional issue in the Philippines, where Marcos was ousted

by a largely nonviolent army-backed uprising in 1986. At the height of the political turbulence, Marcos fled to Hawaii, where he lived with his wife, Imelda, and children in exile until he died in 1989.

The Philippine revolt became a harbinger of change in authoritarian regimes worldwide.

The Marcoses, however, have repeatedly denied any wrongdoing. The late dictator's wife, Imelda, and two of his children eventually ran for public office and won in a stunning political comeback. Marcos Jr. ran for vice president in May and garnered more than 14 million votes, but lost by a slim margin.

In 1993, Marcos's body was flown back to his hometown in the northern province of Ilocos Norte, where it has been displayed in a glass coffin and became a tourist attraction. But his family fought for his re-

mains to be transferred to the heroes' cemetery.

Duterte, who took over the presidency in June, backed the dictator's burial at the cemetery, citing Marcos's privilege as a president and soldier, and taking a political risk in a country where pro-democracy advocates still celebrate Marcos's ouster each year.

Duterte has said his late father, a former provincial governor, had served in Marcos's Cabinet and was one of his most loyal men. He acknowledged that one of Marcos's daughters, Imee Marcos, the current governor of Ilocos Norte, had backed his presidential bid.

After the court ruled, Duterte's spokesman, Ernesto Abella, expressed "hope the matter will finally be laid to rest, and that the nation finds the wherewithal to move forward." The military, which is in charge of

burials at the heroes' cemetery, said it would abide by the decision.

The Supreme Court dismissed seven petitions, including by former torture victims under Marcos, that argued that an honorable burial for the dictator is "illegal and contrary to law, public policy, morals and justice." Opponents cited Duterte's political debt to the Marcoses.

Marcos had not been convicted by final judgment of any offense involving moral turpitude, the court ruled, saying court convictions cited by anti-

■ **Outside the court, more than 300 Marcos supporters erupted in celebration, chanting the dictator's name repeatedly**

-Marcos petitioners were civil in nature.

While critics may disregard Marcos as president and commander-in-chief due to his human rights abuses, the court said he cannot be denied the right to be acknowledged as a former legislator, a defense secretary, a military member, a war veteran and a Medal of Valor awardee.

"We agree with the proposition that Marcos should be viewed and judged in his totality as a person," the court said, adding that he was "just a human who erred like us."

Despite the ruling, Sen. Hontiveros called on Duterte to reject plans to give Marcos a heroes' burial and "to rise above his indebtedness and loyalty to the Marcos family."

Left-wing activist Renato Reyes said his group could not accept the court decision.

"Our protests will hound Marcos all the way to his grave," Reyes said. **AP**

NEW ZEALAND

Regulators reject media merger in initial ruling

NEW Zealand regulators yesterday made a preliminary decision to reject a merger between the country's two main newspaper groups.

The Commerce Commission said the proposed merger would result in one company controlling nearly 90 percent of the nation's print

media market and would decrease the quality of stories and opinion.

The proposed merger would have combined the New Zealand newspapers, radio stations and websites owned by NZME and Fairfax Media. NZME publishes the nation's largest daily newspaper while Fairfax

publishes the next two biggest dailies. The companies also own two of the nation's largest news websites: stuff.co.nz and nzherald.co.nz.

The companies are facing declining print revenues and changing reader habits, and had argued they needed to pool resources to com-

pete with online giants like Google and Facebook.

But the commission said Facebook and other social media companies don't generally hire journalists or produce news, and therefore aren't competitors when it comes to creating news content.

Commission chairman Mark Berry said in a statement that a merger would put New Zealand behind only China when it came to a concentration of ownership in print media.

"Competition between the parties drives content creation, increases the volume and variety of news available in New Zealand and assists with objectivity and accuracy in reporting," he said.

Fairfax said the two

companies would take time to review the decision and provide more information to the commission. A final decision is expected by March.

Etu, the union representing journalists, said it welcomed the preliminary decision.

NZME shares were trading down 23 percent Tuesday, putting the company's total valuation at about USD100 million (New Zealand dollars) (\$73 million). **AP**

Stephen Wright, Associated Press

LAOS has notified its Southeast Asian neighbors that it's moving ahead with a third contentious hydroelectric dam on the Mekong River's mainstream.

The Mekong River Commission, an organization that groups together Laos, Cambodia, Vietnam and Thailand for joint management of the river, said in a statement it has received notice from Laos that it will undertake a process of consultation about the Pak Beng dam.

In the previous consultation cases for the Xayaburi and Don Sahong dams, Laos pressed forward with the projects despite vociferous objections from the other countries, scientists and conservationists.

It has already begun preparatory work for the 912-megawatt Pak Beng dam in the northern province of Oudomxay, and the official Lao News Agency reported in July that construction would begin in early 2017.

Critics of the dams say they will damage wild fisheries and a rice bowl delta that feeds 60 million people in the region, with the severest effects in the downstream countries Cambodia and Vietnam. The river basin is already under pressure from dozens of dams built on Mekong tributaries.

The government of Communist Party-ruled Laos sees hydroelectricity exports as a way to develop its impoverished economy and plans up to nine dams on the Mekong mainstream. But by jeopardizing wild fisheries it might add to its own food security problems. The World Food Program says nearly half of children under the age of 5 in Laos suffer from chronic malnutrition and stunting.

Laos moves ahead with plan for third contentious Mekong dam



A fishing boat passes near a construction site of the Don Sahong dam, near Cambodia-Laos borders

The impact of the Lao dams, and half a dozen dams already built on China's stretch of the Mekong, will be "extremely grave," said Nguyen Thi Hong Van, a coordinator of Vietnam Rivers Network, an advocacy group.

She said Laos could build too many dams and end up with surplus electricity because its plans don't consider long-term energy development in the region.

"The Lao government should work out a master plan for energy security for Laos and for the region," she said. "Lao investment in hydropower plan-

ts without considering its social impact on countries in the lower basin would impact on the economic development of these countries."

The Mekong commission's relevance as a transboundary organization has been undermined by Laos, as well as its own internal failings. Foreign donors have cut financial assistance and the commission's staff numbers have been slashed.

But it said in the statement that despite lack of agreement, the consultation process for the Xayaburi dam had resulted in the Lao government and the

■ **The impact of the Lao dams, and half a dozen dams already built on China's stretch of the Mekong, will be 'extremely grave'**

project's Thai developer spending an additional USD400 million on design changes that could mitigate some of its damaging effects.

The consultations take about six months.

International Rivers, a river conservation organization, said the process is regarded as "little more than rubberstamp" by many, particularly Mekong communities affected by dams.

In the case of Don Sahong and Xayaburi, specific requests from neighboring governments, including additional baseline information, studies and transboundary impact assessments, remain unaddressed, said its Southeast Asia program director, Maureen Harris.

"The impacts from each new dam in the proposed cascade are cumulative, and threaten to fundamentally transform the river's ecology and destroy much of its biodiversity together with food systems that millions of people depend on," she said.

Earlier this year, a study funded by Vietnam predicted Mekong Delta rice production would drop steeply because the dams planned by Laos would trap sediments, reducing nutrients flowing downstream, and reduce fish stocks by disrupting migratory breeding.

It estimated annual fishery and farming losses of more than \$760 million in Vietnam and \$450 million in Cambodia, the two worst-affected countries. AP

SOUTH KOREA

President Park's concession could spell end of power

SCRAMBLING to defuse a massive scandal, South Korean President Park Geun-hye yesterday conceded to lawmakers the power to name her new prime minister, a move that could seriously hurt, or even destroy, her ability to govern.

Park, who has faced tens of thousands of protesters and an investigation into whether a mysterious confidante manipulated government decisions, made the overture during a meeting with National Assembly Speaker Chung Sye-kyun.

Just being forced to work with a deputy named by lawmakers — previously a decision left up

to the president — would weaken her ability to make basic decisions and influence power in the assembly.

But lawmakers, who must still settle on a prime minister nominee, are demanding even more. Some opposition members want the president to divorce herself from all domestic affairs and focus only on foreign matters, while others want her to stay out of government completely.

These scenarios would destroy Park's authority as president during her last 15 months in office, forcing her to voluntarily yield large parts, or maybe even all, of her presidential powers to a



South Korean President Park Geun-hye

prime minister named by an opposition-controlled legislature.

Even so, it is still unclear what the splintered assembly will decide on, or when — or what Park will agree to. Park's ruling party is divided between

those who support Park and those who don't, and the opposition, while having more members than the ruling party, is also split into factions.

The prime minister is largely a ceremonial job, though by law he or she

directs executive ministries under the order of the president and has other important rights. There have always been calls to give the office more power to balance the large role the president has.

Last week Park nominated a new prime minister, but he is likely to withdraw from consideration after Park allowed the legislature to pick a new nominee. The current nominee, Kim Byong-joon, told reporters that he would be in charge of social and economic issues and fully exercise the rights as a prime minister if his nomination received parliamentary approval. Park's office said Tuesday

those conditions endorsed by Park would still stand for a new nominee.

The political tug-of-war over the prime minister comes amid a scandal involving Park's longtime confidante, Choi Soon-sil, who has no official government role. Investigators are looking into whether Choi made major government decisions and used her relationship with Park to force companies to donate money to two foundations controlled by Choi.

Earlier yesterday, South Korean prosecutors raided the Seoul office of Samsung Electronics, the nation's largest and most valuable company, in connection with the scandal. AP

Bypass TV with online tools, live streams on Election Day



TVS are so last century. News outlets are using Facebook Live, Snapchat, YouTube and other tools to offer live coverage of Election Day in ways not possible four years ago.

It's a fitting close to an election season that has played out on Twitter and Facebook as much as it has on the nightly news, with debates live-streamed online and candidates barbing on social media (all times Macau time).

Among other things, Snapchat users will be able to see "live stories" on the app — showing people at the polls, election results, acceptance and concession speeches and election night celebrations. In the U.S., users will see overlays they can add to their snaps.

NowThis, a news outlet aimed at millennials, will have video coverage on its Facebook page. Comedian Jordan Carlos will host the stream, called "No Sleep til POTUS."

CNN will have live coverage with reporters in battleground states, as well as drone shots of voting locations and international reaction throughout the day. Each hour will be streamed from a different location. After 6 a.m. to-

day, the network will continue Facebook Live streams from various locations, including watch parties and, again, battleground states.

The Washington Post is planning live programming on its Facebook page beginning at 7 a.m. The show will include commentary and updates from Post reporters, including those at campaign headquarters for both Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton.

The New York Times will also stream election coverage on its Facebook page, beginning at 4:30 a.m., from locations such as polling stations, college campuses and election viewing parties.

Other news outlets with live streaming plans include Univision, PBS NewsHour, the Daily Caller, ABC News and Vox.

Twitter is partnering with BuzzFeed News for a live stream from BuzzFeed's New York headquarters. The stream will begin at 6 a.m. Twitter says segments will include critiques of traditional news outlets and how they are covering the election, as well as live reports from BuzzFeed journalists at various locations throughout the U.S. and elsewhere. Go to election.twitter.com. You don't need an account.

Yesterday, Twitter also launched "official" election hashtags, which include an emoji icon of a ballot box, next to the hashtag "Election-Day" and "Election2016." With at least one scam trying to tell Clinton supporters to vote by text, Twitter reminded users that you cannot vote by text or tweet — but you can send direct messages to the Twitter-owned @gov account to find where your polling place is. AP

USA ELECTION DAY

Winner must help

Kathleen Hennessey, Washington

WE'LL know soon enough who won. We already know the prize: A big, ugly gash in the heart of American politics.

Nearly two years of relentless campaigning and racially loaded rhetoric has exposed a country that is deeply fractured along lines that are hardening and raw.

Race, gender and class appear to be ever more reliable predictors of whether Americans cast their ballots for Donald Trump or Hillary Clinton. And as Americans have retreated further into their corners, politicians have seen little motivation to understand the other side.

The dynamic just played out, while America (and the world) cringed. This campaign often looked like a noisy and incoherent conversation taking place in parallel worlds, with Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton shouting across a daunting gulf between them.

It may have been a race filled

with unpredictable moments, but its near certainties are just as notable. As she heads into Election Day, Clinton is on track to win solid, and in some cases overwhelming majorities, of black, Hispanic and college-educated voters. Polls show Clinton, running to be the first female president, may also hit new levels of support among women.

Trump, meanwhile, has been propelled by support from white, working-class voters, a group that according to polls may reject Clinton more decisively than any of her recent Democratic predecessors.

These splits between whites and minorities, between men and women, between those with college degrees and those without, did not begin in 2016. Clinton's coalition is likely to look much like the one President Barack Obama assembled in 2008 and 2012, and has its roots much deeper.

But 2016 will be the year when the gaps widened, the lines hardened and the conversation, in turn, became more painful.

AD



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heal gash in American politics

AP PHOTO



It will be remembered as the time when a Republican candidate could call American cities "warzones" without apparent worry about the feelings of the people who call them home. It will be remembered as the election in which Clinton described half of Trump's supporters as a "basket of deplorables," and apologized only for her measu-

rement. It will be remembered as a moment when Trump's closing argument was that "everything's wrong," while Clinton asked "since when do we become pessimistic?"

It's hard not to blame Trump's button-pushing candidacy for much of this strangeness.

The Republican nominee's bid made a mockery of party elders'

"autopsy" of the 2012 defeat of Mitt Romney, which bemoaned that the GOP "offends too many people unnecessarily."

But the party's base nominated a man who questioned the legitimacy of the first black president. They chose a candidate who declared that Mexico was sending "rapists" across the border. They chose a 70-year

-old reality-TV star who spent years making sexist remarks. The interviews should have given hints about Trump's attitudes toward women, even before the tape in which he brags about grabbing women's genitals.

Trump's fate now rests in the hands of the very people he's offended. If blacks, Hispanics, young people and women turn out in

large numbers, it becomes exceedingly difficult to find enough of his voters to win the day.

Roughly 45 percent of the electorate are non-college educated white, the core of Trump's base, noted Brookings Institution demographer William Frey. And that share is shrinking. They made up 50 percent in 2008, he said, and 57 percent in 2000.

But Trump's willingness to risk saying the thing others would not has no doubt connected with a substantial share of America's voters.

The New York businessman saw the opportunity to run against his party and those wanting to restore America to a lost moment.

"I watch the speeches of these people, and they say the sun will rise, the moon will set, all sorts of wonderful things will happen. And people are saying, 'What's going on? I just want a job. Just get me a job. I don't need the rhetoric. I want a job,'" he said from the lobby of his Trump Tower high rise, when he announced his campaign.

If Trump wins, it will be because he understood the depths of white anxiety. It will be because he galvanized the alienated and the angry, in corners of the country where people have felt ignored through eight years of the Obama administration. **AP**

AD

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what's ON



"MEMORIES OF MOMENTS - MACAO AND LUSOPHONE AFRICAN AND ASIAN REGIONS IN PHOTOGRAPH POSTCARDS" EXHIBITION
TIME: 10am-6pm (no admission after 6:30 pm, closed on Mondays)
UNTIL: December 4, 2016
VENUE: Archives of Macao, No. 91-93, Avenida do Conselheiro Ferreira de Almeida, Macau
ADMISSION: Free
ENQUIRIES: (853) 2836 6866

ART COURSES STUDENT'S EXHIBITION OF THE MACAO MUSEUM OF ART
TIME: 10am-7pm (no admission after 6:30 pm, closed on Mondays)
UNTIL: November 27, 2106
VENUE: Macao Museum of Art, Av. Xian Xing Hai, s/n, NAPE
ADMISSION: MOP5 (free admission on Sundays and public holidays)
ENQUIRIES: (853) 8791 9814

A SEXAGENARY REVISION - MASTERS OF THE MACAO ARTISTS SOCIETY
TIME: 10am-7pm (closed on Mondays, open on public holidays, no admission after 6:30 pm)
UNTIL: December 4, 2016
VENUE: Handover Gifts Museum of Macao, Av. Xian Xing Hai Macao
ENQUIRIES: (853) 8791 9814

THE VOICE - THE EXHIBITION THAT SPEAKS TO YOU
TIME: 9am-5:30pm (Closed on public holidays)
UNTIL: November 16, 2106
VENUE: Communications Museums of Macau, No.7, Estrada de D. Maria II, Macao
ADMISSION: MOP10
ENQUIRIES: (853) 2871 8063

EDGAR DEGAS: FIGURES IN MOTION - A COLLECTION OF 74 BRONZE SCULPTURES
TIME: 12pm-9pm (Closed on Mondays, except public holidays)
UNTIL: November 20, 2106
VENUE: MGM Art Space, Macau
ADMISSION: Free
ENQUIRIES: (852) 3678 0150

MACAU GIANT PANDA PAVILION
TIME: 10am-1pm and 2pm-5pm daily (Except Mondays, closed on the following day instead if a public holiday falls on Monday and no admission after 4:45 pm; six viewings per day)
VENUE: Seac Pai Van Park, Coloane
ADMISSION: MOP10
ENQUIRIES: Civil and Municipal Affairs Bureau (853) 2833 7676

Offbeat

INTERNET FREEZES FOR 'MANNEQUIN CHALLENGE' CRAZE

Forget dumping ice buckets, dancing or planking, the latest viral phenomenon sweeping the internet consists of people standing still as part of the "mannequin challenge."
 Videos of the challenge feature posing as mannequins in dramatic postures. They began to appear late last month online and by last weekend everyone from high school cheerleaders in Texas to the NBA's Milwaukee Bucks had taken part.

The Dallas Cowboys went airborne for their challenge, complete with a stoic Tony Romo being stuffed into an overhead compartment on the team plane.

The challenge has become a victory celebration for some teams. Texas Christian, Penn State and Clemson's football teams posted mannequin challenges after big wins over the weekend.

The videos are set to the song "Black Beatles" by rap duo Rae Sremmurd, which held a live version of the challenge during a concert last week.

TV canal macau

13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
14:50	RTPi Live
17:15	Once Upon A Time S1 (Repeated)
18:00	Precious Pearl (Repeated)
18:50	TDM Interview (Repeated)
19:20	Non-Daily Portuguese News (Repeated)
19:30	Soap Opera
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:00	Non-Daily Portuguese News
21:30	Criminal Minds S10
22:10	Precious Pearl
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Miscellaneous
00:15	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)
00:50	RTPi Live

cinema

CINETEATRO

03 Nov - 10 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



INFERNO_

ROOM 2
 2.30, 4.45, 7.15, 9.30 pm

Director: Ron Howard
Starring: Tom Hanks, Felicity Jones, Irrfan Khan
Language: English (Cantonese)
Duration: 121min

TROLLS_

ROOM 3
 (2D) 2.15, 4.00, 7.30 pm
 (3D) 5.45 pm

Director: Mike Mitchell, Walt Dohrn
Duration: 121min

JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK_

ROOM 2
 9.30 pm

Director: Edward Zwick
Starring: Tom Cruise, Cobie Smulders, Damika Yarosh
Language: English (Cantonese)
Duration: 118min

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



1960 NARROW VICTORY FOR JOHN F KENNEDY

Senator John Fitzgerald Kennedy has emerged as the new president of the United States beating Vice-President Richard Nixon by a slim margin.

Senator Kennedy, aged 43, is a Harvard graduate and war hero. He will be the youngest elected president in US history and the first Roman Catholic.

In his victory speech at Hyannis, Massachusetts, he urged all Americans to help him "move this country safely through the 1960s".

He added: "I can assure you that every degree of mind and spirit that I possess will be devoted to the long-range interests of the United States and to the cause of freedom around the world."

Then turning to his wife, Jacqueline, who is due to give birth to their second child in three weeks' time, he said they would now prepare for "a new administration and a new baby".

Also standing next to Senator Kennedy during his speech was his father Joseph, once US Ambassador to London. And close by was his brother and campaign manager Robert Kennedy.

After a whole night of doubt as to who was the victor of the great American prize of president, Mr Nixon hinted at defeat at 0315 local time at Republican headquarters in Los Angeles.

As supporters chanted: "We want Nixon!" he told the nation to back their new leader.

"I want Senator Kennedy to know - I want you all to know - that if this trend continues and he does become president, he will have my whole-hearted support," he said.

He did not officially concede victory until some six hours later in a congratulatory telegram to the president-elect.

It has been a heated and exciting election campaign in which television has played an important role for the first time in US election history. Last month millions of viewers watched the pair battle it out in a series of television debates.

With two states still to file a final verdict and Mississippi "unpledged" due to disapproval of both parties' commitments to civil rights, the results so far are:

Kennedy - 33,029,203 popular votes and 337 electoral votes

Nixon - 32,725,435 popular votes and 185 electoral votes

President Eisenhower is reported to be unhappy with the Democrat victory.

But he sent his congratulations to the president-elect and called a cabinet meeting to arrange the transition of government ahead of Senator Kennedy's inauguration in January.

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

The final result showed JFK won with an even narrower margin than first announced - 34,227,096 popular votes to Richard Nixon's 34,107,646.

His term ran for just two years before he was assassinated in Dallas on 22 November 1963, an event that left the nation totally stunned.

This short time was marked by major events such as the Bay of Pigs invasion of Cuba in 1961, the Cuban missile crisis a year later and the first - limited - nuclear test ban treaty with the Soviet Union in August 1963.

As part of a general anti-communist policy, he increased US military support for South Vietnam and pledged to defend West Berlin and access to it.

At home, while federal troops were sent to quell anti-black riots in the south, his proposals for civil rights reforms in Congress foundered.

His opponent in the 1960 election, Richard Nixon, won the presidential vote in 1968.

YOUR STARS

Aries Mar. 21-Apr. 19 You need an emotional outlet — and that doesn't mean a punching bag!

Taurus April 20-May 20 You can't keep these feelings bottled up for much longer — so make sure that you're speaking out!

Gemini May 21-Jun. 21 You have to be the one to kick things off today — even though your energy feels a bit tapped out.

Cancer Jun. 22-Jul. 22 This is the time to be assertive — whatever the situation may be.

Leo Jul. 23-Aug. 22 Your thinking is even deeper than usual today, so you may find that you need to hide away for a bit to avoid distractions.

Virgo Aug. 23-Sept. 22 You're getting a vibe off of at least one person you spend the day with — and while there may be a subtext of romance, it's much more likely to be a different kind of compatibility.

Libra Sep.23-Oct. 22 You're not in the best of moods — but you can still deal with something that's not good for you or your people.

Scorpio Oct. 23 - Nov. 21 Your dreams are more vivid tonight — and at least one of them holds a clue for your future plans.

Sagittarius Nov. 22-Dec. 21 A philosophical difference may bring other, deeper issues to a head today — but conflict can be good!

Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 19 Your social energy is glowing red-hot today, so make sure that you spend time with other people — even online.

Aquarius Jan. 20-Feb. 18 Today is all about domestic business, even if you find yourself away from home for a chunk of the day.

Pisces Feb.19-Mar. 20 Your performance is amazing today — and that could mean almost anything, so go nuts!

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

Easy

8 9 5 grid for Easy Sudoku puzzle

Easy+

1 5 6 2 grid for Easy+ Sudoku puzzle

Medium

7 5 grid for Medium Sudoku puzzle

Hard

1 2 5 grid for Hard Sudoku puzzle

WEATHER

MIN MAX CONDITION header row

CHINA

Table with weather data for cities like Beijing, Harbin, Tianjin, etc.

WORLD

Table with weather data for cities like Moscow, Frankfurt, Paris, etc.

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- Big rigs; 6- It beats rock; 11- Conductor...-Pekka Salonen; 14- Happyfy; 15- Oldsmobile model; 16- Year in Edward the Confessor's reign; 17- Line in a play directed to the audience; 18- Hanker; 19- Teen's desire; 20- Some digits; 22- Songs for two; 24- Mother-of-pearl source; 28- Entertains; 30- Flowerchild; 31- Autocrats; 32- Dadaist Max; 33- Brothery; 37- Consumed; 38- Thick slices; 39- UN agency; 40- Overly concerned with the appearance of piety; 43- Big name in foil; 45- Ermo anxiety; 46- Hymn; 47- Extent; 49- Female deity; 50- Committee head; 51- "Puppy Love" singer; 52- Lever for rowing; 53- Buddy; 56- Frasier's brother; 61- Take advantage of; 62- Tribal symbol; 63- Fang, e.g.; 64- Launch site; 65- Form of lyrical poem; 66- First name in cosmetics;

DOWN: 1- Where the buoys are; 2- Golfer Ernie; 3- ___ tai; 4- ___ be an honor; 5- Make sure; 6- Check endorser; 7- Some are pale; 8- Green shade; 9- Make a boo-boo; 10- Graceful roundness; 11- Show host; 12- Mattress supports; 13- Broadcasts; 21- We're number ___; 23- The Beatles' "Back in the ___"; 24- Lots; 25- Lineage; 26- Sleep issue; 27- CD forerunners; 28- Easy ___; 29- Wrestling surfaces; 31- Distinguishing characteristic; 33- Sudden burst of light; 34- Recess in a wall; 35- Healing plants; 36- Fertile soils; 38- Army N.C.O.; 41- Title bestowed upon the wife of a raja; 42- Unjustified complainer; 43- Moderately slow, musically; 44- Old Ford; 46- Fine; 47- Tibet's capital; 48- Dog-___ (like some used books); 49- Garden figure; 50- ___ d'etat; 51- Old; 54- Cleaning implement; 55- Figure skater Midori; 57- Colorful moths; 58- Parking place; 59- Hot time in Paris; 60- Female pronoun;

Yesterday's solution crossword grid with filled words

Crossword puzzle grid with numbers

Crossword puzzles provided by BestCrosswords.com

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

- Emergency calls 999
Taxi 28 939 939 / 2828 3283
Fire department 28 572 222
Water Supply - Report 2822 0088
PJ (Open line) 993
Telephone - Report 1000
PJ (Picket) 28 557 775
Electricity - Report 28 339 922
PSP 28 573 333
Macau Daily Times 28 716 081
Customs 28 559 944
S. J. Hospital 28 313 731
Kiang Wu Hospital 28 371 333
Commission Against Corruption (CCAC) 28326 300
IACM 28 387 333
Tourism 28 333 000
Airport 59 888 88



AD

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Roof Top Apartment Macau 799 sq ft / HKD 4.634M HKD 5,800 sq ft Loft Style Apartment Ref: 15055441

Edf. Vai Long Yuen Macau 1,215 sq ft / HKD 4.98M HKD 4,098sq ft Near Portuguese Consulate Ref: 16045472

Nam Long Taipa 515 sq ft / HKD 3.8M HKD 7,378sq ft Extremely Popular Area Ref: 16095500

Jou Fai Kuok, St Pauls Ruin's Macau 1 Bedroom Apartment Near Ruins of St Pauls HKD 10,800 / 627 sq ft Ref: 16090610

Manhattan F Unit Taipa 3 Bedrooms Apartment Furnished Throughout HKD 22,000 / 1,720 sq ft Ref: 16090612

The Buckingham, Mid Floor Macau 2 Bedrooms Apartment Fully Furnished HKD 14,500 / 1,350 sq ft Ref: 16020558

Cattleya Court Ocean Gardens, Taipa 2 Bedrooms Apartment Beautifully Furnished HKD 12,000 / 1,030 sq ft Ref: 16090609



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CRICKET | PREVIEW

Cook, Haseeb ready for England vs. India series

Chetan Narula, Rajkot

Opener Alastair Cook is approaching a test record as England captain while fellow opener Haseeb Hameed is on the verge of a test debut as the tourists seek to strengthen their top order for a testing series against India.

The England tour of India was cleared to take place at the last minute yesterday - 24 hours before the first test toss - when the country's supreme court and the Board of Control for Cricket in India settled a financial dispute.

The BCCI filed a late plea in the Supreme Court to release funds for hosting the five-test series. The supreme court agreed to allow the BCCI to withdraw 5.87 million rupees to fund the series.

Indian cricket has been in turmoil since a ruling by the Supreme Court into the domestic administration of the game. The BCCI was asked to



England's captain Alastair Cook

submit an affidavit stating that it will fully comply with recommendations made by a judicial committee before a three-test series against New Zealand last

month. That didn't happen, but the three tests and five limited-overs internationals proceeded as scheduled. Since then, the committee had become more stringent and halted the distribution of funds by the Indian cricket board to its state associations until they comply fully with the reforms. BCCI president Anurag Thakur submitted an affidavit this week but it stated that the board and its state associations could not fully comply with all recommendations. On the eve of a major test series, the legal move by the BCCI was perceived as an attempt to push the reform-minded Lodha committee onto the back foot. In just about every other way, preparations for the very first test at the Saurashtra Cricket Association Stadium in Rajkot in western India were complete before the court hearing on Tuesday. England is coming off an em-

barrassing loss in Bangladesh, but skipper Cook is aiming for yet another record. Already the most capped player for England, with 135, and the leading test scorer with 10,688 runs, he will break the record he shares with Mike Atherton as England test captain when he leads the team for the 55th time.

He has already said 19-year-old Hameed will make his debut at the expense of Gary Ballance, making him the youngest opening partner Cook has ever had.

"It is time to give a young guy his opportunity," Cook said yesterday. "Haseeb hasn't been overawed during his time so far with this squad. He is a natural run-scorer and looks to be more experienced than his age suggests."

The inclusion of Hameed would push Ben Duckett down to No. 4. Duckett scored a half century against Bangladesh but did not impress.

The bowling attack will also be overhauled. James Anderson has re-joined the England squad but is unavailable for selection. That leaves Stuart Broad and Chris Woakes to lead the pace attack, while Moeen Ali could share the spin duties with recalled Gareth Batty and Adil Rashid.

England is the only foreign team to win a test series on In-

dian soil - in 2012-13 - since Australia in 2004-05, and has beaten India in three consecutive series.

"We can only look forward to what we can do in the future," India skipper Virat Kohli said. "We want to win series, and we want to win test matches."

The Indian skipper didn't reveal his playing XI, though he doesn't have many tough decisions to make.

Gautam Gambhir is expected to open with Murali Vijay, while the only difficult choice would be over the make-up of the bowling attack.

Ishant Sharma is fit for selection, while Ravi Ashwin, Ravindra Jadeja and Mohammed Shami are back after being rested for the ODIs against New Zealand.

India opted for a four-bowler attack during the New Zealand test series, and could aim to do the same again. If that's the case, Karun Nair could make his debut and bat at No. 6.

One of the most significant selections of the series will be the use of DRS for the first time in a test series on Indian soil.

The adoption of the Decision Review System, using technology to review umpiring decisions, marks a new chapter of harmony in test cricket across the world. India had previously refused to accept DRS. AP

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澳門葡人之家 - 演唱會特別企劃



opinion

Macau Matters

Richard Whitfield



Toxic Lifestyles

I believe that most people now accept that modern Western diets heavy in protein, sugar and salt combined with sedentary living behaviours are highly toxic, leading to obesity, heart problems, diabetes and a host of other health problems. Moreover, the primary “drug pushers” in this scenario are international companies mass producing unhealthy foods and beverages, along with machines that do most physical work and let people move around while sitting down. It may sound a bit “commie” but I get very annoyed with people and companies who make large profits while creating substantial social and environmental problems that the whole community has to pay to clean up. I heartily agree with calls for high punitive taxes on sugar and salt rich foods and beverages so that there are funds to use to clean up the problems they cause - we already do the same thing for alcohol and tobacco in many places.

It is also quite clear that the solution to these problems is encouraging people to eat healthily and to regularly exercise, and especially to walk and play sports.

Eating healthily largely means balancing meat and vegetable consumption and drastically reducing sugar and salt consumption. Given that sugar and salt are so addictive, communities should regulate their use, in addition to advising people to develop good eating habits. I believe that schools have a heavy responsibility in this regard - the habits we develop as children (both good and bad) are the ones that we carry over into adulthood. I am always very disappointed when I visit schools in Macau and see vending machines full of “junk food” and very unhealthy school lunches. Why aren't teachers and school administrators held to account?

Encouraging people to exercise is largely a problem of urban planning and priorities. The modern trend is to stop designing our cities to suit motor vehicles and design them for people instead - there is a wealth of information on making cities more liveable and walkable. Neighbourhoods need to be mixed use and contain residential, commercial, social and other spaces within easy walking distances, so that people rarely need to get in a vehicle, and have plenty of walkable destinations that they want to visit. The community also needs to put a much higher priority on sports and healthy living.

In Macau, I have been complaining for years about the lack of regular school sports competitions - every school kid should play a sport, and practice and play every week. I honestly do not know what the Sports Development Board in Macau does, but it certainly does not effectively encourage local amateur sports. It seems to be entirely focused on dragon boat races that only happen once a year, and keeping its inventory of sports facilities largely empty of people and in disrepair. An excellent example is the recent report where the Macau government has created a Taipa Waterfront Cycle track, which is an excellent initiative, but then cannot keep the inventory of rental bikes there in working order. We deserve better from our very well paid civil servants.

I also believe that perhaps 30% of the roads in Macau should be pedestrianized and largely closed to all vehicles (perhaps with the exception of some delivery vehicles, but only during very restricted times). This freed up space can then be properly landscaped to make spaces where people want to walk and sit and talk and do other things. If the current situation is anything to go by, we seem to have urban mis-planning in Macau, which is totally unacceptable for such a compact and densely populated city. Again, we deserve much better than we currently get.

THE HONG KONG LAWYERS MARCH TO PROTEST AGAINST CHINA'S LEGAL 'INTERFERENCE'

Over 1,500 lawyers dressed in black marched through the heart of Hong Kong in silence last night to condemn a move by China that effectively bars two elected pro-independence lawmakers from taking their seats in the legislature, agencies reported. Local and foreign lawyers walked from the High Court to the city's highest court, un-

derscoring growing concern among Hong Kong's legal elite with how Beijing has handled affairs in the neighboring SAR.

Organizers said more than 2,000 took part in the fourth and largest silent protest by the city's lawyers since 1997. According to the police, 1,700 attended at the peak of the rally.

AP PHOTO



Awards-season campaigning underway at Hollywood Film Awards

Sandy Cohen, Beverly Hills

MUCH like the American presidential race, it's never too early to start campaigning for Hollywood's awards season, and stars got an early chance this weekend at the Hollywood Film Awards.

The show has been criticized for its nebulous selection process and odd tradition of recognizing films before they're released, but the untelevised ceremony at the Beverly Hilton Hotel still drew an A-list crowd of apparent awards-season hopefuls.

“Tonight is actually rigged,” host James Corden told the audience. “Literally, none of this is real.”

That didn't stop such actors as Tom Hanks, Leonardo DiCaprio, Nicole Kidman, Natalie Portman and Matthew McConaughey from showing up to accept trophies. There were no nominees and winners were announced in advance.

Other stars appearing Sunday included Julianne Moore, Kate Hudson, Justin Timberlake, Jonah Hill, Anna Kendrick, Andrew Garfield, Warren Beatty, Mel Gibson and Lenny Kravitz.

Tuesday's election was a recurring topic throughout the night. Corden set the tone with several political quips in his opening monologue.

“This year they brought back Star Wars with a female lead. They rebooted

Ghostbusters with a female cast. And I pray to God they reboot the Clinton presidency with a female lead,” the CBS late night host said.

Robert De Niro openly urged support for Hillary Clinton on stage. “We have the opportunity to prevent a comedy from turning into a tragedy,” he said.

Accepting an award for his documentary “Before the Flood,” DiCaprio talked about climate change as “an urgent threat to life on earth as we know it.” Director Fisher Stevens said the film is available free through Election Day.

Founded by businessman Carlos de Abreu (whom De Niro awkwardly namedropped Sunday during a pre-written speech), the Hollywood Film Awards joined with Dick Clark Productions in 2014, when the show was broadcast on CBS.

The program is no longer televised, but it's still scripted, with most stars reading from a prompter.

“Even though I didn't write that, I absolutely agree with that,” Susan Sarandon said after reading heartfelt words about Portman, who was honored for her portrayal of Jackie Kennedy in “Jackie” (opening Dec. 2).

Casey Affleck made fun of the stiff script he was given to introduce “Manchester By the Sea” screenwriter Kenneth Lonergan.

“I didn't write this,” Affleck said.

Artists accepting awards, though, did so sincerely. Naomie Harris talked about having to drop her own judgments to play a drug-addicted mom in “Moonlight.”

“I am forever changed as a result of this journey,” she said.

Kidman received the supporting actress prize for “Lion” (in theaters Nov. 25), a film she says “will show people the inherent goodness in all of us.”

Eddie Murphy received the career achievement award. He was greeted with a standing ovation, which he said “warms the cockles of one's heart on a Sunday.”

“This is a very, very, very chatty group. I've never heard such long speeches ever,” Murphy said, noting that he wasn't using a prompter.

“I really wish I had a chatty, chatty, chatty speech for you,” he said. “I know everybody's been sitting here for a while. But I'm very moved and very honored, so thank you very much.”

Corden closed out the night by saying: “We're out of fake awards to give out.”

As for the rest of Hollywood's awards season, nominations for the Golden Globe Awards will be announced Dec. 12. The Screen Actors Guild reveals its awards nominees Dec. 14 and Academy Awards nominees will be announced Jan. 24, 2017. AP

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

SOURCE: DSMG

WORLD BRIEFS

AUSTRALIA Gay rights advocates welcome Australia's Senate voting down a government plan to hold a nonbinding public vote on recognizing gay marriage and call on Parliament to legislate for marriage equality soon.

INDIA Officials were trying yesterday to restore the websites of seven Indian embassies in Europe and Africa that were hacked and had data dumped online.

AP PHOTO



JAPAN Parts of a main street collapsed in the heart of a major city in southern Japan yesterday, creating a massive sinkhole and cutting off power, water and gas supplies to parts of the city. Authorities said no injuries were reported from the pre-sunrise collapse in downtown Fukuoka, which created a sinkhole more than half the size of an Olympic pool in the middle of the business district.

AP PHOTO



RUSSIA-TURKEY A Russian deputy says that a boat service has been restored between Turkey and the Crimean region annexed by the Kremlin. Relations between Moscow and Ankara have warmed in recent months after the two country's leaders settled a spat over Turkey shooting down a Russian jet over Syria.

SYRIA Kurdish-led Syrian fighters are pushing ahead with an offensive aimed at isolating and encircling the Islamic State group's stronghold of Raqqa, making small advances in villages north of the extremists' de facto capital.