

CIVIL SERVANT NUMBER UNDER DEBATE

Several lawmakers claimed that there is an excessive number of civil servants during the policy address presentation

P2 POLICY ADDRESS

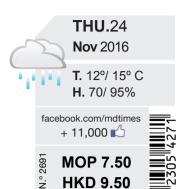


LUCKY DRAGON CASINO-HOTEL OPENS IN VEGAS
An Asian-themed casino-hotel
catering to Chinese gamblers
is the first to open in nearly six
years along the Las Vegas Strip



FACEBOOK DEVELOPING CENSORSHIP TOOL TO ENTER CHINA

P1:







"THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN'

WORLD BRIEFS

54.37 18,923.06 65.74

US The Dow Jones industrial average surpassed 19,000 for the first time Tuesday as a post-election rally drove indexes further into record territory. Discount store chains made large gains, but health care companies tumbled.

CHINA The U.N.'s intellectual property agency says China continued to set the pace worldwide for patent applications last year, filing a record 1 million that nearly all focused on its giant home market.



PHILIPPINES Armed forces chief says five military exercises with the United States, including at least two major naval drills, will be scrapped next year at the direction of President Rodrigo Duterte. More on p13

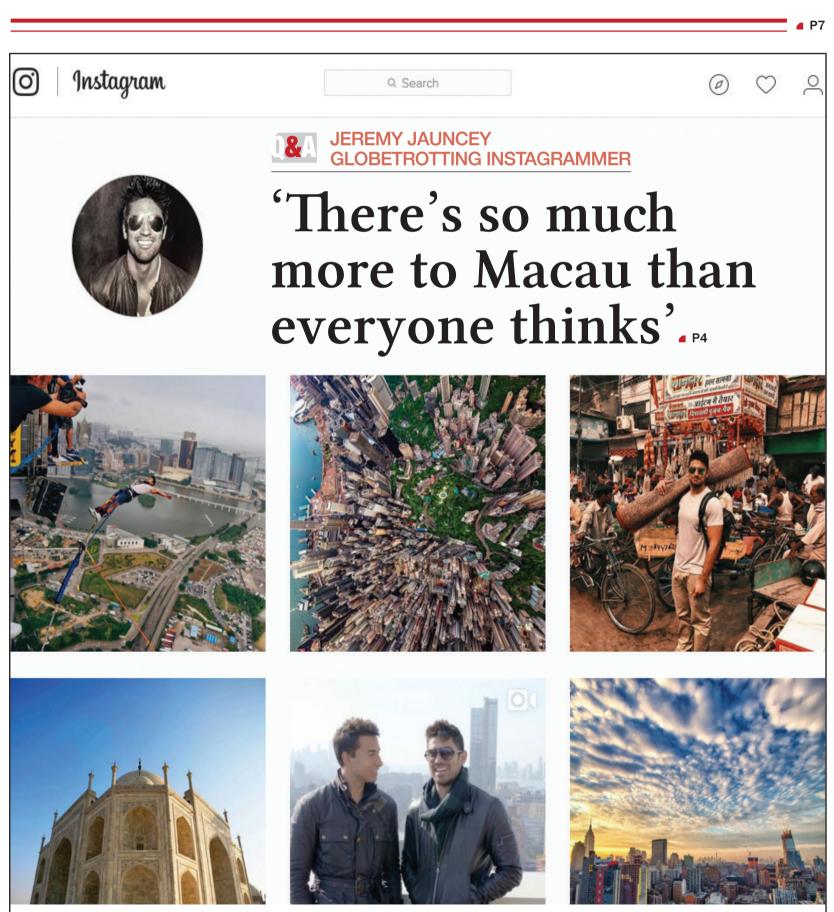
THAILAND The head of a powerful Buddhist sect in Thailand will be indicted next week on charges of money laundering and related crimes involving millions of embezzled funds that allegedly reached the temple's coffers, prosecutors said yesterday.



JAPAN-SOUTH KOREA
An intelligence-sharing
agreement between
South Korea and Japan
took effect yesterday
after the countries signed
the pact to better monitor
North Korea, Seoul
officials said.

More on backpage

Macau-Zhongshan yachting scheme opens





POLICY ADDRESS | SONIA CHAN

Simplify procedures to cut number of civil servants, say lawmakers

Renato Marques

HE idea to rationalize the number of civil servants in order to save on government resources was one of the highlights of the second day of presentation by the Secretary for Administration and Justice, Sonia Chan, regarding the policy address for 2017.

The Q&A session held yesterday afternoon at the Legislative Assembly (AL) was a continuation on the session held the previous day, where many questions were presented to Chan.

The first to address the problem of the "high number" of civil servants was lawmaker Chui Sai Peng, who suggested that the government simplifies bureaucratic procedures in order to "reduce the need" for these workers.

According to Chui, "the core of the rationalization resides in the simplification," calling on the government to "de-bureaucratize" and ease administrative procedures.

The lawmaker used a comparison between Macau and the



neighboring region of Hong Kong to argue that there are too many civil servants in the MSAR.

Replying to the lawmaker, Secretary Chan reaffirmed, "we cannot compare with a di-

fferent reference," noting that the situation of Hong Kong is different. Instead she reaffirmed that "the current number of civil servants is [what is] necessary to fulfill the needs [of Macau]."

Adding to the reply was the director of the Public Administration and Civil Service Bureau (SAFP), Eddie Kou. He said that, regarding the simplification of procedures, said "we have already done several assessments and created several interdepartmental communication circuits," adding that "in 2016/2017 there will be 47 items [that will be shared] and about 200 circuits [of communication] that are related to the presentation of documents."

Kou also highlighted the focus of efforts to "reduce inconveniences" in terms of the waiting times at self-service kiosks.

Another of the lawmakers raising problems relating

to civil servants was the lawmaker and vice president of the AL, Lam Heong Sang, who called for a change to the recruitment system that he says is "cumbersome." The consequence of this, according to Lam, is that staff need to work long hours and "wait for a long time until [the department] has the vacancies occupied." Lam added "there are also problems for staff [in applying] to other positions even within the same service."

On the topic, Chan acknowledged that currently the number of "career staff" is almost the same as the number staff working on shortterm contracts. "We are going to study a way of integrating the workers that are already working with the SAFP into the career [path], starting with those who have been performing [their] duties for a long time," she said.

While Lam remarked on the difficulties in hiring new civil servants, it was Fong Chi Keong who contrarily pointed out that is "even harder to fire them."

"We have a lot that aren't working [...] while the others have to work a lot more [to compensate] for them," said Lam.

According to the lawmaker, such an attitude "affects the morale of other workers and produces negative influences, affecting also the work of the administrative mechanism."

Fong suggested that, similarly to what happens in Hong Kong, the government in Macau should implement a regime of a one-time compensation for an early retirement in order to "clean" cases like these out of the system.

Lawmakers call for Land Law review

AWMAKERS Zheng Anting, Si Ka Lon ⊿and Leonel Alves called for a review for the land law yesterday in order to "correct mistakes" made in the past with the approval in 2013 of the current law, which presents "important loopholes."

Referring to the particular case of the Pearl Horizon development, lawmakers Zheng Anting and Leonel Alves referred to examples of foreign investors who have been defrauded by the outcome.

Zheng noted that the government "accepted and received the payment of special stamp duty for the acquisition of units [in June 2015] without any problems, adding that "buyers fulfill all their responsibilities but now they are defrauded." "I agree with what the president of TUI [Final Appeal Court] said [... which was] to go to the courts as the last resort; a solution that involves many costs and a long period of time to a resolve," said Zheng.

Alves then concluded that it is a "serious problem that we hope can be solved for the progress of Macau."

"The land law affects all our population and all economy," continued Alves. "It should also be in the group of laws [that the office of Secretary Chan plans] to disclose."

Secretary Chan replied: "Regarding the law revision, there isn't yet a consensus in society. Without consensus we won't do any law review." Meanwhile, regarding the resort to the courts, "it was not the government that took the cases to the judiciary institutions, this was done by the interested [parties] in the defense of their rights and interests."

Another of the laws that Alves said needed to be urgently addressed was that of the cases of top officials who, "due to a technical reason, have no right to appeal since they are judged by the TUI.

According to the lawmaker, the problem could be easily solved if the TUI had more than the current three judges. He added that the impossibility of an appeal "is an injustice to people involved and also to the society." RM

200 interpreters and translators needed

TWO HUNDRED is the number of new interpreters and translators required in the near future in the region. The figure was advanced yesterday by the director of the Public Administration and Civil Service Bureau (SAFP), Eddie Kou, speaking at the Legislative Assembly (AL) in a reply to a question raised by lawmaker Angela Leong the previous day. Kou said that "more courses [are needed] in order to attract more talent to that field," adding that the future needs in the finance and juridical fields are still unknown, but the government has already created a "task force to monitor those needs.'

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Lucky Dragon casino-hotel opens just off Las Vegas Strip



N Asian-themed property Acatering to Chinese gamblers and guests has become the first new casino-hotel to open in nearly six years along the Las Vegas Strip.

The Lucky Dragon Hotel and Casino began operations Saturday, in what officials characterized as a soft opening, ahead of a Dec. 3 grand opening, KSNV-TV reported.

With about 200 hotel rooms, the property just off Sahara Avenue is small by Las Vegas standards. The casino has more baccarat than blackjack, and only about 300 slot machines, compared with thousands at most Strip resorts.

The Las Vegas Sun reports the center of the casino surrounds a 15-foot, 1.25-ton glass sculpture of a dragon, and the food court was built to resemble Asian night markets with multiple restaurants and street food ven-

Dave Jacoby, chief operating officer, told KSNV the Lucky Dragon aims to attract overseas tourists and local residents looking for authentic Asian cuisine and popular games.

Guest signs are in Chinese and English, and the hotel elevator doesn't list a fourth floor because the number is considered unlucky in some Asian cultures.

The Sun reported that when the resort won final Nevada Gaming Commission approval last month, General Manager Matthew Harkness said it will market to Asian customers in Las Vegas, Southern California, the Pacific Northwest U.S. and Vancouver, British Columbia.

The casino was financed with money from Chinese investors and developed by privately held Las Vegas Economic Impact Regional Center through the EB-5 visa program, which grants green cards to foreigners in return for investments of at least USD500,000 on job-creating projects. AP

National Day boosts visitor arrivals

VISITOR arrivals rose by 1.6 percent year-on-year to 2,678,447 in October 2016, according to information released yesterday by the Statistics and Census Service (DSEC). The number of visitors represents an increase of 10.4 percent month-to-month, which DSEC holidays.

In October, the number of overnight visitors rose by 12.1 percent year-on-year to 1,370,967, accounting for around 51.2 percent of the total. At the same time, same-day visitors dropped by 7.6 percent year-on-year to 1,307,480.

Analyzed by the places of origin, visitors from mainland China rose modestly to 1,825,123, increasing by 0.4 percent compared with October 2015. Mainland visitors came mainly from Guangdong Province (801,452), Hunan Province (78,389) and Fujian Province (68,198).

During October, the number of visitors from Hong Kong

(514,273), Taiwan (87,063) and South Korea (52,118) all increased compared with the same month in the previous year, rising by 1.8 percent, 4.3 percent and 22.1 percent respectively.

Long-term visitors from the United States (16,988), Australia (8,854), Canada (7,503) and the United Kingdom (6,288) increased marginally year-on-year.

Visitor arrivals by land increased by 3.7 percent year-on-year to 1,562,378, with arrivals via the Border Gate (1,355,604) and the Cotai Checkpoint (205,379) rising by one percent and 26.3 percent respectively.

Visitor arrivals by sea decreased by four percent year-onyear to 914,876, with more than 60 percent disembarking at the Outer Harbor Terminal. Visitors arriving by air surged by 13.1 percent year-on-year to 201,193.

In the first 10 months of 2016, visitor arrivals totaled 25,547,241, up slightly by 0.2 percent year-on-year, according to DSEC.

ADVERTORIAL

Wynn Volunteers

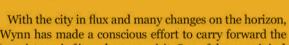
Sixth anniversary sees volunteering and community impact reach new heights

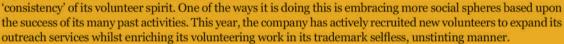
Built on a solid foundation of genuine commitment, the WE (Wynn Employees) Volunteer Team has grown both in stature and number of members since its inception six short years ago. The ever-growing team has helped more and more disadvantaged people in society in a number of meaningful ways which are much appreciated by recipients who can so easily feel marginalized in today's fast-moving world. In addition, the opening of Wynn Palace this year has presented even more opportunities for the company to encourage new members to take part in the WE Volunteer programme.

More volunteers, diversified services

Fast approaching its sixth year, the reputation of the WE Volunteer Team precedes it. Known internally in the company for its dedication, the WE Volunteer Team has built a legacy that could not have been foreseen when its initial 200 members discussed how they could best help the community. The Team has grown fourfold to nearly 800 members today.

The group comprises Wynn team members who have noticed that even the smallest detail can be uplifting and it's this that ignites their devotion to serving society. Thus, WE Volunteers are hardwired to please at a practical, soul-rewarding level - who contribute their valuable time and energy in volunteering, knowing that such acts can benefit society as much as themselves. WE Volunteer's four major service targets are the elderly, youth, people recovering from mental illness, and animals that need care, protection and nurture.





Spreading warmth and care at New Year - With the Spring Festival the most important event of the year – and of particular importance to the elderly – Wynn encouraged some 200 new volunteers from the gaming division to visit 180 households inhabited by users of the Peng On Tung Tele Assistance Service in Macau and Taipa. During the four-day event of the Spring Festival these volunteers showered senior residents with respectful concern by cleaning their homes and helping with their festive decorations. Healthy food and daily necessities were also distributed to each of the households, enabling the elderly to cherish a joyful Chinese New Year in a clean, tidy environment.



Pastry chefs for a day - The WE Volunteer Team invited around 60 primary fourth graders from Tung Sin Tong Middle School to be junior master chefs for a day at Wynn. Diving in at the deep end, under expert guidance, they learned how to make chocolate eggs at Wynn Macau's F&B Academy, an oasis of study of the culinary arts and skills for Wynn's team members, and the first of its kind in Macau. This fun-filled educational activity managed to achieve multiple purposes, cultivating children's interests and inventiveness in dessert-making in addition to instilling the importance of teamwork and initiative.

Organizing outing activities for seniors - To promote respect and care for senior citizens, WE Volunteers linked up with the Lok In Elderly Service Centre of the Women's General Association of Macau, arranging for nearly 120 seniors from the Seac Pai Van neighbourhood to visit the Communications Museum; a great experience for members of the community of all ages. In addition, WE Volunteers invited around 200 senior citizens from the Elderly Activity Centre of Tung Sin Tong for a two-day outing at the Macao Giant Panda Pavilion in order to encourage the elderly to participate in energetic, healthy activities in the Great Outdoors.







Lynzy Valles

THE social creative agency, Beautiful Destinations, is currently expanding its market to reach new and significantly larger audiences, in response to trends in tourist behavior.

Dubbed the "travel hunk," Jeremy Jauncey launched the business in 2012 as a passion project.

With the idea of creating a platform for travel enthusiasts to post photos of picturesque and touristic scenes, the entrepreneur mused that the massive growth of the project was a "really good accident" as there had been no plans to generate revenue out of the Instagram account.

Currently the business has a total of 13 million followers on social media, of which 7.6 million are Instagram followers. Its CEO and founder of the company sat with the Times to speak about the team's partnership in Macau with the Macao Government Tourism Office and Theodore Racing.

Beautiful Destinations currently has offices in New York, London and Manila. The globetrotting entrepreneur noted the urgent need for the firm to expand its human resources, which led to its campaign, 'The World's Coolest Job.'

Jauncey also revealed that along with its massive social media following, the firm is looking into merchandising opportunities such as launching its own 'Beautiful Destinations' products and co-licensing travel deals.

Macau Daily Times (MDT) - How did you come up with Beautiful Destinations?

Jeremy Jauncey (JJ) - It started in 2012 and the original idea was to be a place where people could come to celebrate the beauty of the world. [...] It started as a passion project so it didn't start as a business. The idea was to build this community of people that would come and celebrate travel and tourism and sort of learn about the world as well. [...] The community got bigger and bigger. More and more people started to follow us. Tourism boards got in touch, hotels got in touch, airlines got in touch [...] and that's how we got the business.

MDT - Did you expect that it would grow to be something this big?

JJ - No, not at all. I think now we are the largest travel community in the world in social media. There are 13 million people in 180 countries that follow us on a daily basis just to be inspired with travel and tourism. It started with a passion project with one account, which then moved to Beautiful Destinations to Beautiful Hotels to Beautiful Cuisines to Beautiful Matters. We recently launched

JEREMY JAUNCEY
GLOBETROTTING INSTAGRAMMER

'There's so much more to Macau than everyone thinks'



Beautiful Apparel [...] and we just launched Beautiful Homes. It has ended up being a much bigger opportunity and I don't think any of us realized its potential when we first started.

MDT - Can you tell us more about the project here in Macau?

JJ - About six months ago, we met with Theodore Racing and talked about a partnership together. [...] They presented us with the opportunity of meeting with the Macau tourism board. One of the ideas that we've talked about is we come to Macau with Theodore Racing and put together a story that will showcase all the amazing things that were happening in Macau around the race but through the lens of Theodore Racing and as a partnership between the three of us.

MDT - Why is the team only covering the not-sowell-known parts of the region?

JJ - I think everyone knows Macau for entertainment; all the things [that] sit around entertainment, casinos and hotels. I think a large part of what our business tries to do is tell a unique perspective on the world, tell a story that will engage people and [we] sit down with our partners and [try to] understand what's important for them to showcase. So what we learnt from the [Macau] tourism board was that obviously

there's so much more to Macau than everyone thinks about when they look at entertainment. So can we come and tell the story of UNESCO World Heritage Sites? Can we tell the story of all the things that are in and around the other hotels that aren't necessarily all about gambling and all about entertainment? Can we tell the story of the Grand Prix and find a way to put all of that together so that an audience might change their perceptions of how much more there is here that you can do?

MDT - Can you tell us where you've shot in Macau?

JJ - It's been a jam-packed three days. We've shot here [Grand Lisboa], we've shot on race day [...] we then went out to the two UNESCO World Heritage Sites. [...] we did the bungee [and tower climb] experience. We were shooting with the drone, GoPros, cameras and video cameras across all of the town, and up and down the bungee as well.

MDT - You've been to a lot of countries, what did you find unique about Macau?

JJ - We spent a lot of time in Hong Kong and we always knew about Macau. [...] The challenge for us was could we come and could we find a way to showcase Macau in a way it's never been before [and] introduce it to a new audience of people who don't know how amazing the place is. That's kind of the idea

for coming here. I think we found a lot more culture than we anticipated and as I learnt, the Portuguese came here 400 years ago, [...] it's the only place in the world where you have such a distinct mix of Eastern and Western culture. And you can walk down the streets of Macau and on one side see streets with Chinese names and on the other side see streets in Portuguese. We also had the chance to eat some Portuguese cuisine, [...] the things you didn't expect the region would be famous for.

MDT - After all these experiences, do you think that Macau is rich in culture?

JJ - Absolutely, definitely. And I think there's so much more that we'd like to come back to and talk about. We had a really intense [schedule] trying to capture everything and I think we only scratched the surface so the cultural story

Chinese people are really interested in finding out where to travel when they do come to the West.

behind the place has definitely not been told so hopefully we're going to change that a little bit.

MDT - There's a common misconception that Macau is a casino city, so in the video [for MGTO] the team did not feature casino activities?

JJ - We didn't do any gambling, we didn't do any drinking, any partying, we're all focused on the cultural story and the experience of being here. Maybe that will change in future campaigns but I think everyone [already] knows that story about Macau. So it's an opportunity here to tell a new story about how amazing the place is.

MDT - In which countries do you think there are opportunities to grow?

JJ - Asia, I think, is the biggest opportunity for growth, that's why we set up the office in Manila because we have so many tourism boards and hotels that have tuned in to social media to tell their stories. So 2017 will be a big year for us in Asia. We've obviously just worked with the Macau tourism board and worked with the Hong Kong tourism board, and we have two or three other Asian tourism boards that will be coming online next year. We also work with Shangri-La hotels and a bunch of other Asian hotel properties. So Asia is a big area for us.

MDT - There is a study that shows that Chinese millennials are keen on traveling outside China. Is the company targeting them as well?

JJ - The Chinese outbound travel market is the largest in the world. There's a hundred million Chinese that are going out into the world every single year and a large part is driven by the idea of looking at social media and being inspired about where to go. So we're launching our Weibo and our WeChat early next year because we have such a huge following in the West but zero following in China, and we know Chinese people are really interested in finding out where to travel when they do come to the West. That's a really big opportunity for us so we built a big partnership out in China to actually launch and address that.

MACAU **5**

Higher education in need of new teaching agendas

Lynzy Valles

GLOBAL institutes, particularly in the U.K., are now seeking to create a balance between teaching and research, according to Maureen McLaughlin, head of Universities and Standards at Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education in U.K.

Speaking on the sidelines of a conference held at Macao Polytechnic Institute (IPM) yesterday, McLaughlin told the Times that in the past 20 years, research has been dominant in university agendas in a bid to make sure that teaching has the same profile and agenda – to benefit its students more directly.

McLaughlin noted that the U.K. -based agency is working closely with institutions in Macau, and also is looking at working with the Tertiary Education Service Office (GAES). Their collaboration is aimed towards improving the quality of university teaching and research, as well as student experience.

"We've been working with IPM now ever since we came [...] and we review IPM exactly the same way that we reviewed any U.K. institutions, so it is quite a tough standard for them to actually rise, but they did,"



Maureen McLaughlin

she explained to the Times.

According to her, the collaboration between local institutions and universities from the U.K. would enable greater awareness of issues that global higher education is facing such as the importance of new teaching agendas.

When asked about the vital factors that would help enhance the quality of university teaching, McLaughlin noted that "leadership needs to come from the top of the institution."

She also cited institutional incentives to raise the profile of teaching within institutions, rewarding its staff and listening to students' learning experience as some of the factors. "[And] to make sure that any income that we [universities] get needs to

be spent on teaching activities," she added.

Unlike in Macau, where GAES and other government bodies support local research studies, McLaughlin said that the most common challenge that higher education faces in the U.K. is funding.

She also stressed that Brexit has caused anxiety for the country's international students, with European students uncertain about whether they are still welcome or whether tuition fees will increase.

"Our international students are often the lifeblood of a lot of work of our institutions. Not just because of the different range of cultural influences that they bring, but they are financially

very important for U.K. institutes," McLaughlin explained. "I think there are challenges to maintaining good and positive relationships between Europe, within our European counterparts and more globally."

She admitted that institutions are concerned about research that they are undertaking with European counterparts. While it is still too early to feel the effect of Brexit, the expert noted that institutions are already worried about student recruitment and staff mobility.

McLaughlin believes that the MSAR has the potential to retain local students.

"They should be able to stay within their own confines and contribute to local economy. So hopefully some of the plans that GAES has in place to actually instigate those good frameworks and foundations should lead to a wholly better research, teaching and culture in the future," McLaughlin explained.

Additionally, there is still an increasing demand and supply mismatch between the Macau and U.K. workforces.

Unlike the U.K., which is suffering with a lack of graduate jobs, Macau is experiencing a shortage of professionals in certain fields.

"I think all of these will drive up better qualified students who want to stay within Macau and keep their practices here. That should hopefully solve some of the human resources issues you have in Macau," she concluded

DSEJ to continue infant enrolment system

According to a statement issued by the Education and Youth Affairs Bureau (DSEJ), the bureau intends to continue to carry out the "Centralized Registration Measure for First-time Infant Educations Students" in the first month of 2017. This measure applies to infants who were born between 2012 and 2014 and are intending to enroll for education for the first time in Macau. It will allow parents of such infants to access the centralized registration system, and apply to a maximum of six schools. The application system will be open to parents between January 5 and 20, 2017. In order to apply, parents must complete and submit the information in their enrolment document, as well as upload a recent photograph of the infant showing the child's full face without any obstructions such

Local jailed for 10 months for killing cats

Macau resident Chan Ho-Yueng, who has killed two cats in Taiwan while he was studying in the territory, has discontinued his court appeal and will soon be jailed for a period of 10 months, according to reports in Taiwan. On December 30 and 31 of 2015, Chan was questioned by the police in Taiwan after being accused of torturing and killing the popular stray cat called "Big Orange". In January of this year, Chan was expelled from the National Taiwan University (NTU) after killing a second cat in Taipei.

Street performance scheme receives 57 applications

A total of 40 people were granted an approval by the Cultural Affairs Bureau's (IC) Street Performance Scheme to showcase their talents at Fortaleza do Monte, Anim'Arte Nam Van and Casas-Museu da Taipa. The IC has received a total of 57 applications over the past two weeks. The applicants comprised of 53 local residents and four tourists. Applications pending approval are currently still under evaluation. The 57 applications involve 50 performances, seven visual-arts displays, and six handcrafts displays. Several applicants have applied for multiple categories.



Atotal of 277 MICE events, consisting of 257 meetings and conferences, 17 exhibitions and three incentive events, have been held in the third quarter of

MICE sector reports positive results

2016. According to information from the Statistics and Census Service (DSEC), the total number of participants and attendees was 628,000.

Figures released yesterday indicate that the number of meetings and conferences held in the third quarter has increased by six year-on-year. The number of participants rose by 93.4 percent to 45,000.

The 17 exhibitions held in the third quarter represented a 12 percent decrease year-on-year.

According to information collected from the organizers of the 17 exhibitions in the third quarter, revenues of these exhibitions amounted to MOP12.79 million, with rental of exhibition booths accounting for 78.8 percent of the total revenue. Expenditure of the exhibitions totaled MOP44.18 million, which was mainly incurred on production, construction and decoration (25.3 percent) and publicity and public relations (23.4 percent).

In the first three quarters of 2016, a total of 905 MICE events were held, and the total number of participants and attendees was 1,215,000. The number of meetings and conferences totaled 843, up by 16 year-on-year, and the total number of participants rose by 37.7 percent to 106,000.

NG LAP SENG

New charges brought against Macau tycoon

FURTHER charges were yesterday brought against Macau real estate tycoon Ng Lap Seng, who is currently standing trial in New York for allegedly bribing former United Nations General Assembly president, John Ashe, as well as other U.N. officials. Ng has also been accused of money laundering after failing to declare the true purpose of bringing large sums of money into the U.S.

The new charges include an alleged violation of the U.S. Foreign Corrupt Practices Act - which Ng's assistant, Jeff Yin, is also accused of violating - as well as allegations of tax evasion.

The tax evasion charges stem from allegations that Ng had sought help from a Dominican Republic diplomat, who in turn assisted in the concealing of parts of the Macau tycoon's income from U.S.'s tax authorities. Prosecutors also unveiled yesterday that the Macau real estate developer had operated under an alias known only as "Boss Wu".

In addition to the bribes allegedly handed to the recently deceased Ashe, Ng has also been charged with having provided benefits to one or more officials from the UN's Development Program to garner their support for the construction of a confe-

rence center in Macau.

His donation, which amounted to about half a million U.S. dollars, is believed to have been intended to serve as the billionaire's legacy.

Ng's Sun Kian Ip Group has also been tied to a USD1.5 million (MOP12 million) donation to the UN Office for South-South Cooperation, which focuses on promoting collaboration among developing countries. **DB**



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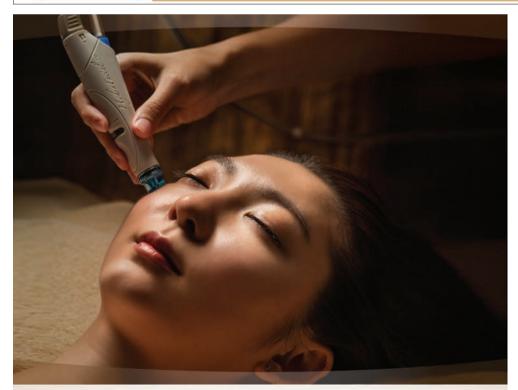
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MacauDaily мучения •

Zhongshan-Macau yacht scheme officially inaugurated



Ascheme for free-sailing yachts journeying between Zhongshan city and Macau was officially inaugurated yesterday. The new scheme shortens the traveling time between the two cities to approximately 45 minutes. Customs on both sides will take altogether 10 minutes to complete all custom checking procedures.

In Zhongshan, yachts covered by the new scheme are allowed to dock only at Keppel Cove. The bay is currently under construction until all projects are completed.

The first project concerns the construction of 250 berths. A four-story border checkpoint structure has been constructed at the

bay. Macau is providing 120 berths.

The local government chose a wharf located in Coloane to establish the berthing areas for the scheme.

As of yesterday, yachts travelling between the two cities are now required to apply for a permit 48-hours ahead of their arrival in Macau.

The Macao Customs Service also requires documents from both the yachts and the passengers in order to obtain permission to enter Macau.

Macau regulates that each boat carries a maximum of 20 people. Boats cannot berth elsewhere when traveling between the two cities, and passengers cannot alight midway through the journey.

Keppel Cove is planned to have over 400 berths. A total of 250 high-end residences with private berths has also been scheduled for construction at the site.

Before the official inauguration, on October 25 and 27, both cities conducted two drills.

The free yacht scheme had been postponed several times in the past, with the government initially predicting an opening date in mid-2015.

The scheme was agreed by the two regions in July 2014. **JZ**

Crown employees visited by consular staff



Australia's Foreign Minister Julie Bishop revealed that three Australian Crown employees, who have been arrested in China, were visited by consular staff on Tuesday. As the Times reported yesterday, a group of Crown employees were formally arrested last Friday for alleged gambling-related crimes, and their detainment could be extended beyond two months while the case is being investigated. Bishop told Sky News television that the crackdown on gambling was part of President Xi Jinping's anti-corruption campaign and that Australians in China are subject to following Chinese law. Australia has received formal notification of the detentions, Bishop said.

Fourth bridge to initiate construction next year

Chau Vai Man, the coordinator of the Transportation Infrastructure Office (GIT), said that construction of the fourth bridge connecting Macau Peninsula and Taipa is expected to begin in 2017. Chau said that Macau is currently waiting for approval from the Central Government regarding the sea area around the bridge. Chau said that if Beijing approves the project soon, then the public tender regarding the bridge might start in the first or second quarter of 2017. The MSAR government awarded the contract for the preliminary design of the fourth bridge to Chinese company China Communications Construction Company.

AD

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Daniela Wei

Jewellery Group Ltd. shares jumped to the highest level in more than a year after the world's largest publicly traded jewelry chain reported its profit slump eased after it negotiated lower rents and shuttered stores amid tepid Chinese demand for luxury goods.

Net income dropped 22 percent to HKD1.22 billion (USD157 million) for the six months ended September, easing from the 42 percent decline in the same period last year, Chow Tai Fook said in a statement Tuesday. The jeweler also announced a special dividend.

Chow Tai Fook shares rose as much as 9.7 percent yesterday to the highest intraday level since November 2015 in Hong Kong trading, while the Hang Seng Index was little changed.

"Hong Kong's retail market has been weak for a long time, so investors are excited about any recovery sign, however small it is," Hannah Li, a Hong Kong-based analyst at UOB Kay Hian Ltd., said by telephone. "Smaller declines in Hong Kong retail sales figures in September is another catalyst - but the market is unlikely to see a significant recovery in the near term."

Chow Tai Fook, which operates more than 2000 jewelry and luxury watch outlets mainly in Greater China, has shut some of its outlets in Hong Kong and Macau amid an economic slowdown that has damped Chinese appetite for jewelry and luxury watches. In Hong Kong, whe-

RETAIL

Chow Tai Fook surges to a year-high as profit slump eases



An employee touches gold bangles as they sit in display inside a Chow Tai Fook jewelry store in the Central district of Hong Kong

re Chow Tai Fook is based, retail sales has been falling for 19-straight months through September as tourism declined.

Chow Tai Fook aims to cut rental rates on its stores as much as 30 percent on average and will shutter a net seven to eight outlets in Hong Kong and Macau this fiscal year, managing director Kent Wong said in a briefing after the results. It negotiated new leases for street-level shops that were 30 percent cheaper in the first half, according to finance director Hamilton Cheng.

Chow Tai Fook's sales and profit have slumped two and a half years straight, cutting its market value by more than half since early 2014. Its revenue fell 24 percent to HKD21.5 billion in the first half. Sales for stores open more than a year was down 26 percent in Hong Kong and Macau, and dropped 21 percent in mainland China.

Hong Kong's retail industry slump may be reaching a bottom, and the jeweler is optimistic that its revenue decline will ease in the second half of the current fiscal year, Chow Tai Fook Chairman Henry Cheng said at the briefing.

The jeweler, which started in mainland China in 1929, is rethinking its direction amid the downturn, and is shifting focus to target younger consumers, executive director Adrian Cheng said in an interview last week. "It's a reset as to the next 10 years," said Cheng, whose family's Chow Tai Fook Holding controls the jewelry chain.

"We need to look at the basics of what retail really means

The retail market in Hong Kong hasn't reached the bottom amid the declining

visitation and

spending.

EVA YIP ANALYST and what types of products are relevant today," said Cheng. Chow Tai Fook will introduce new brands with different price points, or new lines of products to target millennials — those in their mid-30s and under - as soon as the end of next year, he said

Chow Tai Fook's retail network expanded to 2,326 points of sales as of end-September, with a net addition of 7 during the period, it said Tuesday. Of these, 2,190 locations are in mainland China.

In Hong Kong, once seen as a shopping paradise for Chinese tourists, visitor arrivals from the mainland fell 8.7 percent for the first nine months this year, compared with a 3 percent decline in 2015, as the stronger U.S. dollar also made the city more expensive to shop in.

"The retail market in Hong Kong hasn't reached the bottom amid the declining visitation and spending," said Eva Yip, an analyst at China Everbright Securities (HK) Ltd., before the results. The ability to cut costs, especially its high rents, would be key for Chow Tai Fook to narrow the profit decline, Yip said. **Bloomberg**

Master chefs face threat down under as politics trumps economics

Michael Heath

THE anti-globalization virus is threatening to infect Australia's restaurants. A nationalist "jobs for Australians first" push by politicians could be bad news for the nation's food lovers, given more work visas are granted to cooks and chefs than any other profession.

The government's planned crackdown on visas, known as 457s, reflects the fallout from Donald Trump's U.S. election win and the Brexit vote, as Australian lawmakers scramble to neutralize populist rallying points. Two problems: the food industry is blossoming in an Australia increasingly enamored by culinary delights; while restaurants are also a major selling point for tourism, a pillar

of the country's post-mining economy.

"I really don't think they've really thought this one through," said Andrew Hughes, a lecturer at the College of Business and Economics at Australian National University. "They're trying to resolve a political problem in response to Trump and populism without considering the economic consequences. The flow-on effects will be huge: outside staff shortages, increased wages and higher restaurant bills, it will diminish the multinational culinary experience Australia offers and its appeal abroad."

The other issue is not enough Australians want to become chefs – whether it's the anti-social hours or lack of status, there's a market short-

fall. That's the main reason for the proliferation of 457 visas for overseas workers.

Australia's restaurant, café and catering industry is certainly significant. It employs 554,200 people across 35,900 businesses and is the biggest contributor to the visitor economy, which spans foreign and domestic visitors. The industry body says tourism has been flagged as one of Australia's five super growth areas – second only to natural gas.

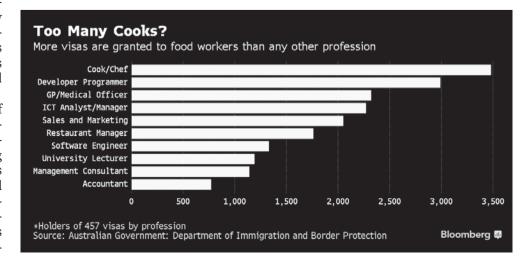
Culturally, the rise of hugely popular television programs like Master Chef; the increasing numbers of households hiring chefs to come and cook for them as a special event; and the proliferation of restaurants and cafes in Australia highlights the nation's turn from its pre-multicultural "meat and three veg." Yet unlike the U.S., where chefs are sometimes viewed as rockstars, their status is more humble Down Under, as restaurateurs often view them as equivalent to cooks.

This might help partly explain lawmakers' over-

sight of the profession as they confront a potent political risk.

Trump's surprise election, months after the British electorate unexpectedly voted to quit the European Union, is part of a global wave of populism sweeping the developed world and threatening political elites. While Australia has managed to keep economic inequality relatively under control, both the opposition Labor Party. which proposed the tightening of visa rules, and the ruling coalition that responded with its own measures, fear the spread of anti-globalization.

"But in a way, the horse has already bolted here," said Hughes, referring to the July election of four Australian senators based on a platform of halting Muslim immigration. "I'm not sure cracking down on temporary work visas will stop that. The political issue will remain and they'll have created a new economic problem while they were trying to fix it." **Bloomberg**





Ganbat Namjilsangarav & Grace Brown, Ulaanbaatar

EXILED Tibetan spiritual leader the Dalai Lama said yesterday he has "no worries" about Donald Trump's election as U.S. president, adding that he expects the businessman will align his future policies with global realities.

The 1989 Nobel Peace Prize winner's remarks were his most extensive yet regarding the election of the real estate tycoon and reality television star who has called for putting America's concerns first and shown little interest in Washington's traditional espousal of global democracy and social justice.

Commenting at the conclusion of a four-day visit to Mongolia, the leader of Tibetan Buddhism said he looks forward to seeing Trump at some point following the Jan. 20 inauguration. Such meetings usually draw protests from Beijing, which accuses the Dalai Lama of seeking to split Tibet from China.

The 81-year-old monk said he has always regarded the U.S. as the leader of the "free world" and wasn't concerned about remarks made by Trump during the election campaign. Some of those comments have been cited as offensive to Muslims, Hispanics and other U.S. minority groups.

Dalai Lama: 'I have no worries' about Trump's election

"I feel during the election, the candidate has more freedom to express. Now once they [are] elected, having the responsibility, then they have to carry their cooperation, their work, according [to] reality," he told reporters in the Mongolian capital, Ulaanbaatar. "So I have no worries."

Tenzin Dhardon Sharling, spokeswoman for the self-declared Tibetan government-inexile in the northern Indian town of Dharamsala, said she was not aware of any plans for a meeting between the Dalai Lama and Trump.

She said the Dalai Lama and the Tibetan exile community have enjoyed good relations with successive U.S. presidents and expected that to continue under a Trump administration.

"His holiness has always put great hope in the U.S. as a champion of democracy. He hopes for continued support from the new president and his government," she said in a telephone interview.

China had demanded Mongolia scrap his visit for the sake of the "general picture of a sound and steady development of bilateral ties." Mongolia's fragile economy is heavily dependent on China, and the countries are in discussions of a USD1.2 billion Chinese loan to help pull it out of a recession.

Mongolian television station Eagle TV's website reported that China has delayed talks on the loan and on cooperation in mining, apparently in response to the visit by the Dalai Lama, who has lived in India since fleeing Tibet in 1959. Mongolia's Foreign Ministry said it had not received any notice, while China's Foreign Ministry offered no confirmation but demanded Mongolia take measures to "eliminate the negative impact" of the visit.

"The incorrect actions of the Mongolian side regarding the Dalai's visit harmed the political foundations of China-Mongolian relations and caused a negative impact on the development of the bilateral relations," spokesman Geng Shuang told reporters at a daily briefing.

In his comments in

Ulaanbaatar, the Dalai Lama said his visit to the landlocked, primarily Buddhist nation had no political purpose and that he had not publicly advocated independence for Tibet since 1974. The Dalai Lama has long called for Tibet to remain under Chinese rule, but with greater political participation by Tibetans and stronger protections for its traditional Buddhist culture.

China says Tibet has been part of its territory for centuries, although many Tibetans say they were effectively an independent country for much of that time.

Asked to comment on climate change — which Trump has denounced as a hoax — the Dalai Lama said he was heartened by the turn to alternative energy sources such as solar and wind power.

"I think [...] we must now concentrate on these things. I don't know whether we can reduce cars or not. People everywhere busy, busy. I don't know if it will be possible," he said.

Referencing past efforts to minimize damage to the ozo-

ne layer, the Dalai Lama said that raised the chances of similar cooperation on climate change.

"So that gives us hope, there is possibility," he said.

While the U.S. has in the past called on China to respect civil liberties in Tibet, Trump has praised authoritarian rulers such as Russia's Vladimir Putin who have been strongly criticized by human rights groups.

Chinese President Xi Jinping congratulated Trump in a phone call and the country's state media have welcomed his election as harkening a less confrontational policy toward China. Those outlets have also applauded Trump's announcement that he would abandon a U.S.-led free trade agreement in Asia that had excluded China.

However, Trump has also accused Beijing of unfair trade practices and pledged to bulk-up the U.S. military, leaving questions as to his ultimate approach to relations with the world's second-largest economy. **AP**



Facebook developing censorship tool to enter China market



Mark Zuckerberg

Abid Rahman, Hollywood Reporter

ACEBOOK is developing censorship tools to suppress controversial content as a means to appease China's ruling Communist Party and finally re-enter the world's most populous country.

The New York Times reported this week that a small team, with Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg's blessing, is developing software that can censor posts from appearing in the feeds of people in a specified geographic area. The Times cites three current and former Facebook employees that the tool was designed to get Facebook back into China where it has been blocked for a number of years.

A number of American internet companies already operate under partial or full censorship in order to do business in China. Professional network company LinkedIn courted controversy for allowing censorship of its Chinese platform. Apple has partially censored content on iTunes and iBooks, but has still had problems most notably earlier this year when both platforms were shut down unexpectedly following orders from Beijing.

Facebook already partially censors some content in a number of countries as a condition of operating in those territories. The company blocks already posted content in Pakistan, Russia and Turkey at the behest of the governments of those countries. The Times reports that this new censor-ship tool takes things further by blocking posts from ever reaching Chinese users feeds.

The Times report adds that Facebook would not be in control of what content would be censored, rather the company would allow a third party partner, almost inevitably a Chinese company, to become the information gatekeeper.

Sources told the Times that the censorship tool may never be used or be enough to allow the company to enter China and was one of many diffe-

■ Facebook already partially censors some content in a number of countries as a condition of operating in those territories

rent approaches Facebook was using to enter the Middle Kingdom. However, the news that Facebook was developing such tools is likely to lead to a storm of criticism not least because the strategy is somewhat at odds with the company's stated mission of making the world more connected and transparent.

Facebook is still reeling from the fake news controversy that many felt had an influence on the U.S. elections. Zuckerberg's response to the criticism of the social network was initially prickly, downplaying the size and importance of fake news on Facebook. The company has since cracked down on fake news sites, prohibiting them from using its ad network, which places ads on other people's websites with Zuckerberg pledging to filter out "misinformation."-**Bloomberg**

Airbnb said in talks to buy home-rental rival Xiaozhu

AIRBNB Inc. is in talks to acquire China's Xiaozhu.com to expand in the nation's home rental sharing market, according to a person familiar with the matter.

The companies have held multiple meetings and the discussions are advanced in nature, the person said, asking not to be identified as the talks are private. A deal is likely, the person said.

While Airbnb is the biggest platform for people to rent their homes to travelers globally, it's

grappling with more established local rivals Xiaozhu and Tujia.com in China. The San Franciscobased company already has about 75,000 properties listed in the world's most populous nation and plans to increase staffing 10-fold to 300 fulltime workers.

Airbnb and Xiaozhu declined to comment on whether the companies were in talks about a deal.

China's online holiday rental market could reach 10.3 billion yuan (USD1.5 billion) in transaction volume by 2017, up from an estimated 6.78 billion yuan this year, according to IResearch. Before the deal surfaced, the U.S. startup had been anticipating 2 million "room nights" in China, the person said. The company had also recently inked a partnership agreement with Tencent Holdings Ltd., whose messaging service WeChat has more than 800 million active monthly users and provided 60 to 70 percent of Airbnb China's logins.

Xiaozhu would give Air-

bnb an instant boost in the world's second largest economy. The Chinese startup, which was founded in 2012, this month said it raised \$65 million of new funding. The company says it has 10 million active users and more than 100,000 listings in 301 cities across the country. Chief Executive Officer Kelvin Chen Chi said at the time of the funding announcement that Xiaozhu expects to deliver 500 percent organic growth in 2016.

A deal for Xiaozhu wou-

ld also help Airbnb reduce the risk of a costly battle for market share. Uber Technologies Inc. lost more than \$1 billion in China in a battle with Didi Chuxing before selling its business in the country to its rival.

In September, Airbnb said it raised \$555.5 million in new funds as it expands around the world. The funding round, which valued the company at \$30 billion, could eventually reach \$850 million, a person familiar with the matter said at

the time.

Tujia was valued at more than \$1 billion after a \$300 million funding round last year from investors including All-Stars Investment Ltd. The company is also backed by HomeAway Inc., Ctrip.com International Ltd., LightSpeed Venture Partners and GGV Capital. The company says it has listings for 450,000 homes in total, including 335 destinations in China and 1,018 overseas. **Bloomberg**

Times

MALAYSIA

Lax laws, flawed recall blamed for air bag deaths

Eileen Ng, Kuala Lumpur

NIDA Fatin Mat Asis was slumped lifeless in her car seat, bleeding profusely from her nose and mouth, after her Honda hit a lamppost and skidded into a ditch. Her husband was slightly injured, and their baby wasn't hurt at all.

Her husband, like Nida a government doctor, had no idea what had happened until the post-mortem came in: A broken metal canister, later identified as part of an air bag inflator, had shot through her mouth and lodged in the base of her skull.

The deaths of Nida and four other Malaysians have been linked to faulty Takata air bags that are subject to one of the world's largest auto recalls. The U.S., with 11 deaths, is the only other country to have reported such fatalities. Why this Southeast Asian country of 30 million would be hit disproportionately hard by the defective air bags is a mystery, but the families of two Malaysian victims and a survivor blame weaknesses in their country's recall system.

They say Honda, the leading foreign brand in Malaysia, has failed to alert car owners about potentially deadly risks from the air bags or do enough to track down second-hand car owners. They also say the company hasn't provided enough replacement parts or alternative options for car owners if repairs cannot be done immediately.

The defective air bags have faulty inflators and propellant devices that may deploy improperly in an accident, shooting out metal fragments that can injure or kill. More than 100 million vehicles involving 17 automakers have been recalled worldwide, including 69 million in the U.S. alone, underscoring the scale of the crisis.

All the deaths in Malaysia involved the Honda City, a subcompact made for Asia and Europe. Experts say heat and humidity can make air bag explosions more likely, but neighboring Thailand, with a similar climate, has reported no deaths.

In his first media interview since his wife died on April 16, 2016, Nida's husband, Abdullah Shamshir Abdul Mokti, told The Associated Press they had not heard about the recall and never received a notice from Honda. They bought their used 2006 Honda City in 2012



Rabiah binti Ibrahim, survivor of a defective air bag explosion, is seen in a reflection in the window of her Honda City vehicle during an interview in Slim River

in Kuala Lumpur, the capital, taking it with them when they moved to a rural town in Sabah the following year.

Nida, 29, was driving the morning she died because Shamshir was tired from night duty. Immediately after the crash, he thought she had suffered a concussion. Horrified to find no pulse, he shined a light into her eyes. Her pupils were fixed and dilated.

"The inflator must have shot through her mouth like a bullet," said Shamshir, who later returned to Kuala Lumpur.

The post-mortem report, shown to the AP, says examiners found a broken, 2.6-centimeter diameter, 2-centimeter long air bag inflator, lodged in the base of Nida's skull. Her teeth were smashed and her nose fractured. Injuries to her brain stem likely caused her immediate death, it said.

"As a Muslim, I accepted her death as fate but I also believe she is a victim of multinational corporate manslaughter," Shamshir said. "I hold Honda and Takata responsible. This isn't an isolated case. We have five deaths in Malaysia, five very preventable deaths."

In an email, Honda said it sent out recall notices for the air bag inflators of Nida's car in July 2015, but to the car's first owner. It said it only had the database of the car's first owner at the time

Malaysia's first air bag-related fatality was in July 2014, when a heavily pregnant driver and her unborn child were killed in eastern Sarawak state. A minor collision in her 2003 Honda City set off the air bag, which shot a one-inch-wide metal shard into her neck.

In May 2016, Honda reported a fatality involving a 2003 Honda City, in northern Kedah state. On June 26, Norazlin Haron, a 44-year-old single mother and accounts clerk, died in central Selangor state. She left behind two sons, ages 9 and 12.

The fifth death, on Sept. 24, was in southern Johor state.

A fractured inflator apparently punctured Norazlin's chest and lungs, said her eldest sister, Nor'ain Haron. Part of the inflator was found in the car, which was only lightly dented in the collision.

Norazlin bought the car new in 2005 and tried to get the air bag fixed after she received a recall notice marked "urgent," just weeks before her accident. A Honda dealer said he was short of parts and told her to return in July.

The recall notice didn't explain why the air bag had to be changed, said Nor'ain.

"It's like having a live bullet in the car," said Roslinya Latip, Norazlin's sister-in-law. "Honda is not doing enough. You sent a letter with an urgent stamp but there is no explanation, no spare part and no Plan B. What's the point? There is a loophole in their management and service here. Safety is not No. 1 [for Honda] in Malaysia."

Honda said it sent two recall notices to Norazlin in July 2015 and a third on June 1 this year. It said it found no evidence she was told to return in July to fix the air bag.

The Malaysian Association of Standards Users, a consumer group, blames the deaths on lax auto safety laws. Malaysia does not issue public notices of recalls or keep central databases enabling car owners to check if their vehicles are affected. The group is pushing for a new vehicle safety authority similar to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration in the U.S.

There are no international standards for safety and recalls, or for how car owners should be notified. Many countries do not have strict regulations or a clear process that automakers must follow when they discover a problem, so defective parts recalled in one part of the world might not be recalled in another.

Honda began recalling driver's side air bags in the U.S. in 2008. It only started recalling side air bags in small cars sold in Europe and Asia in November 2014, after the first death of a driver in Malaysia.

The first letter Honda sent Malaysian car owners was la-

As a Muslim, I accepted her death as fate but I also believe she is a victim of multinational corporate manslaughter.

VICTIM'S WIDOWER

beled an "invitation for product update." A later one, stamped "urgent," notified car owners of an "airbag inflator replacement activity," but did not explain the recall and risks involved. Honda said it kept the letter simple and straightforward to ensure customers "would read it and not dispose of it as junk mail."

Honda Malaysia's website does not explain the reason for the recalls or mention deaths associated with the air bags.

Honda America has a website on the recalls, hondaairbaginfo. com, explaining the problem and showing in a video clip how the air bags can explode. It lists the dates and locations of air bag-related deaths in the U.S.

Honda America's dealers also can provide loaner or rental vehicles free of charge until repairs are made. It has hired private investigators to contact hard-to-reach owners.

Malaysia is Southeast Asia's third-largest car market, after Thailand and Indonesia, with more than 666,000 new cars sold last year. The country also has nearly 500,000 road accidents a year: Malaysian drivers' attitudes and road rage are common coffee shop talk.

The Road Transport Department and Malaysian Institute of Road Safety Research didn't respond to AP queries about the air bag recalls and accidents. Transport ministry officials could not be reached for comment.

Honda Malaysia says 60 percent of air bag inflators have been fixed, but 90,000 driverside inflators and 65,000 front passenger inflators have yet to be repaired. Honda said it is working with the Road Transport Department and insurance companies to locate secondhand car owners and began sending out notices them in October.

"Honda Malaysia's main priority is to continue to reach out to all affected customers nationwide and replace airbag inflators of those affected vehicles," it said.

Nida's and Norazlin's families are in negotiations with Honda over a settlement, as is housewife Rabiah Bie, whose nearmiss led her to speak out.

Rabiah bought her 2005 Honda City used in 2010. She says she didn't know about the recall.

Driving home in the small town of Slim River in northwestern Malaysia's Perak state on May 3, Rabiah swerved to avoid an oncoming car, hit a manhole beside the road and skidded into a ditch. A ruptured inflator slashed her neck before lodging in her car seat headrest.

A day later, Honda issued a statement announcing the April 26 and May 1 air bag-related deaths. Rabiah's husband checked the car and found the hole in her headrest and the rusty inflator. **AP**

CAMBODIA

Court upholds life terms for two Khmer Rouge leaders



Former Khmer Rouge leaders Khieu Samphan (left), and Nuon Chea sit together during funeral services for Khieu Ponnary, the first wife of Khmer Rouge leader Pol Pot

Sopheng Cheang, Phnom Penh

top Cambodian court yesterday Aupheld the life sentences for the two most senior surviving members of the Khmer Rouge regime, which is responsible for the deaths of 1.7 million people, saying that the massive scale of the crimes showed the two men's complete lack of consideration for the lives of the Cambodians.

The Supreme Court Chamber said the 2014 verdict by a U.N.-assisted Khmer Rouge tribunal was "appropriate" given the gravity of the crimes and roles of the two defendants - Khieu Samphan, the 85-year-old Khmer Rouge head of state, and Nuon Chea, the 90-year-old right-hand man to the communist group's late leader Pol Pot.

The two men, who were sentenced to life imprisonment for crimes against humanity, sat impassively as the lengthy verdict was read out. They were detained in 2007 and started serving their sentences in

Some 1.7 million people are estimated to have died from starvation, disease and execution due to the extremist policies of the communist Khmer Rouge when they held power from 1975 to 1979.

"The gravity of the crimes should be reflected in the sentence ... the crimes were not isolated events but occurred over an extended period of time," said Kong Srim, president of the Supreme Court Chamber.

Given the "significant role of the accused, the Supreme Court Chamber considers that the imposition of the life sentence for each of the accused is appropriate and therefore confirms the sentence imposed by the trial chamber," he said, as he wrapped up a two-hour reading of the verdict.

He added that the "massive scale of the crimes" showed a complete lack of consideration for the "ultimate fate of the Cambodian population, especially the most vulnerable group.'

Lawyers for Khieu Samphan and Nuon Chea filed lengthy appeals against their verdicts by the Khmer Rouge tribunal — formally called the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia, which was set up in 2006. They had alleged a slew of legal and factual errors, as well as biases by the judges.

They suggested that their clients were unfairly being singled out while the Cambodian government sought to block the tribunal from trying other suspects.

The two defendants are also on trial in a second case where they are facing charges of genocide against ethnic minorities and foreigners, and implementing policies of rape and forced marriages.

Originally all the charges were to have been part of one trial, but fears that they would die before proceedings could finish led to their case being broken into two parts, know as Case 002/01 and 002/02.

Their two co-defendents, Ieng Sary, the third-ranking Khmer Rouge leader and its foreign minister, and his wife, Ieng Thirith, died during the first phase of their trial. AP

AUSTRALIA

Rare thunderstorm asthma kills four people in Melbourne

Arare condition known as thunderstorm asthma sent hundreds of people to hospitals in Australia's second-largest city, and four deaths had been confirmed by

Family confirmed Clarence Leo, a nightclub bouncer and father of two, died at home early Tuesday morning after the wild thunderstorm in Melbourne on Monday night caused rain-sodden ryegrass pollen to explode and disperse over the city. The pollen caused asthma attacks in some patients who had never suffered from asthma

Ambulance Victoria responded to more than 1,870 cases, which was six-times the usual workload for a Monday evening, spokesman Mick Stephenson said.

Professor George Braitberg, head of the Royal Melbourne Hospital's emergency department, likened the scene in the hospital on Monday night to a war zone.

Seven asthma patients had been transferred to the hospital's intensive care unit, he said. Some patients had never before had asthma attacks, he said.

"I've been an emergency physician for about 35 years, worked in a number of hospitals, and I can say, hand on heart, that I have not seen this before," Braitberg told Ten Network television. AP

PHILIPPINES

Drug dealer says he gave money to senator, police

Teresa Cerojano, Manila

self-confessed drug dealer, whose father was kilded in an alleged gun fight in prison, has testified before a Philippine Senate investigation that he provided police officials and an opposition senator with millions of pesos in protection money.

Rolando "Kerwin" Espinosa Jr. said yesterday that he gave 8 million pesos (USD160,000) last year to Sen. Leila de Lima's bodyguard. De Lima was a former justice secretary who President Rodrigo Duterte earlier alleged had collected money from drug lords through her bodyguard, who was also her lover, to fund her senatorial campaign.

De Lima, who has initiated an investigation into Duterte's deadly anti-drug campaign, denied receiving money from Espinosa, saying she does not know him.

Human rights groups and Western governments have criticized Duterte's antidrug campaign that has left more than 4,000 suspected addicts and pushers dead since July.

Espinosa, who was returned to the Philippines last Friday after his arrest in Abu Dhabi, said he dealt only with Dayan, who brought him to meet de Lima briefly in northern Baguio city last November where they had a picture taken together. De Lima has said she was campaigning at that time and many people wanted take a photo with her.

"No, we had no discussion," Espinosa said, referring to de Lima. "Ronnie warned me that she would not speak to me around many people."

De Lima told the hearing that Espinosa's testimony was a fabrication and delivered "under gunpoint, under duress."

"May God forgive you for all your sins and may God forgive you for all your lies about me, and I forgive you," De Lima told the Senate inquiry.



Senator Manny Pacquiao (center), confers with opposition Sen. Leila De Lima (right), and Sen. Nancy Binay, during the testimony of alleged Filipino drug lord Rolando "Kerwin" Espinosa Jr.

She has said that Duterte was out to destroy her, first earning his ire years ago when as head of the Commission on Human Rights she investigated his suspected links to a death squad that assassinated drug suspects in southern Davao city, where Duterte was a long-time mayor.

Dayan, the bodyguard, was arrested last week after weeks in hiding. Duterte's allies at the House of Representatives presented him to the media late Tuesday, where he said he did collect money from Espinosa on instructions of de

He said he and de Lima were lovers for seven years. De Lima admitted in a television interview last week that she was once in a romantic relationship with Dayan.

Espinosa's father, town mayor Rolando Espinosa Sr., was arrested last month. He had agreed to cooperate with officials but was killed Nov. 5 in an alleged gun fight with police inside his jail cell. Senators investigating the case suspect it was an intentional killing. AP

Philippine-US military exercises to be reduced next year

THE Philippine armed forces chief said yesterday that five military exercises with the United States, including at least two major naval drills, will be scrapped next year at the direction of President Rodrigo Duterte.

Gen. Ricardo Visaya told reporters that U.S. officials respected the Philippines' proposal to reduce the number of drills to 258, or five less than this year's exercises.

Earlier this week, the two allies held a meeting of their Mutual Defense Board and Security Engagement Board co-chaired by Visaya and Adm. Harry B. Harris Jr., head of the U.S. Pacific Command.

Visaya said the scrapped drills include an Amphibious Landing Exercise and Cooperation Afloat Readiness and Training, both major naval exercises that include territorial defense training.

He said next year's exercises will focus on humanitarian assistance, disaster relief and counterterrorism.

Duterte has said he wants to chart a foreign policy less oriented toward Washington, and wants to expand security ties with China and Russia.

Armed forces spokesman Brig. Gen. Restituto Padilla said the 258 exercises include small drills involving only a few soldiers, but that 13 are considered major drills.

Padilla said the large-scale "Balikatan" or "shoulder-toshoulder" exercises will be retained but will focus on humanitarian and disaster response.





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TURKEY

Erdogan slams those who call Trump 'dictator'



Recep Tayyip Erdogan

TURKISH President Recep Tayyip Erdogan asserted yesterday that many in the U.S. and Europe are branding U.S. President-elect Donald Trump a "dictator" because he wasn't their favored candidate. Erdogan called on them to respect democracy.

Addressing a meeting of the Organization for Islamic Cooperation in Istanbul, Erdogan also accused Western nations of calling any leader that did not serve their interests a despot.

"The West will continue to welcome tyrants who have blood on their hands with red carpets and label anyone who criticizes them as a dictator," said Erdogan who is frequently criticized for his increasingly autocratic style of governing.

"Are they calling someone a dictator? Then you should think the opposite. That person is good, because [he or she] goes against their interests," Erdogan said.

Turkey's relations with President Barack Obama's administration have been tense. Ankara has strongly objected to Washington's support fir Syrian Kurdish militia who are linked to outlawed Kurdish rebels in Turkey and perceptions that the U.S. is reluctant to extradite a Muslim cleric who is accused of masterminding a failed coup in July.

Erdogan spoke with Trump soon after his election and has said he hopes his triumph would be an "auspicious" development.

In the televised speech, Erdogan said anti-Trump protesters in Western nations had no respect for democracy or the result of the U.S. election.

"In America they started calling Trump a dictator. In various countries of Europe they spilled into the streets and started saying 'dictator,'" said Erdogan. "I thought you were democrats? Why aren't you respecting the results of the ballot box?"

Erdogan added that he was not concerned about Trump's comments on Islam or Muslims, saying the president-elect would "correct" them once in office.

"We are used to such things in politics," Erdogan said. "They speak that way today and then they'll correct that wrong," he said.

USA

Obama hits 1,000 mark for commutations granted

Josh Lederman, Washington

PRESIDENT Barack Obama surpassed the 1,000 mark for commutations granted during his presidency yesterday [Macau time] after shortening sentences for 79 people.

Obama has been granting commutations at rapid-fire pace in his final months in office. All told, he's commuted more sentences than the past 11 presidents combined, the White House said.

Most of those who have received clemency are nonviolent drug offenders, though many were also convicted of firearms violations related to drug crimes. A significant portion had been serving life sentences.

"It makes no sense for a nonviolent drug offender to be serving decades, or sometimes life, in prison," Obama wrote in a Facebook post. "That's not serving taxpayers, and it's not serving the public safety."

Yet Obama's call for clemency has run into opposition from some corners, including from President-elect Donald Trump. Though Obama is expected to grant more commutations in his final weeks, officials acknowledged a large number of applications will be pending when Obama leaves office.

That means it will be up to Trump's administration to decide whether to grant or reject



them, said Deputy Attorney General Sally Yates.

Trump, during the campaign, warned Americans that their safety could be at risk because of Obama's move to set prisoners free ahead of schedule. That critique fits into Trump's broader call for restoring "law and order" in the U.S. and cracking down on crime.

"Some of these people are bad dudes," Trump said in October after another batch of Obama commutations. He said those individuals were out "walking the streets," and added, "Sleep tight, folks."

Not all of those receiving commutations will be set free right away. Some will see their sentences end in 2017 or 2018 — long after Obama leaves office — and in some cases on the condition they participate in drug treatment programs.

Shauna Barry-Scott of Ohio said her experience of having

her sentence shortened in 2015 was surreal. She described her initial reaction as "shock, overwhelming joy, fear of the unknown."

"I had to pinch myself," said Norman Brown, a Maryland man whose life sentence for cocaine distribution Obama commuted last year. He said after

Obama's call for clemency has run into opposition from some corners, including from President-elect Donald Trump

lawyers informed him of the decision, he sat speechless for three minutes as he absorbed what it would mean to have a second chance.

Obama's bid to lessen the burden on nonviolent offenders reflects his long-stated view that decades of onerous sentencing requirements put tens of thousands behind bars for far too long. He has used the aggressive pace of his commutations to increase pressure on Congress to pass a broader fix while using his executive powers to address individual cases where possible.

Though both parties in Congress have called for a criminal justice overhaul, momentum has petered out, creating dim prospects for a legislative breakthrough in the near future.

Obama has been calling for years for phasing out strict sentences for drug offenses, arguing they lead to excessive punishment and incarceration rates unseen in other developed countries. With his support, the Justice Department in recent years directed prosecutors to rein in the use of harsh mandatory minimums.

The Obama administration has also expanded criteria for inmates applying for clemency, prioritizing nonviolent offenders who have behaved well in prison, aren't closely tied to gangs and would have received shorter sentences if they had been convicted a few years later. **AP**

GERMANY

Merkel 'not happy' Pacific trade pact in danger



GERMAN Chancellor Angela Merkel Said yesterday she's not happy about the possible demise of the Trans-Pacific Partnership trade agreement, which President-elect Donald Trump wants to pull the U.S. out of. She argued that alternative pacts will be a poor substitute.

Merkel didn't mention Trump directly in a speech to the German Parliament in which she called for nations to take a multilateral approach to solving global problems, but made plain her unease at his approach to major trade pacts.

"I will tell you honestly: I am not happy that the trans-Pacific agreement now will probably not become reality," she said.

"I don't know who will benefit from that
— I want to hold back with forecasts," she

"I know only one thing: there will be other trade agreements, and they won't have the standards that this agreement and the hoped-for TTIP agreement have. This has to do with jobs under globalization with fair competitive conditions, with shaping globalization in a humane way."

She was referring to the planned Trans-Atlantic Trade and Investment Partnership between the U.S. and the European Union. With Trump coming into office, EU officials are all but certain that TTIP — which also faces opposition in parts of Europe, including Germany — will have to be renegotiated, if any life remains in the project at all.

Trump has described the 12-nation Trans-Pacific Partnership, or TPP, as a

"potential disaster for our country." He has also said he wants to renegotiate the North American Free Trade Agreement with Canada and Mexico.

The TPP's possible demise could give a boost to alternative initiatives including one promoted by China in which the United States is not taking part.

Merkel made a wider plea for sticking to a multilateral approach in complicated times.

"There are two possibilities for reacting to this," she said. "Either I pull back to myself and my country, I shut myself off, I try to find simple answers to what seems so complicated; or we advocate strengthening our values which we consider right and important not just at home, but try to put them out into the world together with our European partners, together with the United States, together with allies across the world."

"I say that we should seek common ground, count on multilateralism and working together with others to shape globalization," Merkel said. AP



what's ON



The second "6075 Macau Hotel Art Fair"

TIME: 12pm-8pm

UNTIL: November 27, 2016

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Marques Esparteiro, Taipa, Macau

ADMISSION: Free

Enquiries please email to info@socilcultural.com

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TIME: 10am-7pm (no admittance after 6:30 pm,

closed on Mondays) UNTIL: December 31, 2016

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

s/n, NAPE

ADMISSION: MOP5 (Free on Sundays and public

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Macau Grand Prix Museum & Wine Museum TIME: 10am-8pm daily (Except Tuesdays)

VENUE: Rua Luis Gonzaga Gomes, 431, basement

(Tourism Activities Centre-CAT) ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8798 4108 / 2833 3000

Offbeat

BLUE PILLS IN BLUE HOUSE: S. KOREA LEADER EXPLAINS VIAGRA



Little blue pills in South Korea's presidential Blue House? President Park Geun-hye's office yesterday confirmed revelations by an opposition lawmaker that it purchased about 360 erectile dysfunction Viagra pills and the generic version of the drug in December.

While the report has created a frenzy on the internet, Park's office said the pills were bought to potentially treat altitude sickness for presidential aides and employees on Park's May trips to Ethiopia, Uganda and Kenya, whose capitals are 1 to 2 kilometers above sea level.

The pills weren't used, said Jung Youn-kuk, a Blue House spokesman. South Korean doctors sometimes prescribe Viagra-style drugs to climbers because they are believed to be effective in preventing altitude sickness.

The presidential office also purchased a variety of injection drugs used for fatigue and anti-aging treatment, according to the office of lawmaker Kim Sanghee. Park's spokesman explained that the presidential office purchases drugs for the president's entire staff including security

The Viagra revelation is the latest twist in a massive political scandal building around Park.

Park is bracing for an impeachment push by opposition parties and some members of her own Saenuri Party amid allegations that she let a secretive confidante manipulate government affairs and amass an illicit fortune, a scandal critics say undermines the country's democracy.

On Sunday, prosecutors said they believe Park was involved in the criminal activities of her longtime friend, Choi Soon-sil, and two presidential aides who allegedly bullied companies into giving tens of millions of dollars to foundations and businesses Choi controlled, and that she also enabled Choi to interfere in state affairs.

TV canal macau

13:00 TDM News (Repeated) 13:30 News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast Debate on Economy and Finance Policy Report for 2017 14:55 Main News, Financial & Weather Report 20:30 21:00 TDM Talk Show 21:40 The Toque 12 S2 22:10 Precious Pearl 23:00 **TDM News** 23:30 Champions League Highlights 23:50 Miscellaneous 00:20 UEFA Champions League: Besiktas - Benfica (Repeated) 02:00 UEFA Europa League: Gent - Braga (Live) 04:00 RTPi Live



CINETEATRO

24 Nov - 30 Nov



SHUT IN

поом 1

2.15, 6.00, 9.45 pm Director: Farren Blackburn

Starring: Charlie Heaton, Naomi Watts, Jacob Tremblay

Language: English (Cantonese)

Duration: 91min

YOUR NAME **поом 1**

4.00, 7.45 pm

Director: Makoto Shinkai

Language: Japonese (English and Cantonese)

Duration: 115min

FANTASTIC BEASTS & WHERE TO FIND THEM_

ROOM 2

2.15, 4.45, 7.15, 9.45 pm **Director: David Yares**

Starring: Katherine Waterston, Dan Fogler, Alison Sudol

Language: English (Cantonese)

Duration: 133min

SHOW ME YOUR LOVE

коом 3

2.30, 4.30, 9.30 pm **Director: Ryon Lee**

Starring: Nina Paw, Raymond Wong, Ivana Wong Language: Cantonese (English and Cantonese)

Duration: 121min

FANTASTIC BEASTS & WHERE TO FIND THEM_ ROOM 3

7.30 pm

Director: David Yares

Starring: Katherine Waterston, Dan Fogler, Alison Sudol

Language: English (Cantonese)

Duration: 133min

MACAU TOWER

17 Nov - 30 Nov

FANTASTIC BEASTS & WHERE TO FIND THEM

2.30, 4.30, 7.30, 9.30 pm **Director: David Yares**

Starring: Katherine Waterston, Dan Fogler, Alison Sudol

Language: English (Cantonese) **Duration: 133min**



1989 New era for **C**ZECHOSLOVAKIA

The entire leadership of the Communist Party in Czechoslovakia has resigned to make way for democratic changes.

Party Leader Milos Jakes called an emergency meeting of his government this morning after admitting to underestimating the force of the pro-democracy movement.

Twenty-four members of the Politburo and the Secretariat stood down - mainly the same hardliners who called in the Soviet tanks in 1968 to crush the "Prague Spring" reformers.

And the hero of that movement, Alexander Dubcek, has returned from exile to a triumphant welcome in Prague.

He told a jubilant crowd of 250,000 people in Wenceslas Square: "My idea of socialism with a human face is living with a new generation". He also said the new Civic Reform - the broad coali-

tion of opposition groups formed only a few days ago - represented "all the people". Pressure on members of the Czech Communist Party had been building for months as they found

themselves increasingly out of step with other Warsaw Pact countries and their own people. Two weeks ago the change sweeping Europe resulted in the breaching of the continent's most potent

symbol of the West-East divide - the Berlin Wall. Even the Kremlin - led by reforming President Mikhail Gorbachev - has indicated it wished to see

change in Czechoslovakia. Soviet Communist Party newspaper Pravda said recently the Czech people had "lost faith" in their leaders.

And after the resignations Moscow called for a "greater understanding" between the Czech authorities and those campaigning for reform.

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

The Federal Assembly abolished the Communists' constitutional hold on power after the resignations

The following month Alexander Dubcek was elected chairman of the new administration and dissident Vaclav Havel became president, completing what became known as the "Velvet

In 1990 the country was separated into two independent republics - one Czech and one Slovak - and free elections were held for the first time since 1946.

Over the next two years the Slovak separatist movement successfully campaigned for autonomy from the Czech lands. The "Velvet Divorce" was concluded and from 1 January 1993 Czechoslovakia ceased to exist and became two independent states - the Czech Republic and Slovakia.

YOUR STARS



Aries

Mar. 21-Apr. 19

You're moving more slowly today, which could make life pretty tough for those you work with closely. That's not the end of the world, though — you may spot something important.



Gemini

May 21-Jun. 21

Willpower comes to you in waves $today-starting\ strong\ and\ ending$ up indomitable! If you need to stand up to someone or make your case, now is definitely the time to go for it.



Leo

Jul. 23-Aug. 22

Your intuitive side is highlighting some details of today's news that would ordinarily escape notice. Pay attention and make sure that you're letting others know what's really important.



Libra

Sep.23-Oct. 22

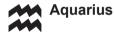
Money is a big issue for you right now — for better or for worse. No matter what's happening, you are able to handle the ups and downs, so don't panic. Just look at the problem and then deal with it.



Sagittarius

Nov. 22-Dec. 21

Self-awareness is a strong suit for you today, though you may not like everything you see. Just observe vour own behavior and decide later how (or if) to address the stuff you don't care for.



Jan. 20-Feb. 18

You aren't moving as quickly as you would like today — but that doesn't mean it's time to give up! Just slow down and let the world set your pace. You may learn something really



Taurus

April 20-May 20

Your jealous side shows a bit too much today - but that may actually end up helping you! If the object of your affections knows how you feel, then things may start to heat up in



Cancer

Jun. 22-Jul. 22

Try to take greater care with business and negotiations today people are likely trying to get more than their fair share. You may find that you're better off waiting for a few days.



Virgo

Aug. 23-Sept. 22

You can't sit still! It's hard to tackle any projects that require much focus, so try to just chill out and let your mind wander where it may. You are sure to come back with some clever ideas.



Scorpio

Oct. 23 - Nov. 21

Your energy is projecting outward today — other people are glad you're around, and may stick by you longer than they would ordinarily. Work together to build something really



Capricorn

Dec. 22-Jan. 19

A good friend turns you on to something new and exciting - so listen up! Even if no one reaches out to you, it's still possible that you pick it up by reading between the lines on social media.



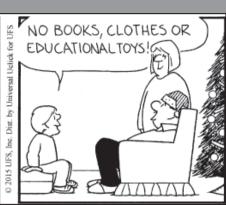
Pisces

Feb.19-Mar. 20

Try not to force any decisions today — you've got to deal with the complex situations as they stand and put off anything major for another day or so. Things start to make more sense soon.



YOU BET! SANTA GOT IT RIGHT ...



SUDOKU

Easy

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10 11

WEATHER

	MIN	MAX	CONDITION
CHINA -			
D :::	_	-	
Beijing	0	3	cloudy/clear
Harbin	-17	-11	clear
Tianjin	1	3	clear
Urumqi	-19	-12	cloudy
Xi'an	-1	3	flurry/cloudy
Lhasa	-1	14	clear
Chengdu	4	9	overcast
Chongqing	4	9	drizzle
Kunming	12	20	clear
Nanjing	0	3	sleet
Shanghai	4	9	drizzle
Wuhan	-3	1	sleet/flurry
Hangzhou	5	8	drizzle
Taipei	21	22	rainstorm
Guangzhou	18	22	moderate rain
Hong Kong	19	22	heavy rain

WORLD

Moscow	-6	-2	drizzle/moderate rain
Frankfurt	4	13	drizzle
Paris	3	11	cloudy/drizzle
London	2	10	drizzle
New York	4	7	clear

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- Ditto; 6- Teri of "Tootsie"; 10- Trading center; 14- Dispatch boat; 15- Olive genus; 16- Hebrew month; 17- Certain print; 19- Palm starch; 20- 1998 Sarah McLachlan hit; 21- Trompe I'___; 22- Myopic Mr.; 23- Accelerate; 24- Eggs order; 26- Soon; 28- Shores; 29- Rose essence; 30- Final Four org.; 33- Farthest from the west; 38- Yours, in Tours; 39- Tropical fruit; 42- One of the Furies; 47- Cricket team; 48- Make indifferent; 52- Cornerstone abbr.; 53- Lacks; 54- Anderson of "WKRP in Cincinnati"; 55- Chicago paper, for short, 56- Nights before; 57- Harmony of sounds; 59- Actor Auberjonois; 60- Arrow poison; 61-Rogers St. Johns; 62- Cabinet dept.; 63- Kiln; 64- Less covered;

DOWN: 1- Swampfever; 2- Plain; 3- Spruce up; 4- Dept. of Labor division; 5- Winning tic-tac-toe line; 6- Bridge expert Charles; 7- Actor Delon; 8- Answer; 9-Go, team!; 10- Ancient fortress in Israel; 11- Sayings; 12- Highly seasoned stew;

13- Soldiers; 18- Joint problem; 22- O ___; 24- Letter opener; 25- Swindle; 27- Ewe said it; 30- Safety device; 31-__-Magnon; 32- Black cuckoo; 34-Santa Fe Trail town; 35- Give the eye; 36- Bring civil action against; 37- Person behind bars?: 40- Cvst: 41- Aardvark: 42- Cling; 43- Yeast; 44- Ancient ascetic; 45- It spreads aromatic smoke: 46-Explosive letters; 47- Opera singer Pinza; 49- Actress Massey; 50- Musical sounds; 51- Map feature; 55- And here it is!; 57-AFL partner; 58- Arrest;



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53	†	†	\top	\top		54	$^{+}$	\top	\top		55	T	$^{+}$	$^{+}$
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62	+	+	+		63	\vdash	+	+		64	+	+	+	+

8 9

ÚSEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Emergency calls 999

Fire department 28 572 222

PJ (Open line) 993

PJ (Picket) 28 557 775

PSP 28 573 333

Customs 28 559 944

S. J. Hospital 28 313 731 Kiang Wu Hospital 28 371 333

Commission Against

Corruption (CCAC) 28326 300

IACM 28 387 333

Tourism 28 333 000 Airport 59 888 88

Taxi 28 939 939 / 2828 3283

Water Supply - Report 2822 0088 Telephone - Report 1000

Electricity - Report 28 339 922

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Taipa Car Park Taipa 0 sq ft / HKD 1.48M

HKD 0sq ft Undercover on 2nd Floor Ref: 16095495

Sun Heng Garden Taipa Village Studio Apartment Re-Furbished Apartment HKD 7,500 / 500 sq ft Ref: 16090613

Nam Long Taipa

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

Roof Top Apartment Macau

1 Bedroom Apartment Viewing by Appointment HKD 9.800 / 799 sq ft Ref: 16090619



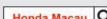




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BOXING

Heavyweight contender Alex Stewart dies at 52



ALEX Stewart, a heavyweight contender who fought Mike Tyson and nearly beat George Foreman, has died. He was 52.

Stewart died last week after being rushed to a hospital in Mount Vernon, New York, said Mike Gilberg, a close friend of the former fighter. He had a blood clot in his lung, Gilberg said.

"One day he wasn't feeling good, the next this happened," Gilberg said.

Stewart fought in a golden time for heavyweight boxing, and he fought almost all the big names of his time. A perennial contender, he was never able to win the big fights of his career but had a reputation as a smart and tough fighter.

Stewart lost twice to Evander Holyfield, and was knocked out in the first round of his December 1990 fight with Tyson. But it was his April 1992 fight with Foreman in Las Vegas that was the highlight of his career.

Foreman was in the middle of a comeback that he would cap two years later by knocking out Michael Moorer to become the oldest man to win the heavyweight championship at the age of 45 when he met Stewart in a scheduled 10-round bout.

Foreman knocked Stewart down twice in the second round and was battering him in the third, when Foreman motioned to referee Richard Steele to stop the fight. But Steele let it continue, and Stewart began pummeling Foreman around the ring.

"I thought I had him in the third round but the referee let it go on," Foreman said. "I didn't want to hurt the kid and now the kid hurt me."

Stewart would lose a controversial majority decision, but it was Foreman who looked like loser after the fight with his face hidden behind large sunglasses.

Stewart was born in London and raised in Jamaica and fought for Jamaica in the 1984 Olympics before turning pro. **AP**

FOOTBALL

12-goal game upstages Madrid, Juventus in Champions League

Graham Dunbar

HE first 12-goal game in 25 Champions League seasons took the spotlight from Real Madrid and Juventus advancing to the Round of 16 yesterday.

It ended Borussia Dortmund 8, Legia Warsaw 4 — beating the Champions League's previous best set by Monaco's 8-3 win over Deportivo La Coruna in November 2003.

The record-breaking goal in stoppage time was an own goal forced by Germany forward Marco Reus, who scored twice in his comeback match after six months sidelined by injury.

"It was a bit of a surreal game and result," Dortmund coach Thomas Tuchel said.

Monaco lost its place in history but won Group E with a 2-1 victory over Tottenham, which cannot now advance.

English champion Leicester won Group G with a game to spare by beating Brugge 2-1.

Madrid, the defending champion, won 2-1 in Cristiano Ronaldo's return to Sporting Lisbon but still trails Dortmund in Group F ahead of their showdown match in Spain on Dec. 7.

Juventus trailed early before beating 10-man Sevilla 3-1 to take top spot in Group H.

GROUP E

Monaco has made a procession of what looked the most balanced of eight groups.

Tottenham is unbeaten in the Premier League but lost for the third time in this season's Champions League. The free-scoring French side repeated its 2-1 win from the opening round in London

Monaco saw Radamel Fal-



Juventus

cao's early penalty kick saved by Hugo Lloris, before the game was decided during a five-minute spell early in the second half.

Monaco led through Djibril Sidibe's header in the 48th, Tottenham leveled with Harry Kane's penalty, but Thomas Lemar restored Monaco's lead less than a minute later.

Earlier, Bayer Leverkusen drew 1-1 at CSKA Moscow to secure a runner-up finish. Kevin Volland gave Leverkusen the lead in the 17th and Bibras Natcho scored a penalty in the 76th.

Leverkusen trails four points behind Monaco and leads Tottenham by three with a better headto-head record.

GROUP F

Ronaldo, who left Sporting Lisbon as an 18-year-old for Manchester United, unwittingly assisted on Raphael Varane's 29th-minute opening goal. A miscued attempted volley bounced off his left shin toward the France defender for a sweeping shot.

Sporting had midfielder Joao Pereira sent off before Adrien Silva converted a penalty in the 8oth, awarded for handball against his Portugal teammate Fabio Coentrao.

Substitute Karim Benzema's glancing header in the 87th made

it 2-1 to Madrid and eliminated Sporting, which had to win.

Dortmund even trailed to Legia after 10 minutes, but led 3-1 by the 20th when Japan playmaker Shinji Kagawa scored twice and Nuri Sahin benefited from a goalkeeping error.

Reus's first goal in the 32nd made it 5-2 and set a Champions League record of seven goals before half time.

The old goals record for a match was tied in the 83rd when Legia's Nemanja Nikolic reduced the lead to 7-4, and then broken in stoppage time with an own-goal by Legia captain Jakub Rzezniczak.

Still, Dortmund and Legia fell short of the 61-year-old competition's record. In the 1969-70 European Cup, eventual winner Feyenoord beat KR of Iceland 12-2 in a first round game.

Dortmund is two points clear and needs a draw in Madrid to ensure seeded status in the Round of 16 draw.

GROUP G

The only blot on Leicester's smooth progress to the knockout stage was the end of a four-game run without conceding a goal, as Claudio Ranieri's side settled for a 2-1 win over last-place Brugge.

Japan forward Shinji Okazaki struck in the fifth minute, and Riyad Mahrez scored with a spotkick in the 30th.

Brugge's Colombia forward Jose Izquierdo broke through Leicester's defense with a shot that capped a long run in the 52nd.

Ranieri now has three months to focus on his team's poor domestic form before its next Champions League test.

In its debut season in the competition, Leicester leads by five points from Porto, which drew o-o at Copenhagen. Porto is two points clear of the Danish champion, and next hosts Leicester needing a win to ensure it advances.

GROUP H

Juventus ended Sevilla's run of clean sheets, and took top spot with a 3-1 win on a hostile night in Spain.

Sevilla led in the ninth minute through defender Nicolas Pareja, but the match turned in the 36th on a second yellow card for its Italian midfielder Franco Vazquez.

Juventus levelled in first-half stoppage time when Claudio Marchisio converted a penalty awarded for shirt holding on defender Leonardo Bonucci.

By the time Bonucci's late, longrange shot put the visitors ahead, Sevilla coach Jorge Sampaoli had been sent to the stands for heckling English referee Mark Clattenburg.

Forward Mario Mandzukic added a third in stoppage time, lifting Juventus one point clear in the table.

Lyon trails three points behind Sevilla after Alexandre Lacazette's late goal sealed a 1-0 win at Dinamo Zagreb. Lyon hosts Sevilla on Dec. 7.

On a record night, Juventus finished its game with 16-year-old substitute Moise Kean — the first player born in this millennium to play in the Champions League. **AP**

Asian elections for FIFA Council postponed a second time

THE Asian Football Confederation has postponed elections to choose FIFA Council delegates for a second time.

The Asian governing body yesterday canceled a Feb. 28 meeting in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, which was to replace an election congress cut short in India in September. That was amid an apparent protest against the FIFA ethics committee for excluding a Qatari candidate.

The three vacant FIFA seats for Asia, including one for women, and the position held by Olympic powerbroker Sheik Ahmad of Kuwait will now be voted on in Manama, Bahrain, on the sidelines of the FIFA Congress on May 11.

The AFC said the change was made to fit with a new schedule of FIFA Council meetings. FIFA's ruling panel will have its first meeting of the year in January instead of March in Zurich, leaving the usual May meeting as the first opportunity for newly elected delegates to take part.

Asia is the only one of FIFA's six continental confederations to miss a September deadline to elect new positions, including at least one woman from each region, on an expanded 37-member council chaired by President Gianni Infantino.

Four candidates — from Qatar, China, Iran and Singapore — were competing for two men's seats in Goa, India, and the women's election had three candidates, from Australia, Bangladesh and North Korea

Days before the election, Qatar soccer federation vice president Saoud Al-Mohannadi was excluded during a FIFA ethics investigation into claims he refused to cooperate with a previous ethics case. He has since been banned for one year.

A key part of FIFA reforms after years of corruption scandals is that all new candidates for senior positions must pass an integrity and eligibility check.

Sheik Ahmad, a longtime influential IOC member, joined the FIFA Council last year and was announced last month to be standing for another two-year term instead of the usual four-year mandate.

He has continued his FIFA duties despite Kuwait being banned from international soccer for the past year. FIFA and the IOC intervened in a dispute over government interference in the independent management of Kuwait's national soccer and Olympic bodies. **AP**

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opinion

Made in Macao

Jenny Lao-Phillips



Don't neglect the Cha when going Yum Cha

Talking about cultural experience in Macao, one of the most beloved experiences among both locals and expatriates is "yum cha" 飲茶, literally translated as "Drink" and "Tea". It refers to going to a Canton style restaurant or Tea House (茶樓 Cha Lau), usually for brunch or lunch. However, it is not literally for drinking tea that most people frequent, it is the delicious "dim sum", assorted small Canton dishes, which makes yum cha the activity of choice when hosting visitors from abroad. Going yum cha has also been a weekly ritual for many local families, and almost a compulsory program for gatherings with old friends.

Therefore, it is not surprising to find that some of the first Chinese words foreigners learn in Macau, aside from "xie xie" (thank you), are "Har Gow" (shrimp dumplings), "Siu Mai" (pork and mushroom dumplings), and "Char Siu Baau" (roast pork steam bun), the most popular dim sums ordered when going for yum cha. This proves how fast anyone coming to Macao, or Hong Kong, gets familiarized with yum cha culture.

The tradition of tea drinking in China dates back more than 3000 years, with early records of tea since before B.C.1000, around the period of Western Zhou. The culture of our modern concept of yum cha started being widely practiced only in the beginning of the previous century among the working class. Tea houses then were simple tents set up for people, who were mostly doing hard labor, to stop by to rest and enjoy a cup of tea - an actual tea break. And since the cost of having a pot of tea and a few pieces of dim sum was relatively cheap, it became a choice for lunch among workers who stayed out for work all day. Later, these kinds of tea houses became popularized in Guangzhou after the establishment of the People's Republic of China when lives became simpler, and no one went to expensive and classy res-

However, it was only in Macao and Hong Kong that yum cha became a significant practice. Although yum cha literally refers to the drinking of tea, dim sum has stolen the thunder of the cha. In the modern days, the tea part of yum cha has become a side drink that is believed to be able to wash down the oiliness of the savory dim sum dishes. But being a thousand year old tradition, the importance of tea drinking in our culture should not be obscured. In fact, there are many levels of benefits to drinking tea which have been acknowledged in many places all over the world.

Since the beginning, tea has been studied and used as a form of medicine in ancient China, especially for detoxification. As the health benefits of this slightly bitter drink became widely accepted, our ancestors started drinking tea as a daily supplement. During the Tang Dynasty, when tea was already widely appreciated amongst nobilities, the mental benefit of tea drinking was spread, thanks to the Buddhist monks' practice of drinking tea, which enhanced the promotion of the drink for clarity of mind and calming of nerves.

Aside from the detoxifying and nerve-calming benefit of tea, I have read research which shows that people who drink one liter of Oolong tea a day successfully lose more weight that those who drink only water. All the more reason to drink tea. Therefore, being someone who used to leave the cup of tea untouched and dig right into the delicious dim sum, I have started to readjust the tea and dim sum proportion whenever I go for yum cha. So, don't forget to drink lots of tea when going to the Tea House for a physical and mental health enhancing cultural experience.

UN AGENCY SAYS CHINA TOPS WORLD AGAIN IN PATENT APPLICATIONS

The U.N.'s intellectual property agency says China continued to set the pace worldwide for patent applications last year, filing a record 1 million that nearly all focused on its giant home market.

The World Intellectual Property Organization says China made up over one in three of a total 2.9 million patent applications in 2015,

followed by the United States and Japan with about a half-million each. Domestic-only applications made up about two-thirds of the global total; only about 42,000 Chinese applications were for patents outside China.

Releasing an annual report yesterday, WIPO officials say the increase shows the strong demand for protection for intellectual property rights.

WAR ON TERROR

Interpol urges use of biometric data to find extremist fighters



An Iraqi Christian soldier from the Nineveh Plain Protection Unit walks next to houses which were damaged by Islamic State fighters during their occupation of Keramlis village

Edith M. Lederer, United Nations

INTERPOL urged all countries yesterday to obtain biometric data from fighters for the Islamic State and other extremist groups to help law enforcement track them down, especially when they return home.

Interpol Secretary General Jurgen Stock said in an interview with The Associated Press that the international police organization only has biometric data — fingerprints, DNA, iris scans and the like — for about 10 percent of the 9,000 "foreign terrorist fighters" in its database.

Stock said Interpol is helping countries to develop biometric technology not only to identify fighters from extremist groups but criminals as well.

He cited the case of "a terrorist" who attacked a police station in France last year who had traveled across Europe using 20 different identities — something that could have been thwarted with biometric data.

Stock said there are an estimated 20,000 to 30,000 "foreign terrorist fighters" from almost all over the world — and about 15,000 from over 100 countries remain mainly in Syria and Iraq.

With 9,000 names in the Interpol database, this means that about 6,000 of the extremist fighters are not on an international register where they could be tracked, which Stock said is a "serious gap."

But he said the database has grown rapidly when it started in 2013 with just 12 files, and will hopefully continue to add names and biometric data.

The Interpol chief came to the United Nations from the organization's head-quarters in Lyon, France to speak to the General Assembly which adopted a resolution expanding the organizations cooperation with the U.N.

Stock called the Internet "a virtual university of terrorism," where extremist groups attract and radicalize would-be fighters, and where information on building or buying bombs and

Interpol is helping countries to develop biometric technology not only to identify fighters from extremist groups but criminals as well

explosives is readily available.

"The threat level with regard to international terrorism is unprecedented," he said, with international "terrorists" moving to short-term actions using simpler methods such as knives, axes and in the deadly attack in Nice, France on July 15 a truck.

"We are fighting a terrorist network or an organized crime network with a law enforcement network," he said.

But Stock said it's "not easy" because of legal issues which differ in various countries, including on sharing information, and the difficulties in ensuring that relevant data gets to police, border guards and other officials who need it.

He said the increasing use of encrypted websites by extremist groups is also posing "a huge challenge to law enforcement" authorities trying to conduct surveillance or track fighters and potential "terrorists."

The "dark net" has also become a major trading place for weapons and explosives used by "terrorists," Stock said.

"Investigations into the dark net are not impossible, of course," he said. "We are developing our tools, but it creates a challenge."

Stock also said Interpol is cooperating with industry on new tools "to make sure that there's no safe haven for terrorists or criminals." AP

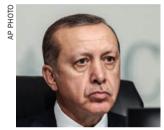
Station	Air quality						
Roadside	25-45 Good	(1)					
High Density Residental Area	25-45 Good	•					
Ambient	20-40 Good	(1)					

WORLD BRIEFS

INDIA-PAKISTAN

Artillery fire and shelling from India targeted several Pakistani villages and struck a passenger bus near the dividing line in the disputed region of Kashmir yesterday, killing 12 civilians wounding more than a dozen others, the Pakistani military and officials said.

RUSSIA has accused the International Paralympic Committee of "extortion" after it required Russian officials to pay for extra drug-testing following the country's doping scandal.



TURKEY's president declared yesterday that an upcoming vote in the European Parliament on whether to freeze membership talks with Turkey is of "no value" to his country. More on p15

ITALY Police in southern Italy and Germany have arrested 13 people, most of them Somalis, accused of transporting migrants who had arrived in Italy by sea to locations throughout Europe



BRAZIL More than 1,000 public workers protested in front of Rio de Janeiro's state legislature as lawmakers prepared to vote on steep austerity measures that many fear could exacerbate a deteriorating security situation and cause myriad other problems.

DALAI LAMA Exiled
Tibetan spiritual leader
the Dalai Lama says he
has "no worries" about
Donald Trump's election
as U.S. president,
adding that he expects
the businessman will
align his future policies
with global realities.

More on p10