

STREET FOOD FESTIVAL KICKS OFF

P4



CELEBRATING THE GUIA CIRCUIT

The Macau Guia Circuit for Promotion and Development Association is marking its first anniversary with several events



SANDS UNVEILS JAPAN PLANS

LVS plans to win a casino license in Japan include top-class concert and sports venues to lure tourists

■ P9







"THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN'"

WORLD BRIEFS

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SPAIN Catalonia's regional government mulled yesterday when to declare the region's independence from Spain, with some lawmakers saying it would happen Monday. As Spain grappled with its most serious national crisis in decades, a top EU official said Spain and Catalonia must talk with each other, even if Catalonia broke the law with an illegal referendum on independence.

MALAYSIA On the third day of the trial of two women accused of killing the estranged half brother of North Korea's leader, defense lawyers sought to discredit the prosecution's case. The defendants have pleaded not guilty to the murder of Kim Jong Nam using banned VX nerve agent in Kuala Lumpur. More on p12



CAMBODIA A prominent opposition lawmaker in Cambodia has fled the country, saying yesterday that Prime Minister Hun Sen made direct threats against her and her colleagues and that she no longer felt safe in her own country. More on p11

JAPAN The Japanese utility blamed for safety lapses in the Fukushima nuclear plant meltdowns has received its first approvals to operate reactors under stricter safety standards set since the 2011 disaster.

More on backpage

SHOULD 'BLUE CARD' HOLDERS PAY MORE?

Gov't bus fare proposal stirs controversy . P2,20 CARTOON



Las Vegas high-rise shooting scenario a security nightmare *P10,14





INSIDE

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Daniel Beitler

Hong Kong domestic worker **T**is challenging the city's infamous 'live-in' rule and calling for the government not to dictate where such workers should live and sleep.

The live-in rule, which is in force in Hong Kong but not in Macau, stipulates that imported domestic workers are required to live with their employers. It has been in force since 2003, implemented through standard employment contracts connected with visa applications. Violators of the rule may face up to 14 years in prison and a HKD150,000 fine.

Critics have repeatedly called for its abolition as they say the law opens domestic workers to potential abuse, including being overworked and having their personal identity documents illegally confiscated.

One Philippine domestic worker, Nancy Almorin, is now calling for employers to be given the choice to agree to domestic workers living outside of their premises.

The landmark case could liberate some 200,000 domestic workers in the city from being required to live with their employers.

Lawyers for Almorin argue that the current live-in rule may be unconstitutional as it endangers the rights of such workers by making them more vulnerable to abuse.

According to the South China Morning Post, one of Almorin's lawyers, Paul Shieh, is claiming that the immigration department's authority does not extend to decisions over where domestic workers should be permitted to reside. He said that if such authoHONG KONG

Domestic worker challenges live-in rule in landmark case

rities indeed lack this power, they should not be allowed to circumvent the requirement by making employment contracts include a live-in clause.

"Usually domestic workers live-in with their employers in Hong Kong, but this makes them vulnerable to abuse and working [overly] long hours each day," said Emerlina de Lina of Migrante Macau, a local domestic workers' association. "For this reason, they want [to be able] to live out."

Last year, the Global Slavery Index listed Hong Kong as one of the worst places in the world at taking action against modern slavery. The condemnation followed other similar reports by entities such as the International Labour Organization, in claiming that domestic workers are at risk of exploitation, partly due to the live-in requirement.

Macau has no equivalent rule and de Lina believes that this is one reason that the MSAR might be a more attractive destination for overseas domestic workers looking for this type of employment. Macau also offers more diverse work opportunities, such as in the city's hotels and restaurants, which might appeal to younger overseas workers.

However, there are also factors in Macau that act as a disincentiare no standard contracts in Macau so [domestic workers] can be paid whatever the employer wants," she noted, and it is indeed often difficult for such workers to negotiate their wage.

Macau was not named in the 2016 Global Slavery Index, but representatives of overseas domestic worker associations in Macau highlighted at the time that it was not much better than its neighboring SAR. The representatives cited a lack of standard employment contracts, no minimum wage, and overly long working hours as the main reasons.



In this January 2014 file photo, a maid is holding a picture of migrant Erwiana Sulistyaningsih, who was tortured by her employer in Hong Kong

Bus fare proposal 'unfair and discriminatory'

MIGRANTE Macau chairperson Emerlina de Lina has described a new policy proposal to increase bus fares for non-residents as "unfair and discriminatory."

The government says that the proposed policy is a form of "positive discrimination" to give Macau ID holders greater advantages, and to reduce public subsidies spent on non-residents.

"It is so unfair and discriminatory to increase the bus fare for the lowest income workers," said de Lina yesterday.

"We are opposed to the increase because a lot of people will be affected."

As many as 180,000 people could be impacted by the proposal, or more than a quarter of Macau's population.

De Lina said that the bus is by far the most popular form of transport utilized by domestic workers in the city. "In Hong Kong, there are other forms of transport, but in Macau there is only the bus - and the taxis, [which] are too expensive."

Migrante Macau will now consult with other associations representing overseas workers living in the city in a meeting planned for next week. De Lina also raised the idea of a protest in the near future should the proposal appear to be going ahead.

During a TDM Forum debate yesterday, representatives of the three bus companies clarified that any extra revenue generated by the price hike would go to the government.

Taiwan eases visa applications for Macau, HK residents

Macau and Hong Kong passportholders can now apply online for multiple-entry visas to visit Taiwan, the island-state's authorities announced this

However, residents of the territories who also hold other passports will not be eligible for this privilege, Taiwanese authorities cautioned.

The latest change to visa requirements for residents of the two SARs follows other re-



cent relaxations for single-entry and doubleentry visas to Taiwan.

Taiwan's National Immigration Agency announced in December last year that it would permit SAR residents who arrive in Taiwan on cruise ships to apply for double-entry visas. The change was thought to impact around 20,000 residents of the two SARs who visited the island in 2016.

Then in February this year, the Immigration Agency opened online applications to SAR residents, meaning that they no longer had to visit the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office establishments in Hong

Kong and Macau.

According to media reports, obtaining a visa upon arrival in Taiwan will also remain an option for residents of Hong Kong and Macau.

Visitors from the two SARs account for a significant portion of Taiwan's visitors. Nearly 1 million people from Hong Kong and Macau visited the island in the first seven months of this year, up by 7.16 percent compared with the same period last year.

The number of visitors has steadily risen and they have therefore grown in importance to Taiwan's tourism sector over the past few years. Some 1.06 million Hong

Kong and Macau visitors traveled to Taiwan in 2014, while 1.18 million and 1.26 million visited the island in 2015 and 2016 respectively.

The rise in absolute figures is complemented by an increase in their proportion of Taiwan's total number of visitors due to a decline in the number of mainland visitors.

Mainlanders less intent on visiting Taiwan since Tsai Ing -wen, the country's president, assumed office in May 2016. Tsai's refusal to endorse Beijing's 'One China' principle has caused the rift between the two states to widen, culminating in the severing of some cross-strait ties.

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iDaily 與門每目時報® DIRECTOR AND EDITOR-IN-CHIEF_Paulo Coutinho paulocoutinho@macaudailytimes.com MANAGING EDITOR_Paulo Barbosa paulio.Darruosateri nacadolari un contributing EDITORs_Eric Sautedé, Leanda Lee, Severo Portela

NEWSROOM AND CONTRIBUTORS Albano Martins, Annabel Jackson, Daniel Beitler, Emilie Tran, Grace Yu. Ivo Carneiro de Sousa, Jacky I.F. Cheong, Jenny Lao-Phillips, João Palla Martins, Joseph Cheung, Julie Zhu, Juliet Risdon, Lynzy Valles, Renato Marques, Richard Whitfield, Rodrigo de Matos (cartoonist), Viviana Segui DESIGNERS Eva Bucho, Miguel Bandeira | ASSOCIATE CONTRIBUTORS JML Property, MdME Lawvers, PokerStars, Ruan Du Toit Bester | NEWS AGENCIES_ Associated Press, Bloomberg, Financial Times, MacauHub, MacauNews, Xinhua | SECRETARY_Yang Dongxiao amy@macaudailytimes.con

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ADMINISTRATOR AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Kowie Geldenhuys |

SECRETARY Juliana Cheang juliana@ ADDRESS Av. da Praia Grande, 599, Edif, Comercial Rodrigues, 12 Floor C. MACAU SAR **Telephones**: +853 287 160 81/2 Fax: +853 287 160 84

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Lanmei launches Macau-Sihanoukville route

CAMBODIAN carrier Lanmei Airlines completed its inaugural flight along the Macau-Sihanoukville route last week, a Cambodian civil aviation official told the Phnom Penh Post.

The official said that the budget airline has already received its air operator's certificate and commenced services. The airline will hold a ceremony on October 9 to celebrate the launch of the new route.

The coastal city of Sihanoukville and the nearby islands are home to around a dozen or so of Cambodia's casinos.

"The Macau market is a good opportunity for the airline as it will provide more options for casino tourists and workers," the official told the Phnom Penh Post. "Expat workers in Macau can also come to Cambodia on tour packages [for their visa runs]."

The airline plans to expand its Macau-Cambodia connection to the latter's capital, Phnom Penh, which is home to about 1.5 million people or about 10 percent of the Cambodia's population.

TOURISM

GTEF 'regional collaboration' theme unveiled

HE Global Tourism Economy Forum (GTEF) will hold its sixth edition in Macau from October 16 to 17, under the theme of "Regional Collaboration towards a Better Future," the organizer informed in a statement.

GTEF 2017 "explores how tourism collaboration characterized by shared interests and mutual respect is conducive to building a better future among nations and regions," the statement read.

A press conference detailing the events at this year's GTEF was held at the Macau Tower yesterday. The event was attended by the director of the Macau Government Tourism Office, Maria Helena de Senna Fernandes, and vice chairman and secretarygeneral of GTEF, Pansy Ho.

In a speech made at the press conference, Ho highlighted tourism as the key to



Helena de Senna Fernandes (left), Ip Peng Kin (center) and Pansy Ho

tapping into the collaborative opportunities resulting from the Belt and Road Initiative.

GTEF is a leading international tourism platform designed to promote sustainable development of the global tourism industry with a focus on China.

The two-day program en-

compasses a series of seminar discussions and panel sessions. In collaboration with the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO), the signature session will bring ministers and global privatesector CEOs to discuss how regional and trans-regional collaboration can create positive developments beyond geographic boundaries.

In addition, the fourth UNWTO/GTERC report of Asia Tourism Trends will be released during the event. A joint effort of UNWTO and the Global Tourism Economy Research Centre (GTERC), the report will present tourism trends and outlook of the region, showcase how technology is driving revolutionary changes in the tourism industry.

Since its inception in 2012, GTEF has thus far hosted more than 7,000 participants from 63 countries and regions, including 54 delegations from different provinces and autonomous regions of mainland China. The event has been attended by more than 300 distinguished speakers ranging from ministerial officials, internationally-renowned private-sector leaders, scholars and experts.

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4 MACALI

Macau-based photographer wins IPA award

A statement from the International Photography Awards (IPA) organization has informed that Macau-based photographer Gonçalo Lobo Pinheiro was awarded an "Honorable Mention in Architecture - Historic" for his entry, "Stay Tuned." The entry is a picture of two people using their devices in front of the iconic Ruins of St. Paul's. This year, the organization received 14,270 submissions from over 165 countries. The International Photography Awards holds an annual competition for professional, non-professional, and student photographers on a global scale. A board of professional photographers, curators, photo editors, gallery owners, and art directors judge the competition. The awards include cash prizes totaling over USD20,000, and exhibition and publication opportunities.

Food festival featuring Michelin starred eateries kicks off today

Lynzy Valles

THE first Michelin guide Street Food Festival Macau kicks off today. It will feature Michelin starred chefs from Singapore, Japan, and Macau, all of whom will showcase their signature dishes at Studio City's Macau Gourmet Walk.

Visitors can enjoy a variety of three dishes from the 11 stalls, with prices ranging from MOP40 to MOP60 for the next four days.

Chef Manjunath Mural, head chef of The Song of India in Singapore (which has one Michelin star), told the press that the festival is a good opportunity for the public to experience an array of street food creations and signature delicacies.

The chef added that Macau has positioned itself to attract Michelin starred restaurants, saying, "in Asia, most of the cities and countries want that Michelin star and I think Macau is lucky as it has [Michelin-starred restaurants]."

"Macau is one of the best destinations in Asia after Japan



Manjunath Mural

[with] so many Michelin restaurants and experiences," Mural added. The head chef also noted that he has observed that local chefs are striving hard to achieve a Michelin star rating and will not compromise on quality.

According to Mural, presenting Indian cuisine in the region is a challenge as some locals are not particularly fond of heavy spices. However, the chef noted that he is aware of his customers' preferences. "I do the food according to customer's preferences. I know their taste bud," he said.

Another renowned chef, Chan Hon Meng, who owns Hong Kong Soya Sauce Chicken Rice & Noodle in Singapore, which is located in Singapore's largest hawker center, is also in Macau to give locals a taste of his specialty.

The hawker stall in the Chinatown complex surprised the culinary world in July when it was awarded a coveted Michelin star, making it one of the first two street food stalls in the world to be given such an award.

Commenting on the first edition of the festival, Chan said, "It's a good opportunity to have interaction with other chefs and cuisines. The most important

Centro Médico Pedder

part is to understand the culture of Macau as well." Chan also stressed that after receiving the Michelin star, his stall has attracted more tourists, and he expressed the hope that Macau locals will also enjoy his delicacies.

Although there are still no plans to bring his food permanently to Macau, Chan said that he hoped he can bring his business to the region in the future.

Meanwhile, chef de cuisine of the Michelin-recommended Shanghai Magic, Wilson Fam, implied that the festival is not only a gathering for food enthusiasts but for awarded chefs as well.

"It excites me a lot because Michelin chefs are working together. It's a good experience for me. I feel lucky that we've been selected to join together to join other great chefs," said Fan.

The first Michelin guide Street Food Festival Macau is organized by Michelin guide Hong Kong Macau and Robert Parker Wine Advocate, and supported by Melco Resorts and Entertainment.

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Email: amy@ktranz.com.mo

Tel: +853 2871 6081/2 Fax: +853 2871 6084

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Times

Talk series and painting exhibition draw attention to Guia Circuit

Renato Marques

ARKING its first anniversary, the Macau Guia Circuit for Promotion and Development Association (APD-CGM) is hosting several activities that seek to draw the attention of both locals and tourists to the importance of Macau's Guia Circuit and the need for it to be listed in UNESCO's world heritage inventory.

The association is promoting a series of events that include an abstract art exhibition - "Abstractionism" - as well as talks to be held from today until October 11.

Titled "The Guia Circuit and its Future," the talks will be attended by several experts in the fields of architecture, engineering and anthropology. Yesterday, the talk series was inaugurated with Sir Albert Poon, a Hong Kong resident who has been racing in the Macau street circuit since 1959 (the 6th edition of Macau Grand Prix) and was the first Hong Kong driver to win the race back in 1964 while driving a Lotus 23.

After racing non-stop for 20 years, the now 81-year-old Poon made his last appearance on the Guia track for the commemoration of Macau 60th Grand Prix Diamond Jubilee where he drove a Lotus Elise CR from a Lotus Greater China special event.

Speaking to the Times, Poon acknowledged the differences



Albert Poon

between the old days and modern day racing especially in terms of safety "and landscape." As he mentioned, "the circuit remains exactly the same but the [surrounding] landscape has changed drastically."

Sharing his experience accumulated throughout the years, racing in Macau is exactly what Poon is seeking to do, he said at yesterday's talk series. At the same table, and offering a little taster of his forthcoming talk, was architect Francisco Vizeu Pinheiro, who explained that he

will address – "above all" – the historical buildings that can be found in the surroundings of Guia Circuit. He proposes "an alternative historical walk" that will include architectural works which, in his opinion, "should be promoted side-by-side with the Grand Prix event."

The possibility of also discussing some of the new buildings in the area is "not excluded", but Pinheiro did not want to reveal too many details about his talk.

Other guest speakers from the talk include the engineer Hélder

Santos along with Carlos Morais José, who will speak about insights that he has gleaned from his background as an anthropologist.

The talks will occur alongside the abstract painting exhibition which opened on Tuesday evening at the RITZ Building gallery in Senado Square. During the exhibition's opening, the president of the association, José Luis Estorninho (who is also the artist) said prior to the ribbon-cutting ceremony that the purpose of the event was to

"draw attention to our goal to promote Guia Circuit to UNES-CO heritage. We hope we can do this with the help of everyone."

The circuit remains exactly the same but the [surrounding] landscape has changed drastically.

ALBERT POON

As for the works on display, Estorninho said they were very meaningful although all abstract art has the purpose of "awakening the viewers' own meaning and interpretation." He further noted that he was inspired by the theme of cross-activity. A total of 16 works on canvas are on display, most of them using mixed technics and oil or acrylic paint. From those, 12 were especially made this year for the occasion.

Both the exhibition and the talk series have free admission.

The talks start every day at 6 p.m. and will be conducted in Cantonese, English and Portuguese.

Health Bureau suspends 3 physicians and clinic operation

THE Health Bureau **L** (SSM) has suspended three physicians and initiated proceedings to terminate "J Medical Center," the clinic that was the subject of last week's crackdown against illegal medical clinics. The clinic was found to be operating illegally without proper licensing in addition to performing illegal medical procedures and the unlawfully possessing certain medications. The SSM acknowledged a complaint submitted by a local resident on September 28 and decided to take action against the clinic by preventatively suspending its operations along with three medical staff members.

According to a statement from the bureau, the local resident complained of "adverse" reactions after undergoing an autologous fat transfer procedure (in the breasts) and an abdominal liposuction surgery at the J Medical Centre, which was performed to an inadequate standard.

The SSM reaffirmed that according to the law currently into force, "no private health care service providers are authorized to perform medical procedures such as liposuction and autologous fat transfer," noting that during the previous inspection to the clinic, SSM had discovered "circumstantial evidence" that it was performing the prohibited services.

Since the evidence and testimony collected corroborate these facts, the SSM decided to suspend the licences three physicians operating in the establishment for their continued illegal operations that constituted a threat to public health.

The statement clarified that the physicians and the clinic are now suspended from all operations for a period of three months.

The SSM also noted that it will conclude the investigation procedures as fast as possible, adding, "If the offenses are proven, the physicians and other employees from the Center will be punished according to the law."

The health authority also warned the public not to engage in such treatments. "Given that liposuction and autologous fat transfer need to be performed under the use of anesthetics and have require strict personnel requirements,

as well as proper facilities and equipment, they enclose also serious risks of complications (such as fat embolism)." "People should take into account the risk of this [type] of surgery before they proceed with it as they may cause several health hazards and lead to adverse reactions and negative health consequences," the statement concluded. RM

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REAL ESTATE MATTERS

Some Interesting Facts About Macau Property - Part III

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

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

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Five more facts about Macau property certain percentage; say 10 percent for that you may not already know.

11. RENTAL YIELDS IN MACAU ARE VERY LOW

Rents may seem high at times, but rental yields in Macau are some of the lowest in the world. Why?

In an over-simplified answer, other major cities around the world have diverse but mutually beneficial industries such as finance, educational institutions, advanced healthcare facilities and the like.

Macau has none of these industries, which incidentally also require skilled and well-paid professionals to run them.

Instead, Macau has only casino's and hotels, and whilst service professionals may earn reasonable salaries, they are certainly not enjoying the six figure bonuses that come hand in hand with industries such as banking and finance. As such, housing budgets tend to be on the low side despite a high demand

12. RENTAL INCREASES & LI-MITS

The rent may be adjusted once the agreement comes to an end, and there is no 'cap on the amount that the rent may be adjusted both up or down (the government recently rejected a proposal that would have led to rent control

In some countries, the amount that rents can be increased is limited to a

example. However in Macau, once the agreement comes to an end all subsequent agreements are treated as a new

13. WHY MANY OLD BUILDIN-GS IN COLOANE & TAIPA ARE FALLING DOWN

If you have looked at the old sea front buildings in Coloane Village or the low-rise houses in Taipa Village and wondered why they are not fantastic restaurants, trendy cafés or just extremely nice houses, you are not alone.

There are two reasons that the properties have remained in a similar condition for such a long time.

The first is that there is no clear legal title on some of the properties. Property ownership on the islands of Taipa and Coloane is slightly different from Macau peninsula, and many of the village properties do not have a legal

Buying a property under these circumstances represents a great risk for the buyer, who would not be able to secure bank financing because of the legal issue.

The second reason is because some of

the buildings are 'protected'. Now that should be a good thing shouldn't it? Well in this case, protected means that it is not actually protected and maintained, but rather that it cannot be 'improved' unless `it becomes dangerous

Hence, owners are incentivized to lea- Next week: the Top 5

ve the buildings until they fall down after which they can build a nice, new building... crazy, but true.

JULIET RISDON

14. THE RESPONSIBILITY TO MAINTAIN THE APARTMENT.

The responsibility to maintain the infrastructure, such as the water, electricity, sewage etc belongs to the landlord.

He or she must maintain these elements to a reasonable standard unless some other provision is made explicitly between the two parties.

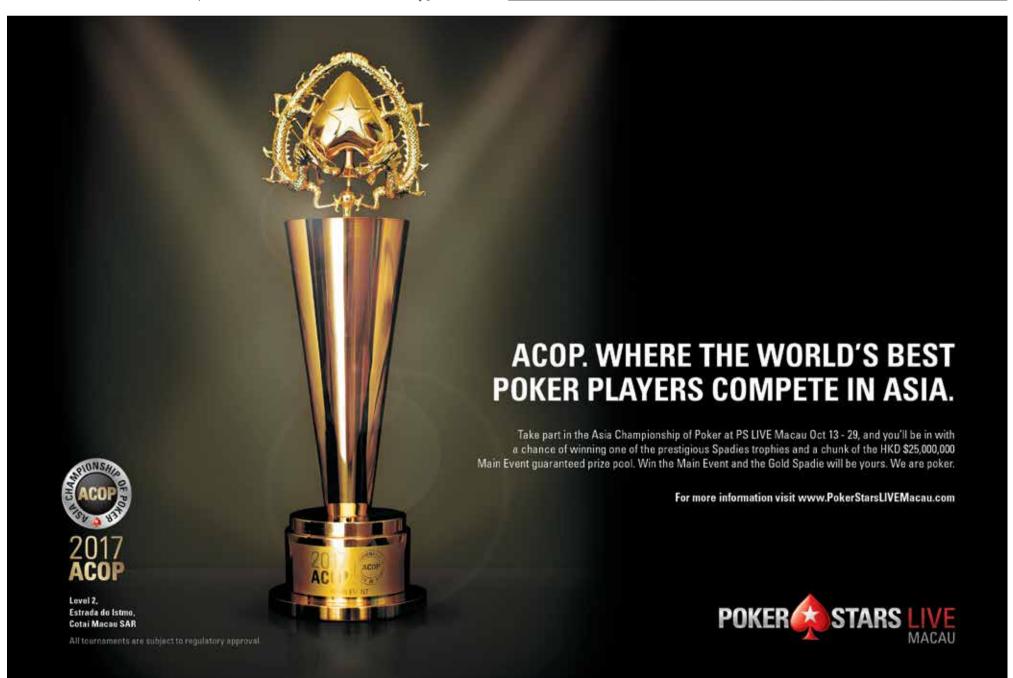
The upkeep of the apartment itself is the responsibility of the tenant, who must hand back the apartment in the same condition that it was handed over in.

This even includes cleaning the apartment before leaving if it was handed over in a clean state at the beginning.

15. WHEN YOUR NEIGHBOR CAUSES DAMAGE TO YOUR **APARTMENT**

When a neighbor causes damage to your apartment through a burst or leaking pipe for example, they are duty bound to fix the problem but are not obliged to fix the damage it has caused. Apartment living can be hazardous, especially if the block is old and in need of attention, and this would help to explain the reluctance of some people to move into older buildings no matter how well appointed they are.







Elaine Kurtenbach, Tokyo

ASINO and resorts operator Las Vegas Sands deployed David Beckham and other top sports, music and entertainment figures yesterday in its effort to woo Japan as it prepares to issue licenses for casinos.

Japan's large and wealthy market is luring big-name casino operators who are sweetening their bids with promises of ultramodern "integrated resorts." Las Vegas Sands says its plans include top-class concert and sports venues to lure tourists and help revive the country's leisure industry.

Las Vegas Sands Corp. President and COO Robert Goldstein began a news conference in Tokyo by expressing condolences over the shooting Sunday night that left at least 59 people dead.

"Our hearts are very heavy in Las Vegas and we are hoping for the best we can for the future for Las Vegas," Goldstein said.

"Our team there is working with government officials and with the people on the ground in Las Vegas to hope for a speed recovery. It was very difficult and tragic situation," he said.

Gaming industry leaders like Las Vegas Sands, MGM International and Wynn Resorts all have expressed keen interest in Japan, where late last year lawmakers approved a long-awaited law on

Sands woos Japan with vision for top sports, concert venues

"integrated resorts" that is the first major hurdle in allowing casinos to set up shop. Further enabling legislation is expected to take several more years.

Tokyo, Osaka and Yokohama are among the cities said to be hoping for casino licenses.

■ LVS says its plans include top-class concert and sports venues to lure tourists and help revive the country's leisure industry

Apart from Beckham, who enthused over his love for sea urchin egg, or "uni" sushi, the Sands' charm offensive included Irving Azoff, who has managed musicians such as The Eagles and Fleetwood Mac.



David Beckham (center) and Las Vegas Sands' President Robert Goldstein (right) attend a press conference in Tokyo

He called to the stage The Eagles' former guitarist Joe Walsh, who said he had loved to play at major Japanese venues such as Tokyo's Budokan over the decades but felt such facilities were not up to par for today's digitally and visually complex performances.

"The logistics to make a good performance in Japan are just too much. It's just too hard," Walsh said. "As an artist that's the way we feel. We feel sad because it's too hard to come here."

Building a state-of-the-art arena and other resort facilities will take billions but will bring in tourists as well as local audiences, said Tim Leiweke, the CEO of Oak View Group and former president and CEO of AEG, which owns Staples Center.

Leiweke, whose company is seeking to remodel Seattle's KeyArena to make it capable of hosting NBA and NHL teams, says he hopes to build an arena in Japan that would be on a par with Madison Square Gardens and attract major sporting events.

"The NBA needs that kind of facilities to make that kind of trip worth it," he said. **AP**

World Bank raises Asia growth forecast

THE World Bank raised its growth forecast for the developing economies of East Asia and the Pacific yesterday but warned that risks included rising protectionism and escalating tensions over North Korea.

In an update to its annual economic outlook, the bank forecast economic growth of 6.4 percent for the region this year, then easing to 6.2 percent in 2018.

The World Bank said it tweaked its forecasts to reflect stronger than expected growth this year in China — Asia's biggest economy — before a gradual slowdown next year.

In its previous forecast in April, the Washington, D.C.-based lender projected a 6.2 percent expansion in 2017 and 6.1 percent for 2018. The report covers 15 countries including China, Thailand, Vietnam, Malaysia and the Philippines.

While the outlook is broadly positive, the bank said growing protectionism could chill world trade, citing proposals for changes to the North American Free Trade

Agreement that would restrict or discourage imports and increasing uncertainty about access to the British market as Brexit talks get underway.

Furthermore, "geopolitical tensions in the region are rising and could escalate into armed conflict," the report said, referring to United Nations sanctions on North Korea in response to its nuclear and missile tests. Some world powers are urging even tougher measures, including possible military action, to stop Pyongyang from developing its nuclear capabilities, it said.

"Escalation of these disputes could have serious economic consequences," the World Bank said.

East Asia's crucial position in global shipping and manufacturing supply chains means flaring tensions could disrupt trade flows and economic activity, it said, adding that the tendency for global investors to pull their money during political crises could pressure exchange rates and raise world interest rates. Commodity prices could also spike because of worries about supply disruptions, the report said. AP

corporate bits

EPISODE OF SING! CHINA FILMED AT THE COTAL ARENA



Four of China's most popular singers made a sensational appearance for Sing! China at The Venetian Macao's Cotai

Arena, where an episode of the hit reality TV show was filmed on September 1.

The singing competition

saw the four stars – Jay Chou, Eason Chan, Na Ying and Liu Huan – acting as celebrity mentors to five contestants who performed their signature songs for the new season of Sing! China.

As the most-viewed programme in its prime-time slot since first airing on July 15, 2016, Sing! China is a popular singing competition and reality

The show's format allows the four celebrity mentors to choose their own team of contestants following an audition process.

In the final stage the remaining singers compete against each other in a live broadcast, with the outcome decided by votes from the studio audience and professional judges.

The next episode of Sing! China will go to air tomorrow.

IPHONE 8 AND 8 PLUS AVAILABLE FROM CTM STARTING OCTOBER 20



In a statement released yesterday by Macau's telecommunications concessionaire, CTM, the company announced that the latest iPhone generation devices will be available from October 20.

The devices mentioned are the iPhone 8 and the iPhone 8 Plus. Customers will be able to pre-register the phone beginning today at iphone.ctm.net and CTM shops.

The products were announced by Apple CEO Tim Cook on September 12, before being initially released on September 22.

At the same time, the higher-value iPhone X was announced, with its release date slated for November 3. It is so-called 'X' as a reference to the Roman numeral for 'ten', a symbolic title to celebrate the iPhone's tenth anniversary.

opinion

CHINA'S BIKE RENTAL FIRMS ARE ACTUALLY SECRET CASH COWS

Tim Culpan, Bloomberg

China's bike rental companies Mobike and Ofo are in talks to merge, Bloomberg's Lulu Chen reported Tuesday. There's not a sane mind in the world who doesn't think that's a good idea

One parallel is the merger of Didi Dache and Kuaidi Dache to form Didi Chuxing, which then eventually folded in Uber China. They are, of course, extremely different businesses.

Car-sharing companies generally don't own inventory. This means they're not spending buckets of money buying assets that get piled up like trash on sidewalks, nor do they have to worry about huge maintenance costs. And while they do dish out vast sums subsidizing drivers to get them to use the platform, rider-driver hookup services charge the consumer more than a token fee.

Despite purchasing bikes by the ton - Ofo and Mobike have more than 13 million combined - they hardly charge anything for rental, making outsiders scratch their heads at how this can possibly make sense.

But there is one factor ride-sharing companies don't enjoy: deposits. Beijing Mobike Technology Co. and Beijing Bikelock Technology Co. (trading as Ofo) require users to pay a surety upfront for the right to rent. With millions of users on their books, that translates into billions of dollars of cash on hand.

Let's run the numbers. Mobike claims to have 100 million users, and it requires a 299 yuan (USD45) deposit (let's assume this surety is similar in all markets). That means it has just shy of 30 billion yuan, or \$4.5 billion, in cash. That's four times the amount VCs have thrown at it. The deposit pile at Ofo comes in at around 2 billion yuan, a lot less because it has fewer users and demands a smaller bond. It also allows deposit-free rental for some with a good Sesame Credit score.

Compare the combined \$4.8 billion of deposit money with the \$2.3 billion CB Insights estimates the duo have raised through outside funding and you realize that in reality, the unwitting venture capitalists in all of this are actually China's millions of bike riders.

With only 7 million bikes but 100 million users, Mobike holds 4,200 yuan cash per bike. Ofo's numbers aren't anywhere near as favorable.

In theory, such funds are like callable deposits, but in reality, the process is a little more cumbersome - most users won't bother asking for their money back because they plan to keep renting bikes. Executives from both rental companies have said publicly that this cash isn't being used to buy extra bikes or fund operations. I have no way of fact checking such an assertion, but assuming that it's true, this would be the smartest move possible.

Instead of frittering away 32 billion yuan on unprofitable assets such as bicycles, the companies can easily funnel those funds into money markets and other investments that earn around 4 percent annually. It may not make up for the billions burnt on bikes and operations, but babysitting cash is one easy way to make a dime.

No Chinese casualties in Las Vegas mass shooting

THE Consulate General of China in San Francisco confirmed on Tuesday that there have been no reports of casualties of Chinese citizens in the Las Vegas mass shooting.

To protect the safety of Chinese citizens abroad, a working team of the Consulate-General of China in San Francisco arrived in Las Vegas on Monday, only hours after the deadliest mass shootings in modern American history, which left at least 59 people dead and about 527 others injured.

"It is our diplomats' duty," said Zha Liyou, Deputy Consul General of the People's Republic of China in San Francisco, who lead the working team.

The team has contacted local governments in Las Vegas and Clark County, visited hospitals caring for the wounded from the shooting, cooperated with the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department (LVMDP) as well as the Clark County's emergency operation center and the crisis command center in Las Vegas.



Chinese people are not used to places where public ownership of guns is legal.

> ZHA LIYOU DEPUTY CONSUL GENERAL OF THE PRC

To collect information of Chinese citizens in the city, the working team also visited local Chinese communities and spoke with travel agencies who are running Chinese tourist groups with the help of China's National Tourism Administration.

"So far, we have received no call or message for help from Chinese nationals," said Zha. "We haven't received any request for help from Chinese citizens via the Consular Protection 24-hour hotline, messaging platform or the hugely popular social-messaging platform WeChat."

In recent years, more and more Chinese tourists have traveled to the United States. According to the United Nations World Tourism Organization, the number of global travelers will exceed 1.8 billion by 2030. China is considered the world's fastest growing tourism market and will play a key role in the sector's development.

In the first two days of China's National Day holiday which runs from Oct. 1 to 8, China reported double-digit growth in tourism revenue. Zha also provided many practical suggestions for Chinese tourists coming to the United States.

"First, it's better to avoid some places, such as large gatherings of people," which provide attractive targets to those who wish to carry out an attack, he said.

"Chinese people are not used to places where public ownership of guns is legal," Zha added. **Xinhua**

Anousha Sakoui

CHINESE theaters under-reported ticket sales of U.S. movies by 9 percent last year, according to an audit that found the operators in the world's second-largest film market are shortchanging Hollywood studios, two people with knowledge of the matter said.

The Motion Picture Association of America, representing the large U.S. movie studios including Walt Disney Co. and Comcast Corp.'s Universal Pictures, hired Pricewater house Coopersto conduct an audit as part of a U.S. agreement with China setting the terms for imports of Hollywood movies. The people asked not to be identified because the findings aren't public.

China has been cracking down on box-office fraud, approving fines to curb misreporting in the country's booming cinema industry. Authorities allowed Hollywood to conduct its own audit as the two

Hollywood is said to be shortchanged by exhibitors



China has been cracking down on box-office fraud, approving fines to curb misreporting in the country's booming cinema industry

countries prepare to renegotiate a 2012 deal that gave U.S. movie studios better access and compensation.

The audit was revealed by Bloomberg in June and had been expected to be completed in the third quarter. The results were first reported by the Wall Street Journal. A call yesterday to China Film Group, the state -owned giant in charge of the import and distribution of Hollywood films, wasn't answered amid a weeklong national holiday.

Ticket revenue grew less than 3.7 percent in China last year, slowing from more than 35 percent average growth in the previous five years, according to researcher Artisan Gateway. Still, the box office in the country is growing faster than in North America, according to MPAA data, and China remains an important

market for Hollywood, with USD6.6 billion in annual sales.

The number of imported U.S. films has been limited by quota to 34 a year, and the studios behind those releases only get a quarter of boxoffice revenue, rather than the more typical half in most other countries.

More than 300 theaters were penalized in March for under-reporting ticket sales, China's State Administration of Press, Publication Radio, Film & Television regulator said at the time. The biggest penalties were 90-day suspensions of operations for exhibitors that understated revenue by more than 1 million yuan (\$150,000). Theaters and distributors face revocation of licenses in "very severe" cases, according to the law, which took effect in March. **Bloomberg**

JAPAN

TEPCO gets first approval to run reactors since 2011

THE Japanese utility bla-**⊥** med for safety lapses in the Fukushima nuclear plant meltdowns has received its first approvals to operate reactors under stricter safety standards set since the 2011 disaster.

The Nuclear Regulation Authority said yesterday that two reactors in northern Japan met the new standards after sufficient measures were taken by Tokyo Electric Power Co. The authority unanimously approved a draft certificate for the Nos. 6 and 7 reactors at the Kashiwazaki-Kariwa plant, a first step toward restarting them.

The approval becomes official after opinions are received from the public, regulators and the trade and industry minister. Then the reactors' startup could take months.

Many people still oppose restarting the Kashiwazaki-Kariwa reactors because of concerns about TEPCO's safety records. Anti-nuclear activists rallied outside the regulation authority's building yesterday.

But yesterday's decision is a milestone for TEPCO, which has desperately sought to restart Kashiwazaki as a crucial step to improve its business plan. The company must cover huge costs needed to decommission the wrecked Fukushima plant,



The Kashiwazaki-Kariwa nuclear power plant

a decades-long process, and to cover compensation payments for hundreds of thousands of residents who fled their homes due to concerns about radiation leaks from the plant.

TEPCO said in a statement yesterday that it takes the regulatory authority's decision seriously and will continue working on safety improvement at its plants, while tackling the Fukushima plant's decommissioning and compensation for the evacuees.

The authority's decision is also good news for Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's pro-business government, which wants to restart as many reactors as possible to keep nuclear energy a key element of Japan's energy mix. AP

CAMBODIA

Opposition lawmaker flees after arrest warning

Aprominent opposition lawmaker in Cambodia has fled the country, saying yesterday that Prime Minister Hun Sen made direct threats against her and her colleagues and that she no longer felt safe in her own country.

Mu Sochua, who serves as deputy president of the Cambodia National Rescue Party, left Cambodia on Tuesday, a day after Hun Sen warned of strong action against any other politicians who may have been involved in opposition leader Kem Sokha's alleged plot to overthrow the government. Kem Monovithya, the party's deputy chief for public affairs, said on Twitter late Tuesday that Mu Sochua had received a warning from a senior Interior Ministry official that she would be arrested.

Opposition party president Kem Sokha was charged with treason for allegedly conspiring with the United States to topple the government, and could face

up to 30 years in prison if convicted. He was arrested on Sept. 3 on the basis of videos from several years ago showing him at a seminar where he spoke about receiving advice from U.S. pro-democracy groups.

His arrest in the middle of the night came amid a crackdown on the media. Almost half of the 55 opposition lawmakers have fled Cambodia since Kem Sokha's arrest.

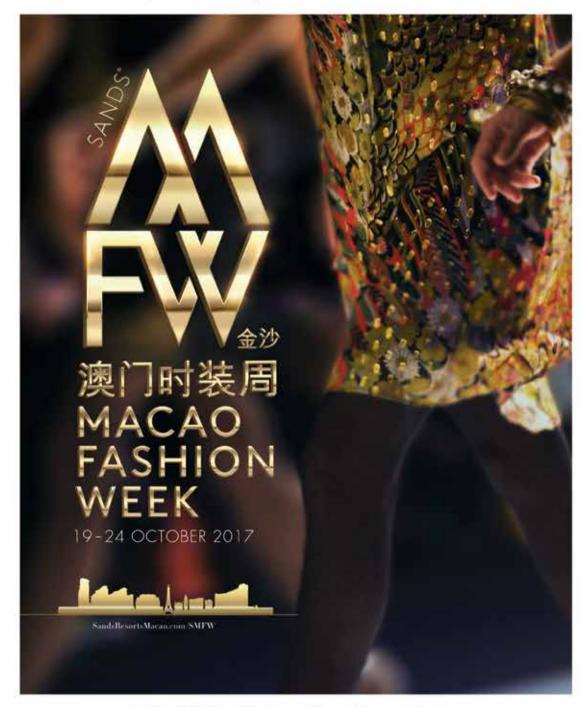
"The situation is very serious and has direct impact on 2018 elections," Mu Sochua said yesterday in a text message to The Associated Press. "I no longer feel safe inside the country. My voice needs to be heard inside and outside. Leaving Cambodia is not a choice, but surviving imminent arrest is necessary."

Kem Sokha had been expected to lead his Cambodia National Rescue Party in next year's election in a strong challenge against Hun Sen, who has held power for three decades. **AP**

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Eileen Ng, Malaysia

A Malaysian judge and court officials wore face masks and surgical gloves in court yesterday as samples were admitted as evidence of where VX nerve agent was found on the body and clothing of the estranged half brother of North Korea's leader.

On the third day of the murder trial of the two women accused of poisoning Kim Jong Nam, government pathologist Mohamad Shah Mahmood said chemist tests detected VX, as well as VX precursors and VX byproducts, in Kim's eye mucus, on his face, in his blood and urine, and on his clothing.

Prosecutors and defense lawyers then took a 20-minute break to examine those samples, which were sealed in transparent plastic bags. Most of them wore gloves and masks as a safety precaution after prosecutors warned the VX-tainted items may still be dangerous.

After the break, Judge Azmi Ariffin also covered himself as the samples were officially admitted as evidence.

The two suspects, Siti Aisyah of Indonesia and Doan Thi Huong of Vietnam, have pleaded not guilty to murder charges that could bring the death penalty if they are convicted. They have not testified but their defense has said the women believed they were playing a harmless prank for a hidden-camera TV show and were tricked by men suspected of being North Korean agents.

Prosecutors also yesterday sought to show VX was the sole cause of death. Mohamad Shah said toxicology tests found six types of drugs in Kim's blood KIM JONG NAM MURDER

Masks and gloves worn in court as VX-tainted evidence shown



Siti Aisyah (center) is escorted by police as she leaves the court house in Shah Alam

that are used to treat diabetes, hypertension and gout. But he said those drugs and those conditions would not have caused Kim's swift death. He also said the autopsy found no sign Kim had a heart attack.

Mohamad Shah said his conclusion that Kim died of "acute VX poisoning" was based on a chemist report of the presence of VX and the swiftness of death. Earlier testimony showed Kim died within two hours of being attacked in a crowded Kuala Lumpur airport terminal, not within 20 minutes as earlier stated by Malaysia's health ministry.

The pathologist said the VX was most likely applied on Kim's face and eyes, where the nerve agent was detected, with the fastest absorption through the eye mucus. "VX is very toxic and it acts fast. There is a very slim chance of survival," he said.

Under cross-examination by defense lawyers, Mohamad Shah admitted he has limited knowledge of VX and nerve agents in general. He said he didn't know the amount of the poison that was used.

Gooi Soon Seng, defense lawyer for Aisyah, told the court that Mohamad Shah has no right to conclude Kim died of acute VX poisoning because the autopsy findings and clinical symptoms merely showed chemical poisoning. But Mohamad Shah said the chemist report clearly showed VX was present.

The judge earlier in the day upheld his ruling to remove sections of the post-mortem report that defense lawyers said were hearsay or unproven.

VX is very toxic and it acts fast. There is a very slim chance of survival.

MOHAMAD SHAH PATHOLOGIST

Prosecutor Wan Shaharuddin Wan Ladin asked for the case history provided by the investigation police officer and clinical history by the airport doctor and a government doctor to be reinstated. He said the information is not hearsay or prejudicial as the policeman and doctors would be called to testify.

Part of the expunged section says that two females swiped Kim's face with a "dangerous fluid" at the airport.

Ariffin told prosecutors they

could seek a revision of his ruling at the end of their case.

Hisyam Teh Poh Teik, the lawyer representing Huong, slammed the "complete Uturn" by prosecutors and said it was unacceptable as the court has ruled already.

On Tuesday, the court heard from doctors who treated Kim. They said he arrived at the airport clinic in pain with very high blood pressure and pulse, his vital signs deteriorated sharply and he was dead on arrival at the hospital. Pathologists testified that Kim's symptoms were consistent with VX exposure and that his internal organs showed damage from VX

The nerve agent is banned by an international treaty as a weapon of mass destruction. But it is believed to be part of North Korea's chemical weapons arsenal. Kim was the eldest son in the current generation of North Korea's dynastic rulers but was believed to have been an outcast who had lived abroad for years. He reportedly never met current leader Kim Jong Un, who is widely believed to have perceived his sibling as a threat and targeted him for assassination.

The trial is being closely watched by the Indonesian and Vietnamese governments, which hired the defense lawyers for both women. AP

MYANMAR

Diplomats who toured Rakhine want access for aid

Agroup of 20 foreign diplomats who visited Myanmar's Rakhine state, where half a million ethnic Rohingya Muslims fled recent violence, have urged the government to allow access by humanitarian groups and by a United Nations fact-finding mission to investigate allegations of human rights violations.

But the president's office spokesman, Zaw Htay, told The Associated Press on Tuesday the government will stick by its earlier decision to bar the U.N. mission. It has said the group, assembled after similar violence last October, is interfering in Myanmar's affairs.

The diplomats, taken Monday on a guided government tour of the affected area, said in a joint statement that there is a dire need for humanitarian aid.

The crisis in Rakhine has drawn international concern because of the exodus of more than 500,000 Rohingya to neighboring Bangladesh in just a month's time. The violence began when the army retaliated for raids on government security posts on Aug. 25 by the Arakan Rohingya Salvation Army, an insurgent group.

Human rights groups charge that the army has abused and killed civilians and burned down thousands of homes. Rohingya are considered by many in Buddhist-dominated Myanmar to have poached land after immigrating illegally from Bangladesh. Advocates for the Rohingya

insist many families have

lived on the land for gene-

rations.

The diplomats' statement condemned the insurgents' initial attacks as well as the violence that followed it.

"We saw villages which had been burned to the ground and emptied of inhabitants. The violence must stop," it said. "The security forces have an obligation to protect all people in Rakhine without discrimination and to take measures to prevent acts of arson."

They also said they encouraged the Myanmar government "to move quickly to enable the voluntary, dignified and safe return to their places of origin of the hundreds of thousands of refugees who have fled to Bangladesh."

"We saw on our visit the dire humanitarian need.



A Rohingya woman holds her child and stands for a photograph at a makeshift camp near Kutupalong refugee camp in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh

We call once more for unimpeded humanitarian access to northern Rakhine and resumption of life-saving services without discrimination throughout the state," they wrote.

Representatives of U.N. agencies were also on Monday's tour.

In a separate letter, the U.N. office in Myanmar

said the visit "was a positive step and such visits, under appropriate conditions, could help in our efforts to explore potential areas where the U.N. could cooperate with the Myanmar authorities in alleviating the dire situation in northern Rakhine."

It expressed concerns similar to those of the diplomats. It said the U.N. delegation "reiterated the need for a greater access for humanitarian and human rights actors to conduct comprehensive assessments of the situation on the ground in order to address the concerns and needs of all communities in affected areas," and called for unfettered media access and for the safe and sustainable return of the refugees to their areas of origin. AP







合伙人 PARTNERS:

官樂怡 Rui José da Cunha。 山度士 Álvaro Rodrigues。 馬天龍 Nuno Sardinha da Mata。 趙鲁 Zhao Lu。・

聯營律師 ASSOCIATES:

馬傑安 Joao N. Marques 高文軒 Adelino Correia® 羅菩齡 Zelina Rodrigues 馬德龍 Nuno da Luz Martirs 白秀蘭 Susana Baralha 杜慧盈 Rita da Costa Andonnho

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黄保毅 Wong Pou Ngai, Karen 杜力信 Nelson de Azevedo 宋哲言 João Gonçalves Assunção

羅桃 Luo Tao, Elina 巴慧雅 Vera Bastos 曹樂蘭 Cao Lemeng Rus

莫永誠 Rui Velez de Moura 安東尼 Antonio Manuel dos Santos

實習律師 TRAINEE LAWYERS:

羅成軒 Jose J. Rodingues 微文像 Miguel Evaristo 王洋玲 Ema Wong 陳祖恩 Joana Chan 额晚蓉 Teresa, Xiaorong Yan 孟民諾 Carlos Mauricio 樂安妮 Ana Leon 康靜雅 Viviana Hong

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BBAM @ St. Regis Breakfast on Thursday 12th October

Guest Speaker: Frances Moffett-Kouadio UK Director of Trade - Department for International Trade and Team for Hong Kong and Macau

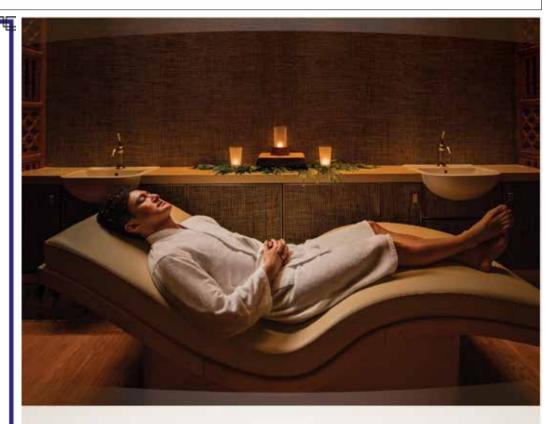
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> Venue: Amber Room I, 5/F, The St. Regis Macao, Cotai 7.45 am: Registration 8 am: Sit-down and breakfast 8.10: Presentation and Q&A session 9 am: Close

Strict No-Show/Late Cancellation policy applies for this event Vegetarian option to be requested <u>before</u> Monday 9th October

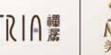
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Las Vegas high-rise shooting scenario a security nightmare

Colleen Long, Tom Hays

A Las Vegas shooter's perch in a 32nd-floor hotel room overlooking 22,000 people jammed into a country music festival below is just the kind of nightmare scenario police dread in places where big crowds and high-rises mix.

From two broken-out windows of the Mandalay Bay Resort, Stephen Craig Paddock had an unobstructed view to rain rapid-fire bullets on the crowd, with few places for them to hide. Survivors of Sunday night's bloodbath that left 59 people dead and more than 500 wounded repeatedly compared it to shooting fish in a barrel.

In places like New York, Chicago and Austin, Texas, where big events are planned in city streets in the coming days, police sought to reassure jittery residents Tuesday of some of the precautions they are taking to prevent just such a scenario.

New York City's police boss says that regularly includes sharpshooters with binoculars on rooftops scanning nearby building windows for potential threats, helicopters circling above with snipers of their own, and detectives making security sweeps of nearby hotels.

But he acknowledged there is



only so much that can be done. "We do understand," said NYPD Commissioner James O'Neill, "that no city or town in this country is completely immune to such unbridled hatred."

Added David Katz, CEO of Global Security Group, which conducts active-shooter training around the world: "The answer only really is, if there's a sniper, there's a counter-sniper."

But "you're not going to be able to deploy police units with sniper capabilities everywhere," Katz said. "There are, at some point, too many things going on, too many opportunities to stop them all. Unfortunately, if someone is intent on doing harm they will find a way to do it."

Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel, whose son will be among the 45,000 runners in the city's annual marathon Sunday, said emergency officials, including federal authorities, have conducted roughly a dozen workshops to talk through various scenarios and Chicago is prepared for "any eventuality."

"People don't just show up on marathon day and decide to run 26 miles. They train all year," Emanuel said. "That's also true of the Chicago police." Despite assurances of a heavy police presence at this weekend's Austin City Limits music festival, expected to draw 75,000 people a day to the city's downtown, organizers were offering refunds to anyone uncomfortable with attending following the Las Vegas shooting.

Perhaps the most stark example of the crowd-building dynamic is in New York, where the city's 36,000-officer department regularly goes on high alert for such events as the New Year's Eve Times Square celebration, the Macy's Thanksgiving Day parade, Monday's Columbus Day parade, even some Yankees games.

For such events, the NYPD puts officers with body armor and high-powered weapons around the perimeter, sharpshooters on nearby rooftops to scan the windows of other buildings for threats, and cops with bullhorns on the streets instructing gawkers in nearby buildings to keep their windows closed.

They also have detectives ramp up security sweeps at hotels, particularly ahead of the holiday season. And the NYPD has a program to train thousands of private businesses and employees, from housekeeping staff to security, on how to spot explosives or tell a golf bag from a gun case.

David C. Kelly, associate managing director K2 Intelligence and the former assistant commissioner for counterterrorism at the NYPD, said the shooting forces private security and law enforcement alike to give more regular events treatment usually reserved for special occasions like a president or a pope's visit.

"It's a big ask, but maybe that's what needs to be done now," Kelly said. "It's forcing law enforcement to look at this in three dimensions, the car in the crowd, the bomb in the backpack, now the assault from the air." AP

TRUMP SAYS IT'S A 'SAD DAY'

PRESIDENT DONALD Trump said it's a "sad day" as he departed the White House to meet with first responders and the victims of the mass shooting in Las Vegas. Trump said authorities are "learning a lot more" about the gunman in the shooting. The president told reporters yester-

day before boarding Marine One that he and first lady Melania Trump will be paying their respects to meeting with police who have done a "fantastic job in a very short time." Trump was expected to arrive in Vegas on Wednesday afternoon (local time, today in Macau).

LAS VEGAS SHOOTING

Gunman's girlfriend returns to US for questioning

THE Las Vegas gunman's girlfriend, back in the United States after a weekslong trip abroad, will be at the center of the investigation into the shooting deaths of 59 people as authorities try to determine why a man with no known record of violence or crime would open fire on a concert crowd from a high-rise hotel.

Stephen Paddock's girl-friend Marilou Danley, 62, who was in the Philippines at the time of the shooting, was met by FBI agents at the airport in Los Angeles late Tuesday night, according to a law enforcement official.

The official wasn't authorized to publicly discuss the matter and spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity.

Sheriff Joseph Lombardo, who has called Danley a "person of interest" in the attack, said that "we anticipate some information from her shortly," and said he is "absolutely" confident authorities will find out what set off Paddock, a 64-year-old high-stakes gambler and retired accountant who killed himself before police stormed his 32nd-floor room.

Danley first arrived in the Philippines on Sept. 15, according to immigration documents there. She departed on Sept. 22 then returned three days later on a flight from Hong Kong. She was traveling on an Australian passport.

Philippines immigration bureau spokeswoman Antonette Mangrobang said authorities there had been working with U.S. officials.

"From the very beginning, we have been providing them necessary information that would aid their investigation," Mangrobang

Danley's Australia-based

sisters say they believe Paddock sent her away so she wouldn't interfere with his plans.

Australia's Channel 7 TV network interviewed the sisters with their faces obscured and their names withheld. They said they believe their sister couldn't have known about his ideas.

The woman said Danley is "a good person" who would've stopped Paddock had she been there.

One of the sisters, who live near Brisbane, Queensland, said they believed Marilou knew Paddock had guns, but not as many as he had.

"She probably was even [more] shocked than us because she is more closer to him than us," her sister said.

Paddock transferred USD100,000 to the Philippines in the days before the shooting, a U.S. official briefed by law enforcement but not authorized to speak publicly because of the continuing investigation told The Associated Press on condition of anonymity.

Investigators are still trying to trace that money and also looking into a least a dozen financial reports over the past several weeks that said Paddock gambled more than \$10,000 per day, the official said.

As for what may have set Paddock off, retired FBI profiler Jim Clemente speculated that there was "some sort of major trigger in his life — a great loss, a breakup, or maybe he just found out he has a terminal disease."

Clemente said a "psychological autopsy" may be necessary to try to establish the motive. If the suicide didn't destroy Paddock's brain, experts may even find a neurological disorder or malformation, he said.

He said there could be a genetic component to the

slaughter: Paddock's father was a bank robber who was on the FBI's most-wanted list in the 1960s and was diagnosed a psychopath.

"The genetics load the gun, personality and psychology aim it, and experiences pull the trigger, typically," Clemente said.

Paddock had a business degree from Cal State Northridge. In the 1970s and '80s, he worked as a mail carrier and an IRS agent and held down a job in an auditing division of the Defense Department, according to the government. He later worked for a defense contractor.

He had no known criminal record, and public records showed no signs of financial troubles.

Nevada's Gaming Control Board said it will pass along records compiled on Paddock and his girlfriend to investigators.

His brother, Eric Paddock,



Marilou Danley

said he was at a loss to explain the massacre.

"No affiliation, no religion, no politics. He never cared about any of that stuff," he said outside his Florida home.

Eric Paddock said his brother did show a confrontational side at times: He apparently hated cigarette smoke so much that he carried around a cigar and blew smoke in people's faces when they lit up around him. **AP**





MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

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	13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
	15:00	Miscelalneous
	16:10	Zig Zag
	17:30	Bears
	18:50	Brazilian Mini Serie (Repeated)
	19:15	Non-daily Portuguese News (Repeated)
	19:50	Soap Opera
	20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
	21:00	TDM Talk Show
	21:35	Non-daily Portuguese News
	21:40	Yes, Chef!
	22:10	Brazilian Mini Serie
	22:40	Documentary Serie
	23:00	TDM News
	23:30	Miscellaneous
	00:20	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)
	00:55	RTPi Live

FRIDAY

	•
13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
15:00	Miscelalneous
16:15	Zig Zag
17:50	Miscellaneous
18:50	Brazilian Mini Serie (Repeated)
19:10	TDM Talk Show (Repeated)
19:45	Non-daily Portuguese News (Repeated)
19:50	Soap Opera
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:20	Portuguese Serie
22:10	Brazilian Mini Serie
22:40	Documentary Serie
23:00	TDM News
23:30	FIFA World Championship 2018 - Qualifications Highlights
01:20	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)
02:10	RTPi Live

SATURDAY

	10:30	Comedy
	11:45	Miscellaneous
	12:00	Miscellaneous
	12:30	Miscellaneous
	13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
	13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast (PT)
	14:50	Soap Opera (PT)
	17:20	Miscellaneous
	18:15	Miscellaneous
	19:10	FIFA World Championship 2018 - Qualifications Highlights
	20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (PT)
	21:00	Drama (PT)
	21:50	Miscellaneous
	22:40	Documentary Serie
	23:00	TDM News
	23:30	FIFA World Championship 2018 - Qualifications Highlights
	00:55	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)
	01:30	RTPi Live
	02:45	FIFA World Championship 2018: Andorra x Portugal
	04:45	RTPi Live

Uttbeat

MAN ADMITS SNEAKING SNAKES OVER **BORDER IN SOCKS**

A man who was caught trying to sneak snakes into Canada in his socks has pleaded guilty.

Federal prosecutors in Buffalo say 28-year-old Chaoyi Le faces up to five years in prison after pleading guilty Tuesday to violating wildlife regulations.

He was arrested in 2014 at the Lewiston-Queenston Bridge in western New York after Canadian border agents discovered three live albino western hognose snakes hidden in his socks. At first, Le said he'd found them in a New York park, but eventually admitted buying them.

Authorities say Le, a Chinese citizen who lives in Mississauga, Ontario, was trying to avoid a U.S. Fish and Wildlife inspection. Court documents say that on the same day, Le also mailed several snakes from New York to China.

Sentencing is set for Oct. 30.

It was not known if he had an attorney.

cinema

CINETEATRO

05 Ост - 11 Ост



THE MOUNTAIN BETWEEN US

ROOM 1 2:30, 4:30, 7:30, 9:30 pm Director: HanyAbu-Assad Starring: Kate Winslet, Idris Elba Language: English (Chinese) **Duration: 103 min**



BLADE RUNNER 2049

ROOM 2 2:30, 6:15, 9:15 pm Director: Denis Villeneuve Starring: Ryan Gosling, Harrison Ford, Jared Leto Language: English (Chinese) **Duration: 163min**



THE LEGO NINJAGO MOVIE

поом 3 2:15, 4:30, 7:30 pm **Director: Charlie Bean**

Starring: Jackie Chan, Dave Franco, Fred Armisen

Language: Chinese **Duration: 101 min**

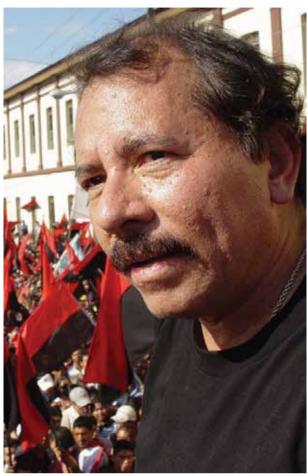


FIREWORKS, SHOULD WE SEE IT FROM

THE SIDE OR THE BOTTOM

гоом 3 7:45, 9:30 pm **Director: Akiuki Shimbo** Starring: Suzu Hirose, Masaki Suga, Mamoru Miyano Language: Japanese (Chinese & English) **Duration: 90min**

this day in history



Daniel Ortega

1984: Sandinistas claim **ELECTION VICTORY**

Nicaragua's ruling Sandinista Front (FSLN) has claimed a decisive victory in the country's first elections since the revolution five years ago.

Within hours of the count beginning, the leader of the country's left-wing junta, Daniel Ortega, said he had gained nearly 70 percent of the vote in the presidential election.

Mr Ortega said his party won a similar share of the vote in the parliamentary election. Mr Ortega said: "We can already say that the FSLN is the clear winner of these elections by an ample majority."

The Sandinistas' nearest rivals have so far polled just 11 percent of the vote but Nicaragua's leading right-wing parties boycotted the ballots.

Turnout was high with an estimated 83% of the country's 1.5 million-strong electorate casting a vote.

The Sandinistas have been at pains to convince the outside world, especially the US, that the elections were free and fair. Approximately 400 independent foreign observers, including a number of Americans, were in Nicaragua to monitor proceedings.

The unofficial British election observer, Lord Chitnis, said proceedings were not perfect but he had no doubt the elections were fair.

In 1979 the Sandinistas - named after an assassinated former leader of Nicaragua - ousted long-time dictator Anastasio Somoza.

The Sandinistas have been at odds with the US ever since, especially since the superpower began assisting the party's main opponents, the Contras.

The Contras, based in neighboring Honduras, are engaged in a guerrilla war aimed at ousting the Sandinista Front.

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

In spite of the Sandinista victory being declared fair the United States continued to oppose the left-wing Nicaraguan government. It increased its military activity in the region prompting fears in Nicaragua of an invasion.

Eventually the US backed off but, unhappy at Nicaragua's ties with the Soviet Union, continued to fund the anti-Sandinista rebels, the

However, during 1987-1988 the Nicaraguan leadership held talks and signed a peace agreement with the Contras.

During elections in 1990 a US-backed centre-right National Opposition Union defeated the Sandinistas, ending their decade-long spell



Aries

Mar. 21-Apr. 19

Try to warn any innocent bystanders against using that word in that particular tone now. It may not work, but it will make reconciling with your conscience tomorrow a lot easier.



Gemini

May 21-Jun. 21

You've never understood it when your people refuse to try new things. Even if you give something a shot and it doesn't work out, you still feel that it's still better than being bored.



Leo

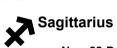
Jul. 23-Aug. 22

You're already charming enough to require supervision under certain circumstances, and you're even more irresistible when you set your mind on something - or someone.



Sep.23-Oct. 22

extreme? It sure could - and you're are you? You've been feeling the need to break out of a rut for some



something to say. Thanks to the rather startling array of energies the universe has directed your way. you are ready, willing and able to



Jan. 20-Feb. 18

You've never been much good at taking orders unless they're life-or-death. That goes double for your calendar, which means you often forget birthdays or deliberately ignore some holidays.



Taurus

April 20-May 20

Nothing pushes your buttons faster than seeing your carefully laid plans derailed. Things might feel frustrating today because the universe has arranged for plenty of unexpected events to appear on today's agenda.



Cancer

Jun. 22-Jul. 22

That certain someone you've been spending a lot of your time with lately seems to be interested in a lot more than just being friends, and you're not arguing. You've definitely had your share of up and down relationships.



Virgo

Aug. 23-Sept. 22

Your dependable nature makes you a big fan of routine and regularity. Unfortunately, you won't be able to count on that - or much of anything else, for that

Scorpio

Oct. 23 - Nov. 21



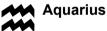
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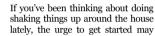
Will your behavior be that not really surprised to hear that, suddenly become impossible to resist. Before you tear down a wall, you may want to consider a few things.



Nov. 22-Dec. 21

No one is surprised that you've got





Capricorn

Dec. 22-Jan. 19 When you are out shopping or wandering today, the more unusual your find, the more you'll

absolutely have to call it your own. That goes particularly for arts and



Pisces

Feb.19-Mar. 20

Unfortunately, you're duty-bound at the moment, and they may be too. Until that changes, hang out, make plans and bide your time. You can do it, but you'll certainly have your work cut out for you.



WHY, THANKS, W.G.! I MUST & NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT, ADMIT, I DON'T EVEN I THINK I WAS MISTAKEN-REMEMBER LOANING I'LL TAKE THAT TWENTY BACK! IT TO YOU,

SUDOKU

Easy

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

1

Medium

3

7 5

3

7

6

6

3

8

8

1

8 2

2

3

Easy+ 2 3

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

Hard

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

WEATHER

	MIN	MAX	CONDITION
CHINA -			
Beijing	10	21	clear/cloudy
Harbin	5	20	clear
Tianjin	13	23	clear/cloudy
Urumqi	5	10	drizzle
Xi'an	11	19	overcast/cloudy
Lhasa	8	23	cloudy
Chengdu	14	19	drizzle/overcast
Chongqing	17	21	moderate rain/overcast
Kunming	16	25	shower
Nanjing	15	17	shower/drizzle
Shanghai	18	22	drizzle
Wuhan	13	16	drizzle
Hangzhou	18	23	overcast
Taipei	26	32	drizzle/cloudy
Guangzhou	26	33	cloudy/thundershower
Hong Kong	25	29	cloudy

WORLD

Moscow	6	11	drizzle
Frankfurt	9	15	overcast/drizzle
Paris	8	16	cloudy/overcast
London	10	15	cloudy/drizzle
New York	18	24	clear

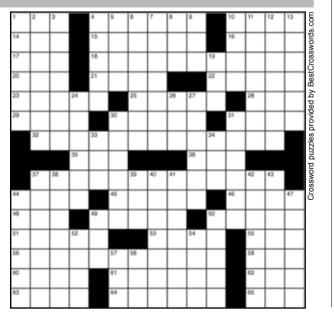
CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- Actress Alicia; 4- Grasshopper; 10- Confess; 14- Craggy hill; 15- Go by; 16- Cod, Good Hope, or Canaveral, e.g.; 17- Ben-__; 18- Checkered; 20- Sister of Zsa Zsa; 21- Suffragist Carrie; 22- Rubber gasket; 23- Sound of a horse; 25- Sri __; 28- Ltd., in Paris; 29- Long tale; 30- Kentucky college; 31- McNally's partner; 32- Comprehension; 35- Juliette Low's org.; 36- Mayday!; 37- Sudden haste; 44- Champagne name; 45- Peter and Franco; 46- Tenn. neighbor; 48- Nothing but; 49-ReykjavÄk coin; 50- Playing marble; 51- ___-foot oil; 53- Bit; 55- Flee; 56- Unsuitableness; 59- Anger; 60- Actress Bonet; 61- Matters; 62- Slangy negative; 63- ___-deucey; 64- Native drum; 65- Capp and Capone;

DOWN: 1- Capital of Greece; 2- Recently created; 3- Censure; 4- Lewd one; 5- Olive genus; 6- Fortresses; 7- Arriviste; 8- U-turn from NNW; 9- Aviv

preceder; 10- Rent-__; 11- Residence of the popes; 12- Employment of the popes; 12- Employment vacancy; 13- Tightly packed; 19-Mauna ___; 24- Doohickey; 26- PBS supporter; 27- Topeka's state; 30-Intellectual; 31- Ascending; 33panic button; 34- Morse Controversial; 38- Fall back; Pay-___-view; 40- Precious metallic element; 41- Deluge; 42- Musical wind instrument; 43- Chemical-free; Capital of the Philippines; 47-Continues a subscription; 49- "___ Beso" (1962 hit); 50- Bottomless gulf; 52- Cafeteria carrier; 54- Sock me!; 57- Agt.'s take; 58- Outback





USEFUL 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

Telephone - Report 1000

Water Supply - Report 2822 0088

Taxi 28 939 939 / 2828 3283

Electricity - Report 28 339 922 Macau Daily Times 28 716 081

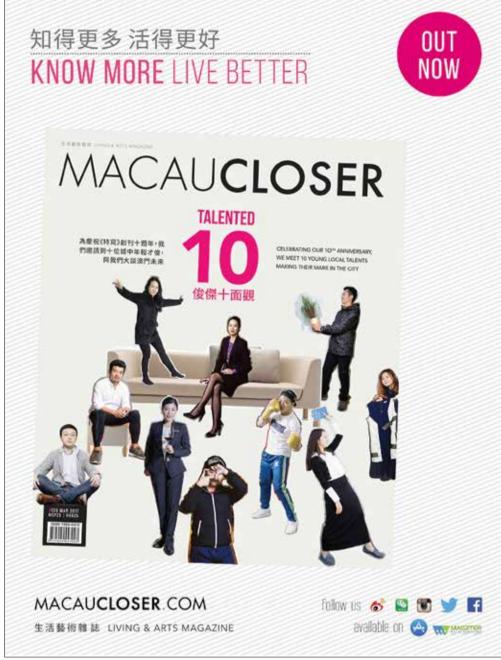


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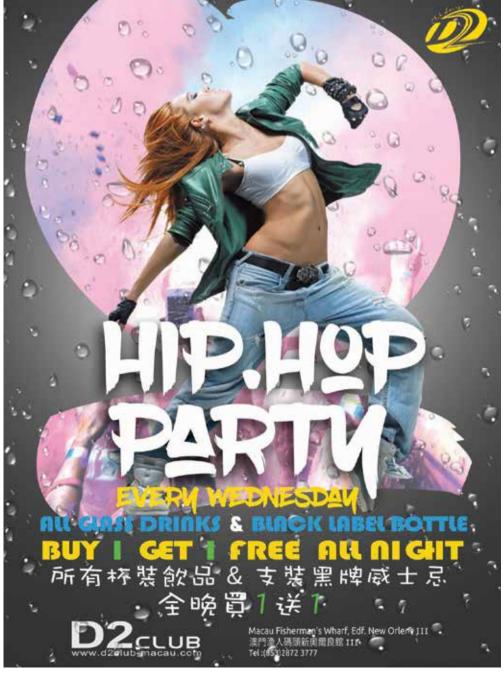
- Find the right property for you
- See property location and details
- Find your JML contact and request viewing

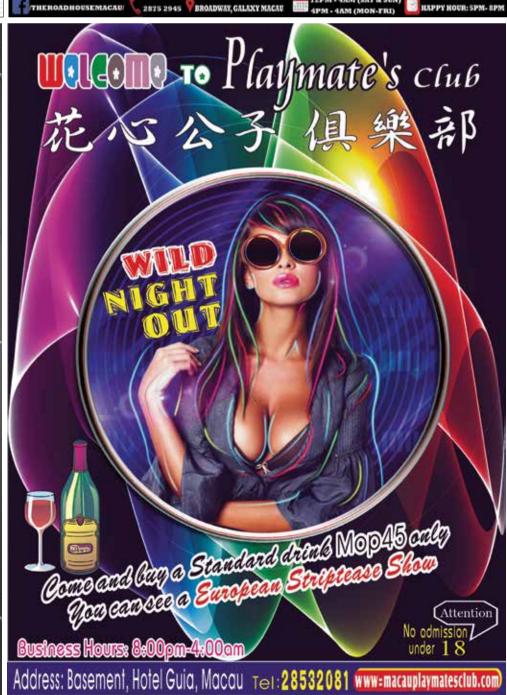












FOOTBALL

Catalonia independence dispute reaches Spain's national team

Tales Azzoni, Madrid

HE divisive dispute over Catalonia's push for independence has spilled into Spain's national team. "La Roja" has been unable to sidestep the nation's most serious crisis in decades. The team now faces two decisive World Cup qualifiers while engulfed by unwanted talks about politics.

At the center of it all is veteran defender Gerard Pique, the outspoken Barcelona player who has strongly defended the Catalans.

His harsh criticism of Spanish authorities following the region's disputed independence referendum on Sunday polarized fans and attracted some unwanted attention to the national team.

He was harassed by fans at Spain's training camp in Madrid on Monday, disrupting the national team's first practice session ahead of the match against Albania on Friday. The incident made front-page headlines in nearly all sports dailies, along with headlines such as "Unbearable Situation."

"It's difficult because nobody likes when people are against you," Pique said Wednesday. "I'm here to try to put this situation in the past. Regardless of what I think, with respect and common sense, I think that we can reach common ground."

The defender said he wanted to talk publicly because he felt his teammates were tired of this "unpleasant" situation.

No matter how much Spain coach Julen Lopetegui and the other players have tried to avoid the subject, it keeps coming back.

"It's a pity because we came here to play football, and we haven't been able to talk about Albania or Israel," Spain midfielder Thiago Alcantara said. "We have to dedicate ourselves only to playing football. We are not here to give our personal opinion on political debates. We are here to talk about the national team and to do our best to help the national team make it to the World Cup, which is something very important to us."

Spain can close in a World Cup berth with a victory against Albania in the southeastern city of Alicante, where Pique will certainly be loudly jeered by the Spanish fans. He is often booed by crowds when Spain plays outside of Catalonia, and this time it should happen even more intensely because of the recent incidents.

Lopetegui made a plea to the "great fans" of Alicante, asking them to focus on supporting the team and not on jeering Pique.

"To me, there is nothing more important this week than this game against Albania," Lopetegui told local radio stadium COPE.



Veteran defender Gerard Pique

I dor

I don't want to leave through the back door. This is my family and I want to keep playing here.

GERARD PIQUE

"I don't agree with those who use football to protest, because sport is meant to unify. I hope that we find a good atmosphere in Alicante. We all have an obligation to generate a good atmosphere."

Pique, who was in tears when he

criticized police brutally against Catalans trying to vote on Sunday, said at the time that he would have no problem stepping aside from the national team if the coach or the Spanish federation saw him as a nuisance.

"I don't want to leave through the back door," Pique said at news conference yesterday, admitting that he did consider leaving. "This is my family and I want to keep playing here."

Lopetegui had praised Pique's commitment, saying his "behavior with the national team has always been very good" and there was no reason not to have him on the squad. But he also sent a clear message that the entire team had to be focused only on football despite the crisis involving Catalonia's disputed bid for independence.

"We are football players and coaches, we have to be focused on our main goal, which is to qualify for the World Cup," Lopetegui said. "We can't get distracted by anything. I know that this is an unpleasant situation, but I ask for some reasoning and tranquility so we can all play a great match against Albania."

Authorities said more than 890 civilians and about 430 members of the police force were injured across the autonomous northeastern region during Sunday's referendum, which the Spanish government said was unconstitutional.

On Tuesday, Lopetegui had a long chat with all the players before the team's practice, which was closed to the fans. Wednesday's session was also closed.

It remains largely unclear what would happen to Pique's future if Catalonia went ahead with its intention to declare independence unilaterally. A Catalonia national team has played in occasional friendly matches, including against powerhouses Argentina and Brazil. At one point it was coached by the late Dutch great Johan Cruyff.

Pique said that he didn't see a problem with a separatist, which he said was not his case, to keep playing for the Spanish national team.

Other Catalans in the national team include Sergio Busquets and Jordi Alba.

"It's been a difficult week in every way," Busquets told the local Cadena SER radio station. "We try to do everything as normally as possible, but it's obvious that we are aware of what has been happening around us. It's obvious that it gets to us." AP

Syria preparing for World Cup playoff against Australia

TORN apart by war, Syria's national soccer team is coming together for a spot at next year's World Cup.

The Syrians have never before qualified for a World Cup, but they will face Australia in a two-leg playoff starting this week. If the Syrians prevail, they will have to win another two-leg playoff against a team from North America - possibly the United States - to qualify for the World Cup in Russia.

Unable to play on home soil because of the conflict, the Syrians will "host" Australia in Malacca, Malaysia, today in the first leg of the Asian playoff. The second leg is set for Tuesday in Sydney.

Just as the nation has been riven by war and either support or opposition to Syrian President Bashar Assad, the national team has also been split. Some



Syria's national football team celebrates at the conclusion of their match with Iran, which drew 2-2

players skipped important qualifiers until recently, but things seem to be getting better.

Firas Al Khatib had been absent from the team until earlier this year when he returned along with Omar al-Soma. Neither player has given their reasons as to why their exile ended except to say it's related to sports rather than politics.

"The important thing is that the team is determined to try and qualify for the World Cup," Syria striker Omar Khribin told The Associated Press. "We have played against some very strong teams so far such as South Korea, Iran and Uzbekistan. We competed well against them and proved that we are also a strong team."

Syria was regarded as a long shot at the start of the third round of qualification, and only two goals from the first seven games seemed to confirm that perception.

But after starting out as hard to beat and defensive, the Syrian team became more attacking. The return of al-Soma and Al Khatib made a difference, giving Syria one of the most dangerous forward lines in Asia. Together, they have scored seven goals in the final three games.

Two of those goals came in the make-or-break last game against Group A winner Iran in Tehran, where al-Soma scored deep in injury time to secure a 2-2 draw against a lineup that hadn't conceded any goals in the previous nine games in qualification.

That result was enough to secure the match against Australia, which finished behind Saudi Arabia on goal difference.

Players, with "Syria" rather than names emblazoned across the back of their red jerseys, sank to their knees on the turf in Tehran to celebrate.

"We have worked so hard

in qualification for the World Cup," Khribin said. "The spirit in the team is very good. We know that we still have work to do, but we are ready for whatever happens."

In Syria, thousands of dancing fans filtered onto the streets of Damascus chanting "Syria" and waving the country's flags.

But while Syrians were delighted to reach the playoff stage, Australia wasn't. The Asian Cup champions have qualified for the last three World Cups and coach Ange Postecoglou has come under heavy criticism for not ensuring an automatic spot in Russia despite only one loss in the qualifying campaign.

"I have not lost [faith] in what I do," Postecoglou said as he prepared this week to face Syria, which is unbeaten in five "home" games in Malaysia. "We watched all their qualifying games. We know what they bring to it.

"It's match play against an opponent over two games knowing that it's do-or-die scenario. They managed to score goals late in games to get themselves results and obviously they are hard to break down."

Syria midfielder Mohammed Zaher Midani was quoted as saying on the Asian Football Confederation's website that his team would have the ingredients to beat the higher-profile Socceroos.

"Australia may have many prominent players who are known for their individual talents, but we have the enormous potential that comes from performing as a group, as well as the individual skills of our players," Midani said. "And we have a huge motivation — which is to make the Syrian people happy." **AP**

■ MacauDaily 澳門每日時報®

opinion

Girl About Globe

Linda Kennedy



PERILS OF THE ORIENT FOR THE TRUMPS

The Trumps are coming to Asia next month. What a significant trip this could turn out to be.

Let's look at the issues raised by their itinerary, in no particular order. China. Here's a thing that might sell communism to the world: the US President can't tweet. Twitter is blocked. So @ realDonaldTrump won't be able to post a photo at the Great Wall boasting 'ours will be bigger'.

Other concerns: will he dye his hair black like a leader in China?

Will he refuse to drink multiple toasts at banquets? (Hint, Donald: this could offend your Chinese host).

Meantime, Melania might feel at home amongst mainlanders - finally, people wearing more logos and sequins than her and hubbie! She may even feel feted: some Chinese girls will inevitably take the English name FLOTUS.

The Philippines. Mrs Trump will carry on Air Force One a shoe collection that will rid the nation of the long-lasting stigma of Imelda Marcos. A hashtaq will emerge

#MelaniaHasMoreThanImelda

On arrival, expect a tweet from @realDonald Trump

Presidential motorcade stuck in BIG traffic jam. And a tweet from (real) FLOTUS:

I am in Melania! Oh, it's Manila. Can't see with these new aviator shades from Ladies Street in Beijing, which they renamed First Ladies Street when Peng Liyuan and I went! Need them just in case there's a flood somewhere. It's rainy season in Asia, right? Is this under 280 characters?

Melania should be popular among Filipinas, with their love of big glamour. Will she dress like a Filipina on a night out? Platforms with heels taller than Trump Tower and and hot pants. She got togged up in what seemed like a costume in the Vatican. This is another highly Catholic place with its own unique dressing style.

Humidity, though, will be factor for both the Trumps. It's oppressive in the Philippines, guaranteed to result in crinkly wide hair, and probably one reason why they don't have a separate Hong Kong stop on the tour. (You have to wonder where else they tried to squeeze in. Trump surely pushed for a side trip to Macau, to check out the rival casinos, but visiting either special administrative region and therefore giving it status, would likely offend his Chinese host in Beijing far more than rebuffing a Chinese Pinot Noir.)

Vietnam. Hair relief. Wearing one of the elegant conical leaf hats will disguise the head mushroom created by Manila's weather.

Japan. It was always going to be on the itinerary. Showing support. Sushi diplomacy.

South Korea. For Melania, a little plastic surgery while Donald is speaking to the South Korean president? There must be something left to do and it would be a nice touch from America to help boost South Korean trade. Chinese women will head there and 'get a Melania'.

And style-wise, will she wear Korean fashion? It's the Italy of Asia, except for the cut and the

As for Donald, well, South Korea is Asia's skincare and cosmetic hub. Will he be persuaded to try skin whitening products when he is there?

And South Korea is where Donald must address the issue everyone seems to think is the main one. North Korea. Here's hoping the humidity of the South Asian region will by then have suggested new non-nuclear solutions to the pro-

@realDonaldTrump tweet:

My hair is BIG. BAD. It's given me an idea about Kim Jong Un. We won't assassinate him. He's a hair guy. We will just SEND HIM HUMIDITY.

@realDonaldTrump tweet

Forget what I said about fire and fury. We will give him FRIZZ like the world has never seen.

NEW YORK RESIDENTS SEEK TO CO-NAME STREET AFTER JIMI HENDRIX

Some New York City residents are petitioning to have a street in the Greenwich Village neighborhood named in honor of musician Jimi Hen-

Organizers of the petition are seeking to co-name West Eighth Street as "Jimi Hendrix Way." The New York Times reported the organizers say they believe the co-naming also would attract visitors to an area fighting gentrification.

Richard Geist, a local store owner, says the block has "lost the magic and we want to bring that magic back."

Hendrix opened Electric Lady Studios on the block just before his death

To co-name a street, petitioners would have to make a proposal to the local community board before it could be proposed to the full New York City Council for a vote.



WORLD BRIEFS

Station

Roadside

High

Area

Density

Residental

Ambient

Air quality

30-50

Good

30-50

Good

30-50

Good



KURDISTAN With Turkey's president by his side, Iranian President Hassan Rouhani pledged yesterday that they would ensure borders in the region remain unchanged after the recent Kurdish independence referendum in Iraq.

TURKEY A court in southwestern Turkey sentenced 40 people to life in prison yesterday, convicting them of charges that during last year's failed coup.



RUSSIA-VENEZUELA

Russian President Vladimir Putin has hosted Venezuelan **President Nicolas** Maduro, hailing him for reaching out to the opposition. Speaking at the start of their Kremlin talks, Putin noted that "Venezuela is going through uneasy times" and credited Maduro with "succeeding in establishing some contact" with opposition forces.



US-CUBA The United States expelled 15 of Cuba's diplomats Tuesday to protest its failure to protect Americans from unexplained attacks in Havana, plunging diplomatic ties between the countries to levels unseen in years.

HOLIDAY TIMES

Macau Daily Times will not be published during the holiday. The Times will be back on the stands on Monday October 9. However the MDT website will be updated with breaking news during the recess period. We wish our readers, advertisers and friends the best of times.

Jackie Chan feels 'useless' in wake of Vegas attack

Nicole Evatt, Los Angeles

TACKIE Chan wishes he U could have used his iconic, on-screen martial arts skills to help those hurt at Sunday's mass shooting in Las Vegas.

"A lot of young kids say 'Jackie, you're a superhero. You're hero.' I really want to be any superhero (so) I can fly around the world, save the people, beat up the bad people, put them in the jail. But sometimes I watch this, I'm just useless. Only thing I can do is pray, pray for them," Chan said in an interview Tuesday.

The rampage by Stephen Paddock killed at least 59 people and injured 527 others at the Route 91 Harvest Festival.

Chan does get the chance to battle terrorists in his new action-thriller "The Foreigner," opening Oct. 13. The actor takes a dramatic turn as a grief-stricken father hunting a rogue IRA cell responsible for an explosion that killed his daughter.

"I hope through the movie (to) tell the people stop this kind of violent things," Chan said. "It's a good message to tell, stop these kind of terror things, stop the bombing, stop hurting innocent peo-



Other films canceled and scaled back promotion in the wake of the attack in Las Vegas — something Chan thought long and hard about.

"Yes, it is challenging," he said of continuing the film's promotional tour, which includes Thursday's Los Angeles premiere. "Asked what should I do? Should we change? Should we cancel? And you know I'm really a foreigner in another country. I don't know what to do. You know, what should I say? Anything I can (do to) help?"

At 63, the Hong Kong star is hoping to prove he can do more than martial arts.

"I want to be a true actor. I

don't want audiences to keep thinking I'm an action star. One day I'm getting old, I cannot fight anymore. I want to be a Robert De Niro. I want to be a Clint Eastwood," he explained. "They are true actors, but they can fight!"

Chan says a romantic lead in a musical would be a dream gig.

"I'd love to do it! I want to be something special. I want to be in a musical action comedy movie. You know fighting with singing, dancing," Chan said. "Of course if a director hire me to do some kind of 'La La Land' and 'Sound of Music,' I'd love to do it. I really do try everything, anything." AP

times square by rodrigo

