



'MANY GENRES ARE BANNED IN THE MAINLAND'
Interview with Thomas Lim, a Singaporean-Chinese filmmaker, who lives in LA and holds a special affinity for Macau

P2



CHEF DUCASSE TO OPEN TWO RESTAURANTS
One of the world's most decorated chefs will open two new restaurants and a bar at the upcoming Morpheus Hotel

P6



HOTEL EMPLOYEES EARN SLIGHTLY MORE
The average earnings of full-time hotel employees rose by 2.3 percent to MOP17,200

P7

THU.30
Nov 2017

T. 18°/ 27° C
H. 60/ 95%

facebook.com/mdtimes
+ 11,000

MOP 7.50
HKD 9.50



MacauDaily 澳門每日時報® Times

FOUNDER & PUBLISHER Kowie Geldenhuys EDITOR-IN-CHIEF Paulo Coutinho

www.macaudailytimes.com.mo

Breakthrough boundaries
China · City Link (HK & Macau)
Monthly Rental
\$198 / 3GB
+\$38 for sharing data in Greater China
CTM

"THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN' "

WORLD BRIEFS



THAILAND The military government says it is fighting a new threat to public health: distorted news reports. The country's health ministry announced it is launching a new smartphone application that will allow users to flag media content they find "inappropriate" so it can be forwarded to government authorities.

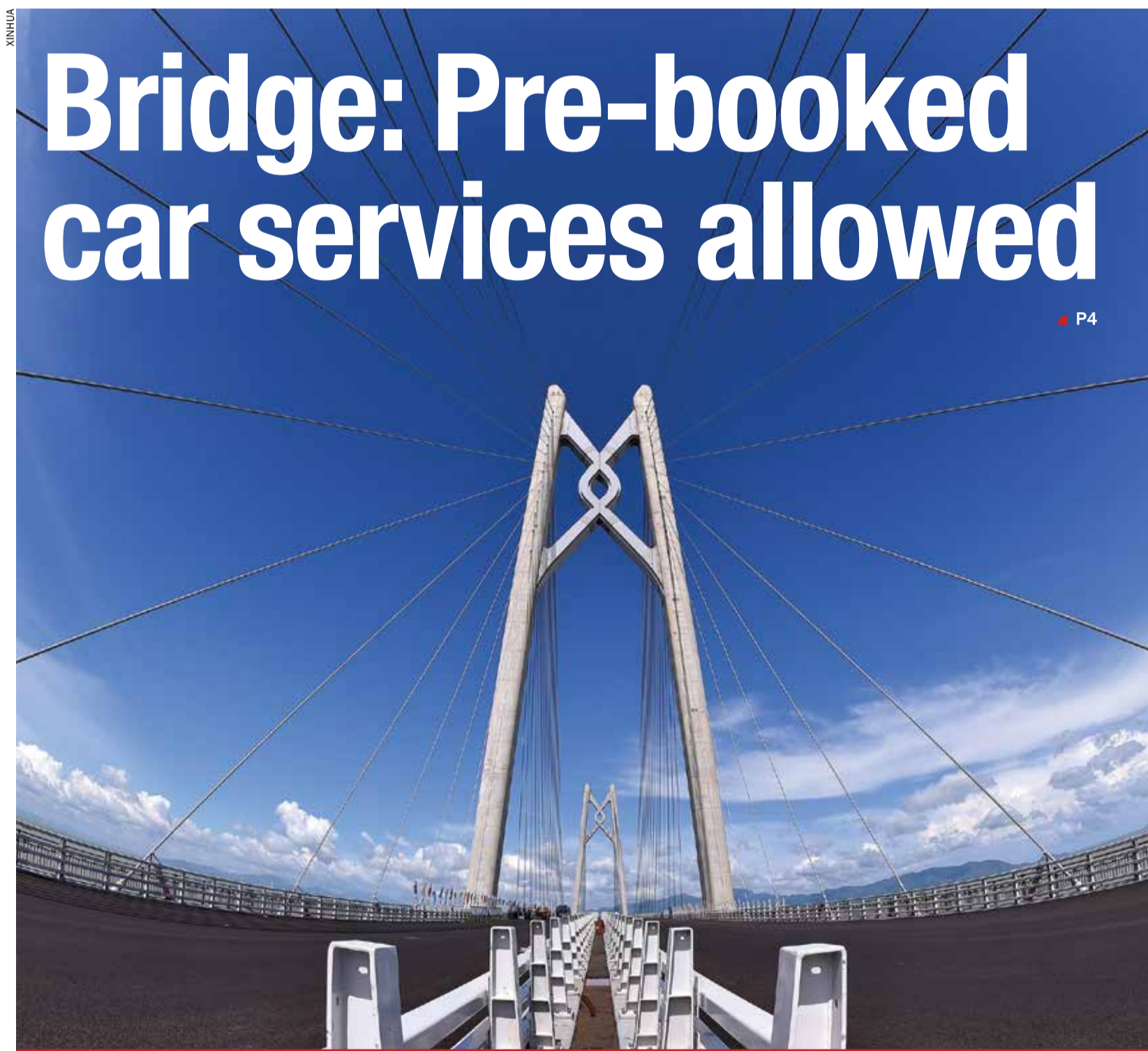
INDONESIA The airport on the Indonesian resort island of Bali reopened yesterday after an erupting volcano forced its closure two days ago, but the country's president said the danger had still not passed.



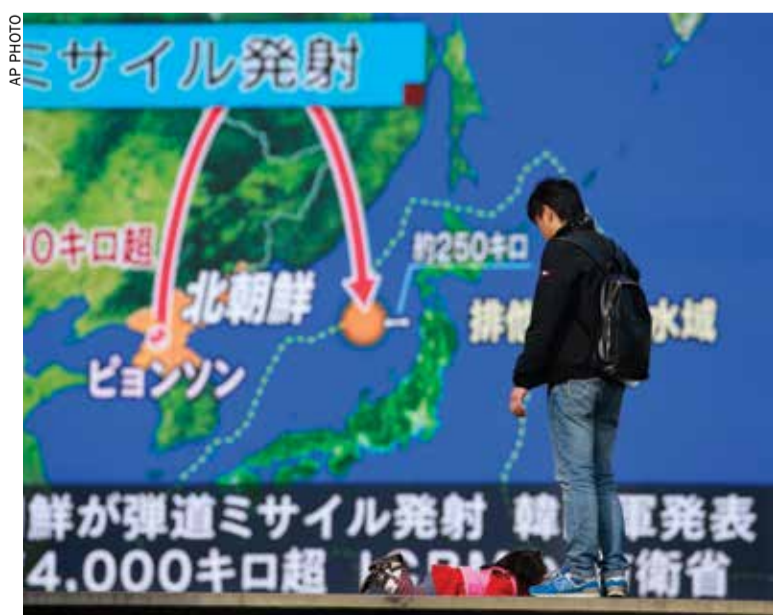
MYANMAR At an open-air Mass, an audience with Myanmar's senior Buddhist monks and during an encounter with his own Catholic bishops, Pope Francis sought to encourage greater dialogue and understanding at a delicate time of transition in the predominantly Buddhist South Asian nation.

SAUDI ARABIA British Prime Minister Theresa May is visiting Saudi Arabia for talks with its assertive crown prince over the kingdom-led war in Yemen, the second European leader to specifically seek him out as he amasses power.

More on backpage



P4



North Korea test-fires missile that could put entire US in range

P12

Q&A THOMAS LIM
FILMMAKER

‘Chinese audiences are getting tired of Hollywood placation’

Daniel Beitler

THOMAS Lim, a Singaporean-Chinese filmmaker, who currently lives in Los Angeles, holds a special affinity for Macau. After producing two Macau-based films, Lim has found some popularity in Japan.

His expectations are high for his latest film, *Sea of Mirrors*, the story of a fictional, former Japanese actress who travels to Macau on the invitation of a mysterious and malevolent investor. Lim told the Times he is currently striving toward a 2018 Macau premiere for the film.

The filmmaker is also working as a consultant for U.S. and Chinese film companies, advising on whether script proposals are suitable for each respective market. Lim sat down with the Times to talk about the growing trends in U.S-China film exchange.

Macau Daily Times (MDT) - Hollywood's placation of Chinese audiences has seemingly become the new normal in its China charm offensive. In 2017 several films produced in the US and released in China flopped - in your opinion, is it working or backfiring?

Thomas Lim (TL) - Hollywood has been chasing China and its enormous market for over ten years now,



and I'd say they have been rather successful on the business side of things, but not so much when it comes to content.

Content-wise, many Chinese audiences have watched blockbuster American films for decades, [...] but] reports say Chinese audiences are getting tired of these movies. Too many of them are made with

subpar story lines - and worse - some throw in a small cameo role starring a major Chinese superstar actor or actress with only three scenes and two lines. Chinese audiences are not pleased about the condescension inherent in the repetition of this formula.

MDT - Why is it so dif-

icult to make films that Chinese and American audiences both want to watch?

TL - The hard part is creating content that resonates with both sides of the Pacific. Many have tried, but so far, no one has actually been successful.

Language is one of the prominent obstacles when it comes to merging content for US-China co-productions. American audiences will not watch anything subtitled. They did it for a film like *"Crouching Tiger Hidden Dragon"* - but that film is the exception across the past 20 years, it is not representative. So, when the dialogue of a film isn't 80 percent English, it loses all of the American market. It also doesn't help that the Chinese and American cultures are vastly different and the parts that do overlap are far from mainstream topics. This is the biggest reason why no one has actually succeeded in creating content that speaks to both American and Chinese audiences.

MDT - Is this new directive affecting the content of new film productions?

TL - Yes, Hollywood has never compromised so much of its content to a foreign market as it is doing for China now. The *Monkey King* is China's most popular superhero and very few Americans are familiar with the character. He is

therefore used in countless screenplays and sometimes helps me expose a writer who is trying too hard to be "Chinese savvy" in the first couple of minutes of reading their screenplay. It is also fair to say we might never see another Chinese villain in a Hollywood movie ever again! One good example is in the 2012 movie *"Red Dawn."* The producers censored the film before sending it off to China, knowing the film would not make it past [government] censors for its army of antagonistic Chinese soldiers. So, during post-production, they digitally altered every Chinese soldier to make them [look] North Korean to stay on the good side of China.

It's not just censorship; many genres are also banned in cinemas in the mainland.

MDT - Do you then expect foreign film censorship and import quotas to be relaxed in the future?

TL - I expect the number of foreign films will be allowed to increase, but my personal opinion is that the censorship laws aren't going to loosen. But it's not just censorship; many genres are also banned in cinemas in the mainland. For example, supernatural horror, zombie, vampire, gangster, and the chief police officer masterminding evil deeds - all banned. Yet these were the genres that propelled Hong Kong into becoming the "Hollywood of the East" in the 80s and 90s.

SCIENCE

UM develops fast, accurate method to detect parasites

A research team from the University of Macau (UM) has developed a fast, accurate, and convenient detection method for life-threatening parasite infection, the UM announced yesterday after the research

was published in *Scientific Reports* under the Nature Publishing Group.

The research paper is titled "A Digital Microfluidic System for Loop-Mediated Isothermal Amplification and Se-

quence Specific Pathogen Detection." The study was conducted by a multidisciplinary microfluidics research team from UM's State-Key Laboratory of Analog and Mixed-Signal VLSI (Very Large Scale Inte-

gration) in collaboration with the Faculty of Health Sciences.

This method uses isothermal DNA amplification together with specific DNA Molecular Beacon probe on a digital microfluidic chip

to detect life-threatening parasite infection. In addition to obtaining fast results in 40 minutes, this method can also lower the reaction volume to one-tenth of the volume required with conventional methods.

The university added that the discrimination of non-specific amplification and lower risks of aerosol contamination also mean that this system has the potential for clinical applications.

MDT/Xinhua

www.macaudailytimes.com.mo

**+ 4 Million page views
PER MONTH**

Thank You!

+12,000 like us on facebook.com/mdtimes



Times

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF (DIRECTOR) Paulo Coutinho paulocoutinho@macaudailytimes.com
MANAGING EDITOR Paulo Barbosa paulo.barbosa@macaudailytimes.com
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 Lawyers, PokerStars, Ruan Du Toit Bester | **NEWS AGENCIES** Associated Press, Bloomberg, Financial Times, MacauHub, MacauNews, Xinhua | **SECRETARY** Yang Dongxiao amy@macaudailytimes.com

A MACAU TIMES PUBLICATIONS LTD PUBLICATION

ADMINISTRATOR AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Kowie Geldenhuys kowie@macaudailytimes.com

SECRETARY Juliana Cheang juliana@macaudailytimes.com

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

Advertisement advertising@macaudailytimes.com

For subscription and general issues:

general@macaudailytimes.com | Printed at Welfare Printing Ltd

Gaming service quality shows slight improvement in Q4

Lynzy Valles

THE Gaming Service Index (GSI) inched up to 130 in the fourth quarter of 2017, bouncing back from a significant drop in the third quarter. However, it still failed to match the second quarter's record high of 139 points.

Conducted by the Macau Gaming Research Association and SGS Hong Kong using a 100-point base, this year's GSI collected 1,200 sets of data from both Cotai and Macau gaming operators.

This year's sample size totaled 2,400, with mystery customers targeting mass markets of 16 representative casinos.

The study showed that the two indexes demonstrated a similar pattern in 2017, although the Cotai casinos surpassed their counterparts in the Macau peninsula in terms of service. Cotai casinos scored 145 points, while those in the peninsula scored 120 points.

Smiling, proactivity and tolerance were the three sub-indexes



The survey was presented to representatives from the gaming operators

used to assess service quality.

At 141 points, the smiling index for the fourth quarter was similar to the third quarter. The proactivity index grew from 117 to 126, still 30 points lower than the figure recorded in the second quarter. The tolerance index edged up to 121 points.

Analyzed by department, Dealers scored the lowest with just over 2 points, while Security scored the highest with around 2.75 points. They were followed by Customer Service, Cashiers and Slot Machines.

Hannah Koo, a committee member of the Macau Gaming Research Association, told the press that raw data is given to gaming operators for them to conduct qualitative research.

"That can give some kind of insight for casino operators so they can monitor their service," said Koo.

Early this year, the 2017 Smiling Report showed that Macau ranked the lowest among 67 countries and regions in the smiling index for customer service.

However, Koo said their research

showed overall improvements in the city's smiling index, noting a general upward trend for the entire GSI.

"We don't really have the raw data [of the 2017 Smiling Report] and didn't explain why [Macau] had [a] low score, so if we have more data it will be easier for us to explain why," Koo suggested.

"But for our data for the last five years, we see [an] increase in service levels," she added.

The overall gaming score for the fourth quarter is 2.37 out of 3.50. Koo declined to reveal which operators scored lowest and highest, but said that the operators are aware of their survey rankings.

This year's report studied both Cotai and Macau peninsula casinos for the first time, which Koo said was a response to clients' requests.

"Cotai is another main market, whose growth is fast. The Cotai index outperformed [casinos in the] Macau peninsula. This is also another indicator for us to [set] a benchmark," said Koo.

SSM publishes first dietary guidelines

The Health Bureau (SSM) has published Macau's first dietary guidelines for residents whose diets primarily comprise Chinese food, citing the need to "reduce the risk of chronic diseases as well as the impact of chronic diseases on the health of Macau residents." In addition to dietary recommendations, the guideline outlines various physical exercises. SSM suggests that people who do not belong to this group seek alternative guidelines. Macau's hypertension, diabetes, and dyslipidemia rates in 2016 were 25.5 percent, 7.1 percent and 24.3 percent respectively.

Fresh food transportation moved up one hour

Starting next month, fresh food from the mainland will be transported to Macau one hour earlier, according to the Civic and Municipal Affairs Bureau. Transportation will now commence at 6.00 a.m. instead of 7.00 a.m., which will coincide with the opening of Macau's new wholesale market. The change in schedule is expected to alleviate traffic at the Macau border gate and Ilha Verde.

AD

ACCURATE, TIMELY & COMPETITIVE TRANSLATIONS

Languages:
ENGLISH, CHINESE,
PORTUGUESE, JAPANESE,
KOREAN, SPANISH,
FRENCH, ARABIC,
RUSSIAN

Services
TRANSLATIONS,
PROOFREADING, COPYWRITING,
DATA INPUT, NEWS MONITORING

We translate +10,000 words a day

K **KTRANZ**
TRANSLATIONS LIMITED

Contact: Ms. Amy Yang
Email: amy@ktranz.com.mo
Tel: +853 2871 6081/2 Fax: +853 2871 6084

Av. da Praia Grande, 599, Edif. Comercial Rodrigues, 12 Floor C, MACAU SAR

EXCO

Gov't to implement pre-booked car services licensing when HKZMB opens

Renato Marques

THE Transport Bureau (DSAT) has proposed new licensing to regulate the pre-booked transportation of passengers in light vehicles, taking into account an expected spike in traffic upon the opening of the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macau Bridge (HKZMB).

The Executive Council (ExCo) made the announcement during yesterday's press conference at the government headquarters. Spokesperson Leong Heng Teng announced that the ExCo had concluded the discussion of the draft law, titled "Amendment to the Regulation of Interurban Road Passenger Transport."

Leong said the need to proceed with the amendments is correlated with "the continuous development of society and of the passenger transport services, as well as future requirements for intercity traffic with the opening of the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macau Bridge to the circulation of cars." He added that the current regulation has been in force for more than 13 years.

Instead of changing public transportation services, the proposed amendments focus on new licensing for so-called "non-regular services", which apply only to the pre-booked transportation of passengers in light vehicles.

DSAT director Lam Hin San said little on the topic, save that that the licensing applies only to light vehicles and not shuttle bus services.



Leong Heng Teng (left) and Lam Hin San

When asked about interest from possible operators of such services, Lam said, "There is still no demand or interest because there was no legal provision [until now] that would allow this kind of licensing."

In practical terms, the measure seems to open the door for the legalization of car-hailing services, similar to Uber, at least where intercity transportation is concerned. It is not yet clear what the licensing requirements are or how they will work. Thus far, the government has

only explained that "intercity passenger road transport services between the Macau SAR and other regions of the People's Republic of China are subject to the prior authorization regime to be obtained from their competent authorities."

Such services must "comply with the operating conditions agreed between the Macau SAR and those regions" and "can only be carried out by entities licensed for that purpose by the DSAT." Leong also said the DSAT will work closely with the Public Se-

curity Police Force, the Customs Service, the Fire Services and the Macau Government Tourism Office on this matter.

Questioned by the Times, the DSAT replied, "According to the Regulation approved by the RA 4/2004, companies that fulfill the requirements stated in the Regulation and intend to provide regular or non-regular services can apply for the license, namely those referred in number 2 of article 4, i.e. "Limited Companies, legally established in the MSAR, which make proof of gathering the requirements to perform such activity."

"The requirements to apply for the license are stated in the articles 7 to 10 (including "reputation," "technical and professional capability" and "finance capacity"), which remain unchanged in the current amendment," it concluded.

However, DSAT also noted that, "independently of being a [established] travel company or not, DSAT will consult [...] the tourism, police and other [relevant] departments for their comments

before making decision for any application."

The ExCo has also advised that the proposed amendment takes effect on the day after its publication.

In practical terms, the measure seems to open the door for the legalization of car-hailing services

The measure comes at a time when the consumer watchdog in the neighboring region of Hong Kong has urged the government to reform its current system, permitting the establishment of firms such as Uber.

Professor Wong Yuk-shan, Chairman of the Hong Kong Consumer Council, said in a study on Hong Kong's e-hailing market and taxi service that the government should start by relaxing requirements in the current private hire-car permit system, making it easier for e-hailing vehicles to be on the road legally. "We propose adopting a progressive approach to regulate e-hailing services to create a level playing field with taxis," Wong said, quoted by the South China Morning Post.

"Reforming the existing 1,500-hire car permit system to allow the entry of ride-hailing firms to the market is a good starting point," he continued.

The ExCo is also considering a licensing regime to regulate the e-hailing industry, which would set requirements for insurance coverage, background checks on drivers and record-keeping of every trip, as well as new mechanisms for passengers to lodge complaints and give feedback.

ExCo greenlights list of locations that sell tobacco products

THE Executive Council (ExCo) has finished analyzing the draft of new administrative regulation regarding the template for a list of venues that sell tobacco products, and the layout is now available.

ExCo spokesperson Leong Heng Teng said that such regulation was the missing piece from amendments made to Law Number 5/2011 (Tobacco Prevention and Control Regime), which in turn were amended by Law Number 9/2017. These regulations prohibit the advertising and display of tobacco products in certain locations. The same rules also state that such locations may display a list of tobacco products for sale, as approved by the government.

The new display list and amendments will take effect on January 1, 2018.

Loeng said that "the list can only contain the side image of the tobacco products and be fixed on the places indicated by the government" and that clarification could be sought from the Health Bureau (SSM).

At the same press conference, the ExCo also announced the conclusion of the analysis of the administrative regulation annex to the Non-Manda-

tory Central Provident Fund System. This will establish new rules for contributions and the timing thereof, as well as any changes made to the providence plans by employers or account holders.

The regulation also establishes rules for the transfer of funds between government-managed sub-accounts that can only be done once a year, as well as establishing a 20-day period to withdraw funds from the accounts following the receipt of notifications from the Social Security Fund (FSS).

When asked how many people are expected to join the system, FSS president Iong Kong Io said, "As the system hasn't entered into force yet, we can't yet have a clear idea. It's difficult to predict."

"We have been meeting with several groups, industries and associations in order to incentivize them to join [the system]. It is a good regime for the people to have a better life after retirement," he concluded.

As for the number of people that have already requested for advance withdrawal of funds, Iong said, "So far we have processed about 3,800 [early withdrawal requests] for different reasons."

The new regulation will also enter into force on January 1, 2018.

LAWMAKER QUESTIONS MACAU'S ROLE IN HKZMB COST OVERRUN

NG KUOK Cheong has asked the authorities if Macau is partly responsible for the increased construction costs of the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macau Bridge (HKZMB) and if Macau must pay for the extra expenses. The Hong Kong Transport and Housing Bureau had previously reported an escalation in HKZMB-related construction costs, citing the following as responsible for this: "The increase

in labor and material costs, as well as from the refinement of the design and construction schemes." "As a result, the contractors submitted applications to the HKZMB Authority for adjustments regarding the project estimates," the bureau stated. The main section of the HKZMB is estimated to have overshoot its budget by around RMB10 billion.

SANDS China has again gone the extra mile in responding to the government's call to nurture and develop the local workforce, with 25 of their management team members graduating from a first-of-its-kind international education programme - the Sands China International Strategic Leadership Programme for Integrated Resorts.

Over the course of five months, the programme sent an initial group of local management team members to study on three continents, allowing these team members to take advantage of the unique areas of industry expertise of the Católica Lisbon School of Business & Economics in Lisbon, Portugal; Cornell School of Hotel Administration in Ithaca, New York, U.S.A.; and the University of Saint Joseph in Macau.

In a bid to develop local leaders in integrated resort management, Sands China has taken strategic steps to tailor-made this programme in conjunction with the three universities and with reference to its industry-leading and unique integrated resort business model. Offering international horizons for 25 potential future leaders, the visionary programme is the latest initiative of the Sands China Academy. It is a significant investment standing as clear evidence that the leading integrated resort developer and operator values its team members by developing its leaders and local workforce – a type of investment that will continue to pay dividends not just for Sands China but for Macau as a whole. And it is part of an ongoing process.

Through the programme, Sands China now has leaders not only with enhanced knowledge and skills, but also with an international perspective and the ability to think as future leaders of Macau – a necessary tool to compete in today's fast-changing market in order to take the company to newer heights.

“At this stage of the company's development, we have reached the stage where we need to enable and train the local managers' skills set, [...] which only will be developed with exposure to different cultures, international best practices and case studies,” said Dr. Wilfred Wong, president of Sands China Ltd.

With this innovative programme, Sands China offers these 25 team members exposure to top-level universities to familiarise them with the best practices in China, Portugal and the U.S.A., which will assist in promoting strategic and lateral thinking – approaches important to empower and lead change in the team.

“It is important that being a leading corporation, we hope to nurture and cultivate the pool of talent, leadership talent, that is available in the economy,” Wong continued.

“So we are prepared to make the best investments into our talent[ed

Sands China takes strategic steps to nurture local talent

PHOTOS PROVIDED BY COURTESY OF CATÓLICA LISBON AND CORNELL UNIVERSITY



team members], and hopefully these people will stay with us, but even when they leave us and go to other companies, they're still benefiting the local economy,” the president proudly remarked.

This immense opportunity provided by Sands China to their management team members will benefit not only the individuals but also the company and its mid-level management as these 25 team members are ever-ready to take the next step forward from enhancing day to day operations to becoming strategic thinkers and leaders.

Once an individual joins Sands China, the leading integrated resort developer and operator allocates a number of training programmes for these team members in a bid to nurture and assist them in progressing in their careers.

Antonio Ramirez, senior vice president of human resources for Sands China pledges to hold the next programme again next year, a continuous move to cultivate local knowledge and skills.

“We always try to be pioneers in terms of training and development programmes. It happened in that way when we opened Sands Macao in 2004 and we continue to make our best efforts to ensure that we remain pioneers,” Ramirez pledged.

With a revamp of the business

slated to occur again for Sands China, the executive confidently noted that these leaders are already conscientiously contributing to the company's further development, The Londoner.

The Sands China International Strategic Leadership Programme for Integrated Resorts includes a business challenge – a practical component of the coursework for which participants are asked to analyse a specific, real world business challenge currently faced by the company and develop a set of recommendations to deal with it.

Professor David Patient, director and coordinator of the programme explained that the five-month long programme is customised for these 25 individuals who operate in the Macau context in terms of dealing with integrated resorts and facing challenges in a very fast-moving environment.

Considering the tough competition among integrated resort operators in the region, Sands China is continually focusing efforts to motivate and keep its best professionals as the company continues to develop and grow while contributing to the diversification of Macau's economy by leveraging the integrated resort business model.

“I can say with confidence that these are the people that are going to get ahead. They're going to make big contributions to the

organisation,” Patient expressed.

Echoing Sands China's aim of prioritising its local workforce, the programme director noted that the significant investment made in its team members goes to show that these leaders continually have the capacity to build their leadership potential.

The development programme culminated in a presentation of the participants' ideas made recently to Sands China senior executives.

“The results were impressive, when I see some of their ideas, I know that these ideas will be

developed within the company and that some of the people who are here today are going to lead those ideas. For their future and the company, this is very good news,” Patient remarked.

Meanwhile, back to the city from Lisbon and New York, the 25 future leaders are now more confident and ready to handle current and upcoming challenges brought by the nature of integrated resorts.

This article was sponsored by Sands China Ltd.

WHAT THE STUDENTS SAY

“The course is very thought-provoking. The programme has really changed our mindset to not just focus on gaming. We definitely need to grow our hospitality, retail, entertainment and food and beverage businesses as well in order to diversify our customer base.” - Valentino Ali, associate director of Operations Development

“We have so many different hotel brands in our portfolio so all the skills and theories that we have learned during the programme, we can apply when we do our strategic planning and execution.” - Melissa Chan, executive director of Gaming Operations

“The programme is a very strategic kind of training. I can apply it in the long-term development in the future and help me promote Macau, along with the integrated resorts, as the world's leading tourism, leisure and meeting destination.” - Anita Fu, director of Destination Marketing

“This was a wonderful journey. We have to be dynamic and have vision for the future. After the programme, the way we look at things are broadened. We not only think of Macau but we learned to think globally and internationally.” - Connie Chio, assistant vice president of Paiza Operations.

New art exhibition features Lai Chi Vun shipyards

An art exhibition related to the Lai Chi Vun shipyards will open at 6.30 p.m. on Friday at the Lakeside Gallery of the Anim'Arte NamVan. The

creative team behind the exhibition is seeking to show that the shipbuilding industry was an important cornerstone in the development of a new era for Macau. The shipyards' history will be showcased through a total of 22 artworks; eight photographs, eight paintings, two sets of wood ship furniture and four wooden ship models. The exhibition is co-organized by the Cultural Affairs Bureau, the Macau Artist Society and the Macau Lifestyle Association. It is open until December 31 and admission is free.



Conference on legal reform to be held next week

The Tenth International Conference on the Legal Reforms of Macau in the Global Context – Gaming Law, organized by the Centre for Law Studies of the University of Macau's (UM) Faculty of Law, will take place at the UM campus on December 4 and 5. Scholars and experts from Macau, Vietnam, South Korea, Portugal, France, and the United States will speak at the event. The conference will cover a wide range of topics, including "gaming contracts and games of chance," "betting and lotteries," "expansion of gaming in Asia," and "illicit gaming."

FOOD AND BEVERAGE

Chef Ducasse to open two restaurants at Morpheus

ONE of the world's most decorated chefs will open two new restaurants and a bar at the upcoming Morpheus Hotel in the City of Dreams complex, casino operator Melco Resorts announced yesterday.

Alain Ducasse has opened three restaurants in Monaco, Paris and London, all three of which hold a three-Michelin-starred rating. More than 20 restaurants in seven countries carry his brand, from authentic bistros and casual brasseries to fine dining restaurants.

One of the restaurants, "Alain Ducasse at Morpheus", will offer a fine dining experience with Ducasse's signature expression of French contemporary haute cuisine. Designed by Jouin-Manku, the restaurant is a tribute to the great tradition of Chinese gardens.

The second, "Voyages by Alain Ducasse" is a new concept, tailor-made for City of Dreams. It will offer a unique



Alain Ducasse (left)

take on Asian cuisines inspired by the chef's travels over the past 30 years.

According to Melco, the design uses raw materials such as solid wood and stone, punctuated by splashes of vibrant colors.

"Projects of such a broad scope and high ambition are not that numerous in the world today. It is a great honor for me to be a part of it," said Ducasse about the collaboration.

"I always create and never duplicate – each of my venues is different and reflects

the mood of its location. I always start from the soul of the place and from clients' expectations to create a cuisine that is specific and that resonates with the location and the people," he further explained.

Born in 1956 on a farm in southwest France, Ducasse grew up surrounded by nature, and lived on his farm's fresh produce. It was there that he learned to appreciate fine ingredients and was inspired to take up a career in the culinary arts.

Today, Ducasse is the dri-

ving force and inspiration for his many restaurants around the world. The renowned chef has a keen eye for detail and is involved in almost all aspects of his restaurants, from interior design and ambience to selecting tableware, organizing kitchens and even talent acquisition.

"Today, we are celebrating a new partnership," said Lawrence Ho, the chairman and CEO of Melco Resorts.

"[It is] a real honor to be able to say that Morpheus [...] will soon be anchored by not just one but two new restaurants by none other than one of the greatest living chefs of our time."

Morpheus, which Melco describes as the City of Dreams' new flagship hotel, is a giant and unconventional structure designed by world-renowned architect Zaha Hadid, who passed away last year.

The hotel is scheduled to open in 2018. DB

AD



NEW FRENCH-STYLE BRUNCH

A hearty, relaxing brunch is just what you need to start your weekend off right. The new brunch menu at Aux Beaux Arts lets you experience this leisurely meal in French al fresco style; share an assorted seafood or grilled meat platter with friends or select a set of your favorites to enjoy in the sunshine

Every Saturday and Sunday
11am – 3pm

For enquiries or reservations,
please call (853) 8802 2319

mgm.mo

寶雅座
AUX BEAUX ARTS

MGM
美高梅

SATURDAY SUPERSTACK

STILL THE BIGGEST POKER NIGHT OF THE WEEK

PokerStars LIVE Macau hosts the Saturday SuperStack with a HK\$100,000 guaranteed prize pool. With a buy-in of HK\$3,000, you start with a huge 15K starting chip stack.

Don't miss out on the biggest tournament of the week. Every Saturday from 4th November to 30th December.

Level 2, Estrada do Istmo, Cotai

POKER STARS LIVE MACAU

All tournaments are subject to regulatory approval.

GAMING

Analysts warn stricter junket regulations could put recovery at risk

FINANCIAL services firm The Motley Fool is predicting that stricter regulations, poised to take effect in Macau's junket sector, may put the gaming recovery at risk.

The restrictions will target junket operators that bring high-roller VIP gamblers to Macau, but these are the very same people thought to be responsible for the territory's economic recovery, which began late last year.

Analysts therefore highlight the risks the new restrictions pose to Macau's recovery and, according to The Motley Fool, threaten to "send the territory's casinos reeling once more."

"Any new regulatory crackdown could spook VIP gamblers once again," the firm wrote. "It was, in part, the original crackdown on junket operators [in 2014] that caused Macau to go into a tailspin," and any "tightening standards on the junkets



[...] could cause smaller operations to fold."

Fears that Macau junkets could relocate or fail have been compounded in recent years with the addition of new policies such as smoking bans and ATM withdrawal limits. Competing gaming jurisdictions, which are

popping up across Asia, could also incentivize operators to close shop in Macau.

The regulatory moves come as Beijing is pressuring the city to diversify its economy away from gambling.

According to the official figures, the city's six operators have

already beaten the Central Government's target to have as much as 9 percent of casino revenue coming from non-gaming sources by 2020. The Secretary for Economy and Finance, Lionel Leong, said earlier this week that the figure already stands at 10.7 percent.

However, the proportion does not indicate that the days of VIP reliance are over. Compared with Las Vegas, where around two-thirds of operators' revenue comes from non-gaming activities, Macau is still mostly about baccarat tables.

Operators have so far wanted to be seen diversifying their revenue, especially ahead of the casino license renewal period between 2020 and 2022. SJM and MGM are due to be reviewed first in 2020, followed by the others two years later, and there are no guarantees that the post-2022 casino landscape will look the same as it does today.

VIP baccarat, the game considered to represent the strength of Macau's gaming economy, accounted for 58 percent of total gambling revenue in the third quarter of 2017, according to the Gaming Inspection and Coordination Bureau, up from 52 percent in 2016. **DB**

THE average earnings of full-time hotel employees rose by 2.3 percent to MOP17,200 in September, according to a quarterly survey by the Statistics and Census Service (DSEC).

The results of the DSEC's Survey on Manpower Needs and Wages for the third quarter of 2017 recorded a total of 54,524 full-time employees in local hotels.

The survey spanned several sectors: manufacturing; hotels; restaurants; insurance; financial intermediation activities; electricity, gas & water supply; childcare and elderly care.

Hotel employee earnings see slight increase

Restaurants had 25,870 full-time employees, up by 2.7 percent year-on-year, with average earnings falling by 0.3 percent to MOP9,280.

Manufacturing had 9,863 full-time employees, a decrease of 0.6 percent year-on-year; average earnings in September rose by 4.5 percent to MOP10,730.

Electricity, gas & water supply had 1,118 full-time employees, up by 1.5 percent from a year earlier; average earnings grew by 13.2 percent to

MOP34,240.

Insurance had 558 full-time employees, up by 2.6 percent year-on-year; average earnings in September rose by 5.3 percent to MOP26,750.

Financial intermediation activities had 404 full-time employees, a year-on-year increase of 1.3 percent, with average earnings rising by 7.6 percent to MOP15,030.

Childcare and Elderly Care had 1,409 and 752 full-time employees respectively, up by 11.3 percent and 11.6 percent

year-on-year. Average earnings in September increased by 5.5 percent and 1.7 percent respectively to MOP14,680 and MOP14,080.

Employee recruitment rate (6.1 percent) and employee turnover rate (4.7 percent) in the hotels sector fell by 1.1 and 0.4 percentage points respectively, year-on-year. The job vacancy rate (3.9 percent) rose by 0.6 percentage points, implying that there were still a number of vacancies in the sector.



In the restaurant sector, the employee turnover rate (6.5 percent) and employee recruitment

rate (5.4 percent) dropped by 0.6 and 4.7 percentage points respectively year-on-year.

corporate bits

WYNN DONATES TO TUNG SIN TONG FOR 12TH CONSECUTIVE YEAR



Wynn has once again contributed to Tung Sin Tong's annual fundraising campaign, donating MOP500,000 to assist its poverty alleviation efforts and the provision of social welfare services.

A cheque presentation ceremony to mark the contribution was held yesterday at Wynn Palace.

Ian Michael Coughlan, President and Executive Director of Wynn Macau, Limited, Linda Chen, President and Executive Director of Wynn

Resorts (Macau) S.A. and Katharine Liu, Senior Vice President of Communications of Wynn Macau and Wynn Palace presented the cheque to a delegation from Tung Sin Tong including President Chui Sai Cheong, and Directors Charles Choy and Deborah Vong.

Wynn has partnered with Tung Sin Tong since 2006, part of its support and contribution to local charitable services.

According to a statement issued by the gaming operator, "Wynn actively participates in a range of charitable activities as part of its ongoing commitment to serving the community, providing support to people in need."

UBER FACING FEDERAL PROBE ON ALLEGATIONS OF ESPIONAGE



Federal prosecutors are investigating allegations that Uber deployed an espionage team to plunder trade secrets from its rivals. The

revelation triggered a delay in a high-profile trial over whether the beleaguered ride-hailing service stole self-driving car technology from

a Google spinoff.

The probe under way at the U.S. Justice Department centers on a 37-page letter that described allegations made by Richard Jacobs, Uber's former manager of global intelligence. Jacobs had the letter sent in May to an Uber lawyer. The letter contended that Jacobs had been wrongfully demoted and then fired for trying to stop the company's alleged misconduct.

The investigation hadn't been publicly known until Tuesday, when it surfaced in a court hearing that was supposed to set the stage for a trial pitting Uber against Waymo, a self-driving car pioneer that started within Google eight years ago.

Vietnam aims to raise USD4.8b selling stake in brewer

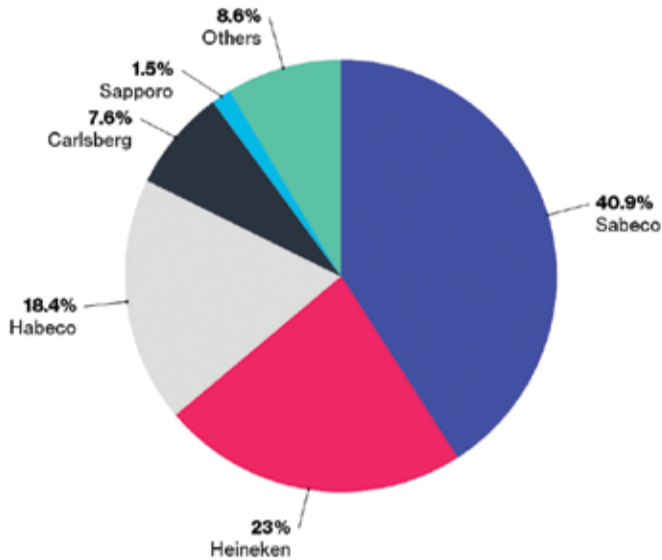
Mai Ngoc Chau

Vietnam is seeking to raise at least USD4.8 billion in the country's biggest stake sale as an offering in a state-run brewer attracts potential bidders including Anheuser-Busch InBev NV and Asahi Group Holdings Ltd.

The government, which owns almost 90 percent of Saigon Beer Alcohol Beverage Corp., will offer 53.6 percent of the brewer in a Dec. 18 sale, Truong Thanh Hoai, the Industry and Trade Ministry's head of industry department, said at a briefing yesterday in Ho Chi Minh City. The initial price has been set at 320,000 dong (\$14.05) a share, he said. That will be about 29 percent more than the average trading price over the past six months through Tuesday.

Foreign investors are limited to a 38.59 percent stake in the brewer. Combined with the 10.4 percent already held by investors from overseas, that would hit the foreign ownership cap imposed by Vietnam on some public companies. The auction has attracted interest from 15 large foreign

Carving Up Vietnam's Beer Market
Share of 2016 sales by volume



Source: Euromonitor International from trade sources/national statistics

investors including Asahi and Anheuser-Busch, said Vo Thanh Ha, chairman of Sabeco, as the company is called. The shares will be offered in a single tranche.

Vietnam, whose Communist government has embarked on a plan to divest from some of the coun-

try's biggest companies, is attracting attention from investors in its growing market. An expanding middle class and youthful population helped drive a 300 percent surge in beer demand since 2002, according to Euromonitor International, which estimates the

market was worth 147.2 trillion dong (\$6.5 billion) in 2016.

Shares of Sabeco surged 5.9 percent at the close yesterday in Ho Chi Minh City trading. They have more than doubled since their December 2016 listing on expectations of the stake sale, which the government announced in August last year.

Last month, Vincom Retail JSC's existing investors raised 16.1 trillion dong in what was the country's biggest-ever first-time share sale.

Some investors may not find the price attractive, according to Tyler Cheung, director of institutional clients at ACB Securities JSC.

"The pricing appears a bit expensive for a financial investment and could deter domestic investors," he said. It "could still be attractive to a foreign strategic partner keen on accessing the impressive 40 percent plus market share Sabeco holds in one of the most attractive beer markets in the world."

Asahi had expressed interest in Sabeco earlier and is continuing to gather more information, Takuo Soga, a spokesman for the Japa-

nese company, said yesterday, declining to comment on the price or the stake on offer. It was one of the companies that has said that Sabeco is too expensive.

Anheuser-Busch is committed to Vietnam and growing its business for the long term, the company said in an emailed statement. "We look forward to playing a big role in the future of the Vietnam beer industry," it said.

Shares of Sabeco trade at about 41 times blended forward 12-month earnings, according to data compiled by Bloomberg as of Tuesday. Asahi traded at about 19 times, compared with 21 times for Carlsberg A/S and 20 times for Heineken NV.

Hoai said he expects Anheuser-Busch to show keener interest in Sabeco as it would need to expand its local market share, while Heineken may not want to spend a huge amount as it already has a considerable piece of the market. The government won't relax the stake limit it has set for foreign investors, he said.

The government is also divesting stakes in Hanoi Beer Alcohol & Beverage as a growing budget deficit forces the leadership to accelerate a plan to cut holdings in state-owned firms. The sale of the brewer known as Habeco is expected to be completed in the first quarter of 2018, Hoai said.

Bloomberg

AD

葡語國家食品資料庫
PORTUGUESE-SPEAKING COUNTRIES
FOOD PRODUCTS DATABASE

中葡雙語人材資料庫
CHINESE-PORTUGUESE BILINGUAL
PERSONNEL DATABASE

專業服務供應商
PROFESSIONAL SERVICE PROVIDERS

會展資訊
CONVENTION AND EXHIBITION INFORMATION

經貿信息
ECONOMIC AND TRADE INFORMATION

法規資訊
INFORMATION ON LEGISLATIONS

主辦單位：
Organisers：
中華人民共和國商務部
Ministry of Commerce of
the People's Republic of China
澳門特別行政區政府經濟財政司
Secretariat for Economy and Finance
of the Macao SAR Government

承辦單位：
Co-ordinator：

中國-葡語國家經貿
合作及人才信息網
ECONOMIC & TRADE CO-OPERATION
AND HUMAN RESOURCES PORTAL BETWEEN
CHINA AND PORTUGUESE-SPEAKING COUNTRIES

WWW.PLATFORMCHINAPLP.MO

Cheng's Kowloon tower 70pct leased before opening

Frederik Balfour

NEW World Development Co. said the office component of the HKD20.3 billion (USD2.6 billion) Victoria Dockside complex in Kowloon is already 70 percent leased, and will be fully rented by March or April when the entire building opens.

Tenants include Mizuho Bank Ltd., which leased six floors and moved into the building named K11 Atelier in October, relocating from Pacific Place on Hong Kong island. The Japanese bank is the latest financial company to decamp from the island, where commercial rents are the most expensive in world.

Rents in the building are about HKD85 per square foot a month, according to realtor Prime Property, though "early bird" tenants including Mizuho and Taipei Fubon Commercial



BLOOMBERG

Bank Co. got lower rates, Adrian Cheng, K11 founder and executive vice chairman of New World, said in an interview while declining to give specific figures. Grade A office rents in Central are as high as HKD190 per square foot.

Hong Kong's office market is running hot, with Li Ka-shing's CK Asset Holdings Ltd. earlier this month agreeing to to sell its stake in The Center for HK\$40.2

billion, a record for the city. Earlier this year, Henderson Land Development Co. paid HKD23.3 billion for the first commercial land sold by the government in the Central district in more than 20 years.

The Victoria Dockside development is also benefiting from a trend of companies leaving the central business district for cheaper rents in neighboring and outlying areas.

Cheng, the 38-year-old heir apparent to take over the reins of New World from his billionaire father Henry Cheng, said the project is aiming to attract millennials, and the firms they work for, by offering an environment that promotes "spiritual and physical wellness." That includes providing lunchtime classes in team building, pilates, yoga and meditation, and a detox center.

The 66-story building has 15 floors of office space. The tower will also house a 27-floor, 398-room hotel, while the top 19 floors will be occupied by Rosewood Residences, 199 longer-stay units, according to Rosewood Hotel Group, a unit of New World. Both are slated to open in 2018.

Cheng said the group is spending \$2.5 billion to develop the Hong Kong K11 Atelier tower and others in seven mainland Chinese cities, including Beijing, Tianjin and Shenzhen. **Bloomberg**

EUROPEAN CENTRAL BANK

Global markets could face sudden drop

THE European Central Bank says broad-based economic growth is keeping banks and markets stable in the 19-country eurozone — but warned that increased risk-taking by global investors could mean trouble down the road.

The ECB made its comments yesterday in its twice-yearly financial stability review. The review aims to keep the public and government officials aware of potential problems that could disrupt the wider economy.

The report said the eurozone's increasingly robust economy "is supporting financial stability" and that there is no widespread overvaluation in eurozone's financial markets.

But markets remain vulnerable to sudden turns if investors get bad news that changes their risk outlook. The report noted that recent increased risk-taking in financial markets could "sow the seeds for large asset price corrections in the future."

The ECB noted that investors continued to favor riskier investments such as bonds issued by less creditworthy borrowers, a move boosted by expectations that central bank stimulus policies will continue. The ECB noted that such behavior has continued even though central banks such as the ECB and the U.S. Federal Reserve have made clear they are recalibrating their policies. "Financial markets may not be fully alert to the possibility that the current favorable market sentiment can change quickly," the report said. **Bloomberg**

AD

17TH MACAO CITY FRINGE FESTIVAL

www.macaucityfringe.gov.mo

2018

12-21/01

TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE THROUGH THE MACAU TICKETING NETWORK ON 8 DECEMBER.

ENJOY A 12% DISCOUNT WHEN PURCHASING TICKETS OVER MOP200 WITH A DESIGNATED BANK CARD.

Ticketing 2855 5555
www.macaucityfringe.gov.mo

Enquiries 8399 6699 (during office hours)
fringe@icm.gov.mo
www.macaucityfringe.gov.mo

SPECIAL BANK PARTNER

ICBC 工銀 澳門

TELECOM PARTNER

CTM 澳門電訊

SUPPORTED BY

太陽娛樂集團有限公司

Pablo Gorondi, Budapest

BELT & ROAD

Work starts on Hungary-Serbia rail line financed by China

THE reconstruction of the railway line between Serbia and Hungary, a project financed mostly by China and its “new Silk Road” initiative to expand commercial ties with Europe, Asia and Africa, was inaugurated yesterday [Macau time] by Chinese and Serbian officials.

The symbolic launch of the project on the outskirts of the Serbian capital of Belgrade took place on the same day Chinese Premier Li Keqiang was meeting in Budapest with the prime ministers of both countries, Serbia’s Ana Brnabic and Hungary’s Viktor Orban.

Construction machines removed parts of an old Serbian railway and the initial stretch of the project in Serbia is expected to be completed in three years, carried out by Chinese companies in line with European Union standards. The segment in Serbia is expected to cost USD2 billion, while the latest estimates for the Hungarian section stand at \$1.8 billion.

Brnabic said she was hopeful that the railway project would help Serbia “establish itself as a central hub of this part of Europe.”

Orban has called the upgraded railway, which has been criticized by Hungarian opposition parties as too expensive and more important for China than Hungary, the “flagship project” of China’s efforts to increase its presence in the region.

Speaking at a press event with Li after the two countries signed numerous investment and trade agreements, Orban said the region needed Chinese capital to grow.

“We would need to carry out numerous investments for which there is not enough capital in the Hungarian economy or in the European Union,” Orban said. “That is why we are financing the Budapest-Belgrade railway line with Chinese assistance.”

Li reiterated his view that the deals between China and the 16 Eastern European countries which took part in the “16+1” summit in Budapest would “shore up the weak

AP PHOTO



The China Railway flag flies on the site of the reconstruction of a railway line between Budapest and Belgrade

links in globalization.”

“I want to emphasize that cooperation between China and central and eastern Euro-

pean countries is good for the healthy development of globalization,” Li said. “We should not be afraid of the negative

effects of economic globalization. We are still committed to multilateralism and support of free trade.” AP

LEE MING-CHE

Beijing defends sentencing of Taiwan pro-democracy activist

CHINA yesterday defended a five-year prison sentence handed down to a Taiwanese pro-democracy activist who held online political lectures and helped the families of jailed Chinese dissidents, saying the punishment was arrived at partly due to the “degree of harm to society.”

The trial of Lee Ming-che was seen as a demonstration of how Beijing’s harshest crackdown on human rights in decades has extended beyond the Chinese mainland, and sent a chill through Taiwanese society.

Lee and a mainland Chinese colleague pleaded guilty and were convicted on the vaguely defined charge of “subversion of state power.” The Chinese man, Peng Yuhua, was given a seven-year sentence. Both said they would not appeal — a possible sign they had reached a deal with the court in exchange for a degree of leniency.

Spokesman for the Cabinet’s Taiwan Affairs Office



Supporters of Taiwanese activist Lee Ming-che detained in China, hold signs during a media event in Taipei earlier this month

Ma Xiaoguang told reporters that Lee’s sentence was based on “the facts, the nature and circumstances of the crime and the degree of harm to the society.”

Ma offered no specific details on the degree of harm, but said, “Whether Lee Ming-che’s actions endanger the security and security of the mainland should be judged by mainland laws,” rather than by outsiders.

Taiwan’s government and human rights groups have condemned the trial

and sentencing as unacceptable and a legal farce.

It was also criticized by Lee’s wife, Lee Ching-yu, who was in China for the sentencing and issued a statement on her return to Taiwan yesterday afternoon.

“Lee Ming-che has already taken up his identity as a political prisoner. I am earnestly urging all the people to keep on supporting him, so that he will not be forgotten in his corner of the world,” Lee told a group of supporters and journalists.

The case has drawn widespread attention on the island, possibly hardening attitudes among supporters of the ruling Democratic Progressive Party who have resisted making political concessions to China.

Ma appeared to dismiss such sentiments, without addressing them directly.

“Attempts by anyone to use this case to carry out political speculation and provoke confrontational sentiment between compatriots on both sides of the Taiwan Straits will be in vain,” Ma said. AP

Chinese police say teacher pricked children at kindergarten

CHINESE police said yesterday a teacher at a Beijing kindergarten pricked children with needles as punishment but an investigation found no evidence of sexual exploitation.

Chinese media reports about alleged abuses at the Xintiandi kindergarten have drawn nationwide anger over potential lapses in supervision in the booming private preschool industry. The school is run by Beijing-based RYB Education, a company listed on the New York Stock Exchange.

RYB posted an apology on its website saying “when a needle pricks a child’s body, it also pricks every one of our hearts.” It said complaints from parents at other RYB kindergartens would be fully investigated and it would accept responsibility for harm to any of its students.

The police statement

said initial results of an investigation showed that a 22-year-old teacher it identified only by her surname, Liu, had punished children who refused to sleep by pricking them with sewing needles.

Liu has been detained, police said in a statement posted late Tuesday on the official Beijing city police account on the Sina Weibo microblog platform.

Many parents had demanded that the school show them the surveillance footage. Police said the footage was damaged because a staffer responsible for surveillance frequently shut down the electricity after classes ended.

Police also said the sexual abuse allegations were made up by two women, one of whom has been detained. The women, who were identified only by their surnames, could not be reached for comment. AP

Josh Lederman, Washington

NOW a private citizen, former President Barack Obama re-emerged on the global stage yesterday as he opened a three-country tour that includes meetings with the leaders of China and India, just as President Donald Trump courts those same world powers.

During a five-day trip, Obama will mix paid speeches with foreign leader meetings and even a town hall event for young people, the signature event that Obama became known for around the world during his eight years in office. He'll finish the trip in France, where he'll give one of several speeches planned during the trip.

The tour continues a longstanding tradition of former U.S. presidents traveling overseas after leaving office, especially as they work to attract donations and other support for their foundations, libraries and presidential centers. But Obama's trip may garner particular attention, given that many foreign countries are still uncertain about Trump's foreign policy and may look to his predecessor to help explain America's current direction.

"Barack Obama is the great explainer to the rest of the world of what the heck is going on in America," said Douglas Brinkley, a presidential historian at Rice University. "He's a calming influence in a world that's teetering on frenzy right now. Obama arrives and it reminds them of old-style diplomacy and the dignity of statesmanship."

Obama arrived in Shanghai, where he was to speak at a business conference before traveling to Beijing to speak at an education event. He also planned to meet there with Chinese President Xi Jinping, who hosted Trump for a high-profile visit only a few weeks earlier. Obama's office said they planned to discuss the global

Obama re-emerges on global stage with trip to China, India

AP PHOTO



economy, climate change and other issues.

Then the former president is off to India, where he'll meet Prime Minister Narendra Modi in New Delhi, give another speech and hold a town hall meeting hosted by Obama's foundation. Throughout his presidency, Obama often used the popular events in foreign countries to take questions about everything from politics and policy to his personal story and pop culture. Obama's office said roughly 280 young leaders planned to attend.

Obama will give a final speech Saturday in Paris before returning to the United States. Aides didn't rule out the possibility that he could also see President Emmanuel Macron, whose presidential campaign Obama endorsed,

while in France.

Aides to the former president declined to say who was paying for the trip, but he'll be compensated for the speeches.

The trip comes as Trump is pushing China's leaders to cut off N. Korea economically

The trip comes as Trump is aggressively pushing China's leaders to cut off North Korea economically over its nuclear weapons program. Obama will also be in India just days after Trump's daughter and senior adviser, Ivanka Trump. The

first daughter gave a speech at a business conference that was widely disseminated on Indian television.

Since taking office, Trump has reversed much of Obama's foreign policy approach, including pulling out of a global climate change agreement that was forged after the U.S. and China teamed up on the issue. Trump has also irked France and other European allies by taking steps to undermine the nuclear deal that the U.S. and world powers struck with Iran in 2015.

Whatever Obama says about current events while abroad will surely be viewed through that heavily politicized lens. But historians said former presidents often try to mitigate the risk that their visit will undermine their successor by coordi-

nating with the current White House in advance.

"When it's done right, the former president will check in before he goes, and see if there's anything he should or shouldn't do or say. It's a longstanding tradition," said Michael Duffy, author of "The Presidents Club: Inside the World's Most Exclusive Fraternity."

An Obama aide wouldn't say whether the former president or his staff had contacted Trump's White House ahead of the trip, but said that Obama's staff had reached out to the U.S. embassies in each country. The aide wasn't authorized to comment by name and requested anonymity. Former presidents retain Secret Service protection, so there's at least some U.S. government involvement in facilitating the trip.

Obama isn't the first ex-president to get the itch to travel after losing access to Air Force One.

By the time President Bill Clinton was out of office for four months, he'd already visited 10 countries, including China and India. Though then-President George W. Bush had adopted a far different foreign policy, Clinton was careful on the road not to criticize his successor directly.

President Jimmy Carter was sometimes criticized for overstepping his role as ex-president during his extensive overseas travels in the years after he left the Oval Office. In the years after World War II, former President Herbert Hoover traveled prolifically, helping secure food supplies for Europeans in need. Theodore Roosevelt gave a famous "Man in the Arena" speech at the Sorbonne in Paris as an ex-president. **AP**

Trump administration pursues antidumping case

THE Trump administration is launching an investigation into Chinese imports, deploying trade-policy tools the United States hasn't used for more than a quarter century in a move likely to raise tensions with Beijing.

The Commerce Department said Tuesday that it has begun investigating whether Chinese aluminum sheeting is selling in the United

AP PHOTO



States at illegally low prices. It is the first anti-dumping case the U.S. government has initia-

ted on its own — not in response to complaints from U.S. companies — since Washington went

after Japanese semiconductor imports in 1985.

"President Trump made it clear from Day

One that unfair trade practices will not be tolerated," Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross said. "We are self-initiating the first trade case in over a quarter century, showing once again that we stand in constant vigilance in support of free, fair, and reciprocal trade."

The department is also starting an investigation into whether China unfairly subsidizes aluminum sheeting, imports of which came to USD603 million in the U.S. last year. It is the first such case the U.S. government has begun

on its own since it launched an investigation into Canadian softwood lumber imports in 1991.

The announcement comes three weeks after Trump traveled to Beijing and met with Chinese President Xi Jinping. Although the Trump-Xi summit was cordial, the U.S. president has been widely expected to increase pressure on the Chinese government to reduce America's huge trade deficit.

Last year, the U.S. trade gap in goods with China was \$347 billion, by far the biggest with any country.

THE ROCKET MAN STRIKES AGAIN

North Korea fires ICBM it says is 'significantly more' powerful

Kim Tong-Hyung
& Foster Klug, Seoul

AFTER two and a half months of relative quiet, North Korea launched its most powerful weapon yet early yesterday, claiming a new type of inter-continental ballistic missile that some observers believe could reach Washington and the entire eastern U.S. seaboard.

In a special state media broadcast hours later, North Korea said it successfully fired a "significantly more" powerful, nuclear-capable ICBM it called the Hwasong-15. Outside governments and analysts concurred the North had made a jump in missile capability.

A resumption of Pyongyang's torrid testing pace in pursuit of its goal of a viable arsenal of nuclear-tipped missiles that can hit the U.S. mainland had been widely expected, but the power of the missile and suddenness of the test still jolted the Korean Peninsula and Washington. The launch at 3:17 a.m. local time and midday in the U.S. capital indicated an effort to perfect the element of surprise and to obtain maximum attention in the United States.

In a government statement released through state media, North Korea said the Hwasong-15, the "greatest ICBM," could be armed with a "super-large heavy nuclear warhead" and is capable of striking the "whole mainland" of the United States. The North said the missile reached a height of 4,475 kilometers and traveled 950 kilometers before accurately hitting a sea target, similar to the flight data announced by South Korea's military.

It said leader Kim Jong Un after the successful launch "declared with pride" that the country has achieved its goal of becoming a "rocket power." State TV said Kim gave the order on Tuesday and broadcast a photo of Kim's signed order where he wrote: "Test launch is approved. Taking place at the daybreak of Nov. 29! Fire with courage for the party and country!"

The firing is a clear message of defiance aimed at the Trump administration, which a week earlier had restored North Korea to a U.S. list of terror sponsors. It also ruins nascent diplomatic efforts, raises fears of war or a pre-emptive U.S. strike and casts a deeper shadow over the security of the Winter Olympics early next year in South Korea.

A rattled Seoul responded by almost immediately launching three of its own missiles in a show of force. President Moon



People cheer as they watch the news broadcast announcing Kim Jong Un's order to test-fire the newly developed ICBM Hwasong-15

Jae-in expressed worry North Korea's missile threat could force the United States to attack the North before it masters a nuclear-tipped long-range missile, something experts say may be imminent.

■ The firing is a clear message of defiance aimed at the Trump administration

"If North Korea completes a ballistic missile that could reach from one continent to another, the situation can spiral out of control," Moon said at an emergency meeting in Seoul, according to his office. "We must stop a situation where North Korea miscalculates and threatens us with nuclear weapons or where the United States considers a pre-emptive strike."

Moon has repeatedly declared the U.S. cannot attack the North without Seoul's approval, but many here worry Washington may act without South Korean input.

The launch was North Korea's

first since it fired an intermediate-range missile over Japan on Sept. 15 and may have broken any efforts at diplomacy. U.S. officials have sporadically floated the idea of direct talks with North Korea if it maintained restraint.

The missile also appears to improve on North Korea's past launches.

If flown on a standard trajectory, instead of yesterday's lofted angle, the missile would have a range of more than 13,000 kilometers, said U.S. scientist David Wright, a physicist who closely tracks North Korea's missile and nuclear programs. "Such a missile would have more than enough range to reach Washington, D.C., and in fact any part of the continental United States," Wright wrote in a blog post for the Union for Concerned Scientists.

North Korea's description of a "super-large heavy" warhead could raise debate on whether it plans another nuclear test to demonstrate it has such a weapon. When the North flight-tested two of its older ICBM models, the Hwasong-14s, in July, it said the missiles were capable of delivering "large-sized heavy" warheads. The North went on to conduct its sixth and most powerful nuclear test on Sept. 3,

which it described as a detonation of a weapon built for ICBMs.

South Korea's National Intelligence Service told lawmakers in a closed-door briefing the possibility of a nuclear test "cannot be discounted," lawmaker Kim Byung-kee said.

The missile was launched from near Pyongyang, and Japanese Defense Minister Itsunori Onodera said it landed inside of Japan's special economic zone in the Sea of Japan, about 250 kilometers west of Aomori, which is on the northern part of Japan's main island of Honshu.

A big unknown, however, is the missile's payload. If, as ex-

pected, it carried a light mock warhead, then its effective range would have been shorter, analysts said.

The analyses of yesterday's test suggest progress by Pyongyang in developing a weapon of mass destruction that could strike the U.S. mainland. President Donald Trump has vowed to prevent North Korea from having that capability — using military force if necessary.

Kim Dong-yub, a former South Korean military official who is now an analyst at Seoul's Institute for Far Eastern Studies, said the missile is likely an upgraded version of its old ICBM with an enhanced second-stage. He believes the North will try to evaluate the weapon's performance, including the warhead's ability to survive atmospheric re-entry and strike the intended target, before it attempts a test that shows the full range of the missile.

In response to the launch, Trump said the United States will "take care of it." He told reporters after the launch: "It is a situation that we will handle." He did not elaborate.

The U.N. Security Council scheduled an emergency meeting for today [Macau time] at the request of Japan, the U.S. and South Korea.

When the Trump administration declared North Korea a state sponsor of terrorism, the U.S. also imposed new sanctions on North Korean shipping firms and Chinese trading companies dealing with the North. North Korea called the terror designation a "serious provocation" that justifies its development of nuclear weapons.

South Koreans are famously nonchalant about North Korea's military moves, but there is worry about what the North's weapons tests might mean for next year's Winter Olympics in the South. Moon ordered a close review of whether the launch could hurt South Korea's efforts to successfully host the games in Pyeongchang, which begin Feb. 9.

Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, who spoke with Trump, said Japan will not back down against any provocation and would maximize pressure on the North in its strong alliance with the U.S. **AP**

CHINA 'SERIOUSLY CONCERNED'

CHINA'S FOREIGN ministry said the country is "seriously concerned about and opposed to" North Korea's latest missile test. Ministry spokesman Geng Shuang said that China "strongly urges" the North to abide by Security Council resolutions and cease actions that might escalate tensions. Geng told reporters at a daily news briefing that all concerned parties should "act with caution and jointly safeguard regional peace and stability," China is North Korea's only signifi-

cant ally and biggest source of trade and aid, but has backed increasingly harsh U.N. Security Council resolutions in hopes of convincing Pyongyang to return to talks. It has called on the North to cease its missile tests and nuclear activities in return for the U.S. and South Korea suspending large-scale military exercises. However, Beijing has rejected measures that could destabilize Kim Jong Un's regime and says military force is not an option in dealing with the tensions.

MAGNUS

SECURITY SERVICES

馬格納斯 保安 (澳門) 有限公司

License No. 5/2010

MAGNUS SECURITY (MACAU) LTD

Avenida Leste do Hipodromo N.S 25-69

Edif. Ind. Fok Tai, 12 floor "B", Macau SAR

Tel.: (853) 2822 1341

Fax.: (853) 2822 0824



SECURITY SERVICES
全面保安服務
EVENTS SECURITY
活動場地保安
SPECIAL OPERATIONS
特別行動
SECURITY SYSTEMS
保安及安全系統
**RISK ASSESSMENT &
RISK MITIGATION**
風險評估及應對措施
**SECURITY FORCE TRAINING
& EVALUATION**
保安部隊訓練及評核

www.magnus-security.net

"MAGNIFYING YOUR SECURITY"

contact@magnus-security.net

HIP.HOP PARTY

EVERY WEDNESDAY

ALL GLASS DRINKS & BLACK LABEL BOTTLE

BUY 1 GET 1 FREE ALL NIGHT

所有杯裝飲品 & 支裝黑牌威士忌
全晚買1送1

D2CLUB
www.d2club-macau.com

Macau Fisherman's Wharf, Edif. New Orleans III
澳門漁人碼頭新奧爾良館 III
Tel: (853) 2872 3777

2017

大湾区创意创新盛典
2ND EDITION DELTA
CREATIVITY & INNOVATION
CONTEST

DCIC

主办方 An event by

特别支持 Special Supporter

组委会 Organising Committee

WWW.DCIC.ASIA

EXCLUSIVE

A contractor fails to deliver Puerto Rico aid

Tami Abdollah & Michael Biesecker,
Washington

AFTER Hurricane Maria damaged tens of thousands of homes in Puerto Rico, a newly created Florida company with an unproven record won more than USD30 million in contracts from the Federal Emergency Management Agency to provide emergency tarps and plastic sheeting for repairs.

Bronze Star LLC never delivered those urgently needed supplies, which even months later remain in demand by hurricane victims on the island.

FEMA eventually terminated the contracts, without paying any money, and re-started the process this month to supply more tarps for the island. The earlier effort took nearly four weeks from the day FEMA awarded the contracts to Bronze Star and the day it canceled them.

Thousands of Puerto Ricans remain homeless, and many complain that the federal government is taking too long to install tarps. The U.S. territory has been hit by severe rainstorms that have caused widespread flooding in recent weeks.

It is not clear how thoroughly FEMA investigated Bronze Star or its ability to fulfill the contracts. Formed by two brothers in August, Bronze Star had never before won a government contract or delivered tarps or plastic sheeting. The address listed for the business is a single-family home in a residential subdivision



in St. Cloud, Florida.

One of the brothers, Kayon Jones, said manufacturers he contacted before bidding on the contracts assured him they could provide the tarps but later said they could not meet the government's requirements. Jones said supplying the materials was problematic because most of the raw materials came out of Houston, which was hit hard by Hurricane Harvey. He said he sought a waiver from FEMA to allow him to order tarps from a Chinese manufacturer and for more time, but FEMA denied the request.

FEMA canceled the contracts Nov. 6, Jones said. The government notified his brother and him a few days later that it would seek \$9.3 million in damages unless they signed a waiver releasing the U.S. from any liability. The brothers agreed.

"We were trying to help; it wasn't about making money or anything like that," Jones said.

FEMA awarded the company two contracts Oct. 10 to provide 500,000 tarps and 60,000 rolls of plastic sheeting. More than a half dozen others also bid, but FEMA said it could not provide details about their bids.

"The award of a government contract to a company with absolutely no experience in producing the materials sought obviously raises very bright red flags," said Dan Feldman, professor of public management at the John Jay College of Criminal Justice at City University of New York. "I would hope and assume that the inspector general for the Department of Homeland Security would begin immediately to take a very hard look at this process."

A FEMA spokesman, Ron Roth,

said the agency's review process was "somewhat expedited" after Hurricane Maria to respond as quickly as possible to the emergency. But he said the agency did perform its due diligence.

"Submissions from potential contractors are objectively evaluated, and a contract is awarded based on the highest-rated submission," Roth said.

Such "best value" competitive solicitations take into account past performance and a contractor's ability to deliver as well as price, said Alan Miller, an attorney who spent 22-years advising federal contracting officials until retiring last year.

"In every circumstance, regardless of the award, whether it's \$400 to the local stationery company for envelopes, or it's \$400 million for a construction contract, the contracting officer is required to make a responsibility determination," Miller said. "Does this company have the infrastructure; do they have the inventory processes, the production processes, the financial capability, for performing the work?"

Nine bids were received on the first contract for plastic sheeting and eight bids on the second contract for tarps. Roth said Star was determined to be the most qualified.

"FEMA's initial technical evaluation determined Bronze Star could do the jobs based on their proposals, which confirmed that they could meet the product specifications and delivery da-

tes," he said.

Kayon Jones, the co-owner of Bronze Star, served in the U.S. Navy from 1997 to 2000, finishing his duty as a seaman storekeeper on the USS Gettysburg, a guided missile cruiser. The contract solicitation gave preference to veteran-owned companies. According to Navy records, Jones was never awarded a Bronze Star, a medal earned by service members who serve heroically in combat.

In an interview, Jones told The Associated Press he picked the name because he has another company with the word star in it. He said his brother, who is also listed on state incorporation documents for the business, served in the Army and is disabled. Army records show Jones' brother also didn't receive a Bronze Star, and it provided no evidence of a service-related injury. Richard Jones did not respond to multiple calls and requests through his brother for comment.

"My brother and I, we are both veterans, so we just came up with a name to do business," Kayon Jones said. "We're not saying we have a Bronze Star or anything."

The day after FEMA canceled the Bronze Star contract, it awarded a contract to OSC Solutions Inc. for plastic sheeting for Hurricane Maria victims. The West Palm Beach, Florida-based company has roughly two decades of federal contracting experience and has produced such supplies multiple times. **AP**

USA

House to vote on mandatory sexual harassment training

ROCKED by allegations of sexual misconduct, the House is moving ahead on legislation to require anti-sexual harassment training for all members and their staffs.

The vote comes amid a wave of accusations against lawmakers that has thrust the issue of gender hostility and discrimination on Capitol Hill squarely into the spotlight, and prompted calls for the embattled lawmakers to step down.

The measure would require lawmakers, their staffs and interns "to complete a program of training in workplace rights and responsibilities each session of each Congress" that includes anti-discrimina-

tion and anti-harassment training.

The Senate unanimously adopted a similar measure earlier this month. That vote came as titans of media, entertainment and sports faced swift punishment after allegations of inappropriate sexual behavior.

Since then, Rep. John Conyers, D-Mich., the longest serving member of the House, is under fire after a news website published a report detailing a settlement with a staffer who said Conyers sexually harassed her, then fired her after she rebuffed his advances. A second former staffer has come forward with more claims of inappropriate behavior.

Conyers earlier this week announced that he's stepping down from his leadership position on the House Judiciary Committee. Two Democratic lawmakers, Rep. Kathleen Rice of New York and Rep. Pramila Jayapal of Washington state have called on Conyers to resign. The Ethics Committee has opened an investigation.

Meanwhile, Rep. Joe Barton, R-Texas, recently apologized after a nude photo of him was leaked on social media.

Two weeks ago, a woman came forward to accuse Sen. Al Franken, D-Minn., of forcibly kissing her during a USO tour in the Middle East in 2006, before he was elected to public

office. Leeann Tweeden also released a photograph in which Franken appears to be groping her breasts while she sleeps. Two other women have since accused Franken of fondling their buttocks while posing for photographs.

Franken has apologized and said he welcomes a Senate Ethics investigation.

Rep. Barbara Comstock, R-Va., one of the resolution's sponsors, earlier this month told a story at a House hearing about a staffer who left Capitol Hill after a current member of Congress exposed himself to her. Comstock said she does not know the identity of the lawmaker.

Rep. Jackie Speier, D-Calif., another co-sponsor, re-



vealed at the same hearing that two current members, one Democrat and one Republican, have also engaged in sexual harassment. Speier declined to name the members, citing non-disclosure agreements as well as the wishes of the victims not to identify their harassers.

Next week, that committee will hold another hearing to review the Congressional Accountability Act, and propose reforms to the

way in which harassment complaints are filed and handled on Capitol Hill.

The vote comes as Alabama GOP candidate Roy Moore faces allegations of preying on teenage girls decades ago. Senate Republicans, led by Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., have called on Moore to step aside, saying they believe the women. President Donald Trump has all but endorsed Moore, who denies the allegations. **AP**

HONDA
The Power of Dreams

穩健・從容 Rest assured

坐擁185匹馬力，配合7前速轉環+/- 撥片，造就13.7km/L高性能油耗。配備原廠360°全景泊車影像系統及先進智能自動泊車輔助系統。同級最低300mm低地台，小朋友及長者亦能「一步到位」。

185 ps and 7-speed +/- CVT transmission seal, reduce the fuel consumption by 22.3% to 13.7km/L. Monitored by the omniscient 360° multi-view camera system and Smart Parking Assist System. The 300mm ultra low platform design provide convenience for kids and elderly.

The All New ODYSSEY



Photo shown here may be different from Macau specifications.

新康明集團有限公司屬下本田澳門代理
新康明汽車有限公司
XIN KANG MING MOTORS LTD.

陳列室：澳門漁翁街354-408號南豐工業大廈地C-D舖
Rua Dos Pescadores, No. 354-408, R/C. C-D, Macau

Enquiry: 2883 5678



Honda Macau



what's ON



DISCOVER MACAU: MUSEUM OF TAIPA AND COLOANE HISTORY
TIME: 10am-6pm daily (Last admission at 5:30pm; closed on Mondays)
ADDRESS: Rua Correia da Silva, Taipa
ADMISSION: Free
ENQUIRIES: (853) 8988 4000

MACAU ILLUSTRATED - EXHIBITION OF CITY PLANS AND ARCHITECTURAL DRAWINGS FROM THE MACAU ARCHIVES' COLLECTION
TIME: 10am-6pm (Closed on Mondays and public holidays)
UNTIL: December 3, 2017
VENUE: Macau Archives, No.91-93, Avenida do Conselheiro Ferreira de Almeida
ADMISSION: Free
ENQUIRIES: (853) 2859 2919

FESTIVE VIBES AT ALBERGUE SCM
TIME: 3pm-8pm (Mondays)
12pm-8pm (Tuesdays to Sundays)
UNTIL: December 6, 2017
VENUE: Hall D1, Albergue SCM, No. 8, Calçada da Igreja de São Lázaro
ADMISSION: Free
ENQUIRIES: (853) 2852 2550

A PROMENADE IN THE SMALL CITY: AN ILLUSTRATION EXHIBITION OF THE MACAU CULTURAL AND CREATIVE MAP
TIME: 11am-10pm
UNTIL: December 31, 2017
VENUE: Lakeside Gallery, Anim'Arte
ADMISSION: Free
ENQUIRIES: (853) 2836 6866

MONKEY KING
TIME: 4pm & 8pm daily (Except on Thursdays)
VENUE: Sands Cotai Theatre
ADMISSION: MOP420, MOP480, MOP680, MOP880, MOP1080
COTAI TICKETING: (853) 2882 8818
KONG SENG TICKETING: (853) 2855 5555

AFFECTION FOR LOTUS - EXHIBITION OF PAINTING AND CALLIGRAPHY FOR THE 100TH BIRTHDAY OF JAO TSUNG-I
TIME: 10am-6pm (Last admission at 17:30; closed on Mondays; open on public holidays)
UNTIL: December 31, 2017
VENUE: Jao Tsung-I Academy
ADMISSION: Free
ENQUIRIES: (853) 2852 2523

Offbeat

WHITE HOUSE-CNN FEUD SPILLS OVER INTO CHRISTMAS PARTY

CNN says it is boycotting this year's White House media Christmas party.
The news network says in a statement that "In light of the President's continued attacks on freedom of the press and CNN, we do not feel it is appropriate to celebrate with him as his invited guests."
The network adds that it will be sending a "reporting team" to Friday's event to cover any news that develops from it.
White House Press Secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders is responding on Twitter, saying: "Christmas comes early! Finally, good news from @CNN."
President Donald Trump has repeatedly bashed CNN as "fake news" and tweeted over the weekend that CNN International represents the U.S. "to the WORLD very poorly."
He said, "The outside world does not see the truth from them!"

TV canal macau



13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	RTPi News (Delayed Broadcast)
14:55	Discussion of the Policy Address for 2018: Social Affairs and Culture Area(Live)
20:00	Miscellaneous
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:00	TDM Talk Show
21:35	Non-daily Portuguese News
21:40	Yes, Chef! Sr. 2
22:10	Brazilian Soap Opera
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Miscellaneous
00:35	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)
01:10	RTPi Live

cinema



CINETEATRO

30 Nov



MURDER ON THE ORIENT EXPRESS

ROOM 1
2:30, 4:45, 7:15, 9:30pm
Director: Kenneth Branagh
Starring: Penelope Cruz, Willem Dafoe, Judi Dench, Johnny Depp, Michelle Pfeiffer, Daisy Ridley and Josh Gad
Language: English (Chinese)
Duration: 114 min



WONDER

ROOM 2
2:30, 4:45, 7:15, 9:30pm
Director: Stephen Chbosky
Starring: Julia Roberts, Owen Wilson, Jacob Tremblay
Language: Chinese (English)
Duration: 113min



HAPPY DEATH DAY

ROOM 3
2:30, 4:30, 7:30, 9:30pm
Director: Christopher Landon
Starring: Jessica Rothe, Israel Broussard, Ruby Modine, Charles Aitken
Language: English (Chinese)
Duration: 96min

this day in history



1995 CLINTON KINDLES HOPE IN NORTHERN IRELAND

The people of Northern Ireland have given a rapturous welcome to President Bill Clinton, the first serving US president to visit their country.
At the end of an emotional day that saw Bill and Hillary Clinton visit communities on both sides of the sectarian divide, the president lit Belfast's Christmas lights from behind a bulletproof screen.
Standing in front of a giant Christmas Tree shipped over from Belfast's twin city, Nashville, Tennessee he told the thousands of Clinton fans that America and Northern Ireland were "partners for security, partners for prosperity, and most important, partners for peace".
The president and the first lady had spent the day mobbed by ecstatic crowds both on the Protestant Shankill Road and the Catholic stronghold of the Falls Road.
Then after a short helicopter ride to Londonderry, Northern Ireland's predominantly nationalist second city, tens of thousands waving the American flag, the Stars and Stripes, turned out in the bitter cold to greet the couple, who were accompanied by SDLP leader John Hume.
But it was a nine-year-old girl that provided the most poignant moment of the day just hours after Mr and Mrs Clinton arrived in Northern Ireland.
Catherine Hamill was one of two children - one Protestant and one Catholic - chosen to read a message to Mr Clinton before his address to workers at the non-sectarian Mackies Metal Works in West Belfast.
She recalled the time her father, Patrick, had been shot dead by the Ulster Freedom Fighters in 1987.
She told an audience of 500 guests: "My first daddy died in the Troubles. It was the saddest day of my life. I still think of him. "Now it's nice and peaceful. I like having peace and quiet for a change instead of people shooting and killing. My Christmas wish is that peace and love will last in Ireland for ever."
Clearly moved, the president made his speech urging both sides in Northern Ireland to maintain the 15-month-old ceasefire through continued dialogue.
Unionist politicians who believe he is biased towards Catholics will have been pleased to hear him condemning "punishment beatings".
On their way from Aldergrove airport Bill and Hillary Clinton had stopped the motorcade to for what seemed to be an impromptu bit of shopping at Violet Clarke's grocery shop in the Protestant Shankill Road.
Later, in the Catholic Falls Road, the couple "happened" to meet Sinn Fein leader Gerry Adams when they popped out of their limousine to visit McErean's bakery.
Swamped by local wellwishers, the world's press failed to capture the public hand-shake between the US president and the leader of an organisation that many believe is the political wing of the IRA. It was a passerby who snapped the moment that was then broadcast around the world.
The president met Mr Adams again for a 20-minute meeting in Belfast tonight. He is said to have been encouraged by his talk with Ulster Unionist leader David Trimble, but less so with the Rev Ian Paisley of the Democratic Unionists.
He had urged all three to use a "twin-track" process to talk through their differences.

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

The president's visit to Northern Ireland was regarded as a great success with politicians of both sides praising his even-handed and sensitive approach.
Only two months later hopes for a lasting peace were shattered when the IRA broke its ceasefire by bombing London's Docklands on 10 February 1996.
The IRA announced a new ceasefire in July 1997 but negotiations and sporadic violence continued until the Good Friday peace agreement was signed in May 1998.
The problems of decommissioning persisted despite the IRA's more relaxed stance over time which resulted in the opening up of some of its arms dumps to international inspectors.
In July 2005 the IRA declared an end to its armed struggle and two months later the decommissioning body announced the IRA had destroyed all its weapons.
President Clinton was re-elected to office a year after his Ireland visit. His presidency ended in 2001.

YOUR STARS

Aries

Mar. 21-Apr. 19

It can be hard to see too deeply into muddy waters - if you try to do anything to clear them up, you're more likely to just make things worse than to get a better view.

Gemini

May 21-Jun. 21

With so much going on right now, the best, easiest thing for you to do is to stay put. No matter how much you want to snap into action and let loose with a flurry of phone calls and emails, try to restrain yourself.

Leo

Jul. 23-Aug. 22

You've got something special that makes your words just a bit more compelling than what people are used to hearing. In fact, you're having so much fun that you want to find a way to keep it up all night long.

Libra

Sep.23-Oct. 22

A surprising new opportunity pops up and lets you rethink your current surroundings. It may turn your schedule upside-down, but you should embrace the change as a means to toss out old habits.

Sagittarius

Nov. 22-Dec. 21

Have some faith that larger forces are at work in your life. It may be hard for you to place your trust in the universe when it feels like you need to go for something (or someone) more tangible.

Aquarius

Jan. 20-Feb. 18

Someone close poses an offbeat but fascinating question, and you want to follow that detour for as long as you can. It's not really a problem - as long as you make sure that all your tasks and duties for the day are cleared away first.

Taurus

April 20-May 20

Sharing resources - including ideas and emotional strength - can help you make further progress (more than you thought possible) at a time like this. Call on your friends and pool your thoughts.

Cancer

Jun. 22-Jul. 22

You can see beyond seeming coincidences and synchronicities straight to the true meaning of today's events. Pay close attention to what your instincts are telling you, especially when they come from your dreams.

Virgo

Aug. 23-Sept. 22

You and someone close are working at cross-purposes today. You know exactly how you want them to be, and it's mighty frustrating that they seem to be falling short.

Scorpio

Oct. 23 - Nov. 21

Creativity is foremost in your heart and soul right now, so make sure you carve out some time to spend on your own. Give in to the impulse to doodle, take a nice long walk, indulge in some yoga or just space out.

Capricorn

Dec. 22-Jan. 19

You always look for ways to benefit those less fortunate, whether you want to contribute to your community in a new way or just take your current involvement up a notch.

Pisces

Feb.19-Mar. 20

Change may not come easily to you (or to anyone, really), but on days like today, you're so inspired that shifts in attitude and circumstances all seem to flow with childlike ease.

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

Easy

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

Easy+

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

Medium

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

Hard

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

WEATHER

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

CHINA

Beijing	-6	4	cloudy/clear
Harbin	-24	-13	clear
Tianjin	-4	4	cloudy/clear
Urumqi	-5	0	clear
Xi'an	1	10	cloudy
Lhasa	-6	11	cloudy
Chengdu	8	14	drizzle/cloudy
Chongqing	11	14	overcast
Kunming	7	19	clear
Nanjing	6	10	drizzle/overcast
Shanghai	9	12	drizzle
Wuhan	4	10	drizzle/overcast
Hangzhou	8	12	drizzle
Taipei	21	25	drizzle/moderate ran
Guangzhou	17	22	drizzle/overcast
Hong Kong	21	26	cloudy

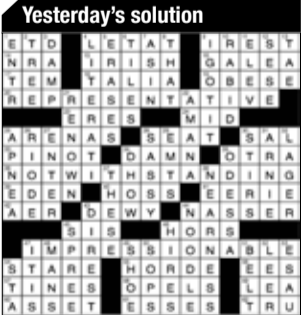
WORLD

Moscow	-6	-1	flurry
Frankfurt	-2	0	flurry
Paris	0	4	sleet/drizzle
London	1	3	drizzle/clear
New York	2	7	clear/cloudy

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- Switchblade; 5- Meets one's maker; 9- Londoner, e.g.; 13- Costa ____; 14- Country singer Gibbs; 15- Isolated; 16- Waste allowance; 17- Have ____ to pick; 18- Rowing implements; 19- In danger; 21- Diarist AnaA's; 22- Bad mood; 23- So-so grades; 25- Slaughter in Cooperstown; 27- Bearing two branches; 31- Worship; 35- Org.; 36- "Exodus" author; 38- Overact; 39- Hearst kidnap grp.; 40- Triumphant cries; 42- Not in; 43- Claw; 46- Prefix with sphere; 47- Meat-grading org.; 48- Clown Kelly; 50- Type of ballot; 52- Arab sailing vessel; 54- Big name in razors; 55- Jai ____; 58- Stutz contemporary; 60- Breadwinner; 64- Cop's collar; 65- Less loony; 67- Prefix with drama; 68- Jacob's twin; 69- Cream-filled cookies; 70- Slippery swimmers; 71- Bears' lairs; 72- Flat sound; 73- June 6, 1944;

DOWN: 1- Mex. miss; 2- Trumpeter Al; 3- Bakery worker; 4- Residence of the popes; 5- Ball girl; 6- Golf club which can be numbered 1 to 9; 7- Bert's roomie; 8- Yellowish brown pigment; 9- Bloom; 10- Horse shade; 11- Cross letters; 12- Try out; 14- Food ordered to go; 20- Sun. delivery; 24- Twilled fabric of silk; 26- Praiseful poem; 27- Moisten while cooking; 28- Muslim religion; 29- Sacred song; 30- Cassette half; 32- Fowl pole; 33- Musical study piece; 34- Stiff bristles; 37- Brazilian dance; 41- Teachers in habits; 44- Legendary king of Thebes; 45- ____ degree; 47- Without weapons; 49- Some sculptures; 51- Period; 53- Has on; 55- Copied; 56- ____ majesty; 57- Irish island group; 59- Change for a five; 61- Lack; 62- First name in jazz; 63- Optimistic; 66- Dawn deity;



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

Taxi 28 939 939 / 2828 3283

Water Supply – Report 2822 0088

Telephone – Report 1000

Electricity – Report 28 339 922

Macau Daily Times 28 716 081



Scan QR Code to Download the JML app

- Find the right property for you

- See property location and details

- Find your JML contact and request viewing





villa frangipani
LUXURY | LIVING | LOVING

20,000 square feet of privacy

At Villa Frangipani impeccable service means knowing when you want to enjoy a private moment.

Whether that is in the Private Spa, your suite, the garden bale, or any other area, our Villa Staff anticipate your needs at all times.

Please visit www.privatevillasofbali.com to get an idea of what we offer.

...wish you could stay forever...

PRIVATE VILLAS
OF BALI

VILLA TIRTA KENCANA • VILLA FRANGIPANI

info@privatevillasofbali.com
www.privatevillasofbali.com
skype ID: privatevillasofbali
+62361 8468513



FRANCE MACAU
Chamber of Commerce
法國澳門工商會



BBAM, CanCham, FMCC and ICCM invite you to attend our Inter-Chamber Christmas Wined Down

**@ North Terrace, 6/F,
Sofitel At Ponte 16, Macau
Thursday 7th December**

6:00 – 8:00 pm

Christmas Lucky Draw at 7:15 pm

Prizes sponsored by FMCC, Four Seasons Hotel, Grand Lapa, Macau, Nata Bakery, Warrior Fitness and more



Canapés will be served accompanied by two-hour free flow of mulled wine, house wine, beer, soft drinks and traditional, delectable Christmas goodies

Members: MOP/HKD 250.00
Non-Members: MOP/HKD 350
RSVP by Tuesday 5th December to
bbam@britchammacao.org
info@francemacau.com
canada@cancham.org.mo



**MACAU BATS
RUGBY CLUB**
澳門蝙蝠欖球會



FOR BOYS AND GIRLS AGED 5-15 適合男生和女孩5-15歲



Kids Rugby - Give it a Try!
兒童橄欖球 - 試試吧!

Email: macaubats@gmail.com

Macau Bats Rugby

FOOTBALL | WORLD CUP DRAW

Guide to eighth teams in Pot 1 headed by Germany

GERMANY: The World Cup holders are in good shape to defend their title after being unbeaten in all games in 2017.

They have already collected a trophy in Russia in the build-up to the World Cup, winning the Confederations Cup in July and using the warm-up tournament to test new options like late developer Lars Stindl.

World Cup qualifying was completed with 10 wins from 10 and a European-record 43 goals.

Key player: Toni Kroos (Real Madrid) — Germany's new leader, Kroos keeps the side ticking from midfield, where his intelligence, precision and composition on the ball inspires teammates going forward.

Coach: Joachim Loew — Juergen Klinsmann's assistant during the 2006 World Cup, Loew took over after that tournament and has overseen steady progress culminating in the 2014 title.

RUSSIA: When the Russians launched their bid to host the World Cup for the first time, they were on a high after reaching the semifinals at the 2008 European Championship.

Times have changed. Russia goes into the draw as the lowest-ranked of the 32 teams, having failed to advance past the group stage of any tournament since 2008. Ambitious talk of reaching the quarterfinals or even semifinals has faded.

Key player: Igor Akinfeev (CSKA Moscow) — A talented goalkeeper who captains the team, Akinfeev has tended to make mistakes in big games.

Coach: Stanislav Cherchesov — After experiments with expensive foreign recruits like Fabio Capello and Guus Hiddink, Russia goes into the World Cup with a dour, defense-first former goalkeeper.

ARGENTINA: A team featuring Lionel Messi can never be ignored, even though the 2014 runner-up barely made it to this World Cup. But other key talent like Sergio Aguero and Gonzalo Iguain have been far from being in top form for Argentina. That is why little-known Boca Juniors striker Daria Benedetto has been deployed up front.

Key player: Messi (Barcelona) — Doubtful by fans, yet the five-time world player of the year delivered. Argentina would not be going to Russia without his goals and leadership. Turns 31 during a tournament that could yet crown his career.

Coach: Jorge Sampaoli — The 57-year-old Argentine is his country's third coach in less than a year. His team has not impressed so far, with only one win in four official matches. His team is the biggest question mark in the World Cup.

BELGIUM: It's time to deliver for a team featuring such exceptional talent. But this is a country that is yet to break into the semifinals of a tournament.

There are issues in defense. Central defender Vincent Kompany is as brittle as he can be brilliant and there are very few credible backups available for the likes of Toby Alderweireld and Jan Vertonghen.

Key player: Kevin De Bruyne (Manchester City) — Overshadowed Eden Hazard at the 2014 World Cup, he has only grown in stature, especially since his move to City and his more withdrawn position on the pitch.

Coach: Roberto Martinez was a surprise pick for Belgium when it ditched Marc Wilmots after a disappointing Euro 2016. The Spaniard easily adapted to life in international management.

BRAZIL: The gloom that engulfed Brazil after the 7-1 debacle against Germany in the 2014 World Cup has lifted.

Brazil was the first team to clinch qualification for Russia and had memorable wins on the way, including a 3-0 success over Argentina in the same Mineirao stadium of the 2014 semifinal humiliation.

Key player: Neymar (Paris Saint-Germain) — Should be at the peak of his game aged 26 in Russia, the forward will have his best chance to overthrow Lionel Messi and Cristiano Ronaldo in best player awards if Brazil wins.

Coach: Adenor Bacchi — Universally known as Tite, he turned Brazil from flop to favorites. Forget Dunga's muscular 2014 World Cup team that depended heavily on Neymar. Brazil is now about organization and flair.



Chances for Ronaldo winning a World Cup with Portugal are running out

FRANCE: A young and vibrant side packed with flair promises to be eye-catching. Recently, France twice took the lead away to World Cup winner Germany and caused the home defense all sorts of problems with the movement and speed of its devastating counter-attacks.

But France is also prone to lapses in concentration, and this needs to be ironed out if France wishes to win the trophy for the second time.

Les Bleus lost the 2006 World Cup final to Italy in a penalty shootout; lost to Germany in the quarterfinals of the 2014 World Cup, and could not handle the pressure of being the favorite in the Euro 2016 final at home to Portugal.

Key player: Raphael Varane (Real Madrid) — The three-time Champions League-winning center back has the difficult task of marshalling a vulnerable defense.

Coach: Didier Deschamps — Turned France into a highly competitive team but has yet to deliver a trophy. Reaching the World Cup semifinals is the minimum target for the 49-year-old Deschamps, a former midfielder who captained France to victory at the 1998 World Cup and Euro 2000.

POLAND: It's the first World Cup since 2006 for Poland, whose fans are likely to travel to Russia in large numbers. It could be the last chance to play on the biggest stage for strikers Robert Lewandowski and Jakub Blaszczykowski, who will be 29 and 32 respectively by the finals.

Poland is largely unchanged from the team which reached Euro 2016 quarterfinals where it lost on penalties to eventual champion Portugal. One concern in qualifying was a 4-0 thrashing by Denmark in September that raised concerns about the defense.

Key player: Lewandowski (Bayern Munich) — Already Poland's record goal scorer, he scored a European-high 16 goals in qualifying.

Coach: Adam Nawalka — Turned Poland from a counter-attacking team into one which seeks to dominate possession.

PORTUGAL: Cristiano Ronaldo's hopes of winning the World Cup with Portugal are running out.

Portugal has proven it also has the mettle needed to win major international tournaments after it ground through the 2016 European Championship and stunned host France in the final despite an early injury to Ronaldo.

Portugal will take the large part of that experienced squad to Russia. Pepe is a physical enforcer in defense, Joao Moutinho adds passing skills to its midfield, and newcomer Andre Silva can help Ronaldo in attack.

Key player: Ronaldo (Real Madrid) — At 32, Ronaldo is no longer the goal machine he once was. Key to success in Russia could be how he is managed by Madrid, and can be rested in less significant games.

Coach: Fernando Santos — Since taking over the team in 2014, Santos has forged a solid defensive block that gives just enough help to Ronaldo. **AP**

DRAW DETAILS

THE DRAW takes place on Friday at the State Kremlin Palace in Moscow, starting at 11pm [Macau time]. The 32 finalists will be split into eight groups featuring a team from each of the four pots. Only Europe can have two teams in the same group. FIFA changed how it allocated teams in the draw and now uses rankings

alone for all four pots. At previous World Cups, only Pot 1 was for seeded teams, and the other three pots were decided by a geographical spread. Russia will play the tournament opener on June 14, 2018. The World Cup final will be held on July 15. Both showpiece games are at the Luzhniki Stadium in Moscow.

New Sunshine Cleaning Services Ltd.



Residence Cleaning
Glass Cleaning
Carpet Cleaning
Pest Control



Call : 2883 3008

Member of General Association of Macao Cleaning Service Industry



旅遊學院
INSTITUTO DE FORMAÇÃO TURÍSTICA
Institute for Tourism Studies

www.ift.edu.mo

Institute for Tourism Studies (IFT) invites applications for the following post:

Recruitment Ref. no.:017/F&B/2017

1 vacancy of First-Rank Captain (Western Restaurant) with Individual Service Contract.

For applications, please refer to recruitment details on Official Gazette announced on 29 November 2017 of issue No. 48, series II.

Institute for Tourism Studies, 24 November 2017.

Ian Mei Kun
Vice President
Institute for Tourism Studies

opinion

Girl About Globe

Linda Kennedy



SOUR POWER

There is a drink that raises questions. It's a raspberry Sourpuss. I'd like this to be extended into a complete collection - others in the range could be the Strawberry Battleaxe. The Plum Frump. A Needy One.

The Sourpuss is a low alcohol craft beer. It's sour, pink and has an intense raspberry flavour. I am not ascribing any intentions to the makers of this beer, but I am pretty sure of the role it plays in the beer tavern. It's a lady pacifier. Something to soothe a wife or girlfriend who doesn't much like beer, doesn't really like going to the pub and particularly doesn't like going to the pub with her chap and his friends.

Who, in the eyes of a befuddled bloke, is the best butt of a joke? The wife or girlfriend who is bored by his drunken stories. 'Oh aye, the sourpuss is pushing to go home.' This drink is a drunk's dream. It's the abbreviation of a sentence; instead of 'order something for the sourpuss' it's 'order a Sourpuss'. It's a cheap shot, although actually a beer.

(An aside: why are you there, sourpuss? Go to the gym. Go geocaching. Race ferrets. Do your own thing.)

I came upon this drink in Hong Kong's finest craft beer hostelry. The Sourpuss was a promoted drink, that week's beer steer. I was meeting female friends for a catch-up, and we sat drinking this pink berry beverage.

'How are the Sourpusses?' asked the owner, peering into our booth. A guffaw came from a couple of blokes at the bar.

The Sourpusses were actually very nice, but the potential usage irked me. It was time to plan a strategy. And so, right then, Sour Power was born, turning our nook into a feminist craft beer coven.

What, inadvertently, this drink has done is create the feminist booze muse. Think about the normal power dynamic, muse-wise: it's artists or writers, or fashion designers, being inspired by beauty, gamine physicality, wispiness etc. Show the slightest sign of those traits near someone with a paintbrush, atelier or a factory in China, and suddenly you're a handbag. The Birkin. Etc.

The Sourpuss blazes a trail. It has distinguished, in alcohol, the slightly irritated female who yearns to go home rather than listen to 80 more stories about Xbox or rugby. Which is great - better to inspire a pint than a perfume. The trick is seizing the Sourpuss from blokes, without spilling anything. Becoming empowered by reclaiming this tipsy taunt.

What we're facing, and drinking, is an alcoholic version of Trump's 'nasty woman' comment about Hillary Clinton. It's an insult, until you own it. Women have the right to be sourpusses - hey, everyone is entitled to a bad day. And while we're being sour, sisters, shall we turn other female archetypes into booze? As well as the Strawberry Battleaxe, why not The Slag - a beer that never goes in the fridge, but stays out all night? The Proseccow. As for the Plum Frump, it would come in a shapeless bottle with a label that was past its best. Let these drinks flourish: let them be the go-to flask-filler on Pussyhat marches. Or the drink of choice on girls' nights out.

And request them often enough in beer taverns so the tenant has to stock them. Then relish the following conversation when you send a bloke to the bar with your order.

'Darling, I really feel like A Needy One tonight.'

'Right, love, what's that again? In case the barman asks.'

'It's got every ingredient in it. And that's still not enough.'

Cheers.

THE BUZZ ALFA ROMEO TO RETURN TO F1, POWERED BY FERRARI ENGINES

Alfa Romeo, the Italian sportscar unit of Fiat Chrysler Automobiles, will return to Formula One racing after a more than 30-year break as Chief Executive Officer Sergio Marchionne looks to revamp the brand.

Alfa Romeo signed a multi-year partnership with the Sauber F1 team "covering strategic, commercial and technological cooperation," the companies said in a statement. The Alfa Romeo Sauber F1 Team will be equipped with engines from Ferrari, spun off from Fiat Chrysler in 2016.

Marchionne, 65, is both Ferrari and Fiat Chrysler CEO.

While the carmaker's engineers and technicians will have a chance to collaborate with the F1 team, "fans will once again have the opportunity to support an automaker that is determined to begin writing an exciting new chapter in its unique, legendary sporting history," Marchionne said in a statement.

Alfa Romeo participated in Formula 1 from 1950 to 1988, both as a constructor and engine supplier.

Sumo wrestler Harumafuji retires over assault allegations

MONGOLIAN grand champion Harumafuji has decided to retire from sumo after allegations that he assaulted a lower-ranked wrestler and tarnished the image of Japan's national sport.

"I have caused much trouble to society," Harumafuji said at a packed media conference yesterday. "I want to apologize to various people in the sumo federation who have supported me. As a grand champion, I have done something that shouldn't be done."

The news dominated Japanese television talk shows and evening newspapers for weeks as the nation expressed shock at claims against a yokozuna grand champion, whose behavior in sports and society is expected to be exemplary.

Harumafuji was accompanied by his stablemaster Isegahama, who made a tearful apology and said Harumafuji, as a yokozuna - the highest level in sumo - must accept the consequences of actions.

Harumafuji allegedly struck compatriot Takanoiwa with his palms, fists and a karaoke machine remote control at a drinking party in late October, fracturing his skull and causing other injuries.



Mongolian grand champion Harumafuji

sing other injuries.

"As a senior wrestler, I felt it was my responsibility to teach him the proper behavior," Harumafuji said of the encounter in October.

The 33-year-old Harumafuji reportedly became aggravated when Takanoiwa repeatedly checked his mobile phone while the two were conversing.

The Japan Sumo Association, which imposes strict rules on wrestlers, is conducting an investigation, but Harumafuji decided to retire ahead of the probe.

Born Davaanyam Byambadorj, Harumafuji debuted in 2001 and has won the championship nine times, with his most recent victory at the autumn tournament in September. He was promoted to yokozuna in 2012.

Harumafuji's retirement is the latest scandal to rock the sumo world.

In 2011, the JSA decided to cancel the Spring Grand Sumo Tournament after revelations that 14 wrestlers were involved with match-fixing.

In 2010, grand champion Asashoryu, also of Mongolia, announced his retirement following reports that he injured a man while intoxicated.

THE DECISIVE MOMENT

AP Photo/Dmitri Lovetsky



All quiet at the border. A man walks past a sculpture of a border guard at an embankment of the Amur River being the border between Russia and China in the city of Blagoveshchensk.

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

SOURCE: DSMG

WORLD BRIEFS



RUSSIA A Russian weather satellite and nearly 20 micro-satellites from various nations failed to enter their designated orbits Tuesday following the launch from Russia's new cosmodrome, another blow to the nation's space program.

GREECE Four people died during a police chase in northern Greece when an overcrowded smuggler's car carrying eight migrants plunged off a 90-foot cliff.



CROATIA The state TV says Slobodan Praljak, who claimed to have taken poison just after his 20-year sentence was upheld by appeals judges at a U.N. war crimes tribunal, has died. Praljak yelled, "I am not a war criminal!" and appeared to drink from a small bottle in the court.

BRITAIN The European Union's chief negotiator in talks over Britain's withdrawal from the bloc said yesterday he hopes to reach agreement on a financial settlement before an EU summit in mid-December.



BRAZIL Fans gathered at the stadium of Brazilian soccer club Chapecoense on Tuesday night to pay their respects and pray for the victims of a plane crash a year ago that killed 19 of the team's players.

BOLIVIA The highest court cleared the way Tuesday for President Evo Morales to run for a fourth term in 2019 despite voters' rejection of such a move in a referendum last year. The opposition called it unconstitutional.