



CEM TAKING PRECAUTIONS AHEAD OF PEAK TYPHOON SEASON

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SOCIAL AFFAIRS AND CULTURE NEEDS TRIMMING

Lawmaker Pereira Coutinho has suggested a reorganizing of the bureaus under the Secretariat, necessary for 'good governance'

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FIFA EJECTS MACAU FROM WORLD CUP 2022

The international governing body for football has removed the Macau team from the competition and fined it 10,000 Swiss francs

P6 FOOTBALL

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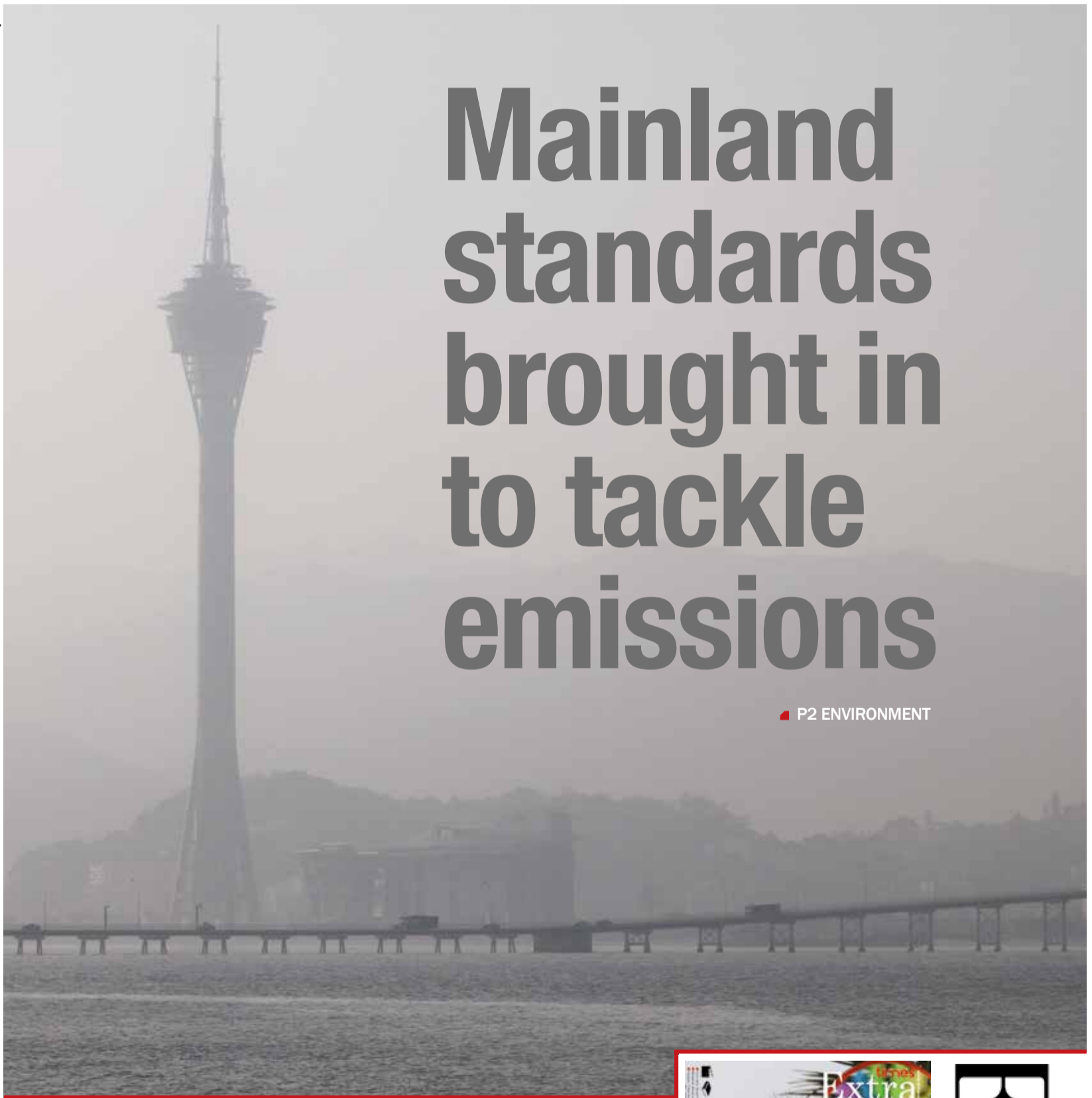
AD

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Mainland standards brought in to tackle emissions

P2 ENVIRONMENT

WORLD BRIEFS

KOREA North Korea said yesterday that South Korea must stop trying to mediate between Pyongyang and Washington, as it stepped up its pressure on the United States to work out new proposals to salvage deadlocked nuclear diplomacy.
More on p13



INDONESIA's top court yesterday rejected a losing presidential candidate's allegations of massive and systematic election fraud, sealing a second term for Joko Widodo, who in fending off the rising power of Islamists has drifted toward authoritarian tactics.

AUSTRALIA The government said yesterday it was "urgently seeking clarification" on reports that an Australian had been detained in North Korea, which the attorney-general described as a "matter of the utmost seriousness."

More on backpage

SURVEY

Most Macau residents reject working, living in Greater Bay

P8



Extra times
weekend Guide
INSIDE

No progress in judicial assistance bill with mainland

The local government is still discussing with the relevant mainland and Hong Kong governmental departments about the mutual judicial assistance bill, according to Legal Affairs Bureau's reply to lawmaker Sulu Sou's inquiry. The bureau said that the local government will fully consider and study any feasible measures regarding mutual judicial assistance. The bureau said that it will formally submit the bill to the Legislative Assembly if the government proposes the bill. Previously in 2015, the local government proposed a judicial assistance bill, which was suddenly withdrawn in the following year. The bureau claims that no progress has been made in regards to the development of the bill.

Clothes shop robbed by man armed with knife

Earlier this week, a clothing store was robbed by a Cantonese-speaking man armed with a knife. The store is located at Rotunda de Carlos da Maia. The criminal stole two mobile phones, one camera and some cash, worth a total of MOP24,000. He also tried to tie up the female owner of the shop. However, the criminal was injured during his fight with the victim, but he escaped. After the robbery, the criminal disposed of his knife, a wallet and a camera inside the bathroom of a restaurant nearby.

Anti-money laundering education called against junket promoters

It has been proposed that the local government enhance its work on anti-money laundering, according to a report by TDM. Yesterday, the Macau Anti-Money Laundering Specialists Association held a symposium on anti-money laundering. The President of the Association Lao Chak Kuong said that the local government still needs to enhance work on anti-money laundering education with junket promoters, who pose a high risk of money laundering. "Are casinos and junket promoters seriously working on anti-money laundering according to the instruction of the Gaming Inspection and Coordination Bureau?" asked Lao. Currently, in Macau, there are a total of 500 anti-money laundering specialists.

ENVIRONMENT

Mainland emissions standards aim to tackle air quality issue

Julie Zhu

THE Environmental Protection Bureau (DSPA) is introducing mainland containment control standards for oil depots and power stations, reportedly in order to improve Macau's air quality, the bureau's acting director, Ip Kuong Lam, said yesterday during a press conference. The new standards will limit the emissions of air pollutants by Macau's two power stations and one oil depot.

The Executive Council held the press conference to announce two administrative regulation drafts on the emission control of oil depots and power stations.

The two bills require oil depots to improve their facilities and management, gasoline storage tanks, oil loading and oil recovery equipment, among other amendments.

In future they will need to meet the standards in force in mainland China, even though air quality on the mainland is regularly reported far worse than the ideal levels set out in the World Health Organization's air quality guidelines.

Oil depot owners must submit a test report issued by an accredited organization to DSPA every 12 months. A fine between MOP200,000 and MOP300,000 has been proposed for any violation.



Regarding electricity substations, power plants should install a gas emission detection system. Every six months, owners of power plants will need to submit a report to DSPA and such a report must be accredited by qualified organizations. Tighter emission standards regarding contaminants correspond to another main regulation in the two bills.

Standards of emissions were solely or majorly adopted by standards from mainland China, according to DSPA's acting Director. Currently, Macau has one oil depot and two power stations. "For one of the power stations and the oil depot, the standards are completely adopted from

mainland China. For the other power station, standards of both mainland China and other neighboring regions were referred to," said Ip.

"Mainland China's standards are more specific and comprehensive in terms of supervision. Monitoring is stricter," said Ip, adding that "in order to protect Macau's environment, we recommend adopting mainland standards."

According to Ip, once the bill is implemented, it is expected that there will be a reduction in pollutant emissions generated by oil depot and power stations of between 24% and 64%.

"Power stations and transportation are the main sources of Macau's pollution. Petrol filling stations [are another major

pollutant], for which the government already came up with regulations last year," said Ip.

In order to meet the new standards, the relevant companies need to change facilities, and the local government will not provide any subsidies to the relevant owners, according to Ip.

Emission regulations on power stations and oil depots, which are being implemented, were established in 2000, and the regulation does not propose any penalty.

"The [new] regulation is a lot more [restrictive] than the current one," said Ip. "The oil depot and power stations will certainly need to purchase new equipment in order to meet new standards."

"Some of the current equipment cannot meet the new requirements. The government is giving a transition period for the power stations and the oil depot to change their equipment," said Ip.

According to the DSPA's latest environment report, in 2018, the main air pollutant in Macau was ground-level ozone, and was affected by factors such as emissions from vehicles and local power generation. The annual average concentration of nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) in 2018 exceeded the standard value on the roads of Macau and the city's high-density residential areas.

CEM prepares storm surge response

Staff reporter

ELECTRICITY provider CEM has introduced a five-phase mechanism for power outage and restoration during a storm surge, explaining each phase at a press conference held yesterday. The mechanism will take effect in the coming typhoon season.

In the previous two typhoon seasons, Macau has been hit by two strong typhoons, which

caused severe flooding in all low-lying areas of the city. Power outages occurred as many fuse boxes were damaged by the water.

To cope with any reoccurrence of such a storm this year, CEM has set up a mechanism.

Considering both the storm surge warnings issued by the Meteorological and Geophysical Services Bureau (SMG) and the actual flood water height, CEM will

take five steps to suspend and restore power supply.

The first phase is pre-warning. With reference to the SMG's forecast on floods, residents in possible affected areas will be alerted to a possible power outage. In the second phase, an actual warning will be issued to residents in flooded areas of an expected power outage. The third phase is power suspension, while the fourth phase is power restoration.

Soon after the floods, CEM will deploy engineers to repair any affected fuse boxes and attempt to restore power in the shortest possible time. The fifth and final phase is power restoration.

All notices will be available on CEM's Facebook page, website and official Wechat account.

Work has also been done to lessen the possibility of power outages caused by storm

surge. New regulations have been enacted to require fuse boxes for new buildings to be installed at least 4.21 meters above sea level. As for existing boxes, work raising the fuse boxes should be done at the unit owners' expense.

According to statistics, the majority of typhoons that hit the region occur between July and September. The official typhoon season extends from May until November.

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TOURISM

Lawmaker says tax should aim at urban improvement

Julie Zhu

LAWMAKER Agnes Lam has told the Times that any kind of so-called tourist tax, currently being studied by the government, ought to be used for urban improvement. She also said that the tax could be used to encourage tourists to visit Macau outside of major holidays, when the city's infrastructure is put to the test.

In May, the Macao Government Tourism Office (MGTO) carried out an online survey asking Macau residents for their opinions on the tourist tax being proposed.

In its reply to the Times, MGTO said "currently, MGTO is in the data processing and analyzing stage, but preliminary results show that there are



different opinions among residents, tourism operators and visitors, meaning that opinions are not one-sided."

"The overall report is targeted to be finalized by the end of this year, and MGTO will then submit it to the SAR Government for further analysis and consideration."

While the tourist tax issue remains unresol-

ved, the MGTO head has repeatedly stated that the purpose of Macau's tourist tax, if it is levied, will not be to reduce the number of visitors, but rather to use the tax for urban development and improvement.

Talking to the Times, lawmaker Lam said she hopes that the income from any kind of tourist tax can be used for

noise-proof engineering projects or for helping seniors.

Previously, Lam proposed that the government could levy a specific tax during fixed periods each year to reduce the number of tourists coming to Macau on holidays as the Chinese New Year.

"My previous opinion [was] that tourists could be diverted in terms of timing, not by location. For example, by diverting tourists who come to Macau on key holidays to other times of the year," said Lam.

In Lam's opinion, increasing tourism costs on major holidays will encourage tourists to visit Macau at other times of the year.

"What the government is proposing is the most difficult kind of tax to collect," said Lam.

Coutinho calls for reorganization of gov't departments

Daniel Beitter

LAWMAKER José Pereira Coutinho is arguing for the Secretariat for Social Affairs and Culture to be restructured, saying that its responsibilities are too broad at present.

Speaking to the Times, the lawmaker said that it was necessary, "for good governance," for the next administration to review the organization of government bureaus.

For example, he said, education ought to be separated from the Secretariat for Social Affairs and Culture and made into its own secretariat.

Tourism should be moved to be under the purview of the city's economy chief, while sports and similar activities should be connected to public works, "because there are often conflicts over space between

sporting events and public works projects."

Asked whether he thinks such a restructuring is likely, Coutinho said, "I hope so - it is needed for good governance."

Political scientist Eric Sautedé agreed that some reorganization would be helpful to streamline the work of the government, but said such changes were not expected to be a priority for the incoming Chief Executive, thought to be Ho Iat Seng.

Sautedé said that, in addition to the Secretariat for Social Affairs and Culture, many consider the Secretariat for Justice and Administration is also overburdened.

He suggested the creation of undersecretaries in the style of Hong Kong, particularly to manage specialist areas such as education or health.

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MISE elects new board, sets goals for 3-year-term

Renato Marques

THE Macau Meetings, Incentives and Special Events Association (MISE) yesterday elected its new board of directors to take the helm of the Association for the next three years.

Bruno Simões, Managing Director of DOC BMC Macau Ltd., will be the Association's next president, joined by Olinto Oliveira, Victoria Fuh, and Fion Lai as vice presidents. Nuno Calçada Bastos is the new treasurer.

The new Board was elected at the general assembly of the Association held at Sheraton Grand Macao, with all candidates running unopposed.

The new team presented the general direction to be taken by the Association, with its focus on the creation of an "Online Macao Events Planners Guide."

As explained, the Guide will serve as a marketing tool to promote Macau as a destination and help buyers to find the right event options

locally as MISE has learned from their experience that Macau lacks a dedicated government department for the sector, as well as good destination promotion tools.

Such a tool would be tailored to the needs of Macau, according to the Association, and its operation financially supported by advertising.

Another of the aspects in which MISE wants to improve is the relationship between its members and government departments, namely with the Macao Trade and Investment Promotion Institute, and especially regarding applications and information on their existing support programs for the industry.

In terms of events, the new board proposes to organize an event every two to three months with the purpose of raising the association's profile. The team also wants to organize networking opportunities, showcase new venues and introduce knowledge and trends brought by guest speakers.



Bruno Simões

Unemployment drops to 1.7%

Staff reporter

THE Statistics and Census Service has released the latest data regarding the city's unemployment rate, which stands at 1.7%. The data pertains to the period between March and May this year.

An annual decrease in employment for this three-month period has been recorded two years in a row.

The unemployment rate during the current period is identical to that of the previous period, between February and April.

Overall, the labor force participation rate was 70.4%, comprised of a 74.7% male participation rate and 66.8% female participation rate. Approximately 0.4% of the total working population was un-

deremployed during the period. The total labor force of the city was 394,100, of which 387,200 were employed.

Considering local residents only, 2.4% were unemployed, with a 64% labor force participation rate.

The gaming industry, including junket services, has maintained its status as the largest employer in Macau. The industry employed 86,100 of the city's labor force during the period concerned.

The wholesale and retail trade industry is the second-largest employer, with 40,400 people on the payroll. According to the latest data, 32,300 people work in the hotel industry.

In addition, 7.6% of the city's labor force work in the public administration and social security sector.

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Macau funding of 'confidential' GBA projects could swell to 100 billion yuan

Renato Marques

THE Macau government has invested a total of RMB8 billion (MOP9.4 billion) into the Guangdong-Macau Cooperation and Development Fund, a fund established last year with the objective of facilitating the city's integration into the Greater Bay Area (GBA).

But lawmakers responsible for monitoring the project say the investments could climb five times higher than previously thought to reach a total maximum investment from Macau of 100 billion yuan (MOP117 billion).

According to the report made at the latest Legislative Assembly Follow-up Committee for Public Finance Affairs meeting, held on Wednesday, the funding for the integration efforts has already amassed 8 billion yuan in the first year, from which the majority, 7.33 billion yuan, was invested in several undisclosed projects.

Questioned on the topic, the president of the Follow-up Committee, Mak Soi Kun, said that the Monetary Authority of Macao, which is managing such investment projects, said the investments are confidential. He said that the target of the investments had not been an issue for the members of the Follow-up Committee, who, according to Mak, had no interest in knowing more about the matter.

"The investments are made confidentially and the government is not in a position to disclose the details," Mak said, adding, "what concerns us is the return rate. We do not

RENATO MARQUES



Lawmaker and President of the Follow-up Committee for Public Finance Affairs, Mak Soi Kun

follow up on specific investment projects but on the profit [that can be generated through such investment]. Once we are assured that the rate is reasonable, we have no interest in following each project in detail."

According to the president of the committee, what was told to the members is that the money had been invested in a total of eight projects, from which five were related to infrastruc-

ture and construction projects in the Greater Bay Area. Some of the funding had gone toward the development of so-called 'technology and science development centers', without any further clarification.

According to the Office of the Secretary for Economy and Finance, at the time of the creation of the fund, it had an annual guaranteed return of 3.5% on the current investment, to which extra returns would be

added. The income would be kept in the Macau Special Administrative Region (MSAR) fiscal reserve.

According to the information, between June and December last year, the MSAR has made a profit of over RMB45 million (MOP52.7 million), while profits from January to May amounted to over RMB51 million (MOP60 million).

The president of the AL Committee confirmed what had

been announced last year; that the Macau government will invest a total amount of 20 billion yuan from its fiscal reserve in various injection stages. He now adds that the money should be fully-invested by the end of this year. Mak also suggested that the initially proposed ceiling of RMB20 billion could, in fact, increase to RMB100 billion if "Macau realizes that such investment is profitable."

FOOTBALL

FIFA takes Macau out of World Cup for refusing to play

FIFA has removed Macau from qualifying for the 2022 World Cup, sending Sri Lanka to the next round by default.

The Macau Football Association (MFA) refused to send its team to Sri Lanka this month, citing security concerns after terrorist attacks in April and a level 2 travel warning posted by the Tourism Crisis Management Office. Macau led 1-0 after the first leg.

In response to the decision, several footballers from the Macau team petitioned the MFA, asking to

be held "solely responsible for all the dangers to life, health, property and other related matters that occur in Sri Lanka, and have nothing to do with the Macau Special Administrative Region Government and the Macau Football Association."

Some footballers on the team threatened to never play again if they were not allowed to participate in the match.

FIFA says its disciplinary panel ruled Macau must forfeit the second leg 3-0 for failing to play. The Ma-

cau federation was also fined 10,000 Swiss francs (about MOP82,000).

Sri Lanka joins a 40-team lineup in the next stage of World Cup qualifying. Eight five-team groups will be drawn on July 17 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

Group winners and the four best runners-up advance to a final Asian qualifying round. Four teams then qualify for the World Cup in Qatar while another team can qualify in an intercontinental playoff. **DB**

TAIWAN

Internet celebrity calls for 'Red Media' rejection

LAST weekend, tens of thousands of protesters took to the streets of Taiwan to oppose the island's pro-Chinese Party "Red Media", local news outlets reported.

The protest was initiated by Internet celebrity Holger Chen and Taiwanese legislator Huang Kuo-chang, who denounced the infiltration of Chinese interests in Taiwan's media.

According to Taiwan News, during the protest, Chen called on the people of China, Taiwan,

Hong Kong and Macau to oppose rule by the Chinese Communist Party.

Protesters criticized the "Red Media" for distorting their coverage of mainland China and Taiwan, attacking the island's democratic political system, and painting a rosy picture of China's 'one country, two systems' framework. According to the protesters, these media organizations seek to indoctrinate the Taiwan public.

They held up placards

that read, "reject red media, defend Taiwan's democracy."

Sedition, or calling for insurrection against the established order, is a crime in mainland China and the two special administrative regions of Hong Kong and Macau. In Macau, article 23 of the Basic Law requires the local government to "enact laws, on its own, to prohibit any act of treason, secession, sedition, [or] subversion against the Central People's Government."



Officiating guests in attendance of the opening ceremony include Mr. Ho Han Wah, Vice Chairman of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (center), H.S.H. Princess Charlene of Monaco (5th from the left), Mr. Leong Vai Tac, Acting Chief Executive of the Macao Special Administrative Region (5th from the right), H.E. Mr. Serge Telle, Minister of State of the Principality of Monaco (4th from the left).

GEG Supports Art Macao Fosters Cultural and Arts Exchange

Galaxy Entertainment Group (GEG) is committed to working with the Macau SAR community to enhance the city's appeal as a cultural tourism destination, and to facilitate its development into a world-class exchange platform for culture and arts. Earlier in May, GEG unveiled the exhibition "GRACE KELLY: From Hollywood to Monaco - Artists' Tributes" at Galaxy Macao. The exhibition is part of Art Macao, a mega international arts and cultural event under the patronage of the Secretariat for Social Affairs and Culture and organized by the Cultural Affairs Bureau and the Macao Government Tourism Office, to establish Macau as a cultural tourism destination. The exhibition is open to the public for free until August 28.



Ms. Joanna Lui

Ms. Joanna Lui, Assistant Vice President of Lifestyle Curation for GEG, said the exhibition is part of the city's celebrations for the 70th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China and the 20th anniversary of the establishment of the Macau SAR. "The exhibition showcases Macau's unique position as an exchange platform for Chinese and Western

arts and culture, and the development of a culturally and artistically diverse Macau," she said. Tracing the story of the legendary Grace Kelly from her Hollywood days as an Oscar-winning actress to her palace days as the Princess of Monaco, the exhibition combines history, culture, fashion and art. "Through the exhibits, we'd like to bring out the message that art is a diverse field, permeating our daily lives. For example, the clothing and jewelry items in the exhibition showcase art's place in fashion. We'd like to highlight the vibrant dynamics of art through this exhibition," Lui said.

This year marks the 90th birthday of Princess Grace. According to Lui, the Prince's Palace of Monaco provided GEG with tremendous support, lending collections of valuable items that belonged to Princess Grace, and art works inspired by her. She said, "We believe the exhibition brings a new aspect to GEG's world-class facilities."

While Macau has long been regarded as "the Monte-Carlo of the Orient", Lui perceives that the two regions share much more in common than gaming. "They are both known for their picturesque streetscapes and vibrant history and share a strong commitment to presenting their appealing cultural and artistic side to the world through various collaborations and initiatives," she said.

The exhibition is the first collaboration between GEG and the Grimaldi Forum since the two parties signed a cultural memorandum of understanding in February this year. Having assisted in raising the principality's profile around the world, the Grimaldi Forum is a window for Monaco to showcase its culture to the world.

Prior to the exhibition, GEG had supported the Chinese exhibitions organized by the Grimaldi Forum, namely, "The Forbidden City in Monaco", held in Monaco in 2017, and "Princes and Princesses of Monaco", held in Beijing in 2018.

Ms. Sylvie Biancheri, Director General of the Grimaldi Forum, praised GEG's collaborative efforts with their curator and its contribution towards the exhibition's design and logistical implementation. "We had been working very closely with GEG to create a dedicated area and a museum-like atmosphere for the exhibition. We hope this art and cultural exhibition will provide a new experience for visitors to Macau and its residents alike, to appreciate exhibitions of this type and quality, and to also explore the culture and history of Monaco," she said.



Mr. Vincent Vatrican, Ms. Sylvie Biancheri, and Mr. Thomas Fouilleron (left to right)

According to the exhibition's curator, Mr. Thomas Fouilleron, Director of the Archives and Library of the Prince's Palace of Monaco, the exhibition is divided into different areas to represent the different stages of the life of Princess Grace: the beginning of her acting career, her winning the

Oscar for best actress, her marriage to Prince Rainier III, her integration into the Grimaldi dynasty and excelling in diplomacy alongside her husband, and her enduring status as a timeless icon inspiring artists from different generations and genres. In addition, Mr. Vincent Vatrican, Director of the Audiovisual Institute of Monaco, explained that the exhibition showcases a variety of audiovisual materials, which further enhances the visitors' experience of the exhibition.

Inspiring Local Arts and Design Students

The exhibition has been attracting numerous art and fashion lovers from Macau and beyond. Committed to creating opportunities for teenagers to expand their horizons, GEG invited students, faculty, and staff from the School of Arts of the Macao Polytechnic Institute (MPI), and the Creative Fashion Design and Manufacture Course co-organized by the Macau Productivity and Technology Transfer Centre (CPTM) and Escola Luso-Chinesa Técnico-Profissional (ELCPT) to visit. Lui welcomed the groups on

behalf of GEG and explained GEG's objectives in bringing the exhibition to Macau. The groups enjoyed a guided tour that explained the story behind each of the exhibit items.



Associate Professor Stephen Chung Kui Seng (right) and Ms. Chillian Chio (left)

"The exhibition makes me feel like I am in a museum," said Associate Professor Stephen Chung Kui Sing, Sub-director of the Cultural and Creative Industries Teaching and Research Centre of MPI. "I believe the exhibition will have a positive impact on Macau's cultural and creative industries and its development of diversification." Ms. Chillian Chio, a third-year art student at MPI, said, "It's important for a visual-art student to see and learn more about different cultures. Through this exhibition, not only did I get to know more about the Monegasque culture, but I also gained some new inspirations about fashion design."



The exhibition traces the story of Grace Kelly from her Hollywood days as an Oscar-winning actress to her palace days as the Princess of Monaco.

Mainland offers 'unsuitable lifestyle' for Macau residents, who won't work, live there

Daniel Beitler

A survey gauging the willingness of Macau residents to participate in the Greater Bay Area project has found that most respondents are neither willing to work nor live in the mainland cities, because it would offer them an "unsuitable lifestyle." The study, conducted by the University of Macau's (UM) Centre for Macau Studies, did not state specifically what the term referred to.

More than 60% of the survey respondents said they were not willing to live in the mainland cities of the Greater Bay Area or in Hong Kong. About 76.5% of these people said the neighboring mainland cities offered them an "unsuitable lifestyle," while about 52.4% of respondents said that the same reason made Hong Kong an unattractive place to work and live.

Just 23% of respondents showed a positive attitude towards working or living in Hong Kong

Of the 37.9% who indicated an interest in living or working in other Greater Bay cities, significant differences were observed in the variables of sex, age, level of education, employment status, occupation, self-identity, frequency of travelling to mainland China, whether the respondents or their family members are working in mainland China, and whether the respondents or their fa-



Study organizers including Agnes Lam (center), director of the Centre for Macau Studies

mily members have studied in mainland China.

The survey found that younger respondents and those with a college degree or above held a more open attitude towards working or living in Greater Bay cities other than Macau.

Meanwhile, "most respondents at the age of 55 or above are not willing to spend their elderly years in mainland GBA cities," contrary to government propaganda that has sought to encourage the use of the mainland as an extended retirement home for Macau residents.

Meanwhile, just 23% of the respondents showed a positive attitude towards working or

living in Hong Kong, with significant differences in sex, age, level of education, employment status, place of birth, and self-identity. The main reason for willing to consider working or living in Hong Kong is better career prospects, reported by 62.4% of the respondents who responded positively.

Although respondents who are willing to work or live in mainland Greater Bay cities have a slightly greater sense of self-identity as Chinese, survey organizers said the difference is not statistically significant. Likewise, the respondents who are willing to work or live in mainland Greater Bay cities

have a greater sense of self-identity as Macau residents, but the difference is not statistically significant either.

The survey also found that about half of the respondents are willing to see more residents from other Greater Bay Area cities visiting Macau as tourists or investors. However, less than 30% of the respondents are willing to have more residents from these cities as workers or immigrants in Macau.

A total of 557 telephone interviews with Macau residents aged 15 and above were successfully completed for the survey, which was conducted between

December 17 and 30, 2018.

The survey was conducted by the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macau Greater Bay Area Policy Research Team of the Centre for Macau Studies, established last year. The team is led by lawmaker Agnes Lam, who is also the director of the Centre for Macau Studies.

Other members of the team include Sheng Li, associate dean of UM's Faculty of Social Sciences; Prof Yu Wing Yat and Prof Ngo Tak Wing from the Department of Government and Public Administration, and Prof Kwan Fung and Prof Chan Chi Shing from the Department of Economics.

AD

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

The Greater Bay project is coming and it will bring both opportunities and challenges to our little-big town. Macau Daily Times wants to hear your voice.

We invite our readers to write in with Letters to the Editor on the topic of the Greater Bay Area.

Please email your letters to gba@macaudailytimes.com

HONG Kong protesters dispersed early yesterday after a six-hour siege of the city's police headquarters, as opponents of the Beijing-backed government attempted to put their case on the global agenda at the Group of 20 summit in Japan.

Several thousand demonstrators surrounded the Hong Kong Police Force's building in Wan Chai after attending a larger, peaceful rally nearby to air complaints about the local government and a now-suspended bill that would ease extraditions to China. The scores of protesters who remained into the early morning hours left after they were confronted by police in riot gear around 4 a.m., the South China Morning Post newspaper said.

There were a few tense moments overnight as some demonstrators blocked roads, vandalized the building's exterior with slogans critical of the police and kept officers barricaded inside, the Post said. The agency had issued a statement after midnight urging the group to leave and "be considerate in expressing their views."

The protest - the second such siege of police headquarters in less than a week - shows Hong Kong Chief Executive Carrie Lam's failure to quell unrest in the Asian financial center almost two weeks after "pausing" her

HONG KONG

Protesters disperse after causing China new grief



BLOOMBERG

controversial extradition bill.

The legislation has helped unify the opposition in the former British colony, drawing hundreds of thousands into the streets and illustrating a source of domestic weakness for Chinese President Xi Jinping just as he prepares

to meet U.S. President Donald Trump in Osaka, Japan.

Besides demanding the complete withdrawal of the bill, protesters want Lam to resign and drop charges against demonstrators arrested during violent police clashes outside the legis-

lative complex June 12. Police unleashed tear gas and rubber bullets to control what they said was a "riot situation" after some protesters threw bricks and other objects and tried to storm the building.

Representatives from protest

organizer the Civil Human Rights Front read from the group's manifesto and had the crowd shout slogans in the languages of some G-20 countries, starting with Japanese. As the rally wrapped up, they asked the crowd to hold up phone flashlights and posters.

"Free Hong Kong, democracy now! Withdraw evil law!" people chanted as a sea of lights lit up. They sang along to Chinese and English versions of "Do You Hear the People Sing?" from the musical "Les Miserables," one of the protest movement's unofficial anthems. CHRF said it didn't have a crowd-size estimate.

Meanwhile, Hong Kong's No. 2 official, Chief Secretary Matthew Cheung, defended Lam's handling of the controversy. The chief executive had "already made a very sincere apology and stressed in no uncertain terms that the current-term administration will continue to do our very, very best to serve the community," Cheung said. **MDT/Bloomberg**

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REAL ESTATE MATTERS

Land tax & property tax explained

Juliet Risdon is a Director of JML Property and a property investor. Having established the company in 1994, JML Property offers Investment Property & Homes. It specializes in managing properties for owners and investors, and providing attractive and comfortable homes for tenants.



JULIET RIDSON

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Its tax season again, and we always get a lot of puzzled looks when we talk about this subject.

In the following parts of this article we discuss the questions we are most often asked on property and land tax, so let's take a closer look at the system through some 'question and answers'

1. WHAT IS LAND TAX? ('RENDA' IN PORTUGUESE)

Land Tax is the annual 'rent' for the land on which the property stands. It is shared amongst the owners that have a property on that land and is usually a nominal sum. The land tax bill issued this year is for the current year's tax, and bills are usually issued and payable in May.

2. WHAT IS PROPERTY TAX? ('CONTRIBUICAO PREDIAL' IN PORTUGUESE)

Property Tax is the annual tax levied on the actual living space.

If the property is being used as a home, then the tax estimated by the government and based on what they believe to be a fair 'rental' rate for the property. If the property is rented out, the tax is calculated as 10% of the rental income for the year or is based on the most recent submitted Rental Agreement. Unlike the land tax, the property tax bill issued this year is for the previous year and bills are usually issued in June, July & August.

3. WHAT IS SPECIAL CONTRIBUTION TAX?

This tax is payable when the initial land rental agreement with the government has expired. The government then grants a new land rent with a 10 year term, and the special contribution tax is paid in advance for that 10 year renewal.

4. WHO PAYS THE PROPERTY TAX?

The tax is payable by the property owner(s). It is treated as a tax on the entity that owns the property.

The tax is usually settled directly by the owner, or by the owners accountant or representative.

JML assist owners to settle these taxes and you are welcome to contact us on the e mail below if you would like assistance.

In order to pay a land tax or property tax if you are not the owner, you must have the original bill.

Alternatively, the government allow a third party to collect the land and property tax bills if they have the details of the property and a copy of the owners ID.

Other owners handle tax payments through their respective accountants.

Only once a property bill becomes 'late' can a third party access the bill at the 'outstanding payment office', and even then supporting documents are required.

At the outstanding payment office they may only access the bills that are requested, and may not provide details of any other bills still outstanding at the same time.

5. WHERE IS THE TAX BILL SENT?

Each person has their own set up.

The tax bill may be sent to them at their own home, or it may go straight to their accountant for example. Some owners send tax bills directly to their accountant or in our case the JML office.

To change the registered address, an owner needs to apply in person.

Tenants are obliged to pass on letters addressed to the owner. However, this is more of an 'etiquette' issue, and is difficult to enforce by law.

6. CAN TAX BILLS BE CHECKED ONLINE?

Yes, now they can.

Owners must first register with the government, and this can only be done in person. Alternatively some banks offer access to tax bills, but it should be noted that you must first have a copy of the bill in hand in order to make payment as you will need to enter details from the bill.

7. I PAID PROPERTY TAX THIS YEAR, WHY DID THEY NOT TELL ME ABOUT BACK TAXES?

We can't answer that question definitively, there may be several reasons.

You have to know the exact bill no and contribution number to be able to check online, and in some cases it seems that the person inputting the data does not see all the outstanding bills, just the bill requested in the system.

There may also be a situation where back tax has not yet been calculated and submitted.

Philippines casino to double capacity as tourism climbs



Megaworld Corp. properties in Manila

Ilan Sayson

A year after taking over from his father as chief executive officer, Alliance Global Group Inc.'s Kevin Tan says tourism and consumer spending in the Philippines will drive growth as his real-estate-to-booze conglomerate doubles capacity at its Manila gambling resorts. Westside City, the group's second casino complex in the capital, will also boost the share of revenue from gaming by almost half to 20% over five years, said Tan, 39. Resorts World Manila, Alliance's first gaming property, is expanding this year and the second resort will begin opening in 2021, he said.

The casino expansion along with a shift to premium products by Alliance's distiller Emperador Inc. and a property boom have Tan expecting to increase profit by about 15% a year at each subsidiary over the next five years, he said. Consumer spending jumped more than 6% in the first quarter in the Philippines, where it accounts for more than three quarters of an economy that's forecast to be one of Asia's fastest growing this year.

"Fundamentally, the Philippine economy is quite strong and consumption is

also quite high," Tan said in an interview. "We will see a lot of our businesses thriving in this kind of environment."

Tan's group covers real estate, hotels, casinos and distilleries, including the local franchise of McDonald's. Its unit Megaworld Corp. is the largest landlord for call centers in the Philippines, with more than 63 office towers, mostly in 24 mixed-use developments across the country.

"Hitting double-digit earnings growth at each subsidiary and sustaining the recovery in its challenged units could put Alliance at par with larger conglomerates," says Rachele Cruz, analyst at AP Securities Inc. "Valuation-wise, Alliance trails the big boys as - except for Megaworld - its units are yet to reach full potential."

Alliance shares are trading at 8 times 12-month estimated earnings compared with 15.47 times average for an index of Philippine holding companies. Conglomerates SM Investments Corp., JG Summit Holdings Inc., and Ayala Corp., which own property developers, are trading at 15 times forward earnings or more.

Gaming unit Travellers International Hotel Group Inc., a venture with Gen-

ting Hong Kong Ltd. and builder of Manila's first casino resort, is betting on new capacity to maintain earnings growth after a profit surge in 2018 ended a three-year decline.

The rebound also represents a comeback for Travellers from a June 2017 fire at its Resorts World Manila casino that left 38 people dead. The blaze, set by an arsonist, cost the company about 60 million pesos (USD1 million) a day in lost revenue and cut traffic by half when it reopened.

"The next five years will be very exciting," Tan said. "I am very confident about how well Travellers will do and how much contribution it will have to our overall top line. Westside will easily double our capacity."

Rising consumer purchasing power in the Philippines is also helping the group's liquor business along with growing overseas sales. The shift by Emperador, the world's largest brandy maker, to more premium products may help the brand weather a planned increase in booze taxes, said Tan.

At the same time, Megaworld will remain a key growth driver for the group with a 300 billion peso budget in the five years through 2024 to

build more apartments, office towers and shopping malls. "We are still experiencing a boom in the real-estate sector," Tan said.

Alliance shares rose as much 1.1% in Manila trading Thursday, while Megaworld climbed 2.2%, Emperador gained 0.4% and Travellers fell 1%.

Investors have welcomed Tan's appointment to succeed his father Andrew Tan, who's still Alliance chairman. Alliance shares were up 28% this year as of Wednesday, compared with the benchmark Philippine Stock Exchange Index's 7% gain.

Alliance's capital expenditures in the five years through 2024 will surpass the record 377 billion pesos for the five years through 2019, Tan said. The expansion will be mostly funded internally.

Alliance debt rose to 297.7 billion pesos as of the end 2018, 14 percent higher than the previous year. Cash flow from operations more than doubled in the period to 17.84 billion pesos, data compiled by Bloomberg show.

"I am conservative when it comes to debt," said Tan. "While the gearing at Alliance is something we are comfortable with, we are preparing to pare that down." Bloomberg

AP PHOTO



TRADE WAR

Trump says China needs to reach a deal more than he does

PRESIDENT Donald Trump said yesterday [Macau time] that he's under little pressure to reach a trade deal with China when he meets late this week with President Xi Jinping and is prepared to impose further tariffs on Chinese imports.

"The Chinese economy's going down the tubes," Trump said in an interview with Fox Business Network. "They want to make a deal more than I do."

The president has threatened to impose tariffs on an additional USD300 billion in Chinese imports — on top of the \$250 billion in goods he's already taxed — a move that would extend his import taxes to virtually everything China ships to the United States. He says the new tariffs might start at 10%. Earlier, the administration had said additional tariffs might reach 25%.

The two countries are sparring over the Trump administration's allegations that Beijing steals technology and coerces foreign companies into handing over trade secrets. Trump and Xi are scheduled to meet at the Group of 20 leaders' meeting this weekend in Osaka, Japan.

Speaking to reporters at a lunch in New York, former Chinese diplomat Zhao Weiping disputed U.S. complaints about Chinese technology policy, suggesting the trade war was meant to hobble a rising competitor. "We think the fundamental purpose is to check the development of China," said Zhao, vice president of the Chinese People's Institute for Foreign Affairs.

He later added, "Nobody will win the trade war. It's

just a question of which side will lose more."

Also yesterday, Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross struck a somewhat more conciliatory note.

"We're not looking for a victory," Ross said in a separate interview with Fox Business Network. "What we're looking for is a sensible deal that addresses the legitimate issues that we have. This is not a thing where one [country] is going to be pinned to the floor and knocked out."

A meaningful agreement, Ross said, would involve persuading Beijing to curb abusive tech policies, buy more American products, narrow the U.S. trade deficit with China (a record \$381 billion last year) and, "hardest of all," devising ways to make sure Beijing lives up to its commitments.

Zhao said the Americans are being unrealistic about just how much China can do to reduce the trade imbalance. "The U.S. has asked us to purchase more than we can buy," he said.

Later, Zhao said, "The U.S. side should not be too ambitious. You have to be realistic."

In his interview, Trump also suggested that he may have identified a new trade adversary: Vietnam. Asked about reports that Chinese products were being diverted to Vietnam to avoid his tariffs on goods from China, Trump asserted that "Vietnam takes advantage of us even worse than China."

Asked whether he was planning to impose tariffs on Vietnamese products, the president said his administration was "in discussions" with Vietnam. **AP**

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Huawei warns US patent curbs would hurt global tech

CHINESE tech giant Huawei warned yesterday a U.S. senator's proposal to block the company from pursuing damages in patent courts would be a "catastrophe for global innovation."

The proposal comes amid mounting U.S. action against Huawei, the biggest maker of switching gear for phone carriers. The company has been devastated by the Trump administration's decision to impose restrictions on its access to American chips for smartphones and other components and technology.

Disrupting Huawei's access to U.S. patent courts would threaten the intellectual property system that supports technology development, said Song Liping, the company's chief legal officer.

The proposal by Sen. Marco Rubio, a Republican from Florida, followed reports Huawei Technologies Ltd. is asking for USD1 billion from American phone carrier Verizon for use of the Chinese company's patents.

"If such a legislative proposal were to be passed, it would be a catastrophe for global innovation. It would have terrible consequences," Song said at a news conference. He said it would "break the foundation of IP protection."

American officials accuse Huawei of facilitating Chinese



Huawei's Chief Legal Officer Song Liping

spying, a charge the company denies, and see it as a growing competitive threat to U.S. technology industries.

Huawei's founder, Ren Zhengfei, said this month it has cut its project sales by \$30 billion over the next two years due to curbs on access to American chips and other components. He said smartphone sales outside China will fall 40%.

Huawei's U.S. sales of network gear evaporated after a congressional panel labeled the company a security threat in 2012 and told phone carriers to avoid it. But the Chinese company has a patent portfolio it licenses to manufacturers and carriers.

Song gave no confirmation of how much Huawei wants from Verizon or the basis of its claims. "We aren't taking an aggressive

approach to intellectual property rights," Song said. "We aim to protect our IP in order to safeguard our global business and we have no intention of weaponizing IP. We are against charging exorbitant royalties, and we think that the fees should be within reasonable realms."

Huawei, founded in 1986, has China's biggest corporate research and development budget at

\$15 billion in 2018. The company is a leader in developing next-generation telecoms technology.

Yesterday, a U.S. federal court jury in Texas ruled Huawei stole trade secrets from a Silicon Valley company but awarded no damages, saying the Chinese company didn't benefit.

The jury rejected Huawei's claims that Cnex Labs Inc. co-founder Yiren Huang stole its technology while he worked at a Huawei subsidiary.

Huawei's head of intellectual property, Jason Ding, said the company was studying the verdict and deciding what to do next.

Asked about a report by Bloomberg News that some Huawei researchers had published papers with Chinese military personnel over the past decade, Song said the company wasn't aware of its employees publishing research as private individuals.

"We don't customize products or do research for the military," said Song. "We are not aware of employees publishing papers. We don't have projects of that kind." AP

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SOUTH KOREA

'Song-Song' couple seek divorce, stunning fans

SOUTH Korean superstar couple Song Joong-ki and Song Hye-kyo are seeking a divorce to end their celebrity marriage of less than two years.

Dubbed as "Song-Song couple," both have huge followings across Asia and elsewhere. They married in October 2017 after falling in love while co-starring in the mega-hit TV drama, "Descendants of the Sun." They are one of the highest-profile star couples in South Korea's entertainment world.

A law firm representing Song Joong-ki confirmed that he was taking legal steps to divorce actress Song Hye-kyo.

The 33-year-old actor offered an apology to his fans because he had to deliver "not good news," according to the Seoul-based Lee & Ko law firm.

Song Joong-ki said he won't disclose details about why he

and 37-year-old Song Hye-kyo want to end their marriage. He said both want to end their divorce proceedings smoothly rather than blame each other.

Song Hye-kyo's management agency, the United Artists Agency, said "a personality difference" is the reason for the divorce.

"Song Hye-kyo is taking steps for divorce after cautious considerations with her husband," the company said, according to Yonhap news agency. "The reason is a personality difference, and the two sides inevitably made this decision, unable to overcome their differences."

The names of the couple were the most searched words on main portal sites in South Korea and China for much of yesterday. Many fans issued messages on online sites expressing their sadness over the divorce.

AP PHOTO



Pyongyang urges Seoul to stop mediating between North, US

Hyung-Jin Kim, Seoul

NORTH Korea said yesterday that South Korea must stop trying to mediate between Pyongyang and Washington, as it stepped up its pressure on the United States to work out new proposals to salvage deadlocked nuclear diplomacy.

The North Korean statement was an apparent continuation of its displeasure with Seoul and Washington over the stalled diplomacy. But there are no signs that North Korea would formally abandon talks anytime soon as an inter-Korean liaison office in North Korea remains operating and the North still talks about good relations between its leader Kim Jong Un and President Donald Trump.

The statement came two days before Trump visits South Korea for a two-day trip.

There have been no public meetings between the United States and North Korea since the breakdown of the second summit between Trump and Kim in Hanoi in February. Kim returned home empty-handed after Trump refused to provide him with badly needed sanctions relief in return for a limited

denuclearization step.

The summit's collapse was a blow to South Korean President Moon Jae-in, a liberal who shuttled between Washington and Pyongyang to facilitate talks between the countries to help find a diplomatic settlement of the North Korean nuclear crisis.

Talks of revival of diplomacy, however, has flared after Trump and Kim recently exchanged personal letters. Moon said earlier this week that U.S. and North Korean officials were holding "behind-the-scenes talks" to try to set up a third summit between Trump and Kim. Moon also said talks between the two Koreas have been under way through unspecified "various channels."

Kwon Jong Gun, chief of the North Korean Foreign Ministry's U.S. affairs department, said it will "never go through" South Korea again when it deals with the United States. He also dismissed as false the comments by Moon and other South Korean officials that there are various exchanges and unofficial talks between the two Koreas.

"It's better for the South Korean authorities to mind their own business at home," Kwon said.

South Korea's Unification Ministry later yesterday said its push for peace and denuclearization on the Korean Peninsula through dialogue remains unchanged. A ministry statement didn't directly mention the latest North Korean statement.

Kwon's statement came after Chinese President Xi Jinping met with Kim during the first Chinese leader's visit to Pyongyang since 2005. Some experts said Xi's trip signaled Beijing, Pyongyang's main ally and aid benefactor, intended to play a greater role as a mediator in the nuclear issue to increase its leverage with Washington over trade disputes.

Kwon also reiterated Kim's previous demand that the United States to come up with acceptable nuclear deals by the end of December.

"(North Korea)-U.S. talks won't be held by themselves if the U.S. is repeating the resumption of dialogue like a parrot without thinking about realistic proposals that are in the interests of both sides," he said.

He still said that North Korea-U.S. relations are proceeding based on the "friendly relations" between Kim and Trump. **AP**

AP PHOTO



South Korean actress Song Hye-kyo (right) and actor Song Joong-ki

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Consumer activism and technology-driven behavioral changes are forcing luxury marketers to look anew at sustainable manufacturing, digital marketing, ecommerce and mobile, targeting millennials and Gen Z without alienating baby boomers and Gen X, as well as at the resale and rental markets. How are these factors to change their way of doing business in the year ahead?

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Zeke Miller
& Jonathan Lemire, Osaka

AP PHOTO

HEADING into what is likely his most consequential overseas trip of the year, President Donald Trump will be forced to grapple with a flurry of international crises, tense negotiations and a growing global to-do list.

Trump goes first to Osaka, Japan, for the annual Group of 20 summit, then on to South Korea for consultations on North Korea's nuclear program. The agenda for his four-day trip is as laden with hazards for the president as it is light on the ceremonial pomp that marked his recent state visits to Japan and the United Kingdom.

The showdown between the U.S. and Iran, a trade war with China and the threat of fresh election interference by Russia are just some of the issues confronting the American leader who has shown little patience for the subtleties of global interactions and whose administration has struggled to grapple with simultaneous challenges.

As he faces mounting pressures to deliver results on a lengthy roster of global concerns, the president will meet one-on-one with at least eight world leaders on the summit's sidelines beginning with dinner with Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison just after he lands in Japan early today [Macau time].

But White House officials are playing down prospects of specific accomplishments in what is the president's third international trip in a month, even as Trump himself said of his "competitors" from other nations: "That's OK. We're doing great. We're doing better than any of them."

The week was set up to deliver a remarkable split-screen dynamic in American politics: While Trump is in Asia, the Democrats vying to replace him next year are holding their first primary debates. As Air Force One soared toward Japan, Trump delivered a succinct review on Twitter of part 1 of a two-night debate: "BORING!"

Later, the president, ever the media critic, mocked NBC for an audio malfunction that briefly interrupted the proceedings.

His calendar in Osaka includes sit-downs with Russian President Vladimir Putin, Chinese President Xi Jinping, Turkey's Recep Tayyip Erdogan and Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, all of whom have authoritarian tendencies, as well as disquieted allies including Germany's Angela Merkel and more contented ones such as Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe.

Before he even touched down, Trump had a very public message for another of the leaders with whom he'll meet, Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Trump complained that India had recently increased its tariffs against the United States, tweeting, "This is unacceptable and



Trump on the way to Osaka: A stop-over at Anchorage, Alaska

G20

Trump heads to Asia for talks on trade, Iran, North Korea

the Tariffs must be withdrawn!"

The president left Washington days after pulling back from the brink of armed conflict with Iran and as he trades threats over its nuclear program and support for terror groups. With Iran threatening to breach uranium enrichment limits set in the 2015 nuclear accord as soon today, Trump will be asked to articulate his strategy for containing Iran to skeptical world leaders after pulling the U.S. from the deal last year.

"The leaders are going to be pressing the president for clarity and then to get into a unified allied approach to the challenge, and it's just simply unclear to me whether we have that policy or that approach," said Heather Conley, director of the Center for Strategic and International Studies' Europe program.

Trump will also find himself face-to-face with Putin for the first time since special counsel Robert Mueller's investigation ended without finding evidence that the Trump campaign criminally conspired with Russia during the 2016 election. It will also be their first meeting since their summit in Helsinki in July 2018, when Trump declined to side with U.S. intelligence agencies over Putin on the question of election interference, leading to an uproar at home and abroad.

Trump told reporters as he left the White House that he expects a "very good conversation" with

Putin but added that "what I say to him is none of your business." His aides have grown worried that Trump may use the meeting to once again attack the Mueller probe, particularly since the special counsel now has a date to testify before Congress next month.

Last November, Trump canceled a planned meeting with Putin at the G-20 in Argentina after Russia seized two Ukrainian vessels and their crew in the Sea of Azov, but the continued detention of the crew members does not appear to be deterring the leaders from meeting this time. Aside from Iran, the leaders are expected to discuss hotspots in Syria and Venezuela, as well as nuclear weapons.

■ The week was set up to deliver a remarkable split-screen dynamic in American politics: While Trump is in Asia, the Democrats are holding their first primary debates

White House officials said there are no plans for a meeting in South Korea between Trump and North Korea's Kim Jong Un, with whom the president has restarted diplomacy-by-correspondence since their failed Hanoi summit in March. But there was speculation that the president would make another attempt to travel to the Demilitarized Zone between the Koreas after fog preventing him from taking a helicopter there in November 2017.

Trump is to speak with South Korean President Moon Jae-in about efforts to bring North Korea back to the negotiating table as the American holds out hope for an elusive legacy-making nuclear deal. Moon told The Associated Press and other news agencies Wednesday that the U.S. and North Korea are holding "behind-the-scenes talks" to arrange a third summit between the two leaders.

With Xi, a senior administration official said, Trump's top aim will be rebooting trade negotiations between the two countries after they collapsed earlier this year. In an interview with Fox Business Network on Wednesday, Trump threatened again to impose even stiffer tariffs on Chinese imports to the U.S. if talks remain stalemated. But officials in both nations are looking for an off-ramp as concerns mount about the economic impact of the yearlong trade war.

Trump will also meet with Crown Prince Mohammed, who U.S. intelligence services concluded ordered the grisly killing of Washington Post columnist Jamal Khashoggi, a U.S. resident. Trump has long been loath to scold authoritarian leaders for human rights abuses. He has continued to pursue a close relationship with Saudi Arabia, a lynchpin to the U.S.' Middle East strategy to counter Iran, despite its role in furthering humanitarian disaster in Yemen's civil war.

Trump's meeting with Erdogan will be his first since announcing, and then backing off, a withdrawal of U.S. forces from Syria. There also is a growing rift between the two NATO allies over Turkey's planned purchase of a Russian surface-to-air missile system and a U.S. threat to suspend planned deliveries to Turkey of the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter.

Never fully willing to pass up domestic politics, even when overseas, Trump will have to divide his attention between affairs of state and the debates. He will be in meetings with world leaders when Democratic front-runner Joe Biden and others take the debate stage today [Macau time]. Trump aides believe the scheduling fluke will highlight the signature advantage of incumbency — that the president already occupies the job the Democrats want. **AP**

TV canal macau

FRIDAY

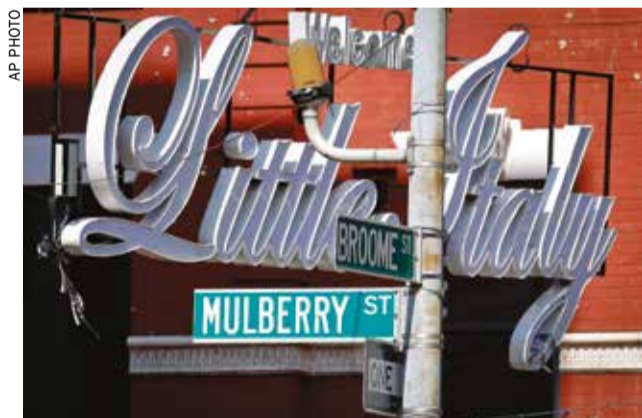
13:00	TDM News (Repetição)
13:30	Telejornal RTPi (Diferido)
15:00	Água de Mar
15:45	Zig Zag
16:05	Portugueses Sem Fronteiras
16:35	Quem Quer Ser Milionário
17:30	Tempos Modernos
18:00	Amor Maior (Repetição)
18:50	TDM Talk Show (Repetição)
19:25	Livros com João Guedes (Repetição)
19:35	Os Nossos Dias Sr.2
20:30	Telejornal
21:15	Semana Internacional
21:50	Viagens em Série - Estreia
22:15	Amor Maior
23:15	TDM News
23:50	Daqui P'rá Frente
01:20	Telejornal (Repetição)
02:05	RTPi Directo

SATURDAY

10:30	Zig Zag
11:05	Purple Devil
11:10	Chai Chai
11:30	Portugal Selvagem
12:00	Visita Guiada Sr.3
12:30	Ingrediente Secreto
13:00	TDM News (Repetição)
13:30	Telejornal RTPi (Diferido)
14:30	Amor Maior (Repetição)
15:25	Janela Indiscreta
16:15	Hora dos Portugueses Sr.2
17:00	Animais Anónimos
17:30	Joker
18:15	Sinais de Vida
19:00	Semana Internacional (Repetição)
19:35	O Contrato Sr.2 - Estreia
20:30	Telejornal
21:15	Uma Noite Fora do Palácio
23:15	TDM News
23:50	Regatas Internacionais de Barcos-Dragão de Macau 2019 - Resumo
00:10	Cá Por Casa
02:05	Telejornal (Repetição)

Offbeat

POLICE ARREST MAN ACCUSED OF STEALING 26 STREET SIGNS



Deputies have arrested a Vermont man who is accused of stealing more than two dozen street signs. Mynbc.com reports 19-year-old Joshua Hanselman has been charged with larceny and unlawful mischief after acknowledging that he and others stole the 26 street signs. The signs were stolen between April and May from the towns of Georgia and Fairfax. Charges against the other individuals involved are pending. Hanselman told deputies the group stole the signs so they could display them in their homes. Authorities said Hanselman was ordered to appear in court July 15. The Franklin County sheriff's office is working with the office of the state's attorney to determine if other charges will be filed. A number for Hanselman could not be found and it was unclear if he has an attorney.

cinema

CINETEATRO

28 Jun



SPIDER-MAN: FAR FROM HOME
ROOM 1
2:15, 4:15, 7:15, 9:45pm
Director: Jon Watts
Starring: Zendaya, Angourie Rice, Tom Holland
Language: English (Chinese)
Duration: 129min



UGLYDOLLS
ROOM 2
2:30, 4:15, 6:00, 7:45pm
Director: Kelly Asbury
Starring: Kelly Clarkson, Nick Jonas, Janelle Monáe
Language: Cantonese (Chinese & English)
Duration: 87min



MEN IN BLACK: INTERNATIONAL
ROOM 2
9:30pm
Director: F. Gary Gray
Starring: Chris Hemsworth, Tessa Thompson, Liam Neeson
Language: English (Chinese)
Duration: 109min



THE SECRET LIFE OF PETS 2
ROOM 3
2:30, 4:15, 6:00, 7:45pm
Director: Chris Renaud, Jonathan del Val
Starring: Patton Oswalt, Kevin Hart, Harrison Ford
Language: Cantonese (Chinese & English)
Duration: 86min



ALADDIN
ROOM 3
9:30pm
Director: Guy Ritchie
Starring: Will Smith, Mena Massoud, Naomi Scott
Language: English (Chinese)
Duration: 109min

this day in history



2004 US TRANSFERS POWER BACK TO IRAQ

The United States has handed power back to the Iraqi people at a low-key ceremony in Baghdad. US administrator Paul Bremer transferred sovereignty to an Iraqi judge at a handover brought forward two days in an attempt to prevent the occasion being marked by bloodshed. Mr Bremer flew out of the country shortly after. His departure ends 15 months of US control in Iraq. Iraq's interim Prime Minister Iyad Allawi, who attended the handover in the city's heavily-guarded "Green Zone", said it was an "historic day" for Iraq. Mr Allawi's cabinet were sworn in at a later ceremony, also held in secret. The new prime minister made a televised address after formally taking office. He told Iraqis: "I call on our people to stand united to expel the foreign terrorists who are killing our children and destroying our country." Although power is back in Iraqi hands, US President George Bush said American troops would remain in the country as long as they were needed. The president added that US presence would also be at the request of the newly-formed interim government. Mr Bremer defended his country's reasons for being in Iraq, referring to recently discovered graves where thousands of victims of Saddam Hussein's regime are believed to be buried. The former Coalition Provisional Authority administrator said: "Anybody who has any doubt about whether Iraq is a better place today than it was 14 months ago should go down and see the mass graves in Hilla. "Anybody who has seen those things that I have will know that Iraq is a much better place." The power handover was welcomed by world leaders. The European Union and Nato alliance both pledged their support for Mr Allawi's government. Mr Bush and Mr Blair were apparently the only leaders at the current Nato summit who knew the transfer of sovereignty would take place early. The news was revealed by Iraqi foreign minister Hoshiyar Zebari, speaking after talks with the UK prime minister.

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

Bringing the handover forward and holding it in secret meant the transfer of power was not marked by attacks by insurgents. But frequent attacks on US and UK forces as well as on Iraqi civilians have continued to take place in the country. Neither the US nor Britain have yet committed to a date when troops will be removed. Iraq held its first multi-party elections in 50 years in January 2005. An interim democratically elected government was sworn in on 3 May 2005 with Shia Ibrahim Jaafari as prime minister. But finding an acceptable balance of power in the government between Iraq's national groups has proved difficult. In December 2005 Iraqis voted for the first full-term government since the American-led invasion. In January 2006 the Shia-led United Iraqi Alliance emerged as winners of the elections but without an absolute majority. After four months of deadlock, President Talabani asked Shia compromise candidate Jawad al-Maliki to form a new government.

YOUR STARS

Aries Mar. 21-Apr. 19 You'll achieve a right of passage. Or will you go through a hazing? Whatever the initiation ritual, you're moving on to a new level, so embrace it with enthusiasm.

Taurus April 20-May 20 Something is putting a fire under you. Whether it's real or imagined, you still have time to shop around, so don't take the first assignment or job offered to you.

Gemini May 21-Jun. 21 A little communication means a lot, whether with colleagues or acquaintances. Don't just hope things will go the way you want them to. Take the initiative, even if it means withstanding the glare of the group.

Cancer Jun. 22-Jul. 22 Your emotions are easily aroused, and for good reason. Your excellent memory is at work again. Use it as your compass when navigating your way through work, today.

Leo Jul. 23-Aug. 22 This is only a test. Without those words, certain sounds would be frightening. With them, they're to be ignored. Take the latter approach when it comes to doing boring assignments.

Virgo Aug. 23-Sept. 22 Some may wonder how you can remain so high-spirited, and you may not even know the answer. It's your true sense of purpose shining through all the tedium, if that means anything to you or to them.

Libra Sep.23-Oct. 22 If you always feel that you have to choose between being selfish and being selfless, then you're not doing something right. Being a team player feels much more win-win.

Scorpio Oct. 23 - Nov. 21 You're not out for gain, you just want to be of service. Who are you kidding? Not even yourself. You're in it for the money, just like everyone else at the office, so don't feel forced to hide it.

Sagittarius Nov. 22-Dec. 21 Didn't acting macho go out with the last century? Apparently not for everyone. Don't take a retro stance too seriously. Look at it as camp and you can have fun with it instead.

Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 19 If your ancestors are breathing down your neck fairly regularly, then it could be time to make a decision, but it's not the one you think. Family and career don't have to be opposites, so relax.

Aquarius Jan. 20-Feb. 18 Some kind of electricity is being generated at the office. Make sure it's something you can use. Keep it less like lightning bolts and more like a steady current.

Pisces Feb.19-Mar. 20 Being lost in the clouds is one thing, but being delusional is something else altogether. Someone you work with is beyond wearing rose-colored glasses. Don't let their illusions pull the wool over your eyes.

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

Easy Sudoku grid with numbers 8, 2, 6, 3, 2, 7, 1, 2, 8, 3, 5, 1, 4, 1, 4, 8, 5, 8, 3, 7, 9, 4, 7, 3, 3, 6, 9, 7, 5, 2.

Easy+ Sudoku grid with numbers 2, 9, 7, 6, 6, 5, 7, 7, 8, 6, 1, 3, 1, 4, 9, 8, 4, 1, 3, 3, 1, 5, 3, 9, 1, 6, 7.

Medium Sudoku grid with numbers 7, 2, 3, 9, 4, 9, 7, 6, 8, 2, 4, 5, 3, 4, 8, 2, 8, 7, 1, 5, 7, 1, 9, 6, 3, 8, 1, 9.

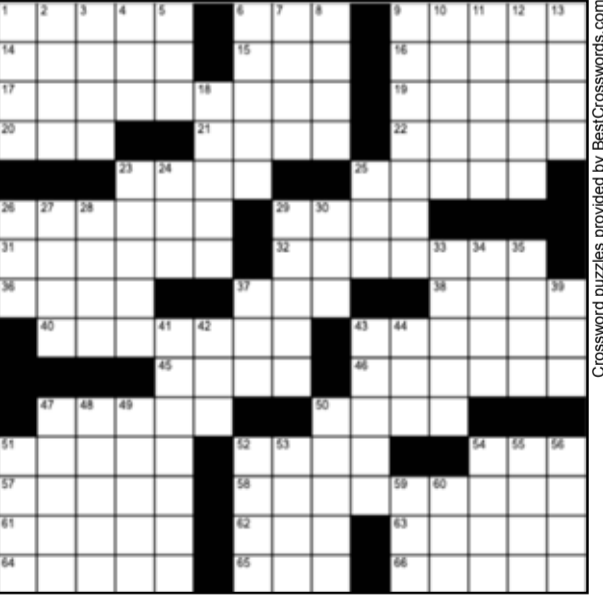
Hard Sudoku grid with numbers 5, 2, 4, 1, 3, 9, 3, 6, 8, 2, 7, 4, 9, 7, 9, 2, 1.

WEATHER

Weather forecast table with columns: CHINA, MIN, MAX, CONDITION. Lists cities like Beijing, Harbin, Tianjin, etc. with temperature ranges and conditions like cloudy, drizzle, rain.

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- Aromatic compound; 6- Simian; 9- Fixes; 14- Lend for money; 15- Cry of a cat; 16- Crazy as ___; 17- Speedy trial?; 19- Foot bones; 20- Tummy muscles; 21- ___'acte (intermission); 22- Atlas feature; 23- Scotch partner; 25- Brought to a close; 26- Girl in a Beach Boys song; 29- Cover up; 31- Thin layer of wood; 32- Pleasant; 36- Hook's helper; 37- Writing instrument; 38- The Buckeye State; 40- Incomplete; 43- Vedic god; 45- No ifs, ___ or buts!; 46- Sign of Sagittarius; 47- Bit of tomfoolery; 50- Hilarity; 51- Bubbling on the stove; 52- Great lake; 54- Sault ___ Marie; 57- Release; 58- Seawater; 61- Fudd of cartoons; 62- NL cap monogram; 63- In the red; 64- Prophets; 65- Some MIT grads; 66- Drat!; DOWN: 1- Isle of exile; 2- Balkan native; 3- Mai ___; 4- Computer add-on?; 5- TKO caller; 6- Range maker; 7- Nuisance; 8- Fancy jug; 9- Afternoon performance; 10- Oxlike antelope; 11- Like Odin and Thor; 12- Gave medicine to; 13- Tizzy; 18- Furniture wood; 23- Unkind look; 24- Praiseful poem; 25- Begley and Bradley; 26- Campers, for short; 27- Rope material; 28- Draft classification; 29- Loaf ends; 30- 007 creator Fleming; 33- Compel; 34- No way; 35- Queue; 37- Launch site; 39- Dinghy need; 41- Suit makers; 42- Business magazine; 43- Hired parker; 44- It often follows you; 47- White poplar tree; 48- Words of denial; 49- Large cat; 50- Breathing organs of fish; 51- Some are pale; 52- "___ quam videri" (North Carolina's motto); 53- Appraise, charge per unit; 54- Show signs of life; 55- Canvas shelter used on camping trips; 56- Energy units; 59- Succeeded; 60- Holy reverence;



USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

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



JML New Website!!!
Screenshot of the JML website interface showing property listings and search filters.

FOR RENT
Carpark at One Grantai, Taipa
\$2,500/mth
Image of a modern building with a carpark.

FOR SALE
[Taipa] Kinglight Garden Loft 1 1 1
800 ft² \$7,380,000 (ref: 19055005ST)
[Taipa] Nice Court 3 2 2
1,600 ft² \$8,980,000 (ref: 19045002)
[Taipa] Man Fai 3 2 2
1,390 ft² \$8,980,000 (ref: 19065010ST)
[Taipa] Nova City 3 2 2
1,494 ft² \$13,980,000 (ref: 17050001RT)

FOR RENT
[Taipa] Soi Cheung Studio 1 1 1
660 ft² \$9,000/mth (ref: 18040675)
[Taipa] Pacifica Gardens 3 2 2
1,317 ft² \$15,000/mth (ref: 17050649)
[Taipa] Nova Grand 2 1 1
986 ft² \$16,000/mth (ref: 19055007RT)
[Taipa] Manhattan 3 2 2
1,720 ft² \$24,000/mth (ref: 18110695RT)

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Rob Harris, Le Havre

FOOTBALL

Investment pays off as Europe dominates Women's World Cup

EVEN Netherlands forward Lineth Beerens-teyn had to check that the number was right.

"Oh my God — seven," she exclaimed. "That's a lot."

Europe sure is dominating this Women's World Cup.

The Netherlands made it a record seven European teams in the quarterfinals by knocking out Japan, which won the tournament in 2011 and reached the final four years ago.

Never before in the previous seven editions had an Asian team missed out on making the last eight. Only the United States' victory over Spain prevented a clean sweep by European teams in the round of 16, and the defending champions now have to face host France today.

"Sometimes it kind of feels like a Euros," Netherlands forward Vivianne Miedema said. "America is amazing."

The compliment isn't being returned by U.S. forward Tobin Heath.

"As a football fan, to me I would want a little bit more diversity at this point," Heath said. "I find European football is sometimes a little boring and I think that there's some teams that are so exciting to watch, that you won't be able to see this kind



Netherlands, Italy, Norway, England, Germany, Sweden, France, and the US dispute the quarter finals

of different style, which is unfortunate at this stage because I appreciate certain teams that are no longer in the tournament."

There is a freshness to the field, however.

The Dutch are in the quarterfinals for the first time in only their second appearance to the tournament. Italy, their opponent

tomorrow, is back in the quarterfinals for the first time since the first FIFA women's showpiece in 1991.

The round opens with Norway playing England, which finished third in 2015, and wraps up with two-time champion Germany taking on Sweden.

Investment domestically is raising standards for players, ce-

menting Europe's control of the international game.

"The biggest example is Italy," Miedema said. "They put a lot of money into Juventus and in a couple of other clubs. You see it directly on the World Cup."

All but one of the Italian players plays at home, with eight out of 23 playing on the Serie A-winning Juventus squad.

"Once the league in your country is really strong then you know your national team is going to become better as well," Miedema said. "It's only going to become bigger."

But a few clubs have emerged as forces in the women's game.

As many players on the Netherlands squad play for Ajax — four — as they do for newly crowned English champion Arsenal, including Miedema. While Arsenal was crowned European champion in 2007, Ajax has never conquered the continent.

The appearance of Norway in the World Cup quarterfinals sig-

nals a resurgence for the 1995 champions.

The Norwegians reached the semifinals in four of the first five editions of the Women's World Cup, but were eliminated in the group stage in 2011 and in the round of 16 in 2015.

The majority of the squad still plays for Norwegian clubs, which struggle to make an impact in continental competitions and can't afford the professional contracts enjoyed by the entire England traveling party.

"When there is money, other leagues can dominate," Norway coach Martin Sjögren said through a translator. "In Scandinavian countries they were really early starting with women's football — that means we have a history [...] but bigger nations started to invest. It had to produce results and maybe put women's football even more on the map."

Sweden finished third in 1991 and 2011 and lost the 2003 final to Germany. **AP**

AD

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opinion

Bizcuits
Leanda Lee



FIELDS OF GREEN...

I dream of a day when all the casinos in Macau have edible gardens on their expansive roof-top real estate.

I have voiced this only once to a fellow gardener – a rare beast in Macau - a person I had heard of but had not met, and he told me that he too visualizes something similar and is currently working towards a productive greening of Macau.

This connection came out of the tenth Startup Weekend Macau recently held at the Sofitel. Held throughout the world at the same time, these events bring together about 30 budding entrepreneurs. They pitch their ideas to each other, then five ideas are selected by the attendees to work on for 54 hours over 3 days, assisted by mentors. Sunday evening each group presents their idea to a panel of judges who select the ideas most worthy of developing.

This most recent Startup Weekend drew on a “Sustainable Revolution” theme because, as the edition summary states, as “environmental sustainability is one of the biggest challenges humanity is facing, it’s our duty to help entrepreneurs find the best solutions to overcome it.”

The teams presented ideas such as recyclable cosmetic containers, pollution extracting infrastructure, recycling systems installed in residential buildings, reusable shopping bags that collect big data, to the winning team’s indoor farming and farming community education systems. I suspect this final pitch won due to the passionate energy which had driven a great deal of systems’ thinking behind the broad scope of offerings: not only were Macau’s organic waste to be used as resources but a community of home farmers would be encouraged to work and learn together about growing and sharing nutrient dense food. Truly the beginning of a sustainable revolution.

The event prompts a reminder that Plastic Free July is just one week away. Big news on this front is that Jacinda Ardern, New Zealand’s Prime Minister, in her monthly video updates reminds her constituents and admiring global followers that this July will see in the single-use plastic bag ban for the nation. Retailers will not be allowed to give out or sell single-use plastic bags: “we are recognizing, and need to recognize that waste not only is a huge environmental challenge, particularly the fact that single-use plastic bags find their way into our environment and into our ocean in a way that reusables don’t, but also acknowledge that actually when it comes to greenhouse gas emissions, waste is a part of that as well,” said Ardern. She admits the government recognises that the infrastructure and facilities are not in place to handle the waste currently produced and that there are budgetary decisions in the pipeline to be announced to improve waste management. In all likelihood, New Zealand will not just focus on the down-stream end but the government will address the causes of the problem, not just cleaning up (a never-ending job that no amount of community-minded souls doing beach clean-ups can fix).

New Zealanders appear ready to cut down on waste due to the hazards to nature and the damage to marine wildlife and our own food chain: plastics break down into micro-plastics now known to enter our food-chain with ever increasing toxicity absorptive capacity. The ban is not just a government imposition upon consumers but has seen a general acceptance of responsibility from manufacturers and retailers as well. At each point along the supply chain, New Zealanders are critically aware that everyone has a role to play in changing habits that have been imposing external costs on community resource, our environment, eco-systems and our health.

Clearly, we are at the beginning of a clear change in awareness and mindset throughout the globe. Fascinatingly, it is often the richest countries with high levels of vested interests, like Macau, that are most reluctant to force systemic change.

THE BUZZ THE MAN SUES KEVIN SPACEY OVER ALLEGED GROPING AT ISLAND BAR

A Massachusetts man who accused Kevin Spacey of groping him at a resort island bar in 2016 has filed a lawsuit against the actor.

The lawsuit filed Wednesday seeks unspecified damages for “severe and permanent mental distress and emotional injuries.”

Spacey also faces a criminal charge of indecent assault and battery stemming from the alleged groping on Nantucket. The former “House of Cards” star has pleaded not guilty

and denied the allegation.

Spacey’s lawyers have accused the man of deleting text messages they say would support the actor’s claims of innocence.

The judge has ordered Spacey’s accuser to turn over his cellphone to the defense, but the man’s attorney has said they cannot find the phone.

An email seeking comment was sent to Spacey’s attorney Thursday.

HONG KONG

Anti-graft body arrests former bourse official Yeoh

Benjamin Robertson,
Lulu Yilun Chen & Cathy Chan

GRAFTBUSTERS arrested a former official responsible for vetting initial public offerings at the Hong Kong stock exchange, in what could become one of the city’s highest-profile clampdowns on alleged white-collar crime.

Hong Kong’s Independent Commission Against Corruption arrested Eugene Yeoh, the former joint head of the bourse’s IPO vetting team, according to people with knowledge of the matter, who asked not to be identified because the details haven’t been made public. Yeoh resigned from Hong Kong Exchanges & Clearing Ltd. in May due to family reasons, Bloomberg News reported at the time.

The ICAC said in a statement earlier Wednesday it had arrested a person with that title along with two associates, without naming any of them. They are suspected of corruption and misconduct related to the vetting of two listing applications, according to the statement. Yeoh didn’t answer phone calls seeking comment.

Hong Kong watchdogs are stepping up a campaign against corruption as the city’s bourse competes with New York to become a



heavyweight listing destination. Alibaba Group Holding Ltd. is said to be considering what could be the city’s biggest share sale since 2010. The exchange is already one of Asia’s largest, home to major Chinese corporations like Tencent Holdings Ltd. but also a clutch of notoriously speculative and volatile stocks.

“Hong Kong by and large remains corruption-free and we still have confidence in the system,” said Gary Cheung, chairman of the Hong Kong Securities Association. “But HKEX should further strengthen their internal control and check and balance mechanism to avoid any improprieties.”

The anti-corruption agency

said it conducted the operation with the Securities and Futures Commission and searched a number of other premises, including the offices of the two listed companies and a financial printing company.

HKEX confirmed that one former employee is involved, adding that neither the exchange nor any other staff was being investigated. The SFC said it wouldn’t comment beyond the release, while the ICAC couldn’t immediately be reached for comment after normal business hours.

The SFC also said it was conducting a specific review of HKEX’s administration of listing and matters relevant to the investigation. **Bloomberg**

THE DECISIVE MOMENT



Dhaka tragedy. People gather around the site of a train derailment in Moulvibazar District, some 203 kilometers from Dhaka, capital of Bangladesh. The train derailment in northeastern Bangladesh has left at least four people dead and about 100 others injured.

Station	Air quality
Roadside	30-50 Good
High Density Residential Area	15-35 Good
Ambient	30-50 Good

SOURCE: DSI/MG

WORLD BRIEFS



INDIA A minibus carrying students to a picnic fell into a gorge along a Himalayan road in Indian-controlled Kashmir yesterday, killing at least 11 and injuring seven others, officials said.

SUDAN’s protest movement yesterday said it received a new, joint proposal from the African Union and Ethiopia for a solution to the crisis in Sudan.



LIBYA’s U.N.-backed government reclaimed a strategic town near Tripoli from opposition forces that have been fighting for the past three months to capture the country’s capital, with a government spokesman saying yesterday its fighters were in full control of the town.

TUNISIA Twin suicide attacks targeting security forces struck Tunisia’s capital yesterday, killing a patrol officer and injuring at least eight people.



FRANCE’s national weather service issued its highest-level danger alert yesterday as it warned that parts of the country could expect temperatures to reach an “exceptional peak” today amid a record-setting heat wave in Europe.

VENEZUELA Authorities say two former Venezuelan officials have been indicted on U.S. money-laundering charges, including the ex-minister for electricity. The Miami U.S. attorney’s office said in a news release yesterday that 60-year-old Luis Alfredo Motta Dominguez faces seven counts of money laundering and one count of money-laundering conspiracy.