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**DOZENS OF CHINESE INVESTORS HAVE BEEN SWINDLED IN A 'GOLDEN VISA' SCAM IN PORTUGAL WITH ALLEGED LINKS TO AN ASSOCIATE OF STANLEY HO** P2

**PAPUA NEW GUINEA CANDIDATE IN CHIEF EXECUTIVE ELECTION** P3

**BEGINNING HER THIRD YEAR IN OFFICE TODAY - HONG KONG'S BIRTHDAY - CARRIE LAM IS FACING A CRISIS AS GREAT AS ANY OF HER PREDECESSORS** P9



**Trump-Kim** With wide grins and a historic handshake, President Donald Trump and North Korea's Kim Jong Un met at the heavily fortified Demilitarized Zone yesterday and agreed to revive talks on the pariah nation's nuclear program. More on p15



**China** Presidents Donald Trump and Xi Jinping have hit the reset button in trade talks between the world's two biggest economies, at least delaying an escalation in tension between the U.S. and China that had financial markets on edge and cast a cloud over the global economy. More on p12

**China's** factory activity contracted in June, adding to pressure on Beijing to shore up economic growth amid a costly tariff war with Washington.



**Rainbow** Tens of thousands of people turned out for gay pride celebrations around the world this weekend, including a boisterous party in Mexico and the first pride march in North Macedonia's capital. Rainbow flags and umbrellas swayed and music pounded as the march along Mexico City's Paseo de la Reforma avenue got underway, with couples, families and activists seeking to raise visibility for sexual diversity in the country.

More on backpage



**MI JIAN**

**11 TYPES OF MISCONDUCT IN COMPLAINT SENT TO CORRUPTION WATCHDOG** P3



**HUMAN CAPITAL NEEDED TO DRIVE EVENTS SECTOR GROWTH**

P4 MDT REPORT



**OZONE POLLUTION WORSENS ACROSS PEARL RIVER DELTA**

P6 ENVIRONMENT

# MACAU STRIKES JUDICIAL ASSISTANCE DEAL WITH MONGOLIA

**T**HE government of the Macau Special Administrative Region signed an agreement on mutual assistance in matters of criminal law with Mongolia last week.

Jointly signed by Macau's Secretary for Administration and Justice, Sonia Chan, and Minister of Justice and Internal Affairs of Mongolia, Tsendiin Nyamdorj, the agreement furthers cooperation in regards to the transfer of judicial documents, investigation findings and evidence.

It will also allow the two jurisdictions to cooperate over the search for and seizure of objects and documents, as well as the confiscation of the tools and proceeds of crime.

A delegation from the local government paid a five-day visit to Mongolia, from June 24 to 28. Its members met with the Ambassador of the People's Republic of China to Mongolia, Xing Haiming, as well as with officials from the General Prosecutor's Office of Mongolia.

While Macau officials were in Mongolia, the two sides held meetings to discuss further te-



Macau's Secretary for Administration and Justice Sonia Chan (left) meets with China's ambassador in Mongolia, Xing Haiming

chnical issues regarding an anticipated agreement on legal and judicial cooperation in civil and commercial matters. A draft version was signed following a consensus achieved as a result of the meetings.

Macau and Mongolia started to discuss mutual assistance in matters of criminal law in 2014, according to a statement issued

yesterday by the SAR government. A draft agreement was signed in May 2017.

Under the Basic Law of Macau, with the assistance and authorization of the Central People's Government in Beijing, the SAR may make appropriate arrangements with foreign states for reciprocal judicial assistance. **DB**

## CHINESE 'GOLDEN VISAS' PORTUGAL INVESTIGATES SCAM WORTH 366 MILLION PATACAS

**A**CCORDING to several media sources in Portugal, the country's Public Prosecutor is investigating an alleged scam regarding investments made by Chinese nationals with the purpose of obtaining "golden visas" that permit residence in the Atlantic-facing European nation.

In the alleged scam, Chinese investors put their money into a wholesale Chinese commercial center located in Benavente, named POAO Center. The center was said to involve the CEO of Estoril-Sol SA, Choi Man Hin, an important associate of local gambling tycoon Stanley Ho in Portugal and president of the Luso-Chinese Association of Commerce and Industry, based in the European country.

According to the reports in Portuguese media, several Chinese investors who claim to be victims of fraud have brought up the case. Among

them are Jin Wenjun and her husband, Cai Wei, as well as Xiaochen Jia and her mother, Yawei Zhang. Jin is quoted in the newspaper Público saying that they had invested repeatedly in the business between 2014 and 2017. Representing about 50 Chinese families, they had deposited 500,000 euros each (about MOP4.6 million) for a total amount surpassing 20 million euros (MOP183 million). According to the same media source, most complaints concerned the fact that the pre-sales contracts signed turned out to be from different properties from the ones contracted.

Jin also noted incongruences between the Portuguese and Chinese versions of the contracts. In the Portuguese version, the contracts refer to "warehouse" while the Chinese version reads "shop." Jin said he would never have any interest in acquiring a warehouse. **RM**



### ASK THE VET

by Dr Ruan Du Toit Bester

## GRAVES DISEASE IN DOGS

**G**RAVES disease in dogs is a condition that is caused by a hyperactive thyroid gland and will occur in dogs that have hyperthyroidism. The condition is considered autoimmune and the immune system will produce antibodies as a response to the thyroid hormones. The disease is rare in dogs, but can have complex manifestations. The treatment options may vary and will aim at reducing the activity of the immune system on one hand, and reducing the amount of thyroid hormones produced on the other.

### CAUSES OF GRAVES DISEASE

Graves disease is caused by an excess of thyroid hormones. The immune system is also involved in the disease, as it will react to this excess of hormones by producing certain antibodies. It is believed that immune system's reaction is triggered by the presence of certain bacteria or viruses. The disease is believed to be hereditary.

### SYMPTOMS OF GRAVES DISEASE

The graves disease in canines can have various means of manifestation. You can notice the following symptoms:

- Enlarged thyroid gland, located at the base of the neck. This may also lead to a change in the voice of the dog, as the thyroid can press against the

### vocal chords

- Weight loss
- Increased appetite, thirst and urination
- Increased blood pressure
- Irregular heart beat
- Protruded eyes, due to the inflammation of the ocular muscles
- Episodes of hyperactivity and agitation, followed by extreme exhaustion
- Insomnia
- Tremors
- General state of weakness
- Breathing problems
- Hyperthermia and fever
- Hair thinning or even hair loss
- Chronic sinus infection
- Hypercalcemia
- Upset stomach with diarrhea and vomiting

The condition may affect each system in the body. The dog may present only certain symptoms and these may occur and disappear for certain periods of time.

### DIAGNOSING GRAVES DISEASE IN DOGS

The disease can be diagnosed judging by the symptoms displayed by the dog and by testing the level of thyroid hormones.



### GRAVES DISEASE TREATMENT OPTIONS

The management of Graves disease in dogs will focus on 2 aspects:

- Inhibiting the immune system
- Reducing the amount of thyroid hormones secreted by the dog

However, there is no known treatment for this condition. Different treatments may be tested and the dog should be monitored to see if the treatment works.

The immune system's activity may be controlled with corticosteroids such as Prednisone, which will suppress the secretion of any antibodies. However, the treatment will also make the dog more vulnerable to diseases, as the immune system plays an important part in the defence mechanism of the dog's body.

The thyroid hormones may be controlled by administering medication such as carbimazole, which will

reduce the activity of the thyroid gland. The vet may also recommend surgically removing 1 lobe of the thyroid gland or only parts of the gland. Radioiodine therapy is also a treatment option and may give permanent results.

Hope this info helps  
Till next week  
Dr Ruan

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CORRUPTION

# Macau's 'integration bureau' chief accused of misconduct

STAFF REPORTER

**T**HE Director of the Policy Research and Regional Development Bureau (DSE-PDR), Mi Jian, was reported by the bureau's employees to the Commission Against Corruption (CCAC) for misconduct, Chinese-language online media All About Macau reported.

The bureau, formed by the Chief Executive to study ways to coordinate Macau's integration into the Greater Bay Area, has been in operation for almost one year.

According to All About Macau, the CCAC has acknowledged the complaint, which will be processed according to the commission's procedures. Hong Kong public broadcaster RTHK also said the CCAC confirmed it had received the complaint.

The Times contacted the CCAC for comment during out of office hours, but did not receive a reply by press time.

The complaint was made as a letter sent on behalf of "DSE-PDR workers," and was at first shared on social media, but apparently later retracted.

The letter alleges that the director has committed 11 types of misconduct. Mi is accused of hiring his doctorate candidates and his own relatives by ignoring the central recruitment process for public servants, wrongfully terminating the employment of local



Director of Policy Research and Regional Development Bureau, Mi Jian

residents at the bureau, appropriating bureau funds, smoking inside his office and evading the proper tender procedures.

The authors of the letter claim that Mi had admitted several doctorate candidates into the bureau to work without going through the central recruitment procedures. Normally, government recruitment is done publicly under certain criteria. The complainants accuse Mi of nepotism.

Mi is also accused of having terminated local employment contracts and of reserving positions for his students by emptying certain managerial positions.

Similar to other recent cases

of corruption, Mi is accused of having divided research projects into small parts with each costing less than MOP500,000, in order to bypass the legal requirement to open a public tender.

He was also reported to have regularly smoked in his indoor office space. The letter stated that reports had been made to the Health Bureau but no obvious follow-up action was seen.

Similar misconduct happened two years ago at the Cultural Affairs Bureau (IC). At that time, the CCAC issued a report that highlighted several unlawful hiring practices at the IC. The report was issued just weeks after a

leadership change at the IC, in which former president Ung Vai Meng quit unexpectedly and was replaced by Leung, one of the bureau's former vice presidents.

The CCAC found out that the IC had failed to publicize job openings properly. Under Leung, the bureau had also been hiring workers improperly through the 'acquisition of services' exception for years.

The CCAC said it had identified similar flaws in other public departments and that, together with the Commission of Audit (CA), it had continuously condemned them in their reports, recommendations and guidelines.

## YANGJIANG NUCLEAR PLANT RECORDS SECOND MINOR ERROR

Another minor problem has been registered at the Yangjiang nuclear power plant in Guangdong province, the local government has informed, though it stressed that this does not mean that the operation is unsafe. On June 26, an error occurred relating to an auxiliary feed pump system in Unit 1 of the Yangjiang nuclear power plant during some scheduled maintenance work. Staff managed to fix the issue in a timely manner and the pumping system was immediately restored to its normal condition. According to the International Nuclear and Radiological Event Scale, measured over seven levels, this operational event was a "Below Scale" i.e. "Level 0" event. A similar "Level 0" event occurred on June 1, described by the authorities as an "anomaly."

## MEDICAL CLINIC SUSPENDED FOR 30 DAYS

The Health Bureau has ordered a medical clinic located in the NAPE district to suspend operations for 30 days, as it investigates possible illegal practices and the administration of drugs with an unknown origin. According to a statement from the health authority, inspectors were sent to the clinic last week and found that its internal layout did not conform with what had been registered with the government. Personnel at the clinic claimed that unregistered doctors had administered injections and prescribed treatment for patients. It was suspected that drugs on site may violate the Foreign Trade Law and so were seized by the inspectors.

## PACKAGE TOUR VISITORS GROW 16.4%

The number of visitors on package tours to Macau rose 16.4% year-on-year in May to reach 827,000, the latest data from the Statistics and Census Service shows. Visitors came mainly from mainland China (639,000), Taiwan (59,000) and South Korea (58,000), rising 17.5%, 6.1% and 26.8% respectively year-on-year. Package tour visitors from Hong Kong (16,000) surged by 53.5%. For the first five months of the year, there were 4.12 million package tour visitors, or 14.7% more than in the equivalent period last year. When all categories of visitors to Macau are considered, inbound tourism to the SAR is tracking about 21% higher this year than in 2018, fueling concerns of overtourism in the city.

# Papua New Guinea's honorary consul becomes fifth Chief Executive candidate

STAFF REPORTER

**S**TEVEN Siu, the 73-year-old honorary consul of Papua New Guinea in Macau, announced his intention over the weekend to participate in the Chief Executive (CE) election on August 25.

Siu becomes the fifth candidate to put his name forward for consideration by the 400-member Chief Executive Election Committee.

Siu said that having started his career as a diplomat, he has learned how to overturn the climate of



Steven Siu

the local political circle, long dominated by businesspeople. He believes that if such a political climate persists long enough, the competitiveness of the

city will weaken. He said he was "encouraged" by his friends to make the decision to participate in the election.

From his commercial ba-

ckground, he drew parallels between the Macau-China relationship and the relationship of a bank branch to its headquarters. The Chief Executive, according to Siu, is just like a branch manager.

If he is elected, he will use "the diplomat's wisdom to harmonize" any conflict in Macau, he said.

Siu's preliminary manifesto is mainly related to the economy. In order to diversify the city's economy, he will work on the development of a stock market clearance center and a gold exchange. He will also encourage local

students to study abroad, and aims to promote Confucian, Buddhist and Taoist cultures in Macau.

Siu said he was still striving for nominations. He felt confident in securing the minimum 66 nominations from the Chief Executive Election Committee.

Siu joins former Legislative Assembly President Ho Iat Seng, local businessman Leong Kuok Chao, infamous protester Hoi Weng Chong and Choi Teng Teng, a self-described 'grassroots' candidate and the only female contender in the race.

RENATO MARQUES



Bruno Simões and Fion Lai

## COMPETITIVENESS IS KEY FOR MICE SECTOR, SAY INDUSTRY EXPERTS

RENATO MARQUES

**M**EETINGS, incentives, conventions and exhibitions – together known as the MICE sector – are becoming more prominent in Macau, even as there are still many aspects to them in need of improvement. That is the opinion of the newly-elected president of the Macau Meetings, Incentives and Special Events Association (MISE), Bruno Simões and vice president Fion Lai, whose organization facilitates the growth of the sector in Macau.

Some 377 such events were held in Macau in the first quarter of the year, including 362 meetings and conferences, 10 exhibitions and five incentives, according to official data from the government. The data shows growth of about 15% over the same quarter in 2018.

Meanwhile, the participants at such events are reportedly growing even faster. The number of participants grew about 20% in the first quarter to reach a total of 333,000 people, generating receipts for the organizers worth MOP9.42 million.

In an interview with the Times, newly-elected president Simões said the sector was just about to enter a new phase.

He said that the sector is entering its second phase after a first phase mostly dedicated to putting in place key infrastructures such as the Taipa Ferry Terminal and the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macau Bridge (HKZMB).

“The sector in Macau has already reached the end of phase one and most of the private sector infrastructure is completed,” said Si-

mões. “Cotai is basically built and there is a lot of infrastructure such as hotels, meetings and event venues.”

“In terms of hardware, I think for phase two we are only missing some transportation projects to be finished,” he added. “We just had the Taipa ferry terminal finished recently, [...] last October, we had the [HKZMB] opening, but we still need to perfect those. We also still need the railway system [Light Rapid Transit] to be completed, as well as some fine-tuning to other transportation aspects that influence the accessibility of Macau, including the airport, which is currently being expanded.”

Simões noted that such infrastructure is important to the success of phase two, but not enough to guarantee it alone. Other elements, such as trained and competent human capital, will also be required, he said.

“We also need the ‘software’ in Macau,” he said. “We have a lot of work to be done in this respect and this will take time.”

For the president of MISE, the quality of staff in Macau’s MICE sector still lags behind that of neighboring

regions - namely Hong Kong, where the sector is more mature.

“If we compare Hong Kong with Macau in this respect, the professional level we have in Macau and the efficiency and delivery of services in Macau is at a different [lower] level,” he said.

Simões said this had little to do with the “world-class hotels and venues we have” but with the rest, such as transportation and logistics, buses, and even taxi services, which are all essential direct or indirect partners to event management companies.

“Hong Kong is a few steps ahead of us and we need to evolve in this software part.”

### GROWTH DEPENDS ON COMPETITIVENESS

Questioned on the growth of the sector in recent years, Simões stressed that the expansion is noteworthy.

“Obviously there are many more events than before and the capacity to host them has also grown a lot. If we talk about the last 10 years, I think that the capacity has risen four-fold now. [...] But we can do many more; we can do events, we

can do festivals, there are many other things we can host,” he said.

Simões and vice president Lai said that competitiveness in Macau is crucial for the sector to thrive. “I think we need more competitiveness in Macau, not about on venues and hotels but on the rest,” said Simões.

Lai added that it was important to consider how to promote the city to the rest of the world as a destination for MICE.

Growth was only important to an extent, she said. For Lai, the number of events being held “is not the most important [measure], but instead what kind of events are coming to Macau.”

The vice president of MISE, who is also the assistant director of sales for MICE at Sheraton Grand Macao Hotel, also noted the relevance of the HKZMB, saying, “it puts Macau in a center for events together with Hong Kong and Zhuhai.”

Lai, like Simões before, said that more time was needed. She said there is still a novelty factor to the new bridge, which was responsible for bringing small groups from Hong Kong to Macau.

“It takes time [for both] people to get used to the new infrastructure and also for us to see how can we benefit from it.”

### THE COST OF DOING BUSINESS

Questioned on the high prices of Macau and how that impacts the city’s competitiveness, the MISE officials said that the prices charged in the city put Macau at a disadvantage when compared with more affordable locations, particularly in Southeast Asia.

“Southeast Asian destinations offer a lot of competition to Macau in terms of price,” said Lai.

However, “China is still a very important market [to the local MICE sector] mostly because of the geographic location as well as ease in communication” for Chinese-speaking customers. That was unlikely to change, she said.

“With Hong Kong, the difference is not so significant as we work with the same currency and in a direct link to the U.S. dollar. But we all know the U.S. dollar is too [expensive] at the moment and for the past two or three years and this makes Macau, just like Hong Kong, relatively more expensive when compared to other destinations,” added Simões.

“At the moment we are not as competitive as we were a few years ago because the U.S. dollar and the renminbi are more expensive than they were before.”

### SKewed PERSPECTIVE FROM THE RANKINGS

In some international reports on the MICE sector, Macau often passes without mention. But the representatives of the association argue that these reports are far from representative of the industry.

Lai said these reports often come from the perspective of one single service provider and are not representative of the industry. She noted that the majority of the requests are done via direct contact with the end user.

Simões agreed, adding that their end users “tend to not make use of platforms to connect with service providers and venues, but instead they approach them directly.”

“We have very solid property brands, very well known and they handle the requests directly with the final client without intermediaries. They do not need to go through an online platform to place a request,” he said.



MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

# Police organize storm surge evacuation drill



**T**HE Judiciary Police (PJ) held another storm surge evacuation drill yesterday, simulating the evacuation of the populace from low-lying areas of the city. It also coordinated similar exercises with the six gaming operators in order to review their disaster management and evacuation procedures.

Yesterday the PJ conducted briefing sessions and a simulation drill to raise public awareness on disaster prevention and storm surge evacuation as the typhoon season approaches.

The PJ noted in a statement that it, together with the Unitary Police Service, aims to facilitate safe and orderly evacuations among the public during typhoons and storm surges.

The "Storm Surge Evacuation Plan in Low-lying Areas during Typhoon" simulation drill was held yesterday from Ponte 16 to R. Francisco Antonio and moved east to NAPE, where the PJ was responsible for the evacuation process.

The drill simulated Macau being hit by a storm surge, and civil protection entities activated the eva-

cuation plan as directed.

The PJ carried out the evacuation in the designated zone and explained the plan to shop owners and residents, including precautionary measures for disasters, and further explained the emergency evacuation gathering points to the public.

Broadcasts will be made via Judiciary Police vehicles to remind residents in the area about the recent drill.

"We believe the drill will not only help enhance the coordination and support between the command center and the evacuation team members, but also give the public a clearer picture of the escape routes, evacuation processes and the necessary precautions in advance," the bureau said.

The PJ pledged to review the drill via public feedback in order to ensure a smooth and effective evacuation in the future.

Last month, the PJ also partnered with the Social Welfare Bureau to organize workshop and simulation drill to raise public awareness of the plan for the city's low-lying areas. **LV**

## FOOTBALL

# SRI LANKA WELCOMES FIFA REMOVAL OF MACAU

**S**RI Lankan soccer officials welcomed a FIFA decision to advance its team to the next round of the 2022 World Cup qualifiers after removing Macau for its refusal to travel to Sri Lanka because of security concerns over recent terror attacks.

Anura de Silva, president of the sport's governing body in Sri Lanka, said Saturday that they had made all arrangements to host the qualifier before Macau informed them of its decision not to travel to Sri Lanka.

"Macau did not inform us that they are not coming until the day before the match. The match officials, referees and security officials

were all here," he said.

FIFA said its disciplinary panel ruled Macau, which won the first leg in Macau 1-0, would have to forfeit the second leg 3-0 for failing to play. The Macau federation was also fined 10,000 Swiss francs (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/AP**

## ADVERTORIAL

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MGM believes personal and career growth are of equal importance; when it comes to nurturing talent, MGM never hesitates. The Company has been organizing series of comprehensive training and development opportunities for its team members on a regular basis. Recently, various of highlighted programs by honorable speakers were offered to equip the members with different fields of expertise.



### Seminar on State Level Banquet by Speaker from Diaoyutai State Guesthouse

Being part of the "Hosting World-class State-level Events" series, this seminar covered a wide array of topics such as Chinese and foreign protocol and etiquette, state-level banquet standards and knowledge of Chinese cuisine, and ensured that MGM team members are well equipped so as to strengthen the positioning of Macau as a leading destination to host world-class state-level events. Mr. Daniel Fung, former Director of Protocol, Public Relations and External Affairs Office, and Ms. Li Xue, Deputy Chief of the Personnel Department of Diaoyutai State Guesthouse, were invited to share their vast professional knowledge and experience on hosting state-level banquets and international protocol affairs to over 150 team members and faculty members from local universities.

Mr. Grant Bowie, Chief Executive Officer and Executive Director of MGM China Holdings Limited, said, "We hope our team members may fully utilize this precious opportunity and apply everything they gained from it in work. It would definitely strengthen Macau's protocol ability, and at the same time reinforce the city in becoming the tourism education and training base for the Greater Bay Area."



### Seminar on Development of Macau Tourism by DSEC

MGM Academy partnered with DSEC, the Statistics and Census Service, to organize the "MGM Celebration of Macau's 20th Anniversary Series - Seminar on the Development of Macau Tourism". Being the first gaming operator to collaborate with DSEC, over 100 management team members had the opportunity to learn about the various important tourism indexes such as the trends and formats of different types of visitors' arrival, spending patterns, tourism pricing, etc., which all have important implications for making better business decisions.

Edmond Chan from Workforce Management shared his thoughts on the seminar, "Speakers from DSEC have shared a lot of insightful information that shows the different trends and patterns of the tourists' behavior. Great to know that there are lots of useful resources provided by DSEC, which will definitely come in handy for business planning."

### Joint Management Certificate Course with MPI

In collaboration with Macau Polytechnic Institute (MPI), MGM has tailored a Certificate Course in Management for Specialist Track members of the PRIDE Program, one of the diverse training programs that MGM offers to develop high-potential local employees, to enhance their skills and promote their upward mobility while contributing towards the professional development for the hospitality industry in the Greater Bay Area.

The Certificate Course in Management is designed to cater the needs of the hospitality industry in Macau, covering a wide range of topics such as decision-making skills, conflict management, priority setting, as well as establishing and managing customer relationships. Team members who complete the course will receive a joint certificate from MGM and MPI.



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### GUIA PEDESTRIAN TUNNEL DESIGN EXPECTED THIS YEAR

The pedestrian tunnel at Guia Hill is expected to see its final design by the end of this year, according to the Land, Public Works and Transport's (DSSOPT) reply to lawmaker Lam Lon Wai. Currently, the design is being assessed and adjusted by relevant governmental departments. After the design is settled, approximately 15 months will be needed for the government to complete the construction project design and the public tender, according to available estimates. Regarding the exact schedule for the completion of the project, the DSSOPT could not offer a timetable, further stating that a date can only be fixed after the tender is finished.

### IAM TO BUILD NEW CHILDREN'S PLAYGROUND

The Municipal Affairs Bureau (IAM) announced on Friday that it is planning to build a new large-scale children's playground inside the Luis de Camões Garden. The project is already outsourced to a contractor, and is expected to be completed by the end of 2019. The IAM is also upgrading the children's playgrounds at R. Central da Areia Preta and at the Praça Ponte Horta. Facilities for the two playgrounds have been ordered from Europe. Once the weather is stable, the upgrading can be completed in a single week, the bureau estimated.

### PARKING LOTS PLANNED NEXT TO AL

Shenzhen Yee Fung Automation Technology Co. is going to build a parking lot near Macau's Legislative Assembly (AL). Currently, the project has not started. It is undergoing a preparation and design process. According to Chen Pingan, director of the company, each parking space will cost between RMB80,00 and RMB150,000 to build. He believes that the parking lot will benefit Macau. Since 1996, when the company launched its parking equipment business, its products were mainly sold to mainland China, with only 5% of the company's products sold outside of the country.

## ENVIRONMENT

# Report shows major pollutant O3 worsening in Macau

JULIE ZHU

**OZONE (O3)**, one of the biggest contributors to the deterioration in Macau's air quality, has continued its growth in contaminating the city and its neighboring municipalities, specifically in the Pearl River Delta region, according to the latest report released by the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macau Pearl River Regional Air Quality Monitoring Network.

The report showed that, in 2018, the average annual concentration level of ozone (O3) in the Pearl River Delta increased by 21% when compared to 2006, indicating that the future alleviation of regional photochemical pollution will be required.

O3 is a regional pollutant formed by chemical reactions in the sun by nitrogen oxides and volatile organic compounds, and it can be spread by wind.

This marks the second year in a row that there has been an increase in O3 levels. In 2017, the average annual concentration level of O3 increased 16% compared to 2016, marking a new historical peak of O3 emissions. That record was surpassed in 2018.

According to the Department of Ecology and Environment of Guangdong Province, in 2018, the key factor in the decline of air quality in Guangdong was O3, with a contribution rate of 42.7%, surpassing PM2.5 to become the province's primary pollutant. In Hong Kong, in 2018, the concentration



level of O3 also reached its highest in 20 years.

In 2010, Macau's Environmental Protection Bureau (DSPA) drafted the Environmental Protection Planning of Macau (2010-2020). The plan generally mentioned measures the DSPA planned to employ to tackle environmental pollution. The bureau intends to enhance inspections as a method of monitoring the emissions of pollutants.

No substantial or clear steps were included in the plan. In particular, the plan does not reveal an expected percentage reduction in the concentration levels of the city's major pollutants, including the ave-

rage annual concentration levels of sulphur dioxide (SO2), nitrogen dioxide (NO2), carbon monoxide (CO), and respirable suspended particulates (RSP).

In contrast to the growth of the concentration level of O3, the annual concentration levels of other major pollutants decreased in 2018.

The average annual concentration levels of sulphur dioxide (SO2), nitrogen dioxide (NO2), carbon monoxide (CO), respirable suspended particulates (RSP) and fine suspended particulates (FSP) in the PRD in 2018 decreased by 18%, 3%, 6%, 4% and 10% respectively, compared to a year earlier.

The local government, together

with the Hong Kong and Guangdong governments, said that the results "showed the continual improvement of air quality in the Pearl River Delta last year."

"The emission reduction measures implemented by Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macau in recent years have contributed to the improvement of the overall air quality in the Pearl River Delta," the report reads.

Compared with 2006, the average annual concentration levels of SO2 and RSP in 2018 had decreased by 81% and 36% respectively, while the annual concentration level of NO2 decreased by 28% within the same period.

## Sulu Sou urges restoration of live poultry sale

STAFF REPORTER

**LAWMAKER** Sulu Sou is urging the government to consider the restoration of live poultry sale in local wet markets, citing results from a recent public consultation.

Sale of live poultry in Macau has been banned since Labor Day in 2017, due to a number of reasons, primarily contagious disease control. Since then, many retailers of live poultry in local wet markets have been forced to sell alternative poultry products, chilled or frozen.

A year and a half before the ban, a public consultation was carried out to understand public perception about "substituting the sale of live chicken with that of chilled ones."

Results showed that two-thirds of respondents consumed live chicken more, while over half visited wet markets for live chicken frequently. Less than one-quarter agreed with banning of the sale of live chicken.

Sou argues that consumption of live chicken was a mainstream habit.

The SAR government has signed agreements with its Zhuhai counterpart regarding the quarantine and inspection of chilled poultry.

Research is also ongoing to investigate the feasibility of importing butchered live poultry from the mainland to Macau. Sou inquired if the government would consider the approval of selling butchered live chicken in Macau, as he says the scientific study supports the need for it.

## SONG PEK KEI WANTS TO CRIMINALIZE PHONE MARKETING TACTIC

**LAWMAKER** Song Pek Kei wants the local government to criminalize certain cold calling marketing tactics, according to a report by public broadcaster TDM.

Recently, the Office for Personal Data Protection (GPDP) fined, for the first time, a cosmetic company which disturbed local residents with random phone call marketing tactics. The fine was MOP110,000.

As Song understands, Macau's current laws and regulations only recommend administrative penalties against phone call marketing tactics, which she says is not enough. Song thinks that, in order to enhance the deterrent ef-

fect, the local government should amend the city's laws to impose a criminal punishment against random phone call tactics.

In addition, Song proposed that the government should enhance promotional campaigns on relevant laws to help residents in assisting governmental departments combating such phone call tactics.

The deputy director of the Hair & Beauty Professionals Association of Macao, Io Pou Chu, agreed that the government should impose harsher penalties. In addition, she proposed that the local government should introduce a warning system and a license cancellation system. **JZ**



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**Property of the Week**



**4-Bedroom Apartment, One Grantai Taipa**  
**HK\$25,600,000** 1,390 ft<sup>2</sup> 3 2   
 This great-sized 4-bedroom apartment with a sweeping open view of the Cotai Strip is for sale. Contact us now to arrange a viewing.



**Property Hotlist**



**Nice Court, Taipa**  
**\$8,980,000**  
 1,600 ft<sup>2</sup>  
 3   
 2



**Homely 3 bedroom, San Malo**  
**\$13,000/mth**  
 3   
 4



**High Floor, The Buckingham, Taipa**  
**\$11,770,000**  
 1,439 ft<sup>2</sup>  
 2   
 2



**Carpark**  
**One Grantai, Taipa**  
**\$2,500/mth**



**More Listings**

**For Sale**

- [Coloane] *Hellene Gardens* 3 2 1,663 ft<sup>2</sup> **\$7,950,000** (ref: 190550065C)
- [Taipa] *Kinglight Garden Loft* 1 1 800 ft<sup>2</sup> **\$7,380,000** (ref: 190550055T)
- [Taipa] *Pearl on the Lough* 4 2 2,055 ft<sup>2</sup> **\$16,980,000** (ref: 190550008)
- [Taipa] *Nova City* 3 2 1,494 ft<sup>2</sup> **\$13,980,000** (ref: 17050001RT)
- [Coloane] *Hellene Gardens* 4 2 2,530 ft<sup>2</sup> **\$20,000,000** (ref: 18035546)

**For Rent**

- [Coloane] *4 storey commercial building* 4,003 ft<sup>2</sup> **\$108,000/mth** (ref: 17040646)
- [Coloane] *Cheoc Van House* 3 2 **\$28,000/mth** (ref: 19055009RC)
- [Taipa] *Pacifica Gardens* 3 2 1,317 ft<sup>2</sup> **\$15,000/mth** (ref: 17050649)
- [Taipa] *Manhattan* 3 2 1,720 ft<sup>2</sup> **\$23,800/mth** (ref: 18110695RT)
- [Taipa] *Soi Cheung Studio* 1 1 660 ft<sup>2</sup> **\$9,000/mth** (ref: 18040675)

**Recent Movements**

**Sold** Nam Long, Taipa  
 1 bed, 550 ft<sup>2</sup>

**Rented** Office, Centro  
 Commercial, 1,813ft<sup>2</sup>

**Rented** One Grantai, Taipa  
 3 beds, 2,122 ft<sup>2</sup>



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Leung Chuen-fong stands in a village in the Sai Kung district of Hong Kong

## HONG KONG | PROPERTY

# A COLONIAL QUIRK GIVES SOME MEN HOUSES ON THE CHEAP

SHAWNA KWAN

**I**n property-obsessed Hong Kong - where buying a home is impossible for many - being born into an indigenous family provides a ticket to affordable yet decent housing, and an opportunity to get rich pretty quick.

Yet women need not apply.

Under the so-called small-house policy formulated during the British colonial era, male indigenous villagers can seek to build houses on the land they own without paying a premium - generally more than HKD1 million (\$128,100) - to the government. The decades-old policy has only recently been challenged in court for its discriminatory nature in excluding women and non-indigenous Hong Kong residents.

The approach is a stark contrast to policies in other developed economies, where anti-discrimination laws have long been in place to ensure residents from all backgrounds have access to housing. The U.S. Fair Housing Act enacted in 1968 seeks to protect against discrimination on the basis of race, gender, religion and national origin.

The law has put the Hong Kong government in an awkward position - even as city chief Carrie Lam vows to make homes more accessible to ordinary people in the world's least affordable market.

Under the law, any male indigenous villager who is at least 18

years old and who has descended through the male line from a resident in 1898 of a recognized village in Hong Kong's outer New Territories has a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to apply. If approved, he'd be able to build a small house for less than 1/10 the price of a regular home.

But don't be fooled by the name: Though considered small elsewhere in the world, these dwellings are a dream to many in the cramped city, coming with a standard three stories at 65 square meters apiece. What's more, owners can flip the properties after five years for about 10 times what they paid (excluding the cost of land), at current market prices.

## HOUSING PRIVILEGES

The small-house policy was introduced in 1972 when the rural New Territories was filled with temporary structures and the government sought to improve housing and sanitary standards. Some have suggested that the policy was partly designed to solicit support from village leaders to maintain control over the potentially influential population, according to Civic Exchange, a local think tank.

The size of the indigenous population in Hong Kong isn't officially calculated. Our Hong Kong Foundation, a pro-government policy group backed by a former city chief, estimates the number to be around 700,000, equivalent to

9% of Hong Kong's population. Currently, there are 642 villages in the designated indigenous zones measuring 3,380 hectares, of which 60% is privately owned. In other words, land about six times the size of New York City's Central Park is earmarked for villagers to build homes.

The government has no estimate for the applicant pool because it doesn't gather statistics on indigenous demographics. However, demand has been steady. Between 2008 and 2017, the government received more than 20,000 applications for small houses, data from the Development Bureau show. During the period, the bureau approved 10,674 applications, allowing 2 million square meters of floor area to be built.

## COLONIAL LEGACY

The concept of indigenous people in Hong Kong was a by-product of British colonial rule. Hong Kong today comprises three areas: the island, Kowloon and the New Territories. The British took control of Hong Kong Island in 1842 and subsequently Kowloon. The colonial government leased one large piece of territory north of Kowloon from the Chinese monarchy for 99 years in 1898 to expand its control, which would become the New Territories.

When the British set foot in the plains of the New Territories in 1898, tens of thousands of Chinese people had settled on the land

in close-knit walled villages. These villagers who were residing in the territory in 1898 would later be regarded as "indigenous" by law, and so would their descendants through the male line. However, like the majority of people in Hong Kong, they're ethnic Chinese, sharing the same culture and language.

To respond to the villagers' fierce resistance to colonial rule, the British decided to grant them a large degree of local autonomy. Land ownership conformed to Chinese law and customs, and their leaders largely were able to govern the villages. Their political influence remains - the city's legislature reserves a seat for the village governing body that represents indigenous interests.

## LEGAL BATTLE

Legally, the small-house policy is protected by an article in the city's mini-constitution, which states that "the lawful traditional rights and interests of the indigenous inhabitants of the New Territories shall be protected" by the administration.

A judge decided in April that the law's discriminatory nature was acknowledged by those who drafted it before Hong Kong's handover to China in 1997, so that challenging the policy on grounds of discrimination was inconsistent with its purpose. It was upheld.

The dismissal of the gender discrimination argument wasn't surprising - rights of male indigenous villagers are well shielded on the legal front. In fact, even in Hong Kong's broad gender discrimination ordinance, it allows that discrimination between men and women arising from the small-house policy is exempted.

## ACCEPTING FATE

Women interviewed in the New Territories seemed resigned to the fact they aren't able to apply and that the court challenge failed.

"It really is unfair," said 52-year-old Leung Chuen-fong, from a four-century-old Chinese temple in the village where she has spent her entire life. "Parents would always spoil the sons - everything was reserved for the boys. It doesn't matter how competent the girls are." But she has accepted this, she says, because "it's not happening only now, it was like this in the past."

Kammy Tang, an indigenous woman from a village in Yuen Long - the east end of the New Territories - echoes Leung's indifference. The 28-year-old dance instructor said she doesn't have strong feelings about being excluded from the policy. "It's probably because I've known this all my life," she said.

Another reason Tang doesn't oppose the policy that discriminates against her gender is the difficulty in executing the attached rights. The land available to develop small houses is scarce, and villagers often wait years to get their applications approved.

The applicant of the court challenge, meanwhile, has vowed to appeal to scrap the villagers' rights altogether. The deadline to appeal expires July 9. **BLOOMBERG**



Kammy Tang in her village in Yuen Long



# Hong Kong girds for more gridlock as protesters dig in

BLOOMBERG



Hong Kong Chief Executive Carrie Lam, who today begins her third year in office

**T**WO years ago, Carrie Lam took control of Hong Kong's government and, with Chinese President Xi Jinping looking on, pledged to "restore social harmony and rebuild public trust." Today, she'll start her third year facing a crisis as great as any of her predecessors.

Lam is expected to make her first public remarks in more than a week today to mark Hong Kong's return to Chinese rule in 1997, with both her approval rating and public faith in Beijing at record lows. The activist group that twice this month turned out historic crowds demanding her resignation as chief executive will again lead thousands of her critics through the streets.

The political turmoil raises new questions about China's stewardship over Hong Kong, almost halfway through its 50-year promise to preserve capitalist markets and personal freedoms in the former British colony. Lam and her backers in Beijing so far appeared determined to hang on, lest they risk emboldening a more unified opposition bent on stymieing their agenda.

"Long story, short: She won't yield, she won't budge. The people won't yield, won't budge either," said Claudia Mo, an opposition lawmaker who's been a prominent participant in

recent rallies. "So this is a standoff, a deadlock. What's going to happen is more protests. It's an ongoing fight."

While the opposition coalesced against Lam's now-suspended proposal to allow extraditions to China, the latest rallies have begun to emphasize demands for greater democracy and criticism of the Communist Party. The annual July 1 protest march organized by the Civil Human Rights Front, which has drawn as many as 400,000 people in previous years, will test whether activists can keep up the momentum.

Lam is expected to attend a flag-raising ceremony and a reception this morning to commemorate the occasion, potentially including her first remarks since June 18. Looking on will likely be pro-establishment lawmakers growing more anxious about next year's elections for the Legislative Council, a body that the opposition could use to block government initiatives.

Starry Lee, chairwoman of the biggest pro-Beijing party, the Democratic Alliance for the Betterment and Progress of Hong Kong, has urged Lam to acknowledge that the extradi-

tion bill has been withdrawn as protesters are demanding. Felix Chung, who represents the textile and garment industries in the legislature, has called for a Cabinet shake-up to include more diverse views.

"The chief executive has said she would listen sincerely to

## Lam will struggle to rebuild support after repeating the political slide of her unpopular predecessor

public views and do more public consultation in the future," Chung said. "Future policies may be rolled out more slowly, but each decision would be a right one."

Still, Lam will struggle to rebuild support after repeating the political slide of her unpopular predecessor Leung Chun-ying. Her approval rating plunged 9 percentage points to 23% - the lowest since she took power, according to a survey released last week by the University of Hong Kong Public Opinion Programme. Support for the former British colony's government fell to 18%, the lowest since 2003, the poll

conducted between June 17-20 showed.

The city's political factions will face a test of electoral support as early as November, when voters will elect more than 450 representatives on local district councils. A big defeat could increase pressure on China to replace Lam, like the city's first Chief Executive Tung Chee-hwa, who resigned in 2005 after similar mass protests.

"The chief executive will continue to work hard," Lam's No. 2, Chief Secretary Matthew Cheung, told reporters Friday. "We learn from experience. We will make improvements to our future policy direction and style of governance."

Bonnie Leung, a vice convenor of the Civil Human Rights Front, said the government needs to "go to the streets" and understand why the people have come out against it.

"The government is afraid of the people and the people do not respect the government," she said. "The government has a habit of turning a deaf ear to all these ideas and keep doing what it wants to do." **MDT/BLOOMBERG**

## POLICE REPATRIATE 'RED NOTICE' FUGITIVE TO SOUTH KOREA

Police in Guangdong Province sent a 'red notice' fugitive on a plane back to the South Korea at the request of the country's law enforcement authorities. The fugitive, surnamed Kim, cheated over 300 Korean residents out of a total of 2 billion Korean won (USD1.7 million) using the excuse of low interest loans from January 2015 to January 2018, and was later listed on the Interpol Red Notice. On May 15, the Consulate General of South Korea in Guangzhou made a request to the local police for the arrest of Kim, whose residence permit in China had expired. After receiving the request, the Guangdong police authority carried out an investigation into Kim's whereabouts immediately and captured the fugitive. Under the supervision of China's Ministry of Public Security, local police cooperated with the National Police Agency of South Korea to repatriate Kim.

## E-CIGARETTES BANNED IN SHENZHEN'S PUBLIC PLACES

Shenzhen has added e-cigarettes to its smoking control list, further tightening the smoking ban in public places, according to a regulation passed last week. In China, smoking is banned in all indoor public places, workplaces and public transport. However, differing opinions exist on whether e-cigarettes should fall into the smoking control category. According to the new regulation, smoking e-cigarettes will be banned in Shenzhen's public places including bus platforms and waiting areas in public institutions. The move follows other Chinese cities including Hong Kong, Macau, Hangzhou and Nanning, which have put in place similar e-cigarette bans. Young people make up the major demographic of e-cigarette smokers, according to a report released in May by the Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention. The e-cigarette usage rate has increased from 2015 to 2018, the report said. China has set a target to reduce the smoking rate among people aged 15 and above to 20 percent by 2030 from the current 26.6 percent, according to the "Healthy China 2030" blueprint issued in 2016.

## HELICOPTER FLIGHT LINKS SHENZHEN, HONG KONG

The first cross-border helicopter flight was conducted on Friday between Shenzhen and Hong Kong. An Airbus H135 light twin-engine helicopter took off from Shenzhen Bao'an International Airport and landed at Hong Kong Xinde Heliport on Friday morning with an around 15-minute cross-border flight. The helicopter is operated by Shenzhen Eastern General Aviation Company (Shenzhen Eastern GAC) in south China's Guangdong Province. "We are committed to playing a leading role in the low-altitude air transportation in the Greater Bay Area," said Zhao Qi, chairman of Shenzhen Eastern GAC. He disclosed that the company had targeted building up a transportation system around the area with a helicopter platform centered in Shenzhen in five years. Shenzhen Eastern GAC is the first certified general aviation company in China to operate helicopter flights between Guangdong and Hong Kong.

# ALL BACKGROUNDS BET ON BECOMING WORLD SERIES OF POKER CHAMP

REGINA GARCIA CANO

TENS of thousands of professional and amateur poker players go on a pilgrimage to Las Vegas every summer in hopes of returning home richer, owning a gold bracelet and having considerable bragging rights.

They are young and old and overwhelmingly male. They are college dropouts and accountants, entrepreneurs and CEOs, actors and athletes, psychologists and comedians. And they all have a chance of becoming world champions.

At the World Series of Poker — now marking its 50th edition — everything is possible.

“The beauty of poker is anyone can enter and anyone can win,” said Ty Stewart, the series’ executive director. “We all love the stories of overcoming challenges, at defying the odds. This occurs regularly at the World Series of Poker.”

Cowboy gambler Benny Binion probably wouldn’t recognize the tournament today. He started it in 1970 as an invitation-only event with a few men gathered at his casino in downtown Las Vegas. They were all elite players, and Johnny Moss was declared the winner by the other men at the table.

Moss got a trophy. There was no multimillion-dollar prize pool, no constant television coverage and definitely no smoking ban.

It has transformed into a phenomenon that has paid almost USD3 billion in prizes — minting millionaires, airing live on ESPN and streaming online.

The series is well positioned to set an attendance record this year, with 122,473 entries so far. Its marquee contest, the \$10,000 buy-in no-limit Texas Hold ‘em main event, kicks off Wednesday. The no-limit



AP PHOTO

betting rules mean players can wager all their chips at any time.

The tournament this year runs through July 16 at the Rio All-Suite Hotel and Casino, off the Las Vegas Strip. It features different poker variations, with buy-ins for the events ranging from \$400 to \$100,000.

The series saw a record 123,865 contestants in 2018, when the prize pool of over \$266 million was divided among 18,105 participants. Twenty-eight of them earned at least \$1 million. Every champion received a gold bracelet under a tradition started in 1976.

“When we started out, there were very few people from outside the United States that were playing with us,” said T.J. Cloutier, 79, a

six-time bracelet winner from Richardson, Texas. “And now there’s a ton of people, and they are from all over.”

More than 100 countries were represented in last year’s tournament.

Poker’s popularity in the U.S. erupted in 2003, when Tennessee accountant Chris Moneymaker entered a \$39 online poker satellite contest, won an entry to the main event and emerged victorious, earning \$2.5 million and inspiring other amateur players. Many had been honing their skills — and building a bankroll — through online games.

A year earlier, so-called hole-card cameras were introduced to the series’ broadcasts, allowing viewers

to see the cards participants were holding and play armchair quarterback.

“When you watched it on TV, it was like watching paint dry,” said Cloutier, who has finished the main event twice as runner-up and once each in third and fifth place. “Now, you could actually watch the tournament and know what was going on.”

Entries to the 2004 tournament increased by 85%. By 2006, the main event got a record number of players. But then poker began to lose steam in the U.S.

Participants in the series’ main event fell by 28% in 2007, when the government cracked down on online wagers. The Department of Justice in April 2011 then deli-

vered a stronger blow when it seized the domain names of the largest offshore poker sites catering to U.S. customers.

While participation in the series has set records since 2013, the main event has remained below the 2006 record. The overall increase is tied to the addition of events with smaller buy-ins.

“There are events for a wider group of people,” poker pro Daniel Negreanu said. “What that does is it attracts a much wider skill set of players. You have your hometown hero who comes out to Las Vegas to give it a shot as well as, of course, all the top professionals in the world.”

Series owner Caesars Interactive Entertainment is holding an awards ceremony Saturday to celebrate the 50th milestone. The company allowed fans to choose some players being recognized, including fan favorite player, the series’ “favorite bad boy” and the four most important players in the tournament’s history.

A panel of media and industry experts also revealed this week a list of the 50 greatest poker players in history, including Cloutier and Negreanu.

Jacksonville Jaguars defensive lineman Calais Campbell and record-setting Jeopardy contestant James Holzhauer are celebrities who have played this year. Other contestants could become famous overnight.

Many of those who remember watching Moneymaker’s storybook victory as teenagers and the ensuing poker boom are now competing and winning.

“I played all throughout middle school, even as a kid. I was always a big fan, and the personalities in the game were kind of what made it great,” said Scott Blumstein, who won \$8.1 million as a 25-year-old in 2017’s main event. “As a kid, I used to definitely look up to these people, and it’s really cool being a part of it now because I definitely watched it and was a fan.” AP

## CORPORATE BITS

### MGM to present Le Petit Chef



MGM is set to present Le Petit Chef from July 12 to September 13, showcasing a multi-sensory dining and entertainment experience that combines visuals and storytelling with cuisine.

Le Petit Chef, a small-animated chef, will be cooking at MGM Macao for a limited two-month period, after over 50 stops worldwide, the gaming operator announced in a statement.

Le Petit Chef will lead guests on a gastronomic adventure that retraces the steps of the explorer, Marco Polo, and take them through the highlights of the Silk Road. The journey begins with a French seafood starter, then continues on to the next dish of tagine. A curry dish will also be served.

The journey continues to Ancient China for mysterious sights, sounds and tastes of the oriental, before finally returning to Le Petit Chef’s homeland of France, for a dessert to savor.

### Sands China holds Continuing Education Fair



Sands China Ltd. recently held a Continuing Education Fair at The Venetian Macao’s Adelson Advanced Education Centre, aimed at providing a platform for continuing education for employees and their families.

The inaugural Sands China Continuing Education Fair sou-

ght to equip employees and their families with information on furthering their education, the gaming operator said in a statement.

Wen Hongyan, Sands China’s senior vice president of human resources, remarked “we want to encourage our team mem-

bers to take advantage of the educational opportunities available to them, and to support them in their academic pursuits.”

The May 31 educational fair featured self-improvement seminars and briefing sessions on course offerings, delivered by six universities from Macao and Hong Kong.

Employees and their families at the education fair were able to meet with educational experts to learn about options for self-development and career advancement. Topics included information about going back to school, completing diploma programmes, and enrolling in bachelor’s, master’s and doctoral degree programmes.

# Beijing promises to ease foreign access to gas, call centers

JOE MCDONALD,  
BEIJING

CHINA promised yesterday to allow more foreign ownership of gas pipelines, call centers and some other businesses in the latest of a series of market-opening measures.

The Communist Party has announced a series of tariff cuts and market-opening steps over the past 18 months aimed at making its state-dominated economy more productive. The moves come amid trade tension with Washington, though none directly addresses American complaints about Beijing's technology ambitions and controls on foreign companies.

Yesterday's Cabinet announcement also promised more foreign access to some businesses in agriculture and mining.

Business groups welcome



the changes but say many have little effect so far on foreign companies. Business groups say they need to see regulations for industries that are to be opened before they can know whether those will be profitable for foreign newcomers, who will face entrenched Chinese competition.

Yesterday's announcement is part of a shift by

Beijing to use of a "negative list" system of investment regulation. That would put some areas off-limits to foreign investors and leave the rest of China's market open. Until now, foreign companies have been limited to operating in a "positive list" of areas picked by regulators.

Economists say Beijing's market-opening measures

reflect growing confidence Chinese companies can compete and a recognition of the need for more competition.

President Xi Jinping's government has launched a flurry of such reform initiatives since he was confirmed for a second five-year term as ruling party leader in 2017.

Xi had been expected to launch economic changes after he took power in 2012. Instead, he spent his first term directing a marathon anti-corruption campaign and cementing his status as China's most powerful leader in decades while pressure to shore up declining economic growth mounted.

Beijing's tariff fight with Washington over Chinese technology ambitions has battered exporters, adding to pressure on the ruling party to make other indus-

tries more productive.

The announcement promised to abolish a requirement that ventures to operate gas and thermal pipeline networks in cities of more than 500,000 must be controlled by the Chinese side.

It promises similar changes for ownership of cinemas, call centers and some other value-added telecom businesses. It promised to abolish rules that say foreign investors in oil and gas exploration must operate through joint ventures with Chinese partners.

Rules that prohibit foreign investment in exploration and mining of molybdenum, tin, antimony and fluorite will be abolished, the statement said.

Beijing previously promised to reduce or end limits on foreign ownership in China's auto, insurance and other industries. AP

## TAIWAN

# EVA AIRWAYS FAILS TO SIGN AGREEMENT WITH UNION, STRIKE CONTINUES

MIAOJUNG LIN

TAIWAN'S Eva Airways Corp. failed to come to terms with representatives of striking flight attendants on Saturday night, and will renegotiate with workers tomorrow, a union said.

The strike will continue until a collective agreement is signed, the union said in a statement posted on its Facebook page at midnight. Among the issues for negotiation that broke down was the carrier's refusal to withdraw punitive measures against flight attendants, according to a statement issued by the company.

The action started on June 20 and involves more than 2,300 workers. The cancellation of 392 flights between June 20 and 28 caused revenue losses of NT\$1.75 billion (USD56 million), the company said late Friday in a statement to the Taiwan stock exchange. BLOOMBERG

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## TRUCE IN US-CHINA TRADE WAR AS 2 RIVALS SEEK BREAKTHROUGH

JONATHAN LEMIRE  
& ZEKE MILLER, OSAKA

**P**RESIDENT Donald Trump and China's Xi Jinping agreed to a cease-fire Saturday in their nations' yearlong trade war, averting for now an escalation feared by financial markets, businesses and farmers.

Trump said U.S. tariffs will remain in place against Chinese imports while negotiations continue. Additional trade penalties he has threatened against billions worth of other Chinese goods will not take effect for the "time being," he said, and the economic powers will restart stalled talks that have already gone 11 rounds.

"We're going to work with China where we left off," Trump said after a lengthy meeting with Xi while the leaders attended the Group of 20 summit in Osaka.

While Trump said relations with China were "right back on track," doubts persist about the two nations' willingness to compromise on a long-term solution. Among the sticking points: The U.S. contends that Beijing steals technology and coerces foreign companies into handing over trade secrets; China denies it engages in such practices.

The apparent truce continues a pattern for Trump and Xi, who have professed their friendship and paused protectionist measures, only to see negotiations later break down.

The United States has imposed 25% import taxes on usd250 billion in Chinese products and is threatening to target an additional \$300 billion, extending the tariffs to virtually everything China ships to America.

China has countered with tariffs on \$110 billion in American goods, focusing on agricultural products in a direct and painful shot at Trump supporters in the U.S. farm belt.

Some progress seemed to be made in a dispute involving the Chinese telecommunications company Huawei, which the Trump administration has branded a national security threat and barred it from buying American technology. Trump said Saturday he would allow U.S. companies to sell their products to Huawei, but he was not yet willing to remove the company from a trade blacklist.

The U.S. has tried to rally other countries to block Huawei from their upcoming 5G systems.

The Trump-Xi meeting between the two leaders was the centerpiece of four days of diplomacy in Asia for Trump, whose re-election chances have been put at risk by the trade dispute that has hurt American farmers and battered global markets. Tensions rose after negotiations collapsed

last month.

Trump said the talks with Xi went "probably even better than expected."

Both men struck a cautiously optimistic tone after they posed for photographs.

"We've had an excellent relationship," Trump told Xi as the meeting opened, "but we want to do something that will even it up with respect to trade."

### Doubts persist about the two nations' willingness to compromise on a long-term solution

Xi recounted the era of "pingpong diplomacy" that helped jump-start U.S.-China relations two generations ago. Since then, he said, "one basic fact remains unchanged: China and the United States both benefit from cooperation and lose in confrontation."

"Cooperation and dialogue are better than friction and confrontation," he added.

The meeting with Xi was one of three that Trump held Saturday with world leaders who display authoritarian tendencies.

Trump had his first face-to-face discussion with Saudi Arabia's Mohammed bin Salman since U.S. intelligence agencies concluded that the crown prince direc-

ted the murder of Washington Post columnist and American resident Jamal Khashoggi last year.

Trump, who referred to the Saudi royal as his "friend," has long tried to minimize the prince's role in the murder and has been reluctant to criticize the killing of the Saudi critic at the kingdom's consulate in Istanbul last year. Trump views Saudi Arabia as the lynchpin of U.S.' Middle East strategy to counter Iran.

At a news conference after the summit, Trump said Khashoggi's killing was "horrible," but that Saudi Arabia had "been a terrific ally." Trump suggested he was satisfied with steps that the kingdom was taking to prosecute some of those involved, while he claimed that "nobody so far has pointed directly a finger" at Saudi Arabia's future king.

U.S. intelligence officials have concluded that bin Salman must have at least known of the plot.

The summit came a week after Trump pulled back from ordering a military strike on Iran for downing an American unmanned spy plane. Iran now stands on the threshold of breaching uranium enrichment thresholds set in a 2015 nuclear deal from which Trump withdrew. Trump said he would not preview his response should Iran top that limit, but

said, "We cannot let Iran have a nuclear weapon."

Trump also met with Turkey's president, Recep Tayyip Erdogan, an ostensible NATO ally whom the U.S. sees as drifting dangerously toward Russia's sphere of influence.

Trump said the two will "look at different solutions" to Turkey's planned purchase of the Russian-made S-400 surface-to-air missile system. U.S. officials have threatened to halt the sale of U.S.-made F-35 Joint Strike Fighter to Turkey if the Russian purchase goes through; Erdogan has called it a done deal.

"Turkey has been a friend of ours," Trump said. He blamed the Obama administration for not agreeing to sell U.S.-made Patriot missile batteries to Turkey, calling the situation a "mess" and "not really Erdogan's fault."

A day earlier, Trump met with Russia's Vladimir Putin and, with a smirk and a finger point, jokingly told him, "Don't meddle with the election." It was their first meeting since special counsel Robert Mueller concluded that Russia extensively interfered with the 2016 campaign.

Pressed whether he pushed the issue more seriously in private, Trump said he had raised it with Putin, adding, "You know he denies it, totally. How many times can you get someone to deny something?"

Putin told reporters that "we talked about it," but he did not elaborate. He said he believes it's necessary to "turn the page" in relations with the U.S., which have plunged to the lowest level since the Cold War times. **AP**

MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

**V**IETNAM and the European Union signed a free trade agreement yesterday opening opportunities to further boost trade between the euro bloc and one of Southeast Asia's biggest manufacturing nations.

The agreement, which was signed by European Commissioner for Trade Cecilia Malmstrom and Vietnamese Trade Minister Tran Tuan Anh in Hanoi, Vietnam's capital, will eliminate almost all tariffs for goods traded between Vietnam and the EU's 28 member countries.

"It is a special day for relations between the EU and Vietnam. The agreement has opened a new horizon for the development of both sides," Vietnamese Prime Minister Nguyen Xuan Phuc said after he witnessed the signing.

Once the deal takes effect, the EU will lift 85% of its tariffs on Vietnamese goods, gradually cutting the rest over the following seven years.

Meanwhile, Vietnam will lift 49% of its import duties on EU exports when the agreement is started. The rest will be phased out over 10 years.

Vietnam, with a population of 95 million, is one of the world's fastest-growing economies, and the agreement is expected to accelerate greater trade volume and create vast opportunities for businesses and consumers on both sides.

# Vietnam, European Union sign free trade agreement



The Tan Vu port, operated by Port of Hai Phong JSC in Vietnam

"The agreement is very important for Vietnam," said economist Pham Chi Lan, a former adviser to several Vietnamese prime ministers. "On one hand, it will urge the country to fasten its constitutional reform to match clauses in

## The EU will lift 85% of its tariffs on Vietnamese goods

the agreement. On the other, it will boost the economy, especially in the private sector."

Major exports from Vietnam to the EU include phones, footwear, farm products, textiles and gar-

ments. Vietnam imports from EU nations high-tech machinery and equipment, aircraft, vehicles and pharmaceutical products.

Vietnam is the EU's second-largest trading partner in Southeast Asia, with trade turnover of \$56 billion last year, according to the national general statistics office.

The agreement, which had been negotiated since 2012, gives EU companies equal treatment with domestic bidders in competing for public contracts in Vietnam. It also commits Vietnam to standards for sustainable development, including improving its human rights record, protecting labor rights and upholding its pledges to deal with climate change issues under the Paris accord.

Vietnam and the EU also signed an agreement calling for investors to be protected with rules enforced by an investment court system.

"In the context of the ongoing trade war and protectionism, the agreement is a positive signal that global trade cooperation is still a trend and on its right track," Lan said.

The deal is the EU's second free trade agreement in the Southeast Asian region, after one with Singapore. It is viewed as a stepping stone for pursuing a comprehensive deal with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, a 10-nation bloc with a combined population of 650 million. **AP**

AD

**FRANCE MACAU Chamber of Commerce**  
法國澳門工商會

Connect • Share • Grow

**FMCC Business Luncheon**  
**Disruptors within Luxury and the Impact on Overall Business**  
Speaker: Ms. Flur Roberts, Head of Luxury Goods Research, Euromonitor International

**Introduction:**  
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?

**Date:** Monday, 8<sup>th</sup> July, 2019  
**Time:** 1:00p.m. - 2:30p.m. (Reception: 12:45p.m.)  
**Venue:** Mandarin Oriental, Macau  
1st floor, Ocean Room

**RSVP before 2 pm on 5<sup>th</sup> July**  
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- 2019 FMCC members join @ MOP450\*
- Guests and non-members @ MOP550\*
- \* Price includes 6 courses menu.
- Strict No-Show/ Late Cancellation policy applies for this event

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ZEKE MILLER & JONATHAN LEMIRE, PANMUNJOM

**W**ITH wide grins and a historic handshake, President Donald Trump and North Korea's Kim Jong Un met at the heavily fortified Demilitarized Zone yesterday and agreed to revive talks on the pariah nation's nuclear program. Trump, pressing his bid for a legacy-defining accord, became the first sitting American leader to step into North Korea.

What originally was intended to be an impromptu exchange of pleasantries turned into a 50-minute meeting, another historic first in the yearlong rapprochement between the two technically warring nations. It marks a return to face-to-face contact between the leaders after talks broke down during a summit in Vietnam in February. Trump announced afterward that the two nations had agreed to resume discussions in the coming weeks. Significant doubts remain, though, about the future of the negotiations and the North's willingness to give up its stockpile of nuclear weapons.

In a made-for television moment, the two leaders strode toward one another from opposite sides of the Joint Security Area and shook hands over the raised patch of concrete at the Military Demarcation Line as cameras clicked and photographers jostled to capture the scene. After asking if Kim wanted him to cross, Trump took 10 steps into the North with Kim at his side, before escorting Kim back to the South for a sit-down at Freedom House.

The spectacle marked the latest milestone in two years of roller-coaster diplomacy between the two nations, as personal taunts of "Little Rocket Man" and threats to destroy the other have been ushered out by on-again, off-again talks, professions of love and flowery letters.

"I was proud to step over the line," Trump told Kim as they met in the building on the South Korean side of the truce village of Panmunjom. "It is a great day for the world."

Kim hailed the moment, saying of Trump, "I believe this is an expression of his willingness to eliminate all the unfortunate past and open a new future." He added that he was "surprised" when Trump issued the unorthodox invitation by tweet on Saturday.

What was originally expected to be a brief exchange of pleasantries over the raised line of concrete marking the border between North and South - Trump had said it would last "two minutes" - turned into private talks stretching about 50 minutes. Trump was joined in the Freedom House conversation with Kim by his daughter and son-in-law, Ivanka Trump and Jared Kushner, both senior White House advisers.

# Trump becomes 1st sitting US leader to enter North Korea



Donald Trump and Kim Jong Un at the Demilitarized Zone

Substantive talks between the nations had largely broken down since the last Trump-Kim summit held in February in Vietnam. The North has balked at Trump's insistence that it give up its weapons before it sees relief from crushing international sanctions. The U.S. has said the North must submit to "complete, verifiable and irreversible denuclearization" before sanctions are lifted.

As he announced the resumption of talks, Trump told reporters "we're not looking for speed. We're looking to get it right."

He added that economic sanctions on the North would remain, but seemed to move off the administration's previous rejection of scaling back sanctions in return for piecemeal North Korean concessions, saying, "At some point during the negotiation things can happen."

Peering into North Korea from atop Observation Post Ouellette, Trump told reporters before he greeted Kim that there has been

"tremendous" improvement since his first meeting with the North's leader in Singapore last year.

Trump claimed the situation used to be marked by "tremendous danger" but "after our first summit, all of the danger went away."

But the North has yet to provide an accounting of its nuclear stockpile, let alone begin the process of

**"After our first summit, all of the danger went away."**

US PRESIDENT DONALD TRUMP

dismantling its arsenal.

The meeting represented a striking acknowledgement by Trump of the authoritarian Kim's legitimacy over a nation with an abysmal human rights record.

Trump told reporters he invited the North Korean leader to the United States, and potentially even to the White House.

"I would invite him right now," Trump said, standing next to Kim, who speaking through a transla-

tor, reciprocated that it would be an "honor" to invite Trump to the North Korean capital of Pyongyang "at the right time."

Trump became the first sitting U.S. president to meet with the leader of the isolated nation last year, when they signed an agreement in Singapore to bring the North toward denuclearization.

Despite the show of the DMZ

gathering, Trump repeatedly complained that he was not receiving more praise for de-escalating tensions on the Korean peninsula through his personal diplomacy with Kim. Critics say Trump had actually inflamed tensions with his threats to rain "fire and fury" on North Korea, before embracing a diplomatic approach.

North Korea's nuclear threat has not been contained, Richard Haas, president of the New York-based Council on Foreign Relations, tweeted yesterday. Haas added that the threat of conflict

has subsided only because "the Trump administration has decided it can live [with] a [North Korean] nuclear program while it pursues the chimera of denuclearization."

Every president since Ronald Reagan has visited the 1953 armistice line, except for George H.W. Bush, who visited when he was vice president. The show of bravado and support for South Korea, one of America's closest military allies, has evolved over the years to include binoculars and bomber jackets.

Trump kept to his blue suit and signature red tie but, ever the showman, sought to one-up his predecessors with a Kim meeting.

The leaders met at a time of escalating tensions. While North Korea has not recently tested a long-range missile that could reach the U.S., last month it fired off a series of short-range missiles. Trump has brushed off the significance of those tests, even as his own national security adviser, John Bolton, has said they violated U.N. Security Council resolutions. AP

## what's ON



### SANDS PRESENTS: ALL THAT'S GOLD DOES GLITTER – AN EXHIBITION OF GLAMOROUS CERAMICS

TIME: 24 hours

UNTIL: October 9, 2019

VENUE: The Venetian Macao, The Parisian Macao, Sands Macao & Four Seasons Hotel Macao

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2882 8888

### MACAU SCIENCE CENTRE

TIME: 10am-6pm daily (Except on Thursdays; open on public holidays)

VENUE: Macau Science Center

ADMISSION: MOP25 (Exhibition Centre)

MOP60 (Planetarium 2D dome or 2D sky shows)

MOP80 (Planetarium 3D dome or 3D sky shows)

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2888 0822

### MANDARIN'S HOUSE

TIME: 10am-6pm daily (Last admission at 5:30pm; closed on Wednesdays, open on public holidays)

ADDRESS: No. 10, Travessa de António da Silva

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2896 8820

### TREASURE OF SACRED ART OF ST. JOSEPH'S SEMINARY

TIME: 10am-5pm daily (Closed on Wednesdays, open on public holidays)

VENUE: St. Joseph's Seminary and Church, Rua do Seminário

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2835 7911

## Offbeat

### FUGITIVE 'ATTACK SQUIRREL' OWNER ARRESTED IN ALABAMA CHASE

AP PHOTO



An Alabama man who denied feeding methamphetamine to a so-called "attack squirrel" he considered a pet has been arrested on new charges.

The Limestone County Sheriff's Office tweeted that 35-year-old Mickey Paulk was caught Thursday night following a chase in which he rammed an investigator's vehicle. Authorities had been seeking Paulk on multiple felony warrants unrelated to the squirrel he named "Deeznutz," which was made infamous after police said they were warned about a meth-fueled squirrel that had been trained to attack.

Paulk told The Associated Press last week that he was working on a plan for turning himself in to authorities.

The sheriff's office said narcotics investigators caught up with him while surveilling a motel in Killen. They spotted Paulk leaving on a stolen motorcycle and chased him down.

Paulk has been booked into the Lauderdale County Jail on charges of attempting to elude, criminal mischief, receiving stolen property and felon in possession of a pistol after it was discovered he had a .45-caliber handgun in his waistband.

It's unclear whether he has a lawyer.

As for Deeznutz, authorities say he couldn't be tested for meth and has been released.

## TV canal macau



13:00	TDM News (Repetição)
13:30	Telejornal RTPi (Diferido)
15:00	Agua de Mar
15:45	Zig Zag
16:00	OndEstá o Tesouro
16:25	Grande Entrevista - Jorge Moreira da Silva
17:20	A Capella
18:15	Contraponto (Repetição)
19:20	Aqui Há História (Repetição)
19:35	Os Nossos Dias Sr.2
20:30	Telejornal
21:15	TDM Desporto
22:20	Amor Maior
23:15	TDM News
23:50	3 Mulheres
00:40	Telejornal (Repetição)
01:25	RTPi Directo

## 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



### 1997 HONG KONG HANDED OVER TO CHINESE CONTROL

Hong Kong has been handed back to the Chinese authorities - ending more than 150 years of British control.

The British flag was lowered over Government House - home to the last Governor Chris Patten for the past five years - at midnight last night.

The flag was presented to Mr Patten who was then driven off in his official Rolls Royce, before the car was handed over to Tung Chee-hwa, the territory's Chief Executive.

In his farewell speech, Mr Patten said: "The story of this great city is about the years before this night and the years of success that will surely follow it."

Britain has controlled Hong Kong island since 1842 - apart from a brief period during World War II when the Japanese took over.

A huge fireworks display lit up Victoria Harbour at 2000 local time. One hour later, 4,000 guests sat down to a banquet in the Convention Centre on the harbour front, while 509 Chinese troops crossed the land border into Hong Kong.

Among the guests for the final handover ceremony at the Convention Centre were Prince Charles, Prime Minister Tony Blair, Foreign Secretary Robin Cook and Chris Patten. Chinese dignitaries included President Jiang Zemin, Premier Li Peng, Foreign Minister Qian Qichen and military leader General Zhang Wannian.

In Beijing the ceremony was watched on giant screens erected in Tiananmen Square.

At the stroke of midnight, the red digits of the countdown clock turned to zero and the handpicked crowd roared its approval.

Shortly afterwards, Prince Charles and Mr Patten boarded the Royal Yacht Britannia and waved a final farewell to the strains of Rule Britannia and Land of Hope and Glory.

Just half an hour after the handover, there was a demonstration by the Hong Kong Democratic Party outside the Legislative Council building - but it did not delay the inauguration of the new Special Administrative Region government.

Tung Chee-hwa was sworn in as Hong Kong's new leader. "This is a momentous and historic day ... Hong Kong and China are whole again," said Mr Tung.

But he promised, "We value this empowerment and we will exercise our powers prudently and responsibly."

Courtesy BBC News

## IN CONTEXT

### Discussions between Britain and China on the future of Hong Kong began in 1982

After 22 rounds of formal talks, Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and her Chinese counterpart, Zhao Ziyang, signed the Joint Declaration in 1984.

In 1992, Chris Patten was sworn in as the last governor of Hong Kong with a remit to prepare for the colony's democratic future under Chinese rule.

Democratic elections were held in 1995 for the new Legislative Council.

Proposals to introduce controversial new security laws in 2002 galvanised public opinion to a degree not seen since the handover - not until recently.

Last June saw massive demonstrations on the streets of Hong Kong against the fugitives' bill.



MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

**YOUR STARS**

**ARIES**  
 Mar. 21-Apr. 19  
 When you combine time and perseverance, you can create some amazing things — although the longer the time, the harder it is to maintain that perseverance.

**TAURUS**  
 Apr. 20-May. 20  
 Flattery, generosity, and confidence could get you exactly where you need to be — in either your career or your romantic life. Get cozy with the people.

**GEMINI**  
 May. 21-Jun. 21  
 No one likes to be in conflict with a friend - least of all you - but getting into a verbal battle might not be such a bad thing right now. When you get things out into the open, you can start to clear them up.

**CANCER**  
 Jun. 22-Jul. 22  
 Positive possibilities are all around you, so it's a very good time to initiate any major projects you've been considering - especially social ones.

**LEO**  
 Jul. 23-Aug. 22  
 Your local government or another type of bureaucratic organization is a necessary part of your day today, but it's not an experience that you should worry about too much.

**VIRGO**  
 Aug. 23-Sep. 22  
 Emotions are running high, and people all around you are acting out in very spur-of-the-moment ways today. Luckily, you are in a very analytical phase.

**LIBRA**  
 Sep. 23-Oct. 22  
 If you are traveling today, your traveling companions will be especially chatty - if you want to avoid getting stuck in a long conversation, bring along a thick book you can bury your head in.

**SCORPIO**  
 Oct. 23 - Nov. 21  
 Sometimes having an open mind requires having a brave personality - and you have the necessary courage today! Stay in the room when the conversation gets controversial.

**SAGITTARIUS**  
 Nov. 22-Dec. 21  
 Moving toward a more mature lifestyle might not sound appealing at first, but if you shift your focus to what's really important, you'll be able to see things a lot more clearly. Don't worry...

**CAPRICORN**  
 Dec. 22-Jan. 19  
 You shouldn't even bother trying to understand why. You have far too many important, rewarding things to do to start wasting time on trying to help them figure out how to act like grownups.

**AQUARIUS**  
 Jan. 20-Feb. 18  
 Just because someone is much older than you is no reason to think that they don't have a lot of valuable information to share with you. Different generations have different experiences.

**PISCES**  
 Feb. 19-Mar. 20  
 Have you ever heard the expression "You can attract more flies with honey than you can with vinegar"? Well, it's true - especially today! So show your softer side.

**The Born Loser by Chip Sansom**



**SUDOKU**

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

  

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

**WEATHER**

	MIN	MAX	CONDITION
<b>CHINA</b>			
Beijing	21	35	clear
Harbin	15	20	drizzle
Tianjin	23	35	clear
Urumqi	23	34	clear
Xi'an	18	33	clear
Lhasa	15	28	cloudy
Chengdu	23	34	clear
Chongqing	24	33	cloudy
Kunming	17	26	cloudy
Nanjing	24	31	cloudy
Shanghai	24	28	drizzle
Wuhan	24	33	cloudy
Hangzhou	24	28	moderate rain
Taipei	26	30	cloudy
Guangzhou	28	34	thundershower
Hong Kong	27	31	thundershower
<b>WORLD</b>			
Moscow	11	27	cloudy
Frankfurt	17	31	drizzle
Paris	21	27	clear
London	15	22	clear
New York	23	28	clear

**CROSSWORDS**

**ACROSS:** 1- Actor Brad; 5- Saharan; 9- Henry VIII's desire; 12- Computer operator; 13- Seat; 15- "Betsy's Wedding" star; 16- Horse hair; 17- 1,000 kilograms; 18- Palindromic time; 19- Turns, e.g.; 21- Hyundai model; 23- Having a sound mind; 24- Freudian concern; 25- Powerful; 28- Grape plantation; 33- "Goodnight" girl; 34- Regular payment for agreed hire; 35- Gin type; 36- Hightailed it; 37- Songbirds; 38- PC linkup; 39- Place west of Nod; 41- Finishes; 42- Bridges; 44- Waste system; 46- Taoism founder; 47- Query; 48- Pre-Easter period; 49- "H" is this type of fricative; 53- Attack; 57- Land of Molly Bloom; 58- Conjecture; 60- Donkey cry; 61- Peter the Great, e.g.; 62- Get the lead out?; 63- Genie's home; 64- Erie Canal mule; 65- English public school; 66- Waiting for the Robert \_\_\_\_.

**DOWN:** 1- Mountain lion; 2- This \_\_\_\_ outrage!; 3- Canvas shelter used on camping trips; 4- Federal crime; 5- Serving temporarily; 6- \_\_\_\_ Island; 7- Actor McKellen; 8- Take a meal; 9- Casino machine; 10- Smell; 11- Granny; 14- Becomes less severe; 15- Bugs; 20- Chaplin prop; 22- Mature, as wine; 25- Fathers; 26- Occupation; 27- Continue a subscription; 28- Mesa National Park; 29- Signs; 30- \_\_\_\_ once; 31- Some horses; 32- Slow-witted; 34- Told; 37- Escaping liquid; 40- Less messy; 42- Without; 43- Fit for drinking; 45- They appear before U; 46- Reduce; 48- Cow catcher; 49- Obtains; 50- One of the Simpsons; 51- Word that can precede hygiene, tradition and agreement; 52- Entice; 54- Russian range; 55- Weak, as an excuse; 56- Sort; 59- Put away.

**Friday's solution**

E	S	T	E	R	A	P	E	M	E	N	D	S
L	E	A	S	E	M	E	A	L	O	O	N	
B	R	I	E	F	C	A	S	E	T	A	R	S
A	B	S		K	N	T	H		I	N	S	E
			S	O	D	A		E	N	D	E	D
R	H	O	N	D	A		H	I	D	E		
V	E	N	E	E	R		F	A	S	E	F	U
S	M	E	E		P	E	N		O	R	I	O
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MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER



### SEWING FOR SPORT: HANDMADE WORKOUT CLOTHES MAKE STRIDES

**I**f necessity is the mother of invention, then pending motherhood may have given Sarah Vander Neut a creative boost.

The Aurora, Colorado, seamstress was pregnant with her first daughter eight years ago and running in her husband's heavy hoodie when she decided to sew a jacket to fit her growing form.

"I was running every day until I had her, and it was winter," said Vander Neut, now the mother of two little girls. "A husband's hoodie does not make you feel

fast. This jacket solved my running problems."

Already selling handmade skirts and dresses at Denver-area craft markets, Vander Neut began sewing athletic jackets in spectacular color combinations. The handmade sportswear features extra-long arms for covering hands or cuffing back, a large hole at one wrist for checking the giant sports watch, deep pockets for holding gear, and reflective accents for nighttime runs. Her jackets are made from double-knit polyester — fabric designed to last.



### SPANISH TOWN HOSTS ANNUAL WINE BATTLE

**G**etting drenched with red wine might not be everyone's idea of fun, but it is the idea behind one of Spain's most popular — and unusual — fiestas.

The town of Haro staged the annual Wine Battle in Spain's Rioja wine-growing region over the weekend.

Organizers say the aim is to "cover your neighbor in wine as quickly and completely as you can."

After an early morning Mass is held, participants throw wine over each other while music plays until the 70,000 liters of free wine

run out.

Among the rules for those taking part: they must wear white, with a red sash; they may use wine-filled water pistols, garden sprayers or buckets; and at no point during the battle can they stop laughing and singing.

Thousands of people come away from Haro's vineyards and woodland soaked from head to toe.

The event is held to celebrate St. Peter and the region's plentiful wine output. It ends with a big lunch.

The festival draws mostly young visitors, from as far away as Australia.

### NEW WHITNEY HOUSTON REMIX BY DJ-PRODUCER KYGO RELEASED

**Y**ou can dance to a new-ish Whitney Houston song this weekend.

Houston originally released a cover of Steve Winwood's "Higher Love" as a Japan-only bonus track on her 1990 album "I'm Your Baby Tonight," but the song has been given an upbeat, dance remix by Norwegian DJ-producer Kygo.

The new version of

"Higher Love" was released digitally on Friday. Winwood's original version was released in 1986 and hit No. 1 on the Billboard Hot 100 chart.

Kygo, best known for his Top 10 hit "It Ain't Me" with Selena Gomez, will perform the new "Higher Love" at the PrideFestival Utopia on Sunday in New York City.

Houston died at the age of 48 in 2012.



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MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

**W**ITH Germany out of the way, Sweden believes it could win it all.

Stina Blackstenius scored the go-ahead goal just minutes into the second half and Sweden surprised Germany with a 2-1 quarterfinal victory at the Women's World Cup.

It was Sweden's first victory over Germany in a major tournament in 24 years, and it sent the ninth-ranked Swedes into the semifinals against the Netherlands.

"We're going to go for it," Sweden coach Peter Gerhardsson said.

The second-ranked Germans, who won back-to-back World Cup titles in 2003 and 2007, were the presumptive favorites on their side of the bracket. Instead, they'll head home.

Germany coach Martina Voss-Tecklenburg said her team seemed to lose focus.

"We knew it was going to be difficult," she said. "We shall not let this bring us down. We have to make sure this process goes on despite the defeat, to keep on growing, to gain strength and channel this negative experience into something positive and to learn our lessons from it."

The eighth-ranked Dutch defeated Italy 2-0 earlier Saturday, setting up the semifinal Wednesday

# Surprising Sweden ousts Germany at Women's World Cup

day in Lyon. The United States plays England in the other semifinal on Tuesday. The final is July 7.

Sweden's victory came in a rematch of the 2003 World Cup final which Germany won 2-0 in Shanghai. The teams also met in the final at the 2016 Olympics, with Germany winning its first gold medal with a 2-1 victory.

Sweden's last win over Germany in a major tournament was in the group stage of the 1995 World Cup.

"We knew we had a chance, and then of course we had to play our best game of the tournament to be able to beat Germany," Gerhardsson said. "So I'm not surprised, but I knew we had to play and perform at our best on the offense and the defense. And I think we did."

Lina Magull's fantastic finish on a half-volley put Germany up in the 16th minute, with Sara Daebritz setting up the goal that veteran Sweden goalkeeper Hedvig Lindahl couldn't get to. **AP**



AP PHOTO

## US WIN MOST-WATCHED WWC QUARTERFINAL MATCH

**THE AMERICANS'** 2-1 victory over France set a record for the most-watched Women's World Cup quarterfinal match on U.S. English-language television. Fox drew 6.12 million viewers for the weekend match, and peaked at 8.24 million. The game was the most-watched English-language soccer telecast in the country since

last year's men's World Cup final. In addition, Sunday's match averaged 211,000 viewers online, making it the most-streamed Women's World Cup game ever. The U.S. 2015 quarterfinal win over Chile averaged 5.74 million, which aired in prime time. The Americans will face England in the semifinals tomorrow.



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OPINION

World Views

David Fickling & Anjani Trivedi, Bloomberg

**TRUMP-XI DEAL MAY FOUNDER ON A PATENT LACK OF TRUST**

Is there any hope that the fast-decoupling U.S. and Chinese governments can resolve their trade dispute, and inject a bit of pep into the weakening global economy? Yes – but the path toward a deal is narrowing.

As we've argued in the past, intellectual property is one area where the interests of the U.S. and China are surprisingly well aligned. Lax enforcement formed the core of U.S. Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer's criticism of China under Washington's Section 301 regulations, so a breakthrough at the G-20 summit in Osaka would represent a symbolic victory for the U.S. For his part, President Xi Jinping has made IP reform a signature issue, not least because Chinese businesses are growing more sophisticated and assembling their own portfolios of patents and trademarks they want to see protected.

China, moreover, has been quietly reforming in many of the ways that the U.S. wants to see. It has progressively trimmed its negative list of industries where foreign investors are required to operate in joint ventures with local companies. These are one of the prime potential conduits for IP leakage, since the intangible assets must generally be vested in the local venture as a requirement for getting an operating license. By this point, though, most industries are open to wholly foreign-owned units.

China's ranking in the U.S. Chamber of Commerce's IP Index stood still in 2019 after years of steady improvement, but it remains well ahead of the likes of Turkey, Chile, Brazil, Thailand and Vietnam. The new foreign investment law passed earlier this year contains a prohibition on forced technology transfer, although the proof of such measures will be how they're enforced. The IP legal regime in China is improving, with courts becoming more consistent in handling technical issues, especially for local firms, according to analysts at Gavekal Dragonomics.

There are many reasons why individual Chinese companies may want to steal technology from U.S. counterparts, but Beijing has an even bigger reason to clamp down. Chinese leaders know that if they're to become technologically independent, they will have to take the training wheels off and learn to walk on their own.

Take electric vehicles. One reason that so few foreign-branded electric cars are made in China, the world's biggest market for such vehicles, is that the playing field is tilted against them. As a result, Chinese-made EVs remain technologically inferior to many models produced overseas. This month, the government scrapped a four-year-old policy of publishing an approved list of battery makers, which had effectively shut out industry leaders such as South Korea's Samsung SDI Co. and LG Chem Ltd.

Korean firms lead Chinese peers by six months to a year and a half in evolving battery chemistry and technology, according to JPMorgan Chase & Co. analysts. Allowing equal participation earlier could have helped battery technology migrate faster. Instead, lagging technology has hurt demand for electric cars in China, with local manufacturers hit hardest.

While it would be hard to tie IP enforcement – a long, slow and technically difficult process – to the immediately measurable matters of trade and tariffs, some sort of announcement would provide great optics for both sides.

There are ways that China and U.S. could come to a stopgap agreement that would at least slow the darkening tide of protectionism – but that would depend on a level of trust between the two sides that seems to have all but vanished. There's a slim hope that peace can still break out in this trade war. But the drumbeat from both sides has kept getting louder.

[Abridged]

More than 50,000 people rallied in support of the Hong Kong police yesterday as the semi-autonomous territory braced for another day of protests on the anniversary of the former British colony's return to China.

The crowd filled a park in front of the legislature and chanted "Thank you" to the police, who have been criticized for using tear gas and rubber bullets during clashes with demonstrators that left dozens injured on June 12.

Some carried Chinese flags. Police estimated the turnout at 53,000.

A protest march has been called for today, the third in three weeks, this one on the 22nd anniversary of the handover of Hong Kong to China on July 1, 1997.

Police have erected tall barriers and shut off access to Golden Bauhinia Square, where the flag-raising will be held, to prevent protesters from massing there overnight.

**UN CHIEF WARNS PARIS CLIMATE GOALS STILL NOT ENOUGH**

AP PHOTO



Antonio Guterres

AYA BATRAWY & MALAK, ABU DHABI

U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres took his global message urging immediate climate action to officials gathered in the United Arab Emirates yesterday, where production of hydrocarbons remains a key driver of the economy.

Guterres is calling on governments to stop building new coal plants by 2020, cut greenhouse emissions by 45% over the next decade and overhauling fossil fuel-driven economies with new technologies like solar and wind. The world, he said, "is facing a grave climate emergency."

In remarks at a summit in Abu Dhabi, he painted a grim picture of how rapidly climate change is advancing, saying it is outpacing efforts to address it.

He lauded the Paris climate accord, but said even if its promises are fully met, the world still faces what he described as a catastrophic three-degree temperature rise by the end of the century.

Arctic permafrost is melting decades earlier than even worst-case scenarios, he said, threatening to unlock vast amounts of methane, a greenhouse gas.

"It is plain to me that we have no time to lose," Guterres said. "Sadly, it is not yet plain to all the decision makers that run our world."

He spoke at the opulent Emirates Palace, where Abu Dhabi was hosting a preparatory meeting for the U.N. Climate Action Summit in September. Guterres was expected to later take a helicopter ride to view Abu Dhabi's Noor solar power plant.

When asked, U.N. representatives said the lavish Abu Dhabi summit and his planned helicopter ride would be carbon neutral, meaning their effects would be balanced by efforts like planting trees and sequestering emissions. The UN says carbon dioxide emissions account for around 80% of global warming.

Guterres was in Abu Dhabi

fresh off meetings with The Group of 20 leaders in Osaka, Japan. There, he appealed directly to heads of state of the world's main emitters to step up their efforts. The countries of the G20 represent 80% of world emissions of greenhouse gases, he said.

At the G20 meeting, 19 countries expressed their commitment to the Paris agreement, with the only the United States dissenting. In 2017, President Donald Trump pledged to withdraw the U.S. from the Paris climate agreement as soon as 2020, arguing it disadvantaged American workers and taxpayers. Trump has also moved steadily to dismantle Obama administration efforts to rein in coal, oil and gas emissions. His position has been that these efforts also hurt the U.S. economy.

The secretary-general's special envoy for the climate summit, Ambassador Luis Alfonso de Alba, told The Associated Press it was disappointing that the U.S. has pulled out from the accord. However, he said there are many examples of efforts at the local and state level in the United States to combat climate change.

"I think it is very important to have all countries committing to this cause... even more when we are talking about the country of the importance and the size - not only in terms of the economy but also the emissions - of the United States," he said.

Guterres is urging business leaders and politicians to come to the Climate Action Summit later this year with their plans ready to nearly halve greenhouse emissions by 2030 and reach carbon neutrality by 2050.

He suggested taxing major carbon-emitting industries and polluters, ending the subsidization of oil and gas, and halting the building of all new coal plants by next year.

"We are in a battle for our lives," he said. "But it is a battle we can win." AP

Vietnam and the European Union signed a free trade agreement yesterday, opening opportunities to further boost trade between the euro bloc and one of Southeast Asia's biggest manufacturing nations.

More on p13

AP PHOTO



Afghanistan The seventh and latest round of peace talks between the U.S. and Taliban is "critical," said Taliban spokesman Suhail Shaheen yesterday on the second day of talks with Washington's peace envoy Zalmay Khalilzad in the Mideastern state of Qatar, where the militant group maintains a political office.

Pakistan Police have arrested a man for murdering his own transgender son, in the province of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

Istanbul Turkey's Minister of Defense Hulusi Akar has said it is ready to retaliate against any attacks on Turkish vessels and interests by the forces of Libya's Khalifa Hifter. He said there would be "heavy" consequences to any "hostile attitude or attacks."

Mexico Immigration officials say they have returned 81 migrants to Haiti after attending to "technical" considerations and seeing to the security of the plane taking them to the Caribbean nation.

AP PHOTO



EU Leaders started a new marathon session of talks yesterday, desperately seeking a breakthrough in a diplomatic fight over who should be picked for a half dozen of jobs at top EU institutions.

US The Trump administration has agreed to postpone implementing a rule allowing medical workers to decline performing abortions or other treatments on moral or religious grounds while the so-called "conscience" rule is challenged in a California court.