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FRIDAY 05 Jul 2019

"THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN"

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF Paulo Coutinho

THE CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY IS CONSIDERING TO BAN **DRONES FROM MORE HERITAGE SITES 4** P6

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SIX AND COUNTING: CHAN WENG FU, **68, HAS BEEN LIVING IN MACAU FOR OVER 40 YEARS AND HE WANTS TO BE** THE NEW CHIEF EXECUTIVE

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US-China A judge has denied a request to delay sentencing for a former University of Illinois student convicted in the kidnapping and murder of a visiting Chinese scholar U.S. District Judge James Shadid issued the ruling yesterday. Jurors last week convicted Brendt Christensen in the killing of Yingying Zhang.



China A tornado blew through a city in northeast China, damaging factories and buildings, killing six people and injuring another 190, state media reported yesterday. The tornado hit Kaiyuan, in Liaoning province, late Wednesday afternoon, local authorities said in a brief online statement.



Malaysia's anti-graft agency said yesterday it has detained Riza Aziz (pictured), the stepson of former Prime Minister Najib Razak and a Hollywood film producer, and will charge him with money laundering.



Philippines The Commission condemned the killing of a 3-year-old girl in a police raid in which her father, a drug suspect, was gunned down along with another civilian and a police officer. More on p12

South Korea Tightened Japanese controls on exports of key materials used to make semiconductors and displays took effect yesterday, as South Korean officials vowed to fight back. The Japanese government ordered the more stringent approval process for shipments of photoresists and other key chemicals.

More on backpage



FILM FESTIVAL GOES VIRAL ETHRONES GRAND PRIX





The Essence Festival, which draws thousands to New Orleans during the Fourth of July week, is celebrating 25 years of bringing African American women of all ages together for thought-provoking conversation and performances from top musical acts





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TAXI DRIVERS WANT 15% FARE INCREASE

The city's taxi drivers are asking for a 15% increase in taxi fares to be implemented starting from the Chinese Lunar New Year. Tony Kuok Leong Son, a workers' representative for taxi drivers in the city, said that his association is drafting a plan and is expecting to meet with the Transport Bureau in August to discuss the proposed fare increase. They are seeking to increase the starting price, meter price and waiting fare by 15%. Furthermore, an additional MOP15 fee is being proposed for rides in the first three days of the Lunar New Year. According to Kuok, taxi drivers want the increase because they believe that the cost of operation has increased.

MACAU IS NOT MONITORING HK, **SAYS WONG SIO CHAK**

Secretary for Security Wong Sio Chak has claimed that Macau is not monitoring Hong Kong, according to a report by public broadcaster TDM. Wong's statement came after he was asked by the media if Macau was monitoring Hong Kong like Shenzhen is, based on a request from the central government. "We don't have the right to monitor. Within Macau, we are enforcing laws in accordance with our laws. We are not entitled to enforce laws across borders," said Wong. Nonetheless, Wong noted that "certainly, we are paying attention to Hong Kong's situation.

HOTELS MAY REPLACE FAILED BEIJING **IMPERIAL PALACE**

The construction of hotels on the land of the defunct Beijing Imperial Palace Hotel in Taipa is a possibility, according to the owner's application to the Land, Public Works and Transport Bureau (DSSOPT). The DSSOPT is currently collecting public opinions on the plan concerning the land. The plot is leased land for hotel purposes in accordance with the original land concession. The land plot consists of two parts: one is allowed a maximum building height of 70 meters and the other is allowed a maximum height of 140 meters In 2016, the Macao Government Tourism Office decided to close the hotel, which was formerly known as New Century Hotel, citing serious administrative irregularities.



A video grab from TDM-TV showing Chan Weng Fu

CHAN WENG FU

SIXTH CHIEF EXECUTIVE CANDIDATE JOINS THE RACE

RENATO MARQUES

THE head of an electrote-**⊥** chnical engineering company in Macau, who has lived in the city for more than four decades, says he wants to become the next Chief Executive.

At 68 years old, Chan Weng Fu yesterday afternoon became the sixth candidate for the post of Chief Executive after he delivered his electoral program proposal to the Chief Executive Election Committee.

Broadcast on the TDM Radio Chinese-language channel, Chan expressed his hope of gathering enough support to be able to run for the post, saying that after the publishing of his electoral program he is optimistic that he will be able to convince voters to support him.

Chan joins five other candidates, led by frontrunner Ho Iat Seng, including Leong Kuok Chao, Hoi Weng Chong, Choi Teng Teng, and Steven Siu.

Ho is viewed as the election favorite, with much doubt cast publicly on the ability of any of his five rivals to harness the necessary support from at least 66 members of the 400-person Electoral Committee.

As with the four other pretender candidates, not much is known about Chan, aside from his lack

of experience in government du-

Aside from Ho, the other candidates include Leong, 45, who is currently the director of an investment consultancy company.

Hoi is a well-known protester, best known for his street presence at the city's tourism hotspots, namely Senado Square. He was formerly a newspaper publisher, but he is also known for working at an insurance company, a job that has been identified as the cause of his long-lasting street protests.

As for Choi, she is a self-described "grassroots" candidate and the only female contender in the race, with a platform of "fighting for democracy, freedom, cracking down on corruption, and pursuing fairness and equity." She has worked in the clothing and construction sectors and currently, she is said to dedicate herself to volunteer work and her four children.

According to a report by Exmoo, Choi was sentenced to four years in prison in association with a fraud case.

The list of the current candidates is completed by Siu, the 73-year-old honorary consul of Papua New Guinea in Macau and the fifth candidate to announce his intention to participate.

Siu believes that if the current business-dominated political climate persists, the competitiveness of the city will weaken. A key part of his campaign pledge is to pry open the 'small circle', drawing on his experience as a diplomat.

The Chief Executive election will take place on August 25.

IPIM ex-president Jackson Chang arrested by CCAC

THE former president of the Institute for alleged irregularities ment Promotion Institute (IPIM), of residency statuses through an Jackson Chang, was arrested by investment scheme. the Commission Against Corruption (CCAC) on Wednesday, according to the Lusa news agen-

The law firm representing Chang has declined to comment on the case.

In October 2018, the CCAC announced that it had opened an investigation into Chang and two other high-ranking officials at the

⚠ Macau Trade and Invest- regarding the unlawful granting

The investigation followed a July report that exposed the irregularities, suggesting that IPIM had not done its due diligence in ensuring that investment and technical residency applications were processed according to the

The Public Prosecutions Office did not respond to a Lusa request for information by press time. **DB**

SECURITY SERVICE **OUTSOURCING IS** TEMPORARY, SAYS IC

YULTURAL Affairs Bureau Uchief Mok Ian Ian said yesterday that the IC is implementing a temporary tender method for its security service until the end of this year.

Earlier this week, lawmaker Au Kam San wrote an inquiry to the local government asking about the recent outsourcing of IC's security services which had avoided an open public tender.

"The IC's security services are outsourced based on seven different categories. Security services to different locations, such as schools and other locations have been outsourced separately,"

Mok explained.

"We have already planned that, starting from the beginning of next year, all of these security services will be organized into one and therefore outsourced as one," said Mok.

According to Mok, in the second half of 2019, due to the expiration of all of the aforementioned security service contracts, the IC decided to outsource its security services through a temporary method which is based on a computerized lucky draw.

The outsourcing of the services will finish by the end of this year. JZ

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EDITOR-IN-CHIEF (DIRECTOR)_Paulo Coutinho paulocoutinho@macaudailytimes.com MANAGING EDITOR Daniel Beitler da IImes CONTRIBUTING EDITORS Eric Sautedé, Leanda Lee, Severo Portela

NEWSROOM AND CONTRIBUTORS Albano Martins, Annabel Jackson, Emilie Tran, Irene Sam, Ivo Carneiro de Sousa, Jacky I.F. Cheong, Jenny Lao-Phillips, João Palla Martins, Joseph Cheung, Julie Zhu, Juliet Risdon, Linda Kennedy, Lynzy Valles, Paulo Cordeiro de Sousa, Renato Marques, Richard Whitfield, Viviana Segui DESIGNERS_Eva Bucho, Miguel Bandeira | ASSOCIATE CONTRIBUTORS_JML Property, MdME Lawyers PokerStars, Ruan Du Toit Bester | NEWS AGENCIES_ Associated Press, Bloomberg, MacauHub, MacauNews, Xinhua A MACAU TIMES PUBLICATIONS LTD PUBLICATION

ADMINISTRATOR AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

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

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Secretary Wong pledges no grey areas in Civil Protection Law

Wong Sio Chak has pledged that the authorities will strive to leave no grey areas in the proposed Civil Protection Law that could lead to interpretations that limit freedom of expression. The Secretary made the comment after widespread concerns were aired about several parts of the bill, most notably article 25.

The bill previously described a new crime of social alarm, which it now defines as "a crime against safety, order and public peace during sudden incidents of a public nature"

The bill is being considered in detail by the First Standing Committee of the Legislative Assembly.

Speaking to the press yesterday, Wong said that rumors are likely to have a large impact, causing more panic amongst the public than the disaster itself.

The Macau Portuguese and English Press Association has previously criticized the law, noting that its concern comes from the vague and subjective nature of the expres-



sions and concepts used.

The association expressed its confusion, considering that the phrasing "biased, unfounded and fake news" was never discussed during the public consultation phase.

The Macau Journalists' Associa-

tion and the New Macau Association have also called for a review of the bill.

However, Wong said that the comments were made with a lack of legal knowledge, adding that the Penal Code and Civil Protection Law are different.

"If you have any legal sense, the Penal Code is a different situation. [...] It means if I call the firefighters to say there is a fire [when there is not] and cause authorities to make unnecessary efforts, that's the difference with the Civil Protection Law," he said.

Wong said that the committee had sent a total of 13 questions to his office and that they were responded to by Tuesday.

He also downplayed the idea – which was suggested by lawmakers and the New Macau Association – that a revision of the Penal Code should be undertaken instead, rather than creating the rumor offence in the new bill.

The secretary also emphasized that amending the rumor crime within the Penal Code would change the entire criminal penalty structure in the SAR, thus causing changes to the city's criminal policy.

He explained that the Civil Protection Law will only be used in emergency situations, contrary to the Penal Code which is enforced at all times.

Meanwhile, the secretary admitted that the bill still has room for improvement before it enters the final phase of the legislation.

"I'm not saying we are perfect, but we do everything so that when the law is being enforced there are no grey areas. Of course, when the AL presents some opinions, in some situations they might not understand the judicial system," he added.

Wong also stressed that the crime only applies to the spreading of rumors with intent to harm. LV





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The Old Court Building (left) and it's interior stairways (right)

CENTRAL LIBRARY

Alternative location demand revived, gaining support

RENATO MARQUES

HE new Macau Central Library, a project that was first announced almost 14 years ago, continues to accumulate problems and further delays. The future of the project remains uncertain as the idea of dropping the project's planned location at the Old Court Building has been revived and is gaining support.

This time it was Macau Institution of People's Alliance and Urban Planning Committee (CPU) member, Chan Tak Seng, who publicly criticized the project's government-approved location and proposed abandoning the project in favor of another development at another location.

According to the CPU member, the location of the Old Court Building on Avenida da Praia Grande in central Macau is not compatible with its

functions as a library, nor is the project compliant with urban planning and heritage protection rules.

Chan explained that building the Central Library in a place full of traffic and people does not conform with the duties of a place that requires silence and where people need peace of mind in order to study or research.

The CPU member also noted that recently, the Cultural Affairs Bureau (IC) expressed its intention to preserve the building or a very significant part of it, but moved its official stance to preserving only the façade, a decision which, according to Chan, reveals the IC's lack of knowledge regarding heritage protection.

Chan called for the new government of the region to commence their duties in advance, before the year ends, by finding an alternative location to build the Central Library. Although Chan is the most recent person to call for the abandonment of the project, he is not alone.

Over the years, the issue has been dragged through the Legislative Assembly and several other committees who have deemed the project to be "difficult to build," located in an "unsuitable location," and above all, "extremely onerous for the public purse."

According to the latest estimate, the project is likely to carry a cost of almost MOP1 billion, a cost that continues to grow larger with every delay.

The project has gone through many stages since it was first announced by Macau's first Chief Executive, Edmund Ho, in November 2005 during the Policy Address for 2006.

In the four years that followed, the government held a public consultation, conducted preliminary studies on the project, site selection and an architectural concept design competition. Eventually, the competition was canceled and the government opted to implement the first stage of preliminary planning for the Old Court Building from 2010 to 2012 instead.

From 2013 to 2015, the government decided on a second design that would not only include the Old Court Building, but also the former Judiciary Police head-quarters, furthering the idea of a project that would merge both facilities.

As of today, the government has proceeded with the Design Development stage, having held a public tender for the library design and aiming to transform the area into a cultural landmark with several functional areas, halls, and exhibition rooms, as well as artistic creation and leisure venues.

The tender results were announced in November 2018, with the winning proposal coming from Marreiros Architectural Atelier Limited (MAA), a company led by local architect Carlos Marreiros.

The new project will feature 11 floors and will be divided into three sections: a library section, a public section and a technical support section.

At the time, in accordance with the listing of the building as an architectural interest venue in Macau, the IC said that the building would keep "all the architectural elements and features which contribute to the Old Court Building's unique architectural style and cultural value, including its façade, rooftop, structure, floor slabs, and distinctive internal spaces, among others."

The IC also revealed that the new building would not exceed a height of 53 meters and would be a "good example of the organic integration and harmonious dialogue between historic and modern architecture."

As soon as it was announced, the project from MAA was criticized for its similarity to an award-winning auditorium built in the early 2000s in the Spanish city of Leon. Marreiros promptly denied the accusations of plagiarism.

International Book Fair launches 1st edition with over 10,000 books

JULIE ZHU

THE first Macao International Book Fair 2019 was inaugurated yesterday at The Venetian Macao. The book fair, which will runs July 4 to 7, showcases over 60 participating publishers from more than 20 countries and regions and hosts more than 10,000 books.

Exhibitors from Portuguese-speaking countries include publishers from Portugal, Brazil and Angola, notably Editora Presença from Portugal and Editora Senac São Paulo from Brazil. Meanwhile, 20 publishers have come from mainland China, Hong Kong, Macau and Taiwan.

The event is divided into four themed exhibition

areas, namely the "Exhibition Area of Food and Wine Books," the "Exhibition Area of Chinese Publications," the "International Exhibition Area" and the "Reading Experience Area."

The first Macao International Book Fair also features a series of activities, including the Salon Area and the Chef's Kitchen which are open to the public free of charge.

Twenty-four activities will be held in the Salon Area, including the 24th Gourmand World Cookbook Awards Ceremony, cultural exchange sessions and book launches.

The organizers invited three chefs who will host live cooking demonstrations at the Chef's Kitchen, where a total of 21 sessions with different themes will be presented.

The Macao International Book Fair 2019 will also feature the second "Encounter in Macao – Arts and Cultural Festival between China and Portuguese-speaking countries" festival.

The event was jointly organized by the Cultural Affairs Bureau of Macau (IC) and the China National Publications Import & Export (Group) Corporation. Despite the collaboration, the IC is bearing all the costs associated with the book fair. According to IC Director

mately MOP4 million to organize the event.
"It's paid for by the Macau government," said Mok,

Mok Ian Ian, the Macau

government paid approxi-

government," said Mok, justifying that "the exhibition hall is 3,000 square meters and there are so many exhibitors and writers."

"[The money] also covers food and accommodation for the guests," she added.

Regarding the anticipated number of visitors to the book fair, Mok said, "Since we have never held such large-scale book fair, we will report the number of visitors later."



Diverse Training Programmes Propel Wynn Team Members to Next Level

Wynn lives by the credo of cultivating local talent, recognising over the years the immense impact that supporting team members has on their own career paths.

It does this by providing diverse development opportunities in a variety of specialities, one of which is the catering sector, helping aspiring F&B candidates shine in the new phase of their career. Cutting-edge equipment and high quality training spaces are creating the ideal training environment for team members and, importantly, the necessary world class expertise.

This year, Wynn's F&B Academy has launched a series of training programmes dedicated to F&B and culinary trainees. The professional certification programmes are also in tandem with international educational institutions, ensuring team members benefit from the highest level of training that attracts promotion opportunities.

Team members are, of course, the most valuable assets of the company, thus it is in everyone's interest both employer and personnel that Wynn strives to create greater opportunities on the promotion ladder for the development of team members, especially local colleagues. Employing state-of-the-art hardware and software, Wynn cultivates junior team members in a training environment that propels them to their career goals. In 2016, for example, Wynn pioneered a variety of F&B training programmes designed to prepare team members to excel in the catering sector. A cornerstone of the programme took professional training to those who had had no related experience but fervently desired to work in the sector, guiding them onto a new career path.



TARGETED TRAINING PROVIDED TO YOUTHS FOR NEW CAREER DEVELOPMENT

Encouraging potential manpower to enter the employment market and breathe new vitality into catering is one of Wynn's primary corporate objectives. Such vitality can, indeed, be found in those who are interested in working in the sector but have no related experience. Employing the principle of 'First-Hire-Then-Train', Wynn's F&B Academy's 12 to 18 months training programmes seek to provide enthusiastic local residents with intensive, all-round, on-the-job



training which will help them develop their careers.

Training programmes - offering over 50 training places in all - comprise the F&B Service Management Trainee Program, Culinary Management Trainee Program and Culinary Apprentice Program. According to the programme registered for, trainees will work in a variety of positions in various culinary departments and restaurants in Wynn Palace and Wynn Macau, receiving comprehensive professional training in job-specific skills and related knowledge. Within a specific period of time trainees inducted into these programmes will be able to grasp the complete set of professional skills. A new chapter in their catering career



ON-THE-JOB TRAINING FOR PROMISING TRAINEES

The F&B Service Management Trainee Program and Culinary Management Trainee Program both offer a comprehensive range of management training to candidates with a tertiary or higher educational background - and, of course, the passion to throw themselves into the catering or culinary sector. Upon completion of the programme, trainees

will not only receive attractive internal promotion opportunities but can also choose to register for internationally recognised accreditation examinations. Programme benefits are therefore real and practical, offering genuine career prospects.

In the F&B Service Management Trainee Program, trainees - guided by top management members to work as interns in a variety of Wynn Macau and Wynn Palace restaurants - will be assigned to pertinent positions to help managers organise exquisite feasts. while learning restaurant management skills, table wine and tea knowledge, and 5-star service standards. Trainees who complete the rigorous 18-month training course have the opportunity of being promoted to the position of F&B Assistant Manager.

Meanwhile, the Culinary Management Trainee Program creates invaluable opportunities for trainees to learn firsthand from renowned chefs, including how to manage the daily operations of the kitchen. Trainees will also be assigned to various restaurants in Wynn hotels - including those sporting Michelin and Forbes stars. Here they will master the necessary knowledge regarding ingredients, the various culinary techniques of Chinese and Western cuisines, including dim-sum and pastry, as well as food safety and hygiene standards. They will be given opportunities to assist renowned chefs in preparing exquisite feasts, will work with world renowned guest chefs and rise on the international stage. Trainees who complete this gruelling 18-month training stand a chance of being promoted to the position of Master Cook.

PROMOTION LADDER BECKONS

The Culinary Apprentice Program exclusively targets young adults aged 18-plus determined to embark upon a culinary career upon completing junior secondary education. As well as learning Chinese and Western culinary. arts in different Wynn departments. trainees may gain accreditation through the China National Vocational Qualification Assessments. Trainees who have completed the 12-month training course stand a chance of being promoted to Commis, laying a solid foundation for further career



Wynn's F&B Academy is specifically designed to create a comprehensive training and internship platform for Macau people, and catering staff in particular. Each new 'recruit' can benefit from a full range of onthe-job-training equipping them for future promotion opportunities. In the past year alone, some 20 trainees have received a promotion to senior and managerial positions having completed the training programme proving its success in helping trainees further enhance their capabilities and the promise of genuine career advancement and satisfaction.



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IMACAUDAILY

HERITAGE

MORE BUILDINGS SUGGESTED FOR DRONE BAN INCLUSION

THE Civil Aviation Authority (AACM) is L considering listing more heritage buildings as prohibited areas for unmanned aircraft.

The consideration follows two separate incidents of drones colliding with the Ruins of St. Paul's Cathedral since January this year. The first prompted the AACM to restrict the use of drones in the site's vicinity. No people were injured in either incident, and the historical site was unscathed.

Yesterday, AACM Vice President Pun Wa Kin said that, following discussions with the Cultural Affairs Bureau (IC), the Authority will consider placing signs prohibiting the use of drones in the vicinity of other heritage buildings.

"In the future, if needed, and after an evaluation by the IC, we can add these [additional] sites into the relevant regulations," said Pun, adding "but first, we need to know how many sites there are."

In addition, Pun said that the bureau will enhance their promotional campaign for tourists regarding unmanned aircraft regulations.

Furthermore, the AACM has completed their investigations into two people who entered restricted areas of the Macau International Airport in April.

The AACM has requested that airport management improve security. As of today, the AACM has not started penalty procedures against the parties involved. JZ

ARTS

RENOWNED PEKING OPERA REIMAGINED AS CONTEMPORARY DANCE



STAFF REPORTER

THE modern dance per-▲ formance "Under Siege" will be held at the Macao Cultural Centre Grand Auditorium on September 7 as part of the inaugural Art Macao festival. Tickets will be available this Sunday.

Considered a masterpiece by organizer CCM, the dance drama was created by Chinese choreographer Yang Liping. She was inspired by renowned Peking opera "Farewell My Concubine," which was made into a film starring the late Hong Kong superstar Leslie Cheung.

Yang reinvented the opera into a visually powerful story of ambition, treason and eternal love.

Yang drills into several aspects of Chinese philosophy with the production, one of which is yin and yang.

One female character, Con-

sort Yu, is played by a male actor. On this, Yang thinks it is important to let actors converse within themselves and discover themselves.

In a previous interview, Yang noted that she had not expressly instructed the actor playing Consort Yu. She let the actor explore the concept of "hermaphroditism" independently.

The dance drama is set against the backdrop of the Chu-Han Contention and is based on a story which has been long celebrated through music, literature and film.

Thousands of scissors are hung over the stage as the story progresses. It is done, according to the organizer, to create climactic clashes, as the Battle of Gaixia forever changed the course of Chinese his-

Two warlords confront one another, willing to put their power at stake to win the ultimate prize of a legendary beauty.

Yang joined forces with Academy and BAFTA award-winning set and costume designer Tim Yip ("Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon" and Akram Khan's "Desh"), and conjured up visual magic on stage with artist-designer Liu Beili.

AD 📐



Connect • Share • Grow



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, 8th July, 2019

Time: 1:00p.m. - 2:30p.m. (Reception: 12:45p.m.)

Venue: Mandarin Oriental, Macau

1st floor, Ocean Room

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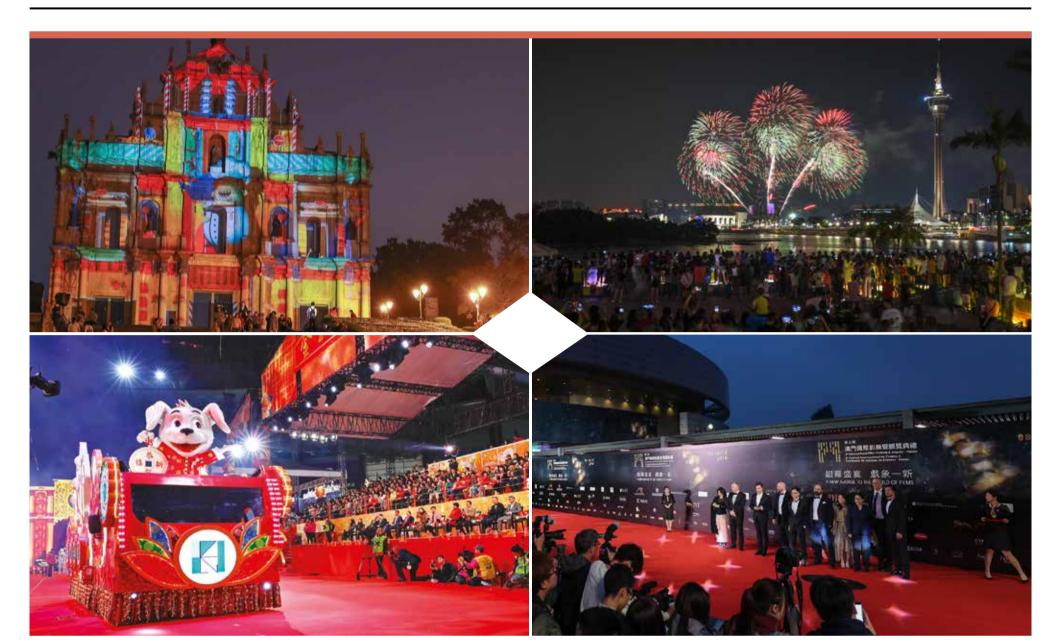
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Clockwise from top left: Macau Light Festival, Macau International Fireworks Display Contest, IFFAM 2018 and the Chinese New Year's "Parade for Celebration of the Year of the Dog"

Int'l Film Festival goes viral, leaving lagging Grand Prix behind

STAFF REPORTER

HE 3rd International Film Festival and Awards (IFFAM) was by far the most popular event in Macau last year in terms of media coverage, according to the results of a study released by the Macao Government Tourism Office (MGTO).

Data from the MGTO showed that the IFFAM had more media coverage in a single month than its runner-up, the 65th Macau Grand Prix, had in two months combined.

As the major Macau event for both traditional and social media in October and November last year, the Macau Grand Prix was mentioned in some 40,170 articles. Meanwhile, in just the month of December, the 3rd IFFAM generated 92,311 article mentions across platforms.

Since 2017, the tourism management body has commissioned an annual study on the marketing effectiveness of its four 'mega-tourism' events from the previous year. It covers the New Year's Parade - "Parade for Celebration of the

Year of the Dog" - the Macao International Fireworks Display Contest, the Macao Light Festival and the IFFAM.

It covers a wide range of media programs across the Greater China region, as well as other locations where the MGTO operates an office, such as Japan, India, Thailand, New Zealand, Australia, the U.K. and the U.S.

The study analyzes coverage in "volume" from traditional media (including both print and electronic media), social media and online travel agencies. Apart from the amount of coverage, the study also collected data about the level of satisfaction the public had for each major event. It remains unclear how the satisfaction level was measured in the study.

The MGTO also evaluated the media effectiveness of Macau as a tourism brand.

All of the four major events scored highly in terms of satisfaction and garnered significant public awareness, according to a report released by the MGTO. The tourism authority therefore concluded that both the media and the public were satisfied by the large-scale events

The volume of media coverage on the four events accounted for over 30% of total media coverage on Macau as a travel destination throughout the year, together constituting a significant positive impact on Macau's destination branding.

In terms of coverage, the parade attracted 4,008 articles, the fireworks contest 12,573, the IF-FAM 101,768 and the Light Festival 24,261.

In terms of social media interactions, the parade generated 1.3 million counts, the fireworks contest nearly 1.5 million, the IFFAM 12.7 million and the Light Festival almost 12.4 million. Even though the IFFAM championed again in social media interaction, it did not significantly exceed the second most popular event.

The event that scored the highest level of satisfaction was the parade with 82.9 points out of 100, but it was also the least known. Meanwhile, both the fireworks contest and the Light Festival were the most widely-k-

nown among the four large-scale events.

Besides examining each of the four major events individually, the evaluation also analyzed their relevance with Macau's destination branding. The study revealed that the total volume of media coverage on Macau as a travel destination comprised over 450,000 articles, of which more than 140,000 articles covered the four events and accounted for over 30% of total media coverage about the destination, reflecting the positive impact of these events on Macau's destination branding.

The research team drew the conclusion that the 3rd IFFAM drew more interest from outside of the Greater China region, with 54.6% of social media traffic coming from international sources.

The other three events, however, had between 91% and 96% of their social media traffic coming from the Greater China region.

Video is a key factor in drawing attention and traffic, and the popularity of videos on social media platform Facebook was especially important. All four major events scored between 71.7 and 82.9 in terms of their public satisfaction response.

Given its highly diffusive effect, social media favors dialogues with the public. The distribution of media coverage on the four major events suggests that social media remained a major platform for relevant public opinion about the four events. The research team hence suggests more attention is paid to discussions about the events on social media.

The study suggests that if famed celebrities, travel bloggers and online influencers can promote events through their posts on social media accounts, it will widen the exposure of these tourism events and amplify the promotional effect.

Official accounts of governmental entities and events for promotional purpose on social media also demonstrate a certain degree of influence. It is therefore suggested to harness the power of social media to a greater extent, such as leveraging promotional posts on themed webpages and accounts of media, celebrities, travel bloggers, official entities or events for promotional purpose.

The MGTO said that it would take into consideration the suggestions from the research team and keep optimizing events and activities to provide more enriching event experiences for locals and visitors.



CONSTRUCTION BEGINS ON NATIONAL 'STONY **DESERT PARK'**

Workers have broken ground on a "stony desert park" in south China's Guangdong Province. The park, located in the Province's northern Liannan County, will be the first national "stony desert park" in Guangdong, according to the provincial forestry bureau. The park will help complete the treatment of stony desertification and prevent environmental risks, while also powering local tourism, according to the bureau. The park will cover a planned area of 1,458 hectares. with an investment of 134 million yuan (USD19 million). Upon completion, it will feature facilities for tourism, vacation, education and outdoor activities.

SHENZHEN CUSTOMS BUST DIESEL SMUGGLING GANG

Customs in south China have busted a gang that smuggled diesel from Hong Kong to cities on the Chinese mainland. Thirty-eight suspects were arrested in the smuggling case, according to the Shenzhen customs in Guangdong Province. A total of 94.67 tonnes of smuggled diesel were seized and preliminary investigation showed the case might involve up to 150 million yuan (USD22 million). Shenzhen customs said it was the largest smuggling case uncovered in recent years. Commonly known as "red oil," the diesel used for industrial and maritime fuel in Hong Kong is duty-free with red additives. It was wholesaled between 5,200 to 5,500 yuan per tonne, while a tonne of nonduty-free diesel costs about 2,000 yuan more in mainland cities. Further investigation is underway.

HONG KONG

CHINA AND UK ESCALATE THEIR WAR OF WORDS

HINA and Britain's war of words over Hong Kong escalated, with the two sides openly accusing each other of behaving inappropriately toward the former U.K. colony.

Foreign Secretary Jeremy Hunt said the U.K. is keeping its options open over its threat of "serious consequences" if China fails to honor the letter and spirit of an agreement that guarantees freedoms in Hong Kong.

"I'm not saying anything about what those consequences might be, that would not be the right thing for me to do as foreign secretary because of course you keep your options open," Hunt told BBC radio yesterday.

China's ambassador to London, Liu Xiaoming, gave a rare televised statement on Wednesday, accusing the British government of meddling. His comments came after Prime Minister Theresa May told Parliament that she was "shocked" by the scenes of violence when protesters stormed the Hong Kong Legislative Council on Monday.

"The U.K. government chose to stand on the wrong side, it has made inappropriate remarks, not only to interfere in the internal affairs of Hong Kong but also to back up the violent lawbreakers," Liu said. He also said Britain has tried to "obstruct" Hong Kong authorities from "bringing the criminals to justice, which is utter interference in Hong Kong's rule of law."

Liu was in turn summoned to the U.K. Foreign Office to explain his comments. The row has sabotaged Britain's attempts to improve relations with China as it prepares to leave the European Union and looks for trade deals around the

For all that it wants a good relationship with China, the U.K. feels an obligation toward the people of Hong Kong, which it handed over in 1997 after 156 years of British rule. That was under a "one country, two systems" agreement negotiated in 1984 by former Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, designed to guarantee freedoms for Hong Kong.

Pro-democracy protesters in Hong Kong frequently invoke that deal and call on the U.K. to intervene when they feel its terms are being ignored; demonstrators who entered the Legislative Council

building unfurled a Union Jack--emblazoned colonial flag as part of their protests.

"The vast majority of the hundreds of thousands who marched did so peacefully and lawfully," May told Parliament. "It is vital that Hong Kong's high degree of autonomy and the rights and freedoms set down in the Sino-British joint declaration are respected," she said, noting the anniversary of the handover of Hong Kong to China this week.

Yet May will only be prime minis-

ter for another few weeks and an election is under way among members of Britain's ruling Conservative party to choose a successor. Outspoken former foreign secretary Boris Johnson is the favorite to win the party leadership and become the U.K.'s next prime minister.

Johnson said he supported the protesters, who were entitled to be skeptical about Chinese proposals for extradition to the mainland. "I do support them and I will happily speak up for them and back them every inch of the way," he said in an interview with Reuters.

In a veiled warning to whoever succeeds May, China demanded the U.K. stay out of its affairs in Hong Kong. Its Foreign Ministry this week said the Sino-British agreement "no longer has any practical significance." MDT/BLOOMBERG



China's ambassador to London, Liu Xiaoming



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Arrests made over Hong Kong protests, legislature break-in

JOHNSON LAI

oLICE said they had arrested 13 people after the protests on Monday's anniversary of Hong Kong's return to China, including one man accused of storming the legislature building in a break-in involving hundreds of pro-democracy protesters who vandalized offices and the main chamber.

The local man surnamed Poon was arrested in Mong Kok and accused of assaulting police, criminal destruction, misconduct in public places and forced entry of the Legislative Council Complex, police

Eleven men and a woman were arrested in connection with a different protest that took place Monday morning. They face various charges including possession of offensive weapons, unlawful assembly, assaulting a police officer, obstructing a police officer and failing to carry an identity document. The brief statement did not describe the offensive weapons or provide further details.

Pro-democracy protesters rushed police barricades around the time of a morning flag-raising ceremony marking the 22nd anniversary of the former British colony's handover to China in 1997. Police used shields, batons and pepper spray to drive them back.

That afternoon, while hundreds of thousands of people were participating in a peaceful march marking the anniversary, a few hundred protesters began trying to break into the locked legislative building by smashing thick glass walls and prying open metal security curtains. When they poured into the building late that night, they spray-painted slogans on the walls and caused extensive damage.

In shocking scenes Monday and early Tuesday, the protesters vented their anger and frustration at a government that hasn't responded to their demands. They stood on the desks in the legislature's main chamber and climbed high to cover the city's official emblem with black spray paint.

On Wednesday, workers boarded up shattered windows and police carted away evidence for the criminal investigation. The government showed journalists the extent of the damage on a tour of the first two floors of the building.

At almost every turn, slogans had been spray-painted on the walls in Chinese and English. "Destroy the Chinese Communist Party," read one. "Hong Kong is not China" said another.

Papers, rubbish and umbrellas — a protest symbol in Hong Kong used to ward off sun, rain and pepper spray — were strewn in lobbies and rooms. Parts of wooden picture frames were all that remai-

ned of portraits of legislative leaders that hung on the wall.

Steve Vickers, a former head of criminal intelligence for the Royal Hong Kong Police, predicted a severe crackdown that will result in long jail terms.

"I am personally sympathetic to the great majority of the Hong

Steve Vickers, a former head of criminal intelligence for the Royal Hong Kong Police, predicted a severe crackdown that will result in long jail terms

Kong demonstrators and their motivation, but the hardcore elements and agitators involved are becoming increasingly desperate," said Vickers, who heads Steve Vickers and Associates, a political and corporate risk consultancy. "Their actions are counterproductive to many Hong Kong peoples' genuine democratic aspirations."

Police also announced two other sets of arrests Wednesday.

They said five men and one woman were arrested for various incidents during a public meeting on Sunday, when supporters of police staged a large rally. Some clashed with anti-government protesters and members of the media. They were charged with possession of offensive weapons, assault causing bodily harm, common assault and fighting in a public place.

Also Wednesday, police said six men and two women had been arrested for posting personal data about police officers on the internet.

Officers and their family members have been threatened since their addresses and official ID card numbers were published, Superintendent Mohammed Swalikh of the Cyber Security bureau said.

He did not say whether police believe the disclosures were related to the protes-

ts, which were set off by proposed legislation to change Hong Kong's extradition laws and have broadened into a demonstration of Hong Kong residents' fears of growing Chinese control in the territory.

Protesters also are demanding an independent investigation into a crackdown on demonstrations June 12 in which officers used tear gas and rubber bullets to disperse crowds blocking major city streets. The tactics used were harsher than usual for Hong Kong, which police have said were justified after some protesters turned violent. Dozens were injured in the clashes, both protesters and police.

The extradition legislation would

allow criminal suspects to be extradited to mainland China to face what critics fear would be unfair and politicized trials and would target opponents of China's ruling Communist Party. The law's opponents see it as an erosion of the rights guaranteed to Hong Kong for 50 years after the handover.

Hong Kong leader Carrie Lam suspended the bill and apologized for how it was handled, but protesters want it to be formally withdrawn and for Lam to resign.

In Beijing, the Chinese government lashed back at remarks by British Foreign Secretary Jeremy Hunt on the causes of the anti-government protests in Hong Kong.

Foreign ministry spokesman Geng Shuang said Hunt appeared to be "basking in the faded glory of British colonialism and obsessed with lecturing others."

Hunt had said that Hong Kong authorities should not use the vandalism in the legislative building as a "pretext for repression." He said the authorities need to "understand the root causes of what happened, which is a deep-seated concern by people in Hong Kong that their basic freedoms are under attack."

Geng said Britain has no authority to discuss matters in the territory. He noted Hong Kong was under British rule for 155 years, run by governors appointed by the British crown, rather than being an autonomous democracy.

The protesters in Hong Kong are demanding direct election of the city's leader. Lam was chosen by an elite committee of mainly pro-Beijing electors.

"The U.K. considers itself as a guardian which is nothing but a delusion," Geng said. "It is just shameless to say that Hong Kong's freedoms are negotiated for them by the British side." AP



REAL ESTATE MATTERS

Land and property explained

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



www.JMLProperty.com info@JMLProperty.com

This Three-part series of articles is on the 'thrilling' subject of Land and pro-

This week we continue to raise and answer the most popular questions from clients on Land and property tax, having already addressed the questions 1 to 7 in the previous articles.

8. Should I register with the tax office if I rent out my apartment?

The law requires that owners who are renting a property out to register the lease and pay tax on it.

In the past, the rental income tax was 16%, but it was changed to 10% of the rental income after 2010. If an owner does not register, they run the risk of being found out by the tax department, and back taxes with penalties will be applied.

9. How do the tax department know if my property is being rented?

There are several ways this can happen. The owner can register themselves, and the tenant can also register the lease. In many cases the tax department are made aware because the tenant claims back some rental allowance from their company, and the rental agreement becomes part of the company tax filing.

10. What happens if a tax bill is late or not paid?

Tax bills MUST be paid, they are debts to the government who track and recover the debt at all costs.

For late bills, when a bill is requested you can only know the exact amount payable that day. The tax office will provide a slip that allows the bill to be paid on that day

If a tax bill remains unpaid, the outstanding tax will be a factor when the property is sold and the transaction will not take place until the current debt is cleared.

11. I already paid tax for last year, but now I see another, much larger, amount of tax. Why?

If the tax office discover that a property has been rented, they will charge the tax retrospectively.

Any tax that has already been paid is offset against the new tax bill, and they charge nominal penalties for non-registration of the lease.

It is also worth noting that if this happens and the owner does not pick up the notification from the tax office, a bill can sit and remain unpaid indefinitely incurring interest until the account is cleared in the late payment office.

That concludes this week's article. Please feel free to email any questions to the address below and we will be happy to answer you.

Next Week: Final Part

STARTUPS

HOW TWO COLLEGE DROPOUTS MADE \$860 MILLION FORTUNE BY AGE 23

TOM METCALF & JULIE VERHAGE

THEY didn't complete a ■ single year of college, but Henrique Dubugras, 23, and Pedro Franceschi, 22, have already amassed a veteran's share of Silicon Valley experience. Now they have the net worth to match.

They are the founders and top executives of Brex Inc. a fintech startup recently valued at USD2.6 billion, with an unlikely origin story. Dubugras was just 14 when he built his first company, the maker of an online video game, and shut it down after getting notices for patent infringement. Soon after, he teamed up with Franceschi for another venture -- payment processor Pagar.me, which grew to 150 employees before they sold it in 2016. The pair then enrolled at Stanford University, but didn't make through freshman year before dropping out to found Brex.

Brex, which launched its first product last year, has become a fintech darling, catapulting its founders into the ranks of the richest entrepreneurs -on paper at least. Today their stakes in the company are worth an estimated \$430 million each, according to an analysis by EquityZen, a marketplace for shares of tech firms that haven't vet gone public.

The pair's ascent is rapid even by Silicon Valley standards, where dropping out of Stanford to launch a startup is almost a cliché. Brex, founded two years ago, has become one of the fastest American



companies ever to reach a multibillion-dollar valuation, joining the ranks of startups like Uber Technologies Inc.

and scooter unicorns Lime and Bird Rides Inc.

In 2017, Brex was valued at \$25 million, according to data from PitchBook. Its latest funding round pegged its valuation at more

than \$2 billion. The company's key product is a credit card for startups and their employees that relies on real--time data, rather than traditional credit scores. One of the drivers of Brex's towering valuation, its founders have said, is its potential to expand into other businesses.

The firm has also recently

The company's key product is a credit card for startups and their employees that relies on real-time data

introduced credit cards for e-commerce and life-sciences companies. In addition to cards for startups, Brex has said it plans to cater to larger firms, offering cards with tailored rewards as well as expense management.

Brex declined to comment for this story. Dubugras had said previously that Brex's

> new e-commerce business accounts for about one-third of its revenue.

> Another fintech wunderkind, Max Levchin, who at 23 co--founded a company that would

eventually become PayPal Holdings Inc., is an investor in Brex. So is Peter Thiel, also a PayPal co-founder, as well as the Kleiner Perkins Digital Growth Fund and Ribbit Capital. **BLOOMBERG**

INTERNET

Amazon to hire 2,000 in UK for latest technology ventures

AMAZON.COM Inc. is set to hire more than Inc. 2,000 workers in the U.K., including engineers, software developers and data scientists, to develop its latest technology ventures.

The Seattle-based tech giant's U.K. workforce will total almost 30,000 people by the end of the year, and will include cloud and machine learning experts, corporate roles and fulfillment and delivery workers, the company said yesterday [Macau time] in a statement. Of the new jobs, 170 workers will be based at Amazon's development centers in Cambridge, Edinburgh and London, which specialize in technologies such as the voice-recognition tool Alexa and drone-delivery service Prime Air, among other projects.

Amazon unveiled its drone technology in 2013 and made its first customer delivery as part of a private trial in December 2016 in Cambridge. The company says it can deliver small

packages, including tech gadgets, dog biscuits and football boots, to customers within 30 minutes or less. The new hires will also be assisting teams working to develop Amazon Video and Amazon Web Ser-

"We are delighted to be able continue to invest and grow our U.K. business," Doug Gurr, head of Amazon's U.K. operations, said in a statement. "The U.K. is a fantastic hub for global talent and the exciting, innovative work that takes place here benefits Amazon's customers around the world." **BLOOMBERG**





Japan stock exodus exceeds \$70 billion as China lures funds

MIN JEONG LEE

OREIGN investors have sold a net USD70.3 billion of Japanese equities since the start of 2018. The early days of Abenomics, when they were huge net buyers, are a distant memory.

The usual suspects are cited as reasons: fear of the impact of the trade war, a strengthening yen, and a looming increase in the sales tax.

But there's another factor, one that's not exactly new but is becoming more relevant: China.

"It's just a much sexier story," said Howard Smith, a partner and fund manager at Indus Capital Partners in San Francisco. China has been "a big drawer of capital out of Japan."

China is attracting even more money from Japan as its market develops and becomes more liquid, said Takeo Kamai, head of execution services at CLSA Securities Japan Co.

Index compiler MSCI Inc. announced earlier this year that it will expand the weighting of China-listed shares in benchmarks tracked by global investors. That comes

when money managers have lost hope Prime Minister Shinzo Abe will overhaul the Japanese economy as promised in his three-ar-

"Alpha is in China and it's here to stay," Kamai said.

Investor demand for Japanese equities fell to its weakest in more than two years in a survey earlier this year by Bank of America Merrill Lynch. Global investors don't plan to be overweight Japan over the next 12 months as they remain cautious about companies' profit outlooks, according to the survey

conducted April 5 to 11 with 239 investors participating.

Even some brokerages are becoming negative. Jefferies Financial Group Inc. lowered its outlook for the country's shares to "modestly bearish" last month, citing a stronger yen and the planned consumption-tax increase to 10% from 8% in October. The benchmark Topix index has fallen 17% from a 26year high in January 2018. While it's up 6.4% this year, it's still the worst performer among 24 developed markets tracked by Bloom-

Foreign investors "have been much heavier net sellers than you would expect," said Jonathan Allum, a strategist at SMBC Nikko Capital Markets Ltd. in London. "Recent surveys suggest that investors have become very gloomy about the global economic outlook. This may have led them to reduce exposure, in particular to Japan."

For Smith of Indus, the market is partly a victim of its own openness. Japan has an open capital account, a freely convertible currency and sophisticated options and futures markets for its stock indexes, he noted.

"It's the easiest market in the region to express risk-on or risk-off bets," he said. "People, when they want to express risk off, Japan is an obvious place to do it because it's so free and so open and so liquid. And quite often that has nothing to do with Japan. It's just a global, risk-off bet."

At the same time, as investor talent leaves for greater China and Singapore, Japan "is traded more and more by non-specialists or by machines, passive money," Smith said. "The previous critical mass of active managers who really knew the market has disappeared or has shrunk a lot."

Smith said his firm remains positive on the country. He cited efforts made to improve corporate governance, including the landmark case last month where shareholders voted to reinstall a chief executive officer who had been ousted under questionable circumstances at toilet-maker Lixil Group Corp.

But that doesn't mean Indus, which invests about half its \$4.5 billion in Japan, is immune to the trend.

"It's not easy to raise money in Japan, not easy at all," Smith said. "Because people are skeptical." BLOOMBERG

AGRICULTURE

Chinese official says pig fever outbreak 'complicated and grim'

THE death toll from ▲ a disease outbreak in China's pig herds that has pushed up global pork prices has risen to 1.2 million animals, but its spread has "significantly slowed," a deputy agriculture minister said yesterday.

Authorities are stepping up efforts to contain African swine fever but the situation is "complicated and grim," Yu Kangzhen told a news conference. He said the government is developing a vaccine but that work has "a long way to go."

Pork is China's staple meat

and the country produces and consumes two-thirds of the world's pigs. Bans imposed on shipping pigs out of infected areas since outbreaks began in August have caused shortages in major cities. Importers are filling the gap by purchasing more abroad, pushing up prices in Asia and Europe.

The virus doesn't harm humans but is fatal and spreads quickly among pigs. It spread from Africa to Europe and Russia before reaching China. Since then, 144 outbreaks have been reported in 32 of China's 34 provinces, according to the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization.

"The outbreak of swine fever in China has significantly slowed," said Yu. "This is an indisputable fact."

However, he said some local authorities have failed to report or contain outbreaks.

Yu rejected a report by the Reuters news agency that local authorities only report half of China's outbreaks.

"We cannot promise that it never happens," but if it does, "we will punish it strictly and immediately," he said. AP



Yu Kangzhen, Vice President of Agriculture and Rural Affairs



MACALI'S LEADING NEWSDADED

PHILIPPINE RIGHTS OFFICE CONDEMNS CHILD'S DEATH IN DRUG RAID

JIM GOMEZ, MANILA

THE Philippine Commission on Human Rights yesterday condemned the killing of a 3-year-old girl in a police raid in which her father, a drug suspect, was gunned down along with another civilian and a police officer.

Commission spokeswoman Jacqueline Ann De Guia said the agency was investigating the death of Myka Ulpina in a gunbattle sparked by an undercover police raid Sunday in Rodriguez town in Rizal province, east of Manila. Officials have relieved 20 police officers amid the investigation.

"Myka Ulpina's life was cut short in the hands of those who swore to protect it," the commission said in a statement, stressing that it "condemns the death of another innocent life as a consequence of the government's war against illegal drugs."

More than 6,600 suspects, mostly petty drug dealers and users, have been killed since President Rodrigo Duterte took office in mid-2016 and expanded a brutal anti-drug campaign he started when he was a southern city mayor.



Relatives of victims in President Rodrigo Duterte's so-called war on drugs hold a memorial

Despite international condemnation and two complaints for alleged mass murder filed before the International Criminal Court, Duterte has warned that the drug war will become more dangerous

in the final three years of his presidency. He said he was ready to go to jail as a consequence of the bloody campaign.

Police said the drug suspect, Renato Dolorfina, grew suspicious of

an undercover police officer who was buying prohibited drugs from him. He got a gun from his house and shot the officer, sparking a firefight which left Dolorfina, his daughter, his companion and the

officer dead.

News reports, however, quoted Dolorfina's wife as denying the police report and saying they were sleeping when police barged into their house and opened fire.

National police chief Gen. Oscar Albayalde said he ordered the relief of 20 Rodriguez town policemen, including their chief, and had them surrender their firearms for ballistic tests to determine who fired the bullet that hit the child.

Albayalde said the suspect should have surrendered peacefully to keep his daughter away from harm and cited initial reports that Dolorfina may have used her as a human shield during the exchange of fire. The slain officer, Senior Master Sgt. Conrad Cabigao, left two children, he said.

The Commission on Human Rights said it supports efforts to end the drug menace in the country "but we continue to echo the sentiment that the end does not justify the means."

"Minors caught in the crossfire of the government's initiative in combatting illegal drugs in the country are simply not collateral damages. They are victims. Their hopes and dreams fall short once bullets enter their bodies," said the commission, which Duterte has repeatedly denounced along with U.N. human rights rapporteurs for raising alarm over his anti-drug campaign. **AP**

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Australian Senate passes \$110 billion tax cuts over decade

ROD MCGUIRK, CANBERRA

USTRALIA'S Parliament yesterday delivered the reelected government's promise to provide 158 billion Australian dollars (USD110 billion) in personal income tax cuts over a decade to boost a flagging economy.

Prime Minister Scott Morrison said his conservative coalition's election victory in May gave him a mandate to pass the tax cuts, which the center-left Labor Party opposition rejected as too generous to the wealthy.

The government hopes that the cuts for more than 10 million of Australia's 25 million people will stimulate a slowing economy that risks dipping into recession for the first time in 28 years.

The central bank cut a key interest rate to a record low 1% this week in a bid to boost employment and wages.

The government has made the tax cuts its priority since Parliament opened for its first post-election session on Tuesday, when the House of Representatives passed



Treasurer Josh Frydenberg speaks to Australia's Parliament in Canberra

Independent Sen. Jacqui Lambie became the last of the four unaligned senators the government needed to pass the legislation to confirm her support.

She demanded in return AUD157 million in federal money for housing the poor in her island state of Tasmania.

"I need those kids and their families off the streets in warm houses,"

The two senators of the minor Center Alliance party, Stirling Griff and Rex Patrick — who demanded lower energy prices for households in return for their support — as well as former government Sen. Cori Bernardi had previously

said they would vote with the government on the legislation.

The government has yet to finalize any deal with the unaligned senators, but the senators voted yesterday with the government in expectation that agreements will be reached within weeks.

With the tax cuts guaranteed to pass, Labor finally gave its support to the legislation, which passed 56 votes to nine. After Labor amendments were rejected, the party argued it would not oppose tax cuts for employees.

"We do not want the circumstances whereby an economy that is struggling prevents people getting a tax benefit of up to ... AUD1,080," opposition leader Anthony Albanese told reporters.

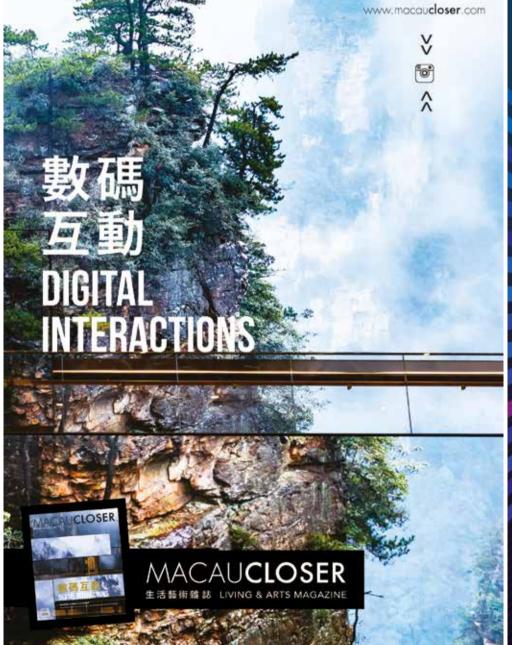
"The economy needs that, the economy needs that now," he ad-

The Senate vote is an important victory for the government which was elected for a third three-year term at May 18 elections after a campaign that focused on tax cuts. The prime minister will be reluctant to disappoint the unaligned senators at the start of three years with the government in minority in the hostile upper chamber.

After the Senate vote, Treasurer Josh Frydenberg said the additional money would flow to taxpayers starting next week, boosting household incomes and economic ac-

Fryenberg said the tax cuts would be delivered and the government would achieve Australia's first annual budget surplus in more than a decade in the current fiscal year without reducing government spending. The central bank wants the government to boost investment on infrastructure such as ports, road and rail to further stimulate economic growth. AP

AD











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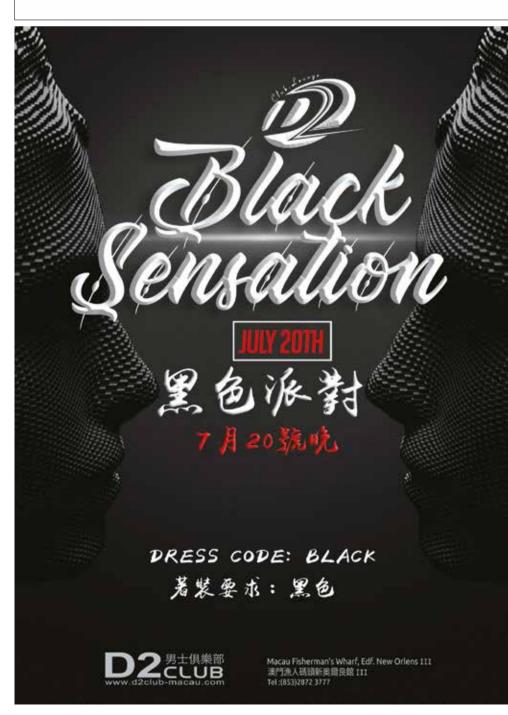
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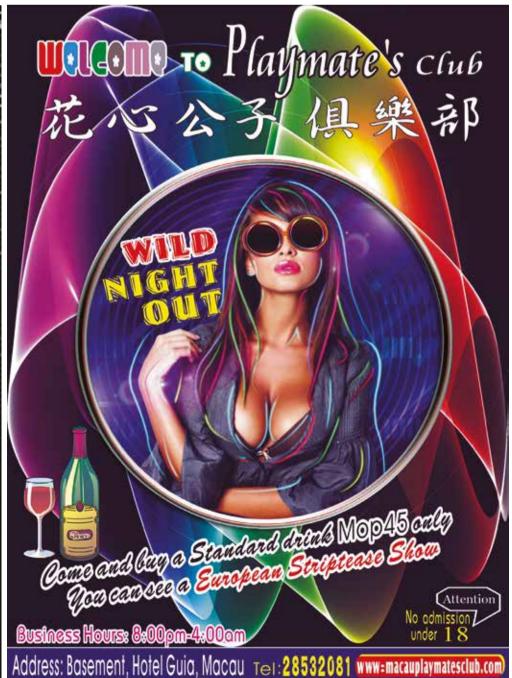
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Sheikh Mohammed Al Maktoum and his wife Princess Haya of Jordan at the Royal Ascot horse race meeting in England, in 2012

Dubai's ruler, estranged wife headed for court clash in UK

GREGORY KATZ, LONDON

legal battle between the powerful, poetrywriting ruler of Dubai and his wealthy estranged wife is leading toward a showdown in a London courtroom later this month.

The family division court case scheduled on July 30 pits Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum against Princess Haya, daughter of the late King Hussein of Jordan and an accomplished Olympic equestrian on friendly terms with horse aficionado Queen Elizabeth II.

The hearing is expected to focus on who will have custody of their two young children now that the princess has left Dubai. She is believed to be in Britain, where she owns a gated mansion on Buckinstreet lined with some of the world's most expensive homes and

When The Associated Press asked via intercom for an interview with Princess Haya or one of her representatives, a man emerged to say there would be no com-

ments made on her behalf. He didn't indicate whether she was in the residence.

The clash between Sheikh Mohammed and Princess Haya is the latest sign of trouble in his ex-

tended family. Last year, a daughter of Sheikh Mohammed tried to flee Dubai after appearing in a 40-minute video saying she had been imprisoned on and off for se-

Her friends say she was forcibly returned after commandos stormed a boat carrying her off the coast of India when she tried to flee the

The sheikh, who is the vice president and prime minister of the United Arab Emirates in addi-

The sheik's poem, titled 'You Lived and You Died,' is about disloyalty, leading to speculation it is about **Princess Haya**

tion to being the ruler of Dubai, is among the most influential figures in the Middle East. He also composes poetry, a long tradition among Gulf Arabs, and it was his veral years and had been abused. own words that sparked the initial Mohammed, 69, were married in her children to Europe. AP

rumors that Haya had fled Dubai.

The talk started after a verified Emirati Instagram account followed by the Dubai ruler's son posted a poem last week attributed to Sheikh Mohammed. The poem, titled "You Lived and You Died," is about disloyalty, leading

> to speculation it is about Princess Haya.

> "You betrayed the most precious trust, and your game has been revealed," the poem says. "Your time of lying is over and it doesn't matter what we were nor what you are."

The harsh words caused reverberations and speculation throughout royal circles in the Middle East and beyond.

The princess, 45, and Sheikh

2004 and have a daughter, 11, and son, 7, together. Both were educated at elite English universities and they share a love for horses.

Media reports indicate she took the children with her when she left Dubai. Under Islamic law, a woman can at least nominally retain custody of her children in a divorce. Nonetheless, decisions about schooling, travel and lifestyles of the children often remain with the father in the Middle East. Given the Dubai ruler's power, it is unlikely Princess Haya would have had a say in her children's ability to leave the UAE had she not reportedly fled with them.

Haya's half-brother is Jordan's current monarch, King Abdullah, who was pictured at her side when she wed Dubai's ruler, reportedly becoming his sixth wife.

She is a former Olympic athlete who competed in equestrian show jumping in the 2000 Sydney Games, a taboo-breaking feat for women from traditional Muslim countries. Her love of sports and horse riding began early — she was just 13 when she became the first female to represent Jordan internationally in equestrian show

Haya has long stood out from other wives of Gulf Arab rulers not only because of her Jordanian royal background and Olympic ambitions, but because she was seen and photographed in public. Most rulers' wives in the Gulf are never photographed and their faces and names aren't known to the public. But Princess Haya wasn't only visible at humanitarian events, often seated front row in Dubai by her husband's side, but was a stylish fixture in glossy magazines and at prestigious equestrian events in the U.K., like the Royal Ascot and Epsom Derby.

In a 2009 Daily Mail interview, the princess said she deliberately postponed marriage until she could meet a man "who doesn't feel he has to mold me."

She was quoted as saying, "You have to accept that you're in control of yourself but not your destiny."

The government of Dubai hasn't commented on the media reports about Princess Haya fleeing with

Western Balkan nations press EU aspirations at Poland summit

OVERNMENT mi-Unisters from six Western Balkan nations that aspire to join the European Union met with their counterparts from some EU member nations yesterday in Poland to discuss the status of the bloc's membership process, which has been lacking momentum.

Foreign, interior and economy ministers from membership candidates Montenegro, Serbia, North Macedonia and Albania, as well as potential candidates Bosnia and Kosovo, are seeking reassurance the road to accession is clear after some European leaders raised doubts about the EU's openness to expanding.

French President Emmanuel Macron reiterated earlier this week that he thinks the EU has internal work to do that takes priority over taking in new members. He said he would "refuse any kind of enlargement before a deep reform of our institutional functioning."

Polish Foreign Minister Jacek Czaputowicz said at yesterday's gathering that including Western Balkans nations in the EU would increase regional stability and development and spread the EU's values to more of Europe.

"Without the Western Balkans, Europe cannot be seen as fully united, in the geographical as well as in the geopolitical point of view," Czaputowicz said.

German Chancellor Angela Merkel, British Prime Minister Theresa May, Polish President Andrzej Duda and Polish Prime Minister Mateusz Morawiecki plan to join the gathering Friday.

Morawiecki met with Croatian Prime Minister Andrej Plenkovic on Thursday to discuss the EU integration prospects for the Western Balkans, among other issues.

Poland is hosting the summit in Poznan because it currently presides over the so-called Berlin Process that brings the Western Balkan nations together with EU member states. Initiated by Germany, the process is meant to promote EU membership for the Western Balkans although there is no set time frame. AP



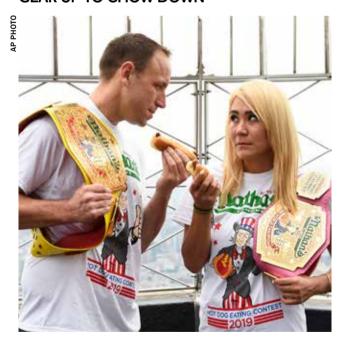
TV canal macau



	13:00	TDM News (Repetição)
	13:30	Telejornal RTPi (Diferido)
	15:00	Agua de Mar
	15:45	Zig Zag
	16:20	OndEstá o Tesouro
	16:45	Quem Quer Ser Milionário
	18:05	Amor Maior (Repetição)
	18:50	TDM Talk Show (Repetição)
	19:25	Livros com João Guedes (Repetição)
	19:35	Os Nossos Dias Sr.2
	20:30	Telejornal
	21:15	Viagens em Série
	21:45	Vote in the U.S.A
	22:15	Amor Maior
	23:15	TDM News
	23:50	A Canção de Lisboa
	01:10	Telejornal (Repetição)
	01:55	RTPi Directo

Offbeat

CONEY ISLAND HOT DOG EATERS **GEAR UP TO CHOW DOWN**



The dog days of summer are upon us.

Competitive eaters will scarf down dozens of hot dogs and buns yesterday at the annual Nathan's Famous July Fourth hot dog eating contest on New York's Coney Island boardwalk.

California native and 11-time champion Joey "Jaws" Chestnut will face off against 17 opponents to defend last year's record of 74 wieners and buns in 10 minutes. He said yesterday he plans to "find a rhythm and do what it takes" to win.

Miki Sudo, of Las Vegas, hopes to win her sixth consecutive title. She ate 37 franks last year.

Thousands gather to watch the spectacle every year, with millions more tuning in on television.

ESPN released a documentary this week featuring the rivalry between Chestnut and his longtime foe, Japan's Takeru Kobayashi.

cinema

CINETEATRO

05 Jul



SPIDER-MAN: FAR FROM HOME 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 2:30pm Director: Kelly Asbury Starring: Kelly Clarkson, Nick Jonas, Janelle Monáe Language: Cantonese (Chinese & English) Duration: 87min



ALADDIN коом **2** 4:30,9:15pm Director: Guy Ritchie Starring: Will Smith, Mena Massoud, Naomi Scott Language: English (Chinese) Duration: 109mir



MEN IN BLACK: INTERNATIONAL 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, 4:30, 7:30pm Director: Chris Renaud, Jonathan del Val Starring: Patton Oswalt, Kevin Hart, Harrison Ford Language: Cantonese (Chinese & English) Duration: 86min

A LONG GOODBYE

ROOM 3 9:30pm

Director: Ryôta Nakano Starring: Yû Aoi, Yuito Kamata, Chieko Matsubara Language: Japanese (Chinese & English)

Duration: 127min

this day in history





1975 ASHE'S WIMBLEDON WIN **MAKES HISTORY**

American tennis player Arthur Ashe has become the first black man to win the Wimbledon singles' championship.

New Yorker Althea Gibson was the first black woman to take the Wimbledon title in 1958.

Ashe beat defending champion Jimmy Connors three sets to one on Centre Court.

Speaking after the game Ashe said: "I always thought I would win because I was playing so well and was so confident."

Although Ashe won the US Open in 1968 his 6-1, 6-1, 5-7. 6-4 victory today - at the age of 31- surprised many at the All England Club.

The son of a policeman from Richmond, Virginia, Ashe was reluctant to discuss his tactics, as he expects to meet Con-

Connors, 22, admitted: "I couldn't find an opening. Whether I served wide balls, or kicks he was there. Everything he did was good: fine returns, short and long, and hard serves and

The older man won his first service game to love and quickly broke his opponent's serve in the first set.

The pressure on Connors began to show - causing derision in the crowd - as he angrily threw his towel under the umpire's chair and released a chain of expletives.

Ashe took the first set in just 19 minutes and secured a second 6-1 rout almost as quickly.

Tension mounted in the third set as Connors found his rhythm to recover a 6-5 lead - after trailing 3-1 - before winning

His friend and Wimbledon semi-finalist Ile Nastase watched anxiously from the players' stand, along with his mother Gloria and manager Bill Riordan.

Ashe kept his cool and broke Connors' serve in the ninth game of what was to be the final set.

The match ended swiftly as Ashe reached 40-15 with his service game and punched home a winning volley after a weak two-handed return by Connors.

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

Later that year Arthur Ashe was ranked number one tennis

He suffered a heart attack in 1979 and retired as a professional player a year later, though he continued as US Davis Cup cap-

He worked as a tennis commentator and journalist and later published his autobiography Days of Grace.

In 1992 Ashe announced he had contracted Aids from a tainted blood transfusion, probably from heart surgery he underwent in 1983.

Throughout his life he used his sporting profile to campaign on a variety of issues. He protested against apartheid in South Africa and US treatment of refugees arriving in the country

Ashe also started a number of charities, including a foundation for the defeat of Aids, and established the Institute for Urban Health just months before his death in February 1993 The Arthur Ashe Stadium and Commemorative Garden was opened in Flushing Meadow in the US in 1997.



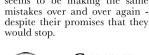
YOUR STARS



ARIES

Mar. 21-Apr. 19

shown amazing You have patience with someone who seems to be making the same



GEMINI

May. 21-Jun. 21

This is a day that offers a lot of great starts and beginnings, but there will be no follow through on any of them - you are going to be just too busy to help lead things into a formative phase.



LEO

Jul. 23-Aug. 22

Today, teamwork will only be effective if you put in your fair share of ideas. Do not hide behind the camouflage of other people, hoping their involvement will be enough to get things done.



LIBRA

Sep.23-Oct. 22

It's not universally true that opposites attract, but you've been noticing some hot magnetic energy between two different (and very single) people in your life.



SAGITTARIUS

Nov. 22-Dec. 21

Don't worry about losing your edge of falling under the spell of your couch. Just because you're not running around crossing things off your list doesn't mean that you aren't getting things done.



AQUARIUS

Jan. 20-Feb. 18

The best kind of wisdom comes from people who know you well, so if you are feeling the urge to start a new relationship with one of your old relatives, then you shouldn't wait to get started.



TAURUS

Apr. 20-May. 20

Someone has been desperately trying to get your attention, but you have been so busy focused on other things that you haven't slowed down to notice them by the side of the road, trying to flag you down.



CANCER

Jun. 22-Jul. 22

You have the ability to help the people you care most about today, so use it! And don't worry - it won't be difficult to make some major changes start happening for others.



VIRGO

Aug. 23-Sep. 22

Everyone has two sides to their personality (at least), so today if someone is getting on your nerves, focus on the part of their personality that compatible with yours.



SCORPIO

Oct. 23-Nov. 21

There is some unpredictable energy flying around your environment today, so beware. Nothing is for certain, and nothing is going to be written in



CAPRICORN Dec. 22-Jan. 19

One of your long lost friends is going to reappear on the scene very soon, and they will offer you a missing link that will connect you to several opportunities - including greater wealth and a hotter romance.



PISCES

Feb.19-Mar. 20

Tiny details have lives of their own, and if you don't watch them carefully, they'll take you in all the wrong directions. Timing may be an obstacle to overcome, so be aware that last minute delays are possible.

The Born Loser by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

EASY

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

2 9

EASY+

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

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

HARD

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

WEATHER

	MIN	MAX	CONDITION
CHINA -			
Beijing	26	33	thundershower
Harbin	18	31	cloudy
Tianjin	28	34	thundershower
Urumqi	17	24	moderate rain
Xi'an	19	36	clear
Lhasa	12	22	drizzle
Chengdu	19	31	clear
Chongqing	21	30	cloudy
Kunming	17	25	moderate rain
Nanjing	23	31	cloudy
Shanghai	23	28	drizzle
Wuhan	24	31	shower
Hangzhou	22	27	drizzle
Taipei	26	30	overcast
Guangzhou	26	33	thundershower
Hong Kong	27	32	cloudy
WORLD -			
Moscow	10	21	cloudy
Frankfurt	12	29	overcast
Paris	16	30	clear

25

28

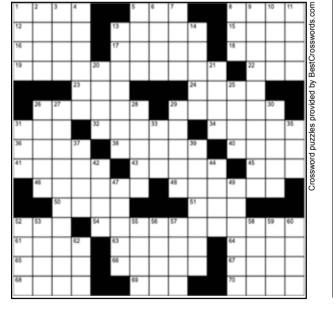
CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- Rat-___; 5- Up to, briefly; 8- Man is one; 12- Easy stride; 13- "Waves of grain" color; 15- Deli breads; 16- Way out there; 17- Acadia National Park locale; 18- Sailing: 19- Encircling: 22- Play about Capote; 23- Delivery room docs; 24-Relaxation: 26- Skillful; 29- Bean; 31- U.S. law enforcement agency; 32- Come afterward; 34- Range maker; 36- Coarse file; 38- Festive occasions; 40- Put away; 41- Happen; 43- Continue a subscription; 45- Curling surface; 46- Main arteries; 48- Grab; 50- Prez's second; 51- ____ was saying...; 52- Very small; 54- Wastefully extravagant; 61- Tortoise's rival; 63- "Bird on ___" (Gibson film); 64- The most heavily populated continent on Earth; 65- Black-and-white treat; 66- Horne and Olin; 67or buts!; 69- Old cloth; 70- Start of North Carolina's motto; Force; 68-No ifs, _

DOWN: 1- [sigh]; 2- Beancurd; 3- On ____ with (equal to); 4- Intense fear; 5- Counterfeiter catcher; 6- Footnote abbr.; 7- Filmmaker Riefenstahl; 8- Author

Levin; 9- Methodical; 10- Suggestive look; 11- Isaac's eldest; 13- Causing laughter; 14- Actress Taylor; 20- Wind in a pit; 21-Nuts (over); 25- Adds; 26- Manila hemp plant; 27- Found out; 28- Autocratic Russian rulers; 29- Inclines; 30- Son of Cain; 31- To's partner; 33- Suffix with glob; 35- Wonder: 37- Free from contamination 39- Legislative bodies; 42- Numbered rds.; 44- Cleanse; 47- Horrify; 49- Vehement speech; 52- Rider's command; 53- Make; 55- Large jug or pitcher; 56- Pinta's sister ship; 57- Haul; 58- Egyptian fertility goddess; 59-Fish appendages; 60-London art gallery; 62- Aurora's counterpart;





USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

12

22

Emergency calls 999

London

New York

Fire department 28 572 222

PJ (Open line) 993 **PJ** (Picket) 28 557 775

PSP 28 573 333

Customs 28 559 944

S. J. Hospital 28 313 731

Kiang Wu Hospital 28 371 333

Commission Against

Corruption (CCAC) 28326 300

IAM 28 387 333

Tourism 28 333 000

Airport 59 888 88

Taxi 28 939 939 / 2828 3283

Water Supply – Report 2822 0088

cloudy

drizzle

Telephone - Report 1000 Electricity - Report 28 339 922

Macau Daily Times 28 716 081



FOR SALE



4-Bedroom Apartment, One Grantai Taipa 1,390 ft² HK\$25,600,000



FOR SALE

[Coloane] Hellene Gardens 3 = 2 = 1,663 ft² \$7,950,000 (ref: 19055006SC)

[Taipa] Kinglight Garden Loft 1 🛌 1 🕨 800 ft² \$7,380,000 (ref: 19055005ST)

[Taipa] Pearl on the Lough 4 = 2 \ 2,055 ft² \$16,980,000 (ref: 19055008) [Taipa] Nova City 3 = 2 =

1,494 ft² \$13,980,000 (ref: 17050001RT)

FOR RENT

[Coloane] 4 storey commercial building 4,003 ft² \$108,000/mth (ref: 17040646)

[Coloane] Cheoc Van House 3 🖛 2 🖢 \$28,000/mth (ref: 19055009RC) [Taipa] Pacifica Gardens 3⊨ 2 🖢

1,317 ft² \$15,000/mth (ref: 17050649) [Taipa] Manhattan 3 tm 2 tm 1,720 ft² \$23,800/mth (ref: 18110695RT) 雅

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PRINCE HARRY, MEGHAN SAY THEY WON'T NAME **ARCHIE'S GODPARENTS**



Buckingham terday, in part because Palace says that se the royal couple's the Duke and Duchess of Sussex will not reveal the names of the godparents of their son Archie when he is christened this weekend.

The palace said in a statement that the christening at Windsor Castle tomorrow will be private and that "the godparents, in keeping with their wishes, will remain private."

The decision sparked controversy in Britain's media yeshome was renovated with 2.4 million pounds of taxpayer money. Anti-monarchy campaign group Republic questioned why so much money was spent at a time when public services are under financial pressure.

Critics suggest that occasions like christenings should be public, but Prince Harry and his wife Meghan have repeatedly signaled that they're entitled to privacy.



BRITISH soul singer Joss Stone says she was deported from Iran after arriving in the Islamic Republic as part of a worldwide concert tour, even though she didn't plan to perform there.

Posting on Instagram, Stone appears in a video wearing a white headscarf saving: "Well, we got to Iran, we got detained and then we got deported." She said she knew solo performances by women were illegal, but she still wanted to see Iran.

She wrote that Iranian au-

thorities placed her on a "black list" because they believed she might try to perform a public show. She described the authorities that met her on arrival at Iran's Kish Island as professional throughout their interaction.

"These people are genuinely nice kind people that felt bad that they couldn't override the system," she wrote in a cap-

Under Iranian law, women cannot perform solo concerts, though women do play in ensemble bands and orchestras.

EVEN POOP IS CUTE AT Japanese museum that **ENCOURAGES PLAY**

APAN'S culture of cute makes no exceptions for poop. It gets a pop twist at the Unko Museum in Yokohama near Tokyo.

Here, the poop is artificial, nothing like what would be in a toilet, and comes in twisty ice cream and cupcake shapes, in all colors and sizes.

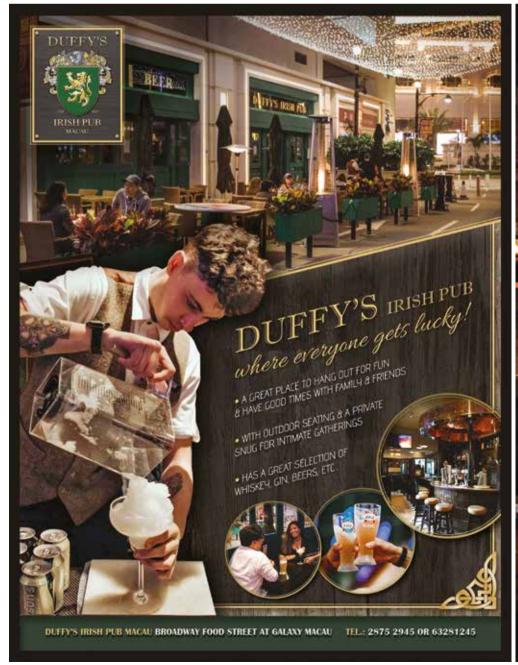
"The poops are colorful and come out nicely in photos," said Haruka Okubo, a student visiting part of the museum devo-

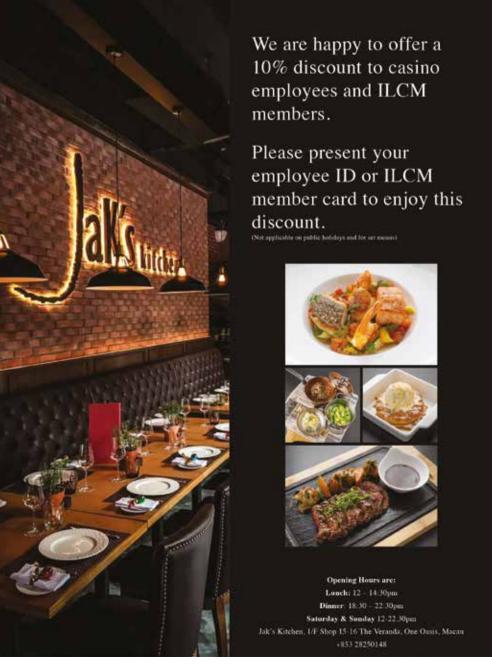
ted to all-important selfies. "The shape is so round and cute."

In Japan, little poop-shaped erasers with faces and other small items have long been popular items collected by children, and sometimes older folks. As elsewhere, scatological jokes are popular and bodily functions discussed openly: a recent morning variety show by public broadcaster NHK featured tips on how to deal with farts.











CHRIS LEHOURITES, **WIMBLEDON**

F the pressure is getting to Ash Barty at Wimbledon, she's doing a great job of hiding it.

The top-ranked Australian came into the grass-court Grand Slam tournament after winning the French Open and a Wimbledon warm-up event in Birmingham. And she's now won two in a row at the All England Club to reach the third round and stretch her winning streak to 14 straight.

Barty beat Alison Van Uytvanck 6-1, 6-3 yesterday, needing only 55 minutes on No. 2 Court to advance. And it could have been even quicker but she failed to serve out the match at 5-2 in the second set — the only time she was broken.

"Pretty sharp right from the start," the top-seeded Barty said. "I was able to implement what I wanted to right away and put the pressure straight back on her."

Barty is playing her first tournament as No. 1 but has never been past the third round at Wimbledon. She will next face Harriet Dart, a British wild-card entry making her second appearance at Wimbledon.

No. 9 Sloane Stephens of the United States and No. 15 Wang Qiang of China also advanced to third round. Stephens beat Wang Yafan 6-0, 6-2, and Wang ousted Tamara Zidansek 6-1, 6-2.

TENNIS

Ash Barty doing just fine with another win at Wimbledon

Sam Querrey, a Wimbledon semifinalist in 2017, reached the third round in the men's draw. The unseeded American defeated Andrey Rublev 6-3, 6-2, 6-3.

Later, all eyes will be on the marquee matchup between Rafael Nadal and Nick Kyrgios.

It is a rematch from 2014, when a 19-year-old Kyrgios upset then--No. 1 Nadal at the All England

Also, Serena Williams and Roger Federer will play their matches on Wimbledon's second biggest court. They have won a combined 15 singles titles at the All England Club and are accustomed to playing most of their matches on Centre Court.

This time, Federer will be on No. 1 Court against 20-year-old Jay Clarke of Britain. Williams will follow in that arena, facing 18-year-old Kaja Juvan of Slo-

Andy Murray will make his debut at this year's tournament, playing men's doubles with Pierre-Hugues Herbert against Marius Copil and Ugo Humbert. AP



The top-ranked Australian Ash Barty



Escola de Artes e Ofícios

School of Arts and Crafts

JOALHARIA/JEWELLERY

Brincos de Resina e Acrílico Resin and Acrylic Earrings

≥ 18 anos/years old

monitora/monitor: Cristina Vinhas

horário/schedule:

Sexta/Fridays total: 09 horas/hours 18h30 - 21h30 03 sessões/sessions início/starts: 12/07/2019 fim/finishes: 26/07/2019

MOP 360 *

lingua/language: Português e Inglês/Portuguese and English ** patrocínio/sponsor: Fundação Macau

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Escola de Artes e Ofícios

AD

School of Arts and Crafts JOALHARIA/JEWELLERY



≥ 18 anos/years old

monitora/monitor: Cristina Vinhas

Sábados/Saturdays 15h00 - 18h00

horário/schedule:

total: 24 horas/hours início/starts: 13/07/2019

08 sessões/sessions firm/finishes: 31/08/2019

propina/fee: MOP 960 *

lingua/language: Português e Inglês/Portuguese and English ** patrocínio/sponsor: Fundação Macau

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OPINION World Views

Paul E. Smith, Purdue University, The Conversation

RED, WHITE BUT RARELY BLUE - THE SCIENCE OF FIREWORKS COLORS, **EXPLAINED**

In the earliest days of the United States, John Adams wrote to his wife Abigail about the celebration of independence, "It ought to be solemnized with Pomp and Parade, with Shews, Games, Sports, Guns, Bells, Bonfires and Illuminations from one End of this Continent to the other from this Time forward forever more." "Bonfires and illuminations" refer directly to what we know as pyrotechnics and firework displays.

I'm a chemist and also president of Pyrotechnics Guild International, an organization that promotes the safe use of fireworks and using them here in the U.S. to celebrate Independence Day and other festivals throughout the year. As a chemist, and someone who leads demonstrations for chemistry students, I consider fireworks a great example of combustion reactions that produce colored fire. But the invention of colored fireworks is relatively recent and not all colors are easy to produce.

Firecrackers were first invented serendipitously by the Chinese in 200 B.C. But it wasn't until one thousand years later that Chinese alchemists developed fireworks in 800 A.D. These early fireworks were mostly bright and noisy concoctions designed to scare evil spirits - not the colorful, controlled explosions we see today. Fast forward another millennium and the Italians figured out how to add color by introducing various elements to the flammable mix. Adding the element strontium to a color pyrotechnic mix produces a red flame; copper, blue; barium, green; and sodium for yellow.

Too much or too little of the chemicals make significant changes in the temperature and thus the wavelength of color seen. The proper mixture of chemicals when ignited produce enough energy to excite electrons to give off different colors of light.

Even though the chemistry of these colors isn't new, each generation seems to get excited by the colors splashed across the sky. We now have a wide range of flame colors: red, green, blue, yellow, purple, and variations of these.

Each color works the same way. As different elements ignite they release different wavelengths of light which translate as different colors.

Not all colors of fireworks are equally easy to create. I believe several of my colleagues in pyrotechnic research and development would agree with me that blue is the most difficult color to produce.

That is because the evening sky is a shade of blue, which means that most blues do not show up as well. If you try to make the blue brighter to contrast with the background it can look washed out. The right balance of copper and other chemicals in the flame or combustion reaction produce the best blue color flame in a firework.

I have taken this into account when trying to create the best blue flame color, which I call pill box blue. It is just bright enough to stand out against the night sky but still a rich blue. I have over 20 blue pyrotechnic formulas and I have found one that comes very close to this elusive hue.

Another difficulty in creating an intense blue color is that the chemistry is not simple. It requires a combination of several chemicals and the element copper. When copper ignites, the electrons surrounding the copper atoms get excited and energized in the flame. When the electrons release this energy, it appears to observers as blue light. Each color works the same way. As different elements ignite they release different wavelengths of light which translate as different colors. So when you see blue-colored dots of light creating a pattern in the night sky, you really are seeing excited electrons releasing energy as blue light.

GOT A TOKYO OLYMPICS TICKET? UNRIVALED DEMAND CAUSES TURMOIL

Overwhelmed by unprecedented demand, Tokyo Olympic organizers said yesterday they hope to run another ticket lottery next month for residents of Japan who got nothing the

Millions of Japanese were let down last month when they came away empty-handed in a lottery for next year's Olympics. The bad news is that — despite a last-minute change of plans

– most applicants will be disappointed again.

There simply aren't enough Olympic tickets to go around with demand soaring in Japan and elsewhere as Authorized Ticket Resellers — the Olympic agents contracted to sell tickets outside Japan — have also opened sales worldwide.

Demand is being driven by the 35 million people who live in Greater Tokyo, and is in sharp contrast to the last Olympics in Rio de Janeiro where tickets were being given away or went unsold.

AUSTRALIAN STUDENT released in North KOREA SAYS 'I'M OK'



Australian student Alek Sigley as he arrives at the airport in Beijing yesterday

An Australian student released after a week in detention in North Korea described his condition to reporters in Beijing on Thursday as "very good," without saying what happened.

Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison annou-

nced to Parliament that Alek Sigley, 29, had been released hours earlier following intervention from Swedish diplomats, and had

been taken to the Australian Embassy in Beijing.

Sigley looked relaxed and gave a peace sign when he arrived at Beijing's airport. He did not respond to reporters' questions about what had happened in Pyongyang.

"I'm OK, I'm OK, I'm good. I'm very good," Sigley said. Asked how he was feeling, Sigley replied, "Great."

His father, Gary Sigley, a professor of Asian studies at the University of Western Australia, said his son would soon be reunited with his Japanese wife Yuka Morinaga in Tokyo.

Later yesterday, Sigley entered the departure area at Beijing airport, apparently on his way to Tokyo.

"He's fine. He's in very good spirits. He's been treated well," his father told reporters in his hometown of Perth.

Sigley's friend and fellow

student of North Korea, University of Technology Sydney academic Bronwen Dalton, said she had spoken to Sigley's wife, who was thrilled by the news.

"We were jumping up and down and we love Sweden," Dalton said.

"He's a fine, young, emer-

I'm OK, I'm OK, I'm good. I'm very good.

ALEK SIGLEY

ging Asian scholar, he is very applied to his studies. I really doubted whether he did actually anything wrong by the regime," Dalton added.

Swedish diplomats had raised concerns about Sigley with North Korean authorities in Pyongyang, where Australia does not have an embassy.

"Alek is safe and well. Swedish authorities advised the Australian government that they met with senior officials from the DPRK yesterday and raised the issue of Alek's disappearance on Australia's behalf," Morrison said, using the official acronym for North Korea.

Morrison thanked Swedish authorities for "their invaluable assistance in securing Alek's prompt release."

"This outcome demonstrates the value of discrete behind-the-scenes work of

officials in resolving complex and sensitive consular cases in close partnership with other governments," Morrison said.

In an interview with Swedish public radio Thursday, Swedish Foreign Minister Margot Wallstrom said she had been in contact with

> Australia Sweden's special envoy to North Korea, Kent Harstedt. She said Sweden had "raised the issue of this case at highest level"

in North Korea and the release happened during Harstedt's visit to Pyon-

"Happy for the release of Australian citizen Alek Sigley today! Sweden has done its utmost to work for Mr Sigley under our bilateral agreement with Australia. Relieved that the situation was resolved," Wallstrom tweeted. She also welcomed "Korean authorities' rapid action in connection with the visit of Sweden's special envoy for the Korean Peninsula," according to the Swedish Foreign Ministry.

North Korea's official Korean Central News Agency said the Swedish delegation led by Harstedt headed back home on Thursday after a four-day visit. It said the Swedes visited a stamp museum and shoe factory during their stay in North Korea, but made no mention of Sigley. AP



Australia Treasurer Josh Frydenberg said tax cuts passed by the Senate would be delivered and the government would achieve Australia s first annual budget surplus in the current fiscal years in more than a decade without reducing government spending. More on p13



yesterday the economy is expected to grow at 7% in 2019-20, up from a five-year low of 6.8% in the past year. Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman (pictured) presented the economic report in Parliament a day before unveiling the annual federal budget.



historically strong ties with Italy before starting a one-day visit to Rome that includes a meeting with Pope Francis. Putin said in an interview published in Corriere della Sera that "we have a special relationship, tested by time, with Italy."

Migrants The U.N. migration agency says a boat carrying 86 migrants from Libya sank in the Mediterranean overnight, and just three people on board survived, with 82 missing. The shipwreck off the Tunisian city of Zarzis came a day after a deadly airstrike on a Libyan detention center that killed at least 44 migrants.



UK A legal battle betweer the powerful, poetrywriting ruler of Dubai and his wealthy estranged wife is leading toward a showdown in a London courtroom later this month. The family division court case scheduled on July 30 pits Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum against Princess Haya. More on p15