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A SENIOR TOURISM OFFICIAL HAS SAID THAT A PROPOSED TAX WOULD BE SET HIGHER THAN 99 PATACAS PER VISITOR IF ADOPTED P3

ONE FOUND GUILTY, ONE LET OFF IN DAYLIGHT LAWYER ATTACK TRIAL P5

MORE EVIDENCE HAS SURFACED IN THE CORRUPTION CASE AGAINST JACKSON CHANG, EMBROILING MEMBERS OF HIS FAMILY WHO ALLEGEDLY RECEIVED ILLICIT ADVANTAGES P7

China It could be as long as a decade before China recovers from its outbreak of African swine fever, the deadly pig disease that's decimating hog herds in the world's largest pork consumer. More on p11

Indonesia The government said it will crack down on trash imported from the world's richest countries after closer inspections showed it's increasingly the recipient of toxic waste materials.



Philippines President Rodrigo Duterte pledged to continue his war against drugs in his final three years in office despite international calls for a probe into the rising death toll.



North Korea said that an Australian student who it detained for a week had spread anti-Pyongyang propaganda and engaged in spying by providing photos and other materials to news outlets with critical views toward the North. More on p13



Afghanistan The Taliban carried out a devastating suicide car bombing yesterday that killed 12 people and wounded over 150 others, said Afghan officials.

More on backpage



Tens of thousands take message to mainlanders

P9 HONG KONG

FINANCE

Issuing of bonds worth 2 billion yuan a 'gift' to SAR

THE central government issuing of state-backed bonds in Macau with a face value of 2 billion yuan is a gift to mark the SAR's establishment anniversary, according to the central government.

Speaking at a ceremony held at the Macau Government Headquarters to mark the issuance of the bonds, Beijing's vice minister of Finance, Zhou Jiayi, said the central government's decision to issue the bonds in Macau was a "major step not only to support the SAR's specialized financial services, but also to facilitate the city's effort towards adequate economic diversification."

Zhou also said that the bonds were also a gift from the central government to mark the 20th anniversary of establishment of the Macau SAR, as cited in a statement issued by the Government Information Bureau.

"It's a measure to support Macau in developing its financial sector, with its own characteristics and through the policy, we can push the formalities to register the issuing and subscription of bonds to enrich the financial infrastructure of Macau," she said.

The official pointed out that



local financial infrastructure would play a role in relation to formulating the bonds' subscription pricing, their clearance via placing banks, and their trading on the secondary market.

Meanwhile, according to Chief Executive Chui Sai On, the issuance of the bonds - which is a first in Macau - marked a new phase of development for the city's financial services.

Chui said the issuance of the bonds was an important initiative in terms of advancing progress of renminbi business in the SAR.

"The bonds would appeal not only to corporate investors but

would also provide the Macau public with an option for prudent investment," he said.

During his speech, Chui also shared his visions for developing "specialized financial services" in Macau while complementing the city's commercial and trade cooperation service platform between China and Portuguese-speaking countries.

Both Chui and Zhou also held a meeting at the Government Headquarters to exchange views on how to advance the SAR's economic diversification and for developing specialized financial services in the city prior to the ceremony. LV

HEALTH

2.1 million smoking inspections carried out

MORE than 2.1 million smoking violation inspections have been conducted since the Law on Prevention and Control of Smoking entered into force in January 1, 2012, according to data released by the Health Bureau. This amounts to an average of about 780 per day.

Following an amendment to the law, starting from January 1, 2019, it is forbidden to smoke in all enclosed public spaces, except authorized rooms, which were created at the

airport and in casinos according to the new rules.

In the first half of this year, over 174,000 inspections have been carried out, or an average number of 966 daily inspections.

In addition, 2,941 complaints were registered, of which 2,923 relate to illegal cigarette smokers, 17 cases refer to unlawful tobacco product labels and one relates to the unlawful sale of tobacco products.

With regards to accusations against illegal smokers, the overwhelming majority of violators

were male, accounting for about 93.9% of the total.

According to data provided by the Health Bureau, some 2,368 fines were issued by the authorities for illegal smoking during the first half of the year; of which about four in five were actually paid.

Concerning the type of establishment where the highest number of fines were issued, about one-quarter of the total were issued in casinos, 17% in parks, garden and leisure areas, and 11% at the airport. DB

EWTN to start broadcasting in Macau

THE Eternal World Television Network (EWTN) will start to broadcast in Macau through the Macau Cable Television Company Limited.

The channel founded in Alabama, United States, in 1981 is considered the largest religious media network in the world, broadcasting in 145 countries and territories in multiple languages with a 24-hour

a-day programming lineup that is said to reach an audience of over 290 million television households.

Among the 11 network platforms in use by the EWTN are direct broadcast satellite television and more than 6,000 television affiliates as well as ROKU, Apple TV, Amazon Fire, and multiple social media platforms.

The channel also included radio services that are transmitted through SIRIUS/XM, iHeart Radio and over 500 domestic and international AM and FM radio affiliates and a worldwide shortwave radio station.

The EWTN also owns news services such as the National Catholic Register, Catholic News Agency and Church Pop. RM

ASK THE VET



by Dr Ruan Du Toit Bester

CAT NEUTERING SIDE EFFECTS

CAT neutering is the sterilization of the pet and is a method to control the feline overpopulation. In males the procedure can also be called castration, while the removal of the ovaries in females may also be called spaying or ovariectomy. The neutering procedure may have short and long term side effects.

Short term side effects

The neutering procedure in felines is simple and will have minimal side effects. The cat may experience pain post surgery, but the vet will prescribe suitable pain medications. During the surgery, the pet may lose blood, but this may not happen if the procedure is performed with lasers.

Other post operation side effects of the neutering surgery include redness and swelling of the surgery wound, infections (that may be treated with antibiotics) and scarring.

In rare cases, the surgery may not be successful and the vet will need to perform a second neutering procedure. Opt for a reputable surgeon to ensure that your pet is in safe hands.

Weight gain

Weight gain may be a long term side effect of cat neutering. After the surgery, the cat will no longer spend time searching for a partner to mate, so the cat will be more sedentary. If the cat eats the same amount of food, he will gain weight.

You should discuss with your vet and make some changes in your cat's diet; you should reduce his calorie intake, without affecting the amounts of essential nutrients that your pet needs.

Lack of activity

As the cat will no longer be interested in mating, he will spend more time indoors. Male cats tend to become aggressive when they fight for a female or

a territory. After being castrated, the cat will be less aggressive and will sleep more.

The lack of activity may lead to obesity. You should get your pet used to new indoors activities to help him be active. Initiate different games; get some toys and encourage your pet to be active.

Stunted growth

The stunted growth may be a side effect of the neutering process, but it is rare. This may happen only if the neutering is performed too early. Consult your vet to determine the optimal time to perform the neutering of your pet. The best time to neuter cats is just before they reach sexual maturity (before the first heat cycle in females).

Cystitis

Cystitis or urinary infections are more common in neutered cats. In rare cases, male cats may experience urinary blockages. To prevent these, the vet may recommend a wet diet and you should also increase the cat's water intake.

These side effects are minimal when compared to the many benefits of the neutering surgery. In addition to preventing unwanted pregnancies, the



cat's behavior will be calmer, he will fight less, roam less, be less vocal and the spraying behavior may also stop. The neutering surgery will also reduce the chances of reproductive system cancers.

Hope this info helps
Till next week
Dr Ruan Bester

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STAFF REPORTER

HO Iat Seng, the favorite to succeed Chui Sai On as Chief Executive, resigned on Friday from his post as lawmaker and president of the Legislative Assembly (AL).

His resignation was not required by the law, which states that he is permitted to wait until after the election. In the meantime, his role would merely be suspended. After the election, and if appointed the new Chief Executive, Ho would be required to resign from his role as a legislator.

On Friday Ho said that a two-month suspension for the AL's president would not be good for the body. In addition, he said that he "is not looking back."

After Ho stepped down from the two positions, indirectly-elected lawmaker and current vice president Chui Sai Cheong has stepped forward as acting president, as per the governing regulations of the legislature.

Prior to the start of Friday's AL plenary meeting, Ho delivered his resignation speech, upon which he departed the legislature. His official resignation was submitted to the AL Executive Committee on June 20.

In his speech, Ho thanked the Macau SAR government, all lawmakers, residents, AL staff, and the media.

"I express my deep appreciation towards the support everybody has given us for so many years while I served as the vice-president and president of AL," said Ho.

The Chief Executive candidate also made a special appeal to the media: "I am a straightforward kind of person," he said. "I speak from my heart, so please bear with me if I am too direct."

Ho was also asked Friday about his likely selection of secretaries, but the candidate refused to answer directly, noting that he was not in a position to make that comment.

Ho Iat Seng confident stepping down from legislature early



He thought all of the current secretaries had performed well in their role, but noted some have skills, like charisma, which make them more popular with the public.

The ex-AL president was also reminded of the civil actions in 2014 when 20,000 people took to the street and 10,000 people surrounded the AL building, protesting the "compensation bill" that would have raised the remuneration for high officials.

Ho recalled that it was his first year as the AL president. To him, it was both a challenge and lesson. The Chief Executive candidate thinks that if the administration works well, citizens will have little cause to take to the streets.

"The better the work of the administration, the easier for the AL," Ho added on the matter.

Ho was outspoken on several other topics. He commented on the "Civil Protection Bill," particularly article

25, which concerns rumor spreading and its punishment.

Ho expressed his view that the action should be punishable because spreading rumors in extreme weather conditions, such as during typhoon signal 8 or above, might cause social panic. However, he said if the government is capable in releasing clear information, fraudulent information will not exist.

The ambiguous definition has been raising concerns across society,

but the ex-AL president dismissed them: "the prison won't have enough cells."

The law states that after the departure of the AL president, a new leader should be chosen within 15 days, and the outstanding seat be filled within 180.

Ho has been part of the AL for a decade. He started as an indirectly-elected lawmaker, before having been elected as the vice president and eventually the president of the body.

Airport passenger traffic records 18% increase

THE Macau International Airport (MIA) handled a total of 4.72 million passengers in the first half of the year, recording an increase of 18% compared to the same period last year.

Last month, the airport handled over 780,000 passengers, representing a year-on-year increase of 17%. Flight movements increased by 22% to reach 6,344.

According to a statement issued by Macau International Airport Co. Ltd (CAM), this is mainly attributable to the increase in the number of visitors to and from the routes of main-

land China, Taiwan and Southeast Asia, which increased by 33%, 8% and 9% respectively compared with the same month last year.

Up to the end of June 2019, there are 28 airlines operating at MIA connecting Macau to some 56 destinations covering area in mainland China, China Taiwan, Southeast Asia and Northeast Asia.

Meanwhile, for the first half of the year, flight movements increased by 19% to over 37,000 landings and takeoffs compared to the same period last year.

MIA has an average of 26,000

passengers per day.

CAM predicts that the passenger traffic and flight movements of MIA are expected to grow steadily in the second half of 2019.

Some airlines will add flight frequency schedules during the summer holidays until August to increase travel options for passengers.

Meanwhile, CAM also announced that JC Cambodia Airlines is planning to launch flights from Macau to Myanmar while both Bamboo Airways and VietJet Air will establish regular service from Macau to Nha Trang. LV

If adopted, tourist levy likely more than MOP99

STAFF REPORTER

VICE director of the Macao Government Tourism Office (MGTO) Hoi Io Meng has said that the proposed tourist tax, if levied, would likely be more than 99 patacas.

With regard to the actual amount or the implementation of the policy, Hoi said his bureau can only make a decision after further analysis of the data from a recent public survey. In addition, the MGTO will refer to

tax in effect in other destinations for comparison.

The tourism authority has conducted research on the feasibility and public perception of a tourist tax. Data was collected in three ways: via the online survey, direct interviews at border checkpoints, and the completion of questionnaires by actors in the tourism sector.

A total of 12,000 local questionnaires, 1,500 answered by tourists and 150 from the industry were re-

ceived. According to Hoi, sentiment towards the tax has been inconclusive.

There are at least 41 countries in the world that levy a tourist tax.

Japan started the levy, officially "departure tax" and colloquially "sayonara tax", in January this year. The tax is set at 1,000 yen (MOP74).

Japan's levy is not only used for the refinement of infrastructure, but is also used to "create a more comfortable, stress-free tourist environment."

Sulu Sou warns Macau not immune to violence

Lawmaker Sulu Sou is renewing his call for universal suffrage in Macau. During Friday's Legislative Assembly plenary meeting, Sou noted in his speech before the agenda, "we know that, currently, there is not a single law prohibiting Macau from achieving universal suffrage for the Chief Executive's election." The lawmaker warned that Macau is not immune to the type of violence seen in Hong Kong. "In the last 10 years, and including the recent political dilemma, Hong Kong is exactly giving Macau a precious lesson, which is also a heavy warning, that of constitutional violence being the origin of all sorts of violence," he said. "I believe that nobody wants society to become unstable. But if the political system and the election methods do not change, constitutional violence will always be there," warned Sou.

Corruption reports said to have been in vain

Pereira Coutinho used his time at the Legislative Assembly on Friday to question the effectiveness of the Commission Against Corruption's (CCAC) annual report. "Residents have noticed that, in recent years, CCAC reports gradually lose their importance and authority because they do not result in accountability," he said. "Nobody needs to be responsible. It seems that the relevant departments do not concern [the report] at all. Nobody resigns, nobody apologizes. It also seems that no one is ever at fault," said Coutinho. "After a while, CCAC reports repeat the same warning, pointing out the same abuse of power and violation. However, residents have already lost their interest in the report," he added. "Now, we can only put our hopes in the next Chief Executive."

Sex education in need of improvement

Wong Kit Cheng has urged the local government to improve sex education. Wong proposes the establishment of an independent sex education resource center to manage sex education, and the training of teachers, students, parents and the broader society. Wong also urged the local government to amend private tutor center licenses, as well as the supervision system bill, including enhancing penalties and increasing inspections in all locations which involve children, and strictly reviewing teaching staff's background. Agnes Lam also questioned the effectiveness of Macau's sex education framework. She has suggested that Macau should learn from Europe in terms of sex education in schools.

BLOOMBERG



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Labor Law amendments pass after business concerns weighed

JULIE ZHU

THE Legislative Assembly (AL) has approved two amendments to the Labor Relations Bill and the Law for the Employment of Non-residential Workers.

According to the amendment to the Labor Relations Bill, there will be an increase in maternity leave from the current 56 days to 70 days. The SAR government will compensate local mothers with an additional 14 days maximum, providing them with 70 days of paid maternity leave altogether.

Many lawmakers, including Sulu Sou and Song Pek Kei, remained concerned because, even after the government raised the period of paid maternity leave to 70 days, Macau is still lagging behind neighboring regions and international standards.

Sou pointed out that mainland China, Hong Kong and Singapore give 98 days or more of paid maternity leave.

Leong Sun Lok noted that Macau's civil servants are granted 90 days of maternity leave.

Song pointed out that a local survey has revealed that 85 percent of respondents support the increment of paid maternity leave to 98 days.

Secretary for Finance and Economy Lionel Leong replied to lawmakers by explaining that 70 days is based on a comprehensive consideration for Macau's business environment, employer's affordability and public funds.

Leong does not rule out the possibility of making further improvements during the AL standing committee's discussion.

The government compensation will only be granted to local mothers, while employers of non-

local mothers should bear the 14-day compensation. Ip Sio Ka hopes that the government can treat local and non-locals equally, indicating that the government should also compensate non-local mothers, but not their employers.

Leong then said that in case the subsidy measure covers non-local employees, public spending will increase. He also noted that the bill will be reviewed in three years, and that the government is open to further improvement.

According to the new law, fathers can take five days of paid paternity leave before the birth of their child or within 30 days after their child's birth. The amendment proposes that employers should compensate employees with a day of leave when a public holiday overlaps with a mandatory holiday.

In regards to the Law for the Employment of Non-residential

Workers, the bill aims in part to prevent tourists from job hunting while they are traveling in Macau.

Lawmakers Ip, Song and Wong Kit Cheng are all concerned about domestic helpers' issues being involved in the bill. Overall, lawmakers are worried about the bill creating more difficulties in the future, as well as being more time-consuming for Macau's dual-employment families to hire domestic helpers.

Lawmakers believe that the amendment does not meet the actual social needs. They are apprehensive about domestic helpers not being able to visit Macau for an interview with a tourist visa, which in turn would compromise the quality of domestic helpers.

Mak Soi Kun and Agnes Lam then proposed that Macau should learn from other regions in regards to requiring mandatory training of non-local workers.

Qingmao Border may not be ready this year

STAFF REPORTER

THE Secretary for Transport and Public Works, Raimundo do Rosário, has reaffirmed that he has had no confirmation as to when Qingmao Checkpoint, the new border connecting Macau and Zhuhai, will open.

The official reiterated his stance a few days ago, following similar comments in April this year.

In that same month, Secretary for Security Wong Sio Chak promised that his staffing, facility and policy-making would be ready when the checkpoint becomes so. He

has he expected that the checkpoint would be ready by the end of 2019.

Afterwards, Rosário, whose secretariat is responsible for the construction, declined any promise being made regarding the possible opening of the new checkpoint.

Several days ago, after

he accompanied members of the legislature's Commission for Follow-up on Land and Public Concession Affairs to a site visit at the future checkpoint, Rosário said that the progress of construction was "without significant flaws."

Rosário added that even

though many are speculating the opening to be by end of this year, he has not yet received any official confirmation.

All costs for the construction of the border are borne by the Macau SAR. Its current budget amounts to MOP4 billion.

COURTS

One found guilty in attack on lawyer Jorge Menezes

JULIE ZHU

ONE of the two assailants who attacked lawyer Jorge Menezes has been sentenced to one year and nine months of imprisonment, the Court of First Instance announced on Friday morning. Meanwhile, the other has been acquitted, considering that his identification is "questionable".

Walking his 5-year-old son to pre-school on the morning of May 16, 2013, lawyer Jorge Menezes was suddenly ambushed in Sintra Square by two mainland assailants who swung at him with bricks strapped to their hands. The attack reportedly had all the hallmarks of organized crime with, according to some, an obvious triad connection.

The Public Prosecutions Office (MP) and the Court of First Instance disagreed. In Friday's sentencing, just one of the two defendants - both Chinese nationals from the mainland - was sentenced and to less than two years in prison.

According to the judge, "all accusations related to the second defendant were proven."

"The second defendant is convicted of an aggravated offence against physical integrity, and is sentenced to one year and nine months in jail without probation," the judge announced. Further, the second defendant, who is a mainland man, is obliged to pay MOP2,000 for the lawsuit. The court issued an immediate detention order against this specific defendant.

Regarding the first defendant, who has never been present at any court trials, "the court considers that the identification of the suspect is questionable." The court ruled that the first defendant is not guilty, and that the imposition of criminal compulsory measures on him was revoked immediately.

The Court of First Instance will bear the first defendant's lawsuit fee, according to the judgement.

Bricks and other weapons that were used by the defendants to attack Menezes were seized and

ordered to be destroyed by the judgement.

After the verdict, lawyer Menezes expressed his doubt regarding the acquittal of the other defendant given all the evidence.

"He was in the surveillance videos. He appears to be running away with a brick in his hand. You can see that he was trying to attack me and you can see me taking the brick from his hand," said Menezes, adding that the acquitted defendant's face can be identified when zoomed in on the surveillance footage.

Menezes also said he did not approve of the Court's sentence against the convicted defendant, calling it too lenient since the attack could have resulted in his death or permanent injuries to him.

He also criticized the MOP5,000 amount that had been set as bail for one of the defendants.

"No one would return to Macau for the trial [for that amount]," said Menezes, who considered it foreseeable, even



RENATO MARQUES

Lawyer and victim Jorge Menezes

at the time, that the defendants would flee from the city.

The lawyer may file an appeal to try to find out who was behind the crime, and he Describing that the trials as a waste of time because the prosecutors failed to investigate the mastermind behind the attack,

Menezes said he is considering an appeal. Mostly, he wants the MP to reinvestigate the case.

"I was only lucky that the two were incompetent at their job, otherwise I would not be here. If this is the end, it is an unhappy ending," said Menezes. "It is all very strange."

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Property of the Week



Pearl on the Lough, Taipa
HK\$16,980,000 2,055 ft² 4 2

High-end 3+1 bedroom waterfront apartment in quiet location. Panoramic views of Macau skyline and harbour from the living room and bedrooms and balcony. Beautiful bay window in Master Bedroom. Quality finishes in marble & granite. Clubhouse facilities: outdoor swimming pool, gymnasium, childrens playground. 24hr security. Carpark available separately.



Property Hotlist



Hellene Garden, Carnation Court, Taipa

\$7,950,000
1,663 ft²

3 2



Soi Cheung Studio, Taipa Village

\$9,000/mth
660 ft²

1 1



Man Fai, Taipa
\$8,880,000
1,390 ft²

3 2



Carpark
One Grantal, Taipa
\$2,500/mth



More Listings

For Sale

- [Taipa] **Yu Fat** 2 2 550 ft² **\$4,898,000** (ref: 181155660)
- [Taipa] **Manhattan (High Rise)** 2 4 2,205 ft² **\$17,988,000** (ref: 18875558)
- [Taipa] **Buckingham** 2 2 1,439 ft² **\$11,779,000** (ref: 19045894)
- [Taipa] **Pearl on the Lough** 5 3 4,000 ft² **\$39,999,000** (ref: 190550957)
- [Cotai] **One Grantal** 4 2 2,556 ft² **\$25,698,000**

For Rent

- [Taipa] **Manhattan** 2 2 1,720 ft² **\$23,800/mth** (ref: 181156687)
- [Taipa] **Nova Grand** 2 1 886 ft² **\$16,000/mth** (ref: 190550977)
- [Macau] **San Mole** 3 4 **\$13,000/mth** (ref: 180581199)
- [Kowloon] **Cheong Man House** 3 2 **\$28,000/mth** (ref: 190550980)
- [Taipa] **Donon Gardens** 4 4 3,790 ft² **\$35,000/mth** (ref: 184406740)

Recent Movements

Rented Manhattan, Taipa
2 beds, 1,366 ft²



Rented Kingsville, Taipa
3 beds

Rented Nova Grand, Taipa
3 beds



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CORRUPTION

Graftbuster finds final proof in IPIM residency vetting case

RENATO MARQUES

THE former president of the Board of Directors of the Macao Trade and Investment Promotion Institute (IPIM), Jackson Chang, was placed in preventive custody last week following the completion of Commission Against Corruption (CCAC) investigative procedures, which revealed more wrongdoing by the senior government official.

The investigation, which has been ongoing since October 2018, involves at least three former IPIM officials; its ex-president and former vice presidents. In a report published on Friday, the CCAC announced that it has collected more evidence on the wrongdoing of the officials regarding the unlawful granting of residency status through an invest-

ment scheme.

Besides Chang, a former member of the Executive Committee of IPIM, Glória Batalha, and the former chief of the IPIM's Residency Application and Legal Affairs Division, Miguel Ian, allegedly committed crimes including document forgery, breach of secrecy and abuse of power.

According to the report published by the CCAC, the officials acted unlawfully in the process of vetting and approving applications for "major investment immigration" and "technical immigration" programs.

The same report also noted that the decision of putting Chang in preventive custody while awaiting trial, was ordered by a judge of the Court of Criminal Instruction, based on a recommendation from the Public Prosecutions Office (MP).

The CCAC report notes that the

investigation highlighted that "between 2010 and 2018, a local business couple colluded with some other individuals to provide 'one-stop services' to apply for 'major investment immigration' or 'technical immigration' on behalf of others by making use of the over 50 companies opened or controlled by such couple, which would fabricate investment projects, professional experiences and employment relationships in order to make huge illicit profits."

It added that "the syndicate" made use of the false transfer of ownership stakes of these shell companies. They controlled the process to benefit the applicants so they could meet the requirements for such programs. At the same time, and through the same companies, they forged agreements and qualifications so that the applicants could also

meet the requirements for technical immigration for positions such as "general manager of human resources" or "electrical systems engineer," as well as forgeries that included working experience as well as fake payroll records.

According to the CCAC, this "criminal organization" would benefit by collecting "agency fees" from the applicants, in a sum that involves an amount over MOP10 million.

The CCAC also found that the organization would keep records of these fraudulent activities on a book-keeping system, where the records would show that they would refund 20% or 30% from the fees charged, directly to IPIM, tagged under the code of "consulting and miscellaneous fees" or "consultation fee." The CCAC reaffirms that the investigation found proof that

Chang colluded with the group by providing them illegal assistance in making applications to the immigration authority as well as "actively facilitating the approval of the fraudulent applications."

The CCAC also claims to have found proof that several people related to Chang, namely his wife, daughter and his mistress in the mainland China, received illicit advantages from this system for long periods of time.

Among those noted are, "kickbacks, jobs, and shares of companies," thus he is being accused of "passive corruption to perform illicit acts, document forgery and breach of secrecy." The CCAC is also targeting Chang for violating the Legal Regime of Assets Declaration for Public Officials by providing "inaccurate data" and hiding assets achieved by fraudulent means.

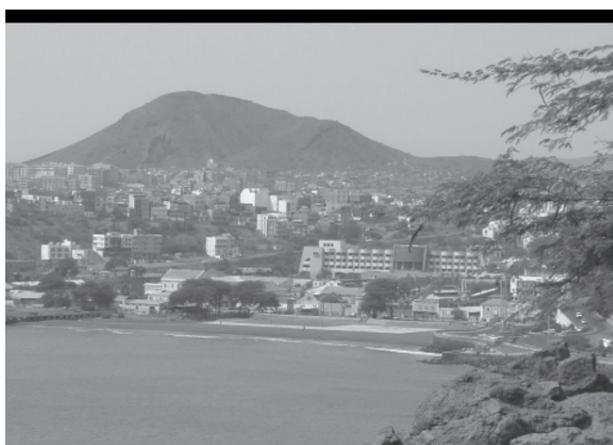
As for the other two officials, Batalha and Ian, they are being accused of "abuse of power and breach of secrecy" regarding the public duties they were performing, as by providing "illicit assistance" to at least two applicants and sharing "confidential information," they allowed such applicants to have their requests easily approved.

FORUM MDT/MACAUHUB

Cloud computing from Macau arrives in Cape Verde

WITH Huawei already a key player in Cape Verde's IT sector, Macau-based tech company Bringbuys Web Technology is taking firm strides to establish itself in the archipelago, which has ambitious plans for e-governance.

A delegation from Bringbuys visited Praia, the capital of Cape Verde, last month, following an agreement signed in Lisbon in 2018 between the company and Cabo Verde TradeInvest that foresaw the creation of a regional technology hub in Cape Verde. During the visit, negotiations continued for the installation of the technological hub, while the Macau delegation embarked



Praia, the capital of Cape Verde

on a fact-finding mission to better understand the local IT ecosystem.

With the hub in Praia, Bringbuys aims to enter the

IT market of other West African countries, establishing in the Portuguese-speaking archipelago a cloud computing services platform

for export.

The investment, according to Macao Magazine, initially envisions building an international cloud computing center, worth between USD5-20 million (40-160 million patacas). The center will support e-governance, services for the citizens and road safety, as well as creating big data services.

After this pilot project, the investment could reach \$50 million in a second phase with an industrial park that will be used to train local staff and incubate companies.

Bringbuys said it selected Cape Verde due to the quality of infrastructure, including energy, as well as geographical location, which

will enable the company to expand to other countries in West Africa.

If the pilot project is a success, Bringbuys Web Technology also plans to expand to larger Portuguese-speaking countries outside Africa, such as Portugal and Brazil.

In 2017, the Operational Nucleus for Information Society (NOSI) of Cape Verde and Chinese telecommunications company Huawei established a strategic partnership for the development of the e-government market, namely to develop solutions in the fields of education, health, social security and local governance. Prospecting new markets in the African

sub-region is also planned.

Huawei will also implement the Cidade Segura (Safe City) project, which will install video surveillance cameras in the main urban centers, and oversee the creation of a command, communication and a control center for all security entities.

With the implementation of the project, the Cape Verde government expects an effective reduction of crime levels in the main urban centers of Praia and Mindelo, and on the islands of Sal and Boa Vista. It hopes the crime reduction will promote safety and security in the tourism sector, the engine of the country's economy.

MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER



ARTS

Legendary kung fu choreographer receives NYC award

YUEN Woo-ping, a renowned martial arts choreographer and film director from Hong Kong, was honored in New York City this week for his extraordinary contributions to the film genre during his decades in the industry.

Yuen, 74, was awarded the "Star Asia Lifetime Achievement Award" at the ongoing 18th New York Asian Film Festival (NYAFF) held at the Lincoln Center.

Upon receiving the award, Yuen said that throughout his career he had discovered many talented individuals, such as Jackie Chan, Donnie Yen and Wu Jing, and witnessed their paths to stardom.

"I hope that new faces will continue to emerge in the kung fu film genre, passing on kung fu culture to future generations," said the master.

Born in Guangzhou, the capital of Guangdong province, Yuen began learning martial arts during his childhood from his father, Yuen Siu-tien, the first kung fu choreographer in Hong Kong and a prominent actor.

During a press conference held on Monday afternoon, Yuen said it was his father who had influenced him the most during his 50-year-plus career.

Under his father's guidance, Yuen developed a real passion for kung fu which

has kept him devoted to his job. "Passion is the key to success," said Yuen. "You can never carry on with something for decades if you are not interested in it."

From Hong Kong to Hollywood, Yuen has won numerous awards for his works, such as "Iron Monkey," "The Matrix," "Kill Bill," and "Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon," many of which are remembered as classic kung fu and action movies.

Although filmmaking technology has made tremendous progress, Yuen said he will keep making "authentic" kung fu films in which actors and actresses stage real fights instead of using computer-generated imagery.

Yuen also brought his new directorial work to the film festival, "Master Z: The Ip Man Legacy," as one of 10 films in "The Hong Kong Panorama," a traditional NYAFF program supported by the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in New York.

NYAFF is an annual flagship event of the New York Asian Film Foundation Inc., a nonprofit organization dedicated to the exhibition and appreciation of Asian film culture. The 18th NYAFF runs from June 28 to July 14 and will present over 30 films from various countries and regions in Asia. DB/XINHUA

FOOTBALL

Guangzhou Evergrande deny José Mourinho report

CHINESE Super League giants Guangzhou Evergrande on Friday denied reports that José Mourinho would take charge of the club.

A source close to the Evergrande Group chairman Xu Jiayin told Xinhua on Friday that Xu did meet Mourinho but never talked about offering a coaching job at Evergrande.

"They did meet in last December and this May," the source said.

According to the source, Xu met Mourinho during his two trips in Europe for acquiring a Swedish Auto company Koenigsegg and a British automotive technology company Protean last December.

"But those meetings were personal and there was nothing about the coaching job at the Guangzhou Evergrande club," he added.

English media reported on Friday that Mourinho had a conversation with Xu talking about coaching the richest



club in China. The report posted a photo in which Xu and Mourinho smiled and posed with a glass of wine.

"The photo was not taken recently as you can see Xu's hair style was very different from nowadays," the source said.

"Xu and Mourinho know each other for quite a long time and they have a good relationship."

Mourinho has not managed since being sacked by Manchester United last year and has been hoping to join a new club this summer.

Xu founded the Evergrande Group in 1996 and now the group becomes one of Chinese largest real estate developers. Evergrande bought the Guangzhou club in 2010 and the team has won seven consecutive domestic league titles and two AFC Champions League titles since then.

Guiding by Italian coach Fabio Cannavaro, Guangzhou Evergrande are now leading the Chinese super league after beating Tianjin Tianhai on Friday. The team also reached the final eight of AFC champions league. XINHUA

Shenzhen Immigration sets record high of over 1 million visitors

CHINA'S largest port city Shenzhen registered over 130 million entry-exit persons in the first half of the year, up 7.2% year on year, the southern Chinese city's immigration authorities said.

Official statistics show that the average daily inspections in the period stood at 726,000, with the maximum daily figure exceeding 1 million, hitting a record high.

A total of 7.23 million ships, planes and trains entered or exited the city border from January to June.

The Shenzhen airport also saw nearly 3 million inbound and outbound passengers on more than 23,000 planes during the period, up 26.7% and 16.1% year on year, respectively.

The hike is partially attributed to the development of the

Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macau Greater Bay Area and a more relaxed visa-free access to Guangdong, reported state media Xinhua.

The immigration authorities have streamlined clearance processes to meet the demands of increasing passengers and adopted big data, quantum communication and AI technologies to promote self-service and efficiency. DB/XINHUA

AD



WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

The Greater Bay project is coming and it will bring both opportunities and challenges to our little-big town. Macau Daily Times wants to hear your voice. We invite our readers to write in with Letters to the Editor on the topic of the Greater Bay Area.

Please email your letters to gba@macaudailytimes.com

KEN MORITSUGU

HONG KONG

THOUSANDS of people, many wearing black shirts and some carrying British flags, were marching in Hong Kong yesterday, targeting a mainland Chinese audience as a month-old protest movement showed no signs of abating.

Chanting "Free Hong Kong" and words of encouragement to their fellow citizens, the demonstrators streamed through a shopping district popular with mainland visitors to the high-speed railway station that connects the semi-autonomous Chinese territory to Guangdong and other mainland cities.

Hong Kong has been riven by protests for the past month, sparked by proposed changes to extradition laws that would have allowed suspects to be sent to the mainland to face trial. 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.

March organizer Ventus Lau said the purpose of yesterday's protest was two-fold: to reiterate the protesters' demands to the government and to give mainland visitors a firsthand look at their movement.

"The information is rather blocked in mainland, we want to show them the true image and the message of Hong Kongers," he said.

The march was the first major protest since last Monday, when protesters smashed thick glass walls to break into the city's legislature building and wreaked havoc inside, spray painting slogans on the walls, overturning furniture and damaging voting and fire prevention systems.

Most of the marchers were young, wearing black shirts that have

AP PHOTO



become the uniform of the protesters. But the crowd also included older people carrying hand-held fans in the muggy heat, as well as parents with children, including some in baby strollers.

Many were carrying posters, including one that read "Extradite to China, disappear forever." Some in the crowd were waving British flags.

The proposed extradition legislation has raised concerns about an erosion of freedoms and rights in Hong Kong in recent years. The city was allowed to keep its own

legal system for 50 years after Britain returned the then-colony to China in 1997, but many fear that freedom of expression and other rights are under threat.

Prior to the start of the march, police put up large barricades blocking a main entrance to the railway station to prevent any attempt to enter it. Only passengers with train reservations would be allowed into the station, the mass transit authority said, and Hong Kong media reported that ticket sales had been suspended for afternoon trains.

The high-speed railway station, which opened last September, was a source of contention, as passengers pass through Chinese immigration and customs inside. Some opposition lawmakers said the fact that Chinese law applies in the immigration area violates the agreement giving Hong Kong its own legal system.

The July 1 break-in at the legislature overshadowed a peaceful march the same day by hundreds of thousands of people also opposed to the extradition legislation.

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 protesters are also calling for direct election of Hong Kong's leader. Lam was chosen by an elite committee of mainly pro-Beijing electors. AP

HONG KONG

Students reject Chief Executive's private talks appeal

NATALIE LUNG
& STEPHEN TAN

HONG Kong students refused a meeting with the Chief Executive Carrie Lam, dealing her China-backed government another setback to its efforts to avert further mass protests.

Students leaders at the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology said they refused an invitation for a closed-door meeting with Lam, saying they weren't interested in private talks and wouldn't sit down until she met their demands. The students, like

several groups involved in recent protests, are seeking the complete withdrawal of legislation allowing extraditions to China and reforms allowing direct elections for the city's top office.

Lam's office confirmed that the chief executive was seeking meetings with "young people of different backgrounds" and urged the students to reconsider the decision. Such meetings would be "conducted in a small-scale and closed-door manner," the office said in an emailed response to Bloomberg.

Hong Kong's No. 2 offi-

cial, Chief Secretary Matthew Cheung, said Friday night that the government wants to start a sincere dialogue with students, following a meeting with opposition lawmakers. But pan-democratic politician Claudia Mo said authorities' call for a conversation was hypocritical, given they had recently arrested some student protesters.

Lam pledged to be more "open and inclusive" Monday as she started her third year in office facing the city's worst political crisis since the former British colony's return to China. Hong

Kong has been gripped by a series of escalating mass protests that started with Lam's efforts to pass legislation allowing extraditions to China for the first time and expanded into demands for greater democracy.

A small group of protesters stormed and ransacked the local legislature later Monday - the 22nd anniversary of the handover - shocking the government's supporters and critics alike and prompting warnings of worsening unrest. One problem facing Lam is that the protest movement has so far remained largely leader-

less, making it harder to find someone she can negotiate with.

"We feel deeply disappointed to see the government invite for a conversation when the situation has come to this stage," Pang Ka-ho, a student leader at The University of Hong Kong told a briefing Friday. "If the government could have had a sincere dialogue with young people before things deteriorated, it wouldn't have come to this."

Also on Friday, protester Pun Ho-chiu, 31, was arraigned on charges of assaulting police officers, cau-

sing criminal damage and behaving disorderly in public over his suspected role in a June 21 demonstration outside police headquarters. He didn't enter a plea and was denied bail.

So far, no one has been charged with criminal offenses related to the storming of the Legislative Council on Monday. Police this week announced the arrest of 12 suspects, ages 14 to 36, on a range of offenses, including weapons possession and obstructing a police officer, in connection with another protest earlier that morning. BLOMBERG



TOURISM

In Phuket, Indian juggernaut rides to rescue as China visits wane

SIRAPHOB
THANTHONG-KNIGHT

THAILAND'S struggling tourism industry is finding support with visitors from the population colossus to its west, just as the years of bumper arrivals from the giant to its north are beginning to wane.

At a beachfront hotel on the tropical island of Phuket, the occupancy rate from Chinese clientele has stalled, while bookings from India have begun to rise. The Vijitt Resort is one of many in Thailand that has more cause for optimism.

"We're starting to see new grow-

th," said Kongsak Khoopongsakorn, Vijitt's general manager and vice president of the Thai Hotels Association. "Indians are now driving industry growth like the Chinese had previously done."

What's happening to Thai tourism could prove a canary in the coal mine for the leisure sector in other Asian economies as China matures and a new India emerges. The Thai industry had been expanding at about about 10% a year on escalating inbound Chinese arrivals, but a 2018 boat accident in Phuket that killed dozens of mainlanders and a slowing economy at home have triggered a drop in numbers.

In contrast, Indian arrivals accelerated in recent months due to more direct flights, a visa waiver and, most importantly, increasing wealth.

The rapid expansion of the middle class among India's 1.3 billion people has prompted Thai authorities to upgrade their estimates of Indian visitors. At least 10 million are now expected to arrive in 2028, a more than five-fold increase on 2018 visits. That sort of growth trajectory would mimic the rise of Chinese tourists, who jumped from 800,000 in 2008 to more than 10 million last year.

Although China will remain an important market, it is likely to

offer less growth potential in the years ahead. India, meanwhile, is set to become the new expansion story in Thai tourism, an industry that accounts for about 20% of gross domestic product.

Chinese visitors currently make up 28% of total foreign arrivals, well ahead of Indians at 4%. But within a decade, Indian arrivals are forecast to surge to about 15% of the total, while Chinese are predicted to edge up to about 30%.

"The Indian inbound market could potentially rival that of China," said Pisit Puapan, executive director of the Finance Ministry's Macroeconomic Policy Bureau. Pisit said high growth from India

has also helped offset a decline from markets like Europe.

Chinese arrivals could actually fall this year from 2018 as the yuan has weakened against the baht, according to Bloomberg Intelligence. That might deter more cost-conscious Chinese tourists, or see them spend less if they do make the trip.

A cooling tourism market and dividend repatriation combined to help produce Thailand's first current account deficit since 2014. The country's forecast economic growth has already been revised down to the lowest level in four years as exports also fizzled.

There are more direct flights between Indian and Thai cities, one reason for the jump in visitors to Bangkok, Phuket and surrounding areas. They are drawn by Thailand's food and shopping, and its beaches are emerging as significant attractions.

India's fifth-largest airline GoAirlines India Pvt currently connects three Indian cities to Phuket, and plans to add seven more. InterGlobe Aviation Ltd's IndiGo launched services to the tropical island late last year.

Thai AirAsia Co Ltd, the kingdom's largest low-cost carrier, recorded 20% growth in passengers traveling between India and Thailand in the first quarter of 2019 from a year earlier. It now operates 47 flights a week from Bangkok to nine Indian cities, and said it plans to add an additional destination.

With India projected to overtake China as the world's most populous nation in eight years, and its middle class forecast to keep expanding, Thai Hotels Association's Kongsak is cautious but hopeful about the future.

"We expect the industry will continue to grow," he said. "But it's important to spread the risk and have a good nationality mix in the market. We can't rely on any single market." BLOOMBERG

AVIATION | INDIA

Modi renews vow to sell Air India after last attempt flopped

INDIA will revive plans to sell Air India Ltd., after an attempt to partially exit the loss-making carrier failed to find a single buyer last year.

The high-profile divestment would be part of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's efforts to raise 1.05 trillion rupees (USD15.3 billion) selling stakes in state-run companies, finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman said in her maiden budget speech on Friday. The administration will also look to sell other state-run companies or merge some of them, she said.

Modi's Bharatiya Janata

Party won a second term this year after pledging cash handouts to farmers and a \$1.44 trillion plan to build roads and railways, besides measures to boost manufacturing and exports. While the promises resonated with voters, funding remains a challenge, forcing the government to sell assets.

"Strategic disinvestment would continue to remain a priority," said Sitharaman, the first woman to hold the position. "The government would not only re-initiate the process of strategic disinvestment of Air India, but wou-

ld offer more Central Public Sector Enterprises for strategic participation by the private sector."

Air India, which is surviving on a 300-billion-rupee taxpayer-funded bailout, has failed to maintain its market dominance as a slew of carriers including InterGlobe Aviation Ltd. and SpiceJet Ltd. started to offer ultra-cheap, on-time flights more than a decade ago. The airline has total debts of \$8.4 billion and posted losses of more than 76 billion rupees last year, according to provisional estimates.

A sale of Air India, which

hasn't made money since its merger with state-run domestic operator Indian Airlines Ltd. more than a decade ago, would boost Modi's credentials as a reformer taking the state away from businesses.

The sale attempt last year ended in a whimper as a deadline for prospective suitors passed by with none showing interest in the airline. InterGlobe's IndiGo, the nation's biggest carrier, initially said it was keen, but pulled out after the government made it clear it wouldn't only sell Air India's international operations.

BLOOMBERG



US says trade talks resuming as China demands end to tariffs

SARAH MCGREGOR
& RYAN HAAR

THE Trump administration said trade talks with China are starting up again as Beijing reiterated that it's essential the U.S. removes all existing tariffs for a deal to be reached.

President Donald Trump and Chinese President Xi Jinping agreed last month to re-start trade talks and suspend new tariffs, but they gave no time-frame for further negotiations or a deadline to strike an agreement. While Trump said he would hold off imposing additional tariffs on USD300 billion of Chinese goods as part of the truce, his top trade negotiators have insisted that some duties will stay in place even after a deal as a way to enforce it.

White House economic adviser Larry Kudlow said Friday that U.S. Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer and Treasury Secre-



tary Steven Mnuchin have been speaking with China's top trade negotiator, Liu He by phone and that more talks are planned. He didn't elaborate on the substance.

A face-to-face meeting is also "in the cards" and will happen "at some point in the near future,"

Kudlow, director of the National Economic Council, said on Bloomberg TV on Friday. "There is no timeline, the issue is if you want quality, we do not have to have speed."

Negotiations between the world's two largest economies collapsed

in May after U.S. officials accused China of backtracking on draft commitments, and amid key sticking points like China's demand that the U.S. lift all the punitive tariffs put in place since the trade war started almost a year ago.

On Friday, an influential blog

connected to Chinese state media said the talks will "go backward again" without the removal of U.S. tariffs, echoing the line from the Ministry of Commerce's weekly briefing on Thursday.

"If the two sides are to reach a deal, all imposed tariffs must be removed," Ministry of Commerce Spokesman Gao Feng said Thursday. "China's attitude on that is clear and consistent."

Scrapping all the punitive tariffs the U.S. imposed is the "most important" request and that won't change during the trade talks, according to a commentary by Tao-ran Notes, a blog run by the Economic Daily under a pseudonym on the WeChat platform.

Separately, Kudlow says it's likely that Huawei Technologies Co. will "remain on the entity list" although the Commerce Department may expand licensing for American companies to complete transactions with the Chinese telecommunications firm. "We will not open licenses for any national security areas, be they chips or whatever," Kudlow said.

Following his summit with Xi, Trump said he would ease a ban on Huawei by allowing U.S. supplies to sell the company components if they don't pose a national security concern. BLOOMBERG



Region could feel swine fever blow for next decade, Cargill says

MARIO PARKER &
ISIS ALMEIDA

IT could be as long as a decade before China recovers from its outbreak of African swine fever, the deadly pig disease that's decimating hog herds in the world's largest pork consumer.

That's according to Cargill Inc., one of the world's largest agricultural commodity traders. The virus, which kills most infected pigs within 10 days, has already spread to most Chinese provin-

ces. Official reports of a 24% decline for the nation's herd are "conservative," said John Fering, managing director for Cargill's premix and nutrition business in the Asian nation.

China's hog-herd losses are tough to estimate and could be anywhere between 20% and 70%, according to Rabobank.

"This is not a short-term event," Fering said by phone. "This is going to take several years, if not a decade, to fully achieve structural recovery."

The virus was first reported in China in August. Since then, there have been more than 140 outbreaks, forcing the nation to boost meat imports. While the government has tightened animal-safety controls, the structure of the country's hog industry, with many backyard operations, has made it harder to stop the spread of disease.

China has boosted its pork imports, but demand has also increased for other meats in substitution. The nation's consumers

"aren't discriminating between a disease that only affects the hog and what can be transmitted to humans," turning them off from wanting to eat pork and reducing consumption, Mizuho said in a report last month.

"Substitution to alternative sources is one part of the solution to close the gap" between protein supply and demand, Fering said. Poultry is likely to be the top beneficiary, both in terms of China's domestic market and overseas, he said. Eggs will come second, followed by beef and aquaculture.

The switch to poultry is helping to keep China's demand for soybean meal from cratering, Fering said. Prices are also attractive relative to other vegetable proteins, helping keep soy meal in feed rations, he said.

"Given the severity of the disease challenge we've confronted, it hasn't been quite as negative on soybean meal demand as we might've expected," he said.

While Cargill says shipment flows are currently hard to predict, the Minneapolis-based company said it's well-positioned to benefit due to its global asset footprint and its ability to respond to rapid changes in global trade.

"This is our core competency. It's the business we've been in for a very long time," he said. "Cargill and our leading competitors are pretty well equipped from a business, geographic presence and asset base." BLOOMBERG

Regulator drafts rules on liquidity support for security firms

CHINA'S securities regulator is soliciting public opinions over a rule allowing a state fund to bail out securities companies that "face significant liquidity risk," according to an online note from the China Securities Regulatory Commission.

The rule also regulates the methods and sources of liquidity support securities firms can seek -- ranging from asset sales to seeking assistance from shareholders or other brokerages.

The regulation is under public review until August 5, according to the note. It didn't disclose when the rule would be implemented.

In late June, the People's Bank of China allowed brokerages to issue more debt as officials sought to ease a funding strain spurred by the government seizure of a bank. That month the central bank and the securities regulator called on major banks and brokerages to increase financing support to smaller brokers, according to people familiar with the matter. BLOOMBERG

MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

Gov't dismisses US criticism of South China Sea missile tests

CHINA'S military said its recent "live-fire drill" in the South China Sea didn't target any country and wasn't held to achieve specific objectives, after the U.S. denounced the missile tests as "coercive acts."

China fired at least one missile into the sea last weekend and was expected to continue testing until July 3, NBC News reported Tuesday, citing anonymous U.S. officials. The launch occurred while U.S. President Donald Trump was in the region for a series of summits, including a meeting with his Chinese counterpart Xi Jinping on resuming trade talks.

"The relevant report does not match the facts," the Chinese Ministry of National Defense said in a fax to Bloomberg News. It said the drill was a part of its annual training plan organized by the Southern Theater Command.

The Chinese statement refers to an exercise "in nearby waters" of Hainan Island, while Pentagon spokesman Dave Eastburn said the missile launch was near the Spratly Islands, roughly 1,000 kilometers south of Hainan in the South China Sea.

China asserts control of more than 80% of the South China Sea, overlapping with claims by Brunei, Malaysia, the Philippines, Vietnam and Taiwan. BLOOMBERG

Wife of arrested Chinese ex-Interpol president sues agency

ANGELA CHARLTON, PARIS

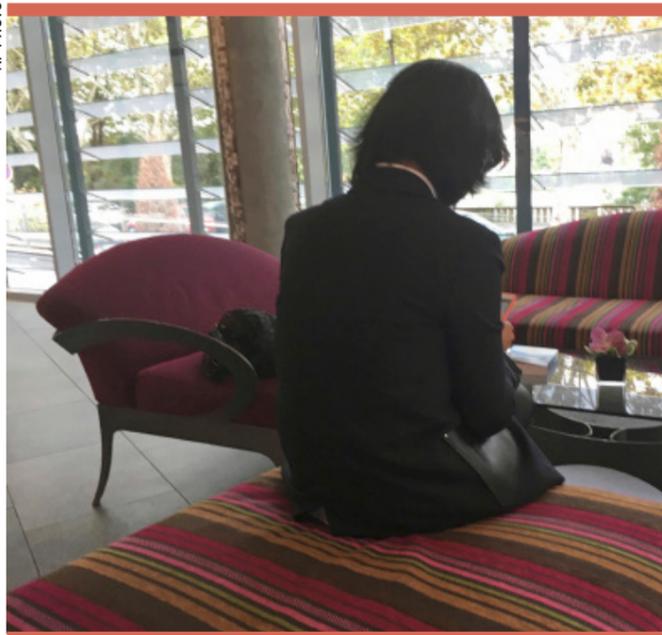
THE wife of former Interpol President Meng Hongwei is suing the international police agency, accusing Interpol of failing to protect him from arrest in China and failing to protect his family.

Meng's wife Grace Meng said her lawyers filed a legal complaint in the Permanent Court of Arbitration in The Hague, Netherlands. In a statement sent to The Associated Press, she says Interpol "breached its obligations owed to my family" and "is complicit in the internationally wrongful acts of its member country, China."

Interpol said yesterday it strongly disputes the allegations.

The court in The Hague did not respond to requests for comment. Such cases generally take many months to settle, and its proceedings and rulings are not made public.

Meng Hongwei was arrested in September amid a campaign against corruption



AP PHOTO

and political disloyalty led by Chinese President Xi Jinping. A Chinese court said Meng confessed last month to accepting more than USD2 million in bribes, but his wife calls the case "fake" and politically driven.

The arrest, shrouded in secrecy, was a troubling episode

for Interpol.

Meng — who was elected Interpol president in 2016 but retained responsibilities as Chinese vice minister of public security — vanished into custody while visiting China. Interpol was not informed about the detention, and was forced to ask China

about his whereabouts.

After the arrest, Grace Meng and her family stayed in France, where Interpol is based. She said she received threats, and was put under French police protection.

Interpol's general secretariat said in a statement yesterday that it "forcefully disputes" any wrongdoing.

The agency said the arbitration case was filed in April by lawyers representing Meng and his family, and says the allegations are "legally baseless." Interpol says the proceedings are meant to be confidential.

Interpol denies the agency "had any involvement with China's actions" against Meng.

There are suspicions Meng fell out of political favor with Xi, who has come down hard on corruption and perceived disloyalty in what observers say is a campaign calculated to strengthen party control while bringing down potential challengers to his authority. AP

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NORTH KOREA

Official says released Australian student was spying

KIM TONG-HYUNG, SEOUL

NORTH Korea said Saturday that an Australian student who it detained for a week had spread anti-Pyongyang propaganda and engaged in spying by providing photos and other materials to news outlets with critical views toward the North.

Pyongyang's official Korean Central News Agency, or KCNA, said North Korea deported Alek Sigley on Thursday after he pleaded for forgiveness for his activities, which the agency said infringed on the country's sovereignty.

North Korea has been accused in the past of detaining Westerners and using them as political pawns to gain concessions. KCNA provided few details about Sigley's alleged spying activities other than that he, at the "instigation" of the media outlets, provided them with photos and data that he had collected.

North Korea, which closely monitors visitors and enforces a stringent information blockade on its citizens, is extremely sensitive about controlling the flow of information, which made Sigley, who had a lively presence on Twitter, an anomaly in the country.

Sigley arrived in Tokyo on Thursday after telling reporters he was in "very good" condition, but without saying what happened to him. His father, Gary Sigley, a professor of Asian studies at the University of Western Aus-

AP PHOTO



tralia, said his son was treated well in North Korea.

Sigley had been studying at a Pyongyang university and guiding tours in the North Korean capital before disappearing from social media contact with family and friends.

KCNA said Sigley, who was caught "red-handed" by a "relevant institution" of the North on June 25, had abused his status as

a student by "combing" through Pyongyang and providing photos and other information to news sites such as NK News and other "anti-DPRK" media, a reference to the North's formal name, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. The news agency said the North expelled Sigley out of "humanitarian leniency."

"He honestly admitted his spying acts of systematically col-

lecting and offering data about the domestic situation of the DPRK and repeatedly asked for pardon, apologizing for encroachment upon the sovereignty of the DPRK," the agency said.

The North had not commented on Sigley before Saturday.

Sigley was released following intervention by Swedish diplomats. After his arrival in Beijing, he went to Tokyo to reunite with his

Japanese wife, who he married in Pyongyang last year.

During his time in North Korea, Sigley often shared details about his life in Pyongyang through social media and the website of his travel agency, Tongil Tours, frequently challenging negative outside perceptions about the North and at times boasting about the extraordinary freedom he had as one of the few foreign students living there.

He also wrote op-eds and essays that appeared in the Western media, including NK News, although none of them seemed outwardly critical about the North's government and political system.

In a statement published on its site, NK News CEO Chad O'Carroll said it would be a "misrepresentation" for the North to describe the articles Sigley wrote for the outlet as anti-state. He said NK News is an independent, specialist information website that aims to provide objective news and analysis about North Korea.

"Alek Sigley's well-read columns presented an apolitical and insightful view of life in Pyongyang which we published in a bid to show vignettes of ordinary daily life in the capital to our readers," O'Carroll said.

"The six articles Alek published represent the full extent of his work with us and the idea that those columns, published transparently under his name between January and April 2019, are 'anti-state' in nature is a misrepresentation which we reject," he said.

Sigley's ordeal had a much happier ending than that of American college student Otto Warmbier, who was convicted of attempting to steal a propaganda poster and imprisoned in North Korea. Warmbier died shortly after being sent back home to the U.S. in a vegetative state in June 2017. AP

Seized North Korean ship sought for American student's death

JIM MUSTIAN, NEW YORK

THE parents of Otto Warmbier have filed a claim for a seized North Korean cargo ship, seeking to collect on a multimillion-dollar judgment awarded in the American college student's death.

The Warmbiers filed court papers Wednesday in New York federal court saying they have a right to the assets after North Korea failed to respond to a wrongful death claim that accused it of abducting Warmbier, who had traveled there for a guided tour ahead of a study abroad program in Hong Kong.



The Warmbiers say their son was tortured after being convicted of trying to steal a propaganda poster and imprisoned for months.

He suffered severe brain damage, but doctors were

unable to determine was led to it. The 22-year-old died days after being returned to the U.S. in a vegetative state in 2017.

"The Warmbiers are committed to holding North

Korea accountable for the death of their son Otto, and will work tirelessly to seize North Korean assets wherever they may be found," Ben Hatch, an attorney for the family, said in an emailed statement.

North Korea has rejected accusations by relatives that it tortured Warmbier and said he was provided "medical treatments and care with all sincerity."

President Donald Trump has condemned Warmbier's treatment but said earlier this year he did not believe North Korea's leader, Kim Jong Un, knew about it or would have allowed it to happen.

North Korea did not respond to the wrongful death lawsuit that accused it of detaining Warmbier at the Pyongyang airport "in an attempt to extract various concessions from the United States government."

U.S. District Judge Beryl Howell ruled last year that North Korea "more likely than not barbarically tortured Otto to extract a false confession" and used his lengthy prison sentence as leverage to further its foreign policy objectives.

She ordered North Korea to pay USD501 million for its "barbaric mistreatment" of Warmbier,

saying the student's family "experienced North Korea's brutality first-hand."

In the latest court filings, Warmbier's parents claim a right to the North Korean cargo ship, which the U.S. seized in May because it was carrying coal in violation of U.N. sanctions.

The vessel, North Korea's second-largest cargo ship, was first detained in April 2018 by Indonesia while transporting a large amount of coal. The U.S. later announced it had seized the 17,061-ton carrier in a first-of-its kind enforcement that came amid a tense moment in relations with North Korea. AP

MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

MYANMMAR

Protesters demand justice after

PYAE SONE WIN, YANGON

HUNDREDS of people marched to Myanmar's Central Investigation Department on Saturday to demand justice for a 2-year-old girl who was allegedly raped at her nursery school in the country's capital in May.

A 29-year-old suspect, Aung Kyaw Myo, was rearrested on Wednesday and charged in the case the next day, Myanmar's deputy police chief, Aung Naing Thu, told reporters on Friday in Naypyitaw, the capital.

Aung Kyaw Myo was initially arrested in May but was released by a court due to a lack of evidence. Many people in Myanmar have taken to Facebook to say that he has been wrongfully accused, and that the actual attacker is still at large.

Human Rights activist Nickey Diamond, who joined Saturday's march in Yangon with his family, called on the government to form a special investigation committee.

"Myanmar has signed the Convention on the Rights of the Child and it has to protect children," Diamond said. "As far as



we could see from the government investigation activities and the statements that police put out, we have seen some dubious facts."

The girl was 2 years, 11 months old when she was allegedly raped at her school on May 16. Her mother opened a complaint at a police station the following day, according to local media reports.

Marchers on Saturday held banners and wore white shirts with "Justice for Victoria" emblazoned on them. Victoria is the ni-

ckname that people in Myanmar have given the young girl.

Police Lieutenant Zar Mae Phone Ram said 1,200 people took part in the march, while Aung Htike Min, one of the march's organizers, said over 6,000 participated.

Those taking part included parents and their children, as well as senior citizens.

"We also have a young daughter in our family. We don't want this kind of thing to happen again in the country," said 39-year-old bu-

usiness manager Hnin Yu Marn, who joined the march along with her family. "We want justice. We don't want innocent to be accused."

Aung Htike Min said the march was organized to "demand justice," adding, "We want transparency."

Government spokesman Zaw Htay said on his Facebook page on June 30 that the president's office wants justice for the girl, but that an investigation would take some time. AP

Indian officials identify bodies of 3 British climbers

THE bodies of three of the four British climbers who were part of an eight-member international expedition to a Himalayan peak have been identified and handed over to British High Commission officials, an Indian official said Saturday.

District Magistrate Vijay Kumar Jogdande said the fate of veteran British mountaineer Martin Moran, who led the expedition to Nanda Devi East in northern India, is still not known, with three bodies yet to be identified. An Indian climber's body was identified earlier in the week.

Moran led three other Britons, two Americans, an Australian and an Indian on the expedition. Contact with the team was lost on May 26 following an avalanche. The seven bodies were retrieved from a mountain range earlier this week.

The search for the eighth climber has been called off due to poor weather conditions.

AD

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Obstetrics & Gynaecology : Dr. Fong Kuan Io

Plastic & Aesthetic Surgery : Dr. Lam U Lin

Orthopaedic Surgery & Sports Medicine : Dr. Lam Kun Kuan

ENT : Dr. Cheng Zheng Ang

Cardiology : Dr. Wong Kwok Yiu Chris, Dr. Jim Chun, Dr. Leong Man Kin

Gastroentero-Hepatology : Dr. Zhan De Juan

General Medicine : Dr. Ng Kam Hong, Dr. Lam Weng Chio

Dietitian : Chan Lai U Joey

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GREGORY KATZ, LONDON

Top UK diplomat in USA criticizes Trump in leaked memos

LEAKED diplomatic cables reveal that Britain's ambassador to the United States regards President Donald Trump's administration as inept, hobbled by infighting, and unlikely to improve.

The memos published in the Mail yesterday newspaper contain highly critical comments from Ambassador Kim Darroch about the current state of Trump's government, providing a rare look at how a senior British diplomat views the government of Britain's closest ally.

"We don't really believe this administration is going to become substantially more normal; less dysfunctional; less unpredictable; less faction riven; less diplomatically clumsy and inept," Darroch wrote in one of a series of leaked documents covering the period from 2017 to the present.

Britain's Foreign Office did not challenge the authenticity of the leaked documents. It called the leak "mischievous behavior" and said the public expects diplomats to provide honest assessments of the politics in the countries where they are posted.

Justice Secretary David Gauke called the leak "disgraceful" but said Britain "should expect our ambassadors to tell the truth, as they see it."

The memos also characterized Trump's policy on Iran as "incoherent, chaotic." Trump has frustrated European allies by withdrawing the United States from a complex deal designed to prevent Tehran from obtaining nuclear weapons and has seemed in recent weeks to be on the verge of armed conflict with Iran.

AP PHOTO



The ambassador said he did not believe Trump's public explanation for calling off a planned military strike against Iran last month.

Darroch said there are doubts about whether the White House "will ever look competent" and that the only way to communi-

cate with the president is by being simple and blunt.

He said that while Trump had been "dazzled" by British pageantry on a state visit hosted by Queen Elizabeth II in June, the successful visit would not lead to a fundamental shift in Trump's priorities.

"This is still the land of America First," he wrote.

Darroch's views may lead to some awkwardness, especially since Trump said shortly after his election in 2016 that Brexiteer Nigel Farage would make an excellent British ambassador to the United States.

Trump has not hesitated to inject himself into Britain's political fray, repeatedly criticizing Prime Minister Theresa May's Brexit negotiating strategy and praising both Farage and former Foreign Secretary Boris Johnson, a strong contender to become the next prime minister. AP

Greeks vote in 1st parliamentary election since bailout end

ELENA BECATOROS,
ATHENS

GREEKS voted yesterday in the first parliamentary election since their country emerged from three successive international bailouts still struggling with a crippling nearly decade-long financial crisis.

Opinion polls have suggested Greeks are set to defy the recent European trend of increasing support for populist parties, with conservative opposition party leader Kyriakos Mitsotakis a clear favorite to win.

Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras called the vote three months earlier than originally planned after his left-wing Syriza party suffered a stinging defeat in European and local elections in May and early June.

Tsipras, 44, hopes to over-

AP PHOTO



turn a sizeable gap in opinion polls running up to yesterday's vote. He has increasingly been appealing to the middle class, which has been struggling under a heavy tax burden, much of it imposed by his government.

"It's a crucial battle, we fight it with optimism, we fight it with determination until the last minute," Tsi-

pras said after casting his ballot in central Athens in the morning. "So that the sacrifices and efforts of our nation do not go to waste, so the course of our country forward is not interrupted."

Tsipras appealed to young people to turn up at the ballot boxes and "not leave the crucial decision for their lives and their future

to others." The voting age has been extended to 16 for the first time in national elections, provided the voter turns 17 within 2019.

But Mitsotakis, the 51-year-old son of a former prime minister and brother of a former foreign minister, has managed to build a sizeable lead in opinion polls that he has held over the past three years. He pledges to make Greece more business-friendly, attract foreign investment, modernize the country's notorious bureaucracy and cut taxes, and has fought to shed the image of family privilege.

"Today voters take the decision for their future in their hands," Mitsotakis said after voting. "I am sure that tomorrow, a better day dawns for our nation."

Yesterday's vote comes as the country gradually emer-

ges from a brutal financial crisis that saw unemployment and poverty levels skyrocket, and Greece's economy slashed by a quarter. Greece was dependent for survival until last summer on international bailouts, and had to impose deep reforms, including massive spending cuts and tax hikes, to qualify for the rescue loans.

Tsipras led his small Coalition of the Radical Left, or Syriza, party to power in 2015 on promises to repeal the austerity measures of Greece's first two bailouts. But after months of tumultuous negotiations with international creditors that saw Greece nearly crash out of the European Union's joint currency, he was forced to change tack, signing up to a third bailout and imposing the accompanying spending cuts and tax hikes.

He also cemented a deal with neighboring North Macedonia under which that country changed its name from plain "Macedonia." Although praised by Western allies, the deal angered many Greeks, who consider use of the term harbors expansionist aims on the Greek province of the same name.

While Mitsotakis is the clear favorite to win, the number of smaller parties making it into parliament could determine whether he has enough seats in the 300-member body to form a government. He would need at least 151 to be able to govern without forming a coalition with another party.

Those casting ballots early in the morning were mostly elderly, and some expressed dissatisfaction with the overall political situation. AP

what's ON



SANDS PRESENTS: ALL THAT'S GOLD DOES GLITTER – AN EXHIBITION OF GLAMOROUS CERAMICS
 TIME: 24 hours
 UNTIL: October 9, 2019
 VENUE: The Venetian Macao, The Parisian Macao, Sands Macao & Four Seasons Hotel Macao
 ADMISSION: Free
 ENQUIRIES: (853) 2882 8888

MACAU SCIENCE CENTRE
 TIME: 10am-6pm daily (Except on Thursdays; open on public holidays)
 VENUE: Macau Science Center
 ADMISSION: MOP25 (Exhibition Centre)
 MOP60 (Planetarium 2D dome or 2D sky shows)
 MOP80 (Planetarium 3D dome or 3D sky shows)
 ENQUIRIES: (853) 2888 0822

MANDARIN'S HOUSE
 TIME: 10am-6pm daily (Last admission at 5:30pm; closed on Wednesdays, open on public holidays)
 ADDRESS: No. 10, Travessa de António da Silva
 ADMISSION: Free
 ENQUIRIES: (853) 2896 8820

TREASURE OF SACRED ART OF ST. JOSEPH'S SEMINARY
 TIME: 10am-5pm daily (Closed on Wednesdays, open on public holidays)
 VENUE: St. Joseph's Seminary and Church, Rua do Seminário
 ADMISSION: Free
 ENQUIRIES: (853) 2835 7911

SEE SAW ZINE?
 TIME: 12pm-8pm (Closed on Tuesdays)
 UNTIL: July 12, 2019
 VENUE: Taipa Village Art Space
 ADMISSION: Free
 ENQUIRIES: (853) 2857 6212/ 2857 6118

WYNN PRESENTS: GARDEN OF EARTHLY DELIGHTS
 TIME: 10am-10pm
 UNTIL: October 6, 2019
 VENUE: Wynn Macau and Wynn Palace
 ADMISSION: Free
 ENQUIRIES: (853) 6882 2839

Offbeat

POLICE AND RESIDENTS RESCUE 6-FOOT SNAKE FROM CAR ENGINE

Police and bystanders teamed up to rescue a 6-foot-long (1.8-meter-long) snake that had wrapped itself around the engine block of a car in Connecticut. East Windsor police say the reptile had to be removed from a resident's vehicle on Thursday. Police wrote in Facebook post that it "was not exactly the call" they were expecting on the July Fourth holiday. Later, they said: "This may surprise you but we, the police, are not normally in the business of wrangling snakes." The reptile was put in a crate and will be turned over to a nature center. Police said the snake might have been a boa constrictor and speculated that it was an escaped pet. They tried calling an animal control officer or another expert, but none were available because of the holiday.

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
18:15	Amor Maior (Repetição)
19:00	Volta ao Mundo
19:35	Os Nossos Dias Sr.2
20:30	Telejornal
21:15	TDM Talk Show
21:50	Livros com João Guedes
22:00	Todas as Palavras
22:25	Amor Maior
23:15	TDM News
23:50	Educação em Macau - Acção Social e Equipamento Escolar
00:20	Telejornal (Repetição)
01:05	RTPi Directo

cinema



CINETEATRO
04 - 05 Jul



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

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

TOY STORY 2
 ROOM 2
 4:30, 7:30, 9:15pm
 Director: Josh Cooley
 Starring: Will Smith, Mena Massoud, Naomi Scott
 Language: Chinese
 Duration: 109min

MEN IN BLACK: INTERNATIONAL
 ROOM 2
 9:30pm
 Director: F. Gary Gray
 Starring: Tom Hanks, Tim Allen, Annie Potts
 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: Ryōta Nakano
 Starring: Yū Aoi, Yūto Kamata, Chieko Matsubara
 Language: Japanese (Chinese & English)
 Duration: 127min

this day in history



2000: NEW HARRY POTTER MOST MAGICAL YET

The latest story about boy wizard Harry Potter has broken all publishing records. The fourth instalment of JK Rowling's series has been released simultaneously on both sides of the Atlantic with an initial print-run of 5.3m - 1.5m in the UK and 3.8m in the US. In Britain the usual run for children's books is 20,000. The content of the new story has been closely guarded - no review copies were issued - but the author revealed someone close to Harry dies. Many bookshops opened specially in the middle of the night and laid on wizard-related entertainments so that fans could buy Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire as soon as it was released for sale at midnight. Others waited for the 640-page book to arrive through the letterbox after ordering online. Internet bookseller Amazon sold 400,000 copies worldwide and expected to deliver 53 tonnes of the book to British readers. Staff in the distribution centre in Milton Keynes worked overnight to ensure all orders went out yesterday. Priced £9.99 for paperback and £14.99 for hardback the book is being widely distributed across the UK - including to roadside restaurants - but booksellers still think it will sell out. The first three books - beginning with Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone in 1997 - have sold 35m copies in 31 languages. Last year the Edinburgh-based author, a single mother, earned £14.5m in royalties, advances and film rights. JK Rowling left King's Cross Station at 1127 BST today on a specially created Hogwarts Express - the fictional train to wizard school - on a promotional tour to Scotland. Her previous story, Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban, was shortlisted for the Library Association's Carnegie Medal - the top award for children's writing - but the prize went to Aidan Chambers and Postcards From No Man's Land at the ceremony last night.

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

Ms Rowling published one book each year until 2001 when the first film - Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone - was released in November. The film cost £110m and was directed by Christopher Columbus. It became the second most popular film of all time - behind Titanic - grossing £649m (\$926m) at cinemas around the world. Born on the Welsh borders, Joanne Kathleen Rowling moved to Edinburgh with her baby daughter, after her first marriage ended and began writing whilst she was on the dole. She dreamt up Harry Potter when she was stuck on a train between London and Manchester in 1990. Seven books have been written altogether.

MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

YOUR STARS

<p>Aries  Mar. 21-Apr. 19 You have the power to succeed today — even if it feels like you're losing ground. Just keep pushing yourself. Things may look dark early in the morning, but by tonight you should see a glimmer of hope.</p>	<p>Taurus  Apr. 20-May. 20 Your earthy nature asserts itself in a big way today, but that may put off those with their heads in the clouds. You should just ignore them and let them enjoy their silly fantasies — you've got work to do!</p>
<p>Gemini  May. 21-Jun. 21 You rely on others to help get your own business done, but today you may be on your own. Things aren't terrible just yet, but you may want to take extra time for all your important tasks.</p>	<p>Cancer  Jun. 22-Jul. 22 You feel a new sense of balance today — though it might come at a cost. See if you can just enjoy what you've got and worry about the consequences when they actually start to affect you.</p>
<p>Leo  Jul. 23-Aug. 22 You're making great progress toward some personal goal — but you need to keep it personal for now. Let others take center stage, and they will have more time and attention for you later.</p>	<p>Virgo  Aug. 23-Sep. 22 Your romantic world is spinning a little faster — so take a chance or snuggle up with your sweetheart! All that great energy needs to be shared with someone, and you can feel it when it's right.</p>
<p>Libra  Sep. 23-Oct. 22 Be wary of new situations — something isn't quite right, though that's not to say you need to avoid dealing with it entirely! Just make sure you're careful to see the bad as well as</p>	<p>Scorpio  Oct. 23-Nov. 21 Your potent energy is the driving force behind today's big mission — so make sure that you're talking it up or inspiring others to the cause. Things should start to look really good this evening.</p>
<p>Sagittarius  Nov. 22-Dec. 21 You are firmly committed to doing it all yourself today, whether it's making your own lunch or building your own shed. Whatever it takes to get it done is readily available in your skill</p>	<p>Capricorn  Dec. 22-Jan. 19 You need to deal with all this energy in a positive way — which isn't such a hard task for you! Just make sure that you're actively engaged with everything that needs to happen by tonight.</p>
<p>Aquarius  Jan. 20-Feb. 18 You're more tired than you feel you ought to be, so go easy on yourself and make sure that you're delegating responsibilities as much as you can. There's not much point in driving yourself to exhaustion!</p>	<p>Pisces  Feb. 19-Mar. 20 Your assistance is needed in a big way — so ask around or look for opportunities to save the day. Things may move slowly at first, but once you enter the picture, the pace picks up considerably.</p>

The Born Loser by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

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

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

WEATHER

	MIN	MAX	CONDITION
CHINA			
Beijing	24	38	clear
Harbin	14	28	cloudy
Tianjin	27	39	clear
Urumqi	23	33	clear
Xi'an	22	34	cloudy
Lhasa	12	22	drizzle
Chengdu	21	24	shower
Chongqing	24	28	drizzle
Kunming	18	27	shower
Nanjing	23	30	cloudy
Shanghai	22	28	overcast
Wuhan	25	30	drizzle
Hangzhou	24	28	drizzle
Taipei	26	30	drizzle
Guangzhou	25	32	moderate rain
Hong Kong	26	30	rainstorm
WORLD			
Moscow	11	18	drizzle
Frankfurt	12	27	clear
Paris	15	28	clear
London	12	24	clear
New York	22	30	cloudy

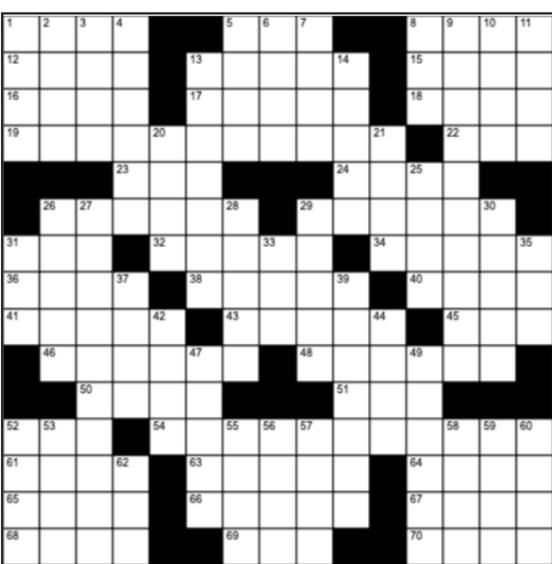
CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- Ayatollah's predecessor; 5- Victorian, for one; 8- Increases; 12- One of the Jackson 5; 13- Put into office; 15- Roll-call response; 16- Switch ending; 17- Passageway; 18- Quarrel; 19- Measure of the warmth or coldness; 22- ACLU concerns; 23- WWII craft; 24- Boot bottom; 26- Attack with severe criticism; 29- Seaport in NE Italy; 31- Always, to poets; 32- "The Zoo Story" playwright; 34- Look happy; 36- Tough trip; 38- A long time; 40- ___ of Eden; 41- Stigma; 43- Tricks; 45- Acapulco aunt; 46- Finally; 48- Main dish; 50- Memo phrase; 51- ___ Paulo, Brazil; 52- Gun the engine; 54- Large inn; 61- Cut; 63- Renter's sign; 64- Prefix with logical; 65- Choir voice; 66- Ms. Hawkins; 67- Respiratory organ; 68- Utters; 69- Did a marathon; 70- Abominable snowman;

DOWN: 1- Undo a dele; 2- Put on the payroll; 3- Molecule part; 4- Hype; 5- Director Kazan; 6- Breather; 7- Rights advocacy org.; 8- Sounds of understanding; 9- Decline in value; 10- "Darn!"; 11- Hardens; 13- I have no ___ idea; 14- To the point; 20- This, in Tijuana; 21- Ages; 25- Corona fruit; 26- Simmons rival; 27- Originality; 28- "I Hated, Hated, Hated This Movie" author; 29- Chapter's partner; 30- Borden bovine; 31- S.A.T. company; 33- Vichy water; 35- Plato's H; 37- Brick baker; 39- Feeling; 42- DEA agent; 44- Ollie's partner; 47- Chairs; 49- Brightly; 52- Some DVD players; 53- Scat queen; 55- Jungle warning; 56- "Scientific American Frontiers" host; 57- Blood line; 58- Together, in scores; 59- Best Musical of 1996; 60- Mediator; 62- Not neg.;

Friday's solution

A	T	A	T	T	I	L		J	I	S	L	E			
L	O	P	E		A	M	B	E	R		R	Y	E	S	
A	F	A	R		M	A	I	N	E		A	S	E	A	
S	U	R	R	O	U	N	D	I	N	G		T	R	U	
A	D	R	O	I	T			L	E	G	U	M	E		
F	B	I		E	N	S	U	E		A	M	A	N	A	
R	A	S	P		G	A	L	A	S		S	T	O	W	
O	C	C	U	R		R	E	N	E	W		I	C	E	
A	O	R	T	A	S		S	N	A	T	C	H			
W	E	E		S	P	E	N	D		T	H	R	I	F	T
H	A	R	E		A	W	I	R	E		A	S	I	A	
O	R	E	O		L	E	N	A	S		D	I	N	T	
A	N	D	S												



Crossword puzzles provided by BestCrosswords.com

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

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



<p>FOR SALE</p>  <p>Pearl on the Lough, Taipa 2,055 ft² HK\$16,980,000 4 2 2</p>	<p>FOR RENT</p>  <p>Soi Cheung Studio, Taipa Village \$9,000/mth 660 ft² 1 1 1</p>	<p>FOR SALE</p> <p>[Taipa] Va Fat 2 2 2 550 ft² \$4,530,000 (ref: 18115566)</p> <p>[Taipa] Manhattan (high floor) 2 4 4 2,305 ft² \$17,980,000 (ref: 18075558)</p> <p>[Taipa] Buckingham 2 2 2 1,439 ft² \$11,770,000 (ref: 19045004)</p> <p>[Taipa] Pearl on the Lough 5 3 3 4,000 ft² \$39,000,000 (ref: 190550065T)</p> <p>[Cotai] One Grantai 4 2 2 2,556 ft² \$25,600,000</p>	<p>FOR RENT</p> <p>[Taipa] Manhattan 3 2 2 1,720 ft² \$23,800/mth (ref: 18110695RT)</p> <p>[Taipa] Nova Grand 2 1 1 986 ft² \$16,000/mth (ref: 19055007RT)</p> <p>[Cotai] Cheoc Van House 3 2 2 \$28,000/mth (ref: 19055009RC)</p> <p>[Taipa] Ocean Gardens 4 4 4 3,700 ft² \$35,000/mth (ref: 18040674)</p> <p>[Macau] San Malo 3 4 4 \$13,000/mth (ref: 19065011RM)</p>
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MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER



actress charged in Thailand for catching giant clams

A South Korean actress has been charged in Thailand with catching endangered giant clams while participating in a reality TV show and could face up to four years in prison if found guilty, an official said Friday. Actress Lee Yeol-eum cheered as she caught the three giant shellfish in a Thai national marine park in March on the survival TV show "The Law of the Jungle." Participants in the show then ate the clams in an episode that aired on June 30.

Narong Kongeiad, chief of Hat Chao Mai National Park, said he filed police charges against Lee for violating wildlife laws by hunting the giant clams. The charge carries a maximum penalty of four years in prison and a fine of up to 40,000 baht (\$1,300). "The Law of the Jungle" has aired since 2011 and places South Korean celebrities in groups that are sent out to test their survival skills in remote locations.

Concerts, fireworks and a military parade mark July Fourth



THE national holiday to mark America's birth as a country was filled with parades, concerts, competitive eating and, of course, fireworks. Boston, Philadelphia, Washington, New York and other places around the country held massive celebrations with big name artists like Jennifer Hudson, Luke Bryan and Carole King. But Independence Day was not free from politics, as President Donald Trump's plan for a celebration in Washington featuring a dis-

play of tanks, fighter jets and a stealth bomber garnered support from some and protests from others. A soggy, cheering crowd of spectators listened to President Donald Trump pay tribute to the U.S. military on the grounds of the Lincoln Memorial. Trump's speech unfolded in occasional rain, and the warplanes and presidential aircraft he had summoned conducted their flyovers as planned, capped by the Navy Blue Angels aerobatics team.

Christie's goes ahead with contested King Tut statue auction

CHRISTIE'S has gone forward with the auction of a 3,000-year-old stone sculpture of the famed boy pharaoh Tutankhamun despite protests from the Egyptian government. The brown quartzite head depicting King Tut sold for more than 4.7 million pounds (USD5.9 million) Thursday evening.

The Egyptian Foreign Ministry had demanded that the auction house provide documents proving the statue's ownership and said Egypt holds rights to the piece based on its current and previous laws. But Christie's defended the sale process. The auction house says it carried out "extensive due diligence" to verify the provenance of the statue and had "gone beyond what is required to assure legal title."

The King Tut represented in art and artifacts is one of the most prominent symbols of ancient Egypt's glory.

The King Tut represented in art and artifacts is one of the most prominent symbols of ancient Egypt's glory.



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TENNIS

Serena Williams 2 for 2 at Wimbledon; wins in singles, mixed

HOWARD FENDRICH,
WIMBLEDON

SERENA Williams walked into her news conference at Wimbledon holding her phone, a cold bottle of water and a statistics sheet that reinforced what was clear from watching her third-round singles victory Saturday:

She is as close to being back to her best as she's been in a while.

Williams, hampered for much of this season by injuries or illness, took a step forward against 18th-seeded Julia Goerges, a powerful hitter in her own right who lost to the American in last year's semifinals at the All England Club. Sure enough, Williams hit serves at up to 120 mph, put in a tournament-best 71 percent of her first serves, never faced so much as one break point and won 6-3, 6-4.

"It's been an arduous year for me," said Williams, who had competed only 12 times in 2019 until this week, mostly because of a bothersome left knee that finally is pain-free. "So every match, I'm hoping to improve tons."

Maybe it was a good thing she played twice Saturday, then.

About 4½ hours after getting past Goerges at No. 1 Court, Williams headed out to Centre Court for her much-ballyhooed debut as Andy Murray's teammate in mixed doubles. Other than one slip near the net when she lost her footing in the first set — she was fine and laughed it off — Williams looked good during the 6-4, 6-1 win against Andreas Mies and Alexa Guarachi, including smacking one serve at 122 mph, equaling the fastest hit in singles by any woman (her, naturally) during the tournament.

"Andy and I both love the competition. I know we both want to do well," Williams said. "We're not here just for show."

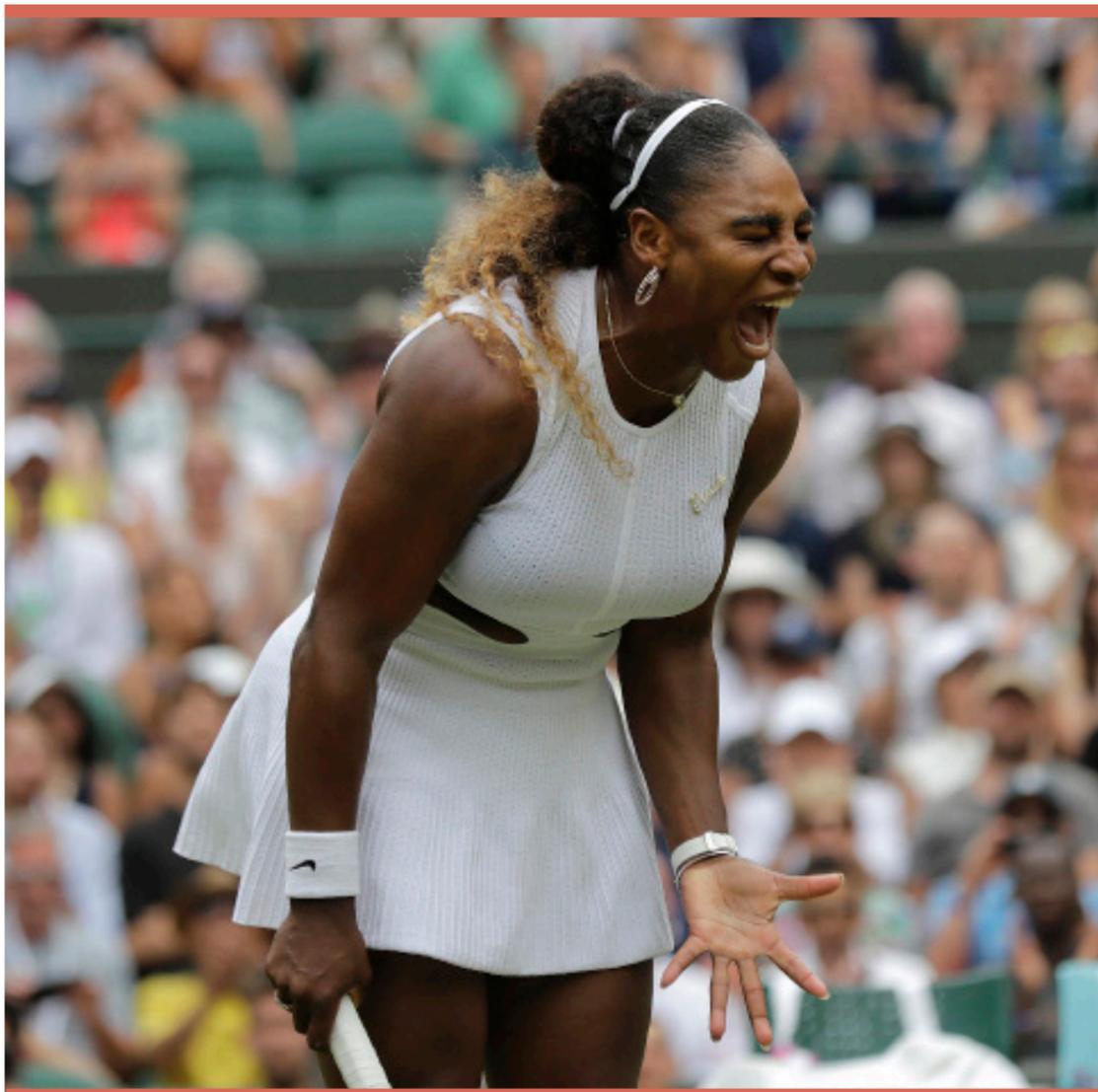
She rarely is.

But if Williams is going to win an eighth singles championship at Wimbledon, and a record-tying 24th Grand Slam singles title overall, she will want more performances like the one she gave against Goerges.

Forceful, yes, but nothing was forced.

"I play pretty good when I'm calm, but also super-intense, just finding the balance in between there," the 37-year-old Williams said. "So it's a hard balance to find, because sometimes when I'm too calm, I don't have enough energy. Still trying to find that

AP PHOTO



balance."

Two more key stats on the paper she brought to her media session: She produced more winners than unforced errors, 19-15, while Goerges finished with 32 forced errors, a reflection of just how difficult Williams can make it for opponents to handle shots she sends their way.

Goerges credited Williams with causing havoc with her returns, as well.

After averaging 10 aces in the

first two rounds, Goerges was limited to half that many.

Of more significance, perhaps, was that Williams' stinging replies to serves immediately put her in control of points.

"It's fair to say that she builds up enormous pressure with her returns," Goerges said. "That means I need to go to the limit in my service games."

After the traditional middle Sunday off, action resumes Monday with all fourth-round men's

and women's singles matches.

Williams, who is seeded 11th, will face No. 30 Carla Suarez Navarro, while the other matchups on the top half of the women's field established Saturday are No. 1 Ash Barty, who has a 15-match winning streak, against unseeded Alison Riske of the U.S.; No. 21 Elise Mertens against Barbora Strycova; and two-time champion Petra Kvitova against No. 19 Johanna Konta of Britain.

On the bottom half, it will be

the 15-year-old American sensation Coco Gauff vs. No. 7 Simona Halep; No. 3 Karolina Pliskova vs. Karolina Muchova; No. 8 Elina Svitolina vs. No. 24 Petra Martic; and Dayana Yastremska vs. Shuai Zhang.

In the men's draw, eight-time champion Roger Federer and two-time winner Rafael Nadal both won in straight sets Saturday to move closer to a semifinal showdown. Federer's record 17th visit to the fourth round at Wimbledon will come against No. 17 Matteo Berrettini, an Italian never before this far at the grass-court tournament.

"For me, I'm very happy how it's going so far," said Federer, a 7-5, 6-2, 7-6 (4) winner over No. 27 Lucas Pouille. "I hope it's going to take a special performance from somebody to stop me, not just a mediocre performance."

Nadal, who defeated Jo-Wilfried Tsonga 6-2, 6-3, 6-2, meets unseeded Joao Sousa next.

No. 8 Kei Nishikori meets Mikhail Kukushkin, and Sam Querrey plays Tennys Sandgren in the first Week 2 matchup at Wimbledon between two American men since Pete Sampras beat Jan-Michael Gambill in the 2000 quarterfinals.

Kukushkin's four-set victory over Jan-Lennard Struff at Court 12 was interrupted when a 60-year-old female spectator had to be resuscitated after collapsing.

Sandgren beat No. 12 Fabio Fognini 6-3, 7-6 (12), 6-3 at tiny Court 14, with its 318 seating capacity. Fognini unleashed a tirade in Italian at one moment, saying he wanted a bomb to explode at the All England Club. He later said his comments came in the

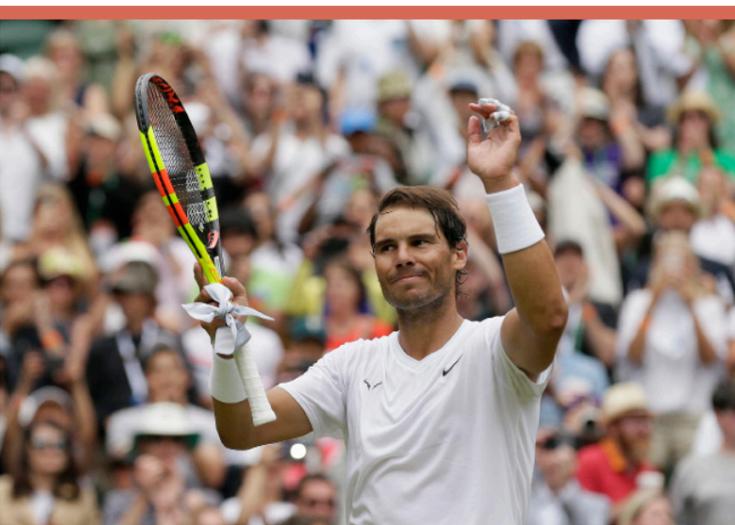
heat of the moment because he was upset about not playing well and the condition of the court's grass.

"If I offended anyone, I apologize," said the volatile Fognini, who was fined \$27,500 at Wimbledon in 2014 for unsportsmanlike conduct and is in a Grand Slam probationary period after getting kicked out of the 2017 U.S. Open. "That definitely wasn't my intention." AP

AP PHOTO



Serena Williams and playing partner Andy Murray during a mixed doubles match



Spain's Rafael Nadal reacts after beating Jo-Wilfried Tsonga of France

OPINION

Rear Window

Severo Portela



PEPPER SPRAY & BATONS

...and the occasional downpour of rubber bullets, were found to be the appropriate answer to contain the huge crowds assembled to demand the dumping of the extradition bill and Carrie Lam's resignation as troubled Chief Executive. The same recipe of soft weaponry, and an updated and upgraded display of police containment tactics, succeeded in outmaneuvering the demonstrators from breaking into the Legislative Council chambers, thus keeping undisturbed the official celebrations of the 22th anniversary of the handover of Hong Kong to China.

(Conventional wisdom reminds us of a security police scarcely equipped in the 1989 Tiananmen bloodshed, meaning, no pepper spray, no batons, no rubber bullets, which led officials to resort to military force).

That same night, meeting the press, an utterly composed and icy CE, and a Commissioner of Police hardly disguising his satisfaction with the outcome of the standoff between police and the Legislative Council trespassers, could not but hear the fiery HK press corps all but blurring the line of reporting by shouting trap. Indeed, it looked like police intelligence had been playing with the same features that supported this wave of demonstrations: loosely inorganic, loosely disguised, loosely connected through social media.

Precious footage showed the police force allegedly making room for the hotheaded bunch surrounding Legco offices to break into solid glass with the help of a shopping cart and some traffic piles. Enter they did, to let loose a colorful track of political signs as a self-indictment in vandalism. Yes, it was easily predicted and looked like a staged play on democracy with graffiti, something about electrical boxes, a Bauhinia defaced in black ink, and yes, a mysterious white powder. Believe it or not, even the Union Jack was on display in the House of the Legislature. However as far as politics in the SAR is concerned all begins and ends here.

It begins with the reducing of the so-called "extreme violence," to "violence," down to "vandalism," and the elimination of all political meaning of the signs left on the walls of Legco, and it ends with Carrie Lam's call for order and stability. On one hand, it points to internal security and the police commissioner's handling of the non-political hooliganism issues; on another hand, it feeds that murky script of an understandable matter gone astray with the violence of youngsters, soon to be rejected by the wise, sensible and moderate majority. It is another invitation to a social contract to be based on the dialectic play of moderation and leniency.

The final touch of Carrie Lam's performance on July 1st would be the candid offer to suspend the extradition bill, allowing it to languish until 2020, to expire quietly; instead of answering to the calls of 2 million people from civil society and withdraw the "evil law!" And the skillful manner with which she denounced the tipping point of the civil request to freeze for good any extradition to the mainland as against the rule of law. The rule of law is the important, likewise it was a matter of simple compliance with few checks and balances. But these would be the red lines Lam has to abide with as former governor Patten has said, "a person who is in post, not in power."

Contempt, absolute or not, from different opinions, is not the best tool to disengage Hong Kong's vibrant civil society from reacting against the actual erosion of its autonomy. So much more amid suspicions which warn against the growing power of surveillance technologies.

The year of red flags has not ended yet. Besides the historical 70th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China on the First of October, Hong Kong goes through District Council Elections on November 24. In September 2020, it will be the Legco Elections.

The likeness of Melania Trump has been carved in wood in her native Slovenia.

A life-size sculpture of the U.S. first lady has been unveiled in her hometown of Sevnica, drawing mixed reactions from the locals.

The rustic figure was cut from the trunk of a linden tree, showing her in a pale blue dress like the one she wore at Donald Trump's presidential inauguration. Her face is depicted in a naive local style. It is the work of American artist Brad Downey, who is also

showing photos of the statue in an exhibition in the Slovenian capital, Ljubljana.

The first lady, born Melanija Knaus, changed her name to Melania Knauss when she started modeling. She settled in New York in 1996 and met Trump two years later.

Since the inauguration, the first lady has triggered mixed reactions in Slovenia, ranging from adoration, to criticism that she has not done enough to promote her small Alpine state.

bossa nova pioneer
Joao Gilberto dies at 88

JOAO Gilberto, a Brazilian singer, guitarist and songwriter considered one of the fathers of the bossa nova genre that gained global popularity in the 1960s and became an iconic sound of the South American nation, died on Saturday, his son said. He was 88.

Joao Marcelo said his father had been battling health issues though no official cause of his death in Rio de Janeiro was given. "His struggle was noble. He tried to maintain his dignity in the light of losing his independence," Marcelo posted on Facebook.

A fusion of samba and jazz, bossa nova emerged in the late 1950s and gained a worldwide following in the 1960s, pioneered by Gilberto and Antonio Carlos Jobim, who composed the iconic The Girl From Ipanema that was performed by Gilberto and others. His wife Astrud Gilberto made her vocal debut in the song.

Self-taught, Gilberto said he discovered music at age 14 when he held a guitar in his hands for the first time. With his unique playing style and modern jazz influences, he created the beat that defined bossa nova, helping launch the genre with his song "Bim-Bom."

By 1961, Gilberto had finished the albums that would make bossa nova known around the world:



Id: "Chega de Saudade," "Love, A Smile and A Flower," and "Joao Gilberto." His 1964 album Getz/Gilberto with U.S. saxophonist Stan Getz sold millions of copies.

"It was Joao Gilberto, the greatest genius of Brazilian music, who was the definitive influence on my music," singer Gal Costa wrote on social media. "He will be missed but his legacy is very important to Brazil and to the world."

Born in Bahia in northeastern Brazil, Gilberto moved to Rio de Janeiro at a young age. He was influenced by U.S. jazz greats and recorded songs in the United States where he lived for much of the 1960s and 1970.

Over his career he won two Grammy awards and was nominated for six, and the U.S. jazz magazine DownBeat in 2009 named him one of the 75 great guitarists in history and one of the five top jazz singers.

An entire subsequent generation of Brazilian musicians, including Gilberto Gil, Chico Buarque and Caetano Veloso, are considered his disciples.

The musician had spent his final years wrapped in legal troubles, debts and disputes with his children. His last live performance was in 2008 and he canceled a commemorative show to mark his 80th year because of health problems. MDT/AP

Iran said it would pursue nuclear talks with European nations in the coming days, while ratcheting up pressure on its partners to salvage the landmark 2015 deal by announcing it had abandoned restrictions on uranium enrichment.



Bahamas Accident investigators in the Bahamas say they have recovered the helicopter that crashed after taking off from a remote private island on July 4, killing coal billionaire Chris Cline and six other Americans, as well as a British citizen.



Greece Citizens voted yesterday in the first parliamentary election since their country emerged from three successive international bailouts still struggling with a crippling nearly decade-long financial crisis. More on p15



UK Members of Britain's Conservative Party have started receiving their postal ballots in the contest to choose the country's next prime minister, but concerns emerged that some people have been sent more than one voting paper.



USA Leaked diplomatic cables reveal that Britain's ambassador to the United States regards President Donald Trump's administration as inept, hobbled by infighting, and unlikely to improve. More on p15

THE DECISIVE MOMENT

AP Photo/Alvaro Barrientos



Dangerous game. Revellers run next to fighting bulls during the running of the bulls at the San Fermin Festival in Pamplona, northern Spain, yesterday. Five people were hospitalized after the opening run, including two Americans and a Spaniard who were gored by bulls.