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THURSDAY 31 Oct 2019



"THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN"

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF Paulo Coutinho

ANIMAL EUTHANASIA TO BECOME LAST RESORT FOR THE MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS BUREAU, USED TO PREVENT THE SPREAD OF DISEASES

FOUNDER & PUBLISHER Kowie Geldenhuys

CHINA BACKS DECISION TO EXCLUDE HK CANDIDATE JOSHUA WONG

JAPANESE POLICE SAID THEY FOUND A BODY ON MOUNT FUJI AND ARE **VERIFYING WHETHER IT IS THE MAN** SEEN FALLING WHILE LIVESTREAMING

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China and the West clashed at the U.N. human rights committee over claims that Beijing systematically oppresses ethnic minority Muslims in far western Xinjiang province.

Myanmar A court has sentenced five members of a traditional theatrical troupe to a year in prison for their gibes about the



Cambodia The police chief for the Cambodian province where British tourist Amelia Bambridge disappeared last week says he fears she has drowned, but land and sea searches for her will



Nepal A mountaineer who smashed the speed record for climbing the world's 14 highest peaks returned safely to Nepal's capital yesterday but said he plans to return to the mountains in three days to guide his clients. More on p18

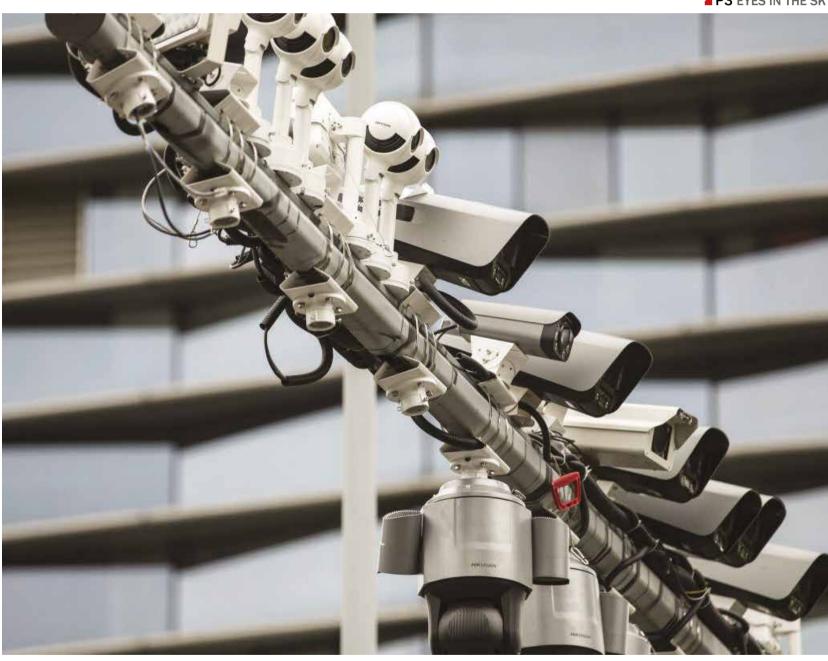


Pakistan Authorities deployed police and put shipping containers in the capital Islamabad ahead of the arrival of a massive antigovernment protest caravan.

Bolivia The government says the Organization of American States is sending a 30-person team to audit a presidential election that the opposition says was rigged to ensure the re-election of leftist President Evo Morales.

More on backpage

REVELATION: MORE CITY CAMERAS THAN THOUGHT





THE NEXT 10 YEARS OF DISASTER PREVENTION DISCLOSED



NAOMI OSAKA SIGNS ON AS MELCO **BRAND AMBASSADOR**



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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

EUTHANIZING ANIMALS TO BE LAST RESORT TO PREVENT DISEASE SPREAD

JULIE ZHU

THE Municipal Affairs Bureau **▲** (IAM) will make euthanizing animals its last resort used to prevent animal disease, the bureau's representatives remarked during yesterday's Legislative Assembly (AL) plenary session.

Secretary for Administration and Justice Sonia Chan and the IAM's representatives presented the veterinary disease prevention bill at the AL vesterday. The bill, which was passed in general terms, suggested that the IAM authorize the right to euthanize animals when necessary.

Lawmakers, including Agnes Lam and Sulu Sou, voiced their concerns about euthanasia. The lawmakers mainly asked about the government's measures in strictly implementing the law when animals must be euthanized. Compensating concerned parties after euthanasia was also proposed by lawmaker Leong Sun Iok.

Sulu Sou proposed the government establish laws to regulate vet clinics and vets. Other lawmakers wondered whether the government has already had discussions with animal protection groups and whether or not the government's



Secretary for Administration and Justice Sonia Chan (center)

proposal is supported by these

Replying to the lawmakers' questions, Sonia Chan said that the local government is drafting a law bill on vet clinics. She acknowledged the importance of managing and accrediting the sector.

Chan noted that vet clinics must report to the IAM when they record an animal disease case. Animal owners are also obliged to make sure their sick animals receive medical treatment.

Generally speaking, animals

received by the IAM will first be sent for isolated observation. During the observation period, the IAM will closely monitor the animals' health and other conditions. The IAM will also provide medical treatment to the animals. Euthanasia will be the IAM's last option.

Regarding compensation to interested parties in the animal business, IAM President José Tavares said that the bureau provides subsidies to the parties instead of "compensation", which means

that the money given, while representing a financial loss, is not governmental compensation but a form of help given to the concerned parties.

He also explained that the IAM has detected sick animals in the past, and that some were euthanized, though not killed in a brutal

Lawmaker Mak Soi Kun then indicated that he wishes the government to handle the stray animal problem in Coloane. In his opinion, Coloane has an excessive number of stray animals, in particular stray dogs, which pose a danger to the public.

"Many residents have told me that there are increasingly more stray dogs," said Mak.

Replying to Mak's comment, the IAM representative said that when stray dogs do not carry diseases, they are passed to local communities for re-homing.

In recent years, on average, the IAM only registered a single-digit number of illegally imported ani-

Besides the animal disease prevention bill, the amendment of the stamp tax bill was generally passed at the Legislative Assembly (AL) yesterday as well. The bill proposed a four- to 10-fold penalty for tax evasion and tax avoidance.

Secretary for Economy and Finance Lionel Leong explained that, in some cases, buildings consisting of small shops engaged in tax evasion and tax avoidance behaviors that caused unfairness to small shops operating inside the buildings' premises.

Currently, the penalty for tax evasion and tax avoidance for stamp tax is between 100 patacas and 10,000 patacas, respectively. The government holds that the current amount is rather small compared to penalties related to other taxes, such as the tourism

The amendment mainly proposed simplifying tax payment procedures and increasing the aforementioned penalty.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Urban renewal, bus concessions and fire services top lawmakers concerns

During yesterday's Legislative Assembly (AL) plenary session, the majority of lawmakers expressed their concerns over the government's urban renewal plan, the recent renewal of bus concessions, and fire service regulations.

Lawmaker Wu Chu Kit wants the government to lower the percentage of approval required of unit owners for dangerous building properties to undergo urban renewal.

He also proposed that, regarding other types of buildings which do not pose risks to public safety or hygiene, the percentage may be higher. He wants the government to also consider giving the same type of properties to owners of non-residential properties.

Ma Chi Seng then urged the government to set up a principle related to the percentage of the population of a specific community and to the number of sports facilities in the concerned

Recently, the local government renewed the concessions with the city's bus companies, which will now last until December 31, 2020.

Lawmakers, including Au Kam San and Ho Ion Sang, asked about the recent renewal of bus concessions. The lawmakers accused the government of a lack of transparency in its negotiations with the bus companies.

The lawmakers hope that the government will release information to the public earlier, and not let the "releasing of information at the last moment" become the norm of the government administration.

Au believes that bus

companies are the sole winner of another temporary renewal. "What on Earth is the government doing? One public service contract can't be taken care of for several years?" Au questioned.

In Au's opinion, if the government cannot reach an agreement with the bus companies, "why doesn't the government open again a public tender for the bus service?"

Additionally, four lawmakers urged the government to enhance the inspection and monitoring of building fire service facilities and the city's fire servi-



ce regulations.

Song Pek Kei and Mak Soi Kun were among the lawmakers who pointed out that Macau's fire service regulations have been in place for more than 20 years, and that it is time for a renewal.

Specifically, Mak wants to amend the law so as to impose a mandatory regular inspection on buildin-

gs aged 30 years or older. Leong Sun Iok wants the government to introduce a "smart fire service".

The lawmakers voiced that the Macau public and property management companies lack a sense of safety, and that Macau displays a shortage of building fire service installations, community facilities, laws and regulations. JZ

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LOCATIONS, NOT LENSES

Sulu Sou discovers 1,600 surveillance camera figure may be much higher

ANTHONY LAM

TH regards to the police force's announcement of the installation of 1,600 surveillance cameras, lawmaker Sulu Sou has discovered that this figure actually refers to the number of locations, each of which may have more than one camera installed. Therefore, the number of new cameras may be substantially higher than the 1,600 figure previously quoted by the security services.

Sou and the New Macau Association, on whose ticket the lawmaker was elected in 2017, met with the Office for Personal Data Protection (GPDP) yesterday morning, after which, he told the press about the finding.

The police force has previously announced that the total quantity of surveillance cameras installed so far is 1,600. It later came to the lawmaker's knowledge that each installation may involve more than one camera lens. This affects the data that the police are able to collect with one installation.

Moreover, this has caused ambiguity in the actual meaning of the number 1,600. "It is indeed 1,600 locations, not lenses," explained Sou.

The installation of surveillance cameras has been broken down into four phases. Before each phase starts, the public security forces have to propose the installation to the GPDP.

Such a proposal must include the justification for the necessity. "The Office said it is not a rubber stamp," disclosed the lawmaker. "The police forces need to provide supportive evidence to prove the necessity."

Also under public scrutiny is the introduction of car plate and facial recognition functions. Fifty camera installations will be tested for their functions early next year. Sou is concerned about the effectiveness and proactivity of the Office's safeguarding efforts.

Sou said the Office had reiterated that the public security forces particularly cared about the safety of personal data. He quoted the Office as saying "[the government] dares not cross the line."

However, the current information does not convince Sou, who doubts the capacity of the Office to proactively monitor the implementation of the policy.

The lawmaker recalled that previous press releases issued by the GPDP denied

the speculation that a database of personal data and biological features of residents and tourists would be set up in Macau, enabling the public security forces to get hold of the details of all these people.

In yesterday's meeting, the GPDP clarified to the lawmaker that this would not be the case.

The function will be supportive to the security forces' law enforcement efforts. Once they have a suspect, the forces will be able to evaluate images from camera footage and compare them with the intelligence in their possession.

However, the images and distinguishing features of surrounding crowds will also be recorded. In the previous GPDP press release, the Office projected that these surrounding images would be deleted.

The lawmaker then asked whether this was from an official plan submitted by the forces. "The Office said it was the result of professional deduction [of the Office], estimating the actual practices in the future," said Sou.

"Then we have a big problem before us," the lawmaker stressed. "We can't tell whether this will be the actual practice in the future. [If the Office's guess is wrong,] it will cause serious violation to all other residents."

Sou hopes to arrange a meeting with the public security forces to clear up these doubts, adding that if an actual plan is absent, he doubts the effectiveness of the GP-DP's watchdog role.

He also expressed hope that the GPDP would proactively request the actual plan from the police forces.

The GPDP told the lawmaker that there were oral proposals previously, which were opposed by the Office. They could not be presented to the lawmaker as the Office did not make a record of oral proposals. Meanwhile, the lawmaker has also filed a written request to the security forces for such information.

Sou emphasized that these oral proposals are important to evaluate the initial or actual mindset of the public security forces, in terms of the developments they wish to see in the technology.

Besides this, the two parties also discussed matters related to marketing calls. The lawmaker recommended residents report to the Office every time they receive such calls. He stressed that such calls help provide reliable data to the Office in terms of the affected population.

SUBSIDY FOR RECYCLING INDUSTRY TO BE EXTENDED FOR ANOTHER YEAR

The government has announced a one-year extension of the financial support plan for purchasing equipment and vehicles in the recycling industry. According to the order of the Secretary for Transport and Public Works Raimundo do Rosário, the subsidy program will be extended to November 25, 2020, leaving unchanged the form of financial support, conditions of application and procedure, the scope of funding and the supervisory mechanisms. The local government launched the subsidy plan for the sector on November 26 of last year. The maximum funding limit for each applicant is 1.5 million patacas. The maximum amount of subsidy granted to each application corresponds to 50% of the total cost of equipment purchased and 50% of the total cost of vehicles purchased.

MACAU, ZHUHAI SIGN WEATHER FORECAST AGREEMENT

The local government has signed a weather forecast cooperation agreement with the Zhuhai government in the hopes of further improving meteorological disaster prevention and mitigation capabilities in both places. According to this agreement, Zhuhai and Macau will form a phased-arrival weather radar, which will coordinate with the existing Macau-Zhuhai S-band Doppler weather radar. The system has enhanced observation capabilities with a higher spatial and temporal resolution, covering all land areas in Macau, Zhuhai and the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macau Bridge. It can also detect blind spots in lowaltitude areas. Once the radar starts operating, it will provide radar data to both Macau and Zhuhai.

LONGER WAITING TIMES RECORDED AT PUBLIC HOSPITAL

People seeking medical help from the out-patient clinics and accident and emergency (A&E) units of the Conde S. Januário Hospital (CHCSJ) have been waiting longer in order to get treated, according to CHCSJ Director Kuok Cheong U. During a TDM program, Kuok revealed that, in 2018, waiting times at the CHCSJ A&E department averaged 61 minutes, while now it sits at 73 minutes. The reason behind the increase is the 22% increase in the number of visitors. Waiting times for the out-patient clinics of the public hospital also stretched by 5%. Since the establishment of the children's comprehensive assessment center in 2016, the average waiting time at the two centers is currently three weeks, and two to four weeks respectively. These are much shorter times compared to the previous 18 to 24 months, according to the TDM report.



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BOC MACAU PRESIDENT FEATURES IN MACAU INC.

THE November 2019 issue of the Macau Inc. magazine is on sale, featuring an interview with Li Guang, president of the Bank of China, Macau Branch, who shares the mission of the



bank - Rooted Macau, Serving Macau.

Macau has been positioned to be the Lusophone-Chinese platform in the Greater Bay Area development strategy. A summit discussing tactics for Macau has recently been held. This edition of the magazine includes a comprehensive feature on the summit and opportunities in the Greater Bay.

This year sees the 20th anniversary of establishment of the Macau Special Administrative Region. Professor Li Lüe from the Macau Polytechnic Institute talks about the upcoming Chief Executive, Ho Iat Seng and the future opportunities and challenges facing Macau.

Meanwhile, this October also saw the curtain closed on the inaugural citywide art gala Art Macao. Macau Inc tours the festival again for a brief review and discusses its outlook for the future. AL

Sands China hosts trade session for local SME suppliers

LYNZY VALLES

ANDS China hosted its fourth invitational matching session yesterday, featuring 10 participating local small and medium enterprises (SME) that offer sustainability-related products and services.

The matching session is part of the gaming operator's FI.T programme, which offers Financial Support, Invitational Matching and Training and Development.

"Sands China remains committed to working with local SME suppliers to help their businesses flourish alongside our company," said Wilfred Wong, president of Sands China Ltd.

The local SMEs that participated in the one-day event said that awareness of green, sustainable products has increased compared to few years ago. With the aim of reducing the carbon footprint in the city, these companies are continually seeking different green products to offer to the gaming operator.

Since September 2018, Sands China has introduced Green Mondays to encourage employees to eat a more plant-based diet. During Green Mondays, the back-of-house employee dining rooms



offer plant-based meat alternatives Omnipork and Beyond Meat. Diana Chan, Partnership Development supervisor of Green Monday, further explained that the movement encourages the public to go green at least once a week, switching their diet to plant-based meat.

"We think that it's very important that we encourage people to take part in this movement so we can collectively create a huge impact in the environment," said Chan. "Events like these allow us to get in touch with our different restaurant partners and be able to speak with them and [showcase] more of our products."

The gaming operator's invitational matching sessions provide a platform for SME suppliers to present and demonstrate their

products and services to potential users and buyers at Sands China properties.

They also aim to enhance communication between vendors and users in a bid to improve the procurement success rate.

Alongside the invitational matching, the gaming operator also hosted its sixth cohort of local SME suppliers enrolled in its Sands Procurement Academy. The academy is a training initiative co-organized with the Macao Chamber of Commerce and the Macau Productivity and Technology Center.

Most of the participants in the latest group of 29 graduating suppliers had enrolled in the academy at its SME Open Day back in April. The aim of the program was to help them gain experience and capacity in working with large-scale corporations.



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IOIO PUPPET THEATRE

|Gil Conti天婦和Pavlína Pyrchalová

IOIO木偶劇團

BONECOS E BRINQUEDOS

público alvo . 適合人群 . target: 5-14 anos. 歲. years old

horário . 開放時間 . schedule:

4/11/2019

15h - 18h

propina . 費用 . fee :

MOP 150

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主辦單位





MÁSCARAS E BONECOS

oúblico alvo . 適合人群 . target: |

≥ 15 anos . 歲 . years old

horário . 開放時間 . schedule:

8/11/2019

18h - 21h

propina . 費用 . fee :

MOP 150

língua/語言/language:

Português e Inglês/葡語和英語/Portuguese and English *

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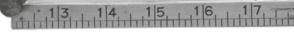
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número máximo de participantes/每班最多人數/maximum number of participants: 20 (Será respeitada a ordem de inscrição sendo esta efetiva mediante o pagamento de propina).

20 (The registration order will be respected and registration is considered when payment is done).

20 (根據付款先後順序)。



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MELCO SIGNS NAOMI OSAKA AS BRAND AMBASSADOR

MELCO Resorts & Entertainment has announced that rising Japanese tennis star Naomi Osaka has been made brand ambassador and sports group manager for the company's expected casino bid in Yokohama, one of eight Japanese locations considered to host one of three future integrated resorts.

"Being director of sports for Melco and having the chance to contribute to the content of the resort in Yokohama is amazing. Together we will be able to better integrate sport, health, and wellness into the concept," Osaka

said via video link at a press conference in Tokyo on Tuesday, according to media reports.

The Hong Kong-based company headed by Macau's Lawrence Ho also announced that it

plans to launch a 27-billion-yen (2-billion-pataca) fund to invest in non-gaming hotel projects in

The Melco Creative Exchange Fund will be used to invest in hospitability and entertainment developments in Japan, the company said, and was not related to its ambition to acquire a casino license.

The fund's first two projects are expected to be an "onsen" or

hot spring resort in Hakoke, near Tokyo, and a ski resort in Nagano in the mountainous Chubu region. Both projects are expected to open around 2025, according to media reports.

Casino operators all over the world have been salivating at the once-in-a-generation prospect of opening resorts in Japan, which has the potential to become Asia's second-largest gambling market after Macau.

All six of Macau's casino operators or their parent companies have signaled an interest in the market.

Ho said that

Yokohama was

a better fit for

Melco's mantra

to 'under-

promise' and

'over-deliver'

In September, Melco said it was dropping out of the race to develop an integrated resort in Osaka, instead opting for a Yokohama-First policy to mirror MGM Resorts' Osaka--First policy.

At a press

conference in Tokyo on Tuesday, Chairman and CEO Lawrence Ho explained the decision by saying that Yokohama was a better fit for Melco's mantra to "under--promise" and "over-deliver".

Ho also expressed doubts that other casino operators would be able to meet the Osaka government's target of producing a world-class integrated resort in time for the 2025 World Expo, reported local media. DB



MACALI'S LEADING NEWSDADED

comprehensive disaster prevention and mitigation plan was officially published by the government yesterday. Covering the next 10 years, the Decennial Disaster Plan, known in full as the "Macau Disaster Prevention and Reduction Plan (2019-2028)," outlines a series of measures in order to raise the city's resilience in the face of disasters and enhance its ability to recover from them.

The document is the result of more than a year of gathering opinions from various aspects of society, as well as considerable discussion and study, all under the guidance of a group of experts from the National Disaster Reduction Commission and the Macau SAR government.

The Decennial Disaster Plan presents definitions and analysis of classified high-risk public safety events, as well as assessments of the city's current responsiveness to such events. Accordingly, it identifies areas that need to be improved with priority and details key tasks and programs to increase the city's emergency response capacity.

The Plan lists nine priority areas for the enhancement of prevention and mitigation work: the development of disaster prevention infrastructure; the creation of response management systems; the establishment of risk management, monitoring and early warning systems; the training of emergency rescue teams

Decade-long disaster prevention plan released by the government



Members of the Macao Customs Service and the Fire Services Bureau conduct search and rescue work during the "Crystal Fish" typhoon drill held in April last year

and equipment; the establishment of an emergency response command overseeing combined operations in the city; the provision of emergency response materials; the conduct of joint social collaboration in disaster response; the education of the public of the risks resulting from possible incidents; and the development of joint emergency operations between Guangdong, Hong Kong

and Macau.

From these nine areas, the Plan further specifies 37 prospective and compulsory indicators to broadly reflect efficiency in terms of increased disaster prevention and reduction capacity.

The development of the Decennial Disaster Plan was prompted by the devastation caused by supertyphoon Hato in August 2017 and typhoon Mangkhut one

year later, and the revelation of how unprepared the city and its authorities were for these natural disasters.

Hato, the most powerful storm to affect Macau in half a century, killed 10 people and caused over 12.5 billion patacas in economic loss, according to official estimates provided by the local government.

According to earlier commen-

ts from the Secretary for Security, Wong Sio Chak, the government has set up near- and long-term plans to combat typhoons and handle similar incidents. Last year, the Secretary said he was confident Macau could minimize deaths and injuries in the event of another supertyphoon.

According to the Decennial Disaster Plan, by 2023, Macau will have already optimized its unexpected event response management system, which will reduce the impact of major disasters, particularly in regards to loss of human life, injury to heritage, and economic damage.

By 2028, the Plan's completion year, the major disaster prevention and mitigation infrastructure and programs will be nearing completion. This, according the government, will help to realize Macau as a city that can withstand the devastation brought by such disasters.

In a statement released by the government yesterday, the authorities invited the public to engage in a consultation process about the Decennial Disaster Plan, which can be accessed on the Policy Development and Regional Development Bureau website. **DB**

CRIME

Seventy-six suspects arrested in loan shark scheme

LYNZY VALLES

MACAU and Zhuhai authorities have arrested 76 suspects in an alleged loan-shark scheme targeting gamblers in local casinos involving over HKD20 million.

According to the Judiciary Police (PJ), its joint efforts with the Zhuhai Public Security Bureau on Monday led to the closure of the loan-sharking gang, which was allegedly controlled by a criminal organization. The arrests followed a tip-off from the PJ's mainland counterparts in April.

The gang was said to have been operating in both the SAR and the mainland since October 2017 and to have carried out at least 40 cases of

According to the PJ,

the loan-sharking group has been active in targeting local casinos, and victims of the group that failed to pay back their loans were unlawfully detained in either the SAR or the mainland.

The authorities said that 41 of the suspects were taken in for questioning by PJ officials in Macau, while the other 35 suspects were arrested in mainland locations including Beijing, Nanchang in Jiangxi province, and Zhuhai.

Zhuhai police authorities believe that one of the suspects they caught was the gang leader, while four are key members of the group.

All 76 suspects are from the mainland, with most of them coming from Jiangxi province, aged between 26 and 54.

Meanwhile, local authorities are also said to have ordered 13 "junket accounts" to be frozen, and seized a total of over HKD5.5 million from the accounts due to suspicion that the funds were linked to loan sharking.

Authorities raided five luxury residential flats in Nape and Cotai which the gang had rented out for their members.

During the operation, named "Double Arrows," authorities seized evidence including mobile phones, 'promissory notes' and accounting records.

Some of the gang members were reportedly instructed to work in frontline roles in local casinos. It was their duty to identify cash-strapped gamblers who were eager to borrow money.

The loans needed to be approved by the senior members, who stayed on the mainland.

According to the PJ, these suspects were trained to develop a strong awareness to avoid police investigation.

The case was transferred to the Public Prosecution Office for further investigation.

Macau has recorded a total of 295 cases of alleged gaming-related loan sharking during the first half of the year, a 16.1% rise year-on-year.

A total of 169 cases of alleged unlawful detention related to gaming were also recorded during the first six month of 2019, representing a 17.4% increase compared to the same period of last year.

Chui to visit Chinese Academy of Social Sciences today

Chui Sai On is due to visit Beijing today to receive a report conducted by the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences on the work of the Macau SAR government.

The local government commissioned the Academy to examine in detail the city's implementation of the 'One Country, Two Systems' principle. The aim was to provide an overview of how the principle has been practiced in Macau as of the moment marking the 20th anniversary of Macau.

According to a statement from the government, the findings of the report will serve as "academic reference points" for the ongoing implementation of the 'One Country, Two Systems' principle.

The statement also said that the local government has formed a "sound mechanism for cooperation" with the Academy over the past few years, with the cooperation helping the city and its education institutions to improve their research in the social sciences and cultivate a greater number of local researchers.

Chui will be accompanied on his trip to Beijing by the Chief-of--Office of the Chief Executive's Office, O Lam, and the Director of the Policy Research and Regional Development Bureau, Mi Jian. During Chui's absence, Secretary for Administration and Justice Sonia Chan will assume the role of Acting Chief Executive. The delegation will return to Macau on Friday. **DB**



MACALI'S LEADING NEWSDADE



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MACALI'S LEADING NEWSDADE



strongly backed Hong
Kong's move to exclude pro-democracy activist Joshua Wong from elections for local councilors, a decision seen as likely to fuel further public anger in the semi-autonomous Chinese city.

The statement from the Cabinet's Hong Kong and Macau Affairs Office Wednesday came as Hong Kong's leader Carrie Lam warned of the economic damage caused by months of anti-government protests but said the government would not address underlying social and economic concerns until the violence ended.

Hong Kong's economy has hit the buffers amid the ongoing violence, with the government saying visitor numbers have fallen by half and retail sales are off by 25 percent in re**HONG KONG**

China backs decision to exclude candidate Joshua Wong

cent months against the same period last year.

Wong, 23, has been repeatedly arrested and jailed in relation to his advocacy of greater democracy, but has not played a major role in the current protests that began in June and have grown more violent.

Despite, that China's Communist leaders have targeted him in accusing foreign powers of colluding with anti-China separatists to foment unrest.

The Cabinet office statement, citing spokesman Yang Guang, said it "agreed and supported" the decision by the Hong Kong elections office, saying Wong had been "constantly pleading with foreign powers for intervention" in the territory's affairs.

Wong's advocacy "challenged the bottom line of the principle of 'one country, two systems,'" the office said, referring to the governing framework under which Hong Kong was handed over from British to Chinese rule in 1997.

Wong is "one of the chief

culprits in the plot to undermine Hong Kong's prosperity and stability and fundamentally does not meet the requirements of adhering to the Basic Law and showing loyalty to the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region that are demanded of a candidate for office," the statement said.

Wong had disclosed his disqualification as a candidate in the Nov. 24 local district council elections Tuesday. He called the decision politically driven and said it would backfire. "It

will just trigger more and more Hong Kongers to take to the street and also vote in the election."

In a speech to a trade conference, Lam said it was a "distressing time for Hong Kong trade and business" and that the violence must end.

"Once calmness returns, we are committed to finding solutions to some of those deep-seated problems revealed by the extensive protests over these past four months," she said. AP

Greater Bay could boost Macau's role as 'knowledge centre'

MACAU has an important role to play as a 'knowledge centre' in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macau Greater Bay Area project, according to Sino-Lusophone researchers present at a recent seminar in Macau.

The fact that Macau is one of the four major cities of the Greater Bay Area - along with Guangzhou, Shenzhen and Hong Kong - was the focal point of the guest experts' speeches at a recent session organized by the International Institute of Macau (IIM) to launch the book "The Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macau Greater Bay Area: The Challenge of the Century for Macau."

Francisco Leandro of

the City of Macau University told Macauhub that "the potential of the greater bay will be revealed by its networks – infrastructure, laboratory, academic, economic, institutional, industrial, technological, investment, consumer and production – and the associated market needs."

"These needs are precisely the basis of cooperation between China, Macau and Portuguese-speaking countries," he said.

In this context, according to Leandro, Macau should be a multicultural, multisectoral trading platform with five main areas – Chinese dominant cultural platform, financial and legal services platform,

economic and commercial platform, education and knowledge platform and a platform for international external relations.

"Macau has to be excellent – beyond gambling – in culture, economics, finance, law and education. Macau has to be what it always has been, but this time with the ability to understand the opportunity to contribute to making China's dreams a reality," he said.

Luís Sales Marques, president of the Institute of European Studies of Macau (IEEM), said that Macau, "has immense responsibilities in carrying out the initiative and will have to work hard and without hesitation to fulfill

its intended functions."

"In order for the MSAR to be able to fulfill its functions, it must focus more on its openness abroad, namely by becoming a reference point in China, for cultural and academic relations not only with Portuguese-speaking countries, but also with Spanish-speaking countries, given the ease of connecting from Portugal and Brazil with the Iberian world," Sales Marques said.

According to the head of IEEM, Macau companies and professionals, "will be able to benefit from the Greater Bay market and relations," but this will require "opening up the [Macau] labor market and promoting the establishment of professionals from the region and abroad with skills to assist with development and economic diversification."

The same need to attract highly qualified staff, namely by removing existing obstacles, was stressed at the event by IIM President Jorge Rangel.

Researcher Fernanda Ilhéu, from the Higher Institute of Economics and Management (Portugal) and the Association of Friends of the New Silk Road, noted that the Belt and Road initiative "aims to reduce barriers and get countries to work together, taking advantage of the complementarity of

competitive advantages with a new spirit based on knowledge, relationship, trust and cooperation."

"Macau in the Greater Bay Area will play an important role in the Belt and Road initiative if it becomes an excellent center for China's knowledge, relationship and cooperation with Portuguese-speaking countries and South East Asian countries," she told Macauhub.

The book "The Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macau Greater Bay Area: The Challenge of the Century for Macau," coordinated by Gonçalo César de Sá, is authored by José Luís Sales Marques, Paulo Figueiredo, Louise do Rosario and Mark O'Neill. MDT/MACAUHUB

BUSINESS



MACALI'S LEADING NEWSDADED

CEO OF NORWAY'S \$1 TRILLION WEALTH FUND TO RESIGN AFTER 12 YEARS AT HELM

MIKAEL HOLTER & SVEINUNG SLEIRE

THE chief executive officer of Norway's sovereign wealth fund, Yngve Slyngstad, is stepping down after spending the past 12 years building a \$1.1 trillion fortune.

The 56-year-old said he made the decision after the fund hit 10 trillion kroner last week, 50 years after Norway first discovered the oil that helped build the nation's vast wealth. Slyngstad also acknowledged that he had been considering stepping back for roughly a year. He will now stay on until a successor is found in 2020, at the earliest.

"My only day of not worrying was on Friday, and in this sense it was a good time to call it quits," he said at a press conference yesterday in Oslo.

While he decided to quit at a "milestone" for the fund's value, Slyngstad warned against interpreting his move as his view that markets will soon turn.

"Had I believed that there was a financial crisis around the corner, I would have very much liked to be at the fund," he said. "I find it both challenging and exciting to work through crises."

An Oslo-native and self-professed Sinophile who has five academic degrees, Slyngstad has overseen a transformation in the fund's portfolio that saw it expand into real estate, boost its stock holdings to 70%, and, more recently, announce a retreat from parts of the fossil-fuel industry. Throughout, he has underscored the fund's long-term view on all its investments, which has allowed it to snap up stocks when others are selling.



Yngve Slyngstad walks down a set of stairs during the Norwegian Financial Research Conference in Oslo

"Over these 12 years, the fund has delivered very good results and the fund has achieved a strong position internationally and in Norway," Oystein Olsen, central bank governor and chairman of the executive board that oversees the fund, said in a statement.

After a successor is named, Slyngstad will move to London to manage the fund's build-up in renewable energy infrastructure over the next two years. The central bank made clear that the next CEO needs to have a deep understanding of Norwegian society and at least speak a Scandinavian language, on top of well-honed skills in investing

and leadership. In international perspective, Slyngstad was paid a relatively modest 6.7 million kroner (\$726,000) in salary last year.

"This is not just any piggy bank - this is the Norwegian people's piggy bank," Olsen said at the press conference. "It's of great importance for state finances."

With degrees in politics, economics, law, business and philosophy, Slyngstad joined the fund in 1998 from asset manager Storebrand to help build its stock portfolio. He took over as CEO at the start of 2008, presiding over massive losses in his first year at the height of the financial crisis. The fund had an annual return of

7.63% over the past 10 years and is heading for a record gain this year amid surging stocks.

Often at loggerheads with the Finance Ministry, Slyngstad has lobbied for taking on more risk over the past years, including adding private equity and infrastructure. These plans have largely been rejected by the government, which prefers more easily measured investments. He also proposed to divest all of the fund's oil and gas stocks, a plan that was whittled down by the government. The fund is to a large extent bound by the mandate it gets from the Finance Ministry, with only limited leeway to stray from a benchmark index.

In a statement, Finance Minister Siv Jensen said Slyngstad has "done a great job and delivered good results which will benefit us all for a long, long time."

Slyngstad has repeatedly warned that given that large chunks of the fund's portfolio now have negative yields and that stocks have surged in recent years, it can't expect the same kind of returns ahead.

In an interview on Wednesday, he said the "hardest - but also in retrospect best" moments of his tenure was the aftermath of the financial crisis when it was able to buy massive amounts of stocks that had fallen in value.

"We did very well with our investment decision, and we got a lot of extra run for that in the last decade," he said.

Norway's self-imposed budget rules limit spending of its oil cash to 3% of the fund's value each year. That used to be easily covered by the annual income from petroleum taxes, public stakes in offshore fields and dividends from state-controlled Equinor ASA. But following a historic slump in crude prices that started in 2014, the government was forced to withdraw money from the fund for the first time in 2016. It recently restarted withdrawals to cover rising budget needs.

"The fund has more than 100-doubled in size since I started - at that time it was just part of the currency reserves," Slyngstad said. "So the privilege has been to follow the development of the fund for two decades. Now, I think probably the fund is more in a stable phase, and that is something that the new leadership will have to think about." **BLOOMBERG**

Saudi Arabian sovereign fund to invest \$10 billion in Brazil

FILIPE PACHECO

SAUDI Arabia's Public Investment Fund will invest \$10 billion in Brazil and plans to use the country as a gateway to the rest of Latin America, the Brazilian government said.

The investment comes after talks between President Jair Bolsonaro and Crown Prince Mohammed Bin Salman, Brazilian Foreign Affairs Minister Ernesto Araujo told reporters in Riyadh on Tuesday.

Bolsonaro met Bin Salman at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel, where the sovereign fund is hosting an investment summit this week. The \$320 billion fund is mandated with making the kingdom's economy less dependent on oil.

Bolsonaro's Chief of Staff Onyx Lorenzoni told reporters on Tuesday that the two governments will form a council over the next two weeks, which will define the sectors and the timing of the investments.

Lorenzoni said the Saudis expressed interest in the construction of a 600mile railroad from the agricultural heartland Mato Grosso to Para in the far north of the country. The railway is expected to cost about \$3 billion.

Later, during a panel at the forum, Bolsonaro said he would like to see the funds being directed to oil and gas, infrastructure, sanitation and tourism.

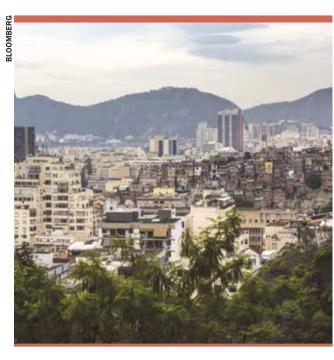
He cited the coastal area of Angra dos Reis, in the state of Rio de Janeiro, as a possible target for the funds, saying it has potential to attract more tourists than Mexico's Cancun.

Bolsonaro also said Brazil received an informal invitation to be part of the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries after meetings in Saudi Arabia, and that he would like to

see that happen.

Earlier this week, Waleed Al Mokarrab Al Muhairi, the deputy chief executive officer of Mubalada Investment Co., Abu Dhabi's sovereign wealth fund, said that his fund is "extremely excited" about upcoming privatizations in Brazil.

The Latin American country expects to raise 1.3 trillion reais (\$325 billion) over the next years through auctions of licenses to operate airports, oil wells, and ports, and also through the privatization of state-owned companies such as the postal service. **BLOOMBERG**





PATRICK DONAHUE

HANCELLOR Angela Merkel is under pressure from her intelligence services and her party to toughen her stance on Chinese equipment supplier Huawei Technologies Co. to ensure German data is safe as the country builds out its fifth-generation networks.

Security and intelligence officials suspect Merkel and her allies in the Economy Ministry have softened restrictions on Huawei to preserve trade relations with Beijing, according to two German officials who asked not to be identified.

Hardliners in the ranks of Merkel's Christian Democrats say that government rules don't do enough to ensure Huawei equipment isn't used in the core of Germany's 5G network, potentially exposing crucial corporate and government operations to Chinese espionage or sabotage.

The Huawei dilemma illustrates the balancing act that Merkel has to pull off as she tries to defend German interests without riling the government in China, a key market for her country's exporters.

German companies want to use Huawei kit so they can make the leap to 5G communications technology as quickly and cheaply as possible, and officials in Beijing are sensitive to any suggestion the company is being excluded. But intelligence officials are suspicious of Huawei's ties to the Chinese government and worried about the vulnerability of 5G networks.

Adding to Merkel's headaches, the U.S. administration has turned the Huawei case into a test of loyalty for western nations in its trade war with China. The White House is also demanding tougher restrictions and threatening to end intelligence cooperation with Germany if Merkel doesn't deliver.

Merkel on Tuesday promised that German companies

Berlin hardliners suspect Merkel soft on Huawei to please China



will soon have access to 5G technology at a reasonable price. Deutsche Telekom AG has said that a 5G roll-out would be delayed by at least two years and cost the industry billions if a full ban were to be imposed on Huawei.

Bruno Kahl, who heads the Federal Intelligence Service, or BND, issued a warning in rare public testimony on Tuesday, saying Huawei was too dependent on the Chinese Communist Party and "can't be fully trusted." The comments came a week after reports that the German Chancellery had intervened to soften security measures, effectively killing any attempt to impose a ban on Huawei.

"Despite a very intensive discussion that's lasted over many months, the position of the government is not clear -- apparently not even to the heads of the intelligence services," Konstantin von Notz, a lawmaker with the opposition Green party who queried the BND chief in Tuesday's testimony, said in a statement to Bloomberg afterward. Merkel's government has "failed to this day" to establish tough guidelines.

Huawei pushed back, saying that accusations over trustworthiness were unfounded for a company serving three billion people globally.

"We have never introduced, and would never entertain the thought of introducing, so-called 'backdoors' in our equipment," Huawei said in an emailed response to a query. "No government agency or outside organization holds any shares in Huawei or controls Huawei in any way."

A group of lawmakers in Merkel's bloc led by Norbert Roettgen, the chairman of the parliamentary foreign affairs committee, added to the mounting dissent last week with an op-ed in Handelsblatt, the German daily, that called for the lower house, or Bundestag, to take control of assessing trustworthiness of 5G equipment suppliers. The German Interior Ministry relented to criticism and has pledged to weigh political factors when assessing components for 5G, Handelsblatt reported.

Merkel's spokesman, Steffen Seibert, last week denied that the Chancellery had softened draft security standards by removing the ability of authorities to identify "untrustworthy" vendors. "As far as we know, there was at no time during the drafting process a 'banning clause,'" Seibert told reporters.

While not calling for a complete ban, officials in the BND as well as the foreign and interior ministries want to have the tools to keep Huawei out if they decide it poses a security risk. The chances of German authorities determining whether equipment contains secret backdoors that could give China access to data is "very limited if not to say hopeless," Kahl said.

Even if it were possible, he added, a software update could "immediately" alter the network and open it to "sabotage or espionage." **BLOOMBERG**

NY band cancels China tour over ban of South Korean members

CAROLYN THOMPSON

A upstate New York orchestra reversed course on Tuesday and canceled plans to tour China this winter after China refused to allow the group's three South Korean musicians to perform.

The Eastman Philharmonia from the University of Rochester's Eastman School of Music initially said it would go anyway. Late Tuesday, however, Eastman Dean Jamal Rossi issued a statement saying the tour would be postponed until everyone could go.

"I believe that given the particular circumstances of this tour, the best course of action for the Eastman community and the values we share is to wait until the Philharmonia can perform as one," Rossi wrote.

Rossi said last week

that China's refusal to approve visas for South Korean artists was in response to the United States' decision to deploy a missile defense system in South Korea in 2016. He said in grappling with whether to cancel the tour, he worried it would "likely have a negative impact on Eastman's reputation within China, and potentially limit other opportunities to recruit, perform, and tour

for our faculty and other ensembles."

The decision comes on the heels of two high-profile situations involving American institutions and the Chinese government. Apple earlier this month, under pressure from China, removed a smartphone app that enabled Hong Kong protesters to track police. Earlier, China's state TV canceled broadcasts of NBA games over

a tweet by the general manager of the Houston Rockets in support of the protesters.

"It's been really uncomfortable because we want what's best for [our colleagues], we want what's best for the school, we want what's best for our relationship with China," trombone player Sophie Volpe told Rochester station WHAM last week.

Eighty members of the

group had been scheduled to tour eight cities over 12 days.

After announcing that the tour would go forward, Rossi said, university officials continued to try, unsuccessfully, to obtain visas for the South Korean students through various channels. Consultation with university leadership, the tour organizers and others led to the decision to postpone, he said. AP

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MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER



India plans to open 100 AIRPORTS IN FIVE YEARS

NDIA is planning to open 100 **L**additional airports by 2024, as part of a plan to revive economic growth in Asia's third-largest economy, according to people with knowledge of the matter.

The proposal, which includes starting 1,000 new routes connecting smaller towns and villages, was discussed at a meeting last week to review infrastructure needed by 2025, the people said, asking not to be identified as the discussion is private. Steps to start a plane-lease financing business in the country was also discussed, they said.

With economic activity at a six-year low and prospects of further slowdown looming, Prime Minister Narendra Modi is keen to double down on infrastructure projects in a bid to revive growth and achieve a target of making India a \$5 trillion economy by 2025. Last month, the government cut corporate tax rates, putting India on par with some of the lowest in Asia, to help compete with the likes of Vietnam and Indonesia for

investments amid global trade tensions.

India's plans to expedite airport development still trails that of China's, which has set a goal of having 450 commercial airports by 2035, almost double the number at the end of 2018. A spokesman at India's civil aviation ministry was not immediately available for a comment.

The proposal by India's state think tank also includes boosting the number of locally trained pilots to 600 a year and double the domestic aircraft fleet to 1,200 during the period, the people said.

The Indian government has committed investments of 1 trillion rupees to build airports in the next 5 years.

Just three years back, only 75 of India's 450 runways were functional, as airlines avoided flying to smaller, World War--era airstrips in smaller towns. But Modi's subsidy program, which partly funds airline losses while capping fares on remote routes, has helped add as many as 38 airports to the nation's aviation map at the start of this year, while contracts were given to airlines to start flights to a further 63 airports with no or limited connectivity.

While the lure of India -- with an emerging middle class flying for the first time -- has attracted companies such as Singapore Airlines Ltd. and AirAsia Bhd. to set up local units, provincial taxes in the nation make jet fuel one of the most expensive in the world. The government is aware of the high taxation burden and higher jet fuel prices, and will rationalize the tax regime as soon as next year, the people said.

India will also encourage the use of drones -- for which it announced a policy this year allowing unmanned vehicles to fly beyond the line of sight -- and sees the number of legal drones reaching a million by 2024, the people said. The country will prepare drone corridors by 2021, and allow delivery of goods by drones by 2023, they said. **BLOOMBERG**

Searchers look for man seen on YouTube falling on Mount Fuji

MARI YAMAGUCHI, TOKYO

TAPANESE police said they found a body on Mount Fuji yesterday and are verifying whether it is that of a man who was seen falling down a snow-covered slope while livestreaming his climb up the mountain on YouTube.

Police in Shizuoka, one of two prefectures that include Japan's highest mountain, began the search Tuesday after receiving calls from some viewers of the livestream.

Police found the body at an altitude of about 3,000 meters and are checking whether it is that of the man in the video, a police official said on customary condition of anonymity.

The video, titled "Let's Go to Snowy Mt. Fuji," shows a man who identifies himself as TEDZU panting. "I'm rushing to the peak," he says.

The man complains repeatedly about his cold fingers. "My fingers are killing me. But I have to operate my smartphone. I should have brought a hot pack,"

He then tries various ways to warm his hands, including sticking one under his arm. The snow-covered path becomes narrower as he walks along a cliffside fence. Then the path slopes down and the man cautions himself against

"Oh, this place is slippery, getting dangerous," the man says. "I'm trying to walk by the rocks, yes, rocks. It's a steep downhill."

"Wait!" he says. "I'm slipping." The noise of his slide can be heard on the video.

The fall accelerates. The video shows him sliding feet-up, with his hiking sticks hurtling away, before it ends abruptly.

Mount Fuji's climbing season ended last month. There is no law prohibiting climbers from entering the mountain at other times, police say. AP





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ty adviser Robert C. O'Brien and Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross will represent President Donald Trump at two regional summits in Thailand this weekend, the White House announced, a move that would widely be viewed in the region as a snub.

The decision to send O'Brien, who is a presidential adviser and not a member of Trump's Cabinet, is likely to be viewed in Southeast Asia as sign of a lack of engagement in the region at a time when China's influence and investments are quickly growing.

The announcement late Tuesday comes just days before Thailand is due to host the 10-nation Association of Southeast Asian Nations annual summit and the accompanying East Asia summit. The summits include sideline meetings that involve the U.S. and other major countries, including China, Russia, Japan and South Korea.

O'Brien recently took on his role after national security adviser John Bolton was ousted by Trump. He earlier was Trump's chief hostage negotiator and is an established figure in Republican Party circles.

US to send security envoy, commerce secretary to ASEAN meet

Ross is leading a Nov. 3-8 trade delegation to Bangkok and will speak at an Indo-Pacific Business Forum on Monday.

Last year, Vice President Mike Pence attended the summits in place of Trump. Trump attended the summits in 2017 and President Barack Obama attended most of the summits during his time in office, though he sent Secretary of State John Kerry to the 2013 summit in Brunei.

China's representative to the meetings will be its premier, Li Keqiang. Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe is also attending.

ASEAN's meetings focus on enhanced trade and security in a region of more than 630 million people. The grouping includes Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

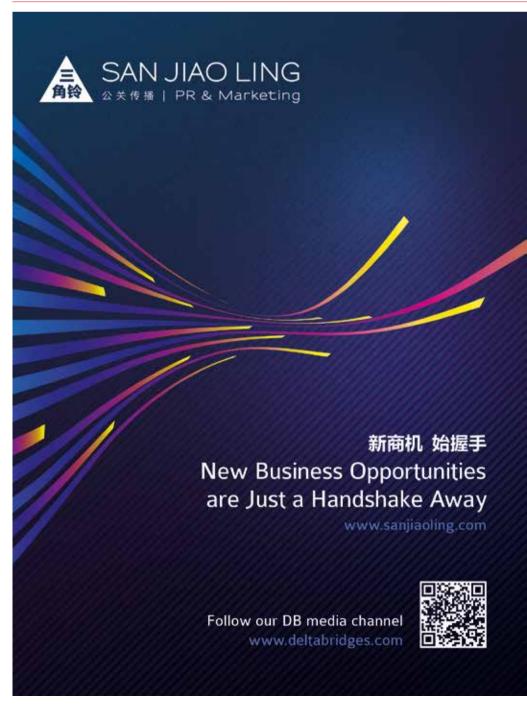
The Thai government has been ramping up security in advance of the summits and warning of road closures. Bangkok residents will get two days of "special holidays" to help alleviate traffic congestion for the summits, which are being held in a neighboring suburb.

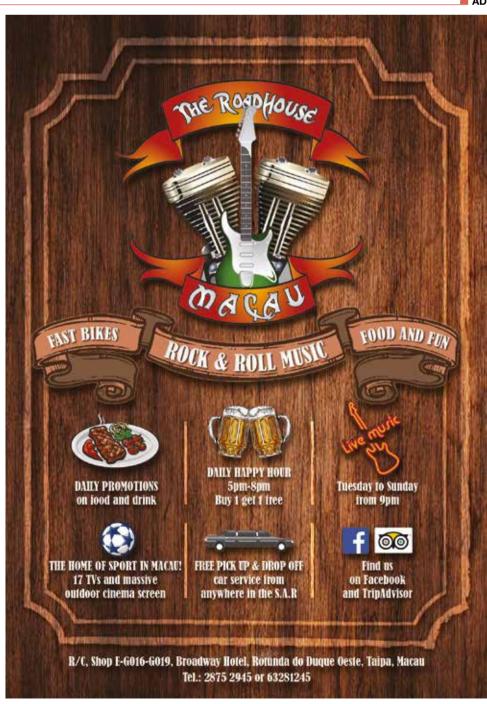
Regional trade ministers were hoping to make progress toward completing a long-awaited free trade agreement at the meetings. But officials are still working out technical details and rules on market access, competition and investment for the planned Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership.

The countries negotiating the pact include ASEAN, and six of its dialogue partners: China, Japan, South Korea, Australia, New Zealand and India. It does not include the U.S.

If all join, it will be one of the biggest regional trading blocs, covering some 45% of the world's population and about a third of global GDP, with projected trade of more than \$10.3 trillion, almost 30% of the world total. AP







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ROSALIND MATHIESON

ONG Kong martial arts guru Bruce Lee urged followers to "empty your mind, be formless, shapeless like water."

That philosophy has driven months of anti-government unrest in Hong Kong. And it applies to protest movements elsewhere that are operating with quick-changing tactics and without clear leadership.

Mass demonstrations are not new. Anti-war and anti-nuclear protests swept the globe decades ago, as did the Occupy movement of 2011-2012 directed against globalization and inequality.

But from Iraq to Chile, it feels like protests are everywhere right now. Huge street rallies, violent clashes with police, tires and buildings burning, shops smashed. Songs, chants, dances and flash-mobs. Crowds that gather and vanish in unexpected places, organized via encrypted messaging apps where people use pseudonyms.

In some cases the protests are driven by a backlash against austerity, as global growth slows and becomes even more unequal. But not all movements have the same spark, even if their form is similar.

Leaderless protests can be hard for governments to deal with because they can't work out who to deal with. Such activity may start from a single issue, then morph into a many-headed hydra.

A lack of central leadership can prevent infighting, but also pull movements in many directions, sapping momentum. Leaderless protests can be nimble but also turn rudderless and chaotic, hostage to violent fringe elements.

History tells us that keeping leaderless movements going at a high level for a long period is hard. That's perhaps even more so as countries fret less about the risk of international blow back including sanctions.

"We perceive a more competitive geopolitical environment in which traditional values-based foreign policy objectives have fallen by the wayside," says Jonathan Wood, director of global risk analysis at Control Risks in Washington. "The default response of many governments is likely to be to try and ride these out as much as possible and hope they begin to dissipate before the economic costs get too high."

HONG KONG

Hong Kong's protesters have sustained demonstrations against China's increasing grip over the city since June all without a clear leader. That's

The rash of protests around the globe have one thing in common



A demonstrator uses a badminton racket to hit a tear gas submunition towards riot police during a protest in the Admiralty district of Hong Kong

by design: During pro-democracy protests in 2014, the government arrested key leaders and threw them in jail.

Now the groups guard their anonymity and organize in online platforms like LIHKG, a Hong Kong-based forum that lets users endorse posts, and Telegram, where anonymous users broadcast messages, photos and videos to hundreds of thousands of people.

The lack of a figurehead has frustrated the government. At the same time, no-one has enough clout to call off the demonstrations, cut a deal or even tell fellow protesters what to do next.

LEBANON

Protestors in Lebanon achieved at least one of their aims as

Prime Minister Saad Hariri announced his resignation Tuesday following nearly two weeks of anti-government unrest. Demonstrators have called on the government to resign, but also want the ouster of an entire

political elite they blame for corruption and cronyism that has hit living standards and dragged the economy toward collapse.

The demonstrations have drawn hundreds of thousands of people right across Lebanon, and have attracted people from different religious sects and social classes.

People first took to the streets to reject a proposed levy on calls made via WhatsApp. The government quickly with-

drew the plan. But protesters say they have no confidence that warlords who emerged to lead Lebanon at the end of the 1975-1990 civil war can change. "I won't hide that I reached a road block," Hariri said.

FRANCE

The grassroots Yellow Vest movement in France has lost much of its momentum in the year since it began as opposition to higher fuel taxes—and morphed into broader grievances against the government. Several thousand protesters still gather on some Saturdays, even though what remains of the movement has been marred by violence and extremism.

The angst behind the initial rallies remains, however: Inequality, cuts in public ser-

But from Iraq to Chile, it feels like protests are everywhere right now

vices, and unpopular pension reforms are set to bring protesters back out in strikes and marches from December. President Emmanuel Macron says he understands how his push to reform the economy came across as harsh and sometimes unfair. But he has vowed to press on.

RUSSIA

The biggest anti-Kremlin protests for seven years erupted in Moscow this summer,

defying crackdowns by riot police and efforts to decapitate the movement by preemptively detaining veteran Russian opposition leaders.

A new young generation of activists, encouraged by leading musicians and social media stars, turned out to protest civil rights abuses, declining living standards and graft. The unlikely catalyst was the refusal of officials to register opposition candidates for elections to the largely toothless city council. It's all a prelude to the battle over Russian parliamentary elections in 2021.

ALGERIA

Algerians have been taking to the streets since February, initially to protest the re-election bid of Abdelaziz Bou-

teflika, one of North Africa's longest-serving leaders, who eventually resigned in April and is not contesting the December election. The public discontent has transformed into demands for root-and-branch change

from the coterie of elite army officers, businessmen and party officials who've dominated politics in the OPEC member for decades.

Algerians, the majority of whom are under 30, continue to block the boulevards of Algiers and other cities with fiery Friday protests. Attempts to broker talks have foundered over who exactly represents the dissatisfied masses in the country of over 40 million people.

IRAQ

Thousands of Iraqis have challenged a government crackdown that has left more than 200 people dead since the start of the month to protest over jobs and public services.

While Iraq has enjoyed relative stability since 2017, many Iraqis suffer power cuts and lack access to clean water and good health care. Decades of war, sanctions and foreign occupation beginning in the early 1980s and ending with the battle to defeat Islamic State have ravaged Iraq's infrastructure. Protesters say corrupt politicians have pillaged state coffers.

The protests have put Prime Minister Adil Abdul-Mahdi under pressure. Prominent Shiite cleric Moqtada al-Sadr, who leads a key bloc in parliament and campaigned on a nationalist platform, has called on the government to step down, but the protests are otherwise largely leaderless.

CHILE

Chile's social unrest has followed a pattern similar to Brazil in 2013. Both were triggered by a seemingly banal reason—a small hike in public transport fares—and turned into massive protests against an ever-growing list of grievances: Soaring living costs, inequality, deteriorating health and education systems and, particularly in Brazil's case, corruption.

The amorphous nature of the protests mean there's no single leader to negotiate with, or a clear manifesto. Calls for protests in Chile are often made by student groups on social media, then heeded by Chileans of all ages and social classes. In Santiago, 1 million people —more than 15% of the city's population—took to the streets on Friday.

ECUADOR

Ecuador's unrest started after President Lenin Moreno ended fuel subsidies as part of a credit deal with the International Monetary Fund. The protests attract a wide variety of supporters including the indigenous community, students and labor unions.

Amid a national strike that paralyzed the country and with Quito overrun, Moreno—who describes the movement against him as a coup—temporarily relocated his government to the coastal city of Guayaquil. He has now reinstated subsidies. **BLOOMBERG**



what's ON



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TV canal macau



| 13:00 | TDM News (Repetição) |
|-------|----------------------------------|
| 13:30 | Telejornal RTPi (Diferido) |
| 15:00 | Agua de Mar |
| 15:35 | Zig Zag |
| 16:00 | Viajante da Música |
| 16:30 | Quem Quer Ser Milionário |
| 17:30 | LiteraturAqui |
| 18:00 | Império (Repetição) |
| 18:55 | Semana Internacional (Repetição) |
| 19:30 | Ouro Verde Sr.1 |
| 20:30 | Telejornal |
| 21:15 | TDM Talk Show |
| 21:50 | Livros com João Guedes |
| 22:00 | Todas as Palavras |
| 22:20 | Império |
| 23:15 | TDM News |
| 23:50 | Justiça de Chicago |
| 00:35 | Telejornal (Repetição) |
| 01:20 | RTPi Directo |

cinema

CINETEATRO

31 Oct - 06 Nov



TERMINATOR: DARK FATE

ROOM 1 2:30, 4:45, 7:15, 9:30pm Starring: Linda Hamilton, Arnold Schwarzenegger, Mackenzie Davis Language: English (Chinese) Duration: 128min



THE ADDAMS FAMILY

гоом **2**

2:30,9:30pm

Director: Greg Tiernan, Conrad Vernon Starring: Oscar Isaac, Charlize Theron, Chloë Grace Moretz

Language: English (Chinese)

ROOM **2**

Language: Cantonese (Chinese) Duration: 87min



FORTUNA'S EYE **ROOM 3**

2:30, 4:30, 9:30pm Director: Takahiro Miki

Starring: Ryûnosuke Kamiki, Kasumi Arimura, Yukiya Kitamura Language: Japanese (Chinese & English)

ROOM 3 7:15pm Director: Todd Phillips Starring: Joaquin Phoenix, Robert De Niro, Zazie Beetz Language: English Duration: 122min

this day in history



2003 END OF MAHATHIR ERA IN MALAYSIA

The Prime Minister of Malaysia, Mahathir Mohamad, has handed over power and stepped down after 22 years in

The change of leadership to Mohamad's deputy, Abdullah Badawi, has been anticipated since Dr Mahathir announced his resignation in June 2002. He agreed to stay on until today to ease the transition to his succes-

Dr Mahathir has led Malaysia for almost half its history since independence in 1957, and the handover is a big change for a country where about 40% of the population were not even born when he came to power.

In that time, he has overseen Malaysia's transformation from a backwater to high-flying industrialised nation.

The 78-year-old Dr Mahathir has also gained a controversial reputation abroad as a blunt-speaking pragmatist who regularly lashes out at the West and defends authoritarian practices at home.

Only a few days ago, he angered foreign governments and Jewish groups by claiming a Jewish cabal "ruled the

He was also criticised for the abrupt dismissal and arrest of former Deputy Prime Minister, Anwar Ibrahim.

Anwar was jailed for six years in 1999 on charges of corruption, and given a further nine-year sentence in 2000 on a charge of sodomy.

Anwar claims both charges were politically motivated. Dr Mahathir has himself admitted he is ready for reti-

"I've had my day. It's other people's turn now," he told reporters. "I had 22 years. I can't complain."

The handover took place at a ceremony in the National Palace, broadcast live on television.

The King of Malaysia, Syed Sirajuddin Putra Jamalullail, swore in Abdullah Badawi as the country's next prime mi-

Mr Badawi, wearing a black tunic and traditional ethnic Malay dress, pledged to "fulfil the obligations of this position honestly and with all my energy".

At the end of the day, Dr Mahathir symbolically checked out at the new government city in Putrajaya using the punch card system he introduced for civil servants.

Mr Abdullah will check in using the same system on Monday morning.

The new prime minister is very different in style from Dr Mahathir.

He is seen as a safe pair of hands, yet someone who has gained a tough reputation in his treatment of political opponents and alleged terrorists.

He will have his first major test in a general election widely expected early next year.

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

Abdullah Badawi went on to win a landslide general election victory in March 2004.

He gained a reputation for being more conciliatory with political rivals than his predecessor, with a far less autocratic style.

In September 2004, the sodomy charge against former deputy Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim was overturned on appeal.

Mr Anwar was freed, although the court upheld the conviction for corruption, preventing him from seek-

ing public office until 2008. Dr Mahathir went on to become an advisor to the

state oil company, Petronas, and to the Malaysian national car manufacturer, Proton.

On taking on the car manufacturer, he quickly poured cold water on a suggestion that it look for an international partner, causing concern among international

Correspondents say he is believed to have other giant former state enterprises in his sights, such as Telecom Malaysia and national power company Tenaga

Last year, Mahathir, at 93, returned to the political scene to winning the general elections by a landslide, and becoming Prime Minister.

Offbeat

SWEDES USED TOWELS, ROPE ON **B**RITONS' SHARK BITE INJURIES



Two Swedish nurses say they used towels and rope to stop the bleeding from two British men's injuries in a shark attack on Australia's Great Barrier Reef.

The men had been snorkeling Tuesday in the Whitsunday Islands when a shark bit off one man's foot and mauled the other man's leg.

Swedish couple Billy Ludvigsson, who is an ambulance nurse, and Emma Andersson, an emergency response nurse, were on a day cruise vessel where the men were loaded after the attack.

Andersson said they helped the man who was loaded on first but his injury was less severe. They made a makeshift tourniquet to stop the life-threatening bleeding for the man who lost his foot and were successful after a few minutes, the Swedes told a news conference in Cannonvale.

"Injury wise, we have seen worse obviously, but it's different when it's a shark attack and we've been in the water at the same time. It's more like personal like that," Ludvigsson said.

The two men were in stable condition in a hospital in the mainland city of Mackay yesterday. Danny Maggs, 22, had cuts on his right calf. Alistair Raddon, 28, lost his right

They issued a joint statement thanking everyone involved in their care and their friends and family back home for their support.

Three shark attacks occurred last year in the Whitsundays, an international tourist destination featuring coral, whitesand beaches and rainforest islands. A man diving from a paddle board died in November, and two Australians were mauled on consecutive days in September 2018.



YOUR STARS



ARIES

Mar. 21-Apr. 19

Commerce is not an ideal thing to be involved in right now, especially if you are interested in selling some of your possessions. Your personal goods will not move as quickly as you think.



GEMINI

May. 21-Jun. 21

The recent developments in your romantic or private life will be right at the top of your mind today, which could negatively affect your ability to focus on the work at hand.



LEO

Jul. 23-Aug. 22

Red tape is sticky stuff, so if you are in the midst of dealing with any type of bureaucracy, beware: You could get stuck in the system. Diligence is your best bet, so keep calling the numbers you have.



Libra

Sep.23-Oct. 22

An exciting person comes back into your life today, and they have a special type of invitation for you. It involves an unusual cultural experience, and it's one you should accept if you can.



SAGITTARIUS

Nov. 22-Dec. 21

Don't let them claim they are a generous person when they are merely manipulative. Helping other people must be done for its own sake - let them find someone else to use.



AQUARIUS

Jan. 20-Feb. 18

Learning takes time - you have to hear new things and experience new things over and over again before they sink in. You want to internalize this, down to your core.



TAURUS

Apr. 20-May. 20

Using flattery in order to get what you want in life is a completely legitimate tactic, there is no doubt about it. But if you use it too often, it will lose its value. Today, use flattery only as a last resort.



CANCER

Jun. 22-Jul. 22

Your kookiest ideas are just so crazy that they might work today, so try not to edit yourself. Censoring what you contribute to the group at large might be your idea of protecting your reputation.



VIRGO

Aug. 23-Sep. 22

Having more harmony in your life will help even out the tumultuous energy that's been circling you for a few days. Aim for less tug of war, and you'll have a lot less stress.



SCORPIO

Oct. 23-Nov. 21

There are developing issues in one of your non-romantic relationships, and you need to focus your energies on them before you can go off and play.



CAPRICORN

Dec. 22-Jan. 19

It represents the chance for an important opportunity, and should be your top priority right now. Your love life can wait. Today, you've got to take care of your own best interests first.

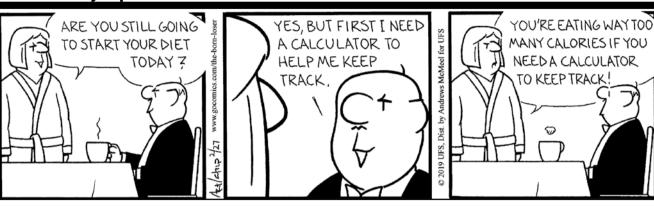


PISCES

Feb.19-Mar. 20

Beautiful words will hold extra entertainment value for you today, so do whatever you can to get into conversations with people who have wit and poetic abilities.

The Born Loser by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

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| 5 | | | | | | | | |

WEATHER

| | MIN | MAX | CONDITION |
|-----------|-----|-----|---------------|
| CHINA - | | | |
| Beijing | 10 | 16 | drizzle |
| Harbin | 2 | 18 | cloudy |
| Tianjin | 14 | 18 | drizzle |
| Urumqi | -2 | 9 | clear |
| Xi'an | 10 | 14 | drizzle |
| Lhasa | 4 | 17 | cloudy |
| Chengdu | 14 | 18 | moderate rain |
| Chongqing | 17 | 19 | drizzle |
| Kunming | 11 | 23 | cloudy |
| Nanjing | 13 | 25 | clear |
| Shanghai | 18 | 23 | cloudy |
| Wuhan | 12 | 25 | cloudy |
| Hangzhou | 15 | 25 | cloudy |
| Taipei | 19 | 23 | cloudy |
| Guangzhou | 22 | 30 | cloudy |
| Hong Kong | 23 | 28 | cloudy |
| WORLD - | | | |
| Moscow | 7 | 9 | drizzle |
| Frankfurt | 10 | 17 | overcast |
| Paris | 12 | 18 | drizzle |
| | | | |

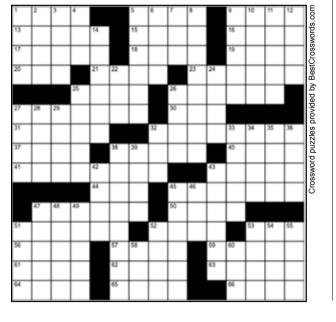
CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1-Former Russian ruler; 5- Tell all; 9- Pampering places; 13- Stan's chum; 15- Prego rival; 16- Trial; 17- Chambers; 18- Author Turgenev; 19- I could ___ horsel; 20- Born: Fr.; 21- Periodic movement of the sea; 23- Horse-drawn vehicle in India; 25- Franklin D.'s mother; 26- Spanish rice dish; 27- Uppercase; 30- Pipe joint; 31- Put on a pedestal; 32- Insular; 37- Boy or man; 38- Radiant; 40- Staffer; 41- Previous to birth; 43- Army leader?; 44- NASCAR sponsor; 45- Intolerant of another's creed; 47- Beard type; 50- Overt; 51- Adherent of Islam; 52- Before long; 53- ____ Schwarz; 56- Type size; 57- Spy; 59- ____ of a Salesman; 61- According to the Bible, he was the first man; 62- Cab; 63- Pertaining to birds; 64- Dynamic beginning; 65- Eye sore; 66- Rubik of cube fame;

DOWN: 1- Ripped; 2- Blackthorn; 3- Shampoo ingredient; 4- Flange; 5- A type of suite or party; 6- Bathe; 7- ___ Khan; 8- Small house; 9- Take the wrong way?;

10- It may be cultured; 11- Latin stars; 12-Command to Fido; 14- What you will; 22-George's lyricist; 24- War, to Sherman; 25-Temptress; 26- Cancun coin; 27- Group of tents; 28- Purim month; 29- Tent stick; 32- Off one's feed; 33- Brother of Moses; 34- Windshield option; 35- Actress Falco; 36- Action; 38- Tries; 39- Open wide; 42-Italian wine city; 43- Plan; 45- Bet taker; 46- Wall St. debut; 47- Tour leader; 48-Movie award; 49- Battle site of 1836; 51-Movie-rating org.: 52- Alluring; 53- Free from bias; 54- ____impasse; 55- Don't tell mel; 58- Devour; 60- First mate?





USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

10

14

Emergency calls 999

Fire department 28 572 222

PJ (Open line) 993

London

New York

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

drizzle

clear

Telephone – Report 1000 Electricity – Report 28 339 922

Macau Daily Times 28 716 081



FOR SALE



One Central high floor apartment, Macau HK\$13,575,000 1,269 ft² 2 🛌 2 🖳

FOR RENT



\$23,800/mth 1,720 ft² 3 🛌 2 🖳

FOR SALE

[Taipa] 2 connected apartment 4 = 2 = 1,404 ft² \$8,680,000 (ref: 19096006)

[Taipa] Apartment with balcony 2 ♣ 1 ♣ 787 ft² \$4,950,000 (ref: 19096008)

[Coloane] Large apartment 2 ♣ 3 ▶ 2 ♣

FOR RENT

[Macau] Keng Ou 3 🛤 2,352 ft² \$38,000/mth (ref: 19091000)

[Cotai] One Grantai 3 1 3 2 3 2 2,122 ft² \$23,000/mth (ref: 19030001RT)



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LIFE&STYLE 生活方式



MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

The Art of Givina



WHY GIVE?

 $\mathbf{B}^{\text{ECAUSE}}$ giving and sharing is part of your own self. Because giving is a moral duty. Because the act of giving brings about an enjoyable feeling. Because of social justice. Because giving is not demanding. Or simply because giving is fashionable...

It's the million-dollar question. There is no answer. Or, there is a multitude of answers. Undoubtedly, everybody has their own answer. One would probably argue that if giving is part of your life, it means that you are a generous person by nature. It also means that the sense of sharing has been transmitted to you by your family, your community, your traditions, the religion you practice, the society you live in, and so on.

Macau is a very charitable place. Because Macau has been, over the centuries, a place of cultural encounters, a place of tolerance in which different religions live harmoniously with each other (look at Macau's official holidays calendar if in any doubt), because Macau has a tradition of being a shelter (in World War II alone, it welcomed thousands of refugees). It's in its history. In its DNA. Macau is a charitable place. Macau people are charitable. They practice charity through a multitude of local associations and events. It's admirable.

Charity has always existed and sometimes it has come from the most unexpected segments of society, like 20-year-old Frédéric Ozanam (1813-1853). Travelling back in time, together with his fellow students, he established the Conference of Charity with the purpose of helping the poorest. This was later renamed The Society of St. Vincent de Paul, named after a figure who dedicated his life to helping the poor in the 1500s.

The sense of sharing, the practice of charity on a larger scale through community networks, is very much embedded in Asian culture mostly through so--called SDOs, "social delivery organizations." Although the "art of giving" is seen as a new phenomenon in China, it has long been a tradition in China's history. A large number of "benevolent societies" has flourished in China over the centuries, with the purpose of helping the poorest and those in need. Scholars even date them back to the late Ming period, when benevolent societies emerged as charitable institutions even though there were already charity systems by lineage organizations in place.

Nonetheless, there is a general perception that "giving back" is very much a Western practice. It is very visible. For example, the much-awaited annual Forbes 400 list of the richest individuals in the U.S. started giving these wealthy individuals a philanthropy score in 2018, rating them from 1 to 5, with 5 being the most generous. Lately, the world-famous J.K. Rowling (author of the bestselling Harry Potter series) made the headlines for losing her billionaire status in the Forbes list as a result of her philanthropic endeavors.

So, what's the difference between 20-years-old Ozanam, who founded a charity rooted in the Catholic church centuries ago and still operates today, and J.K. Rowling, who gave away part of her fortune to philanthropic projects? The answer is to be found in the dichotomy between charity and modern philanthropy.

Macau is a place of charity; it is not a place of modern philanthropy. Yet.

> *President, Associação Internacional de Filantropia (Macau) 國際博愛協會(澳門)

Macau Daily Times is the official media partner of the Associação Internacional de Filantropia (Macau).

KAT FLORENCE RELEASES RAREST KASHMIR SAPPHIRE COLLECTION

TEWELLERY designer Kat Flo- ≝ rence, renowned for creating jewelry for the stars and famous for incorporating the world's rarest colored gemstones into her masterpieces, will finally be releasing her collection of fine quality Kashmir sapphires this November.

In an interview to the media, Kat Florence explains that the Kashmir Sapphire mines depleted over 100 years ago. She believes that gemstones with this now extinct lineage, should be shown to the world before being sold to private collectors. Kat Florence will be loaning her masterpieces to a list of select museums around the world, to be on display for several months before these, now impossible to source again, gems, will go for sale at auction or to private collectors.

Kashmir sapphires hold the world record for highest priced sapphires per carat ever sold at auction. The five legendary Kashmir Sapphires



sold in the last decade are the Rockefeller Sapphire which sold April 2011 for \$3.0 Mio, Star of Kashmir which sold May 2013 for \$3.5 Mio, then the 28 Carat Kashmir by Oscar Heyman & Brothers which sold April 2014 for \$5.1 Mio, the Cartier Kashmir Bracelet which changes owners on May

2016 for \$7.7 Mio and the Peacock Necklace November which went 2018 for a record \$14.9 Mio, making Kat Florence Kashmir Sapphire Collection "one of the most exciting and expected events in the world of rare and exquisite gems," the organizer said in a press release.

RECORD-BREAKING \$2.2M RAISED FOR KIDS AT 11TH ANNUAL SKECHERS PIER TO PIER FRIENDSHIP WALK



THE Skechers Pier to Pier ca's Got Talent winner, global ■ Friendship Walk continued the Skechers Foundation's 11-year tradition of record-breaking donations for kids—raising more than \$2.2 million for children with special needs and education at last Sunday's event, and more than \$13 million in total since

Supported by lead presenter Nickelodeon, media sponsor NBC4 Southern California, airline sponsor Turkish Airlines and generous businesses, the event launched its second decade with a special performance by this season's Amerisuperstar Kodi Lee; returning sports legends Sugar Ray Leonard and Tommy Lasorda; and more than 17,000 registered walkers.

"Heck yeah, Skechers Pier to Pier Walk... it feels so awesome to be a superstar... I love it when they chanted Kodi!" exclaimed Kodi Lee at the Skechers Pier to Pier Friendship Walk.

"Kodi's an amazing global icon and role model for each and every one of us," said Michael Greenberg, co-founder of the Skechers walk, in a press release.

NEPAL MAN SHATTERS RECORD FOR SCALING WORLD'S HIGHEST PEAKS

Nepalese man shattered The previous mountaineering record for successfully climbing the world's 14 highest peaks, completing the feat in 189 days.

Nirmal Purja scaled the 8,027-meter Mount Shishapangma in China this week, which was the last of the 14 peaks that are more than 8,000 meters in height.

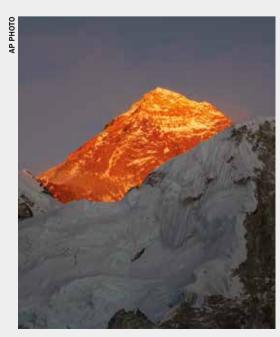
The previous record for climbing the 14 peaks was seven years, 10 months and six days. It was set by South Korean climber Kim Chang-ho in 2013.

Mingma Sherpa of Seven Summit Treks in Kathmandu, which equipped the expedition, said the 36-year-old Purja was in good health and safely descending from the summit.

Climbing experts called the record a momentous achievement in mountaineering history.

"It is a great achievement for mountaineering and mountaineers and a milestone in the history of climbing," said Ang Tshering, who previously headed the Nepal Mountaineering Association.

A former soldier in the British army, Purja began his mission on April 23 with a climb of Mount Annpurna in



STEVE DOUGLAS, TOKYO

HREE years into his second stint living in Japan, Peter Musgrave takes his young son to a park in central Tokyo and sees people throwing around a rugby ball.

"It's chalk and cheese to when I first lived here," the 40-year-old Musgrave says.

Back in those days, from 2006-12, the bank worker from England barely noticed rugby in the Japanese capital unless he "went out to a foreigner bar to watch a game." The Brave Blossoms, as Japan's national team is affectionately called, were conceding nearly 100 points in games against the sport's major powers.

The thought of an audience of around 55 million — representing close to half the population — watching on TV as Japan won a rugby match with breathtaking skill to power into the quarterfinals at a home Rugby World Cup would have been consigned to the realms of fantasy.

Yet that's what happened in this 2019 global showpiece, the first Rugby World Cup to be held in Asia. It's been an absolute blast, an eye-opener not just for the estimated half-million traveling fans from 19 other competing countries but also for the Japanese people who have been such courteous and polite hosts.

There was the scene of 15,000 people turning up to watch Wales' first practice session of the tournament. Some arrived three hours before practice, lining up for more than a kilometer outside Kitakyushu Stadium.

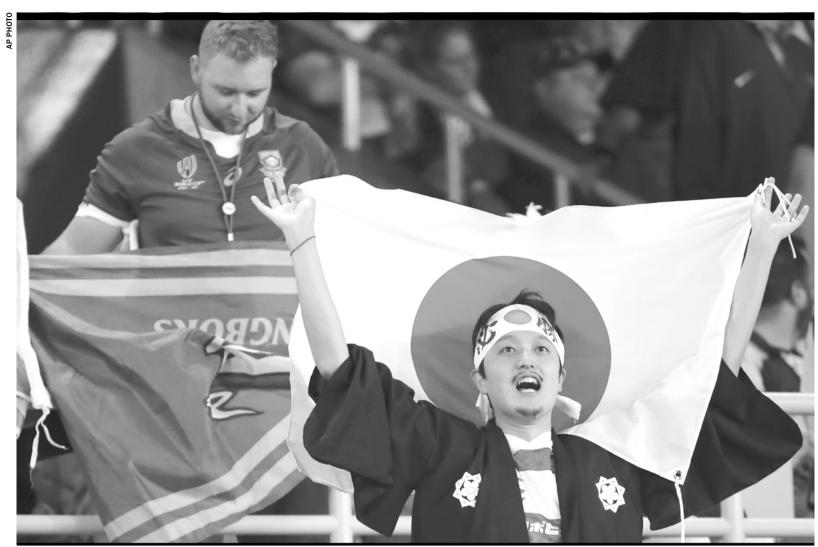
How about Oita, the land of hot springs in the most southwestern of Japan's main islands and a place that could never be described as a rugby hotbed, welcoming fans of France, England, Wales and Australia for one memorable quarterfinal weekend? Locals, merely passing by pubs and bars, joined in the revelry, some being lifted up like they were second-row forwards in a lineout.

From Fukuroi to Fukuoka, from Kamaishi to Kumamoto, lasting memories have been made in this 6½-week tournament that has been 10 years in the planning but will draw to a close Saturday when England plays South Africa in the final.

So when the World Cup circus leaves town, what will be left behind? How does Japan sustain the rugby fever?

"I have a little worry, yes," former Japan rugby captain Toshiaki Hirose told The Associated Press. "Four years ago, we beat South Africa in the World Cup and a lot of Japanese people watched it. Now, I think Japanese people understand rugby as well, and respect the passion.

"I think there is an environment where kids want to start playing rugby but we should have



ANALYSIS

Japan excels as World Cup host, must ride the rugby wave

this environment more, not just in the cities but also in the countryside."

Rugby lags behind baseball, soccer and others in the list of the most popular sports here. There are 92,000 registered rugby players — a 10th of the number in soccer — and there is a participation rate among teenagers of 1.5%, according to the most recent white paper on sport in Japan . Rugby tied ninth among the most popular spectator sports in Japan and didn't feature in the top 10 of most popular sports watched on TV.

The country has a 16-team domestic league which is a corporate and mostly amateur competition featuring a growing number of well-paid foreign stars and Japan internationals. Only five Top League games in the entirety of last season attracted a crowd of more than 5,000 spectators.

Japan has had a team, the Tokyo-based Sunwolves, playing in the leading southern-hemisphere provincial competition — Super Rugby — since 2015 against rivals from New Zealand, Australia, South Africa and Argentina. But they are about to be disbanded, leading to much uncertainty about their future.

Meanwhile, at grassroots level, Hirose says most kids can only choose one sport in which to specialize at school — and invariably that's baseball or soccer. There is also a shortage of age-group facilities, top-class coaches and even grass fields, says Musgrave.

"You have to be careful," says Andrew Fielder, a 41-year-old IT worker who is a friend of Musgrave and also an expat in Tokyo. "Children need to have quality instructors otherwise they could hurt themselves. I would be worried. You'd want to be sure they have the right level of instruction, certification."

Musgrave and his 6-year-old son, Hugo, went along with Fielder and his 5-year-old son, Theon, to a Rugby Introduction Day staged by the Japan Rugby Football Union and World Cup sponsor Land Rover to encourage a younger generation to play the game in the wake of Japan's unprecedented run to the quarterfinals.

Among the superstar ex-players running the event were England World Cup winners Jonny Wilkinson and Lawrence Dallaglio, who have gone around Japan during the World Cup in their role as TV pundits and ambassadors and seen first-hand the fanatical support for the Brave Blossoms.

"It was only a couple of World Cups ago that they were losing by large scores," Dallaglio said, likely recalling the 83-7 loss to New Zealand in 2011, which came after the 91-3 defeat to Australia in 2007. "What they've done in the last eight years is phenomenal, so if they can continue that development ... the next generation hopefully will have been inspired by their heroes that they've witnessed out on the field."

Japan, a so-called Tier Two rugby nation, rarely gets to play the sport's top teams like the All Blacks and England outside of World Cups. Wilkinson says it is "imperative" that changes, with Dallaglio suggesting they could even enter the major southern or northern hemisphere international competitions.

"They need to continue to introduce them to quality opposition," Wilkinson said in a message to rugby's powerbrokers, "... and come to understand when you play against quality opposition, it gives an insight into where you need to be but also what you are already capable of."

Other issues facing Japan is the possibility of its head coach, New Zealander Jamie Joseph, leaving and stalwart players like captain Michael Leitch and Luke Thompson potentially having played in their last World Cup. A new generation of players needs to come

through, without that carrot of a World Cup on home soil that has inspired the current crop.

Hirose doesn't want this past six weeks to go to waste. He has been around Japan, teaching kids the national anthems of the competing teams because it is a "good opportunity for us to understand other countries' cultures." He has seen the Japanese people take the Brave Blossoms to their hearts — "they like their courage and discipline" — and enjoy mixing with foreigners before and after games, "drinking, chatting, singing."

They've witnessed visiting fans paint the Japanese flag — the "Hinomaru" — on their faces, and wear bandanas decked with the red-and-white colors of Japan.

World Rugby, the sport's governing body, says its legacy programs have introduced 1.8 million people in Asia to the sport, a million of them from Japan. They have to keep that going to sustain a genuine Asian presence in the sport.

"One of the reasons we came to Asia," World Rugby chairman Bill Beaumont says, "was to actually leave a legacy. What we have to do is carry on working with them so when you come back in two years' time, the people are talking about (Brave) Blossoms and not about baseball." AP

MacauDaily 澳門每日時報®

OPINION

Made in Macao





SUMPTUOUS CHINESE BANQUET

From roast suckling pig to shark fin soup, to large steamed giant grouper, more often than not, we are full by the sixth dish of the never-ending traditional Chinese banquet. Aside from the importance of being generous hosts, there are reasons why our banquets are often made up of twelve large courses.

Firstly, the number of dishes in a Chinese meal must be even, or the odd number may bring loneliness to the hosts. So, the minimum number is usually eight, which represents prosperity. Ten represents perfection, and twelve represents good fortune in line with all twelve months of the year. So, for celebrations like weddings or birthdays, with a table of 12 to 15 guests, the usual banquet consists of twelve courses. And it is not easy to decide which dishes to cut even if we wanted to serve less. Why? Let's see.

The banquet usually begins with the dish Big Red Roast Suckling Pig. The name of the dish is obvious; the reddish pig brings good luck. Aside from this, the dish is of even more significance in wedding banquets, as it represents the purity of the bride. The sound of the word "pig" in Chinese is similar to the word "virginity." So, cutting out this dish may cause unnecessary suspicion about the bride's virtue. Someone once joked that a wedding dinner without suckling pig that it means the bride's "pig" is gone. So, taking out this dish is a definite NO.

Then, the next three dishes of luxurious seafood are important in showing the prosperity of the host. In a traditional banquet, these dishes usually include shrimps, or lobster for richer hosts; one dish with scallops, which in Chinese sounds like "carrying a son," wishing the bride to bring a son to the family soon; then one dish of expensive sea cucumber with abalone, just to be classy.

The fifth course is usually shark fin soup, which is considered the best offer in a banquet, and guests expect it. Nowadays, with more people refusing to eat shark fins, sometimes the ingredients are replaced by equally expensive items like birds' nests. Then there are the two must-have items in a celebratory meal, fish and chicken. Fish in Chinese sounds the same as 'remain' or 'surplus,' and it is auspicious to have fish at important celebrations to represent having a 'surplus' every year. I am not sure about the significance of chicken, but, traditionally, a good Chinese meal must have fish and chicken.

After seven dishes of heavy meat and seafood, there usually follows a dish of greens, which is probably the only vegetarian-friendly dish, aside from the desserts. Then there are the main courses: rice and noodles. We all know the significance of rice to Chinese and most Asian countries, so how can we not have rice at important celebrations? Then noodles, which have the meaning of longevity. Traditionally, the noodles cooked in festive banquets are in super long strips. So, in birthday banquets, eating the noodles is toasting to the longevity of the host, and in a wedding banquet, for long and lasting love.

Finally, the banquet ends with sweet soup and pastries. The traditional dessert is red bean soup. Again, red is good luck in our culture, and desserts made with red beans suggest luck and sweetness in life. So, after surveying the list of dishes for a banquet, one may understand why it is hard to cut any one of these dishes. Sometimes, there are only two instead of three shellfish dishes, but then, a fruit platter may be served to make up the twelve dishes. So, even if we feel that banquets are a waste of food, we can only eat up and prepare a few take-away boxes.

ACTIVIST THUNBERG DECLINES CLIMATE PRIZE, URGES MORE ACTION

Teen climate activist Greta Thunberg, who has inspired millions across the world to stage protests urging leaders to better tackle global warming, has declined an environmental prize, saying "the climate movement does not need any more prizes."

Two fellow climate activists spoke on Thunberg's behalf at an award ceremony Tuesday in Stockholm for the regional inter-parliamentary Nordic Council's prizes, reading a statement thanking the group for the honor. Thunberg, 16, is currently in California.

But Sofia and Isabella Axelsson quoted Thunberg as saying that "what we need is for our rulers and politicians to listen to the research."

The Nordic Council hands out annual prizes for literature, youth literature, film, music and the environment, each worth 350,000 Danish kroner (\$52,000).

Three Norwegian lawmakers nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize this year because they believe "the massive movement Greta has set in motion is a very important peace contribution."

CONCERT PROMOTERS TURN AWAY FROM FACIAL RECOGNITION TECH



MATT O'BRIEN, BOSTON

CONCERT promoters in the U.S. are stepping back from plans to scan festivalgoers with facial recognition technology, after musicians and others gave it some serious side-eye.

Although it remains entirely possible that music venues will eventually take a second look at the controversial technology.

Live-entertainment giants AEG Presents and Live Nation both recently disavowed any plans to use facial recognition at music festivals, despite earlier indications to the contrary. Their public

pronouncements have led a group of musicians to declare victory after a months-long campaign to halt the technology's use at live shows.

Advances in computer vision have enabled businesses to install cameras that can recognize individuals by their face or other biometric cha-

racteristics. Venue operators have talked about using the technology at gateways to secure entry for select groups or to offer perks for repeat customers.

Privacy advocates worry that such uses might also pave the way for greater intrusions, such as scanning audience members in real time to analyze their behavior.

Both concert organizations seemed to be edging toward remembering more faces. In May 2018, for instance, Live Nation subsidiary Ticketmaster announced it was partnering with and investing in Texas facial recog-

nition startup Blink Identity, saying in a note to shareholders that its technology will enable music fans to associate their digital ticket with their image and "then just walk into the show."

AEG, which operates the Coachella festival in southern California and other major events, updated its online privacy policy earlier this year with language stating that it may collect facial images at its events and venues for "access control," creating aggregate data or for "personalization" — a term commonly used by retailers trying to tailor advertising or promotions to a specific cus-

A group of musicians declare victory after a months-long campaign to halt the technology's use at live shows

tomer's behavior.

Now, however, both organizations have done an about-face. AEG's chief operating officer for festivals, Melissa Ormond, emailed activists earlier this month to say: "AEG festivals do not use facial recognition technology and do not have plans to implement." AEG confirmed that statement this week but declined further comment.

Live Nation said in a statement that "we do not currently have plans to deploy facial recognition technology at our clients' venues." The company insisted that any future use would be "strictly opt-in," so that non-consenting fans won't have to worry about potentially facing the music.

Facial recognition isn't seen in many musical venues. The biggest location known to employ it is New York City's Madison Square Garden, which confirmed this week that facial recognition is one of the security measures it uses "to ensure the safety of everyone" in the arena. It declined to say what it looks at and why. The New York Times first reported its use last year.

While the music industry paused, Major League Baseball stole a base by rolling out biometric ticketing in the

U.S., usually involving fingerprints or iris scans to get into ballparks. Authorities in some parts of Europe have bounced around the idea of using either facial or voice recognition to keep tabs on unruly soccer fans, such as those participating in racist chants. Police agencies in China

have used facial recognition at concerts featuring pop singer Jacky Cheung to identify and arrest people wanted as criminal suspects.

American music event promoters this fall have been pressured to disclose their facial recognition plans by digital rights group Fight for the Future, which asked dozens of festival organizers to pledge not to use a technology it describes as invasive and racially biased.

For some, it was an easy answer. Organizers of the Summer Meltdown Festival outside Seattle said they are "happily free of facial recognition technology." AP

South Africa Police in Cape Town used water cannons yesterday while dispersing and arresting hundreds of foreigners, including children, who have camped for weeks outside the U.N. refugee agency's office.

Turkey yesterday condemned two resolutions passed by the U.S. House of Representatives that symbolize deteriorating Turkish-American relations. Addressing his ruling party, Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan said he wouldn't recognize the nonbinding resolution to recognize the century-old mass killings of Armenians by Ottoman Turks as genocide, and a bill to sanction senior Turkish officials and its army for Turkey's military incursion into northeastern Syria.

Syria Joint Turkish-Russian patrols will begin tomorrow in northeastern Syria, following a Russianbrokered cease-fire that promised to have Syrian Kurdish forces withdraw to the south, Turkey's president said yesterday.



Denmark said yesterday that it is giving permission for a joint German-Russian underwater gas pipeline to be laid to through its territory, in a blow to the United States, which had fiercely opposed the project.

UK British Prime Minister Boris Johnson and opposition Labour Party leader Jeremy Corbyn traded barbs over Brexit and public spending yesterday as campaigning unofficially kicked off for the country's crucial yet unpredictable Dec. 12 general election.



US A new large wildfire broke out yesterday in Southern California amid gusty winds, forcing the evacuation of the Ronald Regain Presidential Library and nearby homes.