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MACAU POLICE FORCES
CONDUCTED TWO SEPARATE
OPERATIONS IN COTAI OVER THE
WEEKEND MAKING 60 ARRESTS

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MACAU COMPANIES
SUPPORT RETURN OF
FLÖRSCH TO GUIA

P2

GROSS GAMING REVENUE RECORDED
A 3.2% DECREASE LAST MONTH
TO MOP26.43 BILLION DESPITE
OCTOBER'S ROBUST RESULT

P3



Thailand Thai Airways
has disclosed that its
chairman has resigned as
the carrier struggles with
financial challenges.

Bangladesh A court
in Dhaka granted
bail yesterday to
micro-credit pioneer
and Nobel laureate
Muhammad Yunus
over the firing of three
employees by Grameen
Communications, where
he is chairman.

Myanmar U.N.
Secretary-General
Antonio Guterres
expressed concern
yesterday over the plight
of the 730,000 Muslim
Rohingya refugees from
Myanmar's Rakhine state,
calling on Myanmar's
government to take
responsibility by dealing
with the "root causes" of
their flight and working
toward their safe
repatriation. More on p13



Vietnam All 39 people
found dead in a
refrigerated container
truck in England last
week were Vietnamese
nationals, British
police said, as three
more people were
arrested in Ireland
and Vietnam in the
sprawling international
investigation into what
appears to be a people-
smuggling tragedy.



Pakistan Tens of
thousands of Islamists
at a massive protest
camp in Pakistan's
capital awaited
yesterday's deadline set
by their leader calling
for the prime minister
resign.

More on backpage

XI-TRUMP

SUMMIT
CLOSING IN ON MACAU

P5

TRAILHIKER:
10 ECO INITIATIVES
ON 10TH ANNIVERSARY

P3

RENATO MARQUES



GRAND PRIX

MACAU COMPANIES SUPPORT RETURN OF FLÖRSCH TO GUIA

RENATO MARQUES

AFTER a lengthy drama that saw several steps forward and backward, German driver Sophia Flörsch has finally announced that she will be contesting this year's Macau Grand Prix (GP).

Although this announcement has been expected since the driver took the last day of the Formula 3 (F3) post-season tests at Valencia's Circuit two weeks ago, the official announcement came first by both the driver and the team (HWA Racelab) through their social media platforms last week and then through the confirmation of the motorsports international governing body FIA over

the weekend.

Even if the participation of the racer in the FIA F3 World Cup was not much of a surprise, the announcement also confirmed which companies were supporting the German's return to Guia Circuit.

Among those personally thanked by the driver for their support are the historical Macau Racing Team - Theodore Racing - from Teddy Yip Jr as well as the local gaming operator MGM Macau and Premium & Collectibles Trading Co., Ltd, owner of the brand Ixo Models.

Although it was not disclosed how these companies contributed to her return, Flörsch had previously said that the only factor stopping her racing

again in Macau was budgetary issues, revealing to Hoje Macau that she needed around MOP585,000 to race in this year's GP.

According to several motorsports media experts in Spain, at the time of Valencia's test with HWA Racelab, the team had presented to the racer a "more accessible and reduced rate" in order to grant her the team's third car, which was open after Dutch racer Bent Viscaal dropped out from the team.

The official acknowledgment by the FIA of Flörsch's participation in the Macau GP was not the only one, as the organizers also revealed the names of the drivers that will fill the remaining empty seats in

several teams completing the 30-driver line-up.

The Dutchman Richard Verschoor, a former Red Bull Junior Team member and Spanish F4 champion, will be racing in Macau under the colors of MP Motorsport in car number 21, while car number 22 from Jenzer Motorsport will welcome the return of Indian driver Arjun Maini to Macau, who is currently racing at the F2 series.

The last three seats left open at Campos Racing and Hitech Grand Prix and Trident Motorsport will be taken by the British racing driver Enaam Ahmed and the Italians Leonardo Pulcini and Alessio Lorandi, which now completes the final list.

TOURISM REGULATOR TO DIVERSIFY VISITOR OPTIONS

THE range of options for tourists seeking to travel to Macau is widening due to several strategies, said director of the Macao Government Tourism Office (MGTO), Maria Helena de Senna Fernandes.

The policy direction was taken as numbers from the government's Statistics and Census Service showed that visitor counts in September had dropped.

The Office is also working to change the type of travel that tourists use.

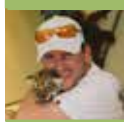
In the previous years, Macau has relied heavily on combined group tours. Tourists joining these packages travel to both Hong Kong and Macau on the single trip.

September saw a drop of 35% year-on-year in the number of tourists arriving in group tours. Numerous promotional efforts are in effect to offer more options for tourists.

Furthermore, the tourism regulator will study proposals from the tourism industry regarding support for tour guides. Such proposals include quality training.

MGTO is also monitoring the effect of the cross-border tour guide working scheme in Hengqin. Constant communications with the mainland are being conducted. AL

ASK THE VET



by Dr Ruan Du Toit Bester

RIGHT DIET FOR HEDGEHOGS

MORE and more people in Macau are getting Hedgehogs as pets because they are small and easy to keep, but I strongly suggest before buying a hedgehog you need to know how to properly look after it before you get one. We currently have a few in hospital that are being treated for wobbly hedgehog syndrome as well as nutritional deficiencies. In the wild, hedgehogs are primarily insectivores, but they will often eat whatever is available. Hedgehogs have been known to eat insects, slugs, baby mice, frogs, fish, worms, small snakes, eggs, and even fruit. They are definitely not picky eaters.

For your pet hedgehog you want to provide a well balanced diet that is high in protein. How much you should feed him depends on his activity and metabolism. If you notice your hedgehog becoming fat, cut back on his portions. A nutritious diet will help ensure you have a happy and healthy companion for many years. Below is a list of some of the items you could

feed your pet.

DRY HEDGEHOG OR CAT FOOD

There is commercial hedgehog food, but it is not always available at some pet stores. A meat or chicken dry cat food that is high in protein is a decent alternative. Dry food should be the primary portion of your pet's diet.

MOIST FOOD

Moist food should also be fed to your pet. Canned cat or dog food work well as hedgehog food. Be sure to get a food that is high in protein and is made primarily from meat or chicken.

FRUITS & VEGETABLES

A small amount of fruits and vegetables should be added to his diet. Some foods you could use are beans, peas, corn, apples, grapes, and carrots. Your pet may only like a few types of fruits or vegetables so try a variety. These

foods should only be a small portion of the diet so don't overfeed him fruits and vegetables.

TREATS

Everybody loves junk food and your hedgehog is no exception. Treats are a great way to add variety to his diet, but should be fed in moderation. Insects like crickets and mealworms make great treats. Other choices are moist cat or dog treats, and cooked foods like eggs, hamburger, and chicken. Giving him a small piece of your food is an easy way to supply treats.

WATER

A hedgehog needs to always have a source of clean fresh water. A stoppered water bottle in his cage is the best way to supply water. Next week I will write about the Health and Illness factors of Hedgehogs



Hope this helps
Till next week
Dr Ruan

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LYNZY VALLES

THE 10th MGM Macau Eco TrailHiker was held this weekend with about 2,600 participants in 650 teams competing in three race categories including the 10km Fun Course, 20km and 30km corporate challenge.

To commemorate its tenth year, TrailHiker has expanded its efforts in going eco-friendly by conducting a series of eco action initiatives serving as the guideline for the event by following a "Think Reusable, Not Disposable" mentality. Specifically, the organizer aimed to reduce the use of plastic bottles and paper cups during the event and encouraged its 20km and 30km participants to bring their own bottles for the race.

At the water stations, paper cups were also replaced by reusable cups in a bid to strive to raise public awareness of ecological and environmental protection.

"We became aware that we needed to start doing something for the environment. [...] I think that the big shift this year is that we've taken it from the head to the

TrailHiker holds 10th edition with series of eco action initiatives

heart," said Robert Kirby, director of Macau TrailHiker Ltd.

"We've got 10 initiatives. [...] When they are put together, they really make a difference as it reduces our carbon footprint. [...] Everything we're doing is because we believe that it's the right thing to do, not because we're following a trend," he said.

Meanwhile, beneficiaries of this year's community event were The Cradle of Hope Association and The Salvation Army - Hong Kong and Macau Command as a support for their operational expenses.

TrailHiker held a cheque presentation of a total of MOP400,000

to these two local associations during the kick off ceremony.

"It's to further what they do in the community. It's a great day for Macau Eco TrailHiker. [The donations have contributed] an accumulative total of MOP3.4 million over the past 10 years," Kirby said.

"We became aware that we needed to start doing something [more] for the environment."

ROBERT KIRBY

This year, the TrailHiker event was sold out within a few hours of the launch of the online registration.

Due to the continuous growth of the event, Kirby said that he hopes to turn the event into a

sports festival.

"There is such a thing as a carrying capacity for the trails. What I do envisage [...] is there'll come a time in the future where we'll have this event over the weekend," said Kirby.

"Perhaps we'll have the 10km and the 20km event on a Saturday and a 30km and possibly 50km on a Sunday - maybe with some sports expo as well.

That's a way to increase the participants," he added.

Further, all the category winners this year broke the previous records with the results as follows: The winners of 10km team, 紅纖 10K 隊 finished the course in 45

minutes, 10seconds, followed by 珠海卡神軍團 and Melco 新濠天地軟足天地一號.

For the 20km course, the champion was 愛華跑步-20K, finishing in 1 hour and 34 minutes, 09 seconds, and the 1st runner-up and the 2nd runner-up were RunPlus 隊名我無意見 and Top Sport B respectively.

For the 30km course, the champion was 從天而降West Face, finishing in 2 hours and 27 minutes, 21 seconds, and the 1st runner-up and the 2nd runner-up were 珠海第一跑團之為所欲為 and 山系大叔 Type R respectively.

Furthermore, to encourage more female participation for this event, the organizer continued to have the award of First All-Female team for the three categories. The winners were 越跑越FLY, Run 4 Price and 繼續五虎.

GAMING

GGR plunges 3.2% despite recording strongest month

LYNZY VALLES

MACAU'S gross gaming revenue recorded a 3.2% year-on-year decrease in October to MOP26.43 billion (\$3.28 billion), according to official data released on Friday, recording its highest level in 12 months.

Gross gaming revenue in October 2018 amounted to MOP27.32 billion.

The drop was in line with analyst estimates, after revenue reached the lowest level in a year in September, where revenue tumbled 8.6% year-on-year

to MOP24.26 billion (\$3 billion).

The latest data released by the Gaming Inspection and Coordination Bureau shows a contraction of 1.8% year-on-year for the first 10 months of 2019, showing further weakness amid China's economic slowdown.

Year-to-date revenue tallied MOP246.74 billion from MOP251.38 billion.

October is typically a strong month due to the seven-day Golden Week holiday in China, and thus the level for October was the highest in 2019.

However, the 11% gain in visitors over the holiday period this time was markedly lower than last year's 19% rise.

The latest GGR numbers suggest a challenge remains for casino operators as growth in the mass segment failed to make up for the slack in the volume of high rollers who are staying away.

JP Morgan Securities (Asia Pacific) Ltd analysts DS Kim, Jeremy An and Derek Choi remarked in a Friday note, "We estimate VIP GGR fell about 20 percent

year-on-year while mass grew low-teens year-on-year, pretty much in line with third-quarter trends."

Meanwhile, Brokerage Sanford C. Bernstein Ltd then predicted that the preliminarily estimated November GGR would be "-6% to -3% year-on-year."

Bloomberg's recent estimate was a 5% GGR decline.

"We continue to voice caution about the volatility surrounding VIP," said Sanford Bernstein analysts Vitaly Umansky, Eunice Lee and Kelsey Zhu.

The SAR's revenue has been pressured by myriad negative factors including the trade war, a weakening yuan, social unrest in Hong Kong and regulatory uncertainty over high-roller junkets.

Analysts were expecting Macau's casino business to strengthen in the second half of the year, owing to an easier comparison base. The outlook has recently darkened as China's moves to clamp down cross-border gaming have squeezed liquidity for the junkets and hurt the VIP segment.

Late last month, Brokerage Sanford C. Bernstein revised its forecast for October's gross gaming revenue upward by 3 percentage points. Analysts at the firm said they expect gaming revenue for the month to contract 3% in year-on-year terms.

Analysts at Nomura previously said that gross gaming revenue for October "should settle around MOP27 billion," adding that VIP volumes were tracking as much as 20% lower last week than in the same period last year.

ACADEMIC ENCOURAGES GOV'T TO PUBLICIZE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE REVIEW

Cecilia Ho, scholar of social work, thinks the government should allow public access to the entire text of the review report on the implementation of the Domestic Violence Law. The Macao Polytechnic Institute lecturer told online news outlet All About Macau, "The general public needs to read the entire text." She explained that frontline social workers, advocates against domestic violence and domestic violence victims were interviewed during the compilation process of the report, making it a "collective wisdom" of value to society. The government deemed it was not yet time to amend the law, saying that more cases are needed to determine the efficacy of the current legislation. Ho agreed with the stance, but criticized the report for largely focusing on the detail at the expense of some critical factors. She also reminded the government to be progressive in the next version of the law.

CUSTOMS BUSTS 46KG OF HAIRY CRAB

The Macao Customs Service busted 46 kilograms of hairy crabs and 28 kilograms of fish at the airport and the Border Gate checkpoint late last month. Eating hairy crab has become a habit for Chinese people in autumn, so recently importation – legal or illegal – of the species has risen. The customs recorded five cases at the airport, in which four locals and one mainlander were caught carrying undeclared hairy crab on their way entering Macau. The largest pack weighed 10 kilograms. Meanwhile, at the Border Gate, two local men tried to smuggle 28 kilograms of hairy crabs and fish by driving through immigration.

PRIVATE CLINICS PROPOSED TO STORE VACCINES

Lawmaker Song Pek Kei has proposed for the local government to allow private medical clinics to store vaccines. In her interpellation to the government, Song pointed out the trouble local residents have when buying vaccines from pharmacies. She said that, currently, residents need to buy vaccines from pharmacies and carry them to private clinics to get the shot. Due to this, residents need to bear unnecessary risks while transporting the vaccines to the clinics. Song believes that this situation limits Macau private clinics' development and also imposes higher demands and more pressure upon public hospitals. Song says that if public hospitals and pharmacies can store vaccines, private clinics should do so as well.



CRIME

POLICE ARREST 60 PEOPLE

THE Public Security Police Force (PSP) and the Judiciary Police (PJ) conducted two separate operations in Cotai over the past weekend and arrested more than 60 people.

The operations were conducted to secure the city in the leadup to the 20th anniversary of the establishment of the Macau Special Administrative Region. The locations of the operations inclu-

ded pubs and bars on both Macau Peninsula and Taipa, as well as casinos and nearby areas in Cotai.

The PSP deployed teams of 56, consisting of officers from both Macau and Island Police Divisions, the Intelligence Division and the Special Task Force.

Some 130 people were questioned, of whom 32 male and seven females were brought to police stations for

further investigation.

Afterwards, 37 people were found implicated in illegal acts, with 32 of them under suspicion of illegal currency exchange and the other five linked to prostitution. All have been sent to the relevant departments for follow up.

On the same night, the PSP also conducted searches in residential buildings in NAPE on the Macau Peninsula and

in Taipa. The public security force busted three illegal hostel units, found and arrested 23 renters, as well as the operator of the hostel.

Meanwhile, over the same weekend, the PJ also conducted anti-crime operations throughout the city, mainly in Cotai, and arrested 30 people from the mainland. They were suspected of running illegal currency exchange businesses.

After the operations, which started at 2pm on Saturday, an officer from the PJ told the press that it had involved 40 inspectors. Some 196 people were questioned. **AL**

Two women trapped in casino investment scam, lost 4 million patacas

Two non-local women reported a total loss of more than 4 million patacas after falling victim to a casino VIP lounge investment scam, the Judiciary Police (PJ) reported last Friday.

One of them is a Hong Kong resident while the other is from mainland China.

In the middle of this year an unemployed mainlander surnamed Wang, together with a syndicate member, told the two victims that they could invest in Macau's casino VIP lounges with a daily 5% profit return rate.

The two women, possessing no knowledge about casino invest-

ments, believed the two scammers. The Hong Kong resident invested 2.6 million patacas in August, and the mainland woman invested 3 million patacas.

As of October 20, the two victims had not received the promised profit, and, since this date, Wang and the syndicate member could

not be reached.

According to the victims, they have only received 1.39 million back in total. One woman received one million patacas while 390 thousand patacas was returned to the other.

Last Wednesday, Wang was detained while crossing the border to leave Macau. Wang

admitted to PJ that he indeed received the investment money from the two victims. However, he refused to reveal further information on the details behind the investment claim. PJ has already presented Wang to the prosecution authority, having charged him with fraud for large amounts. **JZ**

CE IN BEIJING FOR GBA DEVELOPMENT LEADERS GROUP

CHIEF Executive (CE) Chui Sai On will this week be participating in a series of visits to the Mainland which includes participation in the third plenary meeting of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macau Greater Bay Area (GBA) Development Leaders Group that will take place Wednesday.

The CE will be accompanied at this meeting by a delegation that includes the Head of the CE Office, O Lam, and the Director of the Policy Research and Regional Development Bureau, Mi Jian, among other officials.

This meeting is part of a sequence of visits by the CE, including one to the city of Shanghai where Chui will also lead a local delegation to attend China International Import Expo (CIIE), taking place from today until Wednesday.

According to information from the CE's office spokesperson, Chui will attend the CIIE opening ceremony and the launch of the Second Hongqiao International Economic and Trade Forum.

This second CIIE will be held from November 5 to 10 with guests from some 170 countries and regions invited to take part in

the event, including politicians, business people and representatives of international organizations.

Macau will also be represented in the fair, at a pavilion titled "Macau Hub."

The Macau Pavilion is included in the China Pavilion that features the country's Trade and Investment promotions.

According to information provided by the same source, the local Trade and Investment Promotion Institute and the Cultural Industry Fund have also organized a group of local industry organizations to participate in the event, in the Enterprise and Business Exhibition section.

The local delegation to this event, in addition to the CE, includes also the Secretaries for Economy and Finance, Lionel Leong, and for Social Affairs and Culture, Alexis Tam, as well as the Secretary-General of the Liaison Office of the Central People's Government in the Macau SAR, Wang Xindong.

In both cases and during the absence of the CE, the Secretary for Administration and Justice, Sónia Chan will fulfill her duties as Acting Chief Executive. **RM**

Macau Xi-Trump meeting buzz mounts

THE Xi Jinping meeting with Donald Trump "will be held in Macau," sources familiar with the matter told the Times yesterday, despite the Foreign Ministry of China insisting it is "pure speculation."

Last week, U.S. media reported that, due to Chile's cancellation of the APEC Leaders' Informal Meeting, China has proposed to the U.S. to hold a meeting between the two heads of state in Macau and sign the first phase of the trade agreement.

In response, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Geng Shuang said, "This is pure speculation!"

According to the White House, the U.S. still expects to reach a historic agreement with China within the original time frame.

During the Foreign Ministry's press conference held last week, Geng also said that consultations between the two sides are progressing smoothly and both will continue, as planned, to promote consultations



and other work.

Concerning the Xi-Trump summit, he said that the two heads of state have been in contact through various channels and late last week said they will announce the venue soon.

Citing a trade source familiar with the issue, U.S.-based network Fox News first reported that China has suggested Macau as a possible replacement venue.

This suggestion has been corroborated by Reuters citing people "familiar with the matter" and Bloomberg reported that three people familiar with the state of U.S.-China discussions said that the teams have been looking at

other locations in recent weeks and that China could be among them.

Meanwhile, Wei Jianguo, former vice minister of the Ministry of Commerce and current vice president of China Center for International Economic Exchanges, played down the effect of the cancellation at a press briefing in Singapore yesterday.

"I don't think the cancellation of the APEC meeting will have any impact on the U.S.-China trade deal," said Wei. "The venue could move to China, the U.S., or any third-party country. The two sides will surely talk about it."

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Property of the Week



Nova City, Taipa (Ready to move in)

HK\$12,300,000 1,515 ft² 3 bedrooms 2 bathrooms

Fresh on the market is this spacious 3 bedroom apartment in the heart of Taipa, Macau. Ideal for the family, this location has several kindergartens and schools within 5 minutes walk and best of all, Taipa Central Park is right at your doorstep with kids playground, basketball courts, swimming pool and public library.

Entering this family home is a generous dining and living space. The living room has city views and overlooks the park below. The modern kitchen has a large window for ample natural light and ventilation and adjoins a store room/maid room.

Nearby facilities include a bus stop at the building entrance, popular restaurants and bars nearby and Park n Shop and San Mui supermarkets within easy walking distance.

Property Hotlist



Taipa Village With Balcony

\$4,950,000

787 ft²

2 bedrooms 1 bathroom



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Va Fat, Taipa

\$4,530,000

725 ft²

2 bedrooms 1 bathroom



SCAN ME

Manhattan, Taipa
High Floor

\$26,800/mth

2,305 ft²

4 bedrooms 2 bathrooms



SCAN ME



Taipa Village one bedroom

\$11,800/mth

740 ft²

1 bedroom 1 bathroom



SCAN ME

More Listings

For Sale

- [Coloane] Large apartment 2 bedrooms 3 bathrooms 2,530 ft² \$13,800,000 (ref: 19096000)
- [Macau] One Central 2 bedrooms 2 bathrooms 1,269 ft² \$13,575,000 (ref: 19070002)
- [Macau] One Central 2 bedrooms 2 bathrooms 1,349 ft² \$14,839,000 (ref: 19096004)
- [Taipa] 2 connected apartment 4 bedrooms 2 bathrooms 1,404 ft² \$8,680,000 (ref: 19096006)
- [Taipa] Apartment with balcony 2 bedrooms 1 bathroom 787 ft² \$4,950,000 (ref: 19096008)

For Rent

- [Taipa] Manhattan 3 bedrooms 2 bathrooms 1,720 ft² \$23,800/mth (ref: 19091006)
- [Taipa] Nova Grand 2 bedrooms 1 bathroom 935 ft² \$17,800/mth (ref: 19091004)
- [Taipa] Ocean Gardens 4 bedrooms 4 bathrooms 3,700 ft² \$35,000/mth (ref: 18040674)
- [Cotai] One Grantai 3 bedrooms 3 bathrooms 2,122 ft² \$23,000/mth (ref: 19030001RT)
- [Macau] La Marina Studio 1 bathroom \$11,200/mth (ref: 19091001)

Recent Movements

Sold Hellene Garden,
Coloane, 1,663 ft², 3 beds

Rented Coloane Village,
780 ft², 1 bed

Rented Chong Fok, Taipa
2 beds



JML in the Community



Cradle of Hope



Caritas Macau

Macau Bats Junior
Rugby Team

Macau Golf Masters

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ADVERTORIAL



Customs launches Easy Clearance for cargo

JULIE ZHU

MACAO Customs Service has introduced a smart clearance system across Macau's borders hoping to promote modern and accessible customs clearance measures to all relevant parties. Aiming at efficiencies in the use of human resources and the use of scientific and technological systems, the customs authority launched "Easy Clearance" last Friday.

The system provides a one-stop automated inspection and clearance of goods through forecasting cargo data and through big data risk prediction technology. The authority first launched the Easy Clearance service for land freight. Cross-border cargo vehicles registered with the Easy Clearance service do not need to go through customs clearance procedures after crossing the border to Macau.

Previously, vehicles were randomly selected to go through customs' inspection after crossing into Macau. Since the launch of Easy Clearance, vehicles which have not registered for the service at the customs authority may still be inspected.

With Easy Clearance, cargo companies can make a declaration to the customs authority through the Easy Clearance system before they export or import goods to Macau. The Easy Clearance system will conduct a preliminary clearance procedure after it receives the declaration.

The companies responsible for the vehicles must issue a notification to the customs authority at least 30 minutes before their relevant vehicles approach Macau's land freight. The notification should contain the plate number of the vehicles.

Once the vehicles arrive at Macau's land port, the smart system will confirm the information linked to the license plate. Confirmation and approval of the customs authority and the Public Security Police Force (PSP) must be given and presented to the relevant vehicle through an LED board at the port. Only then can the vehicles cross Macau's borders.

On Friday, the customs authority invited two local residents who operate cargos between Macau and mainland China. Both residents said that the Easy Clearance system shortened their immigration checking procedure to 15 minutes from taking over 20 minutes previously. Currently, Easy Clearance is available at Ilha Verde cross-border industrial zone check-points, at the Border Gate, and at the Lotus Frontier. Since the experimental operation of the service on October 28 until 11 am on November 1, more than 30 vehicles used this service.

Currently, five companies have applied to use the Easy Clearance system. According to the customs authority, in the future, Easy Clearance is expected to be installed at the Macau Port on the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macau Bridge.

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TOMORROW TODAY
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MGM Continues to Care for Physical and Mental Wellness of Team Members

MGM recognizes that team members are its most valuable asset and places great emphasis on their health and safety. As part of its effort to embody this caring spirit, the Company launched the MGM Health and Safety Month 2019 in October to raise team members' awareness of health and safety and help them develop an effective training regimen. It is believed that the campaign would enhance team members' physical condition and improve their concentration at work so that the Company and employees can make a collaborative effort to create a healthier and safer workplace.



MGM Health and Safety Month 2019 comprised a series of fun-filled activities under the umbrella of Golden Lion Health Action, complete with workout videos starring Health Ambassador Leo Sincere. It commenced with a circle-painting workshop organized by Fuhong Society of Macau and sponsored by MGM. 200 volunteers from MGM, Fuhong Society of Macau, a secondary school, local universities and social service associations joined forces to create a large art piece with the aim of raising public awareness of mental health.

Participants of Qigong Ba Duan Jin Experience, another highlight of MGM Health and Safety Month, learned the very gentle and effective movement sequence of Chinese Qigong as a way to improve physique. Fun Cycling was a great occasion for team members to break the wind and appreciate nature with their family. Those wanting to further let go of the city joined Family Hiking along Hac-Sa Reservoir Walk at Coloane. Health Fun Day offered mini-games of basketball shooting, darts shooting and golf putt for participants to estimate their motor skills. Health Check Point was also popular with team members, who took this opportunity to receive BMI, body fat and glucose checkup by professional medical practitioners.



Other events that team members shouldn't miss out included Health Series Flash Talk hosted by Chinese medicine practitioners, Work and Health Seminar with professionals from Macau Labour Affairs Bureau coming in to expound on the impact of work on health, and Functional Improvement Exercise Class – Upper Limb led by a physiotherapist.

As in years past, MGM specially produced safety and health videos for employees to acquire the skills of staying fit. This year, Leo Sincere taught team members stretching exercise to prevent muscle strain caused by maintaining certain postures for long periods of time. The vitality of Leo Sincere was so impressive that viewers were easily guided to let go of stress and understand the utmost importance of occupational safety.

MGM continues to promote wholesome lifestyle and provide employees with avenues for different sporting activities. The Initiatives are expected to enhance their physical health, create new friendships and bring team spirit to the workplace.

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CENTRAL BOOK STACK RELOCATES TO PAC ON, RESERVATION SERVICES SUSPENDED

THE Central Book Stack from the Macao Public Library is being relocated from its current location at the Avenida do Almirante Lacerda to the new Multifunctional Government Building at Pac On.

Due to the relocation, the reservation services for books as well as all the audio-visual materials belonging to this stack will be suspended from next Monday (November 11) until the relocation has been completed, and the retrieval services will also be suspended until further notice, the Cultural Affairs Bureau (IC) said in a statement.

The new space at Pac On is currently undergoing interior design renovations to receive some 400,000 items previously located in central Macau. Among the nu-

merous items are books and audio-visual materials originally stored in the old Central Book Stack that will be re-cataloged and re-shelved in the new location.

IC explained that the decision aims to optimize the space for the storage of such important books and historical documents making them also more accessible to the public.

The retrieval services for books and audio-visual materials shelved in all the branch libraries across the peninsula and the islands will remain available and would not be affected by this relocation.

The Multifunctional Government Building is located on Lot O1 in Pac On, Taipa, across the Immigration Building of the Public Security Police Force. **RM**

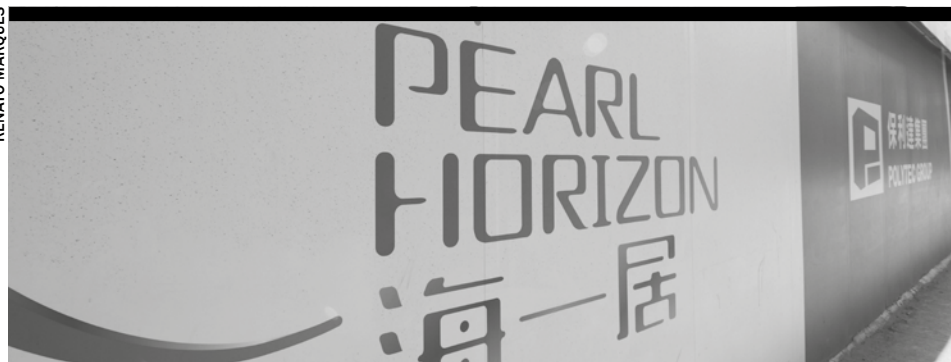
URBAN PLANNER THINKS PEARL HORIZON LOT SHOULD BE REDONE

URBAN planner Lam Iek Chit criticized the draft of the Pearl Horizon substitute housing as "rudimentary" and should be redone.

Lam, a member of the Lam Iek Chit Urban Planning Commission, commented that the current draft had not taken into account many basic principles in urban planning, the urban planner told the online news outlet All About Macau.

"No issue with respect to transport, ventilation and layout of public facilities has been addressed in this draft," Lam pointed out. "This plan shouldn't have been submitted to the Urban Planning Commission."

The Pearl Horizon residential development was discontinued due to failure to meet mandated deadlines. The plot assigned to



the development will be used for alternative housing to be built for the pre-sale buyers of the original residences.

The project is now under the administration of the Urban Renewal Company, a publicly funded entity. The company previously pointed out that the housing will be built following private residential practices.

Lam pointed out that the plot of land would include private housing, temporary housing and

public facilities. The urban planner said none of these had been stipulated in the draft, which is unacceptable in urban planning.

"Nobody can judge with common sense where each facility will be located," the urban planner pointed out. It is worth noting that the land is 7 hectares in size, compared with its "brother development," the Baía do Mer's 1.4 hectares.

The current draft is especially unsuitable as the large plot of land may house up to 30,000 people. If

that is the case, the pressure on communal facilities will be exceptionally heavy.

Lam also stressed that the plot of land is the ventilation access point to the plots further in the Peninsula. The layout of the land will affect the ventilation of the inner Areia Preta District.

In addition, the plot of land is the district's transport hub. As such, Lam thinks the draft should be redone and resubmitted to the Urban Planning Commission. **AL**

AD





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China vows bolstered legal measures over protests

CHINA vowed to prevent foreign powers from interfering in Hong Kong's affairs and carrying out acts of "separatism, subversion, infiltration and sabotage."

The latest broadside against alleged foreign backing of anti-government protesters came from a top-ranking member of China's ceremonial parliament, the National People's Congress, last Friday.

Shen Chunyao was elaborating on a reference in a Communist Party document that says Beijing will "establish and strengthen a legal system and enforcement mechanism for safeguarding national security" in Hong Kong, which has been roiled by five months of increasingly violent pro-democracy rallies.

"We absolutely will not permit any behavior that challenges the bottom line of 'one country, two systems,'" Shen said, referencing the governing framework under which Hong Kong was handed over from British to Chinese rule in 1997.

"We absolutely will not permit any behavior encouraging separatism or endangering national security and will resolutely guard against and contain the interference of foreign powers in the affairs of Hong Kong and Macau and their carrying out acts of separatism, subversion, infiltration and sabotage," he told reporters.

Hong Kong, which has a separate legal system under its own mini-constitution known as the Basic Law, has tried to enact anti-subversion legislation before, only to have the measure shelved amid formidable public opposition.

Shen may now be indicating that Beijing is preparing to take

matters into its own hands by having the National People's Congress issue a legal interpretation forcing the enactment of such legislation.

Article 23 of the Basic Law requires that the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region "enact laws on its own to prohibit any act of treason, secession, sedition, subversion against the Central People's Government."

It would also forbid foreign political organizations or bodies from conducting political activities in Hong Kong and ban Hong Kong political bodies from forging ties with foreign political organizations.

That would bring conditions in Hong Kong closer in line to those in mainland China, where the government allows no political opposition to Communist Party rule and harasses or jails all who challenge its authority. That includes independent legal, civil rights and labor activists, and those defending the native religions, cultures and languages of minority peoples such as Buddhist Tibetans and Turkic Muslim Uighurs.

Hong Kong has already taken a hard line on demands that candidates for office endorse the "one country, two systems" formula and explicitly rule out the possibility of Hong Kong becoming independent of Beijing.

To drive home the point, Hong Kong authorities on Tuesday barred pro-democracy activist Joshua Wong from running as a local councilor.

Hong Kong's leader, Chief Executive Carrie Lam, said there would be no political solution until the violent protests gripping the semi-autonomous Chinese territory end. **AP**

AP PHOTO



Xinhua condemned the "barbaric acts of mobs" that had vandalized and set fire to the lobby of its Asia-Pacific office building on Saturday

HONG KONG

Riot police storm malls to thwart more protests

EILEEN NG, HONG KONG

RIOT police stormed several malls in Hong Kong yesterday in a move to thwart more pro-democracy protests, as the city's leader prepares for talks in Beijing on deepening economic integration between the semi-autonomous Chinese territory and mainland China.

There were calls online urging protesters to gather in seven locations to sustain a push for political reform following a chaotic day of protests and clashes with police on Saturday, with the anti-government movement showing no signs of letting up after nearly five months.

Most of the rallies didn't pan out yesterday as scores of riot police took positions, searching and arresting people, dispersing crowds and blocking access to a park next to the office of the city's embattled leader, Carrie Lam.

Some small pockets of hardcore demonstrators were under-terred.

As protesters chanted slogans at the New Town Plaza shopping mall in Sha Tin, police said they moved in after some "masked rioters" with fire extinguishers vandalized turnstiles and smashed windows at the subway station linked to the mall.

In two malls in the New Territories in the north, protesters vandalized shops, threw paint and attacked an outlet of Japanese fast food chain Yoshinoya, which has been frequently targeted after its owner voiced support for the Hong Kong police.

Police rushed into one of the malls after objects were thrown at them. At another, protesters used umbrellas and cable ties to lock the mall entrance to prevent

police from entering.

Later yesterday, police stormed the Cityplaza shopping complex on Hong Kong Island after some protesters sprayed graffiti at a restaurant. A human chain by dozens of people was broken up and angry shoppers heckled the police.

The protests began in early June over a now-shelved plan to allow extraditions to mainland China but have since swelled into a movement seeking other demands, including direct elections for Hong Kong's leaders and an independent inquiry into police conduct.

Lam has refused to budge on the demands, and instead has focused on measures that she said contributed to protesters' anger, such as creating jobs and easing housing woes in one of the world's most expensive cities. She invoked emergency powers last month to ban face masks at rallies, provoking further anger.

Her office said that Lam, currently in Shanghai, will head to Beijing tomorrow. She is due to hold talks Wednesday with Chinese Vice Premier Han Zheng and join a meeting on the development of the Greater Bay Area that aims to link Hong Kong, Macau and nine other cities in southern China.

The ambitious project will help make it easier for Hong Kong residents to work and reside in mainland Chinese cities, and bolster the flow of people and goods, Lam's office said in a statement.

But the plan has also sparked concerns over China's growing influence over the territory. Many protesters fear Beijing is slowly infringing on the freedoms guaranteed to Hong Kong when the former British colony

returned to Chinese control in 1997.

On Saturday, protesters for the first time attacked the Hong Kong office of China's state-owned Xinhua News Agency in a show of anger against Beijing, a day after China warned of tightening its grip on the city to quell the unrest. The attack on Xinhua came after chaos broke out downtown, with police firing tear gas and protesters tossing gasoline bombs.

Xinhua said in a statement that it strongly condemned the "barbaric acts of mobs" that had vandalized and set fire to the lobby of its Asia-Pacific office building. The Hong Kong Journalists Association also deplored "any act of sabotage against the media" and called for an end to violence against the press.

Protesters have frequently targeted Chinese banks and businesses. In July, demonstrators threw eggs at China's liaison office in Hong Kong and defaced the Chinese national emblem in a move slammed by Beijing as a direct challenge to its authority.

On Friday, the Communist Party in Beijing vowed to "establish and strengthen a legal system and enforcement mechanism" to prevent foreign powers from sowing acts of "separatism, subversion, infiltration and sabotage" in Hong Kong.

Hong Kong, which has a separate legal system from mainland China, has tried to enact anti-subversion legislation before but failed amid public opposition. Beijing may be indicating it is preparing to take matters into its own hands by having the National People's Congress — a ceremonial legislature — issue a legal interpretation to enact such legislation. **AP**

AP PHOTO



AP PHOTO



The Fitbit Charge 3 fitness trackers are displayed in New York

TECHNOLOGY

FITBIT BUY IS GOOGLE'S LATEST STEP INTO GADGETRY

GOOGLE'S acquisition of wearable pioneer Fitbit may be a bold plunge into health and fitness technology. But it's also just the latest step in the internet giant's often-halting effort to become a force in consumer hardware.

Once a pure software company known for its search engine, apps like Gmail and its Android software for smartphones, Google has for the last several years been building out its own suite of hardware products. These include its niche Pixel smartphones and a variety of smart gadgets from speakers to thermostats to Wi-Fi routers, all recently rebranded as "Nest"

products.

Last month, the company announced a slate of new products including a Pixel phone, a Nest speaker and wireless earbuds. But its gadget sales are still minuscule compared to rivals Apple and Samsung.

That doesn't necessarily matter much to Google, which sees hardware mostly as a way to get people hooked on its software and artificial-intelligence services. Health and fitness wearables like the ones that made Fitbit famous are just one more avenue for Google to forge a presence in people's lives.

Google has previously tried

and failed to build a business in health technology, and its Wear OS software offers fitness tracking and AI for smartwatches made by other companies. But it doesn't have its own branded fitness wearable.

That seems about to change.

Although Fitbit has been struggling recently against amped-up competition from Apple and Samsung, it still has one of the most recognizable and trusted brand names in wearable health tech, said eMarketer analyst Victoria Petrock.

"I think this gives Google immediate credibility in the market," she said.

In a blog post announcing the deal with Fitbit, Google hardware executive Rick Osterloh said the merger would give the company an opportunity to release its own wearable device.

Google is realizing that it needs to build products that are consistent and coherent, like Apple does because it makes both hardware and software, said Forrester analyst Frank Gillett. He said Microsoft is taking steps in this direction as well with the Surface.

"The Android model has been successful to a point, but it has also created a fragmented user experience," Gillett said.

Google's last big acquisition-fueled push into a hot hardware space involved its takeover of smart-thermostat maker Nest.

Although Nest functioned for years as a largely autonomous unit, last year it folded back into Google.

It's possible we might soon see "Fitbit by Google" wearables, Petrock said.

But the push for Google, and increasingly other tech companies, is about the services they can sell along with the hardware.

"These companies want to sort of be everywhere," Petrock said. "They want to provide a seamless connected device experience to users across the board. And wearables are part of that strategy."

Digital health is a fast-growing market, with one study tracking more than \$8 billion in venture investment in 2018. The market could bust open once a federal Department of Health and Human Services initiative to give patients better control over their electronic health data becomes a reality.

The Fitbit deal, which is expected to close next year, will also give Google another big chunk of personal health and location data. Google said it won't sell ads using health and wellness data.

But it will still have all that information, which puts a lot of personal data in one place in case of breaches or leaks.

One unanswered question is what will happen to people who have enrolled in workplace "wellness" programs that use Fitbit. Consumer Reports health privacy expert Dena Mendelsohn worries that such workers may not realize that they've lost control of their data.

In the case of this acquisition, she said, "all that data that Fitbit collected over the years that users may or may not have been aware was being collected about them now is going over to Google." **AP**

CORPORATE BITS

Sands China donates MOP200,000 to Caritas Macau



A group of approximately 100 Sands Cares Ambassadors volunteered at the 50th Caritas Macau Charity Bazaar at Nam Van Lake Nautical Centre during the weekend by manning a game booth to raise funds for the non-government-

tal organisation. According to a statement issued by the gaming operator, it is Sands China's ninth year helping to raise funds for Caritas at its annual charity event.

A MOP200,000 ceremonial cheque was made to

Caritas Macau to support its operational expenses and its efforts to develop and implement social services in the community.

Through events such as charity runs and bazaars, Sands China has contributed more than MOP4.7 million to the non-profit organization since 2004.

At this year's event, Sands China was one of three integrated resort operators invited by Caritas to print the company's logo on one of the four Caritas Macau Charity Bazaar's 50th anniversary commemorative model cars to raise funds. Sands China donated MOP70,000 in total for the production of 1,000 model cars.

GEG to hold ninth edition of youth program



Galaxy Entertainment Group (GEG) collaborated with the Macau Management Association to organize the GEG Youth Achievement Program (YAP), providing training opportunities for nearly 3,000 participants.

The gaming operator held the

award presentation and the 2020 Launch Ceremony to recognize the outstanding performance of the participants in the eighth YAP and welcomed incoming participants to the ninth edition.

Philip Cheng, director of

GEG, said, "GEG will continue to broaden the national education element in the upcoming YAP program and encourage young people to better understand themselves in order to seize the opportunities of the supporting government policies."

The YAP covers three main areas: self-awareness, community care and career development. Its aim is to help young people build confidence and develop their potential. The program offers training, activities and competitions, including Potential Development workshops, Experience Beyond Yourself camping, Greater Bay Area field visits, and competitions.

AP PHOTO



JIM GOMEZ & ELAINE
KURTENBACH, NONTHABURI

LEADERS from fast-growing Southeast Asian economies, China and other regional powers vowed yesterday to transcend conflicts over trade policies and territorial disputes for the sake of stronger economies and regional stability.

President Donald Trump skipped the summit of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and instead sent his national security adviser, Robert O'Brien. Last year, Trump sent Vice President Mike Pence. Both now are busy campaigning back home, and analysts say their absence will leave room for China to further raise its profile and clout in the region.

The ASEAN meeting's host, Thai Prime Minister Prayuth Chan-ocha, said the group aims to reach a basic agreement on plans for what may become one of the world's biggest trade blocs.

The proposed Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership aims to level trade barriers between the 10 ASEAN members and six other countries in a bloc encompassing nearly a third of all global trade.

Prayuth and other officials said the aim was to have a final deal by next year. ASEAN also hopes to set a code of conduct with China regarding disputed waters in the South China Sea, he said.

Chinese Premier Li Keqiang told other leaders attending that Beijing was committed to forging such an agreement and to ASEAN's central role in the region.

Trump absent, ASEAN charts path for trade bloc led by China

"Given the complexity in the international and regional situation, our cooperation is built on a stable structure and moving forward in a positive fashion," Li said. "This is beneficial to the region and all parties involved."

"We support stability in the region and by doing so we have been able to cope with the instability elsewhere in the world," he said.

On the troublesome issue of the South China Sea, Li welcomed progress on negotiating a code of conduct aimed at taming aggressive actions that could set off armed confrontations in one of the world's most disputed regions.

After being accused of delaying the start of talks for years while building artificial islands with military outposts on contested reefs, China agreed to commence negotiations and both sides announced that the first of three expected rounds was concluded in July.

Li called that progress "a very important landmark" for regional stability. He said China is committed to making headway in the negotiations with ASEAN members, four of whom — Brunei, Malaysia, the Philippines and Vietnam — are locked in the territorial disputes.

But the talks are highly contentious and it's unclear if China is ready to sign a code that many governments, including the U.S., hope would be legally binding and potent enough to restrain provocative actions in a busy waterway crucial to global commerce.

Two Southeast Asian diplomats told The Associated Press

ASEAN also hopes to set a code of conduct with China regarding disputed waters in the South China Sea

that in a tense meeting in Vietnam recently, Vietnamese diplomats questioned how the negotiations could progress while flotillas of Chinese fishing boats backed by China's coast guard and navy were swarming into waters where Vietnam, the Philippines and Malaysia have exclusive rights under international law to exploit energy resources.

Chinese officials replied that ASEAN members should not allow one state "to hijack the COC process," one of the diplomats said, referring to the code of conduct talks. The two diplomats spoke to the AP on condition of anonymity because of a lack of authority to discuss the issue publicly.

"China's continued harassment of Malaysia, Filipino and Vietnamese activities over the last year shows that it isn't yet prepared to compromise in any substantive way. So these talks always seemed to be heading for trouble," said Greg Poling, a South China Sea expert with the U.S.-based Asia Maritime Transparency Initiative.

The meetings Sunday also touched on other challenges. U.N. Secretary General Antonio Guterres urged the leaders to wean themselves from reliance on coal-fired power plants whose emissions contribute to climate change that is felt keenly in the region in the form of extreme weather disasters and rising sea levels.

Guterres nudged Myanmar to do more to help resettle hundreds of thousands of members of its Muslim Rohingya minority who have fled violence in the country's northwest.

"Some positive steps have been taken, but much more needs to be done to forge durable solutions and ensure effective accountability," he said.

Asked by reporters about the recent deaths of 39 Vietnamese migrants who died in a shipping container while being smuggled

into Britain, Guterres urged that more be done to fight human trafficking by organizing migration rather than leaving it to organized crime.

"Migration is inevitable," he said. "If migration is inevitable, then it's better to organize it."

On the issue of trade, ASEAN officials plan to present to the leaders a report on negotiations on the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership. A draft of a statement by the leaders on the RCEP seen by The Associated Press says talks should be finalized by February and endorsed by leaders of member countries at next year's summit, which is due to take place in Vietnam.

"We are committed to sign the RCEP agreement in Vietnam in 2020," the leaders' draft statement said.

ASEAN members include Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Myanmar, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam. Together, they comprise a fast-growing regional market of nearly 650 million people.

The proposed RCEP trade bloc aims to facilitate and set standards for trade among ASEAN and six other nations: China, Japan, India, Australia, New Zealand and South Korea. It does not include the United States. AP

AP PHOTO



JOE MCDONALD, BEIJING

TRADE WAR

ECONOMY STRUGGLES AS CONSUMERS TIGHTEN BELTS

WITH home sales crashing, real estate agent Zhang Yonggang is tightening his belt, part of a plunge in Chinese consumer demand that is a bigger threat to economic growth than Beijing's tariff war with Washington.

Zhang, who works in the central city of Taiyuan, said his office sold no apartments last month after Beijing tightened lending controls in July to rein in housing costs and debt. Zhang, 42 and married with a teenage son, said his income has fallen by half from a year ago.

"I have no money to buy a home and no plans to change cars," Zhang said. "It is definitely the toughest time I've ever seen."

Communist leaders are counting on consumers to power China's economy, replacing trade and investment. But shoppers, spooked by the tariff war and possible job losses, are cutting spending on cars, real estate and other big-ticket purchases.

Economic growth sank to a three-decade low of 6% over a year earlier in the quarter ending in September. That is stronger than most major countries but a strain for Chinese companies that need to repay debt.

Factory activity shrank more than expected in October, according to an official trade group, the China Federation of Logistics & Purchasing. Analysts said that suggested an uptick a month earlier didn't mark the start of a recovery.

The Chinese slowdown has sent shockwaves through the global economy.

Companies from Apple to Tif-

fany's have reported weaker sales as Chinese consumers and tourists spend less. China's demand for iron ore, copper and other commodities has softened, depressing global prices.

Communist leaders express confidence China can survive President Donald Trump's tariff hikes on its exports.

On Thursday, the ruling party's Central Committee affirmed support for private business within an economy dominated by state industry and gave no sign of plans to change economic strategy.

But leaders openly fret over slumping consumer spending and other domestic activity.

Premier Li Ke-qiang, the top economic official, told local leaders last week to fight "downward pressure" on the economy and "make sure targets for this year are achieved."

"Many real economic entities are struggling amid weak domestic demand," the premier said at a meeting with provincial governors, according to a Cabinet statement.

Beijing has tried to stick to plans to nurture self-sustaining, consumer-driven growth instead of resorting to stimulus, which usually means splurging on construction paid for with bank loans.

That might re-ignite a surge in debt that forecasters estimate has risen as high as the equivalent of 300% of China's annual economic output.

"China is willing to accept slower growth, but only up to a point," Rory Green of TS Lombard said in a report.

If job losses spike, "of course Beijing will have to step in with a major stimulus," Green said.

Trump's punitive duties on billions of dollars of Chinese goods in a fight over Beijing's trade surplus and technology am-

Communist leaders express confidence China can survive President Donald Trump's tariff hikes on its exports

bitions have battered exporters. But their impact on the rest of the economy has been smaller than some forecasters expected.

And trade overall is stronger than expected. Shipments to the United States fell nearly 11% in the first nine months of 2019, but exports to the whole world were off only 0.1%.

Retail sales rose 8.2% over a year earlier in the nine months ending in September. But some industries suffered painful contractions: Auto sales fell 11.7%.

The pressures are reflected in

Anna Li's dilemma. The 28-year-old employee of an information technology company in Beijing plans to buy an apartment, but first she wants a new job. She has looked since last year and found nothing because companies have cut hiring.

"I used to have a plan to buy an apartment next year, but now it depends on the success of my job hunting," said Li.

The International Monetary Fund is forecasting annual growth of 6.1% this year, down from last year's 6.6% and just above the official minimum target of 6%. Next year, the IMF expects a further decline to 5.8%.

Some analysts question whether China really is achieving even

that growth and say the real rate may be closer to 3%. They blame flaws in data collection and political pressure to make results look better.

Economic activity might be up to 21% smaller than official data show, according to Yingyao Hu and Jiaxiong Yao at Johns Hopkins University.

Government data assume all investment pays off, but much spending in 2012-17 went into unproductive projects, say Hu and Yao. They cite evidence including satellite photos that show

nighttime cities darker than they should be with more activity.

That could mean Chinese debt is higher relative to the size of the economy than thought. That might further depress consumer demand because more national income must be diverted to repay debt.

Leaders are trying to reassure U.S. and other foreign companies that have postponed or moved planned investments out of China to avoid tariff hikes.

Li, the premier, has told a string of American, European and other visiting business leaders they are welcome despite Beijing's 15-month-old war with Trump.

Beijing has announced market-opening measures over the past two years including abolishing limits on foreign ownership in securities trading, auto manufacturing and some other industries.

"I believe the further improvement of China's business environment will provide larger opportunities," Li told Evan Greenberg, the chairman of the U.S.-China Business Council, which represents companies that do business with China, in an Oct. 17 meeting.

The tariff war has made Beijing determined to adapt to slower growth and less reliance on debt in what it views as a period of strategic competition, said Green of TS Lombard.

Chinese leaders don't want to use credit-fueled stimulus and "leave themselves vulnerable to future economic and financial sanctions," he said.

Plus, Green said, Trump is "the perfect scapegoat" to blame for slower growth. **AP**

Okinawa governor warns of 'strong resistance' to US missiles

ISABEL REYNOLDS & EMI NOBUHIRO

AS the Pentagon hunts for sites to deploy missiles against a rising China, Okinawa's governor is warning the U.S. to steer clear of the southern Japanese prefecture.

Governor Denny Tamaki said in an interview Friday that any U.S. attempt to base intermediate-range ballistic missiles in Okinawa would be firmly opposed by the local people. Tamaki, who was elected last year on a campaign to get the Marines' Futenma air base out of the prefecture, argues the region already shoulders an unfair burden by hosting about half of the 50,000 U.S. military personnel in Japan.

"Intermediate-range ballistic missiles can be used to attack other countries, so deploying them would conflict with the constitution and lead to a further build-up of the U.S. bases," Tamaki, 60, told Bloomberg News. "To have new military facilities would be absolutely unacceptable."

Tamaki's comments underscore the challenges facing the U.S. as it seeks to deploy land-based cruise missiles and intermediate-range ballistic missiles after withdrawing from a treaty with Russia that banned them. The Trump administration scrapped the agreement in part because China,

which wasn't bound by the treaty, has a wide variety of similar missiles that can target the U.S. bases and allies in the region.

Many of the most likely sites for such missiles, including treaty allies such as Australia, Japan and South Korea, may be reluctant to accept the weapons out of fear of inflaming domestic opposition. China has also warned that those countries would face retaliation if they agreed to host the missiles.

Okinawa would be an ideal place for such weapons, since its bases could put all of China in range. But it's also among the places where opposition to America's overseas troop presence is strongest, and local residents have complained for decades about crime, accidents, pollution and noise associated with the U.S. bases.

Japan's central government has agreed with the U.S. to move the Futenma base from the center of a crowded city to a more remote location. Tamaki defeated a candidate backed by Prime Minister Shinzo Abe to win election as governor and held a referendum in March in which 70% voted against the relocation plan.

Tamaki said any missile deployment would face similar opposition. "Strong resistance should be expected," he said. **BLOOMBERG**

AP PHOTO



United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres

UN chief urges Myanmar to resolve Rohingya crisis

PREEYAPA T. KHUNSONG & GRANT PECK, NONTABURI

U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres expressed concern yesterday over the plight of the 730,000 Muslim Rohingya refugees from Myanmar's Rakhine state, calling on Myanmar's government to take responsibility by dealing with the "root causes" of their flight and working toward their safe repatriation.

Guterres spoke as he held a meeting with leaders of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, to which Myanmar belongs. ASEAN leaders meet annually to try to work out common positions on pressing issues, but also maintain a policy of noninterference in each other's affairs.

A draft of a statement to be issued by ASEAN leaders takes a generally weak tone toward how Myanmar should deal with its Rakhine crisis.

"I remain deeply concerned about the situation in Myanmar, including Rakhine state, and the plight of the massive number of refugees still living increasingly in difficult conditions," said Guterres. "It remains, of course, Myanmar's responsibility to address the root causes and ensure a conducive environment for the safe, voluntary, dignified and sustainable repatriation of refugees to Rakhine state, in accordance with international

norms and standards."

He said Myanmar should take measures "to facilitate dialogue with refugees and pursue confidence building measures" and "to ensure humanitarian actors have full and unfettered access to areas of return, as well as communities in need."

"I welcome ASEAN's recent engagement with Myanmar and encourage its continued efforts," he added.

ASEAN members' attitudes toward the Rakhine crisis vary. While most countries are content to honor the organization's principle of noninterference in each other's affairs, Malaysia and Indonesia, which have Muslim-majority populations, would prefer ASEAN take a more proactive position in ensuring just treatment of the Rohingya. ASEAN's active involvement is mostly limited to helping with humanitarian aid.

The Rohingya fled to Bangladesh after Myanmar's military began a harsh counterinsurgency campaign against them in August 2017 in response to an attack by a fringe group of Rohingya militants.

U.N. investigators and human rights groups say Myanmar security forces carried out mass rapes, killings and burning of Rohingya homes, for which they could be charged with ethnic cleansing, or even genocide.

In September, a special U.N. fact-finding mission urged that Myanmar be held responsible

in international legal forums for alleged genocide against its Muslim Rohingya minority.

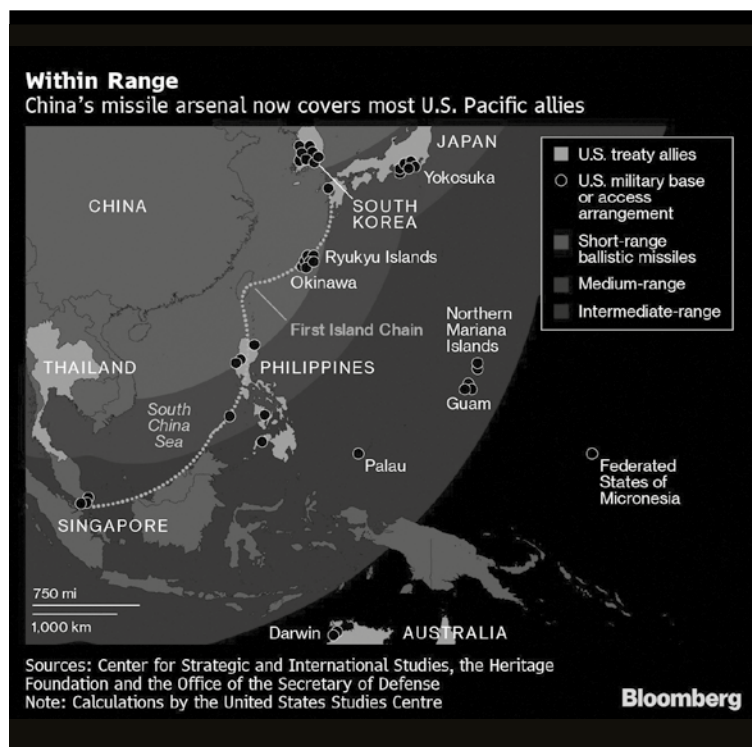
The Independent International Fact-Finding Mission on Myanmar said in a report wrapping up two years of documentation of human rights violations by security forces that counterinsurgency operations in 2017 included "genocidal acts."

The Rohingya have been harshly discriminated against, even though many have been settled in Myanmar for generations. Many in Myanmar consider them illegal immigrants from Bangladesh, and they have largely been denied citizenship and most of its privileges.

Myanmar refuses to call the Rohingya by their self-chosen name, and instead refers to them as Bengalis. Guterres in his statement avoided using either term, though the details and context made clear he was talking about the Rohingya.

Although Myanmar and Bangladesh have a formal agreement to repatriate the refugees, none have officially returned, fearing for their safety. Rights groups say Myanmar has neither made adequate arrangements for their return nor set up a process ensuring they will have full civil rights.

Guterres also spoke about the urgent need for measures to cope with climate change, a subject that has become his priority. **AP**



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AP PHOTO



Paul Manafort, President Donald Trump's former campaign chairman

ERIC TUCKER, MIKE BALSAMO
& JONATHAN LEMIRE,
WASHINGTON

TRUMP-RUSSIA PROBE

Mueller documents: Manafort pushed Ukraine hack theory

DURING the 2016 presidential campaign, Trump campaign chairman Paul Manafort pushed the idea that Ukraine, not Russia, was behind the hack of the Democratic National Committee servers, Manafort's deputy told investigators during the special counsel's Russia probe. The unsubstantiated theory, advanced by President Donald Trump even after he took office, would later help trigger the impeachment inquiry now consuming the White House.

Notes from an FBI interview were released Saturday after lawsuits by BuzzFeed News and CNN led to public access to hundreds of pages of documents from special counsel Robert Mueller's investigation. The documents included summaries of interviews with other figures from the Mueller probe, including Trump's former personal lawyer, Michael Cohen.

Information related to Ukraine took on renewed interest after calls for impeachment based on efforts by the president and his administration to pressure Ukraine to investigate Democrat Joe Biden. Trump, when speaking with Ukraine's new president in July, asked about the DNC servers in the same phone call in which he pushed for an investigation into Biden.

Manafort speculated about Ukraine's responsibility as the campaign sought to capitalize on DNC email disclosures and as Trump associates discussed how they could get hold of the material themselves, deputy campaign chairman Rick Gates told investigators, according to a summary of

one of his interviews.

Gates said Manafort's assertion that Ukraine might have done it echoed the position of Konstantin Kilimnik, a Manafort business associate who had also speculated that the hack could have been carried out by Russian operatives in Ukraine. U.S. authorities have assessed that Kilimnik, who was also charged in Mueller's investigation, has ties to Russian intelligence. American intelligence agencies have determined that Russia was behind the hack, and Mueller's team indicted 12 Russian agents in connection with the intrusion.

Gates also said the campaign believed that Michael Flynn, who later became Trump's first national security adviser, would be in the best position to obtain Hillary Clinton's missing emails because of his Russia connections. Flynn said he could use his intelligence sources to obtain the emails and was "adamant that Russians did not carry out the hack" because he believed that the U.S. intelligence community couldn't have figured out the source, according to the agent's notes. Flynn later pleaded guilty to lying to the FBI about his contacts with the Russian ambassador.

Mueller's investigation concluded in March with a report that found insufficient evidence to

establish a criminal conspiracy between Russia and the Trump campaign to sway the 2016 presidential election. The report also examined multiple episodes in which Trump sought to seize control of the Russia probe but did not conclude one way or the other about whether the president had illegally obstructed justice. Attorney General William Barr ultimately

Mueller's team indicted 12 Russian agents in connection with the intrusion

tely concluded that the president had not committed a crime.

Gates worked with Manafort in a lucrative international political consulting business that included Ukraine and later testified against him. Gates pleaded guilty last year in Mueller's investigation and has been one of the government's key cooperators. He has yet to be sentenced as he continues working with investigators. Manafort was sentenced to more than seven years in prison, in part for financial crimes arising from his Ukraine work.

During his interviews with investigators, Gates said that Donald Trump Jr. would ask where the hacked emails were during family meetings in the summer of 2016. Gates recalled that other key campaign aides, including future

Attorney General Jeff Sessions, Trump son-in-law Jared Kushner and Flynn, also "expressed interest in obtaining the emails as well," according to an agent's written summary of one interview. The identity of one of the people who expressed interest in the emails is blanked out.

One time on the campaign aircraft, Gates told the FBI, candidate Trump said "get the emails." Gates also said that another point, Trump told him that more leaks were coming, though the heavily redacted documents do not indicate how Trump knew that.

Gates also described conversations with the chairman of the Republican National Committee, Reince Priebus, who later entered the White House as the first chief of staff. Gates described the RNC as energized by the emails and said that though Trump and Kushner were initially skeptical about cooperating with the RNC, "the WikiLeaks issue was a turning point," the FBI notes show. WikiLeaks was the website that published the stolen emails in the weeks before the election.

The campaign was also very pleased by the releases, though Trump was advised not to react to it but rather to let it all play out, according to the in-

terview summaries.

The RNC would put out press releases to amplify the emails' release, Gates told the FBI. "The RNC also indicated they knew the timing of the upcoming releases," though Gates didn't specify who at the RNC had that information. "Gates said the only non-public information the RNC had was related to the timing of the releases."

Manafort, meanwhile, was trying to advise the Trump campaign even after severing ties with the campaign, causing alarm among some of the candidate's most senior advisers.

Manafort emailed Kushner, on Nov. 5, 2016, just days before the election, saying he was feeling good about the prospect of a Trump presidency. In the email, Manafort said he was "focusing on preserving the victory" and that he had sent a memo to Priebus and had briefed Gates and Fox News host Sean Hannity, a close Trump ally.

Kushner sent Manafort's email to Trump adviser Steve Bannon, who replied: "we need to avoid this guy like the plague."

"They are going to try and say the Russians worked with WikiLeaks to give this victory to us," Bannon wrote to Kushner and David Bossie, another Trump associate, in his reply. "Paul is nice guy but can't let word get out he is advising us." **AP**

what's ON

QUIETNESS AND CLARITY: WORKS OF CHEN ZHIFU FROM THE COLLECTION OF THE NANJING MUSEUM
TIME: 10am-7pm (No admittance after 6:30pm; Closed on Mondays)
UNTIL: November 17, 2019
VENUE: Macau Museum of Art
ADMISSION: Free
ENQUIRIES: (853) 8791 9814

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

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

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

Offbeat

CRAFTY MOVE: GERMAN SPIES TAKE FOREIGN AGENTS TO OKTOBERFEST



The German government has acknowledged that it picked up the tab when the country's spy agency recently took dozens of foreign agents on a trip to the Munich Oktoberfest.

News of the spies' visit to the world-famous beer festival came to light in a government response to an opposition lawmaker's questions and was first reported over the weekend by German weekly Bild am Sonntag.

A spokeswoman for Germany's BND foreign intelligence agency declined to comment on the trip, which reportedly involved more than 100 German spies and their guests, and cost over 30,000 euros (\$33,460).

It was unclear whether the entire sum went toward beer, which has a reputation for loosening tongues.

Left Party lawmaker Diether Dehm, who had requested the government's response, called the spies' Oktoberfest excursion "cheeky."

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
16:25	Quem Quer Ser Milionário
17:20	Grande Entrevista - Nuno Morais Sarmento
18:15	Contraponto (Repetição)
19:15	Aqui Há História (Repetição)
19:30	Ouro Verde Sr.1
20:30	Telejornal
21:15	TDM Desporto
22:20	Império
23:15	TDM News
23:50	Magazine Liga dos Campeões 2019/2020
00:25	Telejornal (Repetição)
01:10	RTPi Directo

cinema

CINETEATRO

31 Oct - 06 Nov



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



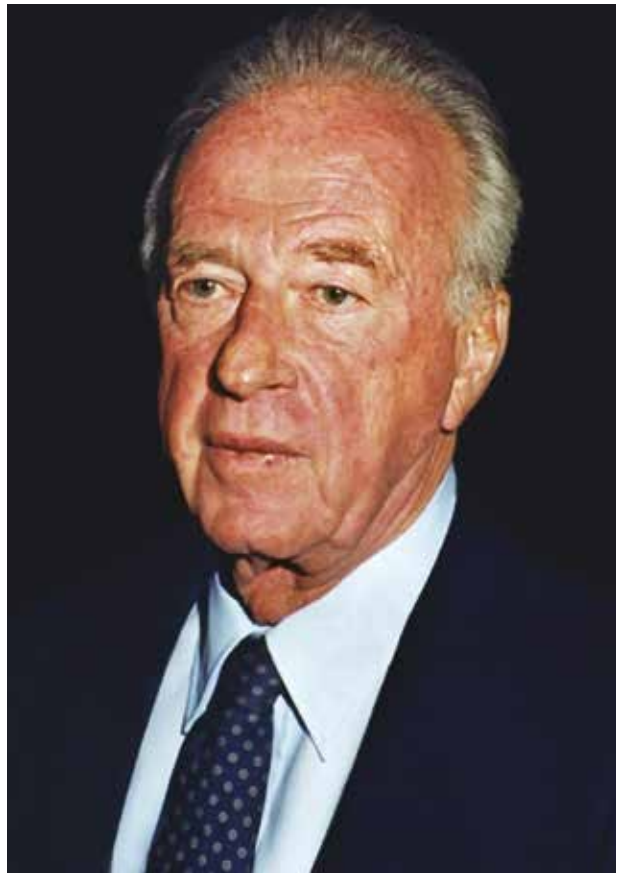
THE ADDAMS FAMILY
ROOM 2
2:30, 9:30pm
Director: Greg Tiernan, Conrad Vernon
Starring: Oscar Isaac, Charlize Theron, Chloë Grace Moretz
Language: English (Chinese)
ROOM 2
4:30, 7:30pm
Language: Cantonese (Chinese)
Duration: 87min



FORTUNA'S EYE
ROOM 3
2:30, 4:30, 9:30pm
Director: Takahiro Miki
Starring: Ryunosuke Kamiki, Kasumi Arimura, Yukiya Kitamura
Language: Japanese (Chinese & English)

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

this day in history



1995 ISRAELI PM SHOT DEAD

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin has been assassinated.

Mr Rabin was shot three times at close range in the stomach and chest by an assailant as he left a peace rally in Tel Aviv earlier on Saturday.

He was taken to hospital in Tel Aviv where he later died.

The gunman, named as Yigal Amir, was rapidly overpowered and arrested.

He is believed to be one of the founders of an illegal Jewish settlement on the West Bank and a member of an extreme right-wing organisation.

The rally at which Mr Rabin was shot was attended by about 100,000 Israelis who back the Rabin government's peace initiatives with the Palestinians.

Security was tight but police allowed right-wing groups, who oppose any peace deal, to protest nearby.

Israel TV said Yigal Amir, 27, had confessed to shooting the prime minister and had told investigators that he did not regret his actions.

Leaders from around the world are expected to attend Mr Rabin's funeral which takes place on Monday.

US President Bill Clinton said Yitzhak Rabin had given his life in the pursuit of peace.

The chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, Yasser Arafat, expressed condolences on behalf of the Palestinians.

"I hope that all of us - the Israelis and the Palestinians - will have the ability to overcome the tragedy and continue the peace process in all of the Middle East," Mr Arafat said.

Israel's foreign minister, Shimon Peres, has been appointed as acting prime minister after an emergency cabinet meeting.

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

Yigal Amir received a life prison sentence for the assassination.

Amir's brother, Hagai, and Dror Adnani were sentenced to 12 years and seven years respectively for conspiracy.

In 1998 Margalit Har-Shefi, to whom Amir had told his plans, received a nine-month prison term for failing to prevent Mr Rabin's murder.

Shimon Peres pushed on with Yitzhak Rabin's efforts to make peace with the Palestinians.

But in an election in 1996 he lost to Binyamin Netanyahu who campaigned against the Rabin-Peres peace programme.

FIRST PERSON

ARTIST BY SELF

CARLOS MARREIROS

FIRST ACT

"Wherever you go, go whole,
Take your heart with you."
Confucius

I have long been drawing cities that are under construction, imaginary cities without time of their own, since all the times coexist in the same space of those cities. It is my Macao and so many Macaos, simultaneously, living together with memories of fragments of other cities or places, in equal terms, atemporal. These are places that are always in formation and therefore unfinished. And they tell stories that happened and others that I've invented. Macau is the pretext, and it has the same meaning that Gabriel García Márquez gave to his imaginary village called Macondo.

These drawings are very detailed and large scale. I make them with nozzles of between 0.15 and 0.5, with China ink, on fine-grained, heavy weight watercolor paper, and usually on

A3 size sheets. The final design is a patchwork, resulting from the joining of all these sheets.

"Red December" is a boat that is a small town, and sails looking for its own time. I started building it in the Lunar Year of the Dog, on the Long Ngán Vun shipyards of my drawing board, and I am going to finish it in time for the exhibition of the same name.

The "Red December" overflows with stories, aims to bring joy and good mood. It is inhabited by very different people, in time, in space and in their own accomplishments.

Most of them dream. And they have a big heart. Fernando Pessoa bears witness: "I bring inside my heart, / Like in a safe so full that it can't be completely closed, / Every place I've been, / All the ports I've come to, / All the landscapes I've seen through windows or portholes / Or from decks while dreaming, / And all that, which is so much, is a bit of what I want."

SECOND ACT

My concept of a library is close to that of Jorge Luis Borges.

Of Paradise, even, perhaps: "Paradise would be a kind of library."

The point is that "my books" have not only letters but images as well, which may or may not be "sources of witchcraft". Continuing to quote the same Argentine poet, the "book is a physical object in a world of physical objects. It's a set of dead symbols. And then the right reader arrives, and the words — or rather the poetry hidden in the words, for the words themselves are mere symbols — come alive, and we have a resurrection of the word."

Like the brush, imitating blood served in ginger, which, by quick-painting the eyes and other parts of the lion in South China, makes it alive. Just now, it was only a lion of paper, cardboard, bamboo, and rags, so beautiful and colorful, but helpless. But it already moves, and flaps its ears. Grows up, stares at us. Already dances! It is both graceful and fierce, brutal and complacent, domineering and docile.

"My library" consists of many books, large and small, full of images and a few words. Perhaps, as Fernando Pessoa wrote: "... books are papers pain-

ted with ink."

Books with daily records of things I like and want to do, or simply because I have to do them. There are many drawings, from a small graphic blur to an inconsequential automated register; a sketch, a study, or a very elaborate and huge drawing. Or supermarket labels or sugar sachets glued on pages as if the most important things in life.

How can a little silvery paper wrapping a chocolate be important in our lives? Will the colorful lion already alive bring the right reader?

Editor's note: This text written by architect and artist Carlos Marreiros is the author's own description ("Memória Descritiva") of his "Red December" exhibition organized by the Cultural Affairs Bureau, which opens to the public on Friday, at the Tap Seac Gallery.



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TOP QUOTES FROM JAPAN

"We'd consider Ireland a very welcoming country, but Japan takes that to a different level."
Ireland flanker Peter O'Mahony.

"I thought I was going to die with all the pressure."
Japan flyhalf Yu Tamura on the long buildup to their opening night win against Russia.

"Performances over the opening weekend ... were not consistently of the standards set by World Rugby and themselves, but World Rugby is confident of the highest standards of officiating moving forward."
World Rugby's astonishing critical statement of its elite referees.

"That his back is getting sore, and his knees."
South Africa flyhalf Elton Jantjies on what he was learning from veteran teammate Frans Steyn.

"From the big island of Russia to the rather smaller island of Samoa, we say thank you very much for the game."
Russia captain Vasily Artyemyev magnanimous after their first test against a Pacific Island team, despite two Samoans sent off for tackling his head.

"That's try of the year, eh? Break your leg and score the try. He deserves a medal for that. That is dying for your country, basically."
Senio Toleafoa on fellow Samoa back-rower Afaesetiti Amosa rupturing ligaments in his right knee before scoring a try against Russia.

"It's going to be like 15 Donald Trumps out there."
England coach Eddie Jones previews their match against the United States.

"I don't know where it comes from. It's inside. It's in there. Today, we had to go there to fetch it, and it came."
Uruguay captain Juan Manuel Gaminara explaining their upset of Fiji by 30-27.

"Finally, we'll be freed from the South Africa talk."
Japan scrumhalf Fumiaka Tanaka after they upset Ireland 19-12, four years after toppling South Africa in the 2015 Rugby World Cup.

"My daughter is always angry when she is watching my games because she thinks the other players are hurting me. She even thinks my teammates are hurting me, and she says she will come to my training and get angry at my team-mates."
Georgia hooker Jaba Bregvadze on his 5-year-old daughter Elene.

"As a rugby player, a former player, I am embarrassed here. They all seem spooked."
Australia coach Michael Cheika on referees' policing high tackles after the World Rugby criticism.

"When you've got 18,000 fans screaming at a giraffe running down the midfield, that's not supposed to be there, you panic a little bit."
United States lock Greg Peterson on failing to see teammate Ruben de Haas in support and squandering a try against France.

"I felt it. Cheslin (Kolbe) was sleeping and snoring so I thought it was him. I have never felt anything like that. I was excited but scared at the same time."
South Africa captain Siya Kolisi after an earthquake.

"They just like how cool it looks."
New Zealand flanker Ardie Savea on the reaction of teammates to him wearing goggles to protect his failing eyesight.

"When you're blessed, you're blessed."
New Zealand coach Steve Hansen after the Barretts became the first trio of brothers to each score a try in the same match, vs. Canada.

"I apologize for his mustache. What a great character he is, a great person, and an example to any captain in world rugby."
Russia coach Lyn Jones on captain Vasily Artyemyev.

"Crass stupidity, crass stupidity."
Italy coach Conor O'Shea after prop Andrea Lovotti was sent off for a tip tackle on South Africa's Duane Vermuelen.

"Hopefully the floodgates open now."
Australia prop James Slipper after scoring his first try in his 94th test.

"When I congratulated James and said well done, his reply was, 'You have finally seen the light, have you?' I thought it was brilliant, a great response. I love a bit of banter like that."
Wales coach Warren Gatland on giving James Davies his first Rugby World Cup start against Fiji.

"If anyone has an A-Z on how to tackle Josua Tuisova, please send me it."
Defense coach Shaun Edwards after Wales missed 32 tackles against Fiji.

"We always knew there would be risks (with the weather) but it's rare for there to be a typhoon of this size at this stage of the year. We have no regrets."
World Rugby tournament director Alan Gilpin on announcing the unprecedented cancelation of two matches, and eventually a third, because of Typhoon Hagibis.

"You don't dream about that where I am from."
South Africa captain Siya Kolisi, raised in Zwide township, on reaching the Rugby World Cup final.

RUGBY

Springboks ready for World Cup trophy tour of good hope

JOHN PYE AP, YOKOHAMA

ENGLAND 12, SOUTH AFRICA 32

As black and white players hugged, danced and shared beer out of the Webb Ellis Cup, people across South Africa celebrated a Springboks world title for a third time.

Almost a quarter-century after the first, defined by the iconic scene of President Nelson Mandela wearing his green No. 6 jersey as he held the trophy with winning captain Francois Pienaar, Siya Kolisi wore the No. 6 as he lifted the trophy after a 32-12 win over England in Yokohama.

The first black player appointed captain in 128 years of Springboks' history, Kolisi says his squad is tangible evidence that harmony can overcome adversity.

Their aim was to give hope a country still gripped by inequality and poverty, high rates of violent crime, and where racial tensions still simmer more than two decades after the dismantling of apartheid.

"We love you, South Africa," Kolisi said in a post-game speech, after thanking the South African people on farms, in the taverns, in the townships and the cities, "and we can achieve anything if we work together as one."

Of course, there were those who predicted the wave of euphoria couldn't even be sustained until today, when every-day reality would hit home. And that's why there was always an extra week built into the Springboks' World Cup schedule.

Rassie Erasmus, as meticulous planner as there is in world rugby, penciled in this week for the Webb Ellis Cup to be taken back and paraded around South Africa, where the country's beloved anti-apartheid leader and first democratically elected president held it together with Pienaar in 1995.

"We decided ... we wouldn't call it sacrifice, but we needed to be 20 weeks together to have a chance as we were so far behind the other teams," Springboks head coach Erasmus said. "We saw it as a massive honor to try and win it."

"This is week 19," he said after Saturday night's victory, "and week 20 was always the trophy tour in South Africa."

The Springboks have won all three times they've reached the final — an unmatched ratio in seven trips to the World Cup. After losing

AP PHOTO



their opening group game to two-time defending champion New Zealand, they're the first team to lose a game before capturing the title.

"We are proud. A lot of people said we would not make it," Erasmus said, "but South Africans never give up."

Unlike the playing squad of '95, which only contained one person of color, and the 2007 World Cup-winning squad that was also predominantly white, this Springboks squad has a more multiracial mix.

And from captain Kolisi to front-row forwards Tendai Mtawara and Bongi Mbonambi, and wingers Makazole Mapimpi and Cheslin Kolbe — who scored South Africa's first tries in a Rugby World Cup final — to two-time champion Frans Steyn, the green jersey is what binds them together.

Mandela died in 2013. Cyril Ramaphosa, another president in a No. 6 jersey, was in Yokohama to back the Springboks this time.

Kolisi said a first team meeting with Erasmus when he took charge last year really set the tone for a playing group that was languishing in sixth spot in the world rankings and coming off some record defeats, making them more conscious of the role the Springboks could play for South Africa.

"It was just straight-forward and he told us exactly what we were doing as players — getting a lot of money, and doing things off the field, we didn't make rugby the main thing," Kolisi said. "He told us it has to change, the Springboks are more important than our personal goals."

Some people who had very little in life made sacrifices to "come

and see us play," he said. "It changed our mindset. We cut off social media and we put heart and soul on the field. He is always honest with us."

While ushering in a new era of Springboks, Erasmus, an ex-international backrower, kept honing a game style that was straight out of South Africa's traditional coaching menu. A game plan driven by big, hard forwards, tactical kicking and heavy defense. There were critics in the course of the tournament, when the Springboks smothered and stifled attacking teams, or didn't score many tries themselves, but Erasmus stuck with them knowing that everyone loves a winner.

Flyhalf Handre Pollard scored the first 18 points from six penalty goals, keeping with the theme of finals in '95 and '07, until Mapimpi and Kolbe opened up the game with their tries in the last quarter.

Mapimpi, who comes from a rural area and didn't get any free ride through a rugby development pathway, dedicated his title to any kid inspired by his "long, long, long journey."

"I've seen a lot of things. Things I don't like," he said, "but we fight for our country. A lot of things happen in South Africa that affect us. We fight to push those things away."

Steyn, who was 20 when he won the title in '07, said his younger teammates have inspired him.

"I don't think it has hit them what they have done yet," he said. "But it will when they get home."

It means a lot to South Africa, he said, "as the country is in a worse position now than it was then."

Hooker Mbonambi is confident the win is the kind of morale-booster South Africa need. AP

OPINION

Tax Matters

Paulo Cordeiro de Sousa



THE SERVICE CHARGE - IS IT MANDATORY?

When you travel around the world and go to a restaurant, it is not unusual to find in the bill an additional 10 or 15% service charge (“SC”) over the total price of the service. In some cases, the SC is already added into the final amount due; in other cases, the bill just states, for example, “10 to 15% service not included” – meaning that the final amount due does not include the SC but that the customer should consider paying an amount equal to 10 to 15% over the value of the bill. It is commonly known that such amount is destined to be split by the employees of the restaurant, who usually earn a low base salary.

In Macau, with some exceptions, the vast majority of establishments that provide food and beverage services to their customers (restaurants, bars, cafés, etc.) charge 10% SC in the final bill. The customer usually pays without questioning, but if you browse the web you will find that a lot of people wonder whether the SC is mandatory by law. The correct answer is: it is not!

A lot of people confuse the matter, believing that the SC is a Tourism Tax (“TT”) – the TT Regulations were approved by Law 19/96/M, of 19 August, and this is a tax that must be charged by hotels and by some other establishments like health clubs, saunas, massage parlours and “karaoke” bars to their customers. The TT rate is 5% over the price of the service. If you go to a hotel bar you will verify that, apart from the price of the service, the final bill charges two additional items, the 5% TT and 10% SC. Restaurants, bars, and cafés that are not operated by hotels or establishments as the ones mentioned above do not charge TT in their bills, because the TT regulations expressly exempt them from this tax.

So, if the SC is not a tax created by law, why should we pay it? Well, the answer is not so simple. One may argue that, if it is not mandated by law, it is illegal for restaurants and other establishments to charge it as a mandatory item in their bills. It could be deemed contrary to the Consumer Protection Act (Law 12/88/M, of 13 June), which requires that the consumer is duly informed (i.e. without the use of any kind of trickery) of the price of the goods and services that he/she is purchasing. In my opinion, it ends up as a contractual issue. The regime applicable to hotel and similar activities (approved by Decree-Law 16/96/M, of 1 April) – which also applies to restaurants, bars, etc. – sets forth that the price list must specify the taxes and other fees/charges that are charged to the customers over the prices of the goods and services, or mention that such taxes/fees/charges are already included in the price. So, if the customer is provided with the price list and such price list states that to the price will be added a 10% SC, it is up to the customer whether to order the service, contractually accepting the SC – in which case he/she should not challenge the charge in the final bill – or to go away before ordering the service. However, the customer may challenge the inclusion of SC in the final bill if the price list does not make any reference to it.

Another issue is the use of the SC. The labour law sets forth that the SC charged to customers should be included in the workers’ remuneration. This means that the SC cannot be treated as additional income by employers, it must be split between the workers, as part of their salaries. Otherwise, the employers violate the law. This is something that should be monitored and supervised by the authorities.

BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY’S
THIRD-QUARTER PROFITS DECLINE 11%

THE
BUZZ

Warren Buffett’s company reported yesterday [Macau time] that it saw an 11% decline in third-quarter profits because of a smaller increase in the paper value of its investments, even as it sits on a mountain of cash.

Berkshire Hathaway said it made \$16.52 billion, or \$10,119 per Class A share, in the quarter, down from \$18.54 billion, or \$11,280 per Class A share, a year ago.

Buffett has long said Berkshire’s operating earnings offer a better view of quarterly performance because they exclude invest-

ments and derivatives, which can vary. By that measure, Berkshire’s operating earnings improved to \$7.86 billion, or \$4,812 per Class A share, from \$6.88 billion, or \$4,186.05 per Class A share.

Analysts surveyed by FactSet expected operating earnings per share of \$4,299.20 on average.

Berkshire Hathaway recorded an \$8.67 billion paper investment gain during the quarter. A year ago, it registered an unrealized \$11.66 billion investment gain.

Berkshire’s revenue improved 2% to \$64.97 billion.

LUSO-MACAU BAZAAR
ENDS IN EXCITEMENT
AT THREE LAMPS

ANTHONY LAM



ANTHONY LAM

A bazaar featuring products from Macau and lusophone countries was held over the past weekend at the Rotunda de Carlos de Maia, or the commonly known “Three Lamps” area.

The bazaar was themed “Let’s Hang Out.” The Chinese character used in the theme is a homophone of the name of Portugal when pronounced in Cantonese. The event’s organizer, the Macao Trade and Investment Promotion Institute (IPIM), has previously organized several bazaars in other locations around the city.

The Three Lamps area is a traditional neighborhood on the Macau Peninsula. People normally visit this area for a wide range of shops, such as grocery and ready-to-wear outlets. Meanwhile, this area is also a popular one for dining.

As introduced by the president of IPIM, Irene Lau, a

total of 27 businesses participated in this bazaar. Of the businesses, 40% were participating for the first time.

IPIM located this bazaar for the first time on the street to integrate it into the neighborhood.

Additionally, with the area also housing a significant Southeast Asian population, IPIM also aimed to create a connection between the different communities.

Two Portuguese chefs sold Churros, a food item rarely found in Macau, at the bazaar. They said they were invited and wanted to promote the traditional Portuguese food to other communities in Macau.

Elsewhere, a seller of canned fish said that business went well throughout the three days of the bazaar. “[Business] started to go up on Saturday and got even better on Sunday,” the seller said. “Holding the bazaar at the Three Lamps offers a connected atmosphere. It is

a good location.”

This edition of the bazaar tried to draw the attention of younger generations. Young Cantonese communities use a collection of Cantonese slang which are difficult to translate even into written characters.

The organizer managed to translate these terms into Portuguese. The translations were printed onto a billboard taller than an average Chinese adult, accompanied by illustrations which fit the meaning of each term.

“Let’s Hang Out” aims to further introduce products and cultures from Portuguese-speaking countries to a greater number of local citizens. Aside from booths selling products from Portuguese-speaking countries and Macau, various activities will be concurrently held including food and drink tastings, Portuguese cooking workshops, craft workshops, parent-child activities and various performances.

AP PHOTO



Saudi Arabia formally began an initial public offering yesterday of a sliver of oil giant Saudi Aramco after years of delay, hoping international and local investors will pay billions of dollars for a stake in the kingdom’s crown jewels.

Lebanon Thousands of people marched to show their support for Lebanon’s president and his proposed political reforms.

AP PHOTO



Israel Prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu says the military will continue to strike its enemies, including through covert missions, after a weekend flareup of violence in the Gaza Strip.

AP PHOTO



Bolivia Opponents of Bolivian President Evo Morales are calling on him to resign even as an international team of experts is auditing the election results that showed him winning a new term.

AP PHOTO



Italy An Italian offshore supply vessel has brought 151 migrants to Sicily after rescuing them in waters off Libya a day earlier.

AP PHOTO



UK Britain’s election campaign heated up yesterday even before it officially started, with Prime Minister Boris Johnson saying he would apologize to Conservatives for failing to take the U.K. out of the European Union by Oct. 31 and Brexit Party leader Nigel Farage saying he won’t personally run for a seat in Parliament.

THE DECISIVE MOMENT

AP Photo/Jeff Chiu



Frisco to HK. A volunteer hands out shirts that read “Free Hong Kong” outside Chase Center before an NBA basketball game between the Golden State Warriors and the Charlotte Hornets in San Francisco.