

MacauDaily 澳門每日時報

Times

16 YEARS

A-CHANGIN'

Advertise with us

+853 287 160 81

MacauDaily 澳門每日時報

Times

FOUNDER & PUBLISHER Kowie Geldenhuys EDITOR-IN-CHIEF Paulo Coutinho www.macaudailytimes.com.mo

\$48 Upgrade to CTM5G+

Happy Fridays!

enjoy UNLIMITED data usage on Fridays

+ EXTRA 10GB Data Usage

CTM

Note: Customers of the above promotions are bound by the respective service agreements.

N.º 4278 **MONDAY**
03 Jul 2023

T. 25°/ 29°
Air Quality Good

"THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN' "

MOP 8.00
HKD 10.00 2305 4271

THE GOV'T HOSTED BUSINESS VISITORS FROM A VARIETY OF PLACES ON FAMILIARIZATION TOURS IN MACAU AS PART OF ITS OVERALL MARKETING EFFORTS P4

CASH HANDOUTS TO COMMENCE DISTRIBUTION TOMORROW P2

SOUTH KOREANS GROW YOUNGER OVERNIGHT AS THE COUNTRY CHANGES HOW IT COUNTS PEOPLE'S AGES P7



AP PHOTO



Hong Kong A Japanese journalist was barred from entering Hong Kong without a clear reason and was sent back to his country, a Japanese newspaper said. The Japan Times reported Friday that a freelance journalist was taken by officials to a room after arriving at the city's airport Thursday evening. Ogawa said officials only told him that he could not be granted permission to stay in the city and he was sent back to Tokyo on Friday.

AP PHOTO



Indonesia A strong undersea earthquake shook parts of Indonesia's densely populated main island of Java, causing panic last week as it killed at least one person, injured two others and damaged dozens of houses. The U.S. Geological Survey said the magnitude 5.8 quake was centered 84 kilometers southwest of Bambanglipuro, a village in Bantul regency of the special province of Yogyakarta. It occurred at a depth of 86 kilometers.

AP PHOTO



Myanmar's Supreme Court scheduled hearings for this month to consider appeals from ousted leader Aung San Suu Kyi against her conviction in cases that saw her receive a total of 33 years in prison, legal officials said. The cases against her are mostly brought by the military that seized power from her elected government in February 2021. The 78-year-old Suu Kyi was arrested following the military takeover and tried on a variety of charges that supporters and rights groups say were concocted to legitimize the usurpation.

More on backpage

NO BARRIERS

Gov't establishes special glossary compilation plan in an attempt to standardize Macau's sign language P4



RENATO MARQUES



GAMING
GGR DROPS 2.3% TO MOP15B IN JUNE

P2

LABOR
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE STEADY AT 3.6%

P3

EMERGENCY VISITS DROPPING: SSM

The number of people visiting emergency departments per day has dropped to about 800, which is close to the baseline pre-pandemic level, according to Health Bureau director Alvis Lo. Regarding Covid-19 cases, Lo said that about 40% of the population have been infected twice. He also added that the flow of people traveling abroad during summer vacation will not accelerate the infection or influx of new virus strains.

MGTO: 70,000 DAILY ARRIVALS IN JUNE

The daily average of tourism arrivals stood at 70,000 last month, 4,000 of which hailed from overseas, according to Macao Government Tourism Office (MGTO) director Maria Helena de Senna Fernandes. Senna Fernandes added that the bureau is planning to launch further travel discounts for international passengers and plans to cooperate with overseas airlines such as Air Asia to promote the city, as cited in a TDM report. In mid-July, the authorities will go to South Korea to hold a roadshow for tourism promotion. They also plan to do a roadshow in Malaysia.

UNMANNED VEHICLES IN HENGQIN TO COMMENCE NEW ROUTE

Unmanned vehicles in Hengqin will start a new route this month, traveling between Hengqin Port and Chimelong and other stations. During the summer vacation period, passengers will be able to ride for free. The Urban Planning and Construction Bureau of the zone stated that it would gradually open the roads in the central and southern parts of the island as roads for the application of driverless cars based on the operational data of intelligent networked vehicle test roads and the road conditions.

RENATO MARQUES



GAMING

CASINO REVENUES DROP 2.3% TO MOP15B IN JUNE

RENATO MARQUES

GROSS Gaming Revenue (GGR) from local casinos dropped by 2.3% in June when compared with the previous month, official figures released by the Gaming Inspection and Coordination Bureau (DICJ) show.

According to the release, gaming activities in Macau over

the last month generated a total of MOP15.207 billion, some MOP358 million less than in May, which reached, so far, the highest monthly GGR of this year, with MOP15.565 billion.

Still, although there was a drop registered, June was the second-best month of this year, with Macau registering successive increases in GGR since January and until May.

The June result contributes to an accumulated MOP80.136 billion GGR in the first half of this year, a figure that opens the door to a final result of GGR in 2023 that is, on average, far higher than that initially forecasted by the government (MOP130 billion for the full year).

In May, already several financial institutions and analysts have noted the forecast of MOP130

billion is very conservative, noting a "faster than expected" recovery from the local gaming industry post-pandemic.

At that time, the Deutsche Bank forecasted that Macau GGR would potentially hit somewhere close to MOP177.17 billion, which is around 36.3% higher than the government forecast.

In the same forecast done by analyst Carlo Santarelli, Macau would potentially accumulate some MOP46.41 billion in the second quarter (Q2) of the year.

In reality, the figure now disclosed by DICJ shows that in Q2 GGR reached some MOP45.49 billion, that is, almost MOP1 billion short of the Deutsche Bank forecast.

Another financial services firm - JP Morgan Chase & Co - said last week they were expecting a "flat" result for June, that is, without major increases or decreases, considering such a result as "positive," as traditionally the GGR results from May to June have already recorded drops.

Still, it is to be taken into account that June this year also included a long holiday period due to the June 22 (Tung Ng Festival) public holiday falling on a Thursday, which resulted, in most cases, in an extension of the weekend on the mainland.

When compared with 2019 (pre-pandemic) the result of the first half of 2023 is still some 46.4% lower than in pre-pandemic times, when the first months of the year had accumulated MOP149.503 billion.

SUBSIDY

Cash handouts to commence distribution tomorrow

RENATO MARQUES

THE government's Wealth Partaking Scheme (cash handouts) will be distributed from tomorrow (July 4), the Financial Services Bureau (DSF) confirmed in a press statement.

It is expected that the cheques and bank transfers will reach all residents of Macau that are eligible for financial support by August 4.

According to DSE, the handouts, which grant some 10,000 patacas to

permanent residents and 6,000 patacas to non-permanent residents, will reach a total of 743,388 eligible residents (708,041 permanent and 35,347 non-permanent residents).

All holders of a valid or renewable Macau Resident Identity Card as of December 31, 2022, are entitled to receive the cash premium.

The handouts reach not only those currently living in Macau but also those abroad, including those with expired Macau SAR Resident Identity Cards

who are currently residing abroad and can prove that they are unable to renew their IDs due to being bedridden, or completely or partly paralyzed.

For those who have submitted the documentary proof and were granted the cash premium in the previous year, the Social Welfare Bureau is authorized to exempt them from document resubmission if no new evidence is needed for the approval of the current Scheme.

For residents who are

RENATO MARQUES



eligible for this scheme but cannot receive the cash because of death, the respective amount can be requested by the administrator of the deceased's

estate, which is required under Article 1917 of the Civil Code for the administration of the deceased estate until its liquidation and distribution.

www.macaudailytimes.com.mo
REACHING OUT!
+25,000
Like us on facebook.com/mdtimes

MacauDaily 澳門每日時報
Times
DIRECTOR & EDITOR-IN-CHIEF_Paulo Coutinho paulocoutinho@macaudailytimes.com
ASSISTANT EDITOR_Lynzy Valles
CONTRIBUTING EDITORS_Leanda Lee, Severo Portela, Sheyla Zandonai
NEWSROOM AND CONTRIBUTORS_Alex Torrão, Albano Martins, Annabel Jackson, Anthony Lam, Emilie Tran, Grace Yu, Irene Sam, Ivo Carneiro de Sousa, Jacky I.F. Cheong, Jenny Lao-Phillips, João Palla Martins, Jorge Costa Oliveira, Joseph Cheung, Juliet Risdon, Linda Kennedy, Paulo Cordeiro de Sousa, Renato Marques, Richard Whitfield, Sérgio de Almeida Correia, Viviana Seguí
DESIGNERS_Miguel Bandeira, Rebeca Almeida | ASSOCIATE CONTRIBUTORS_JML Property, MdME Lawyers, PokerStars, Ruan Du Toit Bester | NEWS AGENCIES_Associated Press, MacauHub, MacaoNews, Xinhua
SECRETARY_Yang Dongxiao amy@macaudailytimes.com

A MACAU TIMES PUBLICATIONS LTD PUBLICATION
ADMINISTRATOR & CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
Kowie Geldenhuys kowie@macaudailytimes.com
OFFICE MANAGER Juliana Cheang juliana@macaudailytimes.com
ADDRESS Av. da Praia Grande, 599, Edif. Comercial Rodrigues, 12 Floor C, MACAU SAR
Telephones: +853 287 160 81/2 Fax: +853 287 160 84
Advertisement advertising@macaudailytimes.com
For subscription and general issues:
general@macaudailytimes.com | Printed at Welfare Printing Ltd



Specific plan opened to standardize Macau's sign language

ANTHONY LAM

A special glossary compilation plan has been established in an attempt to standardize Macau's sign language, the Social Welfare Bureau (IAS) has said.

In response to lawmaker Ngan Iek Hang's written inquiry, IAS president Hon Wai disclosed that, in order to standardize the city's sign language, the plan is to construct and explore vocabulary for the local sign language. Hon added that the plan

will officially commence later due to suspension over the past three years of Covid-19. The glossary will be publicly accessible once compiled.

Sign language is a highly location-specific mode of communication. Places sharing the same spoken and

written language, such as English, do not have congruent sets of sign language. For example, sign language commonly used in the US is referred to as the American Sign Language, while in Britain it is referred to as the British Sign Language.

In addition, Hon foresees that when the glossary is compiled, it may be used to develop mobile apps or Artificial Intelligence (AI) programs for the convenience of the hearing and speech impaired.

As a result, at this stage, the IAS will primarily concentrate on the development of the glossary, which will also help the education and translation of sign language in Macau.

Ngan has also asked about the government's efforts in helping the physically disabled to access assistive devices.

Hon said that since the establishment of an assistive device pilot subsidy program in 2021, 55 users have had their subsidies approved, among which 60% were hearing impaired. Most of the funds went to the acquisition of hearing aids and electric wheelchairs.

Citing the Transport Bureau and the Health Bureau, Hon explained that driving test-takers are required to undergo certain medical tests, including but not limited to hearing tests, to ensure they meet the legal health threshold to drive.

DETAILS OF TALENT ACQUISITION TO BE ANNOUNCED FROM AUGUST

ANTHONY LAM

DETAILS of the city's different talent acquisition schemes August will be announced in phases, the Talent Development Committee announced over the weekend.

Jul. 1 saw the enactment of three laws and regulations concerning talent acquisition. The law is The Legal System for Talent Acquisition, while the Executive Regulations are The Implementation Details for the Legal System for Talent Acquisition as well as the framework for the Talent Development Committee.

In light of the enactment, the Committee said that it would announce the details of talent acquisition schemes from August.

According to the government's earlier notes, the city's talent acquisition efforts will cover three types of talented people, which in the government's wording are referred to as high-tier talent, excellent talent and high-level professional talent.

Each type of professionals will have their own application criteria and requirements.

In terms of the commencement of application, the Committee pledged that the government shall conduct this process "in an orderly manner." It added that it would establish an electronic platform to receive applications, so as to enhance application processes, reduce the needs for personal applications, as well as improving administrative efficiency and service quality, "while ensuring rigorous review procedures."

The government has been emphasizing that the Chief Executive has the final decision as to the import of talented people.

According to the aforementioned Legal System, a new entity – the Talent Import Review Committee – will review applications based on Macau's actual needs from a shortlist compiled by the Talent Development Committee. The Public Security Police Force will help verify the identity of applicants.

The Talent Development Committee assured the public that it has a monitoring mechanism throughout the application procedure. It will also ensure that imported talent take jobs as declared in their applications.

According to the government, the aforementioned Legal System aims at attracting top professionals to help Macau's innovation, competition, marketing and economic diversification.

LABOR

Unemployment rate holding steady, underemployment reducing

RENATO MARQUES

THE unemployment rate in Macau has held steady in the period of March to May when compared with February to April, information from the Statistics and Census Service (DSEC) has indicated.

According to a DSEC release, the general unemployment rate stood at 2.8%, while the unemployment rate of local residents stood at 3.6%.

In the same period, the underemployment rate dropped 0.3% to 1.8% as a result of 1,100 people in such a situation.

Currently, there are still some 6,800 peo-



ple recorded as being in a situation of underemployment, with the majority coming from sectors such as Construction and Transport & Storage.

The labor force living in Macau totaled 369,800, with

a labor force participation rate of 67.5%. Total employment was 359,300, of which 281,200 were residents. In comparison with the last period, both the total employment and the employment residents' figures were

down by 1,400 and 1,000 people, respectively.

Analyzed by industry, employment in the Construction sector and Wholesale & Retail Trade decreased, while that in Gaming & Junket Activities increased.

Among the 10,500 unemployed searching for a new job, most were previously engaged in the Construction sector and Gaming & Junket Activities.

Meanwhile, the proportion of new labor market entrants seeking their first job increased by 0.7% to 4.6% of the total unemployed.

The Employment

Survey covers all residential units in the Macau Peninsula, Taipa, and Coloane, excluding collective living quarters such as dormitories and care homes for the elderly. Individuals living in these units are included in the survey, and therefore Macau residents and non-resident workers who work in Macau but live outside the territory are excluded.

According to the preliminary estimates from the movement records, an average of about 88,300 local residents and non-resident workers lived outside the territory during the reference period.



MGTO TAKES TRAVEL EXPO PARTICIPANTS ON FAMILIARIZATION TOURS IN MACAU

ANTHONY LAM

THE government tourism bureau has hosted business visitors from a variety of places on familiarization tours in Macau as part of its overall marketing efforts.

These businesspeople visited Macau to take the opportunity of participating in the 11th Macau International Travel (Industry) Expo (MITE) held over the weekend. There were several hundreds of these visitors, the Macao Government Tourism Office (MGTO) underlined.

Besides attending the main expo and auxiliary seminars and symposia, they were taken by the MGTO on a tour of Macau. These visitors, from places such as Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand and Korea, were shown to local World Heritage sites, tourism facilities and community lifestyle sites.

Meanwhile, stakeholders from the tourism industries in these origins participated in site inspections organized by the MGTO to see tourists' attractions as well as community and resort facilities, besides conducting business negotiations.

Members from several associations and entities, such as the UNESCO Creative City Network,



also conducted site inspections in Macau during the MITE period.

During the same weekend, culinary experts from 23 UNESCO Creative City of Gastronomy gathered at the MITE to showcase their skills and cuisine. A total of 24 sessions were held over the three days, with host Macau showing two cuisines: Macanese and Cantonese.

Chef Antonieta Manhão from the Macanese Gastronomic Bro-

therhood and Chef Li Weichang from the Macau Cuisine Association maneuvered the two cuisines, respectively.

According to the MGTO, the showcase is the largest of its kind to date. "This year, with Creative Cities of Gastronomy from Asia, Oceania, Latin and North America, Europe and the Middle East, we [have hosted] our largest City of Gastronomy Showcase to date," MGTO director Maria Helena de

Senna Fernandes said.

Food items prepared by these culinary professionals were offered for public tasting at the expo, while videos highlighting these cities were played on the site. "Residents and visitors [had] a close encounter with the cities' enchanting flavors and culinary arts exemplified by the chefs," the MGTO noted in a statement.

Chefs from Popayán (Colombia), Tsuruoka and Usuki (Japan),

Mérida (Mexico), Santa Maria da Feira (Portugal), Phuket (Thailand) and San Antonio (USA) joined a team of chefs from The Venetian Macao, MGM Macau and Sofitel Macau at Ponte 16 to exchange and share their culinary insights and skills.

In addition, these chefs enjoyed the chance to experience fishery skills and made salted fish in Coloane for half a day as part of their familiarization tour.

SURVEY SHOWS 'GENERALLY HIGH' LEVEL OF PATRIOTISM AMONG LOCAL YOUTH

A recently released survey shows that Macau youth have a "generally high" level of patriotism, alongside generally positive social values, and care about the development of their society. The survey, titled "Macau Youth Indicators," was commissioned by the Education and Youth Affairs Bureau and has collected a total of 2,376 valid responses. According to the findings, on a scale of 1 to 5, the youth's satisfaction with public security, education and public recreation and sports facilities was the highest, with a score of 3.69. The survey also shows that the top three sources of their stress stem from work situation, financial situation and health.

AOMI RECORDS INCREASE IN SALES FROM MERCHANTS IN TOURIST AREAS

Takeaway platform has recorded an increase of up to 40% for sales by merchants in tourist areas, according to Jiang Haitao, founder and CEO of takeaway app, Aomi. Orders from merchants in other districts, however, fell by 20% to 30%. He added that the group has established a company in Hong Kong and has expanded its business, allowing Hong Kong tourists to book Macau restaurants. Currently, the platform has 1,600 drivers.

Cross-border vehicle traffic hiking, 63.2% increase in first five months

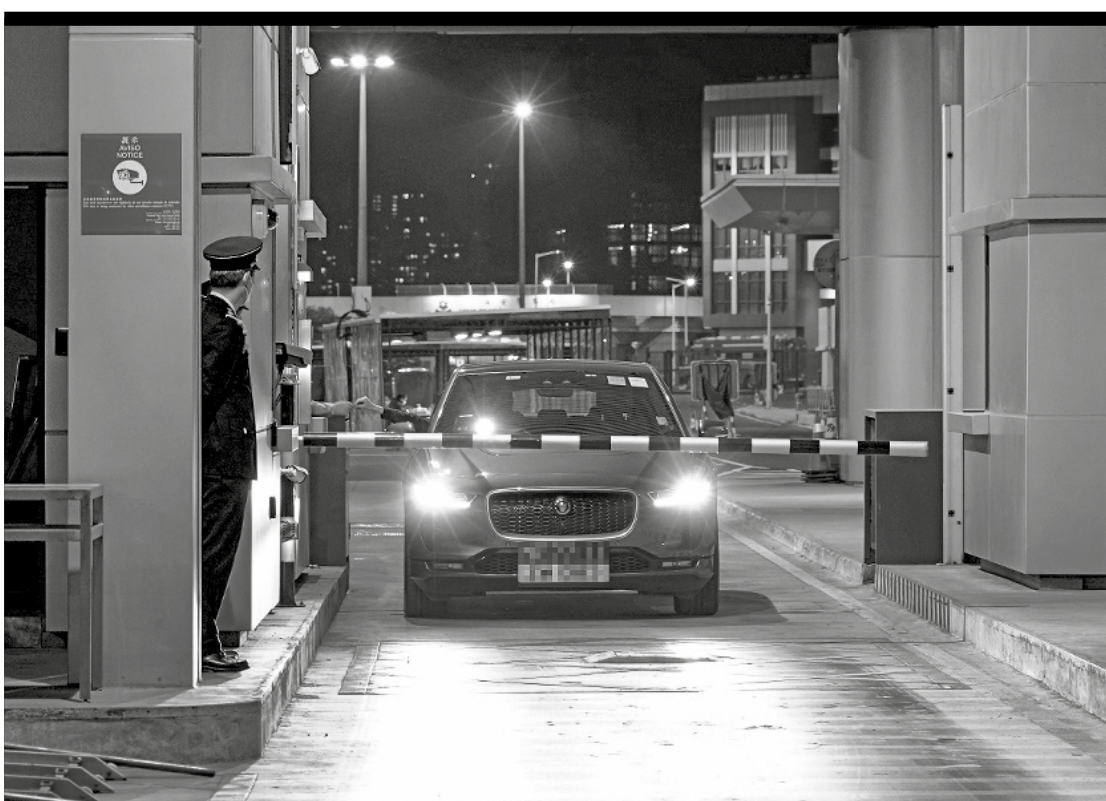
THE number of vehicles crossing the borders of Macau registered a significant increase in the first five months of this year, a statistic release from the Statistics and Census Service (DSEC) has shown.

Cross-border vehicle traffic from January to May this year has reached 2,686,876 trips, a figure that accounts for a 63.2% hike year-on-year.

At the same time, the gross weight of containerized cargo by land (12,735 tonnes) recorded a drop of 34.3%.

In May alone, the number of cross-border trips reached 614,013 (up 56.2% y-o-y) with a higher increase (58.9%) of light automobile trips (573,611).

Meanwhile, the gross weight of containerized cargo by land in May fell by 40.5% y-o-y to 3,051 tonnes, with the cargo passing through the checkpoint of the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macau Bridge (2,896 tonnes) accounting for about 94.9% of the total.



The same release notes that at the end of May, Macau totaled 249,338 motor vehicles, with the number of light automobiles (114,181) and heavy motorcycles (108,407) rising

by 1.0% and 2.0%, respectively.

May was a strong month for the sales of motor vehicles, with the new registrations growing 41.8% y-o-y to 1,032

(325 of the registrations were electric). Accounting for more for this increase was the sale of new light automobiles, which went up 60.4% to 470 (128 of these sales were electric). **RM**

SOCIAL MEDIA

Twitter users run into service issues after Elon Musk imposes daily limits on reading tweets

THOUSANDS of people logged complaints about problems accessing Twitter on Saturday after owner Elon Musk limited most users to viewing 600 tweets a day — restrictions he described as an attempt to prevent unauthorized scraping of potentially valuable data from the site.

The crackdown began to have ripple effects early Saturday, causing more than 7,500 people at one point to report problems using the social media service, based on complaints registered on DownteXt, a website that tracks online outages. Although that's a relatively small number of Twitter's more than 200 million worldwide users, the trouble was widespread enough to cause the #TwitterDown hashtag to trend in some parts of the world.

The service disruptions cropped up a day after Twitter began requiring people to log on to the service in order to view tweets and profiles — a change in its longtime practice to allow all comers to peruse the chatter on what Musk has

frequently touted as the world's digital town square since buying it for \$44 billion last year.

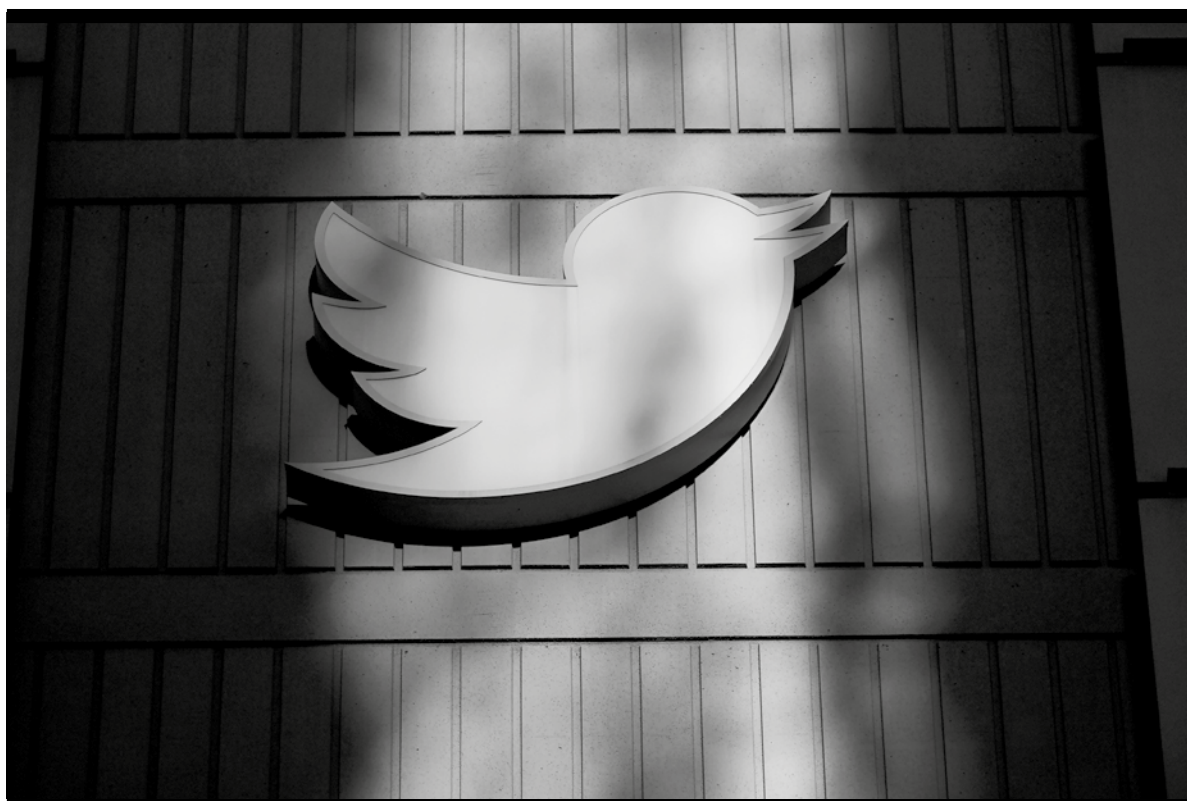
In a Friday tweet, Musk described the new restrictions as a temporary measure that was taken because "we were getting data pillaged so much that it was degrading service for normal users!" Musk elaborated on the measures in a Saturday tweet that announced unverified accounts will temporarily be limited to reading 600 posts per day while verified accounts will be able to scroll through up to 6,000 posts per day.

The restrictions could result in users being locked out of Twitter for the day after scrolling through several hundred tweets.

The higher threshold allowed on verified accounts is part of an \$8 per month subscription service that Musk rolled out earlier this year in an effort to boost Twitter revenue that has fallen sharply since he took over the company and laid off roughly three-fourths of the workforce to cut costs and stave off bankruptcy.

Advertisers have since curbed

AP PHOTO



their spending on Twitter, partly because of changes that have allowed more sometimes hateful and prickly content that offends a wider part of the service's audien-

ce. Musk recently hired longtime NBC Universal executive Linda Yaccarino to become Twitter's CEO in an effort to win back advertisers. An Associated Press inquiry

about Saturday's access problems triggered a crude automated reply that Twitter sends to most press inquiries without addressing the question. MDT/AP

TECH

NOKIA RENEWS PATENT LICENSE AGREEMENT WITH APPLE, COVERING 5G AND OTHER TECHNOLOGIES

NETWORK infrastructure and 5G technology provider Nokia has signed a new long-term patent license agreement with Apple to replace the current deal between the two companies that is set to expire at the end of 2023.

The deal, which enables Apple to use the Finnish company's technology in its products, covers Nokia's inventions in 5G and other technologies. The terms of the agreement announced late Friday remain confidential.

Nokia expects to recognize revenue related to the agreement starting January 2024, and the company said the deal is consistent with its long-term outlook disclosed in the first quarter.

"The agreement reflects the strength of Nokia's patent portfolio, decades-long investments in R&D, and contributions to cellular standards and other tech-

AP PHOTO



nologies," Nokia Technologies President Jenni Lukander said in a statement.

The previous license agreement between Apple and Nokia was announced in May 2017.

Nokia said its patent portfolio is built on more than 140 billion (\$153 billion) invested in research and development since 2000, and is composed of arou-

nd 20,000 patent families, including over 5,500 patent families declared essential to 5G.

The Espoo, Finland-based Nokia is one of the world's main suppliers of 5G, the latest generation of broadband technology, along with Sweden's Ericsson, China's Huawei and South Korea's Samsung.

MDT/AP

AD

仁德 CENTRO MEDICO PEDDER
◆ 仁德醫療中心 ◆

We bring high quality of medical service to Macau

General Surgery : Dr. Fok Manson, Dr. Lai Cheuck Seen Edward, Dr. Lau Wing Kee Peter, Dr. Kwong Man, Dr. Nie Fu Zhong, Dr. U Chong San, Dr. Lei Chin Chong

Breast Surgery : Dr. Leong Iat Lun

Urology : Dr. Lo Kwong Yin Richard, Dr. Zhao Yun Qiao

Paediatric Surgery : Dr. Yeung Chung Kwong

Paediatrics : Dr. Zhang Zhiqin

Obstetrics & Gynaecology : Dr. Fong Kuan Io

Plastic & Aesthetic Surgery : Dr. Lam U Lin

Orthopaedic Surgery & Sports Medicine : Dr. Lam Kun Kuan

ENT : Dr. Cheng Zheng Ang

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

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

Dietitian : Chan Lai U Joey

Avenida da Praia Grande No 599, Edifício Comercial Rodrigues 14 e 15 Andar, em Macau
T. 2832 2298 / 2832 2229 Website: www.peddermacau.com
Opening Hours: Mon - Fri 10:00 - 19:00 Sat 10:00 - 14:00 Sun & PH closed

HONG KONG

Unlicensed radio station goes off the air after 18 years

KANIS LEUNG, HONG KONG

AN unlicensed pro-democracy radio station in Hong Kong shut down Friday after 18 years on the air. The closure of Citizens' Radio came on the eve of the 26th anniversary of Hong Kong's handover to China.

Since its launch in 2005, the station had hosted prominent democracy advocates, including former lawmakers Szeto Wah, Emily Lau, Albert Ho and Lee Cheuk-yan. But its founder, Bull Tsang, said it was becoming increasingly difficult to invite guests following the enactment of the national security law.

Coupled with banking problems and limited resources, Tsang said he had no choice but to say goodbye.

"It's hard to let go. It's like my third son," Tsang, 67, told reporters before he hosted his last show on Friday night.

After the law's enactment three years ago, dozens of civic groups disbanded, most of the city's leading activists were charged with alleged national

AP PHOTO



security crimes, and two vocal media outlets shut down as their top management was accused of sedition or collusion.

On Saturday, the city marked its handover anniversary with

official celebrations. The annual pro-democracy protest held for years every July 1, however, appears to be a thing of the past — even as daily life has largely returned to normal following

years of pandemic restrictions.

The League of Social Democrats leader Chan Po-ying told The Associated Press that her political party canceled its plan to stage a small-scale protest but

that she could not give more details about this.

While Tsang's radio station has not been directly targeted by the security law, the veteran pro-democracy activist said his guests were unclear about whether their words would be in breach of the vaguely-defined red lines.

He added that the station could not pay rent after August since its bank account was recently blocked from receiving donations.

Hang Seng Bank, which handles Tsang's account, said in a reply to a request for comment from the AP that it cannot comment on matters regarding individual accounts.

Tsang said the recent events forced him to end his years of open defiance against the government after officials rejected his request for a broadcasting license in 2006. Over the years, Tsang continued broadcasting in "civil disobedience" even after he was convicted and fined over unlicensed broadcasting and his radio station was raided by authorities.

Tsang said he might try to sell his creative drawings to raise funds to continue his work in another way. But even so, things will no longer be the same, he said.

"In the future, it is very difficult to have such form of civil disobedience like this in Hong Kong," he said. **MDT/AP**

ECONOMY

SURVEY SHOWS MANUFACTURING CONTRACTED IN JUNE AS EXPORT ORDERS DECREASED

CHINA'S factory activity contracted for another month in June as export orders decreased, an official survey showed Friday, adding to signs an economic rebound following the end of anti-virus controls is cooling.

A monthly purchasing managers' index issued by the national statistics agency and an industry group edged up to 49 from May's 48.8 on a 100-point scale on which readings below 50 show activity contracting.

The world's second-largest economy revived following the end in December of anti-virus controls on travel and business activity. But that faded faster than expected due to lackluster consumer spending at home and weak demand for exports following interest rate hikes in the United States and Europe to cool inflation.

Despite that, China's No. 2 leader, Premier Li Qiang, said

AP PHOTO



this week economic growth accelerated in the April-June period from the previous quarter's 4.5% rate. Li gave no details but expressed confidence China can hit the ruling Communist Party's annual growth target of "about 5%."

In June, a measure of new export orders fell to 46.4, down 0.8 points from the previous month, according to the National Bureau of Statistics and the China Federation

of Logistics & Purchasing. A measure of employment also declined while production and overall new orders increased.

Growth in factory and consumer activity decelerated in May, earlier official data showed. Exports that month contracted 7.5% from a year earlier. Surveys found unemployment among young people in cities spiked to a record 20.8%. **MDT/AP**

SPORTS

CHINA ENDS JAPAN'S LONG REIGN TO WIN WOMEN'S BASKETBALL ASIA CUP TITLE

CHINA rallied to claim its first women's basketball Asia Cup title since 2012 as they beat five-time defending champion Japan 73-71 in an epic final yesterday.

Trailing at halftime it appeared China may fall for a third consecutive time in a title game as reigning champions Japan scored the last 14 points of the first half to lead by nine points.

Led by player of the tournament center Xu Han, China seized the momentum early in the third quarter and took what proved a match-winning lead late in the game to end their 12-year wait for a gold medal in front of a large crowd in Sydney.

Xu finished with a match-defining 26 points and 10 rebounds to

AP PHOTO



China's Wang Siyu attempts to block a shot from Japan's Anri Hoshi, left, during the Asia Cup women's basketball final in Sydney, Australia, yesterday

complete the feat of recording a double-double in every game of the tournament. Siyu Wang scored 17 points.

Maki Takada led Japan with 17 points and four rebounds, with Saki Hayashi scoring 12 points for Japan.

China's title follows its silver medal at the women's basketball World Cup, also held in Sydney, late last year.

Japan and China met in the 2019 and 2021 title games with the Japanese prevailing in both to claim their fourth and fifth titles.

The eight-team regional tournament doubled as qualifying for next year's Olympics, with the semifinalists — Japan, Australia, China and New Zealand — qualifying for Paris 2024. **MDT/AP**

EASTTIMOR

Independence hero Xanana Gusmao returns to power as prime minister

GANTRY MEILANA

FORMER East Timor independence fighter Xanana Gusmao was sworn in on Saturday as prime minister of Asia's youngest country after his party won the parliamentary election in May.

Crowds cheered as the former guerrilla leader traveled by motorcade to the presidential palace in Dili, the capital, where he and his members of Cabinet were sworn into office by President Jose Ramos-Horta, his fellow independence fighter during Indonesia's occupation.

The new government is a coalition between Gusmao's National Congress of the Reconstruction of East Timor, known as CNRT, and the Democratic Party.

Gusmao, 77, became the nation's first president between 2002 and 2007, and served as prime minister between 2007 and 2015.

In the May election, his party won 41% of the vote to capture 31 out of 65 seats in the National Parliament. That is just short of the 33 needed for an outright majority, and Gusmao agreed to form a government with the Democratic



New East Timorese Prime Minister Xanana Gusmao delivers a speech during his inauguration in Dili, the capital of East Timor

Party, which won six seats.

The election result indicated deep dissatisfaction with the previous government, led by the Revolutionary Front for an Independent East Timor, known as Fretilin.

Gusmao faces an uphill battle in tackling economic challenges as nearly 42% of the country's estimated 1.5 million people live be-

low the poverty line. The U.N. estimates for every 1,000 babies born in the country, 42 die before their fifth birthday because of malnutrition.

Gusmao vowed to reduce poverty through his government's strategic development plan and reiterated the importance of national reconciliation and unity to

achieve the development goals.

"I promise to carry out the tasks that the people have entrusted to me and to bring prosperity to the Timorese people through government programs," Gusmao said at the swearing-in ceremony.

He pledged to provide opportunities for local governments to design their own development

programs, including those to improve health services for mothers and children.

Indonesian President Joko Widodo's envoy, Coordinating Minister of Maritime and Investment Luhut Binsar Pandjaitan, was among those who attended the inauguration.

The country has a significant young population — 65% are below 30. It is also among the world's most impoverished. More than two decades after receiving formal independence in 2002, there is a lack of basic infrastructure including a reliable electricity supply and paved roads in rural areas.

"He has charisma and rich experience as a leader," a Dili resident, Joao Agustino Sarmiento, said of Gusmao. "But we want to see him make more significant changes with his new government to overcome poverty and unemployment that still face our country."

East Timor's transition to a democracy has been rocky, with leaders battling massive poverty, unemployment and corruption. The economy is reliant on dwindling offshore oil revenues. **MDT/AP**

South Koreans grow younger overnight as the country changes how it counts people's ages

KIM TONG-HYUNG, SEOUL

AS South Korea campaigns to retire an old and odd age-counting method that makes people a year or two older than they really are, children are among the few who seem most eager to stick with the past.

"I turned 6 and then became 5 again," Kim Da-in said when a TV reporter asked her about a new law that went into effect Wednesday that formalizes the international age-counting method in administrative and civil laws and encourages people to tally their own ages accordingly.

South Korea's traditional age-counting custom considers every person 1 year old at birth and adds another year when the calendar hits Jan. 1, meaning a child born on Dec. 31 turns 2 the next day.



While the new law is the country's latest attempt to retire that method and standardize international ages based on the passing of birthdays, it's not immediately clear what will actually change — putting

aside the minor frustrations of children like Da-in waiting for their birthdays.

President Yoon Suk Yeol has described standardizing international ages as a key goal of his government, citing a need to reduce

"social and administrative confusion" and disputes. But officials in South Korea's Ministry of Government Legislation acknowledge the new law won't meaningfully change how the country's public services are done, as most are already based on international ages.

International ages are the standard in most South Korean laws and official and legal documents, and define when a person goes to school, becomes eligible to drive and vote, and receives a pension.

Still, the law was welcomed by Choi Eun-young, a 49-year-old resident of the capital, Seoul, who no longer feels the need to describe herself as being in her 50s.

"The law doesn't make you biologically younger and there are no real benefits other than feeling

good about being called a year younger than before," she admitted. "But if that's the international standard, there's nothing bad in following it."

Oh Seung-youll, another Seoul resident, agreed.

"It's always good to be younger," Oh said with a laugh, praising the new law for turning him 61 from 63.

"My birthday is Dec. 16 and I became 2 years old less than a month after I was born," said Oh. "That's why (the old counting method) doesn't make sense."

But 21-year-old Kim Si-eun was already missing the old counting method, which felt simpler to her.

"Korean-style age was actually easier to count," she said. "With everybody now going with international age, the changed ages feel awkward."

While the new law states that a person's age must be

counted by the passing of birthdays for most public services, it does not affect other age-related regulations that are based on yearly rules.

Staying the same is the country's legal age for drinking and smoking, which are allowed from Jan. 1 of the year a person turns 19 in their international age, regardless of whether their birthday has passed.

The new law doesn't affect when South Korean males become eligible to serve their mandatory military duty, which is from Jan. 1 of the year they turn 18 in international age.

Changing those age regulations would require revisions of the country's youth protection and military service laws, the government legislation ministry said.

Lee Wan-kyu, the government legislation minister, said the new law is mostly aimed at reducing confusion in daily life and inspiring a change in "social perception" toward a more rational way of counting ages. **MDT/AP**

Transgender woman challenges societal norms by applying to compete in Miss Venezuela pageant

REGINA GARCIA CANO,
CARACAS, VENEZUELA

VENEZUELAN'S enthusiasm for beauty pageants is unparalleled, and Miss Venezuela — the crown jewel of them all — may be the only event able to unite the deeply divided country. Once a year, class, race and politics are put aside as the South American nation tunes in to see who will represent Venezuela on the global stage.

Behind the cheers and claps for the women vying for the coveted title is a deeply conservative society with little to no tolerance for any defiance of heteronormative standards. Sofia Salomón is ready to challenge that.

The influencer and Instagram model has applied to take part in this year's Miss Venezuela contest. If accepted, she will be the first transgender woman to participate.

"I think it is a great platform to bring visibility to my community, echo the positive things, and show people the reality of transgender women," Salomón said.

With no end in sight for the protracted crisis that has pushed millions of Venezuelans into poverty and 7.3 million to migrate, LGBTQ+ rights are hardly a dinner table topic for families or a dominant campaign issue in the race to oust President Nicolás Maduro in 2024.

Sunday's planned Pride march in the capital, Caracas, may draw hundreds of people, but there is almost no acceptance of the LGBTQ+ community nationwide, unlike in some other Latin American nations with conservative, Roman Catholic-based values. And Venezuelans who often idolize the European lifestyle have largely resisted that continent's wide inclusion of the community and its rejection of homophobia and transphobia.

Venezuela's top court in May repealed a law that punished consensual same-sex conduct by military personnel, but has been holding off for seven years in deciding a case that aims to give same-sex couples the right



Sofia Salomon

to marry.

It has also not ruled in Tamara Adrian's case, which she filed with the court in 2004. The transgender woman wants to legally change her name and sex on her birth certificate and in public records. The government argues that the law already allows for that, but Adrian and the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, which examines human rights violations in the hemisphere, disagree. She has requested hearings and filed over 30 briefs in her case with no response.

Nonetheless, Adrian became the country's first transgender lawmaker in 2015, representing a district in Caracas, and in June this year, she entered the opposition's presidential primary race, hoping to oust Maduro.

"In order to see changes in social matters, the state must implement public policies, and in that sense there is undoubtedly a penetration of changes (in other Latin American countries) that you cannot see in Venezuela," Adrian said. "There is often not even an awareness here that a certain phrase is racist or homophobic or transphobic or misogynistic."

Last year, Salomón finished in the top six of Miss International Queen, the world's largest beauty pageant for transgender women. During the event, she mentioned the law Adrian is fighting.

"I would like that law changed so transgender women could be accepted with the name they feel more safe,"

she said.

A transgender woman was selected in February to participate in Puerto Rico Miss Universe — a first for the Caribbean island — bolstering Salomón's hopes for her entry in the Venezuela contest. She said her parents, siblings and boyfriend support her decision to apply, and the comments and emojis on her Instagram posts are overwhelmingly positive.

The Miss Venezuela organization did not respond to a request for comment from The Associated Press.

Miss Venezuela winners go on to compete in Miss Universe, and the global contest opened to transgender competitors in 2012. That decision prompted Osmel Sousa, then head of Miss Venezuela, to declare that "the humble, Christian Venezuelan public will never accept that position."

Marcia Ochoa, an associate professor of feminist, critical race and ethnic studies at UC Santa Cruz, applauded Salomón's efforts.

"She is doing something that makes a lot of sense for a Venezuelan person," Ochoa said, insisting that Venezuelan culture has space for an idiosyncratic gender identity: miss. "You can see somebody and say whether or not they are in beauty pageants because they look like a beauty pageant contestant. You can say: 'es toda una miss.'" The phrase encapsulates a truly Venezuelan compliment, that a perfectly put together woman "is abso-

lutely a Miss (Venezuela)."

In 2018, Angela Ponce from Spain became the first transgender woman to participate in Miss Universe, and last year, a Thai business tycoon and transgender woman bought the Miss Universe Organization — once partly owned by former U.S. President Donald Trump — for \$20 million.

Miss Venezuela winners earn instant fame that can lead to positions of influence. The 1981 Miss Universe winner, Irene Sáez, went on to become mayor of a municipality of Caracas, and she ran for president in 1998, losing to Hugo Chávez.

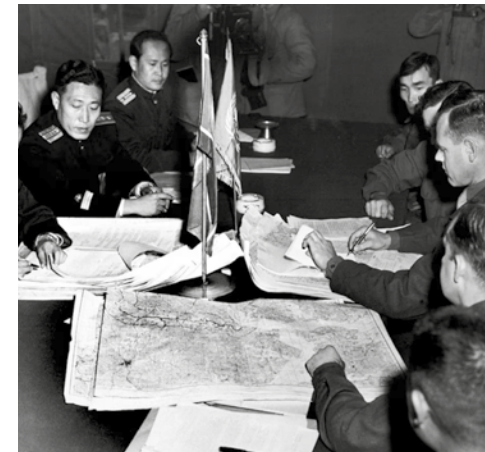
Caracas resident Josefina Mejía has watched Miss Venezuela for decades with family and friends. They pick favorites and have a friendly competition over whose pick will win. Mejía, 65, said she does not oppose Salomón's efforts but would rather see transgender women stay out of the contest.

"This is a conservative society, and sometimes we judge people even though we shouldn't be judging," Mejía said. "I would like a separate contest for that gender."

The activist-run Venezuelan Observatory of LGBTIQ+ Violence reported at least 97 cases of violence against members of the community nationwide in 2022, including 11 homicides. The figures are likely an undercount because so many cases are not reported. A formal complaint was filed with authorities in at least 10% of the cases. **MDT/AP**

this day in history

1951 RIDGWAY AGREES TO CEASEFIRE TALKS



Talks to end the Korean war will begin later in July after terms were accepted by General Matthew Ridgway, supreme commander to the United Nations in the Far East.

Original proposals for the ceasefire talks were made by General Ridgway to the Communists who requested changes which have today been agreed to.

In his original message to the North Korean commander Kim Il-Sung and the Commander of the Chinese Communist forces General Peng Tuh-huai, General Ridgway stated:

"Since agreement on armistice terms has to precede the cessation of hostilities, delay in initiating the meeting and reaching agreement will prolong the fighting and increase tension."

But, at the request of the Chinese and North Koreans, the talks will be delayed by 10 to 15 days.

The delay is thought to be because of difficulties in reaching Kaesong due to transport problems although there is speculation the delay is to allow a finalisation of tactics.

Truce negotiations

The talks are to be held in Kaesong, a no-man's land just south of the 38th Parallel.

Liaison officers from all sides are due to arrive in Kaesong on 5 July for preliminary talks and General Ridgway has asked for "positive assurances of safe conduct for this personnel" for when the officers travel to the conference.

They are expected to co-ordinate details of the truce negotiations to end the war.

The war began in June 1950 when North Korea invaded South Korea at several points along the joint border - the 38th parallel.

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

The first substantial talks, between Vice Admiral Turner Joy of the US Navy and General Nam Il of the North Korean army, began on 26 July. Arrangements for a demarcation line, a demilitarised zone, the way the truce would be supervised and the issue of prisoners of war were all discussed.

Talks at Kaesong broke down and the war reached stalemate.

Fighting did not stop until 1953 with the signing of the armistice on 27 July.

But a peace deal has never been reached.

American troops remain stationed in the demilitarized zone on and around the 38th parallel separating North and South Korea.

MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

YOUR STARS

ARIES
Mar. 21-Apr. 19
 Sudden changes of heart may cause disruptions in your domestic scene. You may cause a fuss if you come on too strongly in public. Take on positions that offer on the job training.

TAURUS
Apr. 20-May. 20
 Your partner will be emotionally unable to cope. New relationships will surface through work related events. Try not to be too aggressive or judgmental when talking to your mate.

GEMINI
May. 21-Jun. 21
 Stay out of other people's affairs. You can enhance your reputation if you treat family and friends with respect and dignity. Be careful not to come on too strongly.

CANCER
Jun. 22-Jul. 22
 Be sure to double-check the house on your way out. Use your charm, but don't be phony. Health problems may prevail if you haven't been getting enough rest.

LEO
Jul. 23-Aug. 22
 Take care of your personal needs. Compromise if you wish to have any fun at all. You may find it difficult to discuss personal matters with family members.

VIRGO
Aug. 23-Sep. 22
 You can meet friends who will let you know how valuable you are. Investments concerning your residence will be profitable. Outdoor sports events should entice you.

LIBRA
Sep. 23-Oct. 22
 You may have problems with skin, bones, or teeth if you haven't been taking proper care of yourself. Now is the time to concentrate on building a strong financial future for your family.

SCORPIO
Oct. 23-Nov. 21
 You may want to take a serious look at your goals and objectives. Avoid joint ventures and steer clear of groups that want you to contribute financial assistance.

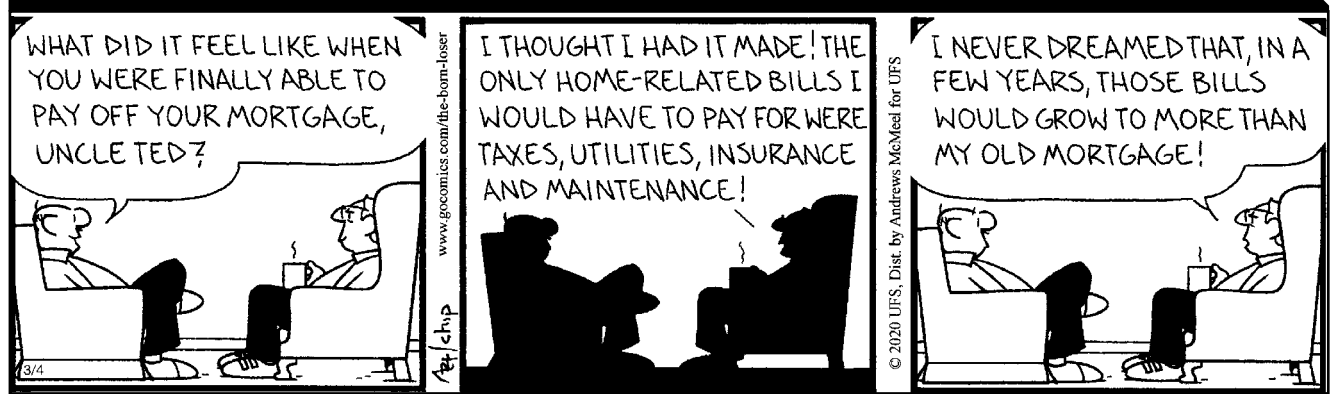
SAGITTARIUS
Nov. 22-Dec. 21
 Romance will be yours if you get out and do things in large groups. You may blow situations out of proportion when dealing with the one you love.

CAPRICORN
Dec. 22-Jan. 19
 Rely on the one you love for support and affection. You will find their philosophies worth exploring. You will have to be careful not to let infatuations with colleagues get out of hand.

AQUARIUS
Jan. 20-Feb. 18
 Try out for a local sports team such as volleyball, tennis, lawn bowling, or whatever interests you. Take a look at your legal position. You will enjoy travel and getting together with peers.

PISCES
Feb. 19-Mar. 20
 Get together with people who stimulate you mentally. Don't let someone talk you into parting with your cash unless you can truly see the benefits of doing so.

The Born Loser by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

EASY

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

EASY+

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

MEDIUM

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

HARD

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

WEATHER

| | MIN | MAX | CONDITION |
|--------------|-----|-----|---------------|
| CHINA | | | |
| Beijing | 23 | 38 | fine |
| Changchun | 18 | 31 | fine |
| Chengdu | 22 | 35 | thunderstorms |
| Chongqing | 24 | 33 | rain |
| Fuzhou | 26 | 35 | thunderstorms |
| Guangzhou | 26 | 35 | cloudy |
| Guiyang | 22 | 29 | showers |
| Haikou | 27 | 35 | thunderstorms |
| Hangzhou | 27 | 32 | rain |
| Harbin | 18 | 29 | cloudy |
| Hefei | 23 | 28 | rain |
| Nanjing | 25 | 27 | rain |
| Shanghai | 26 | 29 | rain |
| Taipei | 25 | 31 | rain |
| Wuhan | 25 | 30 | rain |
| Hong Kong | 29 | 32 | overcast |
| WORLD | | | |
| Moscow | 14 | 18 | rain |
| Frankfurt | 13 | 26 | rain |
| Paris | 17 | 25 | cloudy |
| London | 17 | 20 | cloudy |
| New York | 20 | 28 | overcast |

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS 1- Close with force; 5- Pigpen; 8- Portfolio; 12- Paroxysmal pain; 14- Short dog, for short; 15- Ripened; 16- Fragrance; 17- Greek portico; 18- Friends; 19- Maturity; 21- Small wave; 23- CD earnings; 24- Telly network; 25- Alien's subj.; 26- Capital of Cuba; 30- Band; 32- Delight; 33- Thin paper; 37- Minus; 38- Cheap wine; 39- Opposed; 40- Shooting star; 42- Loose outer garment; 43- Not dead yet; 44- Stroll; 45- Pompous person; 48- Female deer; 49- Stimulus; 50- Pester; 52- Dolt; 57- Fit for service; 58- Bakery worker; 60- ___ once; 61- Salamander; 62- Shop item; 63- Not hesitant; 64- Being, to Brutus; 65- Desire; 66- Cabinet dept.;

DOWN 1- "The Lion King" villain; 2- Actress Singer; 3- Hanging to one side; 4- Silent performer; 5- Tennis units; 6- Ring result; 7- High school memento; 8- Andy of the comics; 9- Slack-jawed; 10- Vends; 11- Ford flop; 13- Like a dog; 14- Hey, over here!; 20- Bambi's aunt; 22- Desktop image; 24- Salt water; 26- Steering wheel; 27- Away from the wind; 28- Immense; 29- Puzzled; 30- Govt. security; 31- Sacred song; 33- Martini garnish; 34- Door opener; 35- Romance lang.; 36- Greek goddess of victory; 38- Precedence; 41- Shoppe sign word; 42- Roman general; 44- Grog ingredient; 45- Dry as ___; 46- Loudness units; 47- Simmers; 49- Coil; 51- Detest; 52- Dodge model; 53- "Twittering Machine" artist; 54- ___ Bator, Mongolia; 55- Put aboard; 56- Interstellar dist.; 59- Cedar Rapids college;

Friday's solution

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| L | I | K | E | N | I | A | | V | G | L | I |
| E | L | I | S | R | E | M | I | T | S | E | E |
| N | E | E | T | E | V | A | D | E | A | O | N |
| A | D | V | A | N | C | E | M | E | N | T | |
| T | I | E | | S | E | E | R | | | | |
| S | C | E | N | I | C | | D | E | R | M | A |
| I | W | O | T | V | I | T | A | | T | I | P |
| R | A | U | L | T | V | O | K | E | | A | H |
| A | R | R | O | Z | | T | A | L | O | | S |
| E | T | U | I | | T | N | K | E | D | | A |
| G | I | N | S | | C | O | N | | | | |
| N | E | E | | C | A | T | A | S | T | R | O |
| S | C | O | L | | H | A | S | T | E | | I |
| E | T | U | I | | T | N | K | E | D | | A |
| D | O | S | E | | S | B | W | | | T | H |

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Emergency calls 999
Fire department 28 572 222
PJ (Open line) 993
PJ (Picket) 28 557 775
PSP 28 573 333
Customs 28 559 944
S. J. Hospital 28 313 731
Kiang Wu Hospital 28 371 333
Commission Against Corruption (CCAC) 28326 300
IAM 28 387 333
Tourism 28 333 000
Airport 59 888 88

Taxi 28 939 939 / 2828 3283
Water Supply - Report 2822 0088
Telephone - Report 1000
Electricity - Report 28 339 922
Macau Daily Times 28 716 081

It's prime time to BUY & RENT!

jml property

CONTACT US & SEIZE THIS OPPORTUNITY!
 hello@jmlproperty.com
 www.jmlproperty.com
 jmlmacau jmlproperty

Supreme Flower City
 HKD 22,000/mth 4 bed 3 bath

Va Fat
 HKD 4,080,000 2 bed 1 bath

Manhattan
 HKD 2,500/mth CARPARK

info@jmlproperty.com

jmlmacau jmlproperty



NOVA PARK
2 bed 1 bath
1,060 ft² | HKD15,000/mth



VA FAT
2 bed 1 bath
830 ft² | HKD4,080,000



HELLENE GARDENS
3 bed 2 bath
1,663 ft² | HKD11,800/mth



SUPREME FLOWER CITY
4 bed 3 bath
2,060 ft² | HKD22,000/mth



MANHATTAN
Carpark
HKD2,500/mth



It's prime time to
BUY & RENT!
www.jmlproperty.com

有關樓宇廣告法定資訊資料請向職員查閱
For more information on advertising laws, please speak to one of our representatives.

Call us!

(853) 2835 2699

有關樓宇廣告法定資訊資料請向職員查閱
For more information on advertising laws, please speak to one of our representatives.



Juliet Risdon
(853) 6680 9804
juliet@jmlproperty.com
AI-1003469-6



Windy Lam
(853) 6881 1007
windy@jmlproperty.com
AI-10010081-9

TENNIS

Venus Williams is back at Wimbledon and ready to play on Centre Court again

HOWARD FENDRICH,
WIMBLEDON

ASKED two days before her 24th Wimbledon begins whether she's still excited to play tennis at this level, Venus Williams quickly answered: "It's so much fun."

The next question Saturday was about being on tour without her younger sister, Serena, who wrapped up her career at last year's U.S. Open. The reply: "Not as much fun."

There is still a big-swinging, Grand Slam-winning member of the Williams family in women's tennis, and it's 43-year-old Venus, who recently returned to action after about five months away with a hamstring injury she called "a nightmare."

That followed a 2022 in which she participated in just four contests — all in August or September, meaning she missed the season's initial three Grand Slam tournaments, including Wimble-



don — and a 2021 in which she accumulated only a dozen.

"I haven't played a lot of matches in the last few years, and not by choice. I wanted to be here and I couldn't," said the elder Williams, who will meet two-ti-

me major semifinalist Elina Svitolina of Ukraine at Centre Court on Monday, Day 1 at the All England Club. "So I just put my head down and put even more work in and got myself in a much better position — and that's life.

And you've got to deal with life. And I've dealt with my life and, most of the time, I come out on top."

In tennis terms, that means reaching the No. 1 ranking, winning seven major singles titles, the most among active women — and five came at Wimbledon, the first in 2000, most recent in 2008 — and another 14 in women's doubles — all with her sibling. Away from the court, she learned to live with Sjögren's syndrome, an energy-sapping autoimmune disease that can cause joint pain; she announced her diagnosis in 2011.

"The most inspiring thing about her is the love that she has for tennis. I don't think that love has swayed over the course of her career. I think you can see players who are older now (and) you can have a feeling they probably don't love it as much as they did when they started it. I don't have that feeling with Venus. I hope I'm the same way," said Coco Gauff, who

burst onto the scene at age 15 by beating Williams in the first round at Wimbledon as a qualifier in 2019.

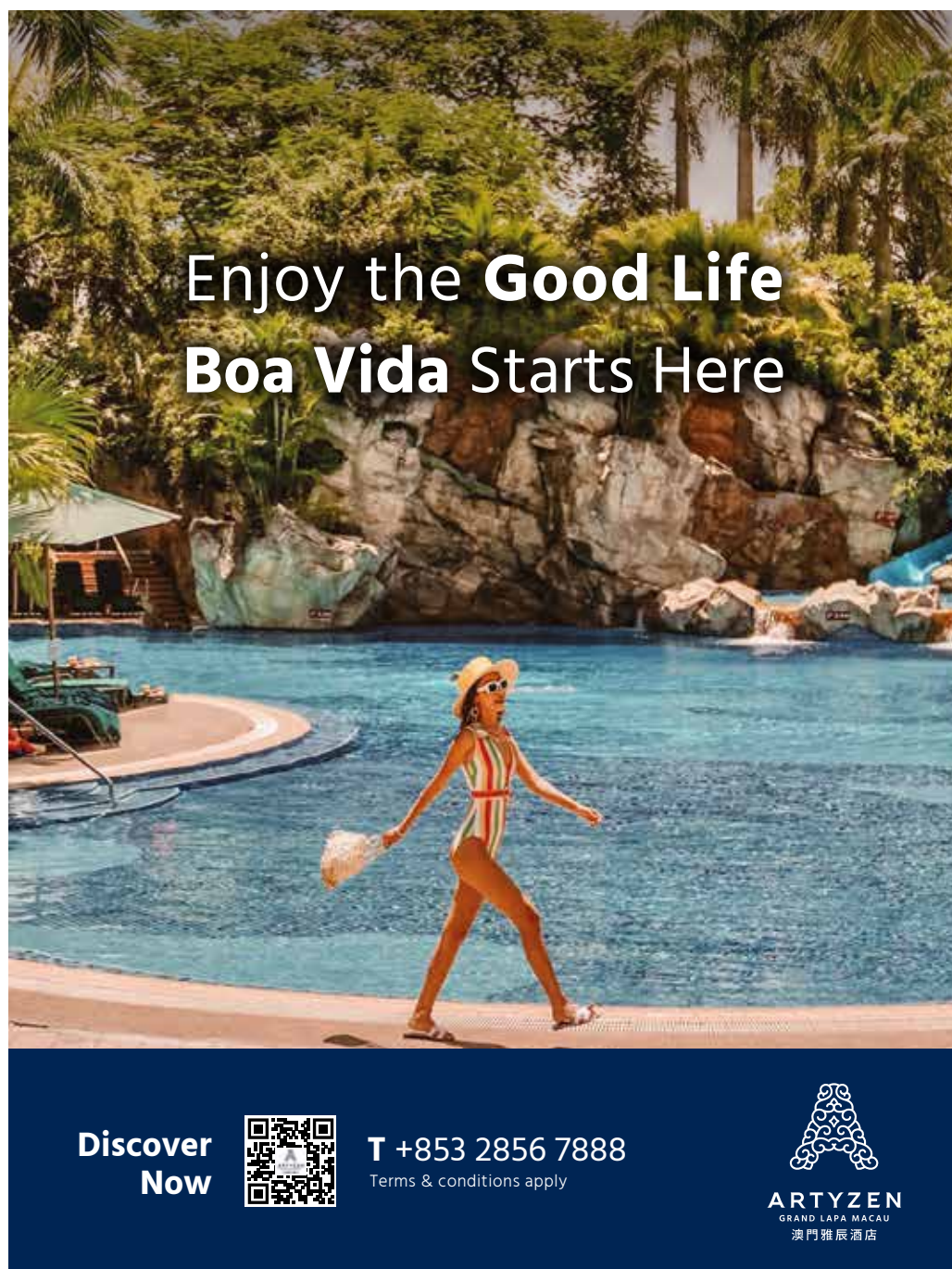
"Obviously, just her grit for every match, every ball. I watched a couple of her matches last week," Gauff said. "Just the will to want every point is something that's inspiring."

Monday's match will be Williams' first in Wimbledon's main stadium since 2017, when she reached the final before losing to Garbiñe Muguruza.


Williams made her debut at the All England Club in 1997, shortly before Svitolina turned 3.

"Venus loves to play here," said Svitolina, who returned to the tour in April after having a baby last year. "It's just really impressive. She's a great champion. She achieved so much in her career. I don't know if I will be playing at (that) age and would be in this great shape, playing with such a passion. So lots of respect to her in so many ways." **MDT/AP**

AD



Enjoy the **Good Life**
Boa Vida Starts Here

Discover Now 

T +853 2856 7888
Terms & conditions apply

ARTYZEN
GRAND LAPA MACAU
澳門雅辰酒店



The Roadhouse Macau
WELCOMES YOU!

FREE
Limo Service
from 5PM
(Tues-Sun)

WE DELIVER!

FOOD / DRINKS / LIVE MUSIC

THE ROADHOUSE MACAU, R/C, SHOP E-G016-G019, BROADWAY HOTEL, ROTUNDA DO DIQUE OESTE, TAIPA

@theroadhousemacau PLEASE CALL US AT: 2875 2945 FOR RESERVATIONS

OPINION

China Daily
 Editorial, China Daily

SINO-US SCIENCE DEAL RENEWAL A STABILIZING MOVE

In an attempt to chip away at the already shaky foundations of the China-US relationship, some Republican lawmakers on Tuesday urged the US State Department to not renew a decades-old bilateral agreement on scientific cooperation on the grounds that it would help China modernize its military.

In a letter sent to Secretary of State Antony Blinken, the chair of the US House of Representatives' Select Committee on China Mike Gallagher and nine other Republican representatives alleged that the deal, set to expire on Aug 27, would enable Beijing to use "academic researchers, industrial espionage, forced technology transfers, and other tactics to gain an edge in critical technologies, which in turn fuels the People's Liberation Army modernization", and thus it should be scrapped.

The US-China Agreement on Cooperation in Science and Technology was the first bilateral accord signed by the two countries after relations were normalized in 1979. It has to be renewed about every five years and is seen as a symbol of robust government-to-government science and technology collaboration that continues to this day.

Moreover, over the past four decades, more than 30 protocols and deals in a wide range of areas — including health, engineering, climate change and environmental protection — have been signed, and hundreds of joint programs conducted under the framework of the agreement, laying solid common ground upon which the two countries could build mutual trust and broaden cooperation.

Those who call for an end to China-US cooperation in the fields of science and technology seem ignorant of the fact that the agreement is not a favor granted to China by the US, but a partnership that enables both Chinese and US scientists as well as scholars and students to learn from and share with each other research data, experience and expertise to the benefit and prosperity of both countries.

Any politically motivated setbacks in terms of China-US cooperation in science and technology will not only cause more damage to the already souring bilateral relations, but also compromise their joint efforts to address such global issues as climate change.

Washington has always said it has no intention to trigger a conflict with, or contain China, and wants to maintain a stable relationship that has "guardrails". But sincerity is subject to proof, and it is actions, not words, that really count. The outcome on the science and technology agreement — one of the few remaining fruits of Sino-US cooperation on the basis of equality, reciprocity and mutual benefit — will serve to show to what extent the US is willing to do damage control in terms of its relations with China.

POPE APPOINTS BISHOP TO LEAD VATICAN OFFICE THAT ENFORCES CHURCH DOCTRINE

THE BUZZ

Pope Francis on Saturday chose a bishop who is a trusted theological advisor from his native Argentina for one of the Vatican's most powerful positions — head of the watchdog office that enforces doctrinal orthodoxy.

Francis named Monsignor Victor Manuel Fernández, the archbishop of La Plata, Argentina, as the prefect, or chief, of the Dicastery for the Doctrine of the Faith.

Fernández has been nicknamed the "pope's theologian" since he is widely believed to have helped author some of Francis' most important documents.

The Dicastery, or department, enforces orthodoxy of church teaching and disciplines theologians deemed to have strayed from Catholic doctrine in their lectures or publications. But it has taken on considerably more importance to rank-and-file faithful as the stain of pedophile priests spread across the globe in recent decades.

Fernández is widely believed to have been a key author behind some of Francis' most consequential documents, notably "God is Love," a 2016 exhortation that opened the door to letting divorced Catholics who remarry in civil ceremonies to receive Communion.

AP PHOTO



Artwork on display is seen at the Psychedelic Science conference in the Colorado Convention Center, June 21, 2023

AUSTRALIA IS THE FIRST COUNTRY TO LET PATIENTS WITH DEPRESSION OR PTSD BE PRESCRIBED PSYCHEDELICS

AUSTRALIA is now the first country to allow psychiatrists to prescribe certain psychedelic substances to patients with depression or post-traumatic stress disorder.

Beginning Saturday, Australian physicians can prescribe doses of MDMA, also known as ecstasy, for PTSD. Psilocybin, the psychoactive ingredient in psychedelic mushrooms, can be given to people who have hard-to-treat depression. The country put the two drugs on the list of approved medicines by the Therapeutic Goods Administration.

Scientists in Australia were surprised by the move, which was announced in February but took effect July 1. One scientist said it puts Australia "at the forefront of research in this field."

Chris Langmead, deputy director of the Neuro-medicines Discovery Centre at the Monash Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences, said there have been very few advancements on treatment of persistent mental health issues in the last 50 years.

The growing cultural acceptance has led two U.S. states to approve measu-

res for their use: Oregon was the first to legalize the adult use of psilocybin, and Colorado's voters decriminalized psilocybin in 2022. Days ago, President Joe Biden's youngest brother said in a radio interview that the president has been "very open-minded" in conversations the two have had about the benefits of psychedelics as a form of medical treatment.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration designated psilocybin as a "breakthrough therapy" in 2018, a label that's designed to speed the development and review of drugs to treat a serious condition. Psychedelics researchers have benefited from federal grants, including Johns Hopkins, and the FDA released draft guidance late last month for researchers designing clinical trials testing psychedelic drugs as potential treatments for a variety of medical conditions.

Still, the American Psychiatric Association has not endorsed the use of psychedelics in treatment, noting the FDA has yet to offer a final determination.

And medical experts in the U.S. and elsewhere, Australia included, have

cautioned that more research is needed on the drugs' efficacy and the extent of the risks of psychedelics, which can cause hallucinations.

"There are concerns that evidence remains inadequate and moving to clinical service is premature; that incompetent or poorly equipped clinicians could flood the space; that treatment will be unaffordable for most; that formal oversight of training, treatment, and patient outcomes will be minimal or ill-informed," said Dr. Paul Likhaitzky, head of Monash University's Clinical Psychedelic Lab.

Plus, the drugs will be expensive in Australia — about \$10,000 (roughly \$6,600 U.S. dollars) per patient for treatment.

Likhaitzky said the opportunity for Australians to access the drugs for specific conditions is unique.

"There's excitement about drug policy progress," he said, "... about the prospect of being able to offer patients more suitable and tailored treatment without the constraints imposed by clinical trials and rigid protocols." **MDT/AP**

India A tire blowout caused a bus to lose control and crash into a road divider and burst into flames, killing 25 people in early Saturday, police told local media. Police officer Sunil Kadasne told the Press Trust of India news agency that 33 people were on the bus when the crash occurred around 1:30 a.m. on a highway in the Buldhana district of Maharashtra state. The eight survivors were taken to a hospital, he said.

AP PHOTO



Israel carried out airstrikes on areas near the central Syrian city of Homs yesterday causing material damage but no casualties, the Syrian military said in a statement. A Syrian anti-aircraft missile exploded over Israeli territory, the Israeli military said, prompting another round of strikes. Syrian state media quoted an unnamed military official as saying the air defenses shot down some of the missiles fired by Israeli warplanes flying over neighboring Lebanon.

AP PHOTO



France Young rioters clashed with police yesterday and targeted a mayor's home with a burning car as France saw a fifth night of unrest sparked by the police killing of a teenager, but overall violence appeared to lessen compared with previous nights. Police made 719 arrests nationwide after a mass security deployment aimed at quelling France's worst social upheaval in years.

AP PHOTO



Brazil Far-right former President Jair Bolsonaro was barred last week from running for office again until 2030 after a panel of judges concluded that he abused his power and cast unfounded doubts on the country's electronic voting system. The decision upends the 68-year-old's political future and likely erases any chance for him to regain power. Five judges on the nation's highest electoral court agreed that Bolsonaro used government communication channels to promote his campaign and sowed distrust about the vote.