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" THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN' "

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SUPPLEMENT

THE S. LOURENÇO MUNICIPAL MARKET COMPLEX WILL UNDERGO A FOOD-THEMED REVITALIZATION NEXT YEAR, SECRETARY WONG SIO CHAK SAYS
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PUBLIC BUS RIDERSHIP RISES 6.5% IN FIRST THREE QUARTERS
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THE SOCIAL WELFARE BUREAU RECORDED 20 SUSPECTED DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CASES IN FIRST HALF OF 2026
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AP PHOTO



Indonesia A fire at a candy factory in Banten province killed at least three workers and left 36 unaccounted for after breaking out Saturday. Officials said 15 workers were rescued, four with injuries. Firefighters were still cooling parts of the plant Sunday.

AP PHOTO



Israel Opposition leader Gadi Eisenkot called overnight arson attacks on Palestinians in the occupied West Bank "Jewish terrorism" yesterday and blamed Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's government for the violence. Israeli police said they were investigating who set the fires and sprayed graffiti.

AP PHOTO



Turkey released a draft United Nations climate agreement Sunday that omits any mention of fossil fuels and sets a goal of capturing, reusing and storing 1 billion metric tons of carbon. Several countries objected to the proposal, which needs near-unanimous approval.

Yemen An airstrike hit a fuel station in Yemen's capital, Sanaa, yesterday, wounding six workers, a spokesman for the Houthi-run Health Ministry said. The spokesman said the strike also damaged a building belonging to the state oil company that operates the station.

AP PHOTO



Italy Paolo Bulgari, who helped turn his family's Italian jewelry business into a global luxury brand, has died at 89, his family announced Saturday. Bulgari oversaw its expansion into major markets and into watches, perfumes and hotels. His funeral is Monday in Rome.

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SIX MORE PUBLIC DEPARTMENTS TO BE RESTRUCTURED NEXT YEAR

YUKI LEI



SIX more public departments will be restructured next year, Secretary for Administration and Justice Wong Sio Chak told the Legislative Assembly, as the government's streamlining drive reduces the number of civil servants to 30,488.

According to Wong, the second phase of the government's organizational restructuring will proceed in an orderly manner in 2027, covering the Pension Fund, the Gaming Inspection and Coordination Bureau (DICJ), the Statistics and Census Service (DSEC), the Pharmaceutical Administration Bureau (ISAF), the Education and Youth Development Bureau (DSEDJ) and the Marine and Water Bureau (DSAMA). The core approach will be to define functions, structures and staffing levels, with priorities determined by urgency.

Responding to lawmakers' concerns during the debate on the 2027 administrative and justice policy guidelines, Wong said the first phase had produced positive initial results, with 18 public departments and the Legislative Assembly's auxiliary department reorganized this year and a total of 554 positions eliminated - "achieving an initial dual goal of streamlining and improving efficiency." The Public Administration and Civil Service Bureau (SAFP) will conduct a retrospective review of the results in due course.

Wong said the second phase will continue to address oversized organizational structures, gaps in departmental functions and overlapping responsibilities. It will also strengthen staffing controls by prioritizing internal redeployment, cross-departmental or cross-sector transfers, process optimization and digitalization to meet operational needs. The number of civil servants has gradually declined to 30,488, he said.

Regarding the retrospective review raised by lawmakers, Wong said the bureau will assess the effectiveness of restructuring in terms of work content, workload, processing procedures and division of responsibilities. It will also examine whether departments are properly carrying out their functions, implementing improvements and addressing operational and personnel management problems identified during the restructuring process.

He noted that the Commission of Audit (CA) and the bureau had already established requirements and standards covering departmental operations, recruitment, work assignments and staffing structures during the restructuring process. "These are precisely the key elements the review will examine," he said.

Wong said the government will also restructure 36 consultative bodies alongside the departmental reforms, with seven having undergone reorganization as of the end of October.

He added that the government will review the public service and organizational performance assessment system based on the principles of being results-oriented and focusing on actual effectiveness. Departmental performance results and the effectiveness of responses to residents' concerns following the reforms will serve as references when appointing department heads and supervisors.

On human resources, Wong said the government will study standardized benchmarks for departmental staffing structures, shifting from "quantity control" to "proper matching." It will also simplify career structures and reduce the number of specialized career categories to allow more flexible staff deployment and facilitate horizontal mobility.

Training opportunities will be expanded through cooperation with mainland and local universities, as well as the provision of additional online courses. Education on national conditions and professional integrity will also be strengthened.

Wong said his portfolio will focus on deepening public administration reform, advancing the rule of law, improving municipal affairs and infrastructure, and steadily advancing the alignment of rules and mechanisms with the Hengqin cooperation zone.

The government will uphold the executive-led system centered on the Chief Executive and study revisions to the general rules governing Executive Council members to improve decision-making support.

TRANSPORT

Public bus ridership rises 6.5% in first three quarters

LYNZY VALLES

PUBLIC bus ridership reached 183 million passenger trips in the first three quarters of 2026, up 6.52% year on year, with an average of 669,400 daily trips, according to the latest statistics from the Transport Bureau (DSAT).

The two bus operators recorded combined service revenue of MOP1.25 billion during the period. Passenger fares accounted for about MOP430 million, while fare subsidies for elderly people, people with disabilities and students totaled MOP310 million.

Ridership growth accelerated in the third quarter, when buses carried 62.4 million passengers, an increase of 8.48% year on year. Average daily ridership rose 7.3% to 677,800 trips.

The bureau's data also showed that average daily bus departures increased 4.65% year on year to 10,270 in the third quarter, while daily operating mileage rose 7% to approximately 161,200 kilometers.

As of Sept. 30, the two operators had a combined fleet of 955 buses, of which 348 were equipped with passenger-counting estimation systems. They operated 85 routes and employed 1,598 bus drivers.

OVER 1,300 REGULAR TAXIS AT END OF SEPTEMBER

The city had 1,351 regular taxis, commonly known as black taxis, as of the end of September, an increase of 48 from the end of June, while the number of special taxis remained unchanged at 200, according to statistics.

During the third quarter of 2026, the bureau received 335 complaints and reports concerning taxi services, with about 82% related to drivers' service attitudes.



LYNZY VALLES

The bureau also recorded 24 cases in which taxi drivers paid fines for violations, totaling MOP28,800. No drivers had their licenses revoked during the quarter under the five-violations-in-five-years rule stipulated in the legal framework governing light passenger rental vehicles.

Meanwhile, 1,514 people enrolled in taxi driver training courses during the period. Of these, 438 passed the required assessments and applied for taxi driver permits.

As of Sept. 30, a total of 7,047 people held valid taxi driver permits, the bureau said.

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PUBLIC WORKS

First lakeside pet park planned for Sai Van Lake

YUKI LEI



YUKI LEI

THE government plans to build Macau's first lakeside leisure pet park in the Sai Van Lake area, alongside a new outdoor café and landscaping improvements, the Municipal Affairs Bureau (IAM) said during the Legislative Assembly debate on the 2027 administrative and justice policy guidelines.

IAM president Chou Wai Ieng said the Sai Van Lake pet park will not be limited to dogs, with cats, rabbits and turtles also permitted. Separate zones will be provided for different animals to ensure safety and allow them to coexist.

"The inclusive design will set aside different areas for different pets," he said, adding that animal groups' views would be incorporated into the design and that pet facilities were also planned for New Urban Zone A.

Chou was responding to lawmakers' concerns about the overall progress of the South Shore Waterfront Green Promenade. He said the project was divided into three phases. The first phase is open, while two sections of the second phase have also opened. The remaining third section is expected to be completed in the first half of next year.

The third phase, covering the section from the Harmony Gate to Barra, is progressing as planned, with design work expected to be completed next year ahead of the tendering process. The bureau will coordinate with the public works department during the design stage to reserve connection points for pedestrian bridges and other transport infrastructure.

Secretary for Administration and Justice Wong Sio Chak said municipal affairs work follows the principle of "putting people first," with an approach centered on carrying out work precisely, thoroughly and professionally.

On greening, the government will upgrade landscaping around Sai Van Lake and prioritize greening in New Urban Zone A, the third section of Zone II of the South Shore Promenade, and parks across the city, with a target of covering at least 40,000 square meters this year. Butterfly-friendly gardens will continue to be developed, while four hectares of key forest areas will receive systematic maintenance.

The government will also continue developing the Hac Sa youth activity camp and children's discovery center, advance the third phase of the South Shore Waterfront Green Promenade, and coordinate studies to improve Guia Hill and Mong Ha Municipal Parks.

HAC SA YOUTH CAMP CONTRACTS AWARDED

The first-phase infrastructure and play equipment contracts for the Hac Sa youth activity camp have been awarded, with the government aiming to put the operating contract out to tender in 2027, authorities said.

The Municipal Affairs Bureau said the 10-hectare camp, a major government project, will feature 12 themes and more than 200 land-, water- and air-based adventure experiences. It is intended to serve as an outdoor training ground for young people of all ages and a family leisure facility, functioning as a "second classroom" to support their all-round development.

Responding to lawmakers' concerns about construction progress and the operating model, bureau president Chou Wai Ieng said the government had gathered views from schools, associations and consultative bodies. It would also work with educational institutions, community organizations and neighboring regions to operate the camp.

SOCIETY

S. Lourenço Market to undergo food-themed revamp next year

YUKI LEI



YUKI LEI

THE S. Lourenço Municipal Market Complex will undergo a food-themed revitalization next year, Secretary for Administration and Justice Wong Sio Chak said, citing the success of the Taipa Market's transformation.

Wong said the Taipa Market now attracts 7,000 to 8,000 visitors on ordinary days and more than 10,000 on holidays, retaining local customers while drawing tourists to visit and spend. The government plans to replicate and expand on this successful model, he said.

Municipal Affairs Bureau (IAM) president Chou Wai Ieng said five markets - Iao Hon, Patane, Mercado de S. Domingos, Horta da Mitra and S. Lourenço - completed the consolidation of 43 stalls this year to streamline their layouts.

Four public stall tenders have been held over the past two years, offering 63 stalls in total. As a result, the number of vacant stalls fell from 311 last year to 211 this year, representing an overall vacancy rate of about 21%. Some vacant stalls will be offered in future tenders, while more than 100 have been reserved for future market restructuring.

With legal and infrastructure improvements in place, several markets have undergone revitalization, Chou said. The Taipa Market's renovation is complete, while the Horta da Mitra Market has just completed renovation and is expected to reopen to the public in December. Work at the Tamagnini Barbosa Market is also under way.

The bureau will support further revitalization by incorporating the cultural and food-related elements of the Taipa Market into other markets. It hopes to introduce these features at Mercado de S. Domingos and connect the market with nearby hawkers to create a stronger tourism-oriented district.

Chou said the bureau will continue organizing "Market Fun Days" and seek more public feedback to improve the events. With the exception of the Tamagnini Barbosa Market, which will reserve space for a pedestrian bridge connecting it to the future residents' sports park to improve pedestrian access, other upgraded markets will be equipped with elevators.

Market rents will continue to be waived, he added. The first "Market Carnival," held this year, received an enthusiastic response and will rotate among different markets as the bureau seeks to develop it into a regular community event brand.

Under the 2027 policy guidelines, the government will continue revitalizing traditional markets through several initiatives.

These include transforming the Tamagnini Barbosa Market into a modern market featuring separate dry and wet sections and diverse consumer experiences; improving the design of cooked--food stalls and the dining area at the S. Lourenço Market; studying the stall layout at Mercado de S. Domingos; and regularly updating cultural photo spots at the Taipa Market to maintain its appeal to residents and tourists.

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SOCIETY

IAS records 20 suspected domestic violence cases in first half of 2026

TIMES REPORTER

MACAU recorded 20 suspected domestic violence cases in the first half of 2026, continuing a downward trend in reported cases, according to the Social Welfare Bureau (IAS), which has called for stronger family communication and community-based prevention to address the problem.

The figure compares with 48 suspected cases recorded throughout 2025 and 55 in 2024, data from the bureau's Domestic Violence Central Registration System showed.

Lei Lai Peng of the bureau's Department of Family and Community Services said domestic violence cases received by the authorities had declined in recent years. She identified parental discipline and traditional attitudes as among the more common factors contributing to family violence, adding that improving communication between family members could help prevent disputes from escalating.

"Prevention is better than cure," Lei said, referring to the bureau's efforts to raise public awareness and encourage early intervention.



This year, the Domestic Violence Prevention Working Group and the six regional collaborative networks have organized promotional activities across the city's districts, seeking to extend prevention messages beyond government services and into local communities.

The initiatives form part of a wider campaign jointly organized by the IAS and the Macau Women's General Association. The organizations held a closing ceremony Saturday for their Domestic Violence Prevention Series, which ran from September to December and focused on promoting harmonious family relationships.

Women's General Association vice president Wong Kit Cheng said the program targeted a broad range of groups, including residents, young people, merchants and employees of integrated resort operators.

The activities were designed to raise awareness of domestic violence, encourage residents to recognize potential warning signs and promote a more supportive community environment.

Wong also pointed to the significance of this year marking the 10th anniversary of the implementation of both the mainland's anti-domestic violence law and Macau's Law on the Prevention and Combating of Domestic Violence.

She said the legal framework had played an important role in protecting families and safeguarding residents' physical and mental well-being over the past decade. Efforts to address domestic violence, she added, extended beyond legislation to include legal education, public outreach, shelter services and support for victims.

The anniversary provides an opportunity to review the progress made in prevention and protection, while reinforcing the need for continued cooperation among government departments, social organizations and the wider community.

The Women's General Association said it would maintain a multi-pronged approach covering education, public awareness, victim protection and other support services to help resolve family disputes and prevent violence.

The campaign's focus on different sectors reflects the organizations' view that preventing domestic violence requires participation beyond the families directly affected. By involving schools, businesses, community groups and residents, the organizers aim to strengthen awareness and encourage people to seek assistance before conflicts develop into violence.

Authorities have continued to emphasize early prevention and family support as important elements in addressing domestic violence, alongside legal protection and assistance for victims.

CROSS-BORDER

Single-plate vehicle access to mainland delayed pending risk assessments, Wong says

YUKI LEI

THE planned northbound access for Macau single-plate vehicles to the mainland has been delayed pending additional risk assessments required by mainland authorities over the vehicle-exit arrangements, Secretary for Administration and Justice Wong Sio Chak said at the Legislative Assembly on Friday.

Wong said the announcement was originally scheduled for June 15, but mainland authorities subsequently determined that further risk assessments were necessary, adding four assessment tasks. Three have been completed, and the work is expected to be finished soon, he said. However, he could not guarantee a specific timetable and hoped the scheme could be implemented before the end of the year.



Regarding eligibility restrictions for vehicles entering the mainland, Wong said the scheme would be introduced in phases. The first phase would cover people living, working or operating businesses in the Guangdong-Macao In-Depth Cooperation Zone in Hengqin, before gradually expanding to other eligible groups.

Wong said efforts to align regulations and expand cross-border administrative services between Macau and Hengqin - described as "hard connectivity," "soft connectivity" and "heart connectivity" - aim to achieve deeper integration and allow Macau residents living and working in Hengqin to enjoy an environment similar to that in Macau.

A proposed amendment to the Notarization Law has been included in next year's legislative agenda, he said. The government will study expanding the territorial scope of notaries' powers, starting with allowing notaries to provide Macau-related notarization services in the cooperation zone.

Of the 51 items on this year's work list, progress has been satisfactory, Wong said. Next year's list will include matters under the central government's jurisdiction or involving Guangdong province, requiring further communication with Guangdong and central government departments.

On the movement of pets between Macau and Hengqin, Municipal Affairs Bureau President Chou Wai Ieng said mainland quarantine regulations currently allow each person to bring only one dog or cat into the mainland per trip, with each animal subject to inspection and quarantine.

The bureau has held several meetings with the General Administration of Customs this year and hopes to extend the validity period of inspection results where appropriate, consolidate inspection documents issued by both sides and introduce electronic processing. An announcement will be made in due course, he said.

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FIA FORMULA REGIONAL WORLD CUP

Nakamura-Berta secures Macau win after Deligny crashes

NADIA SHAW



KEAN Nakamura-Berta won the 73rd Macau Grand Prix FIA Formula Regional World Cup. The 18-year-old British-licensed Japanese-Slovak driver, racing for Macau's SJM Theodore Racing and backed by the Williams Driver Academy, inherited the lead in the 15-lap race at the Guia Circuit after leader Enzo Deligny crashed at Lisboa Bend.

Deligny hit the barriers on Lap 10 of 15. Nakamura-Berta then controlled the remainder of the race to win by 2.456 seconds.

Fellow racer Alex Ninovic passed Rashid Al Dhaheri on the final lap to take second, with Al Dhaheri finishing third. Ninovic, 19, was competing at the Guia Circuit for the first time, while Al Dhaheri was making his fourth appearance in Macau.

"I never expected this," Nakamura-Berta told the media after the race. "We started P6, and you know, we were looking for a miracle and a great start, and we just managed the race."

He praised his team after a weekend in which he had started the main race sixth following the 10-lap qualifying race. "It's been a massive privilege to drive for them, to race for them, the SJM Theodore Racing team, the home team from Macau," he said.

Asked where his recent victory ranked among his achievements, Nakamura-Berta said on the podium, "This is number one, this is number one, for sure."

DECISIVE MOMENT

Al Dhaheri, who had won Saturday's qualifying race and started from pole, retained the lead through the opening turns. But the race turned at Lisboa Bend, where Deligny braked too late and struck the barriers, allowing Nakamura-Berta to take a lead of about 3.5 seconds.

"Unfortunately, the way Macau has set up, T3 is always very tricky," Al Dhaheri said of the Lisboa Bend section. "I think we had a really good start, because we kept the lead in the T1 and T2, […] the slipstream is very difficult to stay at the T3."

Ninovic started third on the grid but dropped back early before recovering. On the final lap, the Australian Rodin Motorsport driver passed Al Dhaheri on the run to Mandarin Oriental to secure second place.

"Coming here I felt quite nervous, because I've never driven the track before, but with all the preparation we did, I felt quite confident that I would be quite quick," Ninovic said on the podium. "To stand here in P2 is a massive privilege."

Also attending Sunday's race were Chief Executive Sam Hou Fai, Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture O Lam, and Deland Leong, director of the Culture and Sports Bureau. Ahead of the race, the three government officials greeted the drivers and wished them luck.

AL PLENARY

Gov't to review public places regulation, including rules on objects thrown from heights

YUKI LEI

THE government will review the General Regulation on Public Places next year, including revising provisions governing the throwing of objects from heights, Secretary for Administration and Justice Wong Sio Chak told the Legislative Assembly during the debate on the 2027 administrative and justice policy guidelines.

Wong was responding to lawmaker Leong Hong Sai's concerns about objects being thrown from heights. He said the review would involve extensive public consultation. The use of technology to monitor such incidents would require consideration of several factors, including privacy rights, technical feasibility and, most importantly, legal compliance. The government would study the practices of neighboring regions before conducting further research, he said.

On stray animals, another issue raised by Leong, Municipal Affairs Bureau (IAM) President Chou Wai Ieng said the bureau had identified 89 hot spots where stray animals frequently appear and would step up cleaning and capture operations in those areas. From January to October this year, about 467 stray dogs were captured, of which approximately 6% were microchipped.

In a separate written reply to Leong, the bureau said it attaches importance to addressing the sources of stray animal populations. It conducts targeted patrols and trapping operations based on animals' activity patterns and routes, with particular emphasis on early morning and late-night operations.

The bureau has also established a community communication mechanism involving the Public Security Police, island district associations and relevant organizations to better understand the impact on residents and coordinate targeted source-control measures and public education.

It also continues patrols and enforcement operations at locations where illegal feeding of stray animals occurs, including residential communities, municipal parks and hills, while increasing cleaning frequency.

AD

澳門特別行政區政府
Governo da Região Administrativa Especial de Macau
文化體育局
Direcção dos Serviços de Cultura e Desporto

Metal barrier removal schedule for the 73rd Macau Grand Prix

Upon conclusion of the 73rd Macau Grand Prix, the Macau Grand Prix Organizing Committee would like to thank all Macau citizens for their support and cooperation of the event and inform that the metal barrier removal works have begun immediately upon the conclusion of the event. It is estimated that these works will be concluded on 3rd December, as per the schedule below:

Date	Time	Location
23rd to 26th of November	08:00 to 20:00	(1) Remove all movable gates (2) Remove all barriers on both sides of the movable gates
23rd to 28th of November	08:00 to 20:00	11:30 PM to 5:30 AM the next day
26th of November to 3rd of December	08:00 to 20:00	Remove all barriers from Rua dos Pescadores to Reservoir Bend
28th of November to 3rd of December	08:00 to 20:00	Remove all barriers at the upper part of the Guia Hill (Estrada de S. Francisco, Estrada dos Parses and Estrada de Cacilhas)

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New parking sensors, meters to be installed from November

Nam Kwong Tong will begin installing vehicle-detection sensors at metered parking spaces for light and heavy vehicles in commercial districts by the end of November, with a new parking meter payment system expected to be rolled out in December. The company said the upgrades form part of its efforts to support Macau's smart transportation and smart city development. It has operated the city's metered parking services since September and will install and replace equipment in phases in accordance with the public road parking concession contract.

Survey finds civil servants receptive to public input

A survey of 1,208 local civil servants found that 60% considered public feedback valuable in service design, while more than half supported public participation in service quality assessments. Conducted from February to August 2026 by two civil servants' associations, the survey found strong commitment to the public interest, but weaker cross-departmental coordination. The Macau Civil Servants Association and the Macao Chinese Civil Servants' Association said civil servants should adopt a "more people-oriented approach" and proposed a "fault-tolerance mechanism for minor, inadvertent mistakes to encourage innovation and initiative."

Consumer prices rise 1.49% y-o-y in October

Composite consumer price index (CPI) rose 1.49% year-on-year and 0.19% month-on-month in October 2026, according to the Statistics and Census Service (DSEC). Food and non-alcoholic beverage prices increased 1.22%, driven by higher dining and takeaway costs, while transport prices climbed 6.13% on rising gasoline prices. Alcoholic beverages and tobacco prices fell 1.65%. For the first 10 months, the average composite CPI increased 1.19% year-on-year.

Alex Fong completes record-breaking 35km Hong Kong-Macau charity swim

TIMES REPORTER

FORMER Hong Kong Olympic swimmer Alex Fong completed a 35-kilometer open-water swim from Hong Kong to Macau on Saturday, setting a new record for the crossing and raising HKD10 million for children's sports development.

Organized by InspiringHK Sports Foundation (IHKSports), the charity challenge began at Peaked Hill on Lantau Island at 8:53 a.m. and ended at Hac Sa Beach in Macau at 5:30 p.m. Fong completed the crossing in eight hours and 37 minutes, earning recognition from Guinness World Records for the fastest time to swim from Hong Kong to Macau by a male swimmer.

The fundraising campaign reached its HKD10 million target by the time Fong arrived in Macau, as cited in a press release.

Net proceeds from the swim



will go entirely to IHKSports and Macau Special Olympics to support sports training for underprivileged children and children and young people with special educational needs (SEN).

Fong said the physical demands of the crossing, changing sea conditions and muscle soreness had made the journey challenging, and that he had considered giving up several times. However, support from the public, sponsors and his team encouraged him to continue.

"Training over the past few months has not been easy, and honestly, I definitely feel nervous. Sea conditions across the 35 kilometres are completely unpredictable, and the journey will certainly be gruelling," he said before entering the water.

The crossing was conducted under marathon open-water swimming rules, which prohibited Fong from boarding support vessels, holding onto objects to rest, wearing a wetsuit or using flotation equipment. Support boats and kayaks accompanied him, while crew members monitored conditions and provided food and fluids at scheduled intervals.

Fong said he hoped the challenge would encourage young people to persevere through difficulties. "No matter what difficulties you face, please remember: however vast the ocean is, there is always a shore; however high the waves are, they will pass," he said.

The charity campaign continued with a concert featuring performers from Hong Kong and Macau on Saturday evening. Proceeds from ticket sales and sponsorships will support six social welfare organizations in Hong Kong and Macau.

STATS

Retail sales rise 9% in Q3 to MOP18 billion

RETAIL sales reached MOP18.29 billion in the third quarter of 2026, up 9.1% year-on-year and 2.5% from the previous quarter, as communication equipment, watches and jewellery recorded strong growth, according to the Statistics and Census Service (DSEC).

Among major retail categories, sales of communication equipment surged 37.2% year-on-year, while watches, clocks and jewellery rose 31.1% and cosmetics and sanitary articles increased 20.9%. Department store sales, however, fell 18.6%.

After adjusting for price changes, the overall retail sales volume index increased 3.3% year-on-year. Communication equipment led the gains, rising 31.5%, followed by cosmetics and sanitary articles at 20.1% and watches and jewellery at 13.2%. Department stores recorded a 19.8% decline.

For the first nine months of 2026, retail sales totalled MOP57.57 billion, up 14.3% year-on-year. The average sales volume index increased 8.4%.

Retailers remained cautious about the final quarter. DSEC said 40.3% expected sales volume to decline year-on-year, compared with 7.7% anticipating growth and 52% expecting stable performance. Compared with the third quarter, 41.8% forecast weaker business conditions, while 23.8% expected improvement and 34.4% anticipated stable performance.

CORPORATE BITS

Sands China extends Grand Prix activities to local families



Sands China extended its support for the 73rd Macau Grand Prix beyond the circuit, organizing community activities for local families through its Sands Cares corporate citizenship program.

About 40 parents and children from Caritas Macau's Centro de Serviços Integrados de Apoio à Família – Fonte de Alegria e de Energia, accompanied by Sands Cares Ambassadors, visited the Macau Grand Prix Museum on Nov. 15. The group took part in guided tours and interactive activities exploring the event's history since its launch in 1954.

Participants also previewed the Street Steel – Heavy Metal Bike Gallery Macau at Sands Macao before attending Saturday's races at Guia Circuit.

Wilfred Wong, executive vice chairman of Sands China Ltd., said major sporting events could generate benefits beyond tourism and international exposure by strengthening community ties and encouraging wider participation.

The company said the activities form part of its broader efforts to support Macao's development as a "City of Sports" and extend the social benefits of major events to local residents.

Macau Centaline awards 0.36-month bonus to support staff for eighth consecutive quarter



Centaline (Macau) Property Agency will pay support staff a bonus equivalent to 0.36 months of salary for the third quarter, marking the eighth consecutive quarter that the company has distributed bonuses to non-sales employees.

The company said it recorded MOP29.7 million in business during the quarter, supported by sales at several newly launched residential projects and a stable share of the secondary property market.

Management said the quarterly bonus reflected its policy of sharing business results with employees and recognizing the contributions of staff outside the sales teams.

The company said it hoped frontline and support employees would continue working together to strengthen performance in the fourth quarter.

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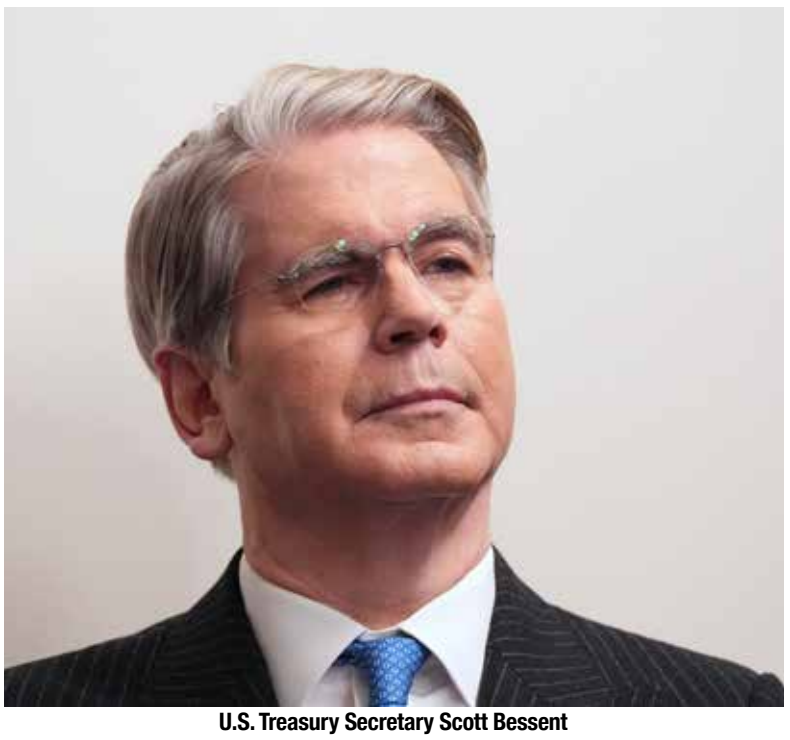
TRADE

US treasury secretary: No further restrictions needed for Nvidia chip exports to China

KAITLYN HUAMANI & CHRISTOPHER RUGABER, WASHINGTON

AP PHOTO



U.S. Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent

TREASURY Secretary Scott Bessent said that no further restrictions on the sale of older Nvidia chips to China are needed following the Trump administration's move earlier this week to block China's remote access to the latest semiconductors.

The ability of Chinese tech firms to access Nvidia's technology came under scrutiny after CEO Jensen Huang stepped down amid allegations of his affair with an executive at Megaspeed, a Singapore-based company that uses advanced chips to generate computing power that Chinese firms access remotely.

"The proper chip restrictions are in place," Bessent said in an interview with CNBC after returning from a trip to Asia with President Donald Trump. "And the remote access has been curtailed."

Bessent's comments over the weekend came a day after the House Foreign Affairs Committee released details of the Commerce Department's approval of the sales of more than 850,000 chips from Nvidia and its competitor AMD to Chinese companies.

The report tracked applications from Nvidia to sell its H200 chips — one of its more powerful products, though not the most advanced — and AMD's applications to sell its roughly comparable MI325X chip to companies that are either located or headquartered in China, or entities with parent companies based in China.

The Commerce Department's Bureau of Industry and Security approved the export, re-export, or transfer of 879,868 of these chips to companies with Chinese ties across 21 license applications as of May 11, 2026, the report said. Nvidia and AMD had requested to sell a cumulative total of more than 3.4 million of the chips to Chinese-tied companies across those applications, per the report.

The approvals, which don't necessarily indicate completed sales, included 75,000 for Alibaba, 150,000 for Tencent and its subsidiaries, 43,000 for Baidu, and 4,000 for BYD, according to the report. Each of those companies has been identified by the Defense Department as having ties to the Chinese military.

The report shows the Commerce Department has a "long track record of transparency with Congress about licensing activity for the H200 and equivalent chips, including both approvals and rejections," a spokesperson for the Bureau of Industry and Security said in a statement Friday.

The spokesperson said the Commerce Department's approach to H200 licensing is based on a rule in the Federal Register that was published in January. The rule imposes "significant additional national security-related requirements on license applicants in order to qualify for case-by-case consideration rather than a presumption of denial," the spokesperson said.

An Nvidia spokesperson said in a statement Friday that the "limited shipments we made under the H200 program were legal and authorized" by the BIS. "The review and licensing process spanned more than half a year, with approvals subject to strict conditions and limited volumes," the company spokesperson said.

Earlier this week, Nvidia said it was no longer shipping H200 chips to China. The spokesperson said Friday that shipments had stopped despite prior approvals.

AMD said it complies with U.S. export control laws and regulations and maintains "rigorous processes to ensure compliance across our global operations" in a statement from a spokesperson. "We remain focused on serving our customers and upholding the highest standards of integrity," the spokesperson said.

Chinese technology firms have been bracing for impacts on their ambitious AI development plans as scrutiny mounts on export controls in the U.S.

Commerce Secretary Howard Lutnick has been under intense scrutiny himself in the wake of the turmoil following the Huang affair. Last week, Bessent said he was frustrated with the Commerce Department's delay in placing restrictions on Nvidia chip exports to Megaspeed International, which is under investigation by the U.S. for potentially diverting restricted Nvidia AI chips to China. A former executive at the company who allegedly had an affair with Huang was reportedly suspected by U.S. intelligence agencies of being a spy.

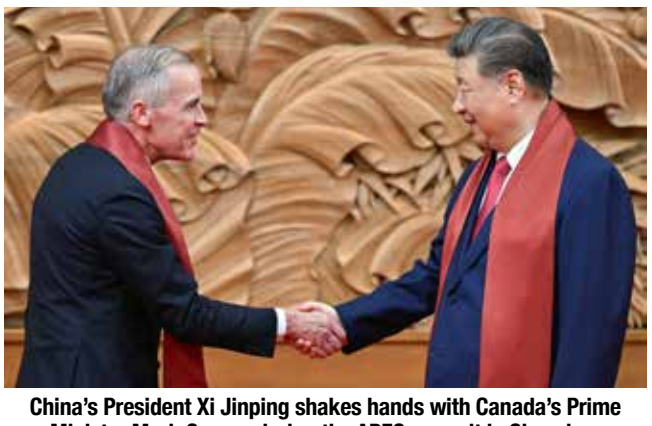
In an unusually public rebuke of a fellow Cabinet member, Bessent said his department wanted to place export controls on Megaspeed, but Commerce was in charge of the matter.

Speaking to reporters, Trump said he has "not lost confidence" in Lutnick. Calling him a "different kind of guy," Trump said he "has a natural business instinct" and has "done a very good job." **MDT/AP**

DIRE STRAIT

Taiwan dislikes Canada's Carney deeper ties with Beijing

AP PHOTO



China's President Xi Jinping shakes hands with Canada's Prime Minister Mark Carney during the APEC summit in Shenzhen

TAIWAN'S deputy foreign minister said that Prime Minister Mark Carney risks exposing Canada to the very "economic coercion" he has cautioned against by deepening trade ties with mainland-China.

"We worry. We worry," Chen Ming-chi told The Associated Press in an interview at the Halifax International Security Forum when asked about Carney's efforts to improve relations with China.

Carney has warned that major powers are using economic integration as a weapon, citing U.S. tariffs and China's restrictions on critical minerals. He has urged middle powers to diversify their trade relationships to avoid economic coercion.

Chen praised Carney's speech at the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, but questioned whether Canada should deepen ties with countries that "don't share its democratic values."

"Who do you want to choose as your partners?" he asked.

"You have your own history. You have two Michaels," Chen said, referring to former Canadian diplomat Michael Kovrig and businessman Michael Spavor, whose nearly three-year detention in China prompted accusations of hostage diplomacy.

The two were arrested in 2018 shortly after Canada detained Huawei executive Meng Wanzhou on a U.S. extradition request. They were released in September 2021, the same day Meng returned to China. Beijing denied their detention was politically motivated.

Chen's warning came days after Carney met with Chinese President Xi Jinping in Shenzhen and agreed to additional tariff reductions as Canada seeks to diversify trade during U.S. President Donald Trump's trade war.

Carney said that Canada could turn to Chinese automakers if negotiations with Washington fail to preserve a viable Canadian auto industry. Trump has threatened 50% tariffs on Canadian vehicles and auto parts beginning on Jan. 1.

Carney has argued that Canada's trade relationship with China differs from Washington's more complicated ties with Beijing. Canada primarily exports agricultural products, energy and other commodities rather than sensitive technologies such as advanced semiconductors.

Chen said that Taiwan had dramatically reduced its economic dependence on China after experiencing Beijing's use of trade restrictions to exert political pressure.

Taiwan reduced the share of its outbound investment going to the mainland from more than 80% in 2010 to 3.8% last year, Chen said. Its exports to China and Hong Kong fell from nearly 44% of total exports in 2020 to about 27% last year, according to Taiwanese government figures.

Chen also accused Beijing of exploiting a striking photograph from this week's summit in Shenzhen showing Xi seated prominently between Trump and Russian President Vladimir Putin to "project China as the world's leading power." He described the summit as "more symbolic than substantial."

Despite his concerns about Beijing, Chen praised Carney's international leadership and welcomed his commitment to sign a long-delayed trade cooperation arrangement with Taiwan.

"We have a high respect of Prime Minister Carney's vision. And we want to be part of this vision," he said. **MDT/AP**

MacauDaily 澳門每日時報 ®
Times
MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

AP PHOTO



A child looks out from a window of his apartment damaged in a Russian missile strike in Kyiv

PUTIN'S WAR

In Ukraine, the fight to keep winter outside begins with a broken window

DMYTRO ZHYHINAS & DEREK GATOPOULOS, KYIV

FOR weeks after a missile exploded in front of her apartment block, Oleksandra Horban found pieces of glass in her small apartment.

She threw out her 2-year-old son's plush toys which were covered with glass shards. Outside her ground-floor home, mangled window frames were piled onto a mountain of debris awaiting removal. Pieces of glass were mixed with autumn leaves on the muddy ground.

"Even now we still find glass," Horban said. "If we vacuum three times, wash the floor and clean up, we'll still find those microscopic pieces somewhere, in the bed or in the toys."

As winter sets in, Ukraine is facing a severe shortage of replacement windows with Russian missile and drone attacks continuing to damage buildings, leaving residents exposed to the cold. Temperatures in Kyiv fell to minus 20 degrees Celsius (minus 4 degrees Fahrenheit) last winter.

Government assistance can take months, skilled installers are in short supply and replacement costs have soared, hitting low-income districts near industrial zones hardest.

Horban lives in a Soviet-era "groundscraper" — an enormous horizontal apartment block in the Ukrainian capital. A missile blast in October damaged a vertical section of apartments and shattered hundreds of facade windows.

A COSTLY RACE AGAINST THE COLD

Most shattered windows have been temporarily covered with fiberboard or tarps. Some boards have small openings fitted with Plexiglas to let daylight into apartments.

New windows in Horban's apartment would cost about $1,700, more than three times the country's average salary. Government compensation can take three to four months.

Many cannot afford to wait. Without proper windows, apartments are exposed to cold, damp and mold, particularly during power outages.

Housing damage is among the largest costs of the war. An estimated 3 million housing units were destroyed or badly damaged by the end of last year, adding $90 billion to Ukraine's reconstruction needs, according to the World Bank.

INSTALLERS ARE IN SHORT SUPPLY

Ukraine's window manufacturers can meet demand for replacement windows. The bottleneck is the shortage of skilled installers.

Mykhailo Orlenko, executive director of the Association of Ukrainian Manufacturers of Transparent Structures, said businesses were unable to exempt their employees from military service, including many installers.

"The market lost a large number of these specialists," he said.

Factories can manufacture windows in about 10 working days, but installation can be delayed for a lot longer as customers wait for a crew to become available. High demand means installation bills have at least doubled over the past year.

Oleksandr, a 42-year-old installer who has worked in the industry for 25 years, said power outages add to the challenges. His team relies on battery-powered tools and normally has to carry heavy materials up stairs with elevators out of service.

On one recent job, his team replaced balcony doors and windows in a fourth-floor apartment, carrying the materials up by hand.

"That was 18 trips up and down the stairs, carrying heavy loads. It would have been easier with a working elevator, but we didn't wait for the power to come back on — we got straight to work," he said.

Oleksandr asked to be identified only by his first name, citing security concerns following Russian attacks on private businesses.

TRAINING A NEW GENERATION FOR RECONSTRUCTION

To address the shortage, the industry is investing in training. A vocational college in Kyiv opened a European Union-funded facility in March, where 26 10th graders have started a three-year program to become window, door and facade installers.

Teenagers in new overalls practice around mock window openings built from brick, cinder block, wood and synthetic materials. Their classes are frequently disrupted by missile and drone alerts.

The program was established after professional associations lobbied the government to formally recognize window installation as a profession, allowing the industry to access grants and create structured training courses.

Graduates can expect starting salaries of around $900, on par with those of law graduates due to Ukraine's acute skill drain, Orlenko said.

Instructor Volodymyr Tserbii hopes the apprentices will help rebuild the country, their training offering students a path into a profession needed for reconstruction.

The massive task of repairing Ukraine's damaged homes, schools, roads, power plants and other infrastructure will take at least a decade, according to government planners.

SURVIVING ANOTHER WINTER

For Horban, the wait for new windows is added to a long list of her household's problems.

Her apartment has no gas, forcing the family to cook on a portable cylinder. They heat their son's room when electricity is available. A leaking kitchen roof has added to the damage.

The blast also left her toddler son, Viacheslav, frightened. The sounds of war have become part of his vocabulary.

Pressing his nose against a windowpane that survived the attack, he waves to passersby and asks his mother whether more bombing is coming, using the words "bam bam" to describe the explosions.

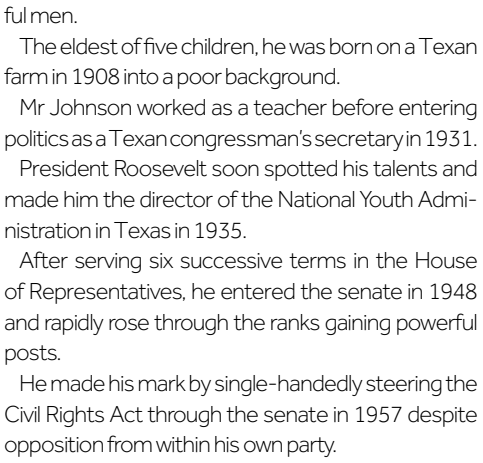
"Bam bam?" he asks.

"No bam bam," she answers.

"This is not life, this is surviving," Horban said. "This is dragging out an existence, not a life." **MDT/AP**

this day in history

1963 JOHNSON TAKES OVER AS US PRESIDENT



Fifty-five year old Lyndon Baines Johnson begins his new job today as US president.

He was sworn in yesterday just two hours after an assassin shot President John F Kennedy in the head.

The former vice-president took his oath on the presidential plane at Andrew's Air Force Base.

The new first lady, Claudia Alta Taylor Johnson, witnessed the swearing-in together with the dead president's widow Jacqui Kennedy - her stocking still stained with her husband's blood.

The party flew to Washington with the assassinated president's coffin after the ceremony.

On arriving in Washington the president said, "I will do my best. That is all I can do."

President Johnson will address a joint session of Congress in three day's time where it is likely he will outline his future programme.

Commentators say there probably will be little immediate change in policy with a presidential election on the horizon.

The new president has come from humble beginnings to become one of the world's most powerful men.

The eldest of five children, he was born on a Texan farm in 1908 into a poor background.

Mr Johnson worked as a teacher before entering politics as a Texan congressman's secretary in 1931.

President Roosevelt soon spotted his talents and made him the director of the National Youth Administration in Texas in 1935.

After serving six successive terms in the House of Representatives, he entered the senate in 1948 and rapidly rose through the ranks gaining powerful posts.

He made his mark by single-handedly steering the Civil Rights Act through the senate in 1957 despite opposition from within his own party.

In 1960 Mr Johnson ran in the Democratic presidential elections which he lost to Kennedy who then invited him to be his running mate.

He is regarded by some commentators as a master of compromise with an able political brain.

Mr Johnson is married with two daughters, 19 year old Lynda and Lucy aged 16.

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

President Lyndon Johnson was re-elected by a massive majority in 1964.
He gained widespread popularity for his programme of social reform introducing improvements in civil rights legislation, housing and medical care for the elderly.
The president began to lose support as a result of the continued involvement of US troops in Vietnam.
In 1968 he gave in to demands to stop the bombing of North Vietnam.
He then announced he would not stand for re-election and retired to his Texan ranch in 1969.
He published his memoirs, "The Vantage Point" in 1971.
He died in 1973.

YOUR STARS

Aries
Mar. 21-Apr. 19

You're keen to travel and expand your world through further education or exploring opportunities in medicine, the law and publishing. Focus on these impulses and ignore temptations to be petty about financial matters.

Taurus
Apr. 20-May. 20

Today you might be concerned with trivialities, and possibly overreact, especially when dealing with authority figures. Don't get bogged down with this. Instead, make home improvements.

Gemini
May. 21-Jun. 21

This is a pleasant day to relax and enjoy the arts, sports and fun times with kids. You will express yourself forcefully with strong opinions, about work, your health or even a pet.

Cancer
Jun. 22-Jul. 22

You're keen to work hard and accomplish something. It feels good. Conversations with friends, groups and perhaps your kids might be at odds with your ideas today.

Leo
Jul. 23-Aug. 22

Today you might find yourself at odds with parents, bosses, teachers, VIPs or the police because you don't agree or you might choose to challenge authority, especially at home.

Virgo
Aug. 23-Sep. 22

Avoid petty squabbles with daily contacts, siblings and relatives today because they might arise. Be patient with others because you will feel happier this way. Tonight: Explore!

Libra
Sep.23-Oct. 22

You like attractive surroundings and a peaceful atmosphere because harmony is important to you. Avoid petty squabbles about shared costs, shared expenses, or who owes what to whom.

Scorpio
Oct. 23-Nov. 21

Today it's in your best interest to go along to get along. In fact, you might have to go more than halfway to keep the peace with someone close to you. That's because silly arguments that can easily be avoided might crop up.

Sagittarius
Nov. 22-Dec. 21

You're powerful right now because the Sun is in your sign; however, today in particular, arguments that are work-related or about your health or even a pet might arise.

Capricorn
Dec. 22-Jan. 19

Do what you can to keep the peace with others today. People might have strong opinions about how to spend money or how you spend your money, but the truth is we all spend money very differently.

Aquarius
Jan. 20-Feb. 18

This can be a playful, lighthearted, sociable day. It can also be contentious and argumentative if you go that direction. In fact, discussions with family members and could be stressful.

Pisces
Feb.19-Mar. 20

You look excellent in the eyes of others because of the magic celestial lighting. Be grateful for this advantage. Don't react if someone starts a trivial argument about something.

The Born Loser by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

Easy

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

Easy+

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

Medium

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

Hard

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

WEATHER

CHINA	MIN	MAX	CONDITION
Beijing	-1	8	fine
Changchun	-4	0	cloudy
Chengdu	11	19	cloudy
Chongqing	13	15	overcast
Fuzhou	11	21	rain
Guangzhou	16	24	cloudy
Guiyang	10	11	rain
Haikou	21	29	rain
Hangzhou	8	17	rain
Harbin	-8	-2	cloudy
Hefei	5	16	overcast
Nanjing	9	16	overcast
Shanghai	12	20	overcast
Taipei	15	23	cloudy
Wuhan	6	15	overcast
Hong Kong	22	23	cloudy

WORLD			
Moscow	1	-1	cloudy
Frankfurt	-3	4	sunny
Paris	2	6	sunny
London	2	7	cloudy
New York	9	19	cloudy

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS 1- Monumental; 5- Nevada city; 9- Strike callers; 13- Like many Punjabis; 14- Wide-awake; 16- Linguist Chomsky; 17- Margarine; 18- Stingy one; 19- Roy's "singin' pardner"; 20- Sandwich side; 21- Court fig.; 22- In ___ (sort of); 24- Miami's county; 26- Superior to; 27- Excess fluid in an organ; 29- Diabolically cruel; 33- Approaches; 34- Narrate; 35- Give the eye; 36- Bobby of hockey; 37- Skin openings; 38- Chat room chuckle; 39- Religious ceremony or ritual; 41- Perjurer; 42- Frown; 44- Military cafeteria; 46- Cream-filled cookies; 47- Nervous twitches; 48- Wrinkle remover; 49- Picture theater; 52- Modern-day evidence; 53- I did it!; 57- To ___ (perfectly); 58- Robbery; 60- Previously owned; 61- Chamber; 62- Roast host; 63- Rub the wrong way; 64- Soprano Lily; 65- Long objects used to row a boat; 66- Bush alma mater;

DOWN 1- Those, to Juan; 2- Tablet; 3- Home furnishings chain; 4- Thick fish soup; 5- Open shelter; 6- Chosen few; 7- Treehouse used by birds; 8- Vein contents; 9- Do less than is necessary; 10- Grumble; 11- Buds; 12- Captain Hook's sidekick; 15- Makes journeys; 23- D.C. VIP; 25- Mornings, for short; 26- Former Houston footballer; 27- Strange and mysterious; 28- Pub pastime; 29- Wild; 30- Ice house; 31- Reduces speed; 32- Hades; 33- "Cheers" regular; 34- Works hard; 37- Appease; 40- Values highly; 42- Theater sign; 43- 100 years; 45- That guy; 46- Speaks publicly; 48- Deduce; 49- Complain; 50- Langston Hughes poem; 51- Inert gas; 52- Word form for "ten"; 54- Bhutan's continent; 55- Big name in PCs; 56- Zip-___-Doo-Dah; 59- Med. care option;

Friday's solution

A	L	A	E		W	A	I	T	E		E	N	I	D
G	O	N	E		I	S	L	A	M		S	E	N	D
I	C	E	R		N	I	E	C	E		T	E	T	E
N	O	T	I	F			T	O	R	P	E	D	O	
			E	R	A	S		S	I	R	E			
N	I	T	R	O	G	E	N		L	E	M	O	N	
A	R	E		M	A	D	A	M		P	E	R	I	L
P	O	P	E		L	E	V	A	R		D	A	N	A
A	N	E	A	R		R	E	C	A	P		L	E	T
S	E	R	T	A		L	A	C	R	O	S	S	E	
			N	E	S	S		W	E	A	R			
	G	L	I	S	T	E	N			Y	A	R	D	S
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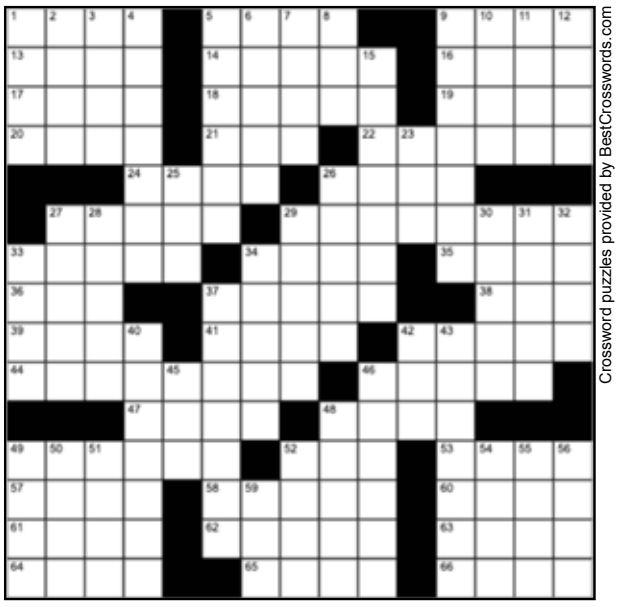
E	Y	E	S		S	N	A	R	E		E	S	T	O



Crossword puzzles provided by BestCrosswords.com

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

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

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

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2 bed 1 bath | 58.52 m² / 630 ft²
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MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

FOOTBALL

PSG's injury woes mount after Doué's carried off, Malen scores 4 for Roma

JOSEPH WILSON, BARCELONA

AP PHOTO



PSG's Desire Doue is carried out the pitch with a stretcher

NOT even 24 hours after Harry Kane tore a ligament in his ankle, another top talent of European soccer suffered an ugly-looking injury when Paris Saint-Germain forward Désiré Doué's leg buckled under him during a French league game on Saturday (yesterday, Macau time).

Doué was carried off on a stretcher late in the first half of the away game at Nice, which PSG rallied to win 3-2 and build on its league lead.

The victory came at a high cost for the two-time Champions League winner, which last month lost forward Khvicha Kvaratskhelia to a ruptured ACL.

Arsenal lost goalkeeper David Raya to a left shoulder injury in a 2-2 draw at Newcastle in the Premier League also on Saturday.

PSG 3, NICE 2

Doué's was injured in the 39th minute when he stretched to protect the ball and his fully-extended leg bulged awkwardly without any contact from an opponent. The 21-year-old France player crumpled to the ground clutching his right knee as he cried out. Moments later he was taken off on a stretcher and placed both hands on his face.

"We will have to wait until tomorrow to know the exact nature of the injury. But it is a serious injury, we have seen the images," PSG coach Luis Enrique said after the game.

Doué had scored his second league goal of the season to put PSG up 2-1. His replacement, Ferran Torres, scored the eventual winner.

Kvaratskhelia tore his right ACL against Barcelona on Oct. 20, when both Ousmane Dembélé and Marquinhos tore thigh muscles. Dembélé came off the bench against Nice in the second half.

Elsewhere in France, Monaco drew 1-1 with Auxerre and Lyon won 1-0 at Lille.

ROMA 5, PARMA 1

Next up for PSG is a Roma side that is flying high after Donyell Malen scored four times to lead it to a 5-1 rout at Parma.

Malen got going in the 39th when he used one touch to latch on to a cross before smashing it home. He was helped by some poor defending in the 68th, when Malen was left in front of the goal to turn in another cross. The Netherlands forward made it three in the 77th when he drove in a low cross from Wesley Franca, and he rounded it off in the 90th on the break following a through-ball from Franca.

Malen, who joined Roma from Aston Villa last winter, leads the Italian league with 12 goals in 11 appearances. He has also scored four times in the Champions League.

Roma, which is second in Serie A, visits Paris on Wednesday.

Scott McTominay struck in the second half to give Napoli a 1-0 win over Torino, giving it a boost before visiting City on Tuesday in the Champions League.

Lazio protected its league lead after Tijjani Noslin got a brace in a 3-0 win at struggling Lecce. Como also won at home, beating Cagliari 2-0.

REAL MADRID 2, CELTA 1

Rafael Nadal enjoyed his new position on Real Madrid's executive board as he watched the team rally for a 2-1 victory over Celta Vigo.

Jude Bellingham scored from the edge of the area in the 66th, canceling out Pablo Durán's early goal.

Madrid's super sub Carlos Espí then scored the winner in the 86th as Madrid pulled level with Barcelona atop La Liga.

Espí, who was largely unknown when he joined from Levante in the summer, has become a specialist in scoring as a late substitute for Jose Mourinho's side. His four goals have come in less than an hour of combined minutes for the entire campaign and all of them have been key to securing wins.

Family members of Jesús de Miguel, the Tenerife player who died earlier this month after an in-game collision in the second division, were honored on the field with a minute of silence before kickoff.

Nadal is a lifelong Madrid fan. The tennis great was officially confirmed as a new board member by a club assembly earlier on Saturday.

Sevilla rallied for a 1-1 draw with crosstown rival Real Betis. Valencia won 1-0 at Rayo Vallecano as it continues to improve under new coach Javier Aguirre, and Alaves beat Deportivo 3-1.

MAN CITY 1, FULHAM 1

Manchester City's winless run in the Premier League reached four games with a 1-1 draw against Fulham, extending the team's disappointing form since being found guilty of large-scale financial rule-breaking.

The result also ended Fulham's 20-match losing streak against City in all competitions dating back to 2012.

Chelsea was thrashed 4-1 by Leeds and lost key midfielder Moises Caicedo to injury.

DORTMUND 1, MÖNCHENGLADBACH 0

Borussia Dortmund remained unbeaten and took the lead of the Bundesliga a day after Bayern Munich was held to a draw and lost Kane to an injury that will sideline the star striker for months, according to his club.

Felix Nmecha's goal in the 80th minute grabbed Dortmund a 1-0 win at Borussia Mönchengladbach, sending his team two points ahead of the Bavarian powerhouse.

Kane tore a ligament in his left ankle during Friday's 1-1 draw with Cologne. Bayern said on Saturday that the Ballon d'Or winner had undergone "successful surgery overnight."

Also on Saturday, Freiburg pulled level with Bayern after winning 1-0 at Elversberg, Bayer Leverkusen routed Paderborn 4-0 and RB Leipzig thumped Union Berlin 5-1. **MDT/AP**

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OPINION

Our Desk

Lynzy Valles

Plushies, platform shoes and the business of fandom

Macau has become an unlikely gathering point for a growing wave of mainland Chinese visitors whose travel itineraries revolve not around casinos, shopping, food tours or sightseeing, but around Boys' Love (BL) actors and the fictional romances that have turned them into celebrities.

On days when BL fan meetings are held in the city – even on ordinary weekdays – groups of predominantly young women can be seen moving through shopping districts and entertainment venues, often identifiable by their distinctive outfits and carefully assembled accessories.

They even seem to share a dress code. Sitting on a bus and looking down as these groups board, one might notice row after row of identical black leather platform shoes, making it difficult to tell one fan from another.

Transparent bags displaying plush toys, stickers, photographs and other merchandise bearing the faces of their favorite actors have become something of a uniform.

BL, a genre centered on romantic relationships between male characters, has cultivated a particularly dedicated following across Asia, with Thai productions and their leading actors enjoying considerable popularity among mainland audiences.

Macau, with its international entertainment infrastructure and proximity to mainland China, offers a convenient setting for such gatherings. Fan meetings have also become an increasingly visible feature of some gaming operators' entertainment calendars, drawing visitors who might otherwise have little reason to make a dedicated trip to Macau.

Fans congregate around promotional displays, digital screens and shopfronts featuring their idols, sometimes stopping in large groups to take photographs and exchange merchandise.

Macau has spent years seeking to broaden its visitor appeal beyond gaming, positioning itself as a destination for concerts, exhibitions, sporting events and other forms of entertainment.

Who would have thought that BL fan meetings could represent another niche market, bringing visitors to the city with a specific purpose and a willingness to travel for an event?

Yet, despite all the buzz surrounding this audience, does such a large fan presence actually translate into meaningful economic activity?

The crowds, distinctive merchandise and online visibility can create the impression of a lucrative tourism opportunity. The hype is real, and undeniable.

However, foot traffic does not automatically translate into spending. A visitor who travels to Macau for a few hours to attend a fan meeting, take photographs and return across the border contributes differently to the local economy from someone who books a hotel, dines at restaurants, visits attractions and shops during an extended stay.

Nevertheless, the phenomenon gives the government and integrated resort operators an opportunity to better understand a new generation of experience-driven travelers. These visitors are not necessarily motivated by traditional tourism attractions. They follow cultural trends, online communities and celebrities, and can mobilize quickly when an event gives them a reason to gather.

Macau has a longstanding goal of diversifying its economy, and this is another development that could contribute to that effort. So far, BL fan meetings are certainly adding to the buzz in the city's entertainment scene. The city may have found another audience. Whether it has found another market is a question worth asking.

Little Mercury gets its first visitor in years as a pair of spacecraft loop into orbit

THE BUZZ

A pair of spacecraft slipped into orbit around Mercury on Saturday (yesterday, Macau time) after an eight-year cruise through the inner solar system to unravel our littlest planet's mountain of mysteries.

The linked robotic explorers — one European, the other Japanese — will separate from one another next month in order to map and study the scorching little planet from different altitudes. The $2 billion (1.7 billion euros) mission is known collectively as BepiColombo.

The European Space Agency announced BepiColombo's arrival via social media. A series of thruster firings slowed the spacecraft enough to be captured by the planet's weak gravity. But it took several anxious hours before flight controllers in Germany — 94 million miles (152 million kilometers) away — could confirm that BepiColombo had achieved orbit. Teams pored over the data streaming back; additional information was not immediately available.

BepiColombo is only the third spacecraft to visit Mercury — the sun's closest planet and barely bigger than our moon — and the first in more than a decade.

NASA's Mariner 10 flew past Mercury three times in the mid-1970s. The team included the late Italian mathematician Giuseppe "Bepi" Colombo, for whom this latest mission is named.

AP PHOTO



A burned out cargo truck sits on a highway between Guamuchil and Guasave in Sinaloa state Saturday, after Mexican authorities captured cartel boss 'El Chapo Isidro'

EL CHAPO ISIDRO

Mexican cartel boss rose from small time trafficker to drug lord before detention

MEGAN JANETSKY & PATRICK WHITTLE, MEXICO CITY

FAUSTO Isidro Meza Flores rose from a small-scale Mexican drug trafficker to one of the FBI's most wanted international drug lords before his detention, which came after the agency said he spent years trafficking heroin, cocaine, fentanyl and other drugs to the U.S.

Meza Flores, known as "El Chapo Isidro," was captured Friday night into Saturday (early yesterday, Macau time) by Mexican authorities aided by intelligence from the Trump administration, according to U.S. and Mexican officials.

The 44-year-old Meza Flores was one of the FBI's top 10 most wanted fugitives, with a $5 million reward out for information leading to his arrest.

His history of drug trafficking stretches back more than 20 years and saw him lead the violent Beltrán Leyva organization and later his own group, the Meza-Flores Transnational Criminal Organization, according to the FBI and Mexico's government. Beyond drug trafficking, the group — also known as Los Mazatlecos — is accused of kidnapping, extortion, torture and murder, the agency has said.

Meza Flores is allied with a faction of the Sinaloa Cartel known as "Los Mayos," currently warring for control of the Mexican state of Sinaloa. The Sinaloa Cartel was designated as a foreign terrorist organization by the Trump administration last year.

Authorities in the U.S. and Mexico have said Meza Flores was once a small-time drug trafficker and scrap metal dealer who grew in power and influence in the Mexican drug trade while evading capture by either country for years.

He rose to prominence leading the Beltrán Leyva drug trafficking organization, which the Treasury Department said split from the Sinaloa Cartel in 2008. The split caused a violent power struggle in the region, similar to fighting between cartel factions seen in Sinaloa in recent years.

He later led his Meza-Flores TCO group for over 20 years, which the U.S. State Department said was responsible for numerous deaths of Mexican police and military forces and other criminals operating in Mexico. It also forms part of a mish-mash of warring criminal groups across the Latin American nation terrorizing civilians.

"The Meza-Flores TCO has been responsible for smuggling multiton quantities of heroin, methamphetamine, cocaine, and marijuana into the United States," the State Department said in a 2025 statement announcing a reward of up to $5 million for information leading to the arrest of Meza Flores.

The apprehension came more than 14 years after Meza Flores was first indicted by the U.S.

A federal superseding indictment and federal arrest warrant were issued for him seven years later in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia after he was charged with multiple drug-trafficking violations and use and possession of a firearm, according to the FBI.

But capturing Meza Flores proved difficult. His organization controls key drug transportation routes and drug manufacturing laboratories. Meza Flores himself kept a low profile. Known by the nickname "Chapito Isidro," he is relatively small of stature, standing 5 feet 6 inches tall and weighing about 160 pounds. **MDT/AP**

AP PHOTO



USA President Donald Trump ordered federal contractors and subcontractors to consult his administration before answering congressional inquiries and withhold communications the White House considers privileged. Companies that fail to comply could lose their contracts. Democrats plan to scrutinize federal contracts in January.

AP PHOTO



USA President Donald Trump said yesterday [Macau time] he would work with the incoming Democratic Congress to cap credit card interest rates at 10%. The median rate is about 22.2%. Banks and card issuers have argued a cap could restrict access to credit.

USA Senate Democrats will vote by secret ballot in early December on whether to keep Chuck Schumer as their leader or replace him with Chris Van Hollen. Several of the 13 incoming Democratic senators have yet to say publicly whom they back.

AP PHOTO



Nigeria A boat carrying passengers to a funeral capsized over the weekend in Nigeria's southern Bayelsa state, killing at least 24 people. Police said another 24 were rescued and sought medical care. Search operations continued Saturday, and authorities had yet to say how many were aboard.