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Houston offers some free, or nearly free, spring break entertainment

Southern DAILY Make Today Different

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U.S. appeals court says Title VII covers discrimination based on sexual orientation

(Reuters) - A U.S. appeals court in Manhattan on Monday ruled that a federal law banning sex bias in the workplace also prohibits discrimination against gay employees, becoming only the second court to do so.

A gay pride rainbow flag flies along side the U.S. flag outside a building in Manhattan, in a file photo. REUTERS/Brendan McDermid

The 2nd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals overruled prior decisions and said that a worker's sex is necessarily a factor in discrimination based on sexual orientation.

The ruling went against a court brief filed by the Trump administration in 2017 that said Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 was not intended to provide protections to gay workers.

The 2nd Circuit revived a lawsuit by the estate of Donald Zarda, a former skydiving instructor on Long Island who said he was fired after he told a customer he was gay and she complained. Zarda's estate was backed in the appeal by dozens of large companies, including Alphabet Inc's Google, Microsoft Corp, CBS Corp and Viacom Inc.

Zarda died in a BASE-jumping accident after the lawsuit was filed.

Zarda's former employer, Altitude Express Inc, and companies that have faced similar lawsuits have argued that when Congress adopted Title VII more than 50 years ago, it did not consider whether the law's ban on sex bias included discrimination based on sexual orientation.

But lesbian, bisexual, gay and transgender groups and the federal Equal Employment Opportunity Commission have increasingly argued that sexual orientation is a function of a person's gender.

The 2nd Circuit agreed on Monday in its 10-3 decision. Circuit Judge Robert Katzmann wrote that even though Congress had not sought to address gay bias in Title VII, laws "often go beyond the principal evil to cover reasonably comparable evils."

Saul Zabell, a lawyer for Altitude Express, said he agreed with the ruling on Title VII. But he said Zarda did not face discrimination when he worked for the company.

Lawyers for Zarda's estate did not respond to a request for comment.

New York Attorney General Eric Schneiderman, a Democrat who filed a court brief supporting Zarda, praised the



decision in a statement. "No employer should be able to penalize its employees because of who they love," Schneiderman said.

Last April, the Chicago-based 7th

U.S. Circuit became the first court to find that Title VII bans gay bias in the workplace.

The U.S. Supreme Court in December declined to take up a different case out of Georgia that

posed the same question.

The four-week moving average of initial claims, considered a better measure of labor market trends as it irons out week-to-week volatility, fell 2,250 to 226,000 last week.

Wall Street up sharply as fear of rising interest rates ebbs

(Reuters) - U.S. stocks rose sharply on Monday as a decline in Treasury yields assuaged investors' concerns about rising interest rates. Traders work on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange, (NYSE) in New York, U.S., February 26, 2018. REUTERS/Brendan McDermid

All three major indices rose to more than three-week highs. The S&P 500 is now just 3.5 percent below its peak on Jan. 26. The CBOE Volatility Index .VIX also dipped slightly, last at 16.33, though it remains above the levels seen before the sell-off earlier this month.

"Volatility is going to be here again," said Tom Plumb, president and chief investment officer of Plumb Funds in Madison, Wisconsin. "But as long as the economy is strong and interest rates are moderate, I think there is still some upside to go."

The U.S. 10-year Treasury yield eased to 2.8605 percent US10YT=RR, slipping from the four-year high it hit last week. On Friday, the Federal Reserve said it expected economic growth to remain steady and saw no serious risks on the horizon that might pause its planned pace of rate hikes.

Fed chairman Jerome Powell faces questions, starting on Tuesday, from both houses of the U.S. Congress in a semi-annual testimony starting on Tuesday, his first major set piece since he took over from Janet Yellen earlier this month.

Easing concerns about interest rates will help shift investors' attention to continued economic strength, Plumb said.

We're getting an unprecedented stimulus for a maturing economy not coming out of a recession," he said, referring to the federal tax overhaul signed into law in December.

Technology stocks .SPLRCT gained 1.5 percent, leading the S&P 500's 11 major sectors on Monday. They have been the top gainers so far in 2018, with an 9.1-percent rise.

Qualcomm (QCOM.O) was up 5.7 percent after he chipmaker urged Broadcom (AVGO.O) to enter into price negotiations for the first time on Broadcom's \$117 billion offer for the company.

Berkshire Hathaway (BRKa.N) gained 3.7 percent after Warren Buffett said his conglomerate, which is sitting on \$116 billion of cash, is "more inclined" to repurchase stock than pay dividends as a means to use excess cash.



Traders work on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange shortly after the opening bell in New York

Advancing issues outnumbered declining ones on the NYSE by a 1.99-to-1 ratio; on Nasdaq, a 1.81-to-1 ratio favored advancers.

The S&P 500 posted 30 new 52-week highs and 1 new low; the Nasdaq Composite recorded 102 new highs and 32 new lows.

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Houston offers some free, or nearly free, spring break entertainment

By Andy Warren

Spring break this year for Houston-area public schools and Texas universities is March 12-16, plus the weekends on each end. It's not too late to plan a getaway.

A weeklong party in Florida, Mexico or the Caribbean can cost thousands for hotel, food and airfare. Texas beaches offer a less expensive alternative, from more family-oriented sites like Galveston or Corpus Christi to wilder spots like South Padre Island.

All offer a range of Gulf fishing, water sports, swimming, sunbathing, restaurants, live music venues and coastal nightclubs to fit anyone's plans.

We have compiled the best videos that perfectly embody the essence of spring break; freedom, surfing, golden hour, broken limbs. What will you break this spring? Credit: Various via Storyful

For the budget-conscious, destinations closer to home can cost a few hundred dollars, rather than thousands. Scroll through the slideshow above for free, or very reasonably priced, options for spring break. If you haven't already planned for that week, there are still plenty of free or low-cost options right here in

the Houston area.

Many of these free activities are geared for younger students, but there are some cool things for the older crowd, too. Houston's museums range from kid-friendly activities to exhibits for deep-thinking adults.

In Houston's Museum District, Thursdays are when to plan a family outing, with most places offering free admission. Be sure to call or check your target destination's website for details before heading out into traffic. Many offer special spring break programs, too. Two recent developments may disrupt your Museum District plans. The Menil is closed (mostly) for renovations until fall and Rice University's Gallery featuring international artwork has shut down permanently. Older students – high school or university – may want to venture to other Texas destinations for more grown-up options.

Think lazy river tubing, microbreweries and live music venues. Chron.com has checked a range of hotel listings at popular spots outside the Houston area. These prices are, of course, subject to change and are likely to rise significantly closer to spring break. Also, by now, it may be too late to book a hotel at many of the most-popular destinations.



Spring break this year for Houston-area public schools and Texas colleges is March 12-16, plus weekends on each end. For those who haven't planned vacation travels, there are still plenty of free or low-cost options.

Texas cities among the best, worst places for a fresh start in America, according to study

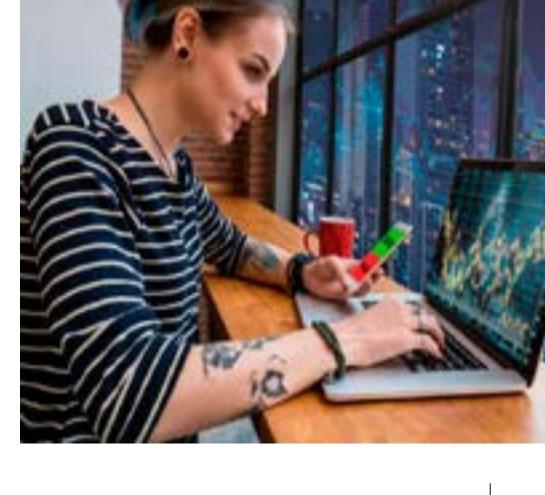
Sometimes a fresh start is needed in life, but when moving to an entirely new city, you'll want to know you're set up for the greatest amount of success both socially and economically. Financial advising website Lending Tree crunched the numbers to determine the 25 best and worst cities in America to get a fresh start. Three major Texas cities landed on their list, though not all of them were on the best list.

Both Houston and Dallas landed in the worst 25 cities to start over. Texas' capital city of Austin was the sole Texas city to land on the best places to get a fresh start at number 4 overall. Dallas and Houston were the 11th and 15th worst cities surveyed in the study to get a fresh start. Elizabeth Sheehan from UBS joins Good Day Chicago to dish out tips on how to get rid of your debt in the New Year.

For the ranking, Lending Tree analyzed eight variables in America's largest 50 metro areas to determine which cities would "most likely give someone the boost they need to start a career or build their finances from scratch," the study says. Lending Tree looked at a city's median income, the cost of housing, and state laws helping debtors from aggressive collections and penalties, and the

By Heather Leighton

percentage of people between the ages of 35 and 64 who are single, employed and have health insurance. Furthermore, the financial group analyzed average credit scores of the city's citizens who declared bankruptcy between three to four years earlier. The eight elements were ranked on a scale of 100 for the 50 largest metropolitan areas in America. The sum of the rankings was divided by eight for the highest possible score of 100 and a lowest possible



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Tuesday, February 27, 2018

A Snapshot Of The World



Pyeongchang 2018 Winter Olympics - Closing ceremony - Pyeongchang Olympic Stadium - Pyeongchang, South Korea - February 25, 2018 - Pita Taufatofua of Tonga during the closing ceremony. REUTERS/Kai Pfaffenbach TPX IMAGES OF THE DAY



Annegret Kramp-Karrenbauer, German Chancellor Angela Merkel, Ursula von der Leyen and Julia Kloeckner during a Christian Democratic Union (CDU) party congress in Berlin, Germany, February 26, 2018. REUTERS/Hannibal Hanschke TPX IMAGES OF THE DAY



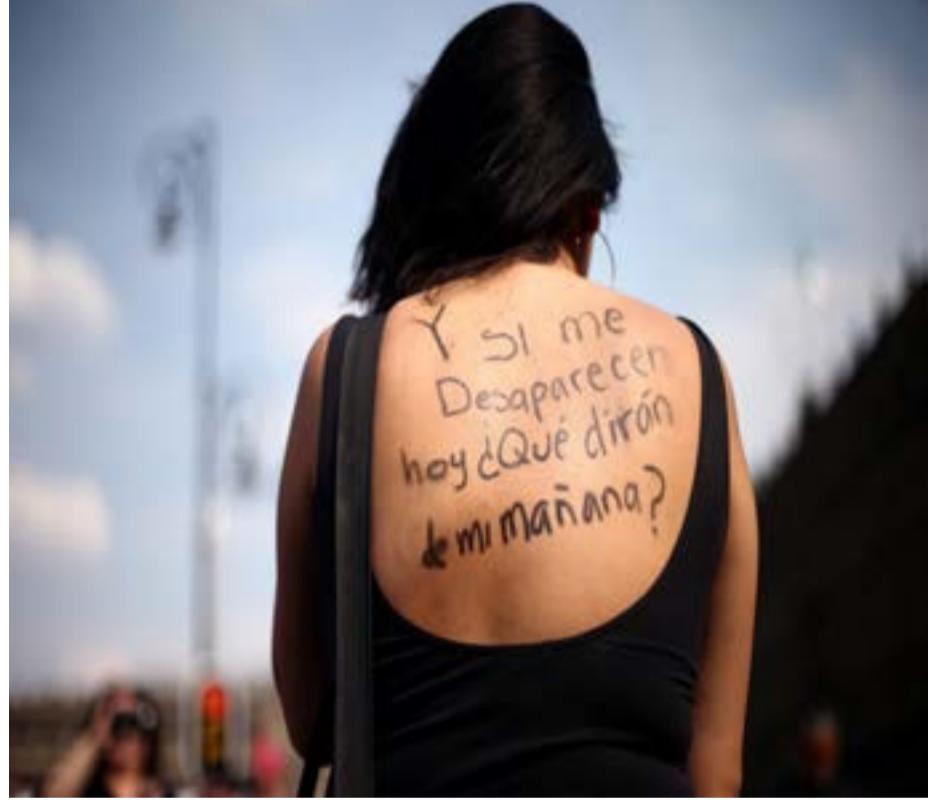
Pyeongchang 2018 Winter Olympics - Closing ceremony - Pyeongchang Olympic Stadium - Pyeongchang, South Korea - February 25, 2018 - Ivanka Trump, U.S. President Donald Trump's daughter and senior White House adviser, and Kim Yong Chol of the North Korea delegation attend the closing ceremony. REUTERS/Lucy Nicholson TPX IMAGES OF THE DAY



Indian army recruits wearing ceremonial uniform attend their passing out parade in Ranigreh, on the outskirts of Srinagar



North Korean delegation leader Kim Yong Chol attends the closing ceremony of Pyeongchang Winter Olympic Games in Pyeongchang



A woman takes part in a demonstration demanding justice for the female victims of violence in Mexico, in Mexico City



Members of the Albanian Cham community protest against Albania-Greece talks in Tirana



Bobsleigh - Pyeongchang 2018 Winter Olympics - Men's 4-man Finals - Olympic Sliding Centre - Pyeongchang, South Korea - February 25, 2018 - President Donald Trump's daughter and senior White House adviser, Ivanka Trump sits in the stands.



Curling - Pyeongchang 2018 Winter Olympics - Women's Final - Sweden v South Korea - Gangneung Curling Center - Gangneung, South Korea - February 25, 2018 - A fan wearing a replica of a curling stone smiles. REUTERS/Phil Noble TPX

The Houston Police Department has investigated seven threats of widespread violence at local schools since last week's on-campus shooting that left 17 people dead in Florida, Chief Art Acevedo said last Wednesday.

The most recent threat came Wednesday morning, when a 12-year-old threatened to use an AR-15-style rifle, similar to the one used in Parkland, at KIPP Sharpstown College Prep, Acevedo said.

Police agencies across Greater Houston are dealing with an above-average number of threats to schools and students following the Parkland, Fla., shooting, law enforcement officials said. Some threats and rumors proved unfounded, though police officials said they are taking each case seriously.

"Again, that is a terroristic threat and it's a crime," Acevedo said Wednesday during a press conference with Houston ISD officials and Harris County Sheriff Ed Gonzalez. "It starts with parents at home. You've got to have conversations with your children (about) the do's and don'ts in a world of gun violence and active shooters. You cannot be joking about that."



Houston Police Chief Art Acevedo

Acevedo didn't provide information about each of the seven threats, in part because some investigations are ongoing. Gonzalez did not have a tally of threats his agency has investigated.

Kathy Martinez-Prather, director of the Texas School Safety Center housed within Texas State University, said surges in threats and hoaxes are common after mass shootings or other violent events.

"It goes the same way when we have a bomb threat: a school district that has a bomb threat may experience several more after that first one. These events are highly publicized, they're in the media, getting a lot of this information," Martinez-Prather said. "Students who are engaging in this type of behavior may be joking or may be serious, so we encourage districts to take every threat seriously."

Fort Bend County sheriff's officials have investigated four threats over the past week, resulting in the arrests of several

HPD Reports 7 Threats Of School Violence Since Florida Shooting

Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern News Editor



Austin High School students walk down Jefferson Street in protest the ICE detention of Dennis Rivera, a student from their school, on Wednesday, Feb. 14, 2018, in Houston.

juveniles.

A threat made to Clear Creek High School on Thursday, featuring a photoshopped image made to appear as if the campus was under threat, was determined to be a hoax.



But it's not just fake or serious threats that are causing anxiety to spread across school communities.

Elaina Polson, a spokeswoman for Clear Creek ISD, said the district had to send messages to families of Clear Springs and Clear Lake high schools after rumors and false social media posts said both campuses were under lockdown.

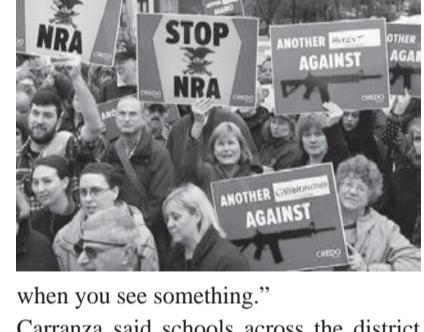
"We have been inundated," Polson said. "We're just trying to keep school going as normal with all these rumors and comments."

Similarly, a pep rally at Kingwood Park High School in Humble ISD scheduled for Feb. 16 was canceled after rumors spread across social media and students fretted about gathering in a confined area. Hum-

ble ISD officials said no threats were ever made against the school, but the pep rally was rescheduled to ease student fears.

Houston ISD Superintendent Richard Carranza on Wednesday emphasized the importance of students and staff reporting suspicious behavior and threats.

"The answer is not metal detectors. The answer is not razor wire and fences," Carranza said. "It's our very own students and adults in those schools saying something



when you see something."

Carranza said schools across the district will participate in drills to rehearse campus emergency plans in the coming weeks, with some drills scheduled for Thursday.

It does not appear students across Greater Houston have taken part in large campus walkouts to protest gun violence and advocate for more restrictive gun laws. However, districts are preparing for that

possibility.

In Needville ISD, about 40 miles southwest of Houston, Superintendent Curtis Rhodes has threatened to suspend any student who disrupts classes or walks out of school in protest of gun laws.

"Life is all about choices and every choice has a consequence whether it be positive or negative. We will discipline no matter if it is one, fifty, or five hundred students involved," Rhodes wrote in a letter to parents. "All will be suspended for 3 days and parent notes will not alleviate the discipline."

Carranza said Houston ISD officials are "not talking about any kinds of punishment at this point" for students engaging in peaceful protests. Carranza said he does not encourage demonstrations outside of school buildings during class hours, but he also said he respects students who engage in peaceful action, highlighting the walkout of about 300 students last week at Austin High School.

"They made their point, so kudos to them," Carranza said. "That's peaceful demonstration. I think our students, our young adults, have the voice to express what they want."

Three demonstrations about gun violence and laws appear to have gained the most traction in Greater Houston since the Parkland shooting, though all are scheduled for March or April.



Here is how other local school districts responded when questioned about how they would handle student protests or walkouts:

Clear Creek ISD Spokeswoman Elaina Polson said: "Our normal checkout procedures still apply and disciplinary action will need to be taken for any student who lives school without following the procedures of a parent checking them out. In the

meantime, (CCISD Superintendent Greg) Smith has asked principals to meet with student leadership to see how we can constructively develop solutions together."

Fort Bend ISD Spokeswoman Amanda Bubela: "We value the student voice and want students to advocate for issues and concerns that are important to them. With that said, our goal is always to have a safe and productive learning environment, and that will continue to be our focus."

Klein ISD Spokeswoman Judy Rimato: "The goal in Klein ISD is to provide a safe environment for our students so that we can continue normal educational experiences. We will handle any disruptions of learning as we would normally do each day."

Pasadena ISD Spokesman Arturo Del Barrio: "(Our response) will be looked at. Everything will be handled according to Student Code of Conduct."

Spring ISD Spokeswoman Karen Garrison: "Like the staff and administration here, I know you feel a great deal of sympathy and solidarity with the students and teachers in Parkland, Fla. It is incredibly upsetting and we understand how many of you must be feeling upset and frustrated. We are aware of plans for a national walk out today but want to strongly encourage you to show your support for the students in Florida in ways that won't disrupt the school day. Please know that we want to work with you to find productive ways to make meaningful change through other methods of support, like reaching out to lawmakers. It is important that you know that we must follow normal procedures today and any students who walk out of class could face an in-school suspension per our normal policies."

Stafford MSD Spokesman Michael Sudhalter: "Empathy is a value that we cherish on the Stafford MSD campus. We understand that students have different ways of managing shock and grief and we will provide additional support as needed. We respect students' rights and care deeply about what they are thinking and feeling. We also have an obligation to provide instructional time to our students. If students wish to voice their concerns, our administration and staff will work with student leaders to ensure a safe, organized way to express their thoughts while also maintaining a productive learning environment. We maintain our resolve to let students voice their First Amendment rights, while still maintaining the integrity of the state-required instructional time." (Courtesy chron.com)

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PYEONGCHANG, South Korea -- The overtly political 2018 Winter Olympics closed Sunday night very much as they began, with humanity's finest athletes marching exuberantly across the world stage as three nations with decades of war and suspicion among them shared a VIP box -- and a potential path away from conflict. Senior North Korean official Kim Yong Chol, South Korean President Moon Jae-in and U.S. presidential adviser and first daughter Ivanka Trump sat in two rows of seats behind the Olympic rings, meant to represent a competition of peace and international unity. In close proximity -- though with no apparent communication between Trump and Kim -- they watched an exuberant, elaborate show that concluded the Pyeongchang Games.

Even as dancers told cultural stories to music before a huge crowd, South Korea's presidential office released a brief statement saying that Pyongyang had expressed willingness to hold talks with Washington.

The North has "ample intentions of holding talks with the United States," according to the office. The North's delegation also agreed that "South-North relations and U.S.-North Korean relations should be improved together," Moon's office, known as the Blue House, said.

International Olympic Committee President Thomas Bach, just before declaring the games closed, addressed the two Koreas' cooperation at the closing ceremony, saying, "The Olympic games are an homage to the past and an act of faith for the future."



Chen Jining, mayor of Beijing waves the Olympic flag as Thomas Bach, president of the International Olympic Committee watches during the closing ceremony of the 2018 Winter Olympics in Pyeongchang, South Korea, Sunday, Feb. 25, 2018.

"With your joint march you have shared your faith in a peaceful future with all of us," Bach said. "You have shown our sport brings people together in our very fragile world. You have shown how sport builds bridges."

The announcement of a willingness to negotiate came after a meeting between North Korean Gen. Kim Yong-chol and Moon ahead of the Games' closing ceremonies, BBC News reports.

It was an extraordinary bookend to an extraordinary Olympics that featured athletic excellence, surprises and unexpected lurches forward toward a new detente on the Korean Peninsula. Thrilled athletes marched into the arena around the world's flags, relaxed after showing their athletic best to themselves and to the world.

"We have been through a lot so that we could blaze a trail," said Kim Eun-jung, skip of the

President Trump's "Olympic Gold?"

North Korea Signals Willingness To Talk With U.S. As Olympics Come To A Close

Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor



South Korea says North Korea is ready to talk. Talks between the two Koreas during Olympics was big step forward, said North Korea.

South Korean women's curling team, which captured global renown as the "Garlic Girls" -- all from a garlic-producing Korean hometown. They made a good run for gold before finishing with runner-up silver.

That these games would be circumscribed by politics was a given from the outset because of regional rivalries. North Korea, South Korea, Japan and China are neighbors with deep, sometimes twisted histories that get along uneasily with each other in this particular geographic cul-de-sac.



Pyeongchang 2018 Winter Olympics - Closing ceremony - Pyeongchang Olympic Stadium - Pyeongchang, South Korea - February 25, 2018 - South Korean President Moon Jae-in (front row left), his wife Kim Jung-sook, and Ivanka Trump, senior White House adviser, and member of the North Korean delegation, Kim Yong-chol (standing back row right), vice chairman of North Korea's ruling Workers' Party Central Committee, attend the closing ceremony, Feb. 25, 2018. (Photo/ REUTERS)

But there was something more this time around. Hanging over the entire games was the saga -- or opportunity -- of a delicate diplomatic dance between the Koreas, North and South, driven by war and discord and an armed border for the better part of a century.

The games started with a last-minute flurry of agreements to bring North Koreans to South Korea to compete under one combined Koreas banner. Strange as it may have seemed under the prevailing political circumstance, Moon Jae-in's government managed to stay the course without incident. By the opening ceremony, a march of North and South into the Olympic Stadium was watched by the entire world -- and by dozens of North Korean cheerleaders applauding in calibrated synchronicity.

Also watching was an equally extraordinary, if ever so motley, crew, at the center of the Korean Peninsula drama. Deployed together in a VIP box were South Korean president Moon, U.S. Vice President Mike Pence and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un's envoy sister, Kim Yo Jong. The latter two, clearly at political loggerheads over North Korea's nuclear program, didn't speak to each other as the world watched the predictable awkwardness.



U.S. Vice President Mike Pence (left) and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un's envoy sister, Kim Yo Jong (upper right) were seated near each other in a VIP box during the Olympics.

What followed was a strong dose of athletic diplomacy: two weeks of global exposure for the Korean team, particularly the women's hockey squad, which trained for weeks with North and South side by side getting along, taking selfies and learning about each other.

On Sunday night, leaders took center stage.

Kim, President Trump's daughter and Moon sat in close proximity as the Olympics' end unfolded before them and the statement was released in Seoul. Also seated nearby was Gen. Vincent Brooks, commander of U.S. forces Korea.

The development was particularly striking given that Kim Yong Chol, now vice chairman of North Korea's ruling Workers' Party Central Committee, is suspected of masterminding a lethal 2010 military attack on the South.

Outside the stadium, North Korea was also not welcomed.

More than 200 anti-Pyongyang protesters, waving South Korean and U.S. flags, banging drums and holding signs like "Killer Kim Jong Chol go to hell," rallied in streets near the park.

They denounced the South Korean government's decision to allow the visit, but here were no major clashes.



A family member of victims of the sunken South Korean naval ship Cheonan by a North Korean attack sits on a road to protest against a visit of Kim Jong Chol, vice chairman of North Korea's ruling Workers' Party Central Committee, in front of the Unification bridge in Paju, South Korea, Sunday, Feb. 25, 2018. (Courtesy AP)

That wasn't all when it came to these odd games. Let's not forget Russia -- or, we should say, "Olympic Athletes from Russia," the shame-laced moniker they inherited after a doping brouhaha from the 2014 Sochi Games doomed them to a non-flag-carrying Pyeongchang Games.

Two more Russian athletes tested positive in Pyeongchang in the past two weeks. So on Sunday morning, the IOC refused to reinstate the team in time for the closing but left the door open for near-term redemption from what one exasperated committee member called "this entire Russia drama."

Away from the politics, humanity's most extraordinary feats of winter athletic prowess unfolded, revealing the expected triumphs but also stars most unlikely -- from favorites like Mikaela Shiffrin, Shaun White and Lindsey Vonn to sudden surprise legends like Czech skier-snowboarder Ester Ledecka and the medal-grabbing "Garlic Girls," South Korea's

hometown curling favorites.



The U.S. Men's curling team clinched the gold with a 10-7 win over Sweden, giving the underdog Americans their first-ever gold medal in men's curling.

Other Olympic trailblazers: Chloe Kim, American snowboarder extraordinaire. The U.S. women's hockey team and men's curlers, both of which claimed gold. And the Russian hockey team, with its nail-biting, overtime victory against Germany.

What's next for the games? Tokyo in Summer 2020, then Beijing -- Summer host in 2008 -- staging an encore, this time for a Winter Games. With the completion of the 2018 Pyeongchang Games, that Olympic trinity marks one-third of a noteworthy Olympic run by Asia.

For those keeping score at home: That means four of eight Olympic Games between 2008 and 2022 will have taken place on the Asian continent. Not bad for a region that hosted only four games in the 112 years of modern Olympic history before that -- Tokyo in 1964, Sapporo in 1972, Seoul in 1988 and Nagano in 1998. Japan and China will, it's likely, be highly motivated to outdo South Korea (and each other).

Meantime, the Olympians departed Monday leaving behind a Korean Peninsula full of the possibility for peace, or at least reduced hostility.



The Pyeongchang 2018 Winter Olympics closing ceremony has concluded, while the Olympics have brought new hope for negotiations on the Korean Peninsula.

The steps taken by North and South toward each other this month are formidable but fluid. People are cautiously optimistic: the governor of Gangwon, the border province where Pyeongchang is located, suggested Sunday that the 2021 Asian Games could be co-hosted by both Koreas.

It might not happen -- but it could. That can be said about almost anything at an Olympic Games, inside the competition and out. Corporate and political and regimented though it may be, that's what makes it still the best game in town for an athletic thrill every other year -- and yes, now, the Olympics has clearly become a political event as well. (Courtesy cbsnews.com)

美南電視轉換新頻道15.3操作指南

美南國際電視網STV Channel 已由55.5 轉換至15.3，並正式擴大為十個頻道，廣大收視觀眾只要透過遙控器轉台至15.3，即可收看到美南電視節目，如果您家中的電視遙控器轉到15.3頻道，依然無法收看到美南電視，請依以下中英對照操作指南方式調整。

點選遙控器內的Menu頻道設定，重新掃描，注意智能型電視可能有一個聰明的按鈕用於設置MENU選項。通常會有廠商的LOGO標誌。尋找頻道設置選項。確認頻道是以天線收視。從MENU中，選擇數位頻道搜索（Channel Scan 或 Channel Search 或是Auto program），進行頻道掃描搜索或頻道自動設定。當電視完成自動搜索後，你會看到電視列出已有多少個頻道重新被發現。頻道重新設定過程有時可能長達一個小時。頻道設定完成後，按確認然後退出。如果頻道重新搜尋仍無法接收或是收視情況不佳，請購買天線調整最佳收視角度。如仍有相關問題，請致電美南新聞281-498-4310，聯繫Daniel。

How to complete a channel scan on your Digital TV to add Channel 15.3

Please note: All TV manufacturers differ, so menu options, wording and other items may vary. The best way to complete the channel scan is to refer to the TV owner's manual. If that is unavailable, the following general steps should guide you through the process.

- 1.Using your television's remote control, press the Menu or Settings option. Note: a "Smart TV" may have a smart button that must be used to access the settings menu. It will generally have the manufacturer's logo on it.
- 2.Locate Channels or Tuner Set Up option.
- 3.Check the menu for an option of Antenna Type or Connection Type followed by either Antenna or Cable.
- 4.Make sure that the designated setting is Cable (based on manufacturer, alternate choices may include Digital Cable, CATV or Cable STD)
- 5.From the menu, choose Digital Channel Search (based on manufacturer, alternate choices may include Channel Scan, Channel Search or Auto program.)
- 6.Allow the TV to complete the search. You will see a bar listing how many channels have been found. The process may take up to an hour.
- 7.Once complete, confirm the menu prompt, then press an exit or quit option.

■何哲圖(左五)率
領星夢群星力撐新
城團拜。

狗年新春團拜



星夢拉隊去新城團拜“破冰”？

何哲圖：已了解機制 今年搶攻

香港文匯報訊（記者 李思穎）星夢娛樂唱片去年底因不滿新城勁爆頒獎禮的賽制，疑涉“分獎不均”鬧不和，隨住新一年開始，26日新城舉行狗年新春團拜，星夢娛樂高層何哲圖率領旗下大部分歌手出席，寓意關係修好，正式“破冰”。吳若希則表示與星夢仍有一兩年約，距離約滿還有一段時間。

在26日團拜上，清一色是星夢歌手現身，包括吳若希、鄭俊弘、何雁詩、林師傑、譚嘉儀、林穎彤等。而“新城之寶”薛家燕與新城董事總經理宋文禧一同進行醒獅點睛儀式。

否認胡鴻鈞許廷鏗度蜜月

吳若希和鄭俊弘被問到與新城破冰一事時，頓然語塞，何哲圖突然從後閃出解圍。他否認破冰講法：“我們關係一直很好，今年會多些參與新城活動，希望所有歌手出新歌時都會大派。（合作辦音樂會？）會有此計劃，可能是星夢自己搞。星夢之前不了解新城機制，後來跟新城進一步了解，大家已有共識，之後有一齊坐低傾過，明白到他們機制有此安排，所以今後會繼續參與新城活動。”問他是否已

順氣？何哲圖笑說別這樣說，起碼知道是什麼取向，希望各媒體貼近市場，了解真正市場需要。

獲老闆解圍的吳若希一身輕鬆說：“好彩，因我不懂答。上年自己沒出席頒獎禮，但和各電台關係很好，今年會盡量出席。”說到她和公司合約，是否快告約滿？她謂還有兩年，“剛休息了一年，合約要順延大半年。”提到其老友許廷鏗與胡鴻鈞密遊芬蘭，被指去度蜜月？吳若希表示如未有小朋友，都會跟他倆一起去。“以我所知胡鴻鈞是自己去，許廷鏗是和大班朋友去。大家想多了，他們只是好好朋友，不會是度蜜月，和我一起才叫度蜜月，沒有我也不會甜蜜。”

又，鄭俊弘仍未帶女友何雁詩回家拜年，他解釋：“媽咪好忙，未抽到時間，

她新春在香港不停表演粵劇，3月都不能陪我去美加工作，祝她

Good Show。

（去捧媽咪場？）有同家姐看過，但興趣不大，亦沒帶女友去捧場，因不知她喜不喜歡看。（媽咪會否攜女友不去拜年？）不會的。”



扮“女版福爾摩斯”查案 陳松伶靄鬚大感不慣

香港文匯報訊（記者 梁靜儀）陳松伶（松松）、黃智賢（Ben）、陳焯（焯哥）、陳榮峻、吳香倫、陳灝、徐榮及楊卓娜等，26日於電視城出席無綫新劇《危城 First Lady》造型暨拜神儀式。松松更反串男裝示人，表示故事是講述上世紀二三十年代的香港，在劇中她飾演女版福爾摩斯破案，一身造型是參照“差利卓別靈”，而今次更是她首度靄鬚，令其很不習慣。松松笑說：“感覺好硬，要靄住回家練習。”

松松又稱因從未演過這類角色，加上有很多對白要背，不像之前拍《全職沒女》，開工是覺得很好玩，今次是嚴重的困惑，不知如何做得更好，對她是一大突破和挑戰。談到台上她笑指劇中要全力“嬌女”，松松解釋因要易服破案而令楊卓娜產生她是男仔的幻覺，從而愛上她。

黃智賢透露劇中是飾演管家，與松松是主僕關係，但又很仰慕她。阿Ben笑指對方“超離地”，就算淪落住村屋仍有很多靚衫着。又謂當年曾跟松松一齊做過兒童節目，那時大家還是“少年十五二十



■陳松伶(中)在新劇裡扮成差利模樣去查案；右為黃智賢。



■(右起)陳榮峻和吳香倫將於4月入紙申請註冊。

十”時，合作拍劇則是第一次。

陳焯忙拍劇新年狂睡

陳焯在這套新劇飾演阿Ben的初戀情人，又會有個仔，因要養兒子而做執屍，更偷禮物去典當過活。問是否首次演媽媽角色？焯哥笑說：“不是，再大個都生得出；事實上都生得出。”劇接劇的焯哥近日正忙於拍另一新劇《好日子》，這陣子

都睡眠不足，所以新年要睡足三日。她還要準備為《果欄中的江湖大嫂》宣傳。

準新人陳榮峻與吳香倫因拍劇結緣，但今次劇中二人完全沒有對手戲。談到婚禮籌備進度，陳榮峻透露將於4月入紙申請註冊，7月10日在中環教堂行禮，晚上於酒樓擺酒，預計30圍以上。又透露當天沒有接新娘、玩新郎環節，只是宴請親友吃飯。

4 in Love世紀復合 楊丞琳感動到喊

香港文匯報訊（記者 李思穎）台灣女歌手楊丞琳（Rainie）一連兩場紅館演唱會25日晚完滿結束，她更請來初入行時的所屬組合4 in Love成員黃小柔、張棋蕙及冷嘉琳“世紀合體”，在台上合唱經典歌曲《一千零一個願望》，給歌迷帶來無限驚喜。

安歌時，Rainie 邀請初出道時的組合4 in love成員冷嘉琳、張棋蕙及黃小柔現身，四人世紀復合唱出《一千零一個願望》，台下觀眾驚喜尖叫。

Rainie 表示：“上次在紅館演出已是

2001年，當時是17歲。”小柔解釋：“因為我一直生，生了三個孩子，到她在台北開演唱會，我也是剛生完兩個月，這次有去看她的演唱會。”Rainie感激對方未坐完月便來捧場，又多謝她們答應來做嘉賓和減肥，特別多謝已淡出娛樂圈的嘉琳，又指大家有不同人生目標，各自去追尋達成，但20年來依然關心對方，友誼沒變！送走成員後，Rainie一時感動爆喊起來，自言很捨不得她們。

Rainie 完騷後接受訪問，表示見到4 in Love時很感動，但其實綵排時她已帶



4 in Love四名成員難得再次同台演出。

頭忍不住哭。“她們從樓梯下來，我已忍不住哭，表演時覺得神經都緊繃起來，必須要先唱。最後都忍不住，這是喜極而泣。”

大，如像我的家人，所以想營造有家的感覺，希望大家感受到，所以我提議MV在我家拍攝。”

照要”，所以現在我們昇華到好朋友關係，會互相支持。原本他說太疲累，不想再添食做《流行經典50年》，但他說過會照顧我一生一世，最後答應會繼續做。節目會做到6月，都算好啦；催婚只是大家說笑而已。”

家燕姐承認子女都想她有個伴，試過好幾次約食飯做媒，但因她自己太忙，所以忙到無暇去想感情事，還是寄情工作。

福祿壽為演唱會狂操 阮兆祥激減20磅最癲

香港文匯報訊（記者 李慶全）

王祖藍、阮兆祥（祥仔）及李思捷這三位“福祿壽”，26日為下月在紅館舉行的《福祿壽十周年演唱會》進行彩排。於個半月的減磅行動中，祥仔瘦了幾個碼最為明顯，受訪時他自言激減了20磅，祖藍笑指祥仔的20磅肉則轉到他身上，像調換了身體般。祥仔表示今次不乏跳舞部分，現較瘦身形會好看點，他要維持每天吃生菜及做運動的決心，但有時忍不住吃兩啖又熱又香的飯，結果心情矛盾又內疚。思捷反教祥仔要吃飯，主要是怕他跳舞不夠體力。

祖藍表示新年前跟家人去旅行，另又與老婆二人世界出埠一周，加上新年不停地吃，全盒裡的賀年食品給他掃清，所以現變了祥仔的身形。不過祖藍指祥仔有段舞步很難跳，要勁過郭富城，他笑

說：“如果郭富城跳到，我請他打邊爐！”三子更表示兩晚演出的嘉賓均不一樣，每晚有五名嘉賓，已有一位超級嘉賓自薦亮相，對方更是兩年沒踏足舞台，將全家總動員來支持。



■(左起)阮兆祥、李思捷和王祖藍忙於為演唱會排練。

欣宜回家錄歌拍MV

香港文匯報訊（記者 李思穎）

鄭欣宜26日舉行發佈會，宣佈其自組公司Passionfruit Records正式成立，另外4月21日至22日的紅館演唱會門票27日亦公開發售。

而在首播新歌《鄭家詠》MV時，老闆蕭定一送上一張沒填銀碼的大利是支票，表示對欣宜無限量支持。

欣宜新歌《鄭家詠》MV邀得一班老友許廷鏗、林欣彤、JW、陳慧敏、鍾舒祺客串演出，MV是在欣宜家取景，她笑說：

“我屋企的客廳首次曝光，為了演唱會真的很博。錄音過程則在睡房進行，原因是全香港人從細看到我

大，如像我的家人，所以想營造有家的感覺，希望大家感受到，所以我提議MV在我家拍攝。”

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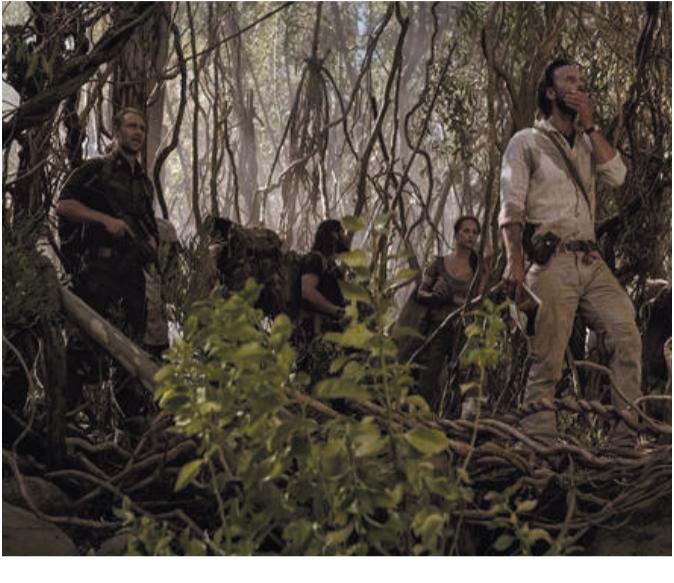
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傳奇再臨！ 《古墓麗影》預告海報雙發



動作冒險片《古墓麗影：源起之戰》今日發布“絕境求生”預告，詳盡曝光“坎妹”飾演的勞拉·克勞馥挑戰極限驚險逃生的橋段。在影片中，“坎妹”艾麗西亞·維坎德挑戰激流勇進、飛躍飛機殘骸，親自完成高難度動作戲。《古墓麗影：源起之戰》將於3月16日在內地與北美同步公映。

今天的預告展現勞拉被邪惡的“聖三壹(Trinity)”組織俘虜後九死壹生的逃生經歷。雖然身處蠻荒叢林又被捆住雙手，勞拉卻敢於鋌而走險選擇逃亡；當面對前有懸崖深淵、後有荷槍實彈追兵的險境，勞拉仍拒絕屈服，寧可躍入湍急的深淵，更在即將沖下瀑布的瞬間攀上墜毀轟炸機的殘骸。

隨後的場景讓遊戲迷倍感親切，勞拉迸發出所有身體能量，踏著不斷墜入深淵的殘骸助跑，如鷹隼壹般飛身壹躍，終於逃出生天。導演羅阿爾·烏索格曾表示，這壹段落是他印象最深的片場記憶，“我當時像艾麗西亞壹樣緊張地屏著呼吸，她的手

被緊緊綁住，同時被激流沖刷。她的付出讓這場戲非常出彩”。

這款新預告預告進壹步展現勞拉兼容“女神”與“女漢子”特質的形象。從遊戲到電影，勞拉都是最受喜愛的核心元素之一。預告中的勞拉肌肉曲線流暢毫無贅肉，智勇雙全又充滿獨立特質。“坎妹”認為此次的勞拉頗具現代感，“充滿活力和智慧，並對探險充滿激情”，飾演反派的沃特·戈金斯更視勞拉是“年輕女性的榜樣”。

為了演繹好這個角色，坎妹進行了四個月的艱苦體能和塑形訓練，她本身的舞蹈功底也對訓練效果大有幫助。吳彥祖回憶，“我剛到南非時，艾麗西亞已經訓練了三個月，她取得了驚人的效果，身材是脫胎換骨大變樣，印象非常深刻”。

《古墓麗影》是風靡世界幾十年的經典遊戲，《古墓麗影：源起之戰》靈感來自最新版本，揭秘讓勞拉從普通女孩成長為大探險家的首次歷險，該片將於3月16日內地與北美同步公映。

法國動畫《飛鳥歷險記》定檔3.8 預告海報雙發 達科塔範寧等加盟配音



極具法國浪漫色彩的動畫電影《飛鳥歷險記》正式宣布定檔於3月8日登陸全國院線，並曝光定檔預告片及海報，群鳥大party飛越全世界，壹場奇妙冒險的成長之旅即將開啓。

影片由歐洲最大的獨立CGI動畫公司法國TeamTO動畫公司傾力打造，克裏斯汀·芭倫斯基、達科塔·範寧等多位好萊塢明星加盟配音，勢要在春意盎然之時，邀請娃辣媽們與鳥類家族共赴“破殼看世界”之約。

《飛鳥歷險記》主要講述壹只從不出家門的金翅雀山姆，臨危受命，憑借自己不靠譜的“第六感”，帶領候鳥家族向南方遷徙的故事。隨著預告片中壹枚鳥蛋滾下階梯，故事的主角金翅雀

山姆破殼而出，壹場關於飛行成長的冒險故事正式上演。而在這場註定不平凡的旅途中，山姆與候鳥家族接連遭遇種種困難，溫室小花變身超強能力者的華麗冒險究竟能否完美落幕，不禁令人期待。

從《了不起的菲麗西》到《小王子》再到《昆蟲總動員》，近兩年法國出品的動畫電影越來越受到中國觀眾的青睞。而創作《飛鳥歷險記》的法國TeamTO動畫公司，則是歐洲最大的獨立CGI動畫公司，曾多次在昂西動畫節、多倫多電影節和戛納國際電視節等眾多全球知名電影節上攬獲多項提名和榮譽。由其制作出品的每壹部動畫劇集，均在全世界100-150個國家播映。

《比得兔》終極預告 秀超高智商

萌萌小兔“治愈”系 終極海報同時曝光



由美國索尼哥倫比亞電影公司、索尼動畫聯合出品，威爾·古勒執導的真人動畫電影《比得兔》將於本周五（3月2日）登陸內地銀幕。影片今日發布終極預告和終極海報，宣告倒計時五天上映，超高智商的界兔流量擔當比得兔和麥格雷戈正面開“杠”，上演高壓電陷阱局中局。

比得兔勇敢又萌趣暖的性格決定了它兔子家族領導者的隱形地位。在他的帶領下，本傑明、萌兔三胞胎和農場小動物們在與麥格雷戈的正面交鋒中完成了無數讓人爆笑又跌破眼鏡的操作，比如終極預告中的“高壓電”大戰：麥格雷戈在別人的指點下決定用高壓電陷阱驅逐爭奪菜園的小動物們，比得兔見招拆招，表示“要用狐狸的智慧去對付他。”

坐等兔子上鉤的麥格雷戈沒想到本傑明偷

拔下了通電的插銷，本想看笑話卻反被幾只小家夥假裝觸電用盡演技狠狠嘲笑，隨後這幾只機靈鬼還改變電流方向讓出門查看情況的麥格雷戈嘗到了被電到飛起的滋味，搞怪的操作讓人見識到兔子家族的非凡智慧。

同步曝光的終極海報中，比得兔躍而起發動西紅柿攻擊，讓人感受到他的膽氣與活力。背靠著打開的菜園子大門，兔子家族和動物夥伴面對新鮮的蔬菜露出期待的目光，雖然比得兔的爸爸警告過“永遠不要去麥格雷戈的花園”，不過在美食的誘惑下，關於菜園子主權的爭奪戰還是不可避免。

電影《比得兔》將於3月2日元宵節以2D和中國巨幕的制式登陸內地銀幕，目前各大票務平臺已開啟預售。

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美南春節園遊會 歡欣鼓舞慶新春



(記者韋霓休斯頓報導) 春暖花開，大地迎春，每年一度的華裔社區迎春大事就是美南春節園遊會，今年在二月24日於美南大樓前盛大舉行。老天眷顧，在連日陰雨中給了美南春節園遊會晴朗的好天氣，讓大家能一起開心的過年。

美南新聞董事長李蔚華致詞歡迎所有參與者，並表示：華人朋友從世界各地來休斯頓這個美麗的城市安居樂業，也不忘懷中華文化的傳統淵源，與二十年前相比，現在國際區既繁榮又興盛，在大家共同努力之下，把國際區建設的更完整、更發達，這是大家的功勞，無論來自何方，能攜手合作、在此一起打拼。



當天會場上喜氣歡騰，各界政要與社團領袖祝賀連連，包括聯邦衆議員 Al Green、市議員 Michael Kubosh、哈瑞斯縣總檢察官 Vince Ryan 等主流政要；中國駐休士頓總領館副總領事王昱、駐休士頓台北經濟文化辦事處處長陳家彥夫婦、華僑文教服務中心主任莊雅淑等外交領事代表、以及多個社區儒領、社團領袖均出席慶祝，現場有30個音樂、舞蹈、武術、文化表演節目，精采紛呈，展現各族裔的文化之美，還有超過50個攤位，吸引許多人

潮。

這三十個表演包括：舞龍舞獅賀年、開幕快閃歌舞、陳涵林歌唱、少林功夫學院的功夫扇和童子功、少林功夫組合、菲律賓竹舞、思揚男聲獨唱、兒童舞紅紅的中國結、Rocko 表演、北美青少年樂團的名曲聯奏、華夏中文學校的舞蹈春曉、徐蓓的女聲獨唱、養生八式、電聲樂隊表演、肚皮舞、旗袍秀、舞台劇、傅啟明的女聲獨唱、打擊樂表演、亞美舞蹈團的舞蹈、清山小集的男女聲小合唱、朱金月女聲獨唱、休斯頓民樂團的小城故事、雪梅的牧羊曲、陳氏太極、俄羅斯舞、來自奧斯汀的可愛小女孩獨唱恭喜發財、樊豫珍音樂教室的情歌聯唱、街舞、Michael Wade 男聲獨唱、巴西桑巴熱舞等，好戲連台。

一位現場民衆表示，非常感謝美南新聞，能讓民衆在一次活動中，看到這麼多精彩的表演，大大的接讚！

園遊會有著各式各樣的攤位，其中，雲南同鄉會在會長和虹的領軍之下，招集十多位同鄉準備雲南美食，身著鮮麗的民族服裝，是會場最有特色的攤位之一。中國廚電第一品牌方太在去年十月於休斯頓糖城開了第一家體驗店，也參加今年的園遊會，很多民衆上門詢問，希望有更多了解。休斯頓社區大學 HCC 則受到年輕人的關注。此外，當衆揮毫的江震遠老師、與福建同鄉會的陳先生，都用書法為民衆寫下他們的名字，讓許多獲得墨寶的民衆開心不已。



雲南同鄉會在會長和虹的領軍之下，招集十多位同鄉準備雲南美食，身著鮮麗的民族服裝，是會場最有特色的攤位之一。



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張文華法官感謝越棉寮長年來的支持、希望在共和黨初選都能投她一票



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