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Report: Rent houses yielding strong returns in Houston, U.S



Inside C2

Southern DAILY

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North Korea's Kim tries to fix image with jokes and hug

SEOUL (Reuters) - For years, he has been regarded by South Koreans as a ruthless bully, the face of a hostile neighbor intent on developing weapons of mass destruction whose subjects heeded his every whim.

South Korean President Moon Jae-in and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un embrace at the truce village of Panmunjom inside the demilitarized zone separating the two Koreas, South Korea, April 27, 2018. Korea Summit Press Pool/Pool via Reuters TPX IMAGES OF THE DAY

But during a 12-hour visit across the border Friday, North Korean leader Kim Jong Un appeared to soften that image, at least somewhat, by presenting himself as a normal, even likeable fellow with candid, humble side and a quick wit.

It was a rare glimpse into Kim, who has rarely left his country and is normally depicted in the hero-worship language of the North Korean propaganda machine.

But on live TV watched by millions of South Koreans, he smiled warmly, talked, joked and even embraced South Korean President Moon Jae-in during the first inter-Korean summit since 2007.

"I've only seen him in media, standing stone-faced in a nuclear site or political event, but actually he seemed quite friendly and respectful when he greeted Moon," said Lee Soo-kyung, a 34-year-old teacher in Seoul.

Some U.S. officials and experts doubt Kim's sincerity, and see a recent flurry of North Korean diplomacy as a ploy to win relief from economic sanctions against Pyongyang.



Kim has often shown a ruthless side. He has been accused of having his half-brother and uncle killed to consolidate his hold on power. Under the grip of Kim's one-man rule, the country has many dissidents and political opponents in prison camps, according to defectors and civic groups.

U.S. intelligence experts are trying to build a profile of Kim for President Donald Trump ahead of a planned summit between the pair, but direct knowledge of Kim remains limited and is like a "black box," according to one U.S. official familiar with the profiling efforts.

Kim and Moon pledged at their summit on Friday to work for the "complete denuclearization of the Korean peninsula" and announced they would work with the United States and China this year to declare an official end to the 1950s Korean War. Kim's passport and remained at home.

Cosby then left the courthouse with his lawyers and publicist. "The fight will go on," defense lawyer Thomas Mesereau told reporters, insisting on Cosby's innocence.



Security personnel accompany a vehicle transporting North Korean leader Kim Jong Un at the truce village of Panmunjom

The conviction marks the downfall of a man once celebrated as "America's Dad" but whose reputation was ruined after some 50 women accused him of similar offenses going back decades. Only one of those cases was recent enough to be eligible for prosecution, that of Constand, a former administrator for the women's basketball team at Temple University, Cosby's alma mater. Attorney Gloria Allred, who represents 33 of the Cosby accusers, rejoiced that Cosby was found "guilty, guilty, guilty."

"We are so happy that finally we can say, women are believed, and not only on #MeToo, but in a court of law," Allred told reporters. Other Cosby accusers celebrated the verdict with hugs, cries, and applause.

"It's a victory not just for the 62 of us who have come forward but



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Report: Rent houses yielding strong returns in Houston, U.S.

By Katherine Feser

Investors in Houston single-family rent houses are seeing annual returns on par with the nation and are beating out stocks and bonds, a new report showed.

Owners of single-family rentals in the Houston metro area saw an average annual return of 12.8 percent over the last 7 years, Roofstock.com said.

LOOPED IN PODCAST: How a Houston investor buys and sells flooded homes

The more than 400,000 New York City residents who live in public housing could soon see a federally mandated rent increase that many say they can't afford.

That's slightly lower than the 12.9 average annual return for U.S. rent houses, and 0.8 basis point higher than the 11.6 percent annual return for investing in the stock market during the period, Roofstock said.

Bonds yielded an average of 3 percent annually from 2011 through 2017.

"After a booming 2017, first-quarter turbulence in the stock market was an abrupt wake-up call for investors," Roofstock CEO and co-founder Gary Beasley said in an announcement.

He added that single-family rentals have "historically been considerably less volatile than stocks and bonds and generates consistent monthly income."

Roofstock crunched the numbers including data from the S&P 500, the Federal Reserve, U.S. Census Bureau and Zillow.

The Oakland, Calif.-based company provides an online marketplace for buying and selling leased single-family rental houses. It operates



Single-family rental returns in Houston almost match the nation's average of 12.9 percent annually, according to Roofstock.com.



Former President Bush to remain at Houston hospital through the weekend

Norman Gomlak

Former President George H.W. Bush will remain at a Houston hospital for the weekend as he continues to recover from an infection that had spread to his bloodstream.

Bush family spokesman Jim McGrath said on Twitter that the 41st president will remain at Houston Methodist Hospital "to continue his recovery and regaining strength."

"41 is in excellent spirits and is looking forward to resuming his schedule and going to Maine next month," McGrath

said in a written statement.

George H.W. Bush, Barbara Bush throw out first pitch at Houston Astros/Kansas City Royals MLB ALDS Game 3

A day after funeral services for his wife Barbara, the 93-year-old former president was hospitalized in the intensive care unit for an infection that had spread to his bloodstream, McGrath said Monday. The spokesman added that Bush was responding to treatments and that he was looking forward to cheering on the Houston Rockets and returning to the family's summer home in Kennebunkport, Maine.



Advertisement for Jian Pai skin cream, featuring product images, testimonials, and a list of distributors across various cities like Hong Kong, Toronto, and Dallas.

Advertisement for Zhen Fan, M.D., a surgical specialist at Surgical Associates of Houston, P.A., listing various procedures like hernia and gallbladder surgery.

Large advertisement for a free lecture on cancer treatment, featuring a speaker's photo, a list of topics, and contact information for the event.

Editor's Choice Pictures



Smartsheet Inc. President and CEO Mark Mader attends his company's IPO on the floor of the NYSE in New York



South Korean President Moon Jae-in and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un attend a banquet on the Peace House at the truce village of Panmunjom



Trader Peter Tuchman works on the floor of the NYSE in New York



People shout slogans during a protest outside Ministry of Justice after a Spanish court condemned five men accused of the group rape of an 18-year-old woman at the 2016 San Fermin bull running festival to nine years in prison each for the lesser crime of sexual abuse in Madrid, Spain, April 26, 2018. REUTERS/Sergio Perez



Buddhist monks, nuns and people attend a prayer service wishing for a successful inter-Korean summit in Seoul, South Korea



South Korean President Moon Jae-in and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un attend a banquet on the Peace House at the truce village of Panmunjom



South Korean President Moon Jae-in and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un raise their hands at the truce village of Panmunjom



North Korean leader Kim Jong Un is assisted by his sister Kim Yo Jong as he signs documents at the truce village of Panmunjom



South Korean President Moon Jae-in's wife Kim Jung-sook and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un's wife Ri Sol Ju interact at the truce village of Panmunjom

PITTSBURGH (KDKA) – Can cellphones really cause cancer? It's been a question that's dogged researchers for years.

However, a group of experts say the results of some tests are pretty surprising.

Millions of people constantly call, text, click, take pictures and play on cellphones. Even the top cellular radiation researchers from around the world have a hard time untethering.

But, they gathered recently in North Carolina to talk about cellphone concerns and whether they really do increase the chances of developing cancer.

The panel voted that the results from years of testing on mice and rats were more significant than originally thought.

They say they found clear evidence that phone radiation caused tumors in the hearts of rats, which were similar to tumors in people.



"In humans, it's seen in the vestibular nerve, in the ear, the acoustic nerve. We found it in the heart, although our animals were exposed in their whole body condition," John Bucher said.

"While a given animal is not making a cellphone call, they are, throughout their short two-year lifetime getting the same exposure that we expect people to get in their 70-plus years of life," Dr. Devra Davis, of Environmental Health Trust, said.

Activists are now calling for more protections, citing separate studies from France and Italy.

"Many brain tumor lawsuits going on right now that are waiting for a study like this to prove that people's brain tumors were caused by their cellphone radiation," Kevin Mottus, of the California Brain Tumor Association, said.

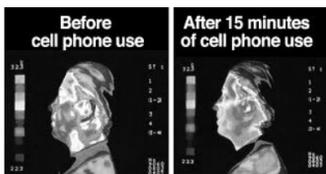
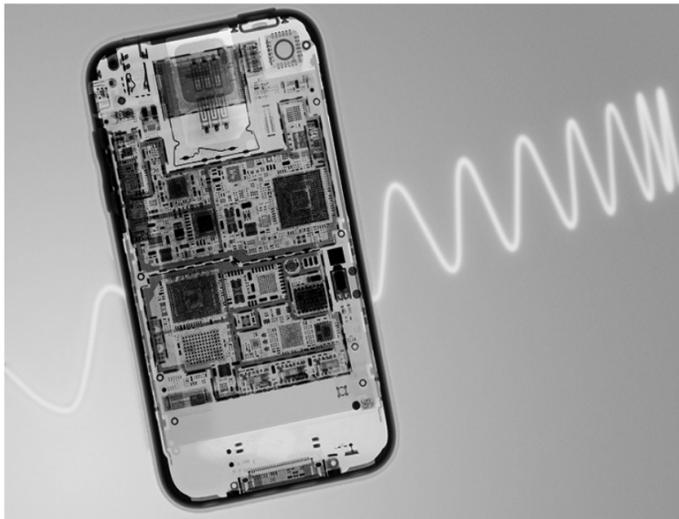
There are new concerns on the horizon as 5G, which is a stronger broadband system, is about to debut.

Some activists say the government has a responsibility to increase regulations.

"And I think it's the responsibility of the ones making the phones to make them as safe as possible, and I'm sure they can do better than what we actually have," Dr. Annie Sasco said.

Can Cellphones Cause Cancer? Experts Surprised By Latest Tests

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



Both activists and researchers agree that people can minimize any risk by holding phones away from the body when in use and not putting them in your pocket. (Courtesy <http://pittsburgh.cbslocal.com>)

Related

Why is there concern that cell phones may cause cancer or other health problems?

There are three main reasons why people are concerned that cell phones (also known as "mobile" or "wireless" telephones) might have the potential to cause certain types of cancer or other health problems:

Cell phones emit radiofrequency energy (radio waves), a form of non-ionizing radiation, from their antennas. Tissues nearest to the antenna can absorb this energy.

The number of cell phone users has increased rapidly. As of December 2014,

there were more than 327.5 million cell phone subscribers in the United States, according to the Cellular Telecommunications and Internet Association. This is a nearly threefold increase from the 110 million users in 2000. Globally, the number of subscriptions is estimated by the International Telecommunications Union to be 5 billion.

Over time, the number of cell phone calls per day, the length of each call, and the amount of time people use cell phones have increased. However, improvements in cell phone technology have resulted in devices that have lower power outputs than earlier models.

The NCI fact sheet Electromagnetic Fields and Cancer includes information on wireless local area networks (commonly known as Wi-Fi), cell phone base stations, and cordless telephones.

WHAT GOVT PANEL RECOMMENDS

- Continuous online monitoring and display of radiation level in mobile network frequency range at prominent places in cities and online data transfer to the central server
- New-tech low power transmitters within building solutions for the future expansion of telecom network
- SAR level should be displayed on handset
- SAR level for handsets be limited to 1.6 watt/kg average over a 6-minute period & taken over a volume containing mass of 1 gram of human tissue
- List of SAR values for handsets be uploaded on DOTTEC website

What is radiofrequency energy and how does it affect the body?

Radiofrequency energy is a form of electromagnetic radiation. Electromagnetic radiation can be categorized into two types: ionizing (e.g., x-rays, radon, and cosmic rays) and non-ionizing (e.g., radiofrequency and extremely low frequency, or power frequency). Electromagnetic radiation is defined according to its wavelength and frequency, which is the number of cycles of a wave that pass a reference point per second. Electromagnetic frequencies are described in units called hertz (Hz).

The energy of electromagnetic radiation is determined by its frequency; ionizing radiation is high frequency, and therefore high energy, whereas non-ionizing radiation is low frequency, and therefore low energy. The NCI fact sheet Electromagnetic Fields and Cancer lists sources of radiofrequency energy. More information about ionizing radiation can be found on the Radiation page.

The frequency of radiofrequency electromagnetic radiation ranges from 30 kilohertz (30 kHz, or 30,000 Hz) to 300 gigahertz (300 GHz, or 300 billion Hz). Electromagnetic fields in the radiofrequency range are used for telecommunications applications, including cell phones, televisions, and radio transmissions. The human body absorbs energy from devices that emit radiofrequency electromagnetic radiation. The dose of the absorbed energy is estimated using a measure called the specific absorption rate (SAR), which is expressed in watts per kilogram of body weight.



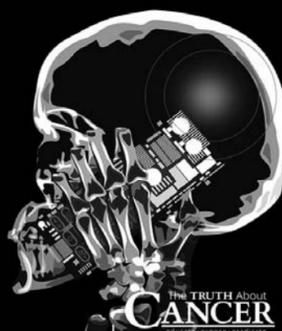
Exposure to ionizing radiation, such as from x-rays, is known to increase the risk of cancer. However, although many studies have examined the potential health effects of non-ionizing radiation from radar, microwave ovens, cell phones, and other sources, there is currently no consistent evidence that non-ionizing radiation increases cancer risk (1).

The only consistently recognized biological effect of radiofrequency energy is

heating. The ability of microwave ovens to heat food is one example of this effect of radiofrequency energy. Radiofrequency exposure from cell phone use does cause heating to the area of the body where a cell phone or other device is held (ear, head, etc.). However, it is not sufficient to measurably increase body temperature, and there are no other clearly established effects on the body from radiofrequency energy.

It has been suggested that radiofrequency energy might affect glucose metabolism, but two small studies that examined brain glucose metabolism after use of a cell phone showed inconsistent results. Whereas one study showed increased glucose metabolism in the region of the brain close to the antenna compared with tissues on the opposite side of the brain (2), the other study (3) found reduced glucose metabolism on the side of the brain where the phone was used.

USING YOUR CELL PHONE A HALF HOUR PER DAY INCREASES YOUR RISK OF BRAIN TUMOR BY 40%



Another study investigated whether exposure to the radiofrequency energy from cell phones affects the flow of blood in the brain and found no evidence of such an effect (4).

The authors of these studies noted that the results are preliminary and that possible health outcomes from changes in glucose metabolism are still unknown. Such inconsistent findings are not uncommon in experimental studies of the biological effects of radiofrequency electromagnetic radiation (5). Some contributing factors include assumptions used to estimate doses, failure to consider temperature effects, and lack of blinding of investigators to exposure status. (Courtesy <https://www.cancer.gov/>)

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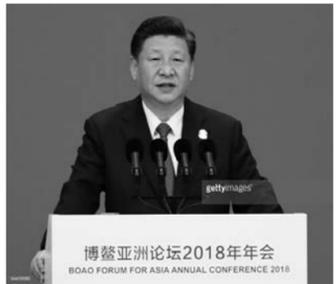
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BOAO, China—Chinese President Xi Jinping promised foreign companies greater access to China's financial and manufacturing sectors...

Throughout his 40-minute address, Mr. Xi never mentioned the trade friction with the U.S. or President Donald Trump.

"In a world aspiring for peace and development, the Cold War and zero-sum mentality look even more out of place."

"Putting oneself on a pedestal or trying to immunize oneself from adverse developments will get nowhere," he said.



China's President Xi speaking at the Boao Forum, a government-backed gathering of business and political leaders on the tropical island of Hainan.

Washington and Beijing's trade spat has

Plans Are Under Way To Reduce Tariffs On Imported Autos, Promote Further Economic Liberalization

Xi Vows Greater Access To China, Warns Against 'Cold War Mentality'

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



China's President Xi Jinping never mentioned the trade friction with the U.S. or President Donald Trump in his speech at the Boao Forum.

become a source of financial-market turbulence in recent weeks and raised concern about an outright trade war...

In apparent, if unacknowledged, answer to some of the U.S.'s criticisms, President Xi said China would increase imports, improve the protection of intellectual property...

promised those measures would be implemented.

"We have every intention to translate the measures into reality sooner rather than later," Mr. Xi said...

Many of the initiatives Mr. Xi offered up have been previously proposed. That, along with the lack of definite schedules for action...

Those factors also left the speech falling short of its billing by Chinese officials, who had said Mr. Xi would offer up important policy changes...

from globalization, paving for the country to become the world's factory floor and, as Mr. Xi noted in his speech...



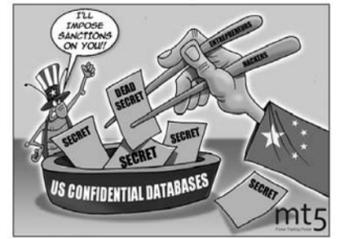
Still, given the tit-for-tat tariff threats, some saw reasons for cautious optimism in Mr. Xi's remarks.

"In a world aspiring for peace and development, the Cold War and zero-sum mentality look even more out of place"

- Xi Jinping

At the heart of complaints by the Trump administration, as well as among some officials in Europe, are policies they say are at odds with Beijing's earlier era of market liberalization...

President Trump has taken particular aim at what the U.S. calls unfair Chinese practices that force American companies to transfer technology...



China has denied such allegations and responded in kind, mainly targeting products made by farm states that helped Mr. Trump win the election in 2016.

While China has benefited from globalization, Mr. Xi and his government are in many ways ambivalent about unfettered interaction with the rest of the world.

"This time is different," said Li Yang, chairman of the National Institution for Finance and Development, a government think tank in Beijing.

"We'll open up the economy according to our own pace," he said.

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