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Plan for a 'great' hot weekend of Memorial Day tubing with these spots, outfit- ters



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Tesla trims up to \$14,000 off Model X in China after tariff cuts

BEIJING (Reuters) - Tesla Inc has slashed up to \$14,000 off its Model X in China after Beijing announced major tariff cuts for imported automobiles, a potential sales boost for the U.S. firm as the world's largest auto market pivots towards electric cars. China said on Tuesday it will cut import tariffs for automobiles to 15 percent from 25 percent, a fillip for premium car brands like Tesla and BMW which import a significant number of vehicles. Tesla said on Tuesday that any of its cars sold in China would be subject to adjusted prices, even before the tariff change comes into effect on July 1.

The price of a top-of-the range Model X will be cut to 1.3 million yuan (\$203,830) but that remains well above the \$140,000 cash price-tag before savings for the priciest version in the United States - Tesla's Model X P100D. The move by the California-based electric carmaker likely foreshadows wider price cuts for imported cars in China as foreign firms look to narrow a price gap with domestic rivals. Imports, however, only make up a fraction of the overall market and tend to be upper-end models. Yale Zhang, head of Shanghai-based consultancy Automotive Foresight, said price cuts by foreign premium brands will likely force them to adjust the price tag for vehicles they produce locally in China. This in turn will gradually impact the price of more affordable, mainstream cars - even local Chinese brands. "With imminent price adjustments in the higher-end segment, that will over time lead to a pricing adjustment for the entire market," Zhang said.



FILE PHOTO: A man cleans a Tesla Model 3 car during a media preview at the Auto China 2018 motor show in Beijing

Other carmakers, including Japan's Toyota Motor Corp and BMW, said after the tariff cut that they would look at adjusting their retail prices in China to provide competitive offers to consumers. Special Counsel Robert Mueller is also investigating.

The June 2016 Trump Tower meeting has been central to those probes. Reporting by Patricia Zengerle, Karen Freifeld, Jonathan Landay and Susan Heavey; Editing by Steve Orlofsky Our Standards: The Thomson Reuters Trust Principles.

Trump adviser and son-in-law Jared Kushner gets security clearance back

NEW YORK (Reuters) - Jared Kushner, a senior adviser to President Donald Trump and his son-in-law, has had his security clearance restored, allowing him access to classified information after losing the privilege in the fallout over a fired White House aide, his lawyer said on Wednesday. White House Senior Advisor Jared Kushner arrives for U.S. first lady Melania Trump's "launch of her initiatives" and "Be Best" campaign in the Rose Garden at the White House in Washington, U.S., May 7, 2018. REUTERS/Kevin Lamarque When he joined the White House staff in January 2017, Kushner gained access to sensitive information through a temporary security clearance while the FBI conducted a background check to see if he qualified for a permanent clearance. His temporary clearance was suspended by White House Chief of Staff John Kelly in February along with other officials operating under temporary clearances as part of measures to tighten procedures after White House staff secretary Rob Porter was fired when his two ex-wives raised charges of domestic abuse. "With respect to the news about his permanent security clearance, as we stated before, his application was properly submitted, reviewed by career officials, and went through the normal process. Having completed these processes, Mr. Kushner

is looking forward to continuing the work the president has asked him to do," said Kushner attorney Abbe Lowell. Kushner is leading a Trump effort to resurrect the Israeli-Palestinian peace process and has been a Trump conduit to Mexico, among other activities. It took an unusually long time for Kushner's background check to be completed, raising questions about whether he might be in trouble in U.S. Special Counsel Robert Mueller's investigation into Russian interference in the 2016 presidential election. Kushner, who is married to Trump's daughter Ivanka Trump, attended a meeting at Trump Tower in June 2016 with Russian lawyer Natalia Veselnitskaya, Donald Trump Jr., and former Trump campaign chairman Paul Manafort. Lowell, in a statement, said Kushner has cooperated fully with the investigation, including sitting for two interviews with the special counsel's office. "In each occasion, he answered all questions asked and did whatever he could to expedite the conclusion of all the investigations," Lowell said. According to a person familiar with the situation, Kushner was interviewed for a second time by the Mueller team in the second week of April. It lasted more than six hours. The questions covered issues related to whether there was collusion between Russian figures and the Trump campaign, and any contacts during the Trump post-election transition period to the presidency, among other issues, the

source said. According to the person, Mueller's team did not ask questions about Kushner's business or finances, including his family's real estate company.



U.S. Ambassador to Israel David Friedman sits next to White House Senior Advisor Jared Kushner as he speaks during the dedication ceremony of the new U.S. embassy in Jerusalem

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Texas Regional Health & Wellness 幹細胞療法 疼痛患者的大福音

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使用「幹細胞」來治療關節炎、膝關節受傷、腰背痛、肩膀痛、手腕或肘部痛、腳痛、足底筋膜炎等各種疼痛，不用開刀就能有效消除病痛。

- 幹細胞(Stem Cells) 是指在原始階段、未分化的細胞，此細胞具備自我更新、分化與再生的能力。
- 幹細胞療法治療退行性疾病、和慢性疾病的開拓性方法，又被稱為再生醫學，能幫助身體重建修復，啟動抗病與醫療的新契機。
- 我們使用臍帶血幹細胞，由新生兒臍帶血所提煉而出，是目前五種幹細胞來源中最優良的，密度高，修復效果好。能幫助減少發炎、控制免疫系統、和幫助中樞神經系統的再生。
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Plan for a 'great,' hot weekend of Memorial Day tubing with these spots, outfitters

By Madalyn Mendoza

No storms in the forecast mean all the conditions are right for slow-moving hoards of inner tubes, coolers, music and fun to take over area rivers as Memorial Day weekend kicks off the beloved Texas tubing tradition. National Weather Service models for the area show dry, hot conditions for the long weekend.

"The heat is pretty much going to be the story of Memorial Day weekend this year," said NWS meteorologist Aaron Treadway. "In years past, we've had chances of storms, floods and isolated tornadoes, but this year it's going to be dry — great for people to go tubing and barbecue."

Treadway said temperatures will be on the cusp of 100 degrees on Sunday and Monday. With the heat index spiking the thermometers by two or three degrees, temperatures might feel like 101 or 102 degrees.

With a storm bearing down on Minnesota over the weekend, many people are making plans to ride out the snow and rain indoors—but not Xcel Energy, or for that matter the Department of Transportation.

And according to unofficial Texas protocol, triple digit temperatures signal it's time for inflating tubes and hitting the water.

Rockin 'R' Rive Rides has been outfitting Central Texas tubers for nearly 40 years, "depending on Mother Nature," as the company website says.

General Manager Shane Wolf feels like Mother Nature is on their side this year, despite her



flare-ups in the past, like the fatal 2015 flooding. "We're fired up and excited," he said. "This is the first Memorial Day weekend in quite some time that we haven't had a percentage of rain in the forecast."

While most of their seven locations started the season in March, Wolf said Memorial Day weekend is the official floating kick off.

"We always want more of a flow, but it's still a great float, we're still putting people in daily," Wolf said of Guadalupe River conditions.

The Guadalupe River above the Comal River in New Braunfels is flowing at about 50-cubic-feet-per-second. Closer to Seguin, the Guadalupe is flowing at 440 CFS. The Comal River is flowing at about 260 CFS in New Braunfels as of Wednesday, according to the National Weather Service tables.

"The Comal River is always a constant flow because it's a natural spring," Wolf explained.

Aside from water flow, Wolf also knows when the strongest flow of people are expected. While Memorial Day is the most popular day for tubing, Wolf said it's not the busiest for Rockin 'R.' That would be in July. He said school and graduations are still keeping tubers busy in May, but Rockin 'R' marks the third week in July as peak season.

Wolf said their most popular spot to jump in the water is at the 1405 Gruene location, which provides about a 3-hour float.

"All you need is a three-hour float," he said. "Grab your sunblock, your thirst-quencher, a large hat, shoes and come jump in."

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Editor's Choice



U.S. President Trump shakes hands with Deputy Attorney General Rosenstein at end of roundtable on immigration in Bethpage, New York



China's Foreign Minister Wang Yi speaks during joint news conference with U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo at the State Department in Washington



U.S. president Trump supporter holds a banner against MS-13 before a forum about Central American-based Mara Salvatrucha (MS-13) gang organization at the Morrelly Homeland Security Center in Bethpage, New York



U.S. president Trump supporter holds a banner against MS-13 before a forum about Central American-based Mara Salvatrucha (MS-13) gang organization at the Morrelly Homeland Security Center in Bethpage, New York



Congressman Wilson holds Jerusalem Post "Promises Made Promises Kept" front page as he questions Secretary of State Pompeo on Capitol Hill in Washington



The company logo of China's Sinopec Corp is displayed at a news conference in Hong Kong



Charlie Mirsky of Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida, participates with other students from around the country in a Gun Violence Prevention Task Force



An electric driver-less shuttle autonomous vehicle made by Navya passes by the Leonard de Vinci private university at La Defense financial and business district, in Courbevois



U.S. Senator Harris participates in a news conference on immigration policies at the U.S. Capitol in Washington



An aerial view of Babcock Ranch near Fort Myers, Florida, which is projected to have 50,000 residents by the time it's completed.

Overview
People are starting to move into Babcock Ranch, an ambitious development in Florida more than a decade in the making. With a solar field and self-driving shuttles, it's a suburb that its creators hope will be revolutionary.

BABCOCK RANCH, FLORIDA—Like a lot of Floridians, Syd Kitson loves the sun. But his passion is mainly for the energy it feeds his new development, Babcock Ranch, which bills itself as the country's first solar-powered city, located 15 miles northeast of Fort Myers and close to Florida's southwest coast.

This particular day in March turned out to be a milestone for Kitson, an NFL guard-turned-property developer who has been chasing his vision of a sustainable society for more than a decade. As he surveyed the 440 acres of solar panels already in place, on land that he donated to Florida Power & Light, he said he just learned that the utility company plans to double the size of its energy farm. "FPL is going to add another 75 megawatts, so we're going to have a total of 150 megawatts," Kitson said.



Syd Kitson at Babcock Ranch, which he calls a "living laboratory" (Richard Luscombe)

His ultimate plan is for a solar-powered city of 19,500 homes with a downtown, schools, restaurants, shopping and leisure facilities, and more than 50 miles of nature trails for walkers, runners, and cyclists. By full build-out, he hopes Babcock Ranch will have about 50,000 residents.

The FPL solar farm is a cornerstone of the Babcock Ranch masterplan, and the 14 months between the farm's October 2015 groundbreaking and its 343,000 panels coming online last December reflect the quick pace of the development as a whole. It was only in January that the first residents began moving in. This month, a health, wellness, and lifestyle center opened in Founder's Square, the development's town center, with medical offices, a gym, and a swimming pool. That followed the rollout of a K-8 charter school with a STEAM-based curriculum; a lakeside gastropub serving locally-grown seed-to-table organic food; and a cavernous co-working space called The Hatchery, with options from walk-up desk rentals to serviced offices.

On weekends, electric self-driven shuttles ferry residents and visitors around as part of testing by the autonomous transportation company Transdev. There are plans to expand the pilot to an Uber-style on-demand service. At a cursory glance, Babcock appears little different from numerous other planned communities around Florida. It has single-family detached houses arranged into neighborhoods, and the seven homebuilders that partnered with Kitson offer a range of models from two to five bedrooms, priced

from the \$190,000s to more than half a million dollars. The sales pitch rests on their high-tech and green features. These are Alexa-controlled smart homes with 1-gigabit fiber internet and wiring for electric cars in every garage; kitchens and laundry rooms piped for natural gas cooktops, ranges, and dryers; and metal roofs to reduce heating and cooling costs.



Founder's Square, the development's town center, already has a health and wellness center, a co-working space, and a gastropub. (Babcock Ranch)

These are Alexa-controlled smart homes with 1-gigabit fiber internet and wiring for electric cars in every garage.

Additionally, homeowners are encouraged to grow vegetables in community gardens, landscaping is limited to native plants (with turf covering no more than 30 percent of yard space), and all irrigation water is reclaimed.

Kitson describes Babcock Ranch as "a living laboratory," with energy self-sufficiency at its core. All public and commercial buildings with good exposure have roofs covered with solar panels, and solar "trees" are dotted around the public areas to bolster the power supply and provide recharge stations for visitors' cell phones, tablets, and laptops. What you won't see are solar panels on the roofs of most houses. Residents are hooked up to FPL's grid in the same way, and billed at the same rates, as any other of the utility's customers. "For us to truly be sustainable and a solar-powered town, we absolutely have got to do it on a utility-scale basis, period," Kitson said. "Solar power comes to us first, and the excess goes into the grid. I can't see how that's not a huge win for everybody."

Some outside analysts believe that Kitson's pursuit of that utility-scale solar is the key to the long-term viability of the project. "In the future, we're going to see almost all of our new developments powered by renewable energy, and to the extent this is a model for the future, especially in Florida, it's a good thing," said Ed McMahon, senior fellow for sustainable development and environmental policy at the Urban Land Institute.

One of the self-driving shuttles that Transdev is piloting in the town (Richard Luscombe)

Even before the upcoming solar-field expansion, Babcock Ranch is generating more electricity than it needs, Kitson said, and in a further innovation now has the capacity to store some of it. Ten single-megawatt batteries that became operational earlier this year on the western edge of the solar field—and also slated for future expansion—can store power for four hours, allowing a stable discharge during cloudy spells, or to "reserve" energy from sunny afternoons for peak evening demand.

The town's buildings, constructed to match or exceed the latest county codes, soaked up everything the furious 2017 hurricane season had to offer. "During Irma, the eye of the storm came right over us," Kitson said. "We did just fine, and we're 30 feet above sea level so we didn't flood. Sure, there

were a few trees down, but we just picked them right back up because we'd just planted them."

Kitson said the initial planning and design of the town was a community effort. In the mid-2000s, his team held meetings in community halls, city offices, and even at late-night social gatherings around Charlotte County to discuss what kind of town local people would want to live in, or at least visit. "It was [that] input that established the principles that continue to guide every planning decision," he said. Several architecture and planning firms collaborated to shape the new town, including Looney Ricks Kiss, Harvard Jolly, and Kimley-Horn.

The master plan was approved in 2006, but the project was put on hold through the economic downturn of the late 2000s, which Kitson admitted was "less of a curveball, more of a boulder." Babcock Ranch is still in its infancy. Only about 20 families have taken up residence so far, a number that's expected to grow to about 100 by the end of this year as more new homes become ready for occupancy. The Babcock Ranch Neighborhood School already has 156 students (who live outside the town). Shannon Treece, the principal, says the development growing up around the school provides hands-on, real-life lessons in environmental stewardship.



Babcock Ranch is an approximately 17,000-acre planned community under development in Southwest Florida. It is to be the first solar-powered city in the United States.

States offering residents the opportunity to purchase a piece of American history.

"We are in a place that ... just evokes that spirit of innovation and that engagement of people," Treece said. "It's easy to open a textbook and read and answer questions. But project-based learning has a really specific driving question, and it always has a community-partner piece as well, which is, 'How is it going to change the community we're in?' That's the connection to here."

With guidance from the chef of the Tap and Table, Babcock's gastropub, students aced a recent solar cook-off tournament against other local schools. They harvested ingredients from their own community garden and created a three-course teriyaki meal. The students also track how much energy the school consumes by reading data from a solar tree in their playground.

When a larger school building opens in August, there will be twice as many children, teachers, and staff. Ultimately, there are plans for eight schools from pre-K to high school, with enrollment open to any child who qualifies to attend public school in Charlotte County.

Two likely future students are the three-year-old son and newborn daughter of Matt Angerer. Angerer rents an office in The Hatchery for his online business, and can't wait to move his young family to Babcock when their home is ready in September.

"What better situation than having a home here and office space to grow my company and my

family?" he said. "I'm an early adopter. I believe in technological innovation, but I also think we should leverage technology to help the environment and sustainability."

Angerer said that everything at Babcock Ranch "fit the bill for us, including the school. They're focusing on the family core, a comfortable and safe place to bring your children. (That is, apart from the alligators, which are "everywhere," he said.)

Babcock Ranch may be giving us a peek of tomorrow's suburbia.

Local criticism of the development so far has focused on the environmental

impacts of its footprint. When Kitson bought the 91,000-acre working ranch in 2006 for more than \$500 million, it had seen cattle ranching, alligator farming, the raising of crops including watermelons, and even rock mining and eco-tourism, but faced an uncertain future in the wake of the death of sole landowner and family patriarch Fred Babcock in 1997.* Yet because of the ongoing stewardship of the land, it was in good condition.

After the purchase, Kitson immediately sold 73,000 acres, or about 80 percent of it, to the state of Florida for preservation, with the remaining 18,000 acres, spanning Charlotte and Lee counties, set for development over the next 20 years. At a meeting of the Lee County commission in February, Kitson won approval for a land-use change from agricultural to planned development, and got a green light for construction of Babcock's southern section (everything else so far has been in Charlotte County). Some environmentalists spoke out.

Carl Veaux, vice president of the Cape Coral Wildlife Trust, accused commissioners of "ripping the word 'rural' right out of the heart of Lee County," according to the News-Press. "This is the most beautiful parcel of land on Babcock Ranch, and they're going to develop it."

Kitson wants his critics to see the town firsthand before passing judgment. "They think they'll come in and [it'll be] like George Jetson, but it's not. It's an old-town feeling with all of those modern conveniences and technology of today."

He acknowledges that some will question the choices that were made for Babcock Ranch on environmental grounds, and whether it can call itself fully sustainable when, for example, residents still need cars to commute to jobs in other towns, and the housing stock is larger detached homes rather than higher-density units.

The houses at Babcock Ranch range from about 1,500 to 4,000 square feet. Built by a range of homebuilders, they are required to meet at least a bronze standard of certification from the Florida Green Building Coalition. (Babcock Ranch)

His answer is that he has made a laboratory out of a place where traditional models of community

and family life are central. New ideas can be developed and tested at Babcock Ranch, and expanded gradually toward sustainability, without wholesale changes that would be too radical for many people. "Americans are not going to go from one car for every driver to no cars for every household overnight."

"Americans are not going to go from one car for every driver to no cars for every household overnight," Kitson said. "We start by making the cars just one option for getting around. When people can walk, bike, catch a shuttle, use a handheld device to summon an autonomous vehicle, or utilize a shared vehicle service for trips off-site, they will quickly realize they don't really need their own car."

"What we are creating," he continued, "is a suburban-urban environment with everything in walking distance, and [we're] working continuously to bring more jobs within our town footprint to achieve the goal of a real, multi-generational town where people live, work, and play."

McMahon believes that solar power, for Babcock, is the market differentiator that large, out-of-town developments need these days to prompt people to move there, as well as an environmental good. "It's a greenfield site; everybody has to drive there from somewhere else, [and] there's energy used in building the site and getting to it and from it," he conceded. "So it's not completely carbon-neutral in that sense. But as we like to say at the Urban Land Institute, 'It's better to be half right than all wrong.'"

In the future, McMahon continued, "the most successful communities in Florida are going to be ones that are walkable, where you can reduce your transportation. There's no place that's probably perfect, but all these things are steps in the right direction."



Richard and Robin Kinley at their new home in Babcock Ranch. "It feels like you're gaining good karma, living here," Richard Kinley said. (Richard Luscombe)

For Richard Kinley and his wife Robin, Babcock's first residents, who moved into their house in January from Atlanta, the development is living up to its promise so far. "It feels like you're gaining good karma, living here," said Richard Kinley, a semi-retired medical professional.

"We go days without needing air conditioning, because homes are built to green standards and are well insulated. The metal roof helps decrease costs. I also have an electric car charging in the garage, so I'm using solar energy to drive around the state," he said. "We want to live here because it encourages a lifestyle we want to take on. It's nice to live in a community where like-minded people are moving."

All of which is music to Kitson's ears. "If I come back in 20 years," he said, "and see families, empty nesters, and retirees all mingling together; autonomous vehicles taking people from place to place; kids using technology outdoors; a respect for nature where the air is clean and the water is pure—that those things we talked about from Day One have come to fruition—then it will all have been worth it." (Courtesy citylab.com)

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Would Apple Buy Tesla? Not A Crazy Idea Anymore

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



Tesla CEO Elon Musk

The idea that Apple should buy Tesla has been floated many times. Apple now has more than enough cash coming back to the US to do the deal.

For openers, Tesla needs to be saved from its delusional idea and maybe unachievable view about the company's future growth — and Apple needs to be saved from the disaster of its car project. So maybe a “chemistry” is developing between the two mega companies.

Last November, Rolling Stone magazine published a profile of Tesla's CEO Elon Musk, written by Neil Strauss, a neo-gonzo journalist who made his name with a book about pickup culture. And in that interview Musk made a confession.

“I wish we could be private with Tesla,” Musk told Strauss. “It actually makes us less efficient to be a public company.”

Tesla has been public since its 2010 IPO and since then the stock has risen from about \$20 a share to nearly \$400 at one point in 2017. The company's market cap is now close to \$60 billion. Investors who jumped in seven years ago have enjoyed a return of nearly 1,200%.



New Tesla Roadster Planned

Musk might be the only person who wishes Tesla were private. Even short-sellers, recently clobbered by Tesla's surge, have been delighted when the stock has gone through one of its periodic swoons of \$100 in a few months. And ironically, Musk's next ten years of compensation are now completely tied to Tesla's market performance, which the board of directors thinks

can yield a \$650-billion market cap. That's delusional. In many ways, it sets Musk up for both continued inefficiency — a lot of second-guessing about investments in automation, for example, at the expense of hitting production targets — and potentially epic failure. It also represents a radical formulation of shareholder value theory.

Tesla is wildly overvalued, and what it needs now isn't a fatter stock price but rather an ability to satisfy customers. For the Model 3 mass-market vehicle, currently stalled amid production bottlenecks, Tesla has 400,000 mostly unfulfilled pre-orders.

Apple buying Tesla is an idea that always seems to be on the table

In the past, there's been talk about somebody buying Tesla. Usually, Apple is the one that gets everybody's heart racing. This idea has been shot down several times. But with the announcement of Musk's new pay package, Tesla may need to be rescued from itself. And that Musk should get his wish.



Apple CEO Tim Cook

Tesla is worth so much that there aren't very many companies able to buy the automaker. And Tesla going truly private would be too much of a reversal of history as well as a financial improbability, although if the bottom falls out some investors might someday snap up what's left of Tesla on the cheap.

Apple, thanks to the new tax bill, will repatriate over \$250 billion in cash that it has been keeping overseas. Even after

paying taxes on it, at the reduced corporate rate, it will have arguably too much left over. It could easily wind up going into share buybacks or a dividend, or Apple could continue its pattern of making small acquisitions.

Or the company, which is sitting on a mature iPhone business that mints the profits but could be looking at more severe growth headwinds in coming years, could swing for the fences and get a piece of the multi-trillion global transportation industry. If Tim Cook agrees with the Tesla board that the company will be worth \$650 billion in a decade, then buying Tesla now would be a staggering bargain.

The obvious question is, “Who would be Tesla's CEO?” Musk's pay package is designed to ensure that it's him, an extreme evolution of addressing the “great man” risk that companies led by visionary founders face. But Musk is also running SpaceX and he's on the verge of launching a huge rocket that could pave the way for a Mars mission.



Apple's iPhone X

That said, Musk could remain CEO of Tesla as an independent business unit of Apple, while Tim Cook would run the entire show (Musk could also relinquish the CEO title but continue as chairman of the board). In a way, Cook isn't really a CEO in the Musk/Steve Jobs vein anyway. He's more like a mega-COO.

And that's just what Tesla actually needs right now. If it was Jobs who rescued Apple and put it on the path that led to the iPod and the iPhone, it was Cook who turned the company into the profit-making colossus it has become. The guy is a sup-

ply-chain genius. Making stuff is his bag. And at the moment, Tesla is struggling mightily to make stuff, falling well behind its ambitious production targets for the Model 3 mass-market vehicle.

Tesla would also witness its cash-burn challenges — over \$1 billion per quarter — vanish. Apple could fund losses for years.

Tesla could help Apple get into the car business because Apple's Car project isn't going well

Apple has a history of falling into innovations troughs. It's in one now, following the monumental success of the iPhone. The Apple Watch hasn't been a gamechanger, and the company is chasing Amazon on smart speakers. Apple clearly wants to do something in the transportation space, but thus far its efforts have been at best confused and at worst pathetic.

Buying Tesla would change that overnight. The Apple Car, really, is a Tesla car anyway. The whole philosophy behind Tesla's vehicles, and especially the ultra-minimalist Model 3, is Apple-esque. The wait for the Apple Car would be immediately over.



The Apple Car

When the autonomous all-electric 2021 Apple car is launched at Tesla-style Apple boutique stores, will it come in silver, gold, and space gray? Will its 400 miles range be enough?

And that would enable Apple to focus on bringing to Tesla what Apple's engineers and designers are now probably working on: an entirely new vehicle interface — an operating system for the car of the future. Tesla has aspects of such a system in

place, from over-the-air software updates to an increasing focus on single screens for all vehicle operations. Apple would enhance and unify these components and transform them into something unexpected. This is Apple's mojo: take something that works and make it much, much better.

Missing out on a mega-return — but one that isn't likely

Tesla market cap has become epic

For investors, of course, Apple buying Tesla would eliminate any chance of a mega-return. But I think the odds are low that the 1,000%-plus payback of the past seven years will be matched by another 1,000% surge over the next ten years (Tesla is, after all, 14 years old — hardly a startup). If Tesla stays public, stockholders will also have to put up with numerous, diluting capital raises and the ever-present threat that Tesla's lack of cash and debt burden will lead to a bankruptcy.



Is this a logo consumers will see in the future?

If Apple bought Tesla, the carmaker's growth would be piped into Apple shares, and Tesla investors would certainly get a premium for their holdings, as Apple can afford to overpay. And government regulators should not have issues with the merger. Sure, Apple would be buying the dominant electric-car manufacturer. But as of 2018, the EV market makes up only 1% of global sales.

The “foolishness” of an Apple acquisition of Tesla could become a swift reality were it not for the reckless pay package that Tesla has now put together for Musk. And now Tesla is fueling a dangerous idea about the company's real capabilities. Somebody needs to save Tesla from itself. That somebody is Apple. (Courtesy <https://www.todaynova.com/2018>)

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学者分析美移民政策对华社影响：职业移民受影响大

尽管美国的移民法并没有大的变动，特朗普政府在移民政策上普遍收紧，华人社区的移民也都感受到了各种压力。法律政治学者张军18日对特朗普政府移民政策对华人社区的影响进行了分析，他认为目前只是审查程序的变化，短期来看不会使得华人移民的数量剧减，而且据中期选举的形势，特朗普政府推动移民法改革的阻力会很大。审批时间延长

从特朗普执政以来，无论是中国留学生还是投资移民的中国企业家，普遍都感受到了移民美国的难度在加大。洛杉矶法律政治学者张军18日分析说，特朗普上台以后移民政策普遍收紧，打击非法移民的力度加大。同时司法部长塞申斯(Jeff Sessions)上任以来规定，移民法官必须要在规定的时间完成审理的案件，支持的移民权益的团体认为客观上因为时间的限制，让本来就繁忙的法官没有特别充分的时间来准备审理案件，因此非法移民和合法移民的权益受到影响。同时，塞申斯对移民执法方面的规定也非常严格。然而，他认为，这些政策会影响华人社区，但面并不是特别大。

从具体的移民类别来分析，张军认为，特朗普和塞申斯本人认为家庭移民就是链式移民，一人来了全家都来了，移民政策在历史上对家庭团聚起到作用，但是现在已经不适应美国社会，因此要减少家庭移民和低素质的移民，要像加拿大和欧洲国家那样采用积分制移民改革，按照移民的英语水平、受教育水

平来授予移民资格，但目前这些政策都还在建议和议论的阶段，现在美国政府面临中期选举，短期内达到这么重大的移民改革，并没有那么容易。

职业移民影响大

在职业移民方面，张军认为，特朗普的政策收紧影响很大，在4月1日H1B工作签证抽签一开始，抽签4、5天就没有名额了，因此形势很严峻。在抽签配额本身没有增加的情况下，审查更加严格，很多高科技企业都收到了补件通知，要求说明职位和薪水，为什么要请外国人而不是美国人，审批之后也加强了审批后核查，派审计专员到公司进行检查，移民官员会到公司去和主管谈、和个人谈、和同事谈，了解这个人是不是做了这份工作等。此外，在L1跨国公司高管移民和投资移民方面，移民局也都极大加强了到现场核查的力度，之前美国政府还拨款增加核查专员的数量。

在职业移民核查方面，美国移民局(USCIS)在本月11日刚刚与司法部共同发布备忘录，要求加强核查雇主在雇佣外国人的时候存在的欺诈行为，USCIS还开设了举报H-1B和H-2B签证欺诈和滥用行为的专用热线。张军指出，职业类移民中国大陆第一类优先为杰出人士，第二类优先为硕士以上高学历人士，第三类优先为本科以上学历人士，申请绿卡者在140审批之后，如果485没有特别需要，免去面谈，但特朗普上台，去年10月移民局发出最新通知，所有移民，不论来自哪个国家，都需要接受面谈。他指出，这样做一方面客观上移民局人



手有限，而且移民官员培训要花时间，这样延长了等待绿卡时间；另一方面，移民官核查又是一个过程，面试的时候不是去领绿卡，面试之后还有可能又要受到核查。

同时，不少移民都感受到了投资移民的难度在加大。张军指出，区域中心现在有很多问题，移民局前两天发新备忘录，不再接受房地产项目间接创造就业机会的算法，投资移民项目审批的排期现在进度非常慢，即便批准，真正能拿到临时绿卡也需要时间，就算是非常好的强的投资移民，配额改变不了，只

要申请投资移民，受理的时间就会很长。

移民改革阻力大

移民政策的收紧势必会影响移民的人数。张军分析说，短期看不出华裔移民人数大幅减少的趋势，虽然特朗普打击非法移民力度加大，而合法移民也要接受更为严格的审查和管控，但暂时还没有办法推动国会立法，现在的收紧政策只是在执行法律上方便，法律并没有改变，只是审查程序的变化，所以短期来看不会有移民大幅减少。

然而，他指出，审批时间长了，以

时间单位来计算的人数就会下降，在有美国移民非常困难的时候，就会有移民选择放弃移民美国，而到其它国家移民。

同时，美国的企业和高科技人士也会提出疑问，美国本来是一个吸引全世界最优秀留学生的地方，美国也希望留住世界最好人才，现在这样做是不是符合美国的利益。

在立法层面来看，张军认为，美国中期选举存在巨大不确定性，但从近日的民调看起来，特朗普推动移民改革的阻力会很大。

留学美国看病贵 医疗保险是“刚需”



美国的医疗费用贵得令人咋舌，中国留学生遭遇各种天价账单的新闻不时见诸报端。一个耳熟能详的段子是：“有个在美国留学的学姐，白天走在路上，突然觉得眼前一黑(低血糖)，昏迷前的最后一句话是‘别叫救护车’。”这引发了广大在美留学生的共鸣和“血泪控诉”。

有网友戏称，美国的医疗保险就像中国的手机流量套餐一样，是真正的“刚需”。购买医疗保险可以避免因遭遇“天价账单”而破产。美国法律规定，国际学生(F-1签证)与访问学者(I-1签证)必须拥有来自本国或者在美国购买的保险，否则无法在学校注册。2015年8

月，美国驻华大使馆曾特意发微博，提醒留学生不要忘记买保险。

大部分留学生和访问学者选择直接从就读学校购买保险。这些学校险种的优点是可靠性较高，购买方便，缺点是价格较贵，性价比较低。正在美国波士顿学院交流的北京大学博士研究生孙同学对笔者表示，这些保险并不便宜，每年的保费从2000美元(约合人民币12718元)到5000美元(约合人民币31794元)不等，所以他和周围的留学生同学一般会放弃学校指定的保险，转而选择符合规定但更便宜的保险产品。

赴美留学购买医疗保险时，留学生既可以选择美国学校提供的保险公司，

也可以选择其他保险公司，只要后者的产品符合学校的要求。

在美国，每个州、每所学校对保险公司和产品的规定不尽相同，留学生在购买保险时应当根据自身情况谨慎选择。除了货比三家之外，还有一些概念应当提前了解。

自付(Deductible)，也叫免赔额。保险的被保险人必须自己支付一定数额的医疗费用，保险公司按保险合同的规定报销余下的医疗费用，这一自付金额就叫免赔额。如果医疗费用低于免赔额，那么保险公司是不会报销的。好消息是，免赔额一般都不高，大约单次100美元。

赔付比率(Co-Pay)。保险公司不会报销被保险人的全部医疗费用。通常来说，保险公司和个人的费用分摊比例是80%和20%，也就是前者承担八成费用。这一比例因保险产品不同而差别甚大。孙同学表示，他目前购买的保险年费700美元(约合人民币4451元)，保险公司只报销20%至40%；如果购买3000美元(约合人民币19076元)那一档的产品，则可以报销90%。

最高赔付额(Maximum Limit)，指保险公司对医疗费用的最高支付额。美国国务院对此有具体规定，例如持有J签

证的访问学者，最高赔付额不能低于10万美元(约合人民币63.6万元)。

责任免除(Exclusion)，指保险合同中规定的不包含在赔付范围内的疾病。比如，一般的医疗保险不赔付体检和疫苗的费用，同牙科、眼科的保险也是分开的，这些专门保险每种的保费至少要200至300美元。考虑到牙科保险不包括牙齿的正畸费用，所以几乎没有留学生买。

买了保险并不意味着万事大吉，还有不少事项需要注意。

第一，要了解保险覆盖的医院。有些学校有自己的诊所，普通的常见病和外伤等都可以在这里解决，学生在学校诊所接受的医疗服务一般可以通过保险全部报销。但学校诊所的服务项目和和服务时间很有限，去校外医院看病往往是免不了的。这需要留学生提前熟悉生活区域周围的医院地址和电话，知道哪家医院是你的保险合同认可的医院，不然紧急时刻去错医院，保险公司就会拒付或少付费用。

第二，要了解保险覆盖的日期，如保险是否覆盖学校放假的时间。放假是留学生们旅游出行的集中时间，很多人会进行高危的运动，比如滑雪、跳伞等。

如果在此期间受伤，一定要确保有医疗保险可以赔付。此外，F-1学生签证毕业后的实习期(OPT)及兼职时期的伤病，也有可能不享受保险赔付。

第三，几乎所有的医疗保险都不会覆盖投保之前学生已存在的疾病。因此有健康问题的留学生，最好在出国前做个详细的健康检查，准备好相应的措施，记下病名和药名的英文名称，以便以后和学校老师或美国医生沟通。

第四，保险是否能够跟着人走。如果打算转校，之前购买的医疗保险能否退款，能否跟着学生转到新学校，这些都需要在签订保险合同之前就了解清楚。

孙同学对笔者表示，虽然美国法律规定留学生必须购买医疗保险，但他认识的留学生大多只买最便宜的，报销范围很小，意义不大。孙同学也不愿在保险上花钱，他购买的是美国泰安保险最基本的产品，只负责“尸体运回国的费用”，“其他的基本不管”。

在泰安保险公司的网站上可以看到，其主打产品是一款自称“符合美国国务院J签证保险标准的最经济实惠的计划”，提供500万美元(约合人民币3179万元)的终身最高赔付额度，免赔额为每次100美元，住院时覆盖普通病房费用，以及处方药、重症监护和急诊的合理费用，还提供350-500美元的意外牙科赔付。当然，在最高赔付额、遗体运送、紧急救援、单次免赔额等项目上，他们的产品只是满足美国国务院给出的最低标准。25至49周岁的人购买这样一份“最经济实惠”的医疗保险，每月至少要花费68.7美元(约合人民币437元)。

在美国，几乎所有的医保都不覆盖急救费用，所以不到万不得已，绝对不要拨打911叫救护车。如果你叫了救护车，那么5至15分钟之内就会有一辆美国影视作品中经常出现印有Emergency Care(紧急救护服务)字样的救护车赶来，把你送到最近的24小时营业的医院就诊，代价可能是一份上万美元的账单。难怪本文开头提到的那位女留学生在神志不清之际也要拼命喊出“别叫救护车”。

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新疆令人惊奇的异域风情 这些奇观你看过吗

很多人都说西藏是离天堂最近的地方，但是新疆则是真的天堂，爱旅行的你一定不会错过。无论是苍茫的戈壁、漫无边际的花海、还是大峡谷、或者是令人惊奇的异域风情都会让你震撼，惊叹于它的美丽，接下来我们就从图片中来感受新疆这个天堂带给我们的美好感受吧！

可以从天山说到阿尔泰山，从一望无际的戈壁沙漠说到纵横交错的雪山湖泊，也可以从烂漫山际的花海说到辽阔悠远的大草原，还有很多少数民族，诸如维吾尔族、哈萨克族、蒙古族等。

苍茫的戈壁和大峡谷这是我们对新疆最直观的印象，在魔鬼城、阔克苏...身处其中感觉却很微妙，站在空旷中，很多东西都被过滤掉了，剩下的只有安静和偶尔的惆怅。

流淌在蓝天里的云因为海拔比较低，视野开阔，举目望去，群山和云块交织在一起，已分不清天和地。

漫无边际的花海北疆，到处可见大片的野花，不同的季节，展现不同的景致，你会很惊讶这里竟然是大西北。

驰骋的大草原风吹草低见牛羊，在喀拉峻，还可以碰到热情好客的哈萨克族，一时兴起，还可以爬上马，纵情一番，能跑多远，就看你的马术了。

非看不可的日出日落来到北疆必看的景色，最佳观点是赛里木湖和巴音布鲁克草原，大块的云与地面、湖水相互连接，染成一色，透着红黄，看着都惊心动魄。令人惊奇的异域风情感觉站在莫斯科，一会又仿佛来到北欧。上坡上还可以看着仙气缭绕的小山村。这些景色，堪比江南。

看完这些图片，你有没有想去看看的欲望呢？



中国最富魅力的地域不在别处 就在甘南！



我一直在寻找一个地方，那里有蔚蓝的天空，那里有辽阔的草原，那里有清澈的河水，那里有成群的牛羊，那里有淳朴的民风，那里有虔诚的信仰，那里与世无争...直到有一天我到了甘南，才发现原来这就是我一直要寻找的地方，原来我离它是这么的近。这有我寻找的一切。

这里的天空是那么湛蓝、透亮，好像用清水洗过的蓝宝石一样。在这里人们说话的声音就能碰到蓝天，伸出手来能摸到蓝天。一年四季中不管是深冬还是盛夏，甘南人民的头顶上空总是蓝晶晶的。有人说“掬一捧这里的蓝天可以洗脸”。

这里有一望无际的草原，碧绿的小草如毡如毯，上面盛开着数不清的五彩缤纷的花朵，如繁星在天，风过时草浪轻翻，花光

这一条条清澈的河流，养育了这里的人民，养育了这里的牛羊，养育了这里的一草一木。

这里有成群的牛羊，它们生活在碧绿的草原上，喝着纯净的河水，和牧人和谐相处，悠闲的度过每一天。

这里有淳朴的藏族人民，他们每天日出而牧，日落而归。他们在草原上策马奔驰，在草原上高唱赞歌，大块吃肉，大碗喝酒，一切都是那样的粗狂与淳朴，与远古游牧先民没有两样。

这里的藏族人民保持着他们内心最虔诚的信仰，他们对信念的恪守是如此的真诚。无论春夏秋冬，无论严寒酷暑，他们用身体丈量着通往天堂的里程。

这里有我所有寻找的一切，这里就是甘南，一个让我魂牵梦绕的地方。

1、妈阁庙

澳门妈阁庙为澳门最著名的名胜古迹之一，初建于明弘治元年(1488年)，距今已有五百多年的历史。位于澳门的西南方，枕山临海，倚崖而建，周围古木参天，风光绮丽。

2、港务局大楼

在澳门，中葡建筑俯拾皆是，但说到阿拉伯建筑，就只此一家了。这栋位于妈阁庙附近的建筑是1874年建成的港务局大楼，当年是兵营，由印度来澳的摩尔士兵驻守，现称港务局大楼。其最大特色是外墙柱窗为穆

林式穹顶，整个回廊被伊斯兰式尖拱环绕，配合通花围栏，甚具阿拉伯的建筑风格。

3、亚婆井前地

亚婆井前地(Largo do Li-lau)，是位于澳门西望洋山北面的广场。由于亚婆井前地及周围古建筑，故被列为澳门建筑、历史和文化文物区。2005年开始，随澳门历史城区之一部份而被列入世界文化遗产名录内。这个地方极具特色，而且是有文化历史的。

4、圣老楞佐教堂

圣老楞佐教堂，通称风顺堂，是澳门最古老的三座教堂之一。圣老楞佐教堂早年建成的时候，因为它靠近码头，所以教堂内立有风信

旗杆，是葡萄牙人决定是否出海的重要指标。《澳门记略》载：“西南则有风信庙，蕃舶既出，室人日鼓其鼓，祈风信于此。”所以这座教堂也被俗称为“风信堂”。

5、三街会馆

三街会馆(又名关帝庙)，是位于澳门特别行政区议事亭前地旁边的庙宇，为早期澳门华人商家的议事场所。“三街”指澳门最早的三条街道：营地大街、关前街和草堆街。“会馆”则由三条街道的商行组成。初设时为商人议事的场所，商贾们在此联络感情、沟通商情，也是清政府发布公告的重要场所。这里的场景给人一种安静的感觉呢。

澳门著名的景点 你去过几个？

澳门相信大家都很熟悉吧，但这里的著名景点你去过几个呢?让我们一起来看一看吧。

1、妈阁庙

澳门妈阁庙为澳门最著名的名胜古迹之一，初建于明弘治元年(1488年)，距今已有五百多年的历史。位于澳门的西南方，枕山临海，倚崖而建，周围古木参天，风光绮丽。

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中国最危险的5条公路 分分钟逼疯老司机！



你或许见过很多美丽的公路，它们就好像是一幅幅巨大的油画一样，但是这些公路你去过吗?这简直是可以分分钟逼死老司机啊。

矮寨盘山公路

这一段公路长约6公里，却修筑于水平距离不足100

据说当年施工时，先在大山的斜面上，垂直切割出一道道长条“台阶”，然后再将“台阶”两端连接，实在无法连接的便架设“天桥”或悬空叠出一个圆形的转盘，让汽车成“∞”形转弯。

怒江72拐

“怒江72拐”从最低点海拔3100米，一路攀升到最高点业拉山口海拔4651米，再盘旋下降至邦达镇海拔4100米。长约12公里。作为川藏南线必经之路，对许多骑手或车手来说，正是因为它的险，才更具有挑战价值，每年从这路过的行人无不对这条路充满感叹。

晴隆二十四道拐

晴隆二十四道拐“抗战公路”，是“史迪威公路”的形象标识。古称“鸡关”，雄、奇、险、峻，有一夫当关，万夫莫开之势。从山脚到山顶的直

线距离约350米，垂直高度约260米;在倾角约60度的斜坡上以“S”型顺势而建，蜿蜒盘旋至关口，全程约4公里。

320国道黄花桥路段

320国道黄花桥路段位于江西省萍乡市湘东区境内，长度不足1公里，却被称为“魔鬼地带”。由于黄花桥弯道半径仅216米，视距84米，远低于国家二级公路的设计标准，因此在改建前事故频发，令去过的人都心有余悸。

天下第一弯

蜀道难，难于上青天，然而，昆明宜良却有一条长度仅7公里的公路，被网友称为“天下第一弯，难过蜀道”。

这条路叫“宜良靖安哨公路”，位于宜良县城西2公里外，短短7公里路，盘山而上，依山梁而修，弯弯曲曲有近70道拐，被誉为世界公路史上的奇迹



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巨星林冲（前排中）與當天出席的貴賓及部份作協成員合影。



「美南華文寫作協會」講座——美南林冲的电影路



巨星林冲（右）和歌迷、影迷合影。



巨星林冲（左）接受講座主持人秦鴻鈞（右）的提問。（中）為安排林冲來休士頓演講的李水蓮牧師。



巨星林冲（中）在演講後與作協理事方麗萍（右）等人在演講後合影。



「美南電視」主持人程美華（左一）在講座結束後提問。



圖為巨星林冲（中）在演講後與出席貴賓「台灣同鄉聯誼會」會長李迎霞（右）及「世華工商婦女企管協會美南分會」會長羅秀娟（左）合影。



「美南華文寫作協會」會長秦鴻鈞（中）在演講後贈送紀念品給巨星林冲（左）（右）為安排林冲來休士頓演講的李水蓮牧師。



巨星林冲（左二）與當天出席講座的貴賓：僑教中心主任莊雅淑（左一），「台北經文處」教育組組長周慧宜（右一）及李水蓮牧師（右二）在大會上。

本報記者 秦鴻鈞報導



全旅假期庆祝美国国庆日——芝加哥5天团特优计划



作为麦当劳、爆米花和旱冰鞋的第一故乡——芝加哥，富裕指数一路飙升，仅次于东京、纽约、洛杉矶，排名世界第四。为庆祝美国国庆日，将推出芝加哥5天团，7/4-7/8，从休斯顿坐巴士启程，向美国最早的高速公路——“母亲之路”（即66号公路）进发。行程将经过达拉斯、俄克拉荷马城、圣路易斯、伊州首府春田市等城市，最终在芝加哥结束行程。除了66号高速公路之外，芝加哥也将是此次行程的亮点。芝加哥独具个性，因此有很多别名，例如“第二城”“风城”“芝城”等，它自身的魅力，再加上完美绚丽的建筑、原始的自然美景和饱满的艺术氛围，让这个美国中西部的文化贸易中心吸引了大批的休闲和商务游客。

本行程将从休斯顿出发，第一站便是达拉斯。达拉斯是美国德克萨斯州第三大城市，美国的第九大大城市。市区大部分分布在充满绿色的小山坡上，郊区有平坦的农地、森林、小

溪流和湖泊，也因此达拉斯曾获得“小型世界级城市”的美誉。届时，我们将参观“乔治布希总统图书馆”“迪丽广场”和“六楼博物馆”。接下来我们将探访俄克拉荷马州，这是美国中南部的一个州。我们将走进“牛仔和西部遗产博物馆”和“艺术博物馆”塔尔萨的建筑大部分为20世纪的装饰艺术建筑，宏伟壮观的建筑成为这座城市的一道美景。这座城市既有五彩缤纷的植物园，也有环境优雅的公园，为休憩和放松身心提供了空间。

行程第三天将从圣路易士出发，前往伊州首府春田市，来到这里，就一定要去参观“西部之门”——圣路易士拱门。拱门就位于密西西比河边，旁边屹立著老天主教堂，拿起相机随便一拍，都是一张美丽的明信片。之后将向“圣路易士森林公园”和“林肯故居和伊州州政府”进发。不但可以参观这里的自然景观，而且还能对林肯幼时的居所进行参观，将休闲娱乐和了解林肯生平的历史结合起来，岂不乐

哉。行程最后，到了“风城”芝加哥。来到芝加哥，芝加哥的其中一个魅力来自建筑，漫步在市区中，可以看到很多世界知名建筑大师的作品，就算是外行人也会为那些独具匠心的设计所折服。再去密歇根湖畔以及芝加哥的大豆子“千禧公园”，是雕塑和音乐的完美结合，这里有奇伟设计云之门，还有巨城之镜的城市倩影，还有世界上最大的人工喷泉——白金汉喷泉。这里有芝加哥艺术博物馆、格兰特公园、老水塔和密西根大道。想想就已心动不已，跃跃欲试。

全旅假期联系方式
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