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Southern DAILY

Make Today Different

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U.S. grounds 737 MAX jets, Boeing shares fall again

Inside C2

Thursday, March 14, 2019 | www.today-america.com | Southern News Group

Lori Loughlin latest to surrender after $25 million U.S. college cheat

BOSTON/LOS ANGELES (Reuters) - "Full House" actor Lori Loughlin and the former head of financial firm Pimco are due to face criminal charges on Wednesday related to a $25 million scheme to help wealthy Americans secure places for their children in top U.S. colleges.

The two are among 50 people charged for taking part in the largest such scam in U.S. history, which steered students into elite universities including Yale, Georgetown and Stanford by cheating the admissions process.
Advantage Lithium CEO charged in U.S. college admissions scandal
Law firm Willkie places co-chairman on leave after U.S. college fraud bust
Loughlin was taken into custody by FBI agents in Los Angeles on Wednesday morning, Laura Eimiller, a spokeswoman for the Federal Bureau of Investigation, said. Former Pimco Chief Executive Douglas Hodge is due to be arraigned in federal court in Boston, officials said.
Another parent charged in the scheme, Manuel Henriquez, resigned as chief executive officer of the finance company Hercules Capital, the company said early on Wednesday.
The mastermind of the scheme, William "Rick" Singer, on Tuesday pleaded guilty to racketeering charges. Prosecutors in the U.S. attorney's office in Boston say his company, Edge College & Career Network, amassed $25 million through the fraud.
Singer ended up cooperating with investigators last year, helping them record incriminating conversations he had with Loughlin, Henriquez and other parents.
The elaborate scheme involved bribing the administrators of college entrance tests to allow a child's wrong answers to be corrected and bribing university athletic coaches to attest a child was a gifted athlete even if he or she was anything but.
In some instances, Singer helped doctor photographs to make a child appear athletic. Parents made their payments to a sham charity that Singer ran, prosecutors said, which also allowed them to make a fraudulent tax write-off. The sham charity, the Key Worldwide Foundation, purported to help provide an education to "underprivileged students."

It was unclear how many children benefited from the scheme, though investigators said more parents and coaches may yet be charged. In telephone conversations intercepted by investigators, Singer brags he helped 760 students in just the first few months of 2018 and 96 the year before, while in other conversations he reassures parents that he has helped more than 20 or 30 other students cheat in recent years.

Loughlin is accused of paying Singer $500,000 to help cheat her daughters' way into the University of Southern California (USC) by bribing rowing coaches at the school to pretend the girls were gifted rowers. Her husband, the designer Mossimo Gianulli, is also charged with fraud, and appeared in court in Los Angeles on Tuesday before being released on $1 million bail.

One of the daughters, Olivia Gianulli, has become a prominent influencer on social media under the name "Olivia Jade."

"Officially a college student!" she captioned an Instagram photograph she posted in September, which showed her in her USC dorm room decorated with items she had ordered from online retailer Amazon, which paid her for the post.

Other prominent parents charged by the Boston U.S. attorney's office include Felicity Huffman, the actor who starred in "Desperate Housewives"; Gordon Caplan, the co-chairman of international law firm Willkie Farr & Gallagher; and Bill McGlashan Jr., who heads a buyout investment arm of private equity firm TPG Capital.

FILE PHOTO: Actress Lori Loughlin arrives at the People's Choice Awards 2017 in Los Angeles

Actor Felicity Huffman departs an initial hearing for defendants in a racketeering case involving the allegedly fraudulent admission of children to elite universities, at the U.S. federal courthouse in downtown Los Angeles

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Southern DAILY Make Today Different

WORLD NEWS

U.S. grounds 737 MAX jets, Boeing shares fall again

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - President Donald Trump on Wednesday said the United States would ground Boeing Co's 737 MAX jets, following Europe and other nations that have already stopped the planes flying due to safety concerns after an Ethiopian Airlines crash on Sunday, the second such disaster in less than five months.
It was the second time the U.S. Federal Aviation Administration has halted flights of a Boeing plane in six years. It had grounded the 787 Dreamliner due to problems with smoking batteries in 2013.

Shares of the world's biggest plane maker, which were up earlier in the session, fell 2 percent to $370.48. The shares have fallen about 13 percent since Sunday's crash, losing about $32 billion of market value.

Shares of Southwest Airlines Co, which has the largest fleet of 737 MAX aircraft, fell 0.4 percent.

"We're going to be issuing an emergency order of prohibition to ground all flights of the 737 MAX 8 and the 737 MAX 9 and planes associated with that line," Trump told reporters at the White House.

"The FAA is prepared to make an announcement very shortly regarding the new information and physical evidence that we have received from the site, and from other locations and through a couple of other complaints," he said.

Boeing said in a statement that it supported the move to temporarily ground 737 MAX operations.

FILE PHOTO: An American Airlines Boeing 737 Max 8, on a flight from Miami to New York City, comes in for landing at LaGuardia Airport in New York, U.S., March 12, 2019. REUTERS/ Shannon Stapleton/File Photo
Meanwhile, Germany's federal agency responsible for investigating air accidents will not analyze the black box from the Ethiopian Airlines plane that crashed, casting uncertainty over the process of finding out what may have caused the disaster.

"This is a new type of aircraft with a new black box, with new software. We can't do it," said Germout Freitag, a spokesman for Germany's Federal Bureau of Aircraft Accident Investigation (BFU).

The move leaves unclear the destination of the black box, which may yield vital details of what caused the plane to plunge to the ground, killing 157 people.

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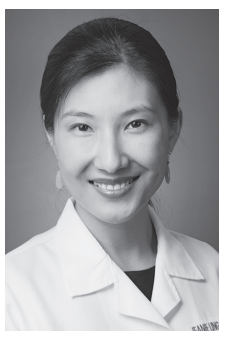
Meet Dr. Jeanie Di Ling



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Editor's Choice

A man shops in a plastic products store in the Central Market in San Jose

Democratic leaders gather to introduce the Equality Act in Washington, U.S.

An Air Canada Boeing 737 MAX 8 from San Francisco approaches for landing at Toronto Pearson International Airport over a parked Air Canada Boeing 737 MAX 8 aircraft in Toronto

Tellers announce the results of the vote on Brexit in Parliament in London

Two Air Canada Boeing 737 MAX 8 aircrafts are seen on the ground as Air Canada Embraer aircraft flies in the background at Toronto Pearson International Airport

Vehicle of the forensic team leaves the Raul Brasil school after a shooting in Suzano

U.S. President Donald Trump participates in briefing on southern U.S. border in the Roosevelt Room at the White House in Washington

Eleven-year-old LGBTQ activist Desmond Napoles poses for a portrait in New York

Southern DAILY Make Today Different

COMMUNITY

Sushi Made With 3D Printing Showcased At SXSW Fest In Austin

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

What's better than delicious sushi? How about 3D-printed sushi that looks like it belongs in an 8-bit video game?

At SXSW this week in Austin, Open Meals showed off a "Pixel Food Printer" that 3D prints edible pixelated sushi. It's some real next-level #foodstagram stuff.

What's better than delicious sushi? How about 3D-printed sushi that looks like it belongs in an 8-bit video game?

At SXSW, Open Meals showed off a "Pixel Food Printer" that 3D prints edible pixelated sushi. It's some real next-level #foodstagram stuff.

The guys at Open Meals want to do for food what Apple did for digital music: make it easy to download — or in this case "teleport" — food from anywhere in the world.

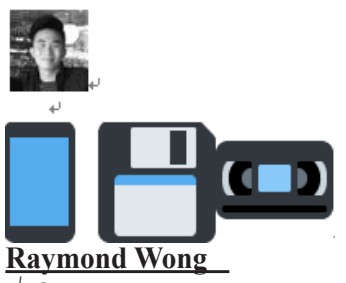
Food Base is basically the iTunes of 3D printable food.

To achieve this, they've created two key components. The first is a patent-pending "Food Base" digital food platform that stores precise measurements (flavor, shape, color, nutrients, and texture) of different kinds of foods.

Company reps told me this database is the "foundation for making authentic food reproduction" possible. Like iTunes, they want Food Base to be a place for people to search, download, and upload food data.

The second component to "teleporting" food is the Pixel Food Printer, a custom-built robotic arm that prints out tiny little pixel cubes made from a type of edible gel. Each pixel is injected with different flavors, color, nutrients, etc. and combined together into the finished pixelated-looking food.

The robot that will replace real chefs (JK).



Raymond Wong
√@raywongy
Mmmm 8-bit pixelated sushi #sxsw
1:00 PM - Mar 11, 2018

Ultimately, Open Meals wants to shrink the pixel blocks so that food looks more realistic when pieced together. But there's no timeline for when they'll be able to make that happen.

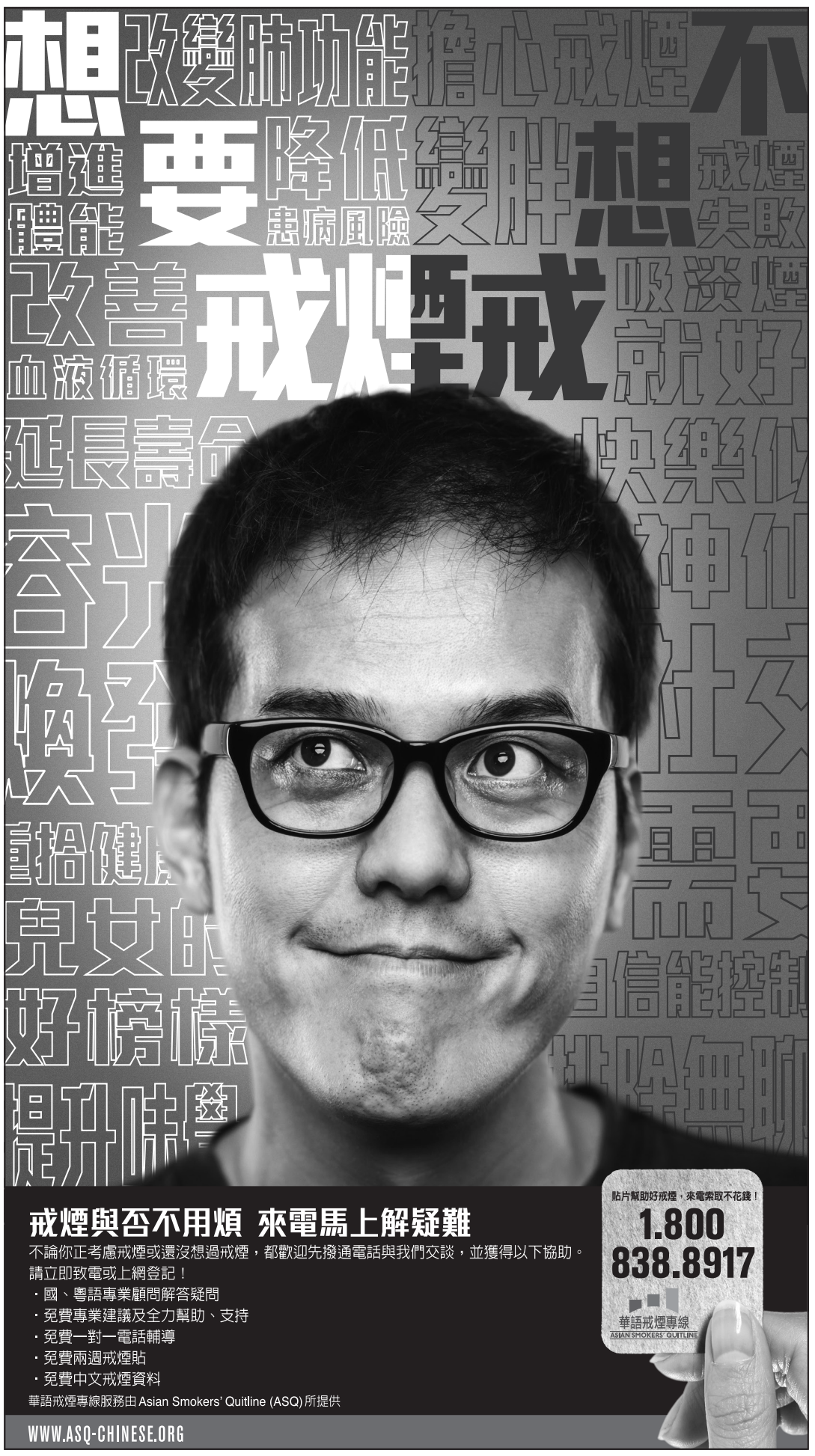
As for how it tastes... I'm told it's not good. Coding the gel cubes with the right flavors is challenging and there's still a lot of work to be done before it tastes like anything close to real food.

But who cares? They LOOK awesome. Besides, if Instagram has taught me anything, it's that nobody cares how food tastes as long as it photographs well. And these pixel sushi will get you all the likes.

The eventual goal is to shrink the pixel blocks so that food looks more realistic when combined.

Open Meals outlined several ways its Pixel Food Printer could be really useful. For example, we could teleport different dishes from Earth to astronauts living in space, or a cooking show chef could send meals to viewers' homes.

Like most tech at SXSW, the Pixel Food Printer is still a prototype concept so you won't be able to get one just yet (it'd probably cost a small fortune, too). But if this ever makes it into production, you can be sure food photographers will be all over it. (Courtesy mashable.com)



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BUSINESS

Politics Invades SXSW

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

Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (D) U.S. Representative for New York's 14th congressional district at Austin's SXSW Festival 2019. (Photo Getty Images)

Creatives in music, film and tech that have for decades been the center of attention at the annual SXSW (South by Southwest) festival in Austin, Texas, have been overshadowed this year by the arrival of rising political stars.

Why it matters: The invasion of politicians, regulators and political reporters at the festival shows just how much politics has become entrenched in every aspect of our cultural lives.

Driving the news: For years, critics and investors came to SXSW mostly to scout hot trends, products and talents before they got big.

• This year, however, all eyes were on up-and-coming political stars like Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez and Beto O'Rourke, as well as presidential hopefuls like Sen. Amy Klobuchar, Howard Schultz, Sen. Elizabeth Warren and Colorado Gov. John Hickenlooper, who drew massive crowds.

• High-end cocktail parties hosted these figures as special guests. At one party Axios attended, Ocasio-Cortez received far more attention than the Hollywood celebrities in the room.

• Ocasio-Cortez was particularly busy. The freshman representative participated in on-stage interviews and attended events to promote the new Netflix documentary "Knock Down the House," which follows the 2018 political campaigns of four female progressive candidates, including AOC.

Street scene during the SXSW festival 2018.

Seizing on the moment, CNN aired a live presidential town hall Sunday night from Austin in the middle of the festival, which brought well-known political journalists to the event.

• "We want to give every single candidate a platform. It seemed logical for CNN to come in and have a town hall at SXSW," CNN Digital executive vice president Andrew Morse told Axios on stage Saturday.

Between the lines: Part of the political blitz at SXSW relates to the rise of attention to the regulation of Big Tech companies, which have long-participated in the festival.

• Attendees at a Vox Media party were shouting "break them up!" during a panel discussion about antitrust policy in tech.

• The EU stepped up its presence at the event this year, flying its competition secretary Margrethe Vestager in for an interview with Kara Swisher.

Noticeably absent from the conversations, events and parties were conservative politicians and media outlets.

• House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy (R-Calif.) addressed one event.

• None of the major conservative news outlets threw big parties or set up exhibitions on Austin's famous Rainey Street, while CNN, NBC, the New York Times, Buzzfeed, Vox Media and others all had a big presence.

• **Be smart:** SXSW has progressive, indie-alternative roots, but the festival's new political dimension makes the lack of ideological diversity more visible.

The big picture: Politics' entry into SXSW now becomes part of the history of the festival, which started in 1987 as a music showcase and has evolved over the years to include film, media and technology components. (Courtesy https://www.axios.com)

Related

What Is The South by Southwest Festival?

SXSW

The South by Southwest Festival is an annual conglomerate of film, interactive media, and music festivals and conferences that take place in mid-March in Austin, Texas, United States. It began in 1987, and has continued to grow in both scope and size every year. Wikipedia

South by Southwest (abbreviated as **SXSW** and colloquially referred to as **South By**) is an annual conglomerate of film, interactive media, and music festivals and conferences that take place in mid-March in Austin, Texas, United States. It began in 1987, and has continued to grow in both scope and size every year. In 2017, the conference lasted for 10 days with SXSW interactive lasting for five days, music for seven days and film running concurrently for nine days.

SXSW is run by the company SXSW, LLC which organizes conferences, trade shows, festivals, and other events. In addition to the three main South by Southwest festivals, the company runs other conferences: SXSW EDU, a conference on educational innovation, held in Austin, and (beginning in 2017) the me Convention, held in Frankfurt, Germany, in collaboration with Mercedes-Benz. Former conferences run by the SXSW organization were SXSW Eco, an environmental conference held in Austin from 2011 to 2016; and one in Las Vegas: SXSW V2V, a conference focused on innovative startups which ran from 2013 to 2015.

A view of 6th Street in downtown Austin, Texas, during SXSW 2013

Music

SXSW Music is the largest music festival of its kind in the world, with more than 2,000 acts as of 2014. SXSW Music offers artist-provided music and video samples of featured artists at each festival via their official YouTube channel.

The music event has grown from 700 registrants in 1987 to over 28,000 registrants. SXSW Film and SXSW Interactive events have grown every year,bringing over 32,000 registrants to Austin in March 2013.

Bands must cover their own expenses for travel and lodging at the event. All performers are offered a cash payment or a wristband package that allows access to all music events.

Film

SXSW Film Conference spans five days of conference panels and sessions, and welcomes filmmakers of all levels. Programming consists of keynote speakers, panels, workshops, mentor sessions and more, with expert filmmakers and industry leaders.

In 2015, the SXSW Film Conference programmed over 250 sessions with 735 speakers. Past speakers include Jon Favreau, Mark Duplass, Ava DuVernay, Ryan Gosling, Nicolas Cage, Alejandro Jodorowsky, Tilda Swinton, Amy Schumer, Sally Field, Joss Whedon, Christine Vachon, RZA, Matthew McConaughey, Danny Boyle, Seth MacFarlane, Catherine Hardwicke, Richard Linklater, David Gordon Green, Harmony Korine, Henry Rollins, Sarah Green and Robert Rodriguez.[13] Although the film festival often highlights independently produced films and emerging directing talent with unique visions, the festival has long served studios as a starting point for their comedies, using enthusiastic fans as a barometer of how they might play in wide release.

foursquare

The mobile app, Foursquare, was launched at SXSW 2009.

The SXSW Film Festival runs nine days, simultaneously with the SXSW Film Conference, and celebrates raw innovation and emerging talent both behind and in front of the camera.[16] Festival programming categories include: Special Events, Headliners, Narrative Spotlight, Documentary Spotlight, Narrative Competition, Documentary Competition, Visions, Midnighters, 24 Beats Per Second, SX-Global, Episodic, Festival Favorites and Short Film Programs. The SXSW Film Awards, which occur on the last day of the Film Conference, honor films selected by the Feature and Short Film Juries.

In 2015, the SXSW Film Festival programmed 150 feature films and 106 short films, selected from 7,361 submissions.[17] Past notable world premieres include Furious 7, Neighbors, Chef, 21 Jump Street, The Cabin in theWoods, Bridesmaids and Insidious, and the TV series Girls, Silicon Valley and Penny Dreadful.

Interactive

SXSW Interactive is focused on emerging technology.[19] The festival includes a trade show, speakers, parties, and a startup accelerator.

Conan O'Brien promoting Conan O'Brien Can't Stop at SXSW 2011

History

Inauguration – 1980s[edit]

In July 1986, the organizers of the New York City music festival New Music Seminar contacted Roland Swenson, a staffer at the alternative weekly The Austin Chronicle, about organizing an extension of that festival into Austin after having announced that they were going to hold a "New Music Seminar Southwest". The plans did not materialize, so Swenson decided to instead co-organize a local music festival, with the help of two other people at the Chronicle: editor and co-founder Louis Black, and publisher Nick Barbaro. Louis Meyers, a booking agent and musician, was also brought on board. Black came up with the name, as a play on the name of the Alfred Hitchcock film North by Northwest. The event was first held in March 1987. The organizers considered it a regional event and expected around 150 attendees to show up, but over 700 came, and according to Black "it was national almost immediately."

Meyers left Austin and the festival in the early 1990s, but Black, Barbaro and Swenson remained the festival's key organizers as of 2010. (Courtesy Wikipedia)

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C07–TINA DESIGN 美聯混凝土1234567B_16

F05_AMERICAN RICE苗米246B_48

赶在脱欧之前，英国企业家移民签证被取代

英国时间3月7日，英国政府网公布了《移民规则变更声明》，该国将成立2个新类别的移民签证，创业签证（Start-up）和创新签证（Innovator），取代从前备受欢迎的投资签证T1（研究生企业家签证）和T1（企业家签证）签证。

外联出国

距离英国3月29日的脱欧期限还有20多天，英国政府仍在为脱欧协议获通过做最后的努力。

毫无疑问，英国脱欧已然陷入僵局，究竟是“脱欧”还是“拖欧”至今还是一个未知数，甚至议会在今年1月对特蕾莎·梅的脱欧协议的否决，让外界对英国究竟要不要脱欧都令人存疑。

如今，虽然英国究竟要不要脱欧，3月29日究竟还是不是英国脱欧的大限之日，还要由3月12号的议会投票来确定，但可以肯定的是，3月29日一定是移民申请者们的大限之日了。

T1移民重大调整

英国时间3月7日，英国政府网公布了《移民规则变更声明（statement of changes in immigration rules）》。

该文件第一页就已经标明：将成立2个新类别，创业签证（Start-up）和创新签证（Innovator）两种签证，取代从前备受欢迎的投资签证T1（研究生企业家签证）和T1（企业家签证）签证。

【创业签证】取代【研究生企业家签证】

【创业签证】是【研究生企业家签证】的拓展版本，适用于那些在英国首次开展新业务的人。申请人不需要是毕业生，也不设资金门槛，但是申请人需要以高等教育机构或国际贸易部的背书信函作为申请，且英语语言达到B2级别。

这表示，往后即便是从来就没有到英国读过书的申请人，只要具备好的商业点子，就可以尝试向担保机构取得担保，然后进一步申请【创业签证】来到英国创业。

【创业签证】的有效期也从原本【研究生企业家签证】的首签只有一年效期而增长为“两年”，随后将进入【创新签证】类别继续开发在英企业。

【创新签证】取代【企业家签证】

【创新签证】类别则演变成了【创业签证】的延伸版，这类签证适用于经验丰富的商务人士。相同的，申请人的语言要求也设置在B2级别以上。

而除了担保信（Endorsement Letter）之外，申请人签证的创业资金门槛只要5万英镑，比从前的20万英镑足足少了15万英镑。并且，如果是以成功的【创业签证】转到此类别，投资款则可以免去；与【创业签证】不同的是，【创新签证】可以申请永居。

但是，相比从前，【创新签证】对商业计划的要求则更为严格，主要体现在续签和永居两个方面。

续签上，“创新”类别的续签申请更侧重于商业创意、计划的具体情况、公司的云清情况。每半年、1年、2年都需要进行检查，以考察其商业创意是否具有合理推进，是否存在创新性、可行性和可拓展性。

若原始商业计划书没有成功，可以申请新的商业想法，但要根据初始申请的相关标准进行，否则无法进行续签或永居申请。

永居的申请将根据一系列标准进行——涵盖投资，创新，业务增长和创造就业机会三个标准。一旦申请者的企业满足其中两个，申请人即可申请永居，前提是他们在这个类别中至少三年时间。

创新创业的签证改革，主要是由于之前项目质量过低，对英国经济贡献未能达到预期的目标；所以为了更好地保证企业家移民真正从事商业活动，申请人将被要求提供他们的业务活动的概述，他们在业务中的角色的详细信息，以及他们为其申请积分的固定工人员工的职称/描述。

政府已经认为，将这些变化应用于已经属于该类别的企业家的未来续签和永居申请是相称的。

过去的T1投资签证，主要目标便是吸引高净值人士、社会各界精英人士及其家人进入英国。而近两年，受英国脱欧影响，英国正在出现高净值人群外流现象。因此，英国对高净值人群的要求则进一步提高。

改变一：资产持有需2年

目前，投资者需证明持有投资至少90天，如不能证明持有90天，则提供资金来源证明。为了保证高净值人群资产拥有较高的稳定性，这一期限将延长至两年，金额不变。

改变二：相关背景调查更加严格

高净值类移民在申请前开立英国账户这个环节，将受到更严格的把控。申请人在开立账户时，银行将进行完善的背景调查和问询，并证明相关调查已完成，防止冒用他人资金进行申请等情况的发生。

改变三：投资方式监管、限制全面升级

在改革后，投资政府证券将不再可行；所有转账记录、要显示完整的转款流程，转账中介需为FCA合格机构；所投资的英国企业交易证明必须充足；投资金额必须是两百万英镑以上的实际价值；对申请者的资产情况进行不定期审查，若认为申请人对投资款项无足够控制权，或者资金不合法，或者投资对公共利益无益，则有权取消签证或拒签。

因此，改革后的投资移民要求将更加严格，申请难度、时间周期将更长，这势必会一定程度上影响申请者资产的流动性，项目排期排队的现象也将更加严重。

据悉，这些移民新政将在3月29日正式落实。无论3月29日英国是否正式脱欧，毫无疑问地是，这一天都终将会是英国移民申请者们的大限之日。

英国作为老牌欧洲强国其教育、文化、金融、科技、贸易等，在全球都有着不可取代的地位。那些对英伦生活梦寐以求或是对欧洲生活心有所往的人们，若是此刻再不抓紧上车机会，恐怕很难拥有通过传统路径拥抱英国的机会了。

那么，那些对英伦生活梦寐以求或是对欧洲生活心有所往的人们，是不是已经错失了最后的上车机会了呢？经证实，政策实施时间为3月29日，而在3月29日之前递交申请的皆按原项目标准进行申请，相关标准更低。并且英国政府承诺将会给予一定的过渡期，以保证申请者的合法权益。

中国移民在爱尔兰——身份认同与社会融合

位于欧洲大陆西北海岸的爱尔兰共和国是一个仅有450万人口，领土面积约7万平方公里的西欧小国。在过去的40年中，得益于来自美国和欧盟的投资，爱尔兰经历了高速的经济和社会发展，赢得了凯尔特之虎的美誉。据2017年世界银行公布的数据，爱尔兰的人均GDP列世界第五位。在2018年联合国公布的全球人类发展指数排名中，爱尔兰仅次于挪威，瑞士和澳大利亚，高居世界第四位。

迅猛发展的经济和高质量的生活水平使爱尔兰成为了一个倍受世人关注的国家。从上世纪九十年代开始，大量的外国移民开始从欧洲大陆，美洲和亚洲涌入爱尔兰，使其成为了一个日益全球化的国家。这与十九世纪和二十世纪初大批爱尔兰人民为追求更好的生活，远赴美国、加拿大、澳大利亚和新西兰等移民国家的情况形成了鲜明的对比。

在那些不远万里奔赴爱尔兰追梦的外国移民中，就有中国人的身影。自上世纪五十年代第一批中国移民抵达爱尔兰以来，中国人已经从一个基本可以“忽略不计”的小群体，成长为人口数量在爱尔兰非欧盟国家移民中名列前十位的群体。

中国移民是如何在爱尔兰开始他们的新生活的？新的环境和生活方式对他们的身份认同有哪些挑战？他们在融入爱尔兰社会的过程中又会遇到怎样的困难呢？

为了寻找这些问题的答案，本文作者采访了11位在爱尔兰生活，工作和学习的华人华侨。被采访者包括商人、自由职业者、教师、公司白领、厨师、餐厅经理、体育俱乐部教练和学生。他们居住在都柏林(Dublin)、科克(Cork)、凯里(Kerry)、基尔代尔(Kildare)、利默里克(Limerick)和戈尔韦(Galway.)，年龄在18至60岁之间。访谈的时间为从45-60分钟。

第一批移民爱尔兰的中国人主要来自香港。由于香港曾是英国的殖民地，所以英国历来是香港移民的热门目的地。自二十世纪五十年代起，居住在英国的香港移民开始陆续到爱尔兰发展，定居。在此后的几十年中，爱尔兰的华人数量开始缓慢地增长。

早期的爱尔兰中国移民大多从事餐饮业，他们多在中餐馆和外卖店里谋生。事实上，这是由于上世纪中页英国中餐馆市场开始趋于饱和，华人不得不前往爱尔兰和其他欧洲国家寻找新的工作机会。

以爱尔兰首都都柏林最早的中餐馆-国泰为例：该餐馆于1957年9月在基尔代尔街开张，老板是一位来自伦敦的华裔商人。他在爱尔兰旅游时看到了商机，随即举家迁到了都柏林，并从香港聘请了厨师和助手经营新开张的餐馆。

这些早期的中国移民大多是在二十岁左右，从香港和马来西亚等地来到英国，然后辗转投靠在爱尔兰工作和生活的亲友，到中餐馆打工。在爱尔兰站稳脚跟后，他们往往会开办自己的中餐馆或外卖店，这反过来又为来自亚洲各国的华人提供了工作机会，吸引他们前往爱尔兰。在随后的几十年中，爱尔兰的中餐馆和外卖店数量稳步增加。如今，中餐馆和外卖店已几乎遍布每一个爱尔兰城市和小镇。

受访者A和她的丈夫是早期移居爱尔兰，并从事餐饮行业的华人移民中的一员。她回忆道：

“我们一家人早年从广西移民到越南。我姐姐在1980年代又从越南移民到爱尔兰。安顿下来之后，她邀请我和我丈夫来爱尔兰。后来，我的另两个兄妹也相继从越南移民到了爱尔兰。在80年代，爱尔兰的大街上几乎看不到中国人。物以稀为贵，爱尔兰人对我们非常友好。我们得到了许多当地人的支持和帮助。我们先在一所语言学校学了几年英语，后来我丈夫在都柏林开了一家中餐外卖店。”

另一类早期华人移民是拥有较高学历和职业技能的专业人士。他们大多在上世纪八十年代和九十年代通过技术移民持工作签证来到爱尔兰，有的是来自香港、马来西亚和其他东南亚国家和地区的第一代华人移民，有的是来自英国或欧洲大陆的第二代华人移民。他们通常在公共和私营部门从事薪酬待遇较好的工作，拥有相对较高的社会和经济地位。

上世纪九十年代，爱尔兰经济的快速增长催生了第二波中国移民潮。在全球化的大背景下，为解决社会各领域高速发展带来的劳动力短缺问题，爱尔兰政府开始向非欧盟国家大量发放工作签证，大批来自亚洲及中国大陆的专业人士开始通过这一途径来爱尔兰工作。

与此同时，随着中国经济的腾飞，越来越多的中国中产阶层家庭开始将子女送到爱尔兰留学。爱尔兰市场调研公司Business in China 在2012年公布的一项关于中国移民的调查报告指出，在爱尔兰的中国人大部分都持学生签证。爱尔兰司法部2017年公布的数据显示，在所有外国人群中，中国学生的数量为3127人，排在前三位，次于巴西学生（9225人），高于美国学生（2578人）。

爱尔兰2011年人口普查数据显示，2002年仅有6000名中国人居住在爱尔兰。而到2006年，这一数字增长到了11000人。

如今，在爱尔兰的中国移民已成为一个相当多元化的群体。最简单的分类标准就是看他们是否拥有爱尔兰公民身份（国籍）或长期居留签证。

公民身份和合法居留权与移民所获得的各类法律和政策支持息息相关，它们可以消除政府针对移民所设置的种种限制，是让新移民得以融入爱尔兰社会的一把钥匙。但是，对于部分来自中国大陆的移民来说，放弃中国国籍接受爱尔兰公民身份会是一个两难的选择。如受访者C所述：

“2002年我持工作签证来到爱尔兰。经过10多年的努力，我终于开了一家自己的中餐外卖店。我的妻儿也于2014从中国来爱尔兰和我团聚。虽然现在我放弃了中国国籍取得了爱尔兰公民身份，但我仍然是中国人。这一事实是不会改变的。我的儿子和妻子将保留他们的中国国籍，因为对于我的家庭来说，这是一个两全的好方案。我们可以在中爱两国之间畅通无阻地旅行、工作和生活。爱尔兰护照给我一种安全感和稳定感。现在我不用再去移民局续签我的签证了，也终于可以摆脱所有那些对外国公民的限制，让我和我的家庭也有权享受到这个国家提供的各种社会服务和保障。”

公民身份和长期居留签证是一种临时的分类标准，而教育和职业对中国移民的社会和经济地位具有深远影响，进一步将他们划分为不同的群体。

在爱尔兰，餐饮和服务业一直是大多数中国移民从事的传统行业。前文提到的Business in China 2012年调查报告显示，中国移民从事的主要工作有厨师（19%）、售货员（9%）和服务员（9%）。而拥有房产的中国移民比例不到11%，且60%的中国人都居住在租住的房屋中，其中选择合租的更是占相当高的比例。该调查反映出中国移民整体的收入水平偏低，且这一群体的收入呈金字塔形，贫富差距较大。

这些统计数据所折射出的问题是复杂多样的。从历史上看，爱尔兰中国移民主要是由受教育程度不高，技能水平有限的普通劳动者组成的。加之移民在异乡工作和生活中所遇到的各种困难和障碍，让人们普遍认为中国移民的社会地位相对较低。

自二十一世纪初，来自中国大陆的留学生开始大量涌入爱尔兰，使得中国移民群体的人口结构发生了变化，移民整体的教育程度有所提高。理论上，受过良好教育的学生可以加强华人移民的社会流动性，并且增加群体内部的活力。然而，正如上述统计数据所显示的那样，这一趋势尚不明显。这或许是因为中国学生仅仅构成了金字塔结构的中间层，且他们的流动性较高，大多不会选择长期在爱尔兰居留。此外，还有相当数量的中国留学生注册在民办的语言学校，并将主要精力放在打工挣钱上，荒废了学业，实际上成为了低技能、低收入的劳动者。

作为非欧盟成员国公民，中国学生在就业和生活上面临着诸多由政策、语言、文化等多种因素造成的困难和障碍。某些学生在毕业后会选择前往其他的西方国家寻求更好的学习和职业发展机会。而大部分人会选择学成后返回中国，利用他们在爱尔兰获得的大学学位和英语技在就业市场上博得一席之地。在中国，他们可以得到亲朋好友，特别是家庭支持，并可以履行家庭义务——这是大多数中国人在选择是否回国发展时都会考虑的一个重要问题。

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早春三月婺源赏油菜花

江西婺源，早春三月，正是油菜花烂漫盛开的季节，而婺源的鲜花小镇篁岭，却是油菜花景观集大成之地。

对于篁岭，我并不陌生，从去年秋季开始，我已经四次前往，晒秋人家的古村落，留给我极其深刻的印象。然而对于篁岭的油菜花，虽慕名已久，却始终未曾一见其真面目，真到这个早春三月。

都说三月是下扬州之时，但我却选择在这个时候，再度去了一趟篁岭，只为了那漫山遍野的油菜花。也许，这便是我的初春赏花情结。在去婺源之前，景区的工作人员告诉我，因为暖冬，今年的油菜花比往年提前了近二十天开放，油菜花在二月底，已经进入了观赏期。

带着期盼，我驱车前往篁岭。从杭瑞高速的江湾出口下，汽车才驶入通往篁岭的201省道，就见路的两边，星星点点开着的油菜花，金黄色的花蕾在春风中摇曳，非常醒目。因为提前预定了篁岭晒秋人家美宿，我的车可以直接开上500米高的篁岭山顶停车场。要是平时来篁岭的话，可以从景区大门坐缆车上山，据说在缆车上，可以全程欣赏到篁岭山间的油菜花。

篁岭，是一个有着600多年历史的古村，它地处婺源石耳山脉之间，整个古村就坐落在海拔不到五百米的山坡上。古村上几乎所有的民居都是建在朝南的山坡上，从半山腰鳞次栉比向山顶拓展。而半山腰之下，便是村民们祖祖辈辈修建起的山间梯田。

篁岭的村民喜欢形容自己居住的地方，叫“地无三尺平”，大概的意思就是在这片江南的丘陵地带，要是能找到一块平地，那实在是太不容易了。因而村民想要生存，就必须在山坡上见缝插针，除了建造房子外，山间的梯田，大概就是村民谋生的依赖。

虽说是山地，但篁岭古村所在的石耳山，却是跟其他山地不同。据说这里全是松软的堆积土层，往往从山坡上挖下去十来米，才能见到坚硬的岩石。这给村民修筑梯田带来很大的困难。有时隔天才在山坡上平整起一洼平地，第二天醒来，因为土层的柔软，梯田就已经垮塌了。就是这样，在经过了数代村民的努力之下，现在的篁岭，才能见到山间近万亩错落有致的梯田。

江西，是我国种植油菜的大省，在婺源地区，先民们就有种植油菜的习俗。每年的冬季播种，隔年的初夏就能收获油菜籽，榨出来的菜油，除了家用，剩余的还能去市场交易。然而，油菜花作为观赏，也是近十年才发展起来的旅游项目。人们选择去篁岭，赏油菜花、逛古村、住美宿，便是这个春天逃离纷繁都市的归宿。

在篁岭赏油菜花，与在平原地带赏花截然不同，因为篁岭有着山间梯田，当油菜花开满梯田的时候，其壮观的景象，是无法比拟的。为了方便游人赏花，篁岭特意在山上修建了三处观景平台，以及两座高空铁索桥。游人能随意出入这些地方，拍照留念。

两座高空铁索桥，高一点的叫“垒心桥”，全长约300米，垂直高度98米，中间还铺设了48米长的玻璃，是一座桥面透明的桥。因为是架在两座山脉之间，因而“垒心桥”便成为篁岭的制高点，从“垒心桥”上赏花，除了刺激，还有就是及其开阔的视野，能一览篁岭古村落的全貌。

比“垒心桥”低一点的铁索桥叫“卧云桥”，它全长186米，承重量据说达20吨，在“垒心桥”没建起的时候，曾是江西地区最长的铁索桥。“卧云桥”连接着一号观景平台，是游客最方便进入的地方。从“卧云桥”上赏油菜花，虽说没有它顶上的“垒心桥”那么开阔，但可以近观山间梯田，静听桥下潺潺的山泉流水声。站在桥上，当一洼清泉从脚下涌入油菜花的梯田，如同蛟龙戏花，见首不见尾。

篁岭油菜花梯田之美，在于它的不规则性。因为当初修建梯田的困难，现今人们能看到的梯田，除了一层层从山脚朝山顶延伸外，每一块梯田的面积、形状几乎都不相同，大的梯田每块有半亩一亩之大，小的梯田一块也许仅能平躺一个人。每块梯田的形状有如弯月，有如三角，也有如畚箕。加上梯田里不时有一株高大的古樟树，独立于田埂上，像是守护梯田的士兵，数百年来看护着篁岭的家园。

2014年，中国小城镇发展中心，曾经举办过“全球十大最美梯田”的评选，篁岭梯田位列第四，评价中这么说道：三月的篁岭，桃花、梨花开了，点缀在漫山遍野金灿灿的油菜花田中，与白墙黛瓦的徽派民居相映，形成独具一格的乡村诗画景，春风吹过，生意盎然。的确，在篁岭赏油菜花，看景，更要看与油菜花相互辉映的篁岭古村落。

婺源地区，曾经是受古徽州的管辖，深受徽派历史文化的影响。在古村的民居建造过程中，几乎是一律色的白墙黛瓦，墙角是造型突出的马头墙。据说以前的民居都是三五幢连在一起，屋檐上突出的马头墙，能起到防火防盗的作用。大户人家的民居，都是清一色的雕花门楼，那是传统的徽派匠人一凿子一凿子雕刻而成。门楼上雕刻的内容有升官发财、祝福拜寿等，所雕刻的人物无不栩栩如生，惟妙惟肖。

这些如今已被保护起来的民居，或隐逸于古树参天之间，或显露于油菜花开满的山岗上，一屋一花一树，相互映衬，组成一组最具有历史感的乡愁画面。或许，去篁岭看油菜花，看到的除了风景，还有一缕乡愁。它总是吸引着无数的人，来篁岭思乡。

这次到篁岭，跟以前一样，都会选择在篁岭晒秋人家美宿小住几日。一是因为拍摄油菜花，最好的时间是每天早上和傍晚，那个时候的光影最佳。篁岭的周边，因有石耳山脉的包围，早晨日出往往在七点以后，傍晚太阳下山又比平原地带来的早，通常下午四点以后就能见到日落西山。所以这段时间也是拍摄油菜花的最佳时候，如果选择当天来回，那只能在大白天里拍摄了。

当然，选择在篁岭山上住下来，还因为篁岭古村现有的八十多间，用老式民居改建而成的美宿，这里的美宿外观都是原生的徽派建筑，几乎没有一间民居造型是相同的。就在这些徽派老宅中，改造成了一些非常有特色的景观房，推开雕花窗，凭栏而望，山间的油菜花梯田就在自己的眼帘，仿佛触手可摸那金灿灿的油菜花。还可以泡上一杯篁岭的贡菊茶，坐在木制的阳台上，边看油菜花，边让春天温暖的阳光抹上一身，静静地坐上半天。

因为这次是带着孩子一起去篁岭的，所以提前预订一间非常有意思的“船屋”。这间美宿外表看，便是一栋普通的徽派老宅，有年头的白墙，略微泛黄，进门的路用条石铺就，室内的床，造型就像两只乌篷船，床边还搁着一只木桨。最叫绝的是床下的地板是用钢化玻璃，玻璃底下是跟房间同样大小的鱼池，里面养着不少红色的鲤鱼。玻璃的一角开有一个小圆孔，孩子可以趴在小圆孔边朝鱼池投放饲料。那红鲤鱼也许太喜欢房间的客人去喂养了，才投放了几颗鱼饲料，大大小小的鲤鱼都会游到小圆孔的下方，争相吃着孩子投放的饲料。自然，鲤鱼欢畅了，孩子也是高兴十足。

其实，前四次来篁岭美宿入住所了解到的，整个八十余间徽派老宅改建的美宿，都有着不同的特色，有晒秋房，入住后足不出户，就能在房间里体验到篁岭特有的民间晒秋；有观景房，坐在房内，隔着窗户就能饱览整个山林美景；有徽派四合院房，也有独门独户的豪宅。入住一次，便能了解到古村徽派老宅特有的韵味。

因为这次去篁岭的时间尚早，山间梯田的油菜花还没到盛花期，据说三月的中旬，沿着梯田的步行道上，十里樱花林将要怒放，届时，樱花与油菜花相互交叉的美景，更能让游人陶醉。于是，我再次跟篁岭相约，等樱花开时，再度赴篁岭来个鲜花之约。

篁岭归来不看花，看够了篁岭的油菜花，这个春季的赏花情结就彻底满足了。

这是“中国峡谷之王”

里面的镇谷之宝，游客看了很尴尬

著名的美国科罗拉多大峡谷以其雄壮的自然风光享誉全球，被誉为世界七大自然奇观之一。不过，中国新疆阿克苏地区温宿县境内的“温宿托木尔大峡谷”，其精美雄浑的自然风光绝不亚于科罗拉多大峡谷。在历经亿万年的风雨侵蚀，形成了如今绝壁高耸、奇峰兀立、千姿百态、色彩浓烈的奇特自然景观。温宿大峡谷是中国最美的丹霞地质奇景、中国最大的喀斯特地质胜景、中国独有的岩溶蚀地质秘境，被称为“中国峡谷之王”。

温宿大峡谷位于新疆阿克苏地区温宿县境内的天山山脉中段南麓山区。当地人称其为“库都鲁克大峡谷”，在维吾尔语中的意思为“惊险，神秘”。大峡谷是由距今一亿多年前中生代的白垩纪，经过亿万年的洪水、雨水冲刷及强风吹蚀而形成的。在古代这里曾是通往南北天山的必经之地，据说唐朝和尚玄奘去西天取经从此经过。温宿大峡谷是由三条“川” 字型的主谷和12条支谷、上百条小支谷组成，是天山规模最大、美学价值最高的红层峡谷。

从阿克苏市区驱车80公里，到达景区门口，再换乘景区特别改装的汽车。飞驰在这狂野的戈壁荒漠中，车虽有些颠簸，但一路变幻的景色让人大饱眼福。

坐车大约15分钟左右，就来到了大峡谷的入口。从这里开始没有任何的交通工具，只能徒步前行，全程走完约两个小时左右。大峡谷总面积为200多平方公里，目前已开放的路段沟长约10几公里，最狭窄处仅能一人通过。

进入峡谷后，仿佛进入了一片自然画廊。在这里你能看到各种不同的地貌景色，峡谷两侧因风吹日晒，雨水冲刷而形成了许多令人叹为观止的神奇景色。

这里被称为“石帽峡谷”，经过亿万年的风雨侵蚀，自然形成了这奇特的景观。在一大片山体上，耸立着一根根石柱，在每个柱子的顶端盖有一块平板，如同是一顶顶帽子。这样奇异的景象连见多识广的专家们也无法解释。

这里被称为“星空异石”。它的奇特之处在于，这是由两种不同的材质组成的擎天石柱。很明显上面的岩石看着更硬实，它与周围岩石材质完全不同，据说这是一块天外飞石。

不过温宿大峡谷中最神奇的景观位于情人谷，看图片你马上就能明白这是什么。这根在一片低谷中，擎天一柱的石柱被称：生命之根。这是属于景区的精华之一，是必到景点，只是很多女孩子看了这根柱子都会害羞。

更为神奇的是离生命之根10多米远的石壁上，还有一个“生命之源”，这都是属于自然形成。面对如此奇妙景色你不得不感叹大自然的神奇和中国人的发现能力。生命之根和生命之源被誉为温宿大峡谷的“镇谷之宝”。

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美南山东同乡会第二届够级争霸赛上周日在中国人活动中心举行

比赛者全体合影

本报记者秦鸿钧摄影

图为美南山东同乡会第二届够级争霸赛上周日在中国人活动中心的比赛现场。（记者秦鸿钧摄 ）

冠军「王者归来队」颁奖后合影。

亚军「必胜队」。

季军「泰安队」。

杜英杰博士讲解比赛规则安排

图为美南山东同乡会第二届够级争霸赛上周日在中国人活动中心的比赛现场。（记者秦鸿钧摄 ）

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图为美南山东同乡会第二届够级争霸赛上周日在中国人活动中心的比赛现场。（记者秦鸿钧摄 ）

2019第22届爱尔兰烹饪美食音乐节集锦回顾

2019年3月10日–休斯顿每年一度的第二十二届爱尔兰烹饪美食音乐节(Houston 22nd Annual Irish Cook off & Music Festival)在市中心的Griffs Irish Pub热烈举行。活动多年来依然完全感受到来自城市的热烈回响。节目内容包罗万象，老少咸宜。节庆有充满英伦风格情怀的活动适合一家大小在周末同庆感受浓厚的欧洲街头气氛. 活动当天除了有现场音乐与传统舞蹈表演，整条街头变成传统的爱尔兰市集，各式各样的美食烹饪大赛，展览与进口的礼品.各类文艺表演，音乐会表演令来宾们满载而归，享受美好的周末时光。