



Inside C2

# Southern DAILY Make Today Different

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## China, vying with U.S. in Latin America, eyes Argentina nuclear deal



A man walks past an Industrial and Commercial Bank of China Ltd (ICBC) branch as the ICBC logo is seen on a building in Buenos Aires

BUENOS AIRES/WASHINGTON (Reuters) - Argentina and China are aiming to close a deal within days for the construction of the South American nation's fourth nuclear power plant, a multi-billion dollar project that would cement Beijing's deepening influence in a key regional U.S. ally.

A building with The Industrial and Commercial Bank of China Ltd (ICBC) logo is seen in Buenos Aires, Argentina November 26, 2018. Picture taken November 26, 2018. REUTERS/Marcos Brindicci

Argentina hopes to announce an agreement on the Chinese-financed construction of the Atucha III nuclear power plant during Chinese President Xi Jinping's state visit on Sunday following the summit of leaders of G20 industrialized nations in Buenos Aires, Juan Pablo Tripodi, head of Argentina's national investment agency, told Reuters in an interview.

The potential deal, reportedly worth up to \$8 billion, is emblematic of China's strengthening of economic, diplomatic and cultural ties with Argentina. It is part of a wider push by Beijing into Latin America that has alarmed the United States, which views the region as its backyard and is suspicious of China's motives.

The focus of this week's meeting between U.S. President Donald Trump and his Chinese counterpart Xi Jinping on the sidelines of G20 will be on their two countries' trade war, but the backdrop will be the competition between the powers for influence in Latin America.

When Argentina negotiated a \$56.3 billion financing deal with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to rescue its troubled economy earlier this year, Trump voiced his support for the plan and President Mauricio Macri's leadership. But it is China that has emerged as Argentina's critical trading partner, investor and financier, a Reuters review of trade and investment data

shows, with Beijing pumping billions into Argentina's economy and positioning itself as a reliable lender for its crisis-stricken economy.

China and Argentina are expected to seal a currency swap deal this weekend that doubles the original amount of the credit line to \$18.7 billion. The deal will make China the biggest non-institutional lender to Argentina.

China is the main importer of Argentine soybeans, the South American country's biggest cash crop. In the last 10 years, it has also emerged as a major financier of Argentine projects, mainly infrastructure, worth a total of about \$18 billion, offering low interest rates of between 3 and 4 percent, according to a Reuters review of Chinese state funding data compiled by the Inter-American Dialogue, a Washington-based non-profit think-tank.

The negotiations on Chinese financing of the Atucha III nuclear power plant are a key cause for concern for the U.S. government, a senior Trump administration official told Reuters. Atucha III would be one of the biggest projects financed by China in Argentina, according to the Reuters review of Chinese

state funding data.

Argentina's national newspaper Clarin reported at the weekend that if the deal was signed, China would loan Argentina \$6.5 billion to be repaid in 20 years, with eight years of grace and a 4.5 percent annual interest. Reuters was not able to independently confirm these details.

"These are infrastructure projects where China is coming in and providing very low interest loans or they are just having Chinese companies do it," the U.S. official said. "It's creating an economic and political dependency on China that's incredibly dangerous."

The message to Macri and other regional leaders is increasingly that "your sovereignty can be lost by being so ensnared in debt, you can lose your sovereignty to the person who holds your debt," the U.S. official said.

China's foreign ministry strongly disputes that view.

"China's investment and financing in Latin America are in line with market rules and common international rules and practices, and do not have any political conditions attached," the ministry said in a statement to Reuters. The involvement of Chinese companies in water, power and road projects has helped to drive Argentine economic and social development, it said.

Defending Argentina's relationship with China, an Argentine government official told Reuters that Beijing was an important investor and would only become more important in the future.

However, the official acknowledged the U.S. concerns were not without merit.

"Overall, I would say it's a fair warning and it's something countries should take into consideration. I think Argentina takes it into consideration very seriously," the official said.

### RECALIBRATING TIES

China's attraction to Argentina can be attributed to three factors: natural resources, weak institutions, and the country's lack of other financing options, according to Juan Uriburu, an Argentine lawyer who has worked on two major Argentina-China joint ventures.

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# Wall Street rallies as Powell hints at slowing rate hikes

NEW YORK (Reuters) - Wall Street extended its gains on Wednesday after Federal Reserve Chair Jerome Powell said that the central bank’s policy rate was “just below” neutral, hinting at a potential moderation in the pace of policy tightening.

The S&P 500 was up 1.9 percent, while the Dow and the Nasdaq each advanced more than 2 percent following Powell’s speech to the Economic Club of New York. In his remarks, Powell said that while “there was a great deal to like” about U.S. prospects, “our gradual pace of raising interest rates has been an exercise in balancing risks.” Earlier in the day, in its first-ever financial stability report, the Fed cautioned that trade tensions, Brexit, and troubled emerging markets could rock a U.S. financial system where asset prices are “elevated.” This comes on the heels of President Donald Trump’s latest attack on the central bank, saying in an interview on Tuesday that the Fed “is way off-base with what they’re doing.” “(Powell) gave the market, and presumably President Trump, exactly what he wanted, which was an admission that the previously proposed path of future rate hikes was probably too aggressive,” said Oliver Pursche, chief market strategist at Bruderman Asset Management in New York. “Powell saying we’re ‘close to neutral’ is a pretty good indication of what’s to come,”

Pursche added.

The U.S. Commerce Department affirmed that U.S. GDP USGDP=ECI grew in the third quarter at a 3.5-percent annual rate, but the goods trade deficit widened, consumer spending was revised lower and sales of new homes tumbled, suggesting clouds are gathering over what is now the second-longest economic expansion on record. The Dow Jones Industrial Average .DJI rose 539.18 points, or 2.18 percent, to 25,287.91, the S&P 500 .SPX gained 49.69 points, or 1.85 percent, to 2,731.86 and the Nasdaq Composite .IXIC added 165.49 points, or 2.34 percent, to 7,248.19.

Of the 11 major sectors in the S&P 500, all but utilities .SPLRCU were positive. Technology .SPLRCT, consumer discretionary .SPLRCD healthcare .SPXHC and industrials .SPLRCI were the biggest percentage gainers, each up more than 2 percent. The S&P 500 Automobile & Components index .SPLRCAU was up 0.9 percent after President Trump said he was studying new auto tariffs in the wake of General Motors Co’s (GM.N) announcement that it would close plants and cut its workforce. Meanwhile, GM stock has given up its gains since announcing its restructuring. Health insurer Humana Inc (HUM.N) cut its 2019 forecast for Medicare drug plan enrollment, but upped its estimated enrollment



in the company’s Medicare Advantage plan. Its stock was up 5.9 percent. Salesforce.com Inc (CRM.N) beat analysts’ earnings estimates and forecast better-than-expected 2020 revenue, sending its shares up 8.4 percent. Other cloud software makers rose on the news, with the ISE Cloud Index .CPQ gaining 2.9 percent. Microsoft Corp (MSFT.O) surpassed Apple Inc (AAPL.O) in market cap, its shares rising 3.2 percent, as the Windows software maker benefited from optimism about demand for cloud computing services. Among losers, Tiffany & Co (TIF.N) shares dropped 11.3 percent after the luxury retailer missed quarterly sales estimates on slowing Chinese demand. Advancing issues outnumbered declining ones on the NYSE by a 3.96-to-1 ratio; on Nasdaq, a 3.57-to-1 ratio favored advancers.

The S&P 500 posted 15 new 52-week highs and 5 new lows; the Nasdaq Composite recorded 29 new highs and 113 new lows. Benchmark U.S. crude reversed an early loss and rose 0.5 percent to \$56.76 a barrel in New York. U.S. crude prices have dropped for six weeks in a row and are trading around their lowest level in about nine months.

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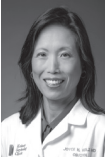
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### Meet Dr. Beth Yip



**Beth Yip, M.D., F.A.A.P.**  
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*“I consider it a privilege to be allowed to help take care of patients and their families and make a difference in the life of a child. I view myself as a partner with the parents and patient and derive great satisfaction through our interactions. I love working with kids, a simple smile or hug will brighten my day.”*

**~Beth Yip, M.D.,** co-managing physician, Pearland Clinic

Dr. Yip is a board-certified pediatrician who completed her medical degree, internship and residency at Baylor College of Medicine. She is a fellow of the American Academy of Pediatrics and member of the American Medical Association, Texas Medical Association, Harris County Medical Society and Texas Pediatric Society.

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Editor's Choice



A man prepares a typical local dish called “Choripan”, a grilled sausage on a bread, at a street stand in Buenos Aires, Argentina November 28, 2018. REUTERS/Agustin Marcarian



Migrants, part of a caravan of thousands from Central America trying to reach the United States, are seen in a temporary shelter in Tijuana



Migrants, part of a caravan of thousands from Central America trying to reach the United States, eat breakfast on the roadside outside of a temporary shelter in Tijuana



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Rep. James Clyburn (D-SC) arrives for a House Democratic Caucus meeting to choose leaders for the 116th Congress on Capitol Hill in Washington



A migrant, part of a caravan of thousands from Central America trying to reach the United States, steps across mud after taking a shower at a temporary shelter in Tijuana

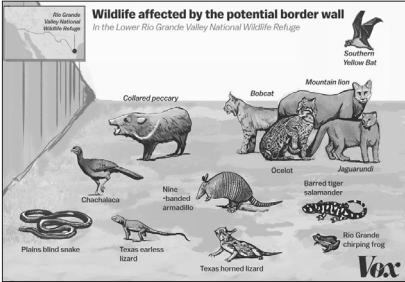


A migrant, part of a caravan of thousands from Central America trying to reach the United States, steps across mud after taking a shower at a temporary shelter in Tijuana



Senator Bob Corker (R-TN) speaks to the media after a closed briefing for senators about the latest developments related to the death of Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi on Capitol Hill in Washington, U.S., November 28, 2018. REUTERS/Joshua Roberts





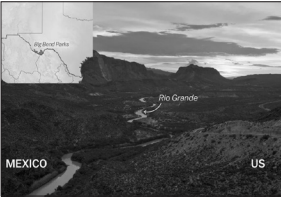
The area where the wall is proposed to be built is a refuge for 19 federally threatened and endangered species and 57 state protected species, including the ocelot and other species. A wall could have a serious, and possibly deadly, impact on these species.

The prospect of a border wall between Mexico and the U.S. is now real. President Trump has requested \$1.6 billion for fiscal year 2018 to build three segments totaling 74 miles. The Department of Homeland Security is planning to test the eight prototypes it built this summer in San Diego over the next 30 to 60 days. There's a long debate over whether physical barriers on the border actually curb the illicit flow of people and drugs. The Border Patrol, which is backing Trump's plan, says they're a "vital tool" in their operation. Migration experts say they're more symbolic than effective. But what is undeniable is that the 654 miles of walls and fences already on the US-Mexico border have made a mess out of the environment there. They've cut off, isolated, and reduced populations of some of the rarest and most amazing animals in North America, like the jaguar and ocelot (also known as the dwarf jaguar). They've led to the creation of miles of roads through pristine wilderness areas. They've even exacerbated flooding, becoming dams when rivers have overflowed. Now, DHS is eyeing unfenced areas in two Texas wildlife refuges that conservationists consider some of the most ecologically valuable areas on the border — home to armadillos and bobcats. If a wall were to slice through these ecosystems, it could cause irreversible damage to plants and animals already under serious threat. "We've been dealing with all these negative environmental impacts of fences on the border for more than a decade," says Dan Millis of the Sierra Club Borderlands project. "And Trump's proposal would make it worse." The border region is ecologically rich because a lot of it has been federally protected. The political boundary between the US and

## Wall Could Cut Off A Texas Wildlife Refuge And The Habitat Of Big, Beautiful Cats Trump's Border Wall Could Be An Ecological Disaster

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

Mexico stretches 2,000 miles from the Gulf of Mexico to the Pacific Ocean. Along the way, there are three mountain chains, the two largest deserts in North America, vast cattle ranches, a handful of cities and their sprawling suburbs, and the Southern section of the mighty Rio Grande river.



Much of the region has never been heavily populated, and over the years, several large swaths of land have been designated as protected areas. Today there are 25 million acres of protected US public lands within 100 miles of the line. That includes six wildlife refuges, six national parks, tribal lands, wilderness areas, and conservation areas — all of them managed by various federal agencies and tribal governments. On the Mexican side, meanwhile, sit protected areas like El Pinacate y Gran Desierto de Altar, which abuts the US Cabeza Prieta National Wildlife Refuge and parts of the Organ Pipe National Monument and Barry M. Goldwater Range in Arizona. These protected areas have been established, in part, to protect wildlife and plants that span both countries. In the case of the El Pinacate and Cabeza Prieta, desert species like the Sonoran pronghorn (an antelope relative) have been able to migrate back and forth. But in recent years, that's gotten harder with the construction of long sections of vehicle barriers and fences, as you can see from the map. "People think of deserts as barren lands and flat sand dunes with nothing there," Sergio Avila, a conservation scientist at the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum, says. "But deserts are very diverse and rich in life." **Saguaro cacti, or "giant cacti," and ocotillo cactus (in bloom)** in the Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument park in the Sonoran Desert. (Photo Urterra / UIG via Getty Images)

### The protected areas on the border harbor an incredible array of wild-life and plants

When you trace the border from west to east (as this Story Map project by Krista Schlyer did), you find shrinking pockets of remarkable biological abundance. At the far west is the Tijuana Estuary, a key salt marsh habitat for some 400 species of migrating birds. At the far east, birds and butterflies stop through the Lower Rio Grande Valley, which is also a permanent home for colorful mammals, reptiles, and amphibians. "There are tropical animal species in some of these canyons that are not found anywhere else," says Jesse Lasky, a biologist at Penn State who has studied the impact of border fences on border species. "They inhabit these little slices of tropical ecosystem that creep up into the US near the Gulf coast." Not many scientists have measured the border's biodiversity in its totality — or the full impact of fences. One of the few studies to tackle these questions was written by Lasky and co-authors in 2011. They estimated that 134 mammal, 178 reptile, and 57 amphibian species live within about 30 miles of the line. Of those, 50 species and three subspecies are globally or federally threatened in Mexico or the United States. And they survive only because people on both sides have worked hard to conserve them.

### Border fences have been terrible for wildlife and plants

Since 1994, the US government has been erecting barriers to keep people and drugs from Mexico and beyond out. By 2010, about one-third of the border had been fenced with materials ranging from barbed wire to steel, bollard to wire mesh, and chain link. In addition, the Department of Homeland Security has built hundreds of miles of roads to allow the Border Patrol to access remote regions, both fenced and unfenced.



All of this construction has sliced and diced a lot of protected land along the border. And ever since the passage of the Real ID Act of 2005, DHS has had the power to waive

most environmental reviews in the name of national security. So, unlike most federal infrastructure projects, these fences have received little or no input from the public, land managers, conservation groups, or other agencies. Experts had no chance to assess beforehand what impact the fence might have on wildlife, plants, and rivers. Only after the fact have researchers documented instances where fences have interrupted wildlife corridors, and caused erosion and other damage to fragile ecosystems, as well as flooding. But what evidence we do have is alarming. For instance, Lasky and his co-authors found that the biggest risk comes when fences bisect the range of a small population of a species with a specialized habitat, leaving the majority of the population on one side and the others adrift. His paper found 45 species and three subspecies that the current fence has affected this way. Cutting off animal populations in this fashion leads to reduced gene flow and inbreeding —leading to a greater risk of extinction. Conservation groups are particularly worried about the Mexican gray wolf; in 2016, there were just 113 in the US and about three dozen south of the border. A wall between them could make the recovery of the population unsurmountable.



Mexican gray wolves are the most endangered wolf in the world.

In 2016, there were just 113 in the US and about three dozen south of the border. Don Bartletti / Los Angeles Times via Getty Images

Fences also can also restrict animals' access to water sources — particularly problematic in the drought-prone Southwest. And they can make it harder for animals to adapt to climate change. "A lot of species do best in Northern Mexico, but with changes in precipitation patterns, they would need to disperse across the border," says Lasky. "This is something we should be thinking about a lot more — how fast organisms are

responding to climate change." The wall structures hurt animals and insects in other ways too. Some sections have lights that attract and zap pollinators, like the monarch butterfly, that migrate across the border. And the taller the fence, the more impassable it is for some bats and birds, like the cactus ferruginous pygmy owl.

### Trump's proposed wall could have a big impact on still-pristine areas

About two-thirds, or 1,350 miles, of the border remains unfenced. Trump said on July 13 that he intends to build a total 700 to 900 miles of new wall, which will be exceedingly difficult to do. (Cost estimates for walling off the entire border range from \$21 billion to \$40 billion, and 700 miles would cost at least \$12 billion.) But it's plausible that Congress will give US Customs and Border Patrol, the division of DHS in charge of border security, at least some of the \$1.6 billion that Trump requested to build three segments totaling 74 miles for fiscal year 2018. That would reportedly include "28 miles of new levee wall system in Rio Grande Valley, 32 new miles of border wall system in the Rio Grande Valley, and 14 miles of replacement secondary barrier in San Diego," according to a DHS spokesperson.



San Diego is a sprawling urban center, but just south of it is the Tijuana River, where the Tijuana River meets the Pacific Ocean. It's one of the most biodiverse areas in

the entire state of California, according to Millis of the Sierra Club, and has already been impacted by fences. Replacing the fences there could mean more habitat destruction in the estuary. Activists in Texas who've been tracking fence construction over the years say they think part of the new levee walls CPB would build if Congress allocates the money for them will bisect the Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuge — a collection of dozens of tracts of habitat stretching from Brownsville by the Gulf of Mexico to Rio Grande City, about 100 miles west. This area is a refuge for 19 federally threatened and endangered species and 57 state protected species, including the ocelot and other species in the illustration below. And a wall could have a serious, in some cases deadly, impact on these species: (Courtesy https://www.vox.com)

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# WHO Calls ‘Gaming Disorder’ A Mental Health Condition

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



The World Health Organization has recognized “gaming disorder” as a diagnosable condition.

But the organization’s decision to include the new term in the 11th edition of its International Classification of Diseases (ICD), which it released Monday, has sparked controversy among psychiatric experts who question whether there’s enough research to call it a true disorder. According to the American Psychological Association, an estimated 160 million American adults play video games, but the percentage of people that could qualify for the disorder is extremely small. Players’ ages range from under 18 to over 50, and the male-to-female ratio is almost equal.

The WHO’s official definition of “gaming disorder” includes:

1. A pattern of behavior for at least 12 months in which gaming is out of control
  2. The pattern of behavior must show an “increased priority given to gaming” to the point that gaming “takes precedence over other interests and daily activities.”
  3. A “continuation or escalation of gaming despite the occurrence of negative consequences,” or behavior that affects one’s relationships, education, or occupation. This could mean that a teenager may play video games instead of doing homework and end up failing a test.
- Child and adolescent psychiatrist Victor Fornari, MD, sees many families who struggle to control the amount of time their children spend in front of a screen. “A family usually has rules about TV time. Here, a child wouldn’t stop, despite the promise of negative consequences,” he says.



An estimated 160 million American adults play video games  
Fornari says aggressive games involving

teamwork and killing enemies tend to be the most addictive for young people. He also says some games have become so popular that schools around the world are warning parents to monitor their child’s access to them.

Including gaming disorder in the ICD-11 could mean health insurance coverage for people seeking treatment.

“I think the ICD-11 category will give us a chance to learn how to identify and diagnose the disorder. Now that there’s an ICD-11 code, health care providers will be able to ask for reimbursement from health insurance companies,” Fornari says.

People who do seek help right now likely find it difficult. Fornari says that there are few treatment programs around because mental health professionals really don’t know how to treat the disorder yet. Rehab centers and wilderness camps exist, but there is little proof of how well they work, and they are often expensive. He says it is unclear if gaming disorder will require treatment similar to other mental disorders or addictions.



“You always have to wonder when someone’s behavior is obsessive. It’s possible that someone with obsessive-compulsive disorder would compulsively play the game, but they would likely show other compulsions as well, like checking things, counting things, and washing hands,” Fornari says.

**Doubts About Defining the Condition**  
Some experts are reluctant to include gaming disorder in the ICD.

The Society for Media Psychology and Technology, a division of the American Psychological Association, said in a statement that the “current research base is not sufficient” enough to classify the disorder.

It argues that although video game addiction research has been going on for nearly 30 years, it’s not clear how to define the condition, the symptoms, how common it is, or if it is an independent disorder or a symptom of a pre-existing disorder.

The European Games Developer Federation (EGDF) also criticized the move.

The group said in a statement it was “concerned” by the WHO’s action to include it, “despite significant opposition from the medical and scientific community. The evidence for its inclusion remains highly contested and inconclusive.”

In the U.S., the American Psychological

Association has proposed adding gaming disorder to the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM-5). Although it’s not yet an official condition, the association recognizes the following symptoms:

- Heavy focus on Internet gaming
- Withdrawal symptoms when Internet gaming is taken away (sadness, anxiety, irritability)
- Tolerance, the need to spend more time gaming
- Not being able to play less, unsuccessful attempts to quit playing
- Giving up other activities, and loss of interest in activities that were once enjoyed
- Continuing to play despite problems
- Deceiving family members or others about the amount of time spent on Internet gaming
- The use of Internet gaming to relieve negative moods, such as guilt or hopelessness
- Risk, having jeopardized or lost a job or relationship due to Internet gaming



To be diagnosed with gaming disorder, a patient must have at least five of the listed symptoms.

In a 2017 study done in the U.S., United Kingdom, Canada, and Germany, close to 19,000 gamers completed a survey about symptoms of gaming disorder. More than 65% of participants did not report any symptoms of gaming disorder. Only 2.4% of the sample endorsed at least five of the symptoms needed to

be diagnosed. In a commentary on that study, Patrick M. Markey, PhD, a psychology professor at Villanova University, and Christopher J. Ferguson, PhD, department chairman of psychology at Stetson University, questioned gaming disorder as a condition.

“Current data suggest that the proposed Internet gaming disorder category is a poor indicator of actual problems,” they wrote. “Therefore, its use in clinical settings, as presently delineated, may ultimately cause more harm than good.” They also asked why the DSM-5 singles out gaming disorder as a proposed category, but not other things that could be addictive, including working, exercising, or eating.



**In a 2017 study of gamers, only 2.4% of the participants had at least five of the symptoms needed to be diagnosed with a gaming disorder.**

“This important study suggests that video game addiction might be a real thing, but it is not the epidemic that some have made it out to be.”

Fornari says the WHO action will bring about research on diagnosed cases that will help doctors understand more about the condition.

“I think any time changes like this occur, an initial period of time will be needed to test it out,” he says. “How often the diagnosis is made and the range of clinical cases, like in any other mental disorder, will have to be studied. When a new disorder is proposed, we need to see if it will survive the test of time.” (Courtesy webmd.com)

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# 走进世界文化遗产西递村

当一座山野里的古村落成为世界遗产，国家5A级的收费景区之后，你觉得这座古村落还会有原来的质朴无华的山野炊烟袅袅的气息吗？在我看来，黄山脚下的西递村还算是未完全商业化，尽管村落的街巷里有一些小店，许多客栈，但每逢清朝与傍晚，古村落原有的风貌并没有因为游客而有所褪尽。

沿着后边溪或者是明经湖，走在粉墙黛瓦的建筑群外围，袅袅炊烟随着秋冬晨雾，或者是日落余晖而升起的时候，你发现田边的小路上出现了这么一些身影，有早起去上学的孩子，有暮归的农户，他们是地地道道的西递村人。

不论这个古老的徽州村落变成什

么样子，有着怎样的身份地位，对于生长在这里面的人们而言，日升而作日落而息的乡村日子并不会有所改变。

尽管有些人将老房子租出去或卖出去，但仍有许多人还是留了下来。虽然每天会有大量游客走街串巷的熙熙攘攘，甚至是进入祖宅进行参观，但对于他们而言，生活的改变无非是多了一种嘈杂与闹腾，但山野田地的农活并非因此有所变化，仍是春天播种，秋天收获。

而我们在西递村内所见到的油菜花或者是向日葵，已然是景区使然，令其来吸引游客和摄影师。但在这之外的真正农田里，却是我们看不见的辛勤劳作。唯有清晨或傍晚，才能见

到他们出门或暮归的身影。

当然，也不排除一些当地人利用老宅之便，将其院落或者大堂改造为古董杂货店，但生活各有所需，不论是追寻商业化还是秉承传统化，西递古村在山野之间仍是升起了袅袅炊烟。

而这古老的马头墙建筑群虽是明清时代的民居，但村落的建立却远在北宋年间，距今已有950多年。

第一次见到马头墙，是在爷爷的一本书中，黑白色彩的建筑令我眼前一亮。它跟我生活中的场景完全不一样，我问爷爷哪里才能看到这建筑？爷爷说去山里。山里的马头墙很完整，没有什么破坏性。

当我第一次来到黄山西递村，是

在七八年前，距离我第一次见马头墙已过去十年之久。如今爷爷已去世，那本书也无踪影，但马头墙依旧这层林尽染的山里完整存在着，恍若是水墨画里的世界。

而村落位置自古以来就被看作是风水宝地，这些保留完整的徽派民居不论山外的世界发生翻天覆地的怎样变化，它们依旧是白墙灰瓦，朴素淡雅。

虽在清咸丰同治年间，因战乱，全村1700多幢房子被烧过半，但徽骆驼的精神和能力使一切重新燃起希望，并形成今天我们所看到的世界文化遗产西递古村落。在黄山脚下，黟县的西递和宏村最为名气，也同为世界文化遗产。

但宏村如画，西递似书，自古就出了许多官吏、文人，包括商人。村口最醒目的就是古老的胡文光刺史牌坊，建立于明万历六年，皇帝为表彰胡文光下令建造。随后走向村内的时候，便是错综复杂的99条高墙深巷，令人仿佛置身迷宫。

村落东西长700米，南北宽300米，从后山上遥望整个西递村，密密麻麻的白墙灰瓦教人产生错觉，“进去

了就走不出来了”。但实际上在村内住上三两天，便很快就熟悉了所有街巷的方向和交合。它被誉为“桃花源里人家”，一种“世外桃源”的模样令人想起了诗与远方。

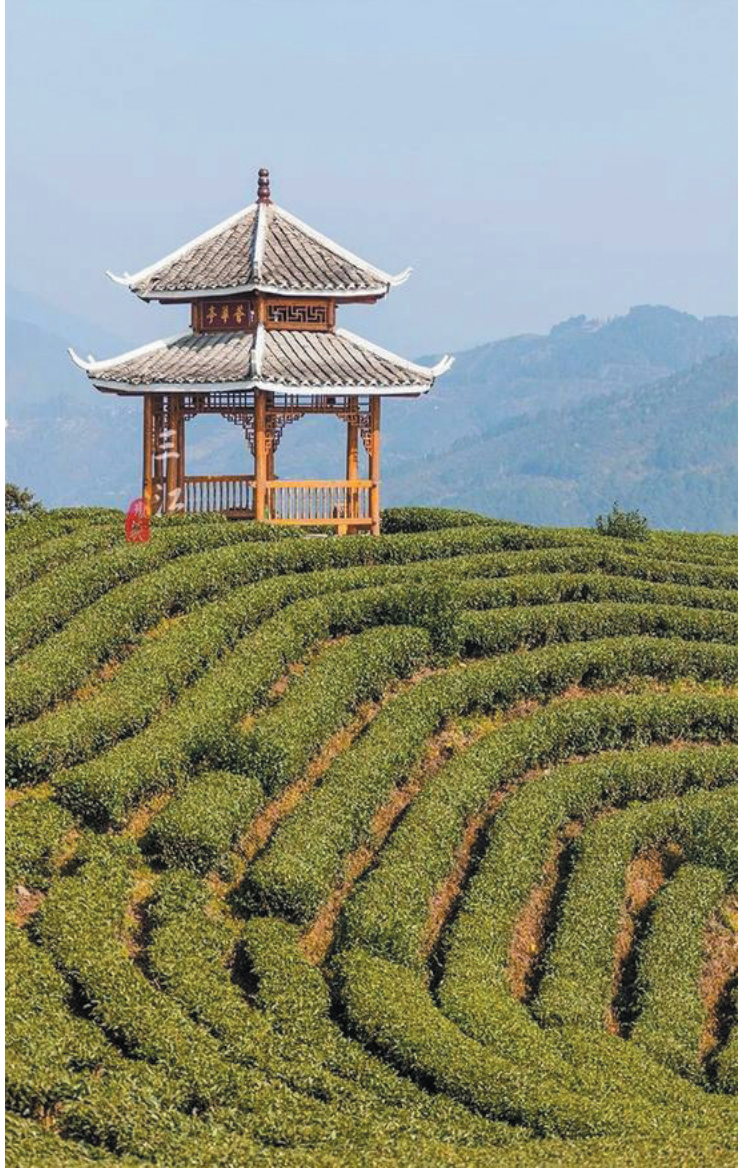
这几乎是所有生活在城市里的人所憧憬的山林之所，但让我意外的是，生长在这里的村民们大多并不向往远方的城市，尽管许多人在县城或市区买了房子，落了户，但那基本是给子女的安排。他们自己倒是认为山里的生活十分惬意，也很清闲自在。

大概正是如此，村里来了不少画家、艺术家在此租房生活，甚至是有外地人来这开客栈做生意的，不论大家最终目的是什么，但不能否认的是西递确实令人感到惬意。

以至于我时隔三四年再来的时候，也在这里买房种地过着”与世隔绝“的山野生活：春在鸟语花香中醒来，夏于山林田野间散步，秋看朝阳落日里柿子红了，冬食竹笋腊肉杀猪饭。

住在村子的最后一天，于黄昏日落下，我拿着相机走在乡间的小路上，突然想起六岁那年的某一天：当我醒来的时候已经从手术室出来，奶奶在一旁守护着我，她问我要不要喝水，我告诉她想吃小青菜。

## 刘三姐的故乡 云海之上的绝美茶园



中国文化十分推崇茶。据说从神农时代中国人就开始饮茶，到今天少说也有四千多年了。宋元时期，斗茶、插花、挂画与品香甚至并称为上流社会怡情养性的“四般闲事”。如今很多时候，我们在饭桌上还能见到以茶代酒的风俗。

且将新火试新茶，诗酒趁年华。在如我一般爱茶之人的眼中，茶是待客最好的礼物。因茶相会的友人，从远方风尘仆仆的赶来。我便煮上一壶水，边聊边等。等到壶口咕嘟咕嘟蒸腾起一团团白气，我和友人的洽谈正好欢愉。投茶、润茶、冲泡、奉茶、品茶……茶让我们静下来，也让我们清醒。

我喜欢品茶，在慢悠悠的吸品中感知生活的禅理。不过我们对茶的喜爱还是浅薄了几分，远不及那些高山上的茶农。他们对茶的虔诚在于那里的每一块石头、每一片土壤、每一滴清泉，他们都爱的真挚。

有幸去了一次布央茶场，那层层叠叠的绿让我震撼。布央茶场位于仙人山，也就是在湘、滇、桂三省交界的柳州市三江县八江乡境内。这里是广西壮族自治区的主要茶叶产地，盛产三江茶。

提起柳州，你们一定知道这是壮族歌仙刘三姐的传歌圣地。传说刘三姐在鱼峰山唱歌感动上天而得道成仙，山歌世代在鱼峰山脚下缭绕。还有柳州一绝螺蛳粉，不知从什么时候起，全世界好像都开始疯狂迷上了螺蛳粉。

不过你们肯定不知道，三江茶也是

柳州的象征，还是中国国家地理标志产品之一。

为什么叫三江茶呢？自然是因为境内汇聚寻江、都柳江、融江三条江而得名。这里属丘陵山地地貌，素有“九山半水半分田”之称。海拔不算高，一般在600~900米之间，有着“高山出好茶”的有利自然生态环境，所以能产出质优良的三江茶也就不足为奇了。

三江县有着悠久的种茶和饮茶历史，最早三江茶在唐代就已有生产，人工栽培茶树有2000多年历史，并形成了自己独特的饮茶文化。从1988年开始，三江县将布央村作为茶叶种植试点。近20年来，布央村的茶园面积已达3600多亩。

仙人山茶场距离三江县城23公里，交通很便利。从县城开车一个多小时左右就能到，一路上都是迷雾重重。窗外的风景时隐时现，我隐隐有几分担心，怕一会上了山什么都看不到。好在到了布央村仙人山茶场便天朗气清，阳光把一切都照的透亮，连茶叶也更翠绿了几分。看来我们刚才是在云雾中穿行，现在上到山顶，云雾就被踩到了脚下。

颇具侗族特色的建筑在一排排低矮的茶树旁边甚是惹眼，红和绿形成了最鲜明的对比。

说来这里之所以叫做仙人山，还有个神奇的传说呢。当地人告诉我，之前山上住着两位仙人，他们经常在一块大石头上下棋、谈仙论道，十分自在。有一天，一个樵夫到山上砍柴，忽然闻到

一股香气，于是寻路找去。终于，他见到了两位神仙，香气正是从两位神仙身边的茶杯里飘出来的。神仙见到来了凡人，匆匆遁去，不小心碰到了身边的茶杯，于是茶叶就在山上扎了根。

如今你再看到这仙人山茶场，山顶终年云雾缭绕，恍如仙境。难怪有仙人会选择在这里居住。成垄成行的茶园碧绿如茵，线条交错，如一条条绿色的波浪横亘在群山之上。

漫步茶园中，满目苍翠让你心旷神怡，流连忘返。仍不住弯腰抚摸茶树，叶子肥厚，顶上的新叶却十分娇嫩，用些力都能掐出水来。

走累了，在亭子里坐着休息。山风吹过，不知是不是心理作用，我总觉得能闻到阵阵茶叶的清香。就永远留在这这一刻吧，放松、安逸。

继续前行，头上的天空蓝得纯粹。偶尔有三两茶农穿着特色的服饰，在采摘新叶。那银饰闪闪发亮，每一个细节都精致让人移不开眼。

三江茶以绿茶和红茶为主。绿茶泡出的茶汤色泽绿亮、香味幽兰、口感清甜；红茶则滋味醇厚甘爽，汤色红亮。身处此地，眼前的自然之景，让人凡尘杂念顿消。

若你登高远眺，漫山遍野的绿排列得整整齐齐。茶树是依山势而植的，整体线条流畅起伏，这是人工与自然的完美融合，真是让人赞叹！

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图为出席庆祝会的代表在「挑餐厅」现场合影。

本报记者秦鸿钧摄影

# 休士顿华裔社区于感恩节前举办 2018年中期选举获选亚裔代表庆祝会



UCA (美国华人联合会) 主席薛海培先生致词。



州议员吴元之 (Gene Wu) 在大会上讲话。



休大教授李坚强致词。



UCA (美国华人联合会) 主席薛海培 (右) 与休大教授李坚强 (左) 在大会上。



休市市议员关振鹏 (立者) 在大会上致词。



国会议员 Al Green 代表谭秋晴女士 (右一) 在大会上致词。



庆祝会召集人施慧伦女士 (右一立者) 在大会上致词。



休大白先慎教授 (右) 在大会上致词。(左) 为主持人施慧伦女士。



(左起) 图为庆祝会召集人 Sri Kulkarni 竞选团队的施慧伦女士、黄登陆、UCA (美国华人联合会) 主席薛海培先生在大会上。

# 华盛顿州华裔小姐大赛圆满落幕 17岁高中生施柯亦夺冠



张琦 (左一)、李程天 (右一) 向黄施蔓颁发最佳人气奖



左谷兰 (左一)、华盛顿州参议员长谷川 Bob Hasegawa (右二) 向黄施蔓 (左二) 颁发华盛顿州华裔小姐亚军称号



禰伟雄 (左一)、华州众议员葛素玲 Mia Gregerson (右一) 向赵卓君颁发华盛顿州华裔小姐季军称号)

由世界华裔小姐组委会主办, 西雅图中文电台承办的2018年华盛顿州华裔小姐大赛, 11月18日晚在西雅图中国海景大酒店圆满落幕, 17岁的 Mercer Island 高中学生施柯亦夺得冠军, 同样是17岁的 Issaquah 高中学生黄施蔓获得亚军, 华盛顿大学学生赵卓君荣获季军。

华州参议员长谷川 (Bob Hasegawa)、华州众议员葛素玲 (Mia Gregerson)、贝尔维优市议员梁浩婷 (Janice Zahn) 等当选官员及诚信地产公司总裁李程天、505集团公司总裁来辉武、西雅图社区学院总校长潘寿安、华盛顿州广州同乡会会长萧鸣等社会各界人士出席了本次大赛并在比赛开始前致辞。大赛负责人之一的西雅图中文电台的台长苏小元表示这次大赛的筹备时间只有大约一周时间, 在西雅图华人社区堪称是一个奇迹。

这个奇迹的创造, 离不开大赛的三位艺术顾问的大力的协助, 她们分别是世界小姐中国区评委、前西雅图华裔小姐第一公主田乐乐、国际形象专家左谷兰、以及东方舞蹈学院院长王丹。何苓、田乐乐、左谷兰、徐夏秋、禰伟雄、张琦等六名专业人士担任了本次大赛的评委。

17岁的高中生施柯亦是 Mercer Island High School 的学生, 她出生于山东济南武术世家, 5岁开始习武, 目前是美国国家武术队队员, 中国武术太极拳四段。她多次获得世界武术冠军, 2016年代表高中校队获得女子摔跤第一名。施柯亦是个有天赋的姑娘, 能左右手同时写字, 擅长背诵多篇古诗词, 她15岁考取中国音乐家协会琵琶十级, 是琵琶浦东派的传人。

17岁的 Issaquah High School 的学生黄施蔓兴趣

爱好广泛, 包括古筝、唱歌、游泳、摄影、旅游等, 曾在 CCTV 星光才艺大赛钢琴比赛中获得金奖。20岁的华盛顿大学大二学生赵卓君热爱中国文化, 从小开始学习古筝, 现在师从西雅图王晶古筝艺术中心校长王晶老师, 每年都持续活跃于大西雅图的表演, 曾参加西雅图中文电台主办的“西雅图华人春晚”以及微软亚洲春晚等。她希望能把传统的东方美在国际舞台上传播得更广阔。

黄施蔓和赵卓君是2018年华盛顿州华裔小姐的“最佳人气奖”和“最佳才艺奖”的得主。2018年华盛顿州华裔小姐大赛是大西雅图地区三年来首次华裔小姐的评选, 获得前三名的选手将受邀参加今年12月2日在中国广州举行的世界华裔小姐大赛的总决赛。



前三甲与评委张琦 (中)、中文电台台长苏小元 (右一) 合影



2018年华盛顿州华裔小姐冠军施柯亦 (中), 亚军黄施蔓 (左一), 季军赵卓君 (右一)



大赛的评委, 何苓、以及左起: 禰伟雄、左谷兰、田乐乐、张琦、徐夏秋



2018年华盛顿州华裔小姐总决赛全体选手与主办方、评委、嘉宾、以及部分赞助商合影