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Southern DAILY

Make Today Different

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Trump administration announces plans to ban flavored e-cigarettes

Inside C2

China exempts some U.S. goods from retaliatory tariffs as fresh talks loom

WASHINGTON/BEIJING (Reuters) - U.S. President Donald Trump on Wednesday welcomed China's decision to exempt some U.S. anti-cancer drugs and other goods from its tariffs, days ahead of a planned meeting aimed at defusing a trade war between the world's two largest economies.

That was a "big move" by China and a positive gesture before trade negotiators from both countries meet in Washington, Trump told reporters at the White House.

China on Wednesday announced its first batch of tariff exemptions for 16 types of U.S. products, including some anti-cancer drugs and lubricants, as well as animal feed ingredients whey and fish meal, according to a Ministry of Finance statement on its website.

Beijing said in May that it would start a waiver program, amid growing worries over the cost of the protracted trade war on its already slowing economy.

"They made a couple of moves ... that were pretty good," Trump said at an unrelated event on vaping. "I think it was a gesture, okay? But it was a big move."

Trump said he hoped to reach a trade agreement with China after over a year of tit-for-tat tariffs that have roiled global markets.

"I deal with them and I know them and I like them," he said. "I hope we can do something."

Deputy trade negotiators are due to meet in Washington in mid-September, with minister-level talks to follow in October. Exact dates for the meetings have not been released.

Some analysts view Beijing's move as a friendly gesture but don't see it as a signal that both sides are readying a deal.

"The exemption could be seen as a gesture of sincerity towards the U.S. ahead of negotiations in October but is probably more a means of supporting the economy," ING's Greater China economist Iris Pang wrote in a note.

"There are still many uncertainties in the coming trade talks. An exemption list of just 16 items will not change China's stance," she said.

Indeed, the exempted list pales in comparison to over 5,000 types of U.S. products that are already subject to China's additional tariffs. Moreover, major U.S. imports, such as soybeans and pork, are still subject to hefty additional duties, as China has ramped up imports from Brazil and other supplying countries.

Beijing has said it would work on exempting some U.S. products from tariffs if they are not easily substituted from elsewhere. The United States is by far China's largest supplier of whey, which is an important ingredient in piglet feed and difficult to source in large volumes from elsewhere.

Analysts say that with its duties on soybeans and U.S.-made cars, China is taking aim at a key political support base of Trump, mainly the factories and farms across the Midwest and South at a time of receding momentum in the world's top economy.

Containers are seen at the Yangshan Deep Water Port in Shanghai, China August 6, 2019. REUTERS/Aly Song - RC1D8DFEC0E0

The items on the two tariff exemption lists - posted on the ministry's website - will not be subject to additional duties imposed by China on U.S. goods "as countermeasures to U.S. Section 301 measures," the ministry said in its statement.

The exemption will take effect on Sept. 17 and be valid for a year through to Sept. 16, 2020, it said.

ING's Pang noted the United States had also exempted imports of 110 Chinese products from tariffs in July, including high-value items such as medical equipment and parts.

TALKS

Chinese Vice Premier Liu He, U.S. Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer and Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin are expected to meet in early October in the U.S. capital, but key officials are tamping down expectations for a major accord.

For two years, the Trump administration has sought to pressure China to make sweeping changes to its policies on intellectual property protection, forced transfers of technology to Chinese firms, industrial subsidies and market access.

Beijing and Washington were close to a deal last spring but U.S. officials said China backed away from an agreed text over a reluctance to change laws to address U.S. complaints.

The South China Morning Post reported bit.ly/2manJ5q, citing an unidentified source, that China was expected to buy more agricultural products in hopes of a better trade deal with the United States.

Senior White House adviser Peter Navarro this week urged investors, businesses and the public to be patient about the trade dispute.

Earlier on Wednesday, a survey by a prominent American business association showed the trade dispute was souring the profit and investment outlook for U.S. companies operating in the world's second-biggest economy.

Southern DAILY Make Today Different

WORLD NEWS

Trump administration announces plans to ban flavored e-cigarettes

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - U.S. President Donald Trump told reporters on Wednesday that the country has a problem with vaping, and his top health official said the Food and Drug Administration intends to remove all flavored e-cigarettes from the market.

Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar told reporters at a meeting with Trump in the Oval Office that children were becoming addicted to nicotine thanks to attractive flavors of e-cigarettes, and that the FDA was working on a "guidance document" that would lead to a ban of all vape flavors aside from tobacco flavoring.

"Once the FDA would finalize this guidance, we would begin enforcement actions to remove all such products from the market place," Azar said.

Six deaths have been linked to vaping and U.S. public health officials are investigating 450 cases of potential vaping-related lung illness across 33 states and one U.S. territor

"We have a problem in our country, it's a new problem ... and it's called vaping," Trump said. "Especially vaping as it pertains to innocent children."

The nationwide investigation led by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration has not definitively linked the illnesses to any specific e-cigarette product or ingredient, although health officials have expressed suspicions about the effects of inhaling vitamin E acetate, which is contained in some vaping products.

The FDA has urged consumers to avoid inhaling vitamin E acetate, buying vaping products on the street, using marijuana-derived oil with the products or modifying a store-bought vape product.

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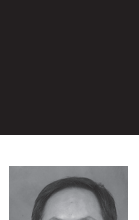

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Meet Dr. Jennifer Lai

Jennifer Lai, M.D.
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Mandarin
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"I am a strong advocate of promoting health and wellness to my patients, especially in the pediatric population. I want to make a difference and have a strong, healthy impact on my patients' lives."

~Jennifer Lai, M.D.

Dr. Lai is a board-certified pediatrician who earned her medical degree from The University of Texas School of Medicine in San Antonio and completed her pediatric internship and residency at The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston. She is a member of the American Academy of Pediatrics. Her special clinical interests include General Pediatrics, caring for newborns, managing autism, and treating childhood obesity. She cares for young patients at Kelsey-Seybold's Tanglewood Clinic, near the Galleria.

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Editor's Choice

A young girl dressed as the Living Goddess Kumari participates the Kumari Puja festival, in which young girls pose as the Living Goddess Kumari and are worshipped by people in belief that their children will remain healthy, in Kathmandu

Britain's Prince Harry, Duke of Sussex completes a trade as he attends the 15th annual BGC Charity Day in London

A model presents a creation from the Oscar de la Renta collection during fashion week in New York

A mahout sits between elephants which are participating in festivities marking the annual harvest festival of Onam at a temple on the outskirts of Kochi, India, September 11, 2019. REUTERS/Sivaram V TPX IMAGES OF THE DAY

Firefighters stand in silence on the 18th anniversary of the September 11, 2001 attacks in lower Manhattan in New York

A man holds up a tuba as protesters shout slogans and sing Hong Kong's anthem during a protest at New Town Plaza shopping mall in Hong Kong, China September 11, 2019. REUTERS/Athit Perawongmetha TPX IMAGES OF THE DAY

Flowers are seen left near One World Trade Center on the 18th anniversary of the September 11, 2001 attacks in New York

Palestinian jockey competes as another falls during a local horse racing on the land of Gaza destroyed airport, in Rafah in the southern Gaza Strip

Southern DAILY Make Today Different

COMMUNITY

Houston Store Will Be Located In The Galleria Mall

Life After Liquidation: Toys R Us Stores Will Be Back This Holiday Season, But Now With A Tech Partner

The first two Toys R Us locations are slated to open before the holidays. One will be at Simon Property Group's Galleria mall in Houston. The other will be at Unibail-Rodamco-Westfield's Garden State Plaza mall in Paramus, New Jersey.

Overview

Toys R Us is opening two permanent stores in November — at Simon Property Group's Galleria mall in Houston and at Unibail-Rodamco-Westfield's Garden State Plaza mall in Paramus, New Jersey.

The stores are product of a joint venture between software retailer b8ta and Tru Kids, the company that is helping to manage the brand names left in the wake of Toys R Us' liquidation last year.

The partnership with b8ta gives Tru Kids a negotiating tool as it tries to woo back brands that felt burned by the Toys R Us bankruptcy to sell in its stores.

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

This holiday season, some shoppers will once again be able to shop in a Toys R Us store.

The retailer will open two permanent stores in November – at Simon Property Group's Galleria mall in Houston and at Unibail-Rodamco-Westfield's Garden State Plaza mall in Paramus, New Jersey.

The stores are product of a joint venture between software retailer b8ta and Tru Kids, the company that is helping to manage the brand names left in the wake of Toys R Us' liquidation last year.

After the company shuttered its 800 U.S. stores, lenders including Solus Alternative Asset Management and the Angelo Gordon investment firm took control of the company's Toys R Us, Babies R Us and Geoffrey brand names.

The revived Toys R Us brand is hoping to avoid past wrongs. Critics have pointed to several factors that led to Toys R Us' downfall: crippling debt load, competition from Amazon, overconfidence, failure to invest in stores and the rise of big-box retailers like Walmart that slashed toy prices to help lure shoppers.

Toys R Us, like many retailers, struggled to revamp its enormous business as quickly as the retail landscape was changing around it.

"I don't think there's many times where you can take such a great storied brand as Toys R Us and get a chance to repaint the canvas," said Richard Barry, president of Tru Kids and the former chief merchandising officer of Toys R Us.

The company hopes to open 10 stores around the U.S. in 2020, possibly including a larger flagship in New York or California. The new stores will be smaller, spanning 6,500 to 10,000 square feet, compared with the 40,000 they used to take up.

"While we have a smaller footprint, we believe we will present a super exciting set of experiences in the store and products," said Barry.

B8ta, which has more than a dozen of its own stores in malls around the country, including the new Hudson Yards in New York, will help take care of those experiences. Its in-house technology platform, which is also powering pop-up marketplaces within some Macy's stores, will work with the toy brands to help them create their own mini shops within the spaces. B8ta also says it will contribute its retail as a service platform to help those brands simultaneously grow online sales.

Toys R Us infamously relaunched its website during its crucial — and ultimately failed — 2017 holiday season in bankruptcy that subsequently forced its liquidation.

A B8ta retail outlet.

B8ta will also be giving Tru Kids access to data and analytics to track things like foot traffic in and out of the stores to allow the company to make smarter decisions, according to Phillip Raub, b8ta co-founder and president. "This year is going to be an opportunity for us to test and learn."

The partnership with b8ta gives Tru Kids a negotiating tool as it tries to woo back brands to sell in its stores. Part of what made Toys R Us unique was its access to the best and sometimes exclusive products. But the relationship between toy brands and the retailer was frayed in its liquidation, which led to companies big and small losing money in the process.

Barry said talks with toy and entertainment companies have been "very positive."

He added the brands are giving the company "credit for innovation," and they like getting a chance to control their own brand experience in the stores.

The new Toys R Us will be announcing the brands that are going to be sold in its stores in "short order," Barry said.

While toys will be available for purchase, all sales will go directly to manufacturers, without Tru Kids acting as a middleman. Instead, the company will make money from manufacturers paying a fee to sell goods in Toys R Us locations.

"We're Back..."

"We don't make any money off of the sale of the goods," Phillip Raub told Business Insider.

Raub is the cofounder and president of b8ta, an experiential retailer that entered into a joint venture with Tru Kids to open the Toys R Us stores. The new Toys R Us stores will follow b8ta's business model, marketing themselves as an appealing spot for manufacturers by offering tech, data, and insights, as well as high-traffic locations in malls and other busy urban centers.

"What b8ta is bringing to the table is going to be our b8ta business model, really thinking kind of more subscription based, placement within the stores, being able to provide rich data analytics for makers," Raub said.

Customers will be able to see and interact with every toy for sale in the store, which will be from both big-name brands and smaller companies. Kiosks available in stores will allow customers to order from a wider assortment of products online.

Tru Kids and b8ta plan to open 10 more Toys R Us locations in 2020 with a slightly larger format of around 10,000 square feet. Richard Barry, the CEO of Tru Kids Brands and Toys R Us' former chief marketing officer, said the company was anticipating it could take "some education" for customers to get used to the new format.

"But we believe that the new elements of the store that we've added are so overwhelmingly positive that customers are going to love it," Barry added. (Courtesy

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Conventional-Gas Station	**SBA Loan-Motel**
Loan Amount: $1,880,000 Term: 20 Years Straight payout Purpose: Purchasing	Loan Amount: $2,500,000 Term: 12 Month Interest Only / 25 Years Straight payout Purpose: Construction/ Term Start Up
Conventional: Retail Condominiums	**Conventional: Gas Stations**
Loan Amount: $4,350,000 Term: 8 Month Interest Only / 25 Years Straight payout Purpose: Tenant Improvement/ Term CRE Investor Program	Loan Amount: $3,450,000 (Total 2 Loans) Term: 20 Years straight payout Purpose: Refinance & Extra Equity for Gas Stations purchasing
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BUSINESS

The Veterans Affairs Department Is 'Hardwiring' Customer Service Into Every Service It Provides

Overview

The VA Is On A Mission To Improve The Veteran Experience

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

Since its inception in 1930, the Veterans Affairs Department has delivered health care and other services to tens of millions of veterans and their loved ones, caring for those who have "borne the battle"in defense of the nation.

Yet in its storied history, VA has never emphasized customer experience like it has in recent years, building on the instantiation of a Veteran Experience wing at the close of the Obama administration to—as of mid-May—literally codifying veterans experience principles into VA's core values.

In an interview May 21 with Nextgov, Dr. Lynda Davis, chief veterans experience officer at VA, described the rule as a watershed moment across the government, noting it was perhaps the first time a federal agency essentially baked customer experience into its mission.

"In order to keep the secretary's commitment to customer service, we had to hardwire this customer service culture into everything we are doing," Davis said. "That means permanently that VA will be considering customer service as foundational to its operations and policy."

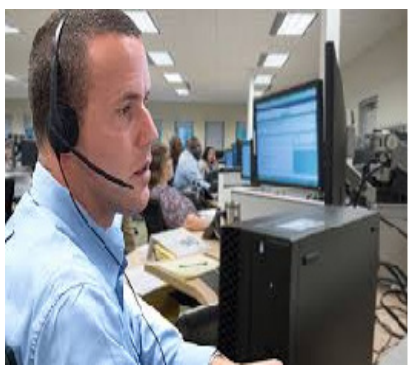
Policy doctrines and rules are mere words, but VA has spent the better part of four years implementing a wide range of changes designed in direct response to veteran feedback. Davis said the agency created a human-centered design analysis of the "moments that matter" to tens of thousands of veterans across their distinct healthcare journeys, locating areas where VA performed well along with pain points for veterans.

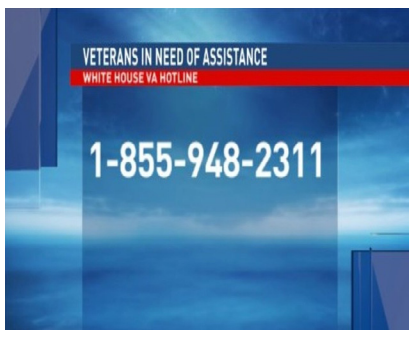
Perhaps counterintuitively, some of VA's large-scale changes were in response to seemingly minor problems encountered by vets. For example, the VA has partnered with outside veteran organizations to provide volunteer personnel at the more than 100 VA medical centers across the country. Called the Red Coat Ambassador Program, volunteers wearing easy-to-see red coats will be the first people many veterans see upon entering VA facilities, and they "are there, ready to engage as non-employee companions to help make sure someone coming into a hospital knows how to find their way around," Davis said. The program was a result of analysis data suggesting some veterans often think VA medical centers can be confusing, daunting or stressful places to visit.

The navigation guide is a physical embodiment of VA's digital navigation improvements, which included the relaunch of va.gov in November. The website is a single point portal for every veteran service. In a similar effort, VA created the White House VA Hotline in June 2017 to connect veterans with customer service agents 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. As of May 14, agents answered more than 250,000 calls from the hotline, which Davis said will serve a model for call centers moving forward.

"It gets back to ease of navigation," Davis said. Whether it's through websites, contact centers or physically literally walking into the building."

VA has also provided "Own the Moment" training to more than 50,000 frontline Veterans Health Administration employees covering effectiveness, ease and invoking positive emotion. Davis said the training borrowed from best practices in business, industry and health care, culminating in an actual curriculum.

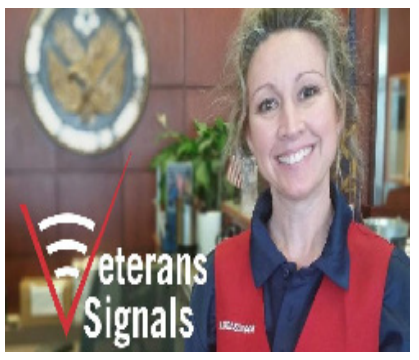




"What we do in Our the Moment training is make sure every single person is trained in how to do customer service, and then with the call center or website, make sure they know how to help vets get additional access to info and services," Davis said.

VA is also improving the way it solicits feedback from veterans, allowing real-time responses from veterans through its Signals program. Any vet who uses VHA outpatient services is given the option to sign up for receiving a voluntary survey through email. That feedback is then shared with relevant parties, such as hospital directors, "so we know how veterans feel in near real-time," Davis said.

So far, VA has received more than 3 million feedback responses through Signals, allowing the department new dimensions of qualitative and quantitative sentiment data. And those taking the surveys have reported elevated levels of trust, Davis said—up to 88 percent—or four times higher than the public's overall trust in government.



Meanwhile, Davis—who reports directly to VA Secretary Robert Wilkie—has maintained a modest staff size of approximately 120 employees, wide-ranging in expertise and focusing on everything from data analytics to community-based support. VA is also a close White House partner, where it is a leading agency for contact center modernization. While VA is happy to partner with outside organizations and employs numerous contractors, especially in technology, the brunt of the customer experience culture change is happening with VA employees at the helm.

"We start with, 'What does the customer want,' and we design what the customer wants and the behaviors we have to have," Davis said. "Then we design training and curriculums around the employees themselves. The 'train your trainer' model cannot be sustained if you're only using outside contractors, and we believe it is best to have employees develop content, own it, agree with it and buy into it." (Courtesy https://www.nextgov.com)

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海外移民身份究竟能为我们带来什么？

国内有经济能力或专业技术能力的人，很多都会走出国门、迈向海外。他们选择移民海外的目的有很多，有的人是为了拓展事业，有的是想多拿一个身份以解决税务困扰，有的是为了让家人享受优美的生活环境。

今天在海外生活的你，当初又是为了什么而来的呢？

实现财务自由及身份自由

20年前，大多数中国人移民的目的就是为了定居海外，获取身份，享受欧美发达国家良好的生活环境、优质的教育资源及先进的医疗体系等与生活息息相关的优势。

如今，中国的经济愈发强大，在国际上的地位也有很大的提升，因此越来越多中国人不再将"移居"作为移民的主要目的，而逐渐偏向"移民不移居"的模式。

不同需求，同一目的

在《出国行业白皮书》中显示，未来3年有超过六成的高净值人群有投资移民以及在海外置业的打算。2017中国投资移民的影响因素分别有：教育、投资目的地、移民政策适用性、海外置业、个人所得税最优、医疗系统有效性、护照免签以及华人适应性等。

每个家庭的需求不同，但是他们都有想以移民海外来解决各种各样的问题和烦恼。

仅谈教育，移民身份就好处多多

1. 签证 单纯申请留学签证是属于非移民类签证，签证官采取的是"有罪推定"，即先假定申请人有移民倾向。如果申请人来自高风险地区，申请难度会进一步增加。关键是要提供充分的、可信的材料来证明自己的留学目的。

此外，单纯申请留学签证还要考虑英语的问题，如果没有好的成绩，口语又一般的话，那就比较难通过了。

2. 学费 留学生与本地生在学费上的差异很大。以澳洲新州为例，在新州审计长 Peter Achterstraat 的报告中称，2011年悉尼留学生的平均学费比本地学生的平均学费高出274%，即高出21,741澳元。

留学生需要支付的费用远不止学费。每年学费、生活费、食宿费及来回机票等花费至少需要花费25-30万元人民币。读完4年本科后，起码要支出100万人民币，且留学生还不能申请助学金。更有些大学或是社区学院会向国际留学生收取高额的学杂费和学分费用。

而如果持有移民的身份，学费仅仅是国际生的三分之一，还可以申请助学金。

3. 就读名校的机会 一般来说，学位名额都是留给本国学生的多，给留学生的少。因此留学生要就读国外名校的难度自然会比本地学生大。

以悉尼大学为例，2017年本地生（即澳洲公民及持有澳洲绿卡的学生）有42,028人，国际留学生仅有12,278人。留学生占全体生源的比例仅为22.6%。

4. 奖学金 对于有意申请奖学金的留学生来说，只能和来自全世界的优秀人士竞争数量极为有限的、对外籍人士开放的奖学金。

但持有绿卡的学生能享有的奖学金申请范围，是远远超过一个外国留学生所能申请的。

5. 兼职与实习 留学生因为没有身份，实习受限较多。然而，实习背景恰恰在很大程度上影响着毕业后拿到offer的好坏。

留学生的实习多数是没有技术含量的工作，而且数量有限。留学生比较难获得一些特殊机构的资源，如国会、非营利组织、行业协会等一些好的资源。

6. 就业 相比起持有绿卡的学生（即本地生）的工作不受限制，留学生所面对的形势就严峻得多了。在大学毕业找工作时，留学生与本地学生处于极不平等的竞争地位。

留学生非常清楚，寻找一个实习单位，一般来说要求单位做担保的难度很大，大部分公司不愿意雇佣处于OPT（专业实习）期间的留学生，只有某些有人才储备的公司才会做这种需要花费律师费及很多额外费用的事，而且，前提还是证实了在同样薪酬下找不到合适人选来胜任此岗位。否则，留学生要找单位做担保是比较难的。

移民，为全面的综合考量

每人的原因都不一样，但每人的动机都相同：要比国内生活得更好一些。富人移民，是对资产进行再次配置。一般大多数移民，其实是中和了国内外的环境、医疗、教育、食品安全等，为后代有一个更好的环境而选择移民。

所以正如有人说的那样，移民不是崇洋媚外，而是对自身综合的一个考量。其实，每个人移民国外的原因和考量因素都不一样，但大家共同的目的都一样，为了更好的生活，遵从自己内心选择，找到自己想要的生活，同时也为自己的第二次人生规划再博一次。

移民希腊的注意了 千万不要贪这些小便宜

近几年，越来越多的人借着希腊经济复苏的嘘头和高福利低开销的优势移民希腊，致使希腊房产跟着水涨船高，于是便出现了很多人会在投资希腊房产时，受低价诱惑而被骗。

那么，希腊购房移民到底有哪些常见的误区？投资者该如何避开这些雷池呢？

1. 绕过移民公司直接办理希腊移民

有不少希腊购房移民的申请者，愿意花25万欧元投资希腊房产，却不愿意花点钱委托靠谱的移民中介机构代为办理，而是自己直接办理。这种类型的投资者往往就是上网搜索房源，相中一些自认为核心地段、装修高大上、价格还很便宜的优质房产后，便联系网站中介，然后约定时间进行实地考察。

等你抵达希腊之后，之前联系好的当地中介就会告诉你，由于希腊买房移民太火爆了，您看中的房产都售罄了，但是我们有很多类似的房子可以供你选择，不过看房需要收费。

在这时，你可能会认为自己被忽悠，但又心有不甘，既然都花了那么多钱飞到希腊，何不顺便让中介带着去看看。

于是，最后你还是会选择跟着当地的中介看房，然而语言不通会带来极大的障碍，或者中介介绍的房产跟自己预料不符，这时，就算能看到自己还算满意的房源，您都未必想跟当地中介签约了。

2. 通过熟人关系在希腊当地买房

有的人说，我在希腊有朋友，可以给我找便宜的房子。其实这样的做法风险极大：

首先您和朋友的关系到底深入到哪一步？朋友的建议是否可靠？你能确定朋友带您去看房就百分之百能做到省钱？保证不会陷入朋友圈的套路？

其次，你的朋友真的懂希腊房产市场吗？如果不是从事相关行业，哪怕是在希腊生活了很多年，也未必能够了解希腊的房产市场现状，就像你即使在国内生活多年，您也不敢拍着胸口说自己对一个城市的各个区域各个街头的房产如数家珍。

即使你买到了心仪的房产，那后续的产权、税收调查、乃至移民材料的准备，递交和审批中遇到的相关问题，谁来负责和帮您打理？

3. 自己聘请希腊当地律师

因为希腊移民涉及到购房这一环节，所以选择一个足够专业，既了解希腊的房产相关事宜又同时熟悉希腊移民法的律师十分重要。

一般来说，在希腊当地买房是必须得通过当地律师楼审核的，要看房产是不是符合购房移民的要求，房源有没有问题，同时还得办理购房手续，买完房以后还得准备移民的相关材料，递交到移民局。

如果律师不靠谱，就会导致整个流程拖的很久，一般选择自己办理的申请者找律师会遇到这样的情况：个人没法约束律师！但是，通过国内中介则不然，毕竟是长期合作关系，律师的专业性和工作效率可以得到保障。

经历过海外移民的申请者都知道，在办理移民过程中，要经过很多繁琐程序，选择自己办理不现实且风险大，万一遇上骗局更是只能任由积蓄打了水漂。

因此寻找靠谱的移民机构将会对海外移民有重要的指导作用，让移民变得容易且高效！毕竟，只有专业的人才能干专业的事！

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千年嵩县：地大物博人不多

自陆浑之戎从西北迁至嵩县，这座小城至今已有数千年历史。山川地理，造就嵩县。纵览全境，“九山半岭半分川”所言不虚。嵩县何其不幸！沟壑山岭遍布，使其古来荒凉，近世又战乱频发、百姓凋敝。然而如今，人们不得不承认，嵩县又何其幸哉，伊水孕育中华第一相、二程巨子，还有被千年歌唱的自然风光。

2018年9月14日，河大党委书记卢克平满怀感慨地在一纪念馆留言簿上写下几行字“铭记历史，感恩人民，办好河大，服务国家！”

国立河南大学抗战时期潭头办学纪念馆，位于栾川潭头镇，该镇解放前属嵩县。

就在这里，从1939年始，河大度过了坚苦卓绝的五年。

老校友怀念那段岁月时，常常把“嵩县情深”挂在嘴边。

1937年，举国危急，随后河大内迁嵩县。彼时，嵩县县城、潭头人民的行为令人感动，潭头镇高级小学主动腾出50余间校舍，作为河大教室和图书馆。

一些庙宇被改为河大校部机关办公用房。周围村的群众腾出数十间民房，供师生员工居住、工作。

尽管有潭头惨案的发生，但是嵩县附近险要位置，还是保障了此后五年河大平静的课桌。

据一些老人回忆，本来嵩县的中学教育不怎么样，但河大迁到嵩县后，学校老师大多都换成了先生、教授，最起码也是河大高年级的学生。

山区教育也开始活跃起来，时事测验等各种比赛每周都会举办，老百姓们对这样的教育也颇为欣喜。

“穷山恶水出刁民”似乎是人们对于山川之地的印象，但自古以来，嵩县这种对教育的热忱与中原别无二致，甚至更甚。

当然嵩县气质还是和中原不同，嵩县位于伏牛山北麓及其支脉外方山和熊耳山之间，99%的面积都是山区。

《左传》就曾夸张地记载，说周平王有一次到伊水岸上，看到许多人披头散发，在田野里祭祀，便感慨地说“不及百年，此其戎乎？其礼先亡矣！”意思是恐怕不到一百年，这里就会被戎人占领吧。

实际上，嵩县确是蛮戎所居，东周初，陆浑之戎从西北迁徙至此，不到200年，晋国以祭祀三涂山为名，把陆浑戎给灭了，陆浑遗民改头换面，学习中原，并以国为姓。

而“陆浑县”这个称呼，就是汉承秦后设置的。自此，经过夏“伊阙”、商“空桑”等附会的名字后，嵩县才开始有限的建制。

刻板印象一时半会改不了，东汉时，陆浑县还设有“防蛮都督”以防止此地滋生事端，“盖伊关以南大山长谷，多为蛮居，故置督以防之”。

之后一段时间里，嵩县建制混乱，名字也是五花八门。隋唐北宋时期，嵩县为畿县。

之后，嵩县因为地理位置险要，曾短暂地被升为嵩州，到了元末明初，嵩州经过战乱，经济破败，人口稀少，从州降为县，建制一直延续到现在。

造化赋予了嵩县险要位置，也给嵩县人带来了挑战。嵩县被外方山和熊耳山夹着，伊水贯穿全境。

因此，城镇、农业，基本都沿着伊水，线性分布在中部可怜的一块儿。古嵩县的治所，也沿着伊河从下游到上游不断变化。

旧时嵩县平原地带土壤并不肥沃。而山农更为艰辛，往往刚开始收成不错，但是三年之后，土壤肥力耗尽，人们只能另寻他处开垦。

因此，乾隆版县志评价嵩县人“食苦度日，不轻转徙”，也说因为山川峻岭，使得人们“轻生好斗”，只有近虑，没有远忧。

时至今日，这种评价恐怕对错参半。如今嵩县面积3009平方公里，人口60万，而豫东小城夏邑面积是嵩县的1/3，人口就到了100多万。

嵩县地广人稀名副其实，尽管山河堵塞，但嵩县仍处在河洛文化圈的核心，这种闭塞环境加厚重文化的组合，使嵩县呈现隐士般的文化图景。

千年嵩县：地大物博人不多，请保护好我们的金山银山

天宝三载，一个秋高气爽的日子，李白与杜甫在洛阳相遇，一见如故，在载入史册的会面结束后，他们且歌且行，向南到了嵩县。

尽管历史没能给嵩县沃土，但其峻岭山峰，使无数骚人流连于此，人们说，嵩县地貌，不仅有北方的险峻，更有南方的空灵幽静。

李白诗中就曾三咏九皋山，九皋山是如今鸣皋山，位于嵩县陆浑水库3公里处。在其中一首《鹤鸣九皋》中，他写道：

胎化呈仙质，长鸣在九皋。
排空散清泪，映日委霜毛。
万里思寥廓，千山望郁陶。
香凝光石见，风积韵弥高。
凤侣攀何及，鸡群思忽劳。
升天如有应，飞舞出蓬蒿。

这个自由奔放、渴望成仙的诗人，应看到了这山川上的灵气，渴望成为一只仙鹤。

但其余的人恐怕只想要尘世幸福，大诗人王翰、岑参、宋之问，都留恋此地美景，而后两者在陆浑附近还建有别墅。

诗人们总是触景生情，即便王翰在《送黄先生裳归嵩县》安慰将绝于仕途的好友时，还写道：

陆浑山好明如画，伊水波澄绿似苔；

西望白云亲舍近，满襟归兴不须哀。

嵩县的美景真至如此，竟有疗愈人生的作用？今天看来，也许是。

2005年，《中国国家地理》联合全国34家主流媒体举办的大型评选活动“中国最美的地方”中，白云山风景名胜区在“媒体大众组”与“网络手机人气组”评选中夺冠，嵩县白云山，成了中国最美的地方，与此同时的名头还有“人间仙境”。

如今，嵩县的山水带来了切实收益，2018年全年共接待游客1047万人次，实现综合效益46亿元。但对历史中的迁客骚人来说，嵩县魅力或许不仅在于自然造化。

《诗经》里一句“他山之石，可以攻玉”人尽皆知，但这首诗写的是嵩县恐怕很少有人知道。而嵩县伊水河畔又诞生了中华第一名相伊尹。

相传，伊尹母亲是采桑奴隶，一日梦见神人告知她将发大水，第二天她把这个消息告诉四邻，因泄露天机，她化为一棵桑树，人们在桑树里发现了一名婴儿，这名婴儿交给了王的奴隶厨师抚养。

因而人们说伊尹善从烹饪中发现帝王之道。后来伊尹成相，历商朝商汤、外丙、仲壬、太甲、沃丁五代五十余年，为商朝立下汗马功劳。

除了伊尹，传说“大禹三过家门而不入”也是在此。这里也是陆浑国故地。

当年楚庄王借伐陆浑之戎名义，陈兵周王城南郊，在这里，楚庄王问周使者天子的鼎有多重，尽管使者以“周德虽衰，天命未改。鼎之轻重，未可问也”回应，但仍改变不了周将衰亡的命运。

千年嵩县：地大物博人不多，请保护好我们的金山银山

或许，当诗人作诗的时候，他们不仅想到伊水边的沉吟，还会想到山川中的历史钩沉。

如果说诗经、大禹、伊尹、问鼎中原构成了嵩县的大开大合，那么宋以来，这里的自然山水则蕴含万物哲趣。

程颐程颢两兄弟的故里就在嵩县田湖镇。他们也长期在附近活动。

近百年后，继承二程衣钵的朱熹也是在这里，写就了“问渠那得清如许，为有源头活水来”的哲理诗句。

二程与朱熹，构成了宋明以来的儒学基础。其地位甚高，明清甚至有规定，在二程庙前，文官下轿、武官下马。

正如山川走出的人，嵩县的文化从不张扬，但伊洛的文化力量，似乎无声地在古代历史上迸发。

只是到了如今，嵩县又败于山川。交通、农业等弊端，使得嵩县有了国字头的称号：贫困县。

没有人不把嵩县近代贫困归结为地理环境。乾隆版《嵩山县志》，谈及村镇图说写道，“夫以十四万之户口，错处于千里环山境内，民有终其身未一见官，官有终其任未履厥地者。”其闭塞程度，可想而知。

但山川不仅是阻隔，也是可利用的资源，其中就有中药与矿产。现在嵩县森林覆盖率达62.9%，拥有1300余种中药材，被称为“天然药库”。

金、银、钼等金属矿产也存量丰富，黄金储量100吨，远景储量500吨。

但穷困，并没有因特产好到哪去。比如清代嵩县产木耳，一年一生，但因为利益，人们争相采伐，一座山头完了，就赶往下一个山头，使得木耳殆尽。

松、楸、椴、桐、栎亦是如此。而矿产则是开发的没有毁的多。

仅靠平原农业，嵩县不大可能供养那么多人口，依山川之利，物产、矿物虽弥补了粮食缺憾，却对自然造成永久伤害。

靠山“吃”山，已被证明行之不通。

如今，嵩县正在把青山绿水变为金山银山，一方面靠矿产、农产品产业链充实肌肉，例如对矿产钼进行深加工，使得原来6万元每吨的钼精粉，变成12万每吨的二硫化钼，或者每公斤65万元的金属铼；引进中药材企业，拉长嵩县中药产业链，做成中药、饮片、饮品等。

另一方面，嵩县发展靠旅游。嵩县北部是太行山区，东部伏牛-熊耳区，南部则是桐柏-大别山区，靠着白云山、天池山、陆浑湖、木扎岭等自然资源，嵩县文旅风生水起，拿到包括中国旅游强县、百佳深呼吸小城等诸多称号，白云山也获得2016年的“年度旅游机构创新奖”。

作为旅游资源强县，在全域旅游正热的档口，嵩县未来大有所为。

2018年，中国景区游客接待量超过60亿人次，保持着超过10%的增速，凭借着被李白、杜甫称赞过的美景，嵩县分得文旅产业一大杯羹不成问题。

而且嵩县创新之处在于，旅游资源托管给市场主体，旅游产业带动扶贫。

一方面把景区营销出去，一方面把贫困户作为旅游产业中的一环，提供住宿、餐饮服务，或贫困村整体搬迁，盘活土地资源，这种模式人称“嵩县经验”。

然而，在嵩县全域旅游向好时，我们不得不思考隐性问题。矿产开采的环境问题依然严峻，而景区市场化有没有标准：

白云山就在山水间开发了Cosplay巡游、王者荣耀手游比赛，这种颇有争议的开发怎么权衡？

更重要的是，处在旅游规划地带的原住民，如果仅有当民宿老板或是离开故地两种方式可选，原来的文化生态就会荡然无存。

也许，无论是旅游还是物产，树立可持续发展意识都应当被嵩县纳入顶层设计，与自然共生。

当然，也要和原住民共生，采取文化生态留存、营造社区，采取科学举措，使原住民成为文化景观的一部分，应当更能赢得喝彩。

同时，嵩县是历史文化大县，如果仅靠山水夺人眼球，那未免流于贫瘠，发生在这片山川上的故事很多。

深入研究嵩县诗歌、理趣，把厚重文化化作文旅产品，或许是嵩县旅游的新亮点：景区公共设施载体是其一，能拿、能玩、能吃的文创是其二，而大手笔的产业园、影视剧、实景演出也应被嵩县纳入考虑。

至今，嵩县国贫县的帽子还没有摘掉，但人们看到这个小县城的倔强，人穷志不穷，无论是人民还是政策，都对这片土地包含深情。

或许在几年前，这顶帽子还是绊脚石、标识牌，但如今，这帽子成了合适的垫脚石，等待哪天嵩县一跃冲天。

最初人们垒起高墙，抵御聚落间的攻伐。之后人们用商业加速了城市的繁荣。如今八千年风雨过去，人们期望把高墙拆掉，让自身筋骨显露无遗。

这时，一个答案对河南城市至关重要：什么地标才能代表一座城？

我们认为，一座城市的温度，体现在她的地标里，是建筑、记忆、或是人的群像。我们同样认为，大潮之下，中原城市的发展进程，从未像今天一样值得被关注。我们希望尽微小之力，去丈量18个地市、108个县的地标，它们或亘古不变，或覆灭更新。它们代表了这片土地的历史、现在和未来。

这便是豫记发起“河南城市新地标计划”的初衷。这个计划以郑州起，这场近乎行为艺术的田野调查，将成为我们初心的最好注脚。

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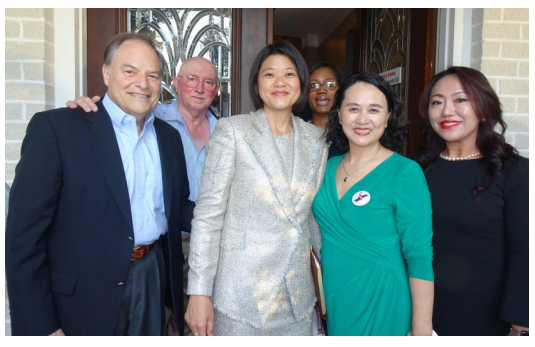
2020总统大选民主党候选人杨安泽Andrew Yang私人募款餐会九日晚在罗玲宅邸盛大举行

出席募款餐会的华裔代表与国会议员Nick Lampson（左四 ），餐会主人罗玲夫妇（右四、右一 ）与（左起 ）王福生、Ada Wang、李雄、俞晓春等人合影。

国会议员Nick Lampson（左二 ）也出席大会，与（右起 ）著名地产经纪Ada Wang,「腾龙教育学院」董事长俞晓春，「美国亚裔民主党俱乐部」主席罗玲及其夫婿合影。



与会贵宾（前排左起 ）国会议员Nick Lampson, 德州最高法院法官候选人Kathy Chang, 主人罗玲，著名房地产经纪人Ada Wang。

民主党总统候选人杨安泽（左二 ）与罗玲（右一 ）一家合影。

民主党总统候选人杨安泽（左 ）与中国城市长李雄（右 一）合影。

国会议员Nick Lampson （中 ）与著名房地产经纪人Ada Wang（右 ）等人合影。

「腾龙教育学院」董事长俞晓春（右 ）与国会议员Nick Lampson（左 ）在餐会上合影。

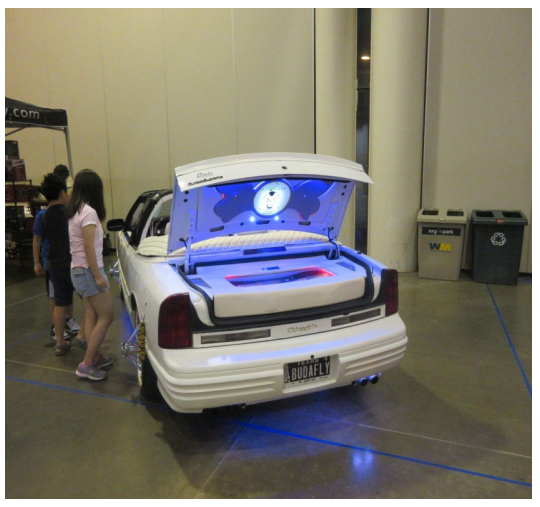
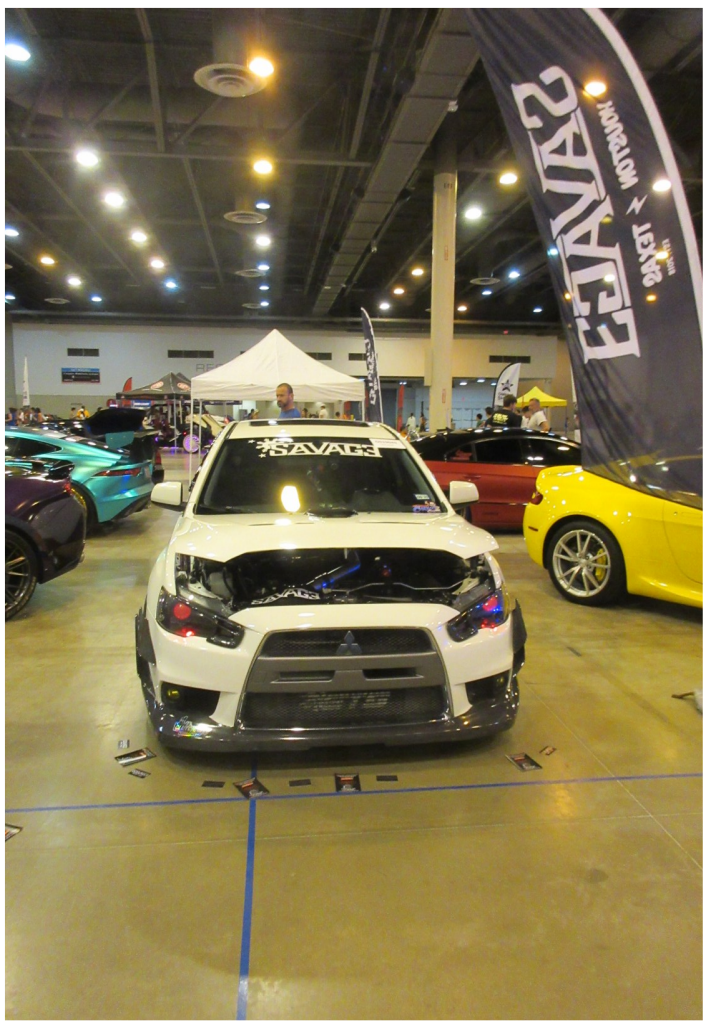
民主党总统候选人杨安泽Andrew Yang（右二 ）在募款餐会上讲话。旁为巨额捐款人李雄（右一 ）、宴会主人罗玲（中）及其家人（左一，左二 ）。

本报记者秦鸿钧摄影

民主党总统候选人杨安泽（中 ）在餐会上发表演说。

民主党总统候选人杨安泽下车抵达餐会现场，在门外接受电视台记者访问。

休城画页 Daily News

2019 Omni 12改装车嘉年华集锦回顾

一场以各式改装车系列为主题的的Omni12改装车嘉年华日前在NRG中心完美落幕。现场高达60辆改装车进驻。活动透过嘉年华活动形式让民众对于各种改装车性能与用途有更深度的认识。呈现时尚锋芒的创意力,一起响应休闲健康的生活型态。行家们发挥各项绝技.活动期间感受到社区年轻朋友们的热烈回响。是休斯顿夏日尾端的一大福音，车迷和初学者们都得以共同参与的好机会。还有表演和有奖征答活动票选出最受欢迎的改装车各区域分组前三名。奖金好礼一并大相送。吸引民众参与爱好者专家们一起倾听学习有关于改装车的最新知识，加上购物并集群度过一个美好的时尚文化盛会。Omni12也将不定期举办联合车聚活动，让车友们可以互相交流。