

GUNG HAY FAT CHOI



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VANCOUVER SUN

BREAKING NEWS | VANCOUVERSUN.COM SERIOUSLY WESTCOAST SINCE 1912 FRIDAY, JANUARY 31, 2014 | FINAL

Full-patch killers: Angels plead guilty

Kelowna bikers plead guilty to manslaughter for beating de

IM BOLAN
 Norman Cocks and Robert Thomas pleaded guilty to manslaughter Thursday in a beating that left family man Dale Fullins dead in June 2011. It's another blow for the notorious biker gang, which has been hit with undercover operations that have led to arrests and convictions against several members and associates in recent years. Cocks, 53, and Thomas, 49, were originally charged with second-degree murder, but agreed to a plea on the lesser charge. Each stood before B.C. Supreme Court Associate Chief Justice Austin Collins wearing



YEAR OF THE HORSE
 Siblings Bonnie Li, 10, Wesley, 4, and Cindy, 7, prepare to celebrate Chinese New Year with Joey Kwan at Richmond's Aberdeen Centre where colourful festivities went late into the night. » A5

MY NISSAN MY YEAR
 WITH OUR ALL-NEW LINEUP: MAKE IT YOURS

WEATHER
 MAINLY SUNNY FULL REPORT: #12

THE VANCOUVER SUN
 January 31, 2014

TECHNOLOGY
Government web apps vulnerable: B.C. auditor

More than half found to have significant risks

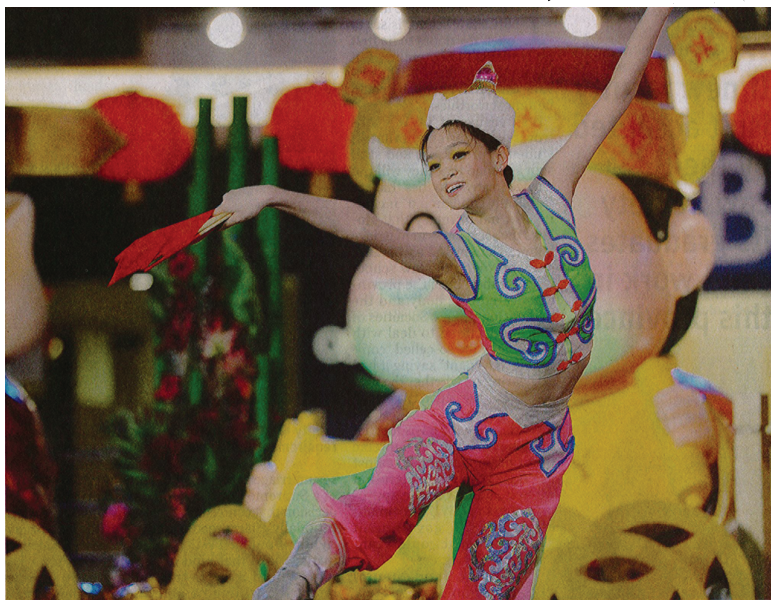
CANADIAN PRESS
VICTORIA — British Columbia's government is vulnerable to cybersecurity threats and needs to be unwavering in its search for possible attacks, said the province's auditor general. In a report released Thursday, Russ Jones outlined how an audit by his office found security vulnerabilities ranking from medium to critical in more than half of the government's web applications that it reviewed. Jones said the security audit, conducted from December 2012 to February 2013, produced a swift response from the government to erect security protections. But the report concludes the government must do more to stay abreast of security threats. The 26-page audit, "Information Technology Compendium," said 56 per cent of government web applications reviewed in the report were not adequately protected and contained one or more cybersecurity risks, ranking from medium to critical. The audit scanned the security vulnerability of 80 government web applications and found more than half were not adequately protected and contained one or more security risks. Web applications are programs embedded into websites to perform specific functions. "The government of British Columbia uses its websites to interact with its citizens, provide program information and offer online services," the report stated. "Online services include, but are not limited to, applying for a medical service plan, social assistance, permits and licences, legal services, completing a land title search and researching property assessments."

LUNAR NEW YEAR
Excitement builds for Year of the Horse

People arrive early at Richmond's Aberdeen Centre in anticipation

MATTHEW ROBINSON
 VANCOUVER SUN

Celebrations don't get much bigger than the worldwide countdown to Lunar New Year — also known as Chinese New Year or the Spring Festival. Here in North America, Richmond's Aberdeen Centre is central to the celebration, and thousands of people from across the region who mark the event — among them Canadians of Chinese, Korean and Vietnamese descent — flocked to the mall for a countdown bash to ring in the Year of the Horse Thursday night. Things at the centre started out at a gentle canter early in the afternoon with most folks heading straight to the food court for cream puffs, barbecued duck, bubble waffles or stewed pork and taro over rice. Downstairs at the Flower and Gift Fair, on its seventh day of an eight day run, shoppers snapped up orchids, bonsais, and eight-tiered lucky bamboo arrangements from vendors like Kevin Mok at Vanda Florist. Mok looked around the mall, decorated with hanging lanterns and dressed-up in lucky colours. "Our customers from China come and say this is what it's supposed to be," he said proudly, referring to the Lunar New Year celebrations, which had picked up into a strong trot. This is the second year Mok has set up a stand in the lead-up to the new year. "Better business than last year," he said, adding there was still one day to go. He and other shopkeepers intend to hang lettuce Friday to feed the lion, a tradition he said creates fortune for the upcoming year. Richmond fortune teller Sherman Tai took a pause from reading the fortunes of a steady lineup of people to tell The Sun what can be expected in the Year of the Horse. "This year you need to be a little more patient," he said, explaining that the horse can be an aggressive animal with too much anger. "It's one of our



Eva Shen was among the stage performers entertaining crowds at Richmond's Aberdeen Centre, where colourful Lunar New Year celebrations went late into the night.

best friends but you need to train it." Tai, who was reading fortunes for an AIDS charity, said it is the year of "having too much fire." That heat will rear up in our weather, with high temperatures on the way, said Tai, and it could also burn some investors, with stock markets that will be tough to play. The Canadian dollar will continue to drop as resources like oil and gold weaken, he said. In real estate, the market in Richmond could see a five to eight per cent drop, while other markets located close to Vancouver will remain stable. "We need to be more conservative," he said. Alison Choy, of A&W Ent. Ltd., said it wasn't the strongest year of Spring Festival sales she'd seen. "If there was a holiday, (people) could bring their families here," she said earlier in the afternoon from a seat nestled among red envelopes and custom door hangings that bring "a long life, a lucky star over your head, and happiness." Choy said last year's celebrations fell on a weekend and brought many more people out to the three-storey mall. But by the time performances began on the main stage, the packed mall was in full gallop. Aberdeen Centre has been marking the event since 1989 and the festivities are scheduled to run through Sunday. mattrobinson@vancouversun.com

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