

THE WEEK AHEAD

MONDAY

Stock market fans: Beginning today, the Stock Exchange of Thailand is going to put a "(C)" for Caution beside the symbols of stocks the SET believes are risky. Not that buying such stocks is gambling, not at all.

The Committee of Failed Auctions is going to the always interesting full board of the National Broadcasting and Telecommunications Commission today with a revised plan calling for the August broadband auction to be held in September.

Starting today, commuters will have to pay a toll of between 15 and 35 baht to use the hitherto free Phra Pradaeng-Bang Khunthian section of Motorway 9, aka the Outer Ring Road.

The annual grand slam tennis tournament at Wimbledon begins today. The finals will be played on Friday and Saturday of next week. In Russia, the World

Cup will be down to the final eight teams after tonight's two matches.

TUESDAY

It's International Plastic Bag Free Day today. This is false advertising, since we have been informed reliably that stores will not give away free plastic bags and some won't use any plastic bags at all. Trial is to begin at the Criminal Court today for B-list celebrity Akarakit "Benz Racing" Worarojcharoendet and two co-defendants. They allegedly colluded with Lao drug trafficker Xaysana Keopimpha to launder cash and assets including high-end cars.

Airbnb's regional public policy chief Mich Koh is to meet with government officials today to discuss a proposal to legalise the app-driven room-sharing service. The app placed more than 1.2 million tourists in Thai rooms, condos and houses last year.

Blue Line fares scheduled to rise today will, in fact, remain unchanged for a little while.

WEDNESDAY

The Aranyaprathet-Poipet train link is to reopen today. Strongmen premiers Hun Sen and Prayut Chan-o-cha are scheduled to be there.

The Bank of Thailand will release its monetary policy report. Unsurprisingly, no surprises are likely.

Bangkok International Auto Salon, today through next Monday at Impact Muang Thong, bills itself as "Asean's biggest modified automotive show and sale." It's big enough to charge 100 baht.

North Korea will host South Korea in Pyongyang for a basketball friendly. The Trump summit grabbed headlines, but on the ground, Seoul and Pyongyang are making goo-goo eyes far beyond mere token diplomacy.

Israel will announce plans today to send a spacecraft to the moon.

THURSDAY

Triennial Photo Bangkok Festival opens today for a two-month exhibition in 28 galleries and spaces around the city. Details on venues and special events at PhotoBangkokFestival.com

The Government Housing Bank is peddling mortgages "before rates rise" at its annual GHB Houses@Bangkok show from today through Sunday at Queen Sirikit National Convention Centre.

The two-day National Conference On Computing & Information Technology opens today at King Mongkut's University of Technology Thonburi. The international part of the conference will be at the Shangri-La Hotel, Chiang Mai.

Isis Thailand ... oh we love that ... Isis Thailand will feature a lecture this morning by Mark Thompson entitled

"Democracy's Discontents in Southeast Asia." The event is presented by the Institute of Security and International Studies (ISIS) of Chulalongkorn, and starts at 10 at the Faculty of Political Science.

FRIDAY

All 11.4 million holders of welfare cards can register, starting today at all MRT stations, to ride the Bangkok Blue and Purple Lines for free, from July 20 onwards.

Thailand International Dog Show at Impact Muang Thong, today through Sunday, is all about canines, but dogs aren't welcome. This "dog show" is all about marketing food, fashion breeding, care and grooming of people's best friends.

Trump vs China kicks off officially today, when US customs begins adding 25% tariffs to various Chinese goods worth \$50 billion. China is to roll out retaliation on the same value of US imports. World Cup quarter-finals begin this evening.

SATURDAY

This year's July 4 American Picnic will be held at Bangkok Patana School, Sukhumvit Soi 105 on Saturday, July 7 from 12 noon — 8pm. The Independence Day Committee has a great day planned with lots of American food and drink, music and activities, and a chilli-cook-off, and everyone's invited, both to the picnic and the booth where you buy a ticket.

The Bangkok Triathlon, actually a two-day, multi-race event returns after a two-year absence. Six categories of difficulty including some "tough guy" races will feature swimming in the Chao Phraya River, running across the Rama 8 Bridge, and cycling on bike paths. Register under the bridge a day before your event.