

Scan QR Code to access the 'Special webpage against Epidemics' webpage for latest information on the outbreak



or enter URL:
<https://www.ssm.gov.mo/PreventWuhaninfection/>
 Novel Coronavirus Response and Coordination Centre
 Enquiries: Centre for Disease Control and Prevention
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A NEW PREMIUM CARRIER FROM TAIWAN LAUNCHED FLIGHTS TO MACAU YESTERDAY DURING A CEREMONY AT THE LOCAL AIRPORT

P4

WANZAI PORT RE-OPENING MARRED BY IMPORTED CORONAVIRUS CASES

P2

WHAT TO EXPECT IN THE YEAR OF THE RAT

INSIDE



AP PHOTO



Singapore The outbreak of a SARS-like virus that's killed at least 17 people appeared in the Asian financial hub of Singapore, as Chinese health officials scrambled to halt its spread. Travel was halted in Wuhan, China, where the virus was first detected, nearby municipalities restricted the use of transport and public sites, and schools in surrounding Hubei province delayed the opening of spring terms.

Myanmar A top United Nations official who deals with human rights in Myanmar said yesterday that the international community must continue to put pressure on the Southeast Asian nation to follow any decision by the International Court of Justice regarding its treatment of minority Rohingya Muslims. In a unanimous decision, the court added that its order for so-called provisional measures intended to protect the Rohingya is binding "and creates international legal obligations" on Myanmar.

AP PHOTO



Japan Shelters made of cardboard start popping up in the basement of Tokyo's Shinjuku train station right before the shutters come down at 11 p.m., in corridors where "salarymen" rushing home and couples on late-night dates have just passed by. More on p17

TOURISM BOARD CANCELS LUNAR NEW YEAR EVENTS

P8 WUHAN CORONAVIRUS

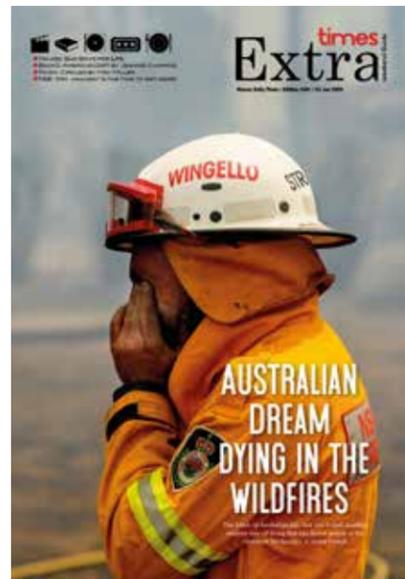


AP PHOTO



CHIEF EXECUTIVE: TOURISTS STILL WELCOME, BUT CASINOS COULD CLOSE

P6



times
Extra

AUSTRALIAN DREAM DYING IN THE WILDFIRES

The fabric of Australian life, that sun-licked, healthy, outdoor way of living that has drawn people to the continent for decades, is under assault

times
Extra

More on backpage

JOURNALIST ASSOCIATION COMPLAINS ABOUT POOR TRANSLATION

The Health Bureau has been providing unreliable Portuguese-language interpretation at press conferences held regarding the novel coronavirus and pneumonia outbreaks, the Macau Portuguese and English Press Association complained in a statement. In the statement, the association expressed their view that these press conferences should have been treated with extreme diligence as they concern matters of major public concern. The public were updated on the latest conditions and reminded of the appropriate measures at the daily press conference. The association requests that the Health Bureau improve the quality of Chinese-Portuguese interpretation at press conferences. The service is crucial, the association stressed, to the work of Portuguese-speaking journalists. It is stipulated in the Basic Law that both Chinese and Portuguese are the official languages of the city.

XINHUA



A ferry departs from Macau to Wanzai Port in Zhuhai

LUNAR NEW YEAR FAIR HOURS SHORTENED

Business hours during the Lunar New Year Fair will be shortened as part of the citywide strategy to prevent pneumonia, the Municipal Affairs Bureau (IAM) announced in a statement. The fair will close earlier than originally planned, ending at 8 p.m. today instead of 2 a.m. tomorrow as intended. The fair takes place in two locations: Tap Seac Square and Lao Hon Garden Market. Meanwhile, the fireworks and firecracker bazaar will be open from noon today. Body temperature screening stations will be set up at the entrances to both bazaars.

ONLINE SAR PASSPORT APPLICATIONS NOW AVAILABLE

Applications for the Macau Special Administrative Region Passport and travel permits to some international destinations can now be completed using the Identification Services Department's mobile application. Applicants were previously required to complete the applications at the bureau's counters. This e-service now allows residents above the age of five to apply for the documents anywhere. The app is available in Chinese, English and Portuguese, and on both iOS and Android. To submit an application, residents should download the app and get a profile photo taken at an authorized photography house. The barcode printed on the photography receipt will direct the bureau to collect the applicant's e-photo. The processed documents need to be collected in person at the bureau's counters.

Wanzai Port opening marred by imported coronavirus cases

JULIE ZHU

THE resumption of ferry services at the Wanzai Port yesterday after a four-year break was marred by the developing Wuhan coronavirus situation in Macau.

Yesterday, Macau's Chief Executive and Guangdong's vice-provincial governor, together with other government officials from both Macau and Guangdong Province, presided over the reopening of Wanzai Port.

The Zhuhai side expects to record between 8,000 and 10,000 daily crossings on average at the new port.

Zhuhai authorities will open the port from 7 a.m. until 10 p.m. daily, as opposed to the previous arrangement when the port was only open for seven hours per day.

In total, there will be 110 ferries traveling between Inner Harbor Ferry Terminal and Wanzai Ferry Terminal.

The arrival hall on the Macau side will consist of six e-crossing channels and two manual channels. Another three back-up ma-

nual channels will be available inside a visa office.

In total, these channels are expected to register 1,710 crossings per hour. At the departure hall, there will be seven e-channels and two manual channels, and another three back-up manual channels. These channels can cope with 2,130 crossings per hour. Departure and arrival halls combined, the immigration checkpoints are capable of handling 3,840 crossings every hour.

On the Zhuhai side, there will be six e-channels in both the departure and arrival halls.

Zhang Shili, an official from the neighboring city on the mainland, told the media on the sidelines of yesterday's reopening ceremony that the Zhuhai side can complete a single crossing in 10 seconds. "The crossing time is shorter, and the experience is better," said Zhang.

Today is the last day of the year according to the lunar calendar.

Zhang estimated that a peak in crossings may occur on the third and fourth days of the Lunar New Year, January 27 and 28. He predicted that approximately 50,000 crossings would be recorded during the first seven days of the Lunar New Year.

A peak in crossings may occur on the third and fourth days of the Lunar New Year, January 27 and 28

"We expect that Macau residents and non-local workers living in Macau will choose to live in Zhuhai [in the future]," said Zhang, testifying to the improved convenience of the transportation facility. "After Wanzai's transportation becomes better, more non-local residents will choose to live here."

The Zhuhai government has already planned a railway station two minutes away from Wanzai Port. The station is an extension

of several of Guangdong's railway systems and will connect Wanzai to Guangzhou and Jiangmen.

Yesterday, it was originally arranged that a representative of Zhuhai's customs authority would be interviewed by the media on the sidelines of the ceremony.

However, Zhang was also questioned about Zhuhai's preparations for the Wuhan pneumonia situation.

Zhang said that Wanzai Port will carry out body temperature monitoring and that once a person with an unusually high body temperature is detected, they will be put in an isolation area at the port and later sent to a Zhuhai hospital for medical observation.

After Zhang's reply, the media was told to save similar questions for the Zhuhai customs authority representative. Once Zhang had finished answering questions however, the media was informed that there would be no interview with the customs authority representative.

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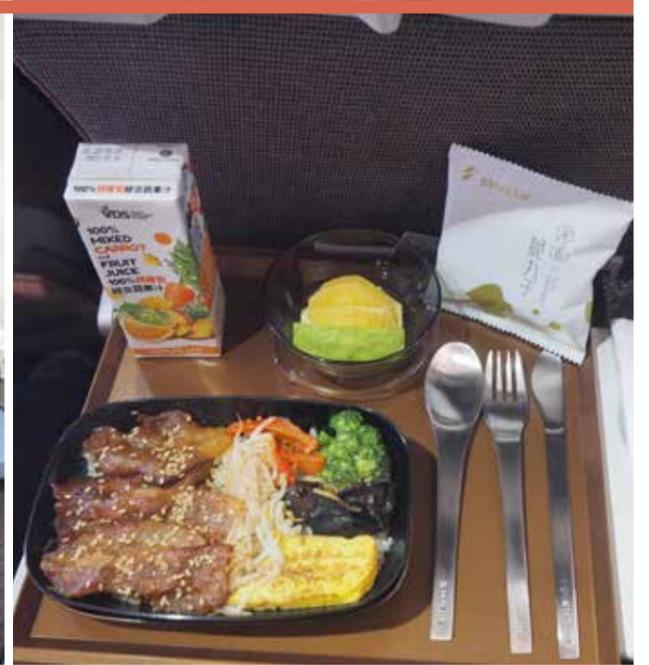
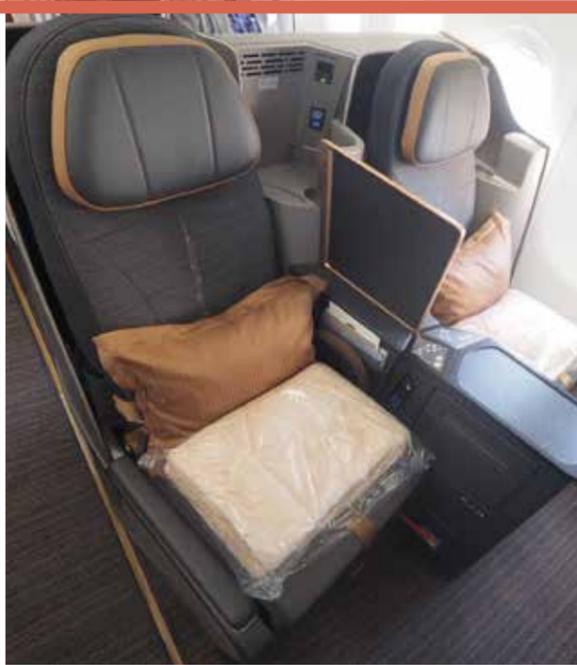
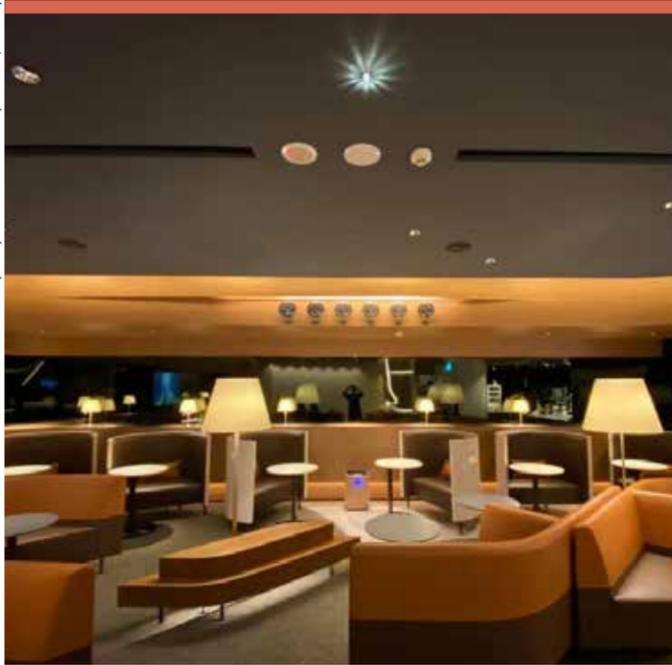
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COURTESY DICKSON LAU (LEFT) AND JETHRO PUN (CENTER, RIGHT)



Previews of the Starlux travel experience, as seen yesterday

Starlux confident in Macau potential, says company executive

ANTHONY LAM

TAIWAN'S Starlux Airlines is confident in Macau's sustainability and potential for development, a company executive has said.

Cho Po-Yue, special assistant to the airline's chairman, made the remarks at a ceremony at the Macau International Airport yesterday. The ceremony was held to celebrate the airline's inaugural flight between Macau and Taipei's Taoyuan International Airport. Another other two maiden flights cover routes to Penang,

Malaysia and Danang, Vietnam. The executive expressed the company's confidence in prospects for the Macau civil aviation market. Macau sits between northern and southern Asia, and Cho explained that the SAR's location is advantageous in attracting passengers to and from Asia.

With the airline's premium positioning, the executive is confident that Starlux will appeal to both business and leisure travelers in the region.

In 2019, the number of Taiwanese visiting Macau surpassed 1.06 million, making it the third most popular source market of

tourists after mainland China (27.92 million) and Hong Kong (7.35 million).

This gives the acting director of the airline's office in Macau, Lee Pei Ju, confidence too. On top of that, Lee noted that Taiwan is also popular among Macau residents. "Taiwan is a weekend vacation destination for many Macau residents," the director said in her speech at the inauguration ceremony yesterday.

According to passengers on the maiden Taipei flight yesterday, the carrier was living up to its promise to be a premium airline.

Jethro Pun, a local aviation enthusiast who was on the maiden flight from Taipei to Macau, described the meal offered onboard as "very nice." He flew economy class and was offered a main course that was co-presented by Taiwan's Hutong Yakiniku, a popular restaurant chain.

Accompanying Pun was Dickson Lau, a local flight experience reviewer, who was also served the same meal. Lau said that serving Japanese grill on a flight, while maintaining its succulence and tenderness, is not easy. "It was spot on," the reviewer told the Times.

Lau also said that the main course for business class passengers was served to order, unlike on many other airlines. The other two airlines flying the route do not offer this service either.

Despite the short flight time, Pun described the seats as above average quality. He is 177 centimeters tall and reported no discomfort in the economy-class seat. "But the Wi-Fi wasn't working," Pun added.

Meanwhile, Lau commended the service and quality of food offered at the airline's airport lounge in Taoyuan, which he visited before his flight.

IAS SUGGESTS NO CHILDCARE BEFORE 2 YEARS OF AGE

JULIE ZHU

THE Social Affairs Bureau (IAS) has suggested that local parents refrain from putting their children into nurseries before they are 2 years old.

During yesterday's TDM radio program, Choi Sio Yuen, head of the Society Mutual Assistance Department of the IAS, reported that nearly one-quarter out of 7,700 local babies who are currently under nursery care are younger than 2 years old.

Choi explained that children aged below 2 years old have a relationship of dependency with their parents. Such a relationship is related to the

children's mental and physical development, as well as their moral development.

Choi stated that the period before babies are 2 years old will never be compensated for once it is missed.

Currently, Macau has a total of 62 childcare centers providing a total of 11,000 positions. The number of positions corresponds to 57% of Macau's population aged below 3 years old.

The IAS is continuously adjusting the ratio between full-day and half-day childcare. As of the end of 2020, the IAS hopes to adjust the ratio between full-day and half-day care from the current 80:20 to 85:15.

FULL-YEAR INFLATION TALLIED AT 2.75%

THE inflation rate for the full year of 2019 amounted to 2.75%, according to data released by the Statistics and Census Service, marking a minor deceleration from the 3.01% annual growth recorded in 2018.

The full-year inflation rate was made available following the release of the Composite Consumer Price Index (CPI) for December 2019, which increased 2.56% year-on-year to 102.94, according to official data. Here, too, a deceleration was seen from the 2.7% year-on-year increase recorded in November.

For the whole year of 2019, the average Composite CPI grew 2.75% year-on-year to 101.78.

The increment was driven by higher rentals for dwellings, dearer charges for eating out, as well as increasing prices of fresh pork and gasoline. Analyzed by section, the growth was fueled by price inflation in the price indexes for education (+5.65%), transport (+4.86%), food and non-alcoholic beverages (+3.82%) and health products and services (+3.5%). Meanwhile, the index for communication dropped 1.66%, while that of alcoholic beverages and tobacco dropped 0.45%.

The Composite CPI, a key measure of inflation, reflects the impact of price changes on the general households in Macau. **DB**

HZMB TO GO TEMPORARILY TOLL-FREE

ACCORDING to a notification from the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macau Bridge (HZMB) Authority, small passenger vehicles will be able to travel on the HZMB toll-free for seven consecutive days from midnight on January 24 to midnight January 30.

During this period, small passenger vehicles travelling to or from the Zhuhai or Macau ports via the toll plaza of the HZMB will not be required to pay the 150 renminbi toll.

The arrangements for small passenger vehicles passing through the electronic toll lanes (i.e. non-stop) and manual toll lanes (i.e. stop to pay) will not change, however.

Small passenger vehicles are defined as passenger-carrying vehicles with seven seats or fewer (including the driver's seat), i.e., private cars and hire cars. **JZ**

SANDS CHINA LTD. WISHES YOU
A HAPPY & PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR
KUNG HEI FAT CHOI





Chief Executive: Coronavirus outbreak may peak after CNY

LYNZY VALLES

CHIEF Executive Ho Iat Seng did not rule out the possibility of forcing the closure of casinos in the coming days, as the government anticipates that the novel coronavirus outbreak will peak over the Chinese New Year period.

The announcement comes after the second case in Macau was diagnosed in a tourist from Wuhan. The 66-year-old patient entered Macau on Wednesday through the Border Gate and was detected as having a fever.

He was tested positive for the Wuhan coronavirus after undergoing a thorough examination at the Conde S. Januário Hospital.

In a special conference yesterday, Ho remarked, "I will not rule out that possibility [of closing casinos]. The condition keeps changing and we will only act accordingly."

"The worst time is after the Lunar New Year," he added, referring to the period after the first day of the festival on Saturday, when families traditionally stay at home.

Yesterday, local authorities said that the territory now requires residents and tourists to complete health declaration forms upon entering and departing the city at Inner Harbor Ferry Terminal, Macau Outer Harbor Ferry Terminal and Cotai Frontier Port.

According to the Health Bureau (SSM), the measure was implemented yesterday at 4:30 p.m.

According to Ho, he has met with Zhuhai authorities, and with the Secretary for Security Wong Sio Chak and Secretary for Transport and Public Works Raimundo do Rosário to work on epidemic prevention after Wanzai Port began operating yesterday morning.

Both Zhuhai and Macau are enacting a series of measures to

monitor travelers entering and departing the two cities.

"I have already given instructions to the SSM to start taking these measures from this afternoon. It's not just for us. We must have the same control and prevention measures with the other party to at least have the same indicators and the same criteria for banning the exit of people from Macau who have a fever and preventing them from leaving [Macau] to enter Zhuhai," said Ho.

Ho called on local residents to stay home during the annual festival as he noted that, "it is hard to pinpoint potential cases because during the incubation period patients can have no fever. Sore throat and body pain can be misinterpreted as symptoms of flu."

"We need to be very cautious. Although 17 years ago we had one SARS case, it doesn't mean we can easily get through [the situation]

this time. With all the people moving around, it makes prevention especially difficult. We have to prepare for the worst," said Ho.

Meanwhile, questioned by the press on whether there are plans to ban visitors from Wuhan, the city's

top official said that as the situation is "not that serious," the borders of Macau would remain open.

He recalled that Macau also did not ban any visitors during the SARS outbreak in 2003, and then implied that Wuhan authorities could only assist the SAR to limit visa issuance for its residents.

"At the time of the SARS virus outbreak, we also did not prohibit the entry of people from Hong Kong and we refused to think of establishing a quota for entries from Hong Kong for the time being."

Currently, there are about 5,000 people in Macau from Wuhan.

According to Ho, 129 Hubei residents left the SAR on Wednesday.

The top official also dismissed the possibility of a quota, arguing, "Even the World Health Organization has not issued that suggestion."

Starting from 6 p.m. yesterday, approximately 50 pharmacies in collaborative partnerships with public health institutions started selling surgical face masks in packs of 10 for 8 patacas.

To participate in the scheme, residents should present a valid identification card and are only allowed to purchase of 10 masks in 10 days.

Last night, several netizens posted photos of long queues at the pharmacies on social media.

According to the Novel Coronavirus Response and Coordination Center, there are 15 people who are under observation: 10 have had contact with infected patients, and five have a high possibility of having contracted the virus.

CONSUMER COUNCIL RECEIVES 22 INQUIRIES ABOUT MASK SALES

THE Consumer Council said it has received 22 telephone inquiries about mask prices. The complaints were mainly about consumers being unable to purchase masks and suspected cases of price inflation in response to the sharp growth in demand.

With the confirmation of the first case of the novel coronavirus in Macau, the Economic Services Bureau, the Health Bureau and the council carried out inspections to investigate the supply and price of hygiene items, such as masks.

During the inspection, the inspectors found that some retail outlets had no masks, and that this was mainly due to the great market demand for the products.

It was also revealed that mask selling shops had

increased the price of masks. The Consumer Council reminds consumers that if they find that mask prices at commercial establishments are too high they can collect information, take photographs of the prices and send the pictures to the council.

The Times visited six pharmacies in the peninsula yesterday to find all had sold out of disposable face masks. At other pharmacies, long queues of residents and non-local workers were spotted starting in the afternoon.

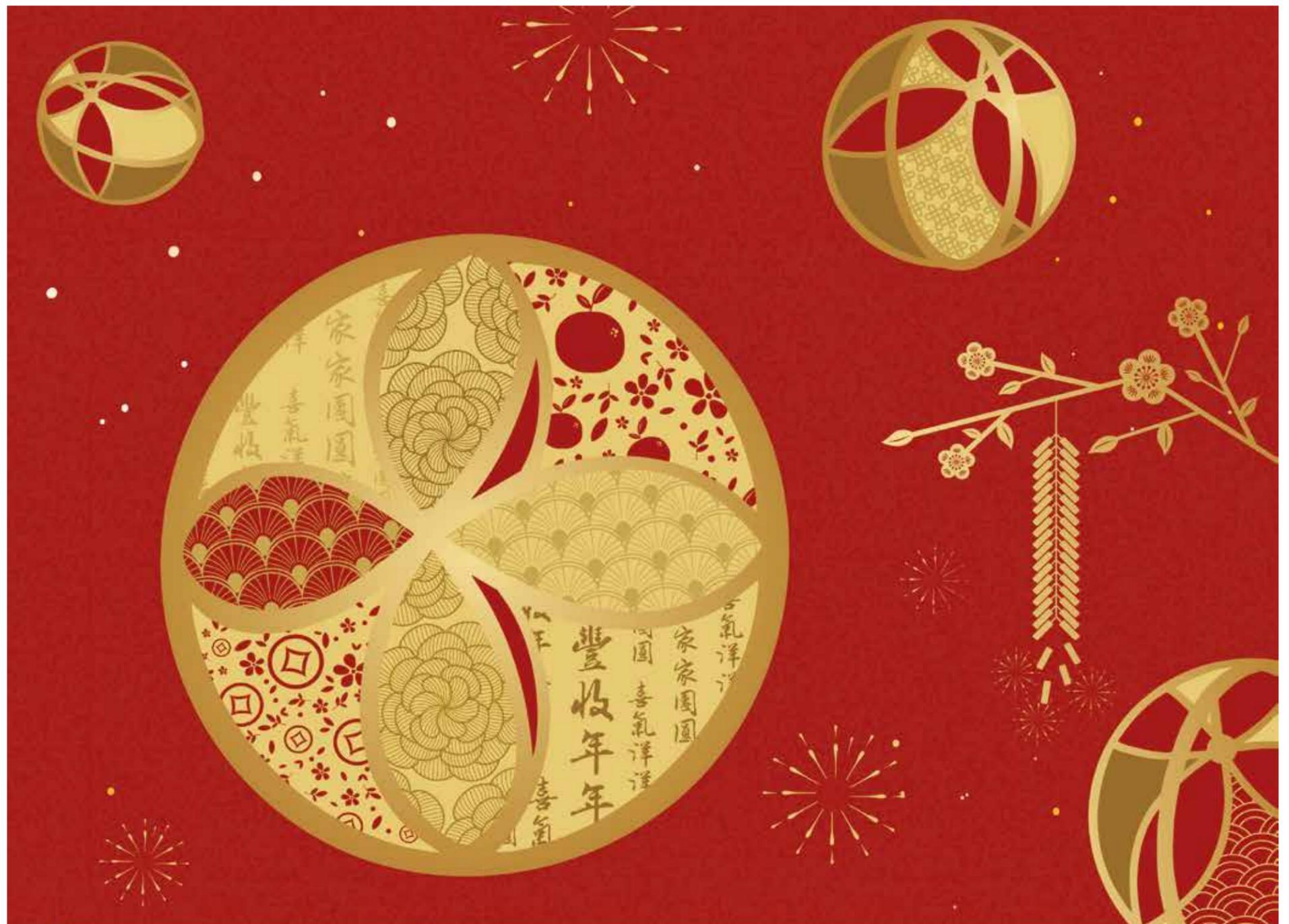
The council has urged local residents to purchase masks sensibly. They further reminded the public that panic buying would result in an unbalanced supply, deemed disadvantageous for the local government's management of the situation. JZ



NON-RESIDENTS NOW COVERED BY MASK RATIONING

THE Health Bureau (SSM) has decided to include non-resident workers in a scheme allowing masks to be purchased at a low cost by providing their identification card. Initially, the SSM had announced that the 20 million stockpiled masks being gradually distributed to collaborating pharmacies could only be bought by local residents. However, the health

authority has now said that each Macau identification card or blue card entitles the holder to purchase up to 10 masks at a time. The same ID be used to buy masks again after 10 days. As of yesterday afternoon, these 50 accredited pharmacies have a shared computerized record to track residents who have already purchased surgical face masks.



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MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

TOURISM BOARD CANCELS ALL CNY EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

RENATO MARQUES

THE Macao Government Tourism Office (MGTO) announced yesterday morning that all upcoming activities and events in celebration of the Lunar New Year will be cancelled.

A short message was sent to the media a few minutes before the blessing ceremony of the Parade for Celebration of the Year of the Rat at 11 a.m. at Sai Van Lake Square.

Later that afternoon, Chief Executive Ho Iat Seng confirmed the cancellation of Lunar New Year events at a press conference organized by his office to address updates and government measures on the pneumonia crisis.

The program for New Year celebrations included a series of public events that would take place in highly frequented areas of the city, such as the Senado Square, the Ruins of Saint Paul's and other areas around the city's historical center.

As in previous years, the highlight of the celebrations was supposed to be the parade, which was scheduled to occur on the third and eighth day of the Lunar New



A scene from a parade held on the first day of the Year of the Pig, last year

Year (January 27 and February 1).

The government's decision to cancel all events, including also the fireworks display, the Golden Dragon Parade, and the distribution of Lai Si by the Fortune, Happiness, Prosperity and Longevity Gods, among others, was made in light of the risks posed by the

growing number of pneumonia infections. Two cases of the new virus have already been confirmed locally.

Performances by nine teams from different countries and regions that were to take place in several locations in the city during the first two days of the new year

and in anticipation of their participation in the New Year Parade were also cancelled.

The MGTO had considered continuing with the events, but announced on Wednesday that they would take preventive measures to protect their frontline staff and warn people about the

new coronavirus.

"Considering these festive activities will attract large groups of audiences and also to strengthen protection for its frontline staff, the Office is adopting relevant preventions and calling for active cooperation by tourism operations in response to the latest developments of the novel coronavirus," MGTO said.

They added that the measures being taken included the display of posters advising on preventive measures; the provision of alcohol-based hand sanitizers for the audience, staff and performers; and preparing surgical face masks on site. Temperature screening at the event venue for staff and performers will also be enforced, as well as prompt action in case someone is found to have suspicious symptoms.

The final decision came after a second case of the novel coronavirus in Macau was confirmed by health authorities yesterday.

The annual CNY Charity Walk organized by the Macau Tower was also cancelled. The organizers said in a statement that they decided to cancel the stair-climbing sports event, CNY Charity Walk 2020, which was scheduled for January 27.

The organizers justified the event cancellation "in view of the recent confirmed case of the Wuhan coronavirus in Macau."

AD

CTM Wishes You Happy Lunar New Year

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SANDS CHINA ANNOUNCES DISCRETIONARY BONUS



SANDS China has announced a discretionary bonus for all eligible full-time employees in recognition of their contributions to the company last year.

According to a statement issued yesterday by the gaming operator, the discretionary bonus equivalent to one month's pay was paid to all non-management employees who have been with the company for one year or more.

A discretionary bonus will also be paid to all management employees based on the company's "Management Incentive Plan." Those who have worked for Sands China for less than one year will receive prorated bonuses if they joined the company before October 1, 2019, and were still employed on January 23, 2020.

"Sands China is again very pleased to announce a discretionary bonus and salary increase for our team members, whom we consider our most valuable asset," said Wilfred Wong, president of Sands China.

In addition, the company will increase the salaries of all eligible employees effective March 1, benefiting 99% of Sands China's more than 29,000 workforce.

According to the casino operator's statement, full-time employees earning monthly salaries less than or equal to MOP13,000 (before tax) will receive a pay rise of MOP500, resulting in a salary increase of between 3.8% and 4.7%. Eligible full-time employees earning monthly salaries above MOP13,000 (before tax) will receive a 2% pay rise. **DB**

MISE TO LAUNCH ONLINE TOOL FOR EVENT PROFESSIONALS

THE Macau Incentives, Meetings and Special Events Association (MISE) will launch its main project for this year in the next six months: an online tool where industry professionals can search and book event venues and find event suppliers in Macau.

MISE is set to unveil the Macao Event Planners' Guide in the first half of this year. According to a statement,

more details about the promotional tool will be announced at the next MISE event in March 2020.

The local association held its first industry event of the year at Galeria Lisboa in Macau Fisherman's Wharf on Wednesday.

Organized in partnership with International Live Events Association Hong Kong (ILEA HK), more than 50 professionals from the tourism

and events industry attended the networking event, 10 of whom were from the Hong Kong association.

"The opportunities for cross-border collaboration between Hong Kong and Macau have never been more apparent. Tonight's event confirmed our faith that Macau has the talent and variety to provide strong event solutions for all types of clients," said Sam Shei, president of ILEA HK. **LV**

LOCAL CANOEING TEAM TRIUMPHANT IN SINGAPORE

THE Baía do Mar Canoe Club, in the name of the Macau Canoe Team, won four medals at the 2020 Singapore Canoe Marathon held on January 19.

The international event that attracted home teams and teams from Thailand, Hong Kong, Taiwan and the U.S. welcomed more than 200 athletes in 20 teams.

The competition was the first time the canoe club from Macau had sent a team of young athletes to a major tournament. The team consisted of two male and two female athletes.

Sam Cheng and Chen Nga Man competed for the trophy of the 12-kilometer K2 event in the U16 Women's category and managed to win the bronze medal.



In the Master Women 18-kilometer K1 event, Racy Leong, a veteran of the club, won the race with a time of 1 hour and 49 minutes.

The club's head coach, Sam Siu Heng, won the Master Men (age 45-

49) 18-kilometer K1 race at 1 hour and 36 minutes. Vizeu Pedro Amado finished in second place with a time of 1 hour and 47 minutes in the Master Men (above age 50) 18-kilometer K1 event. **AL**

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Cancellation of SJM's Lunar New Year's Eve Gala Dinner

Sociedade de Jogos de Macau, S.A. ("SJM") announced cancellation of the Lunar New Year's Eve Gala Dinner scheduled to be held today (24 January 2020) at the Grand Ballroom of Grand Lisboa, Macau. The decision was made after careful consideration due to the outbreak of the Wuhan viral pneumonia in Macau, and in accordance with the disease-control efforts of the Macau SAR Government.

SJM's primary concern is the health and safety of our customers and employees. SJM stands firmly with the government and the Macau people in prevention of the disease, and is maintaining close communication with related government departments regarding the latest outbreak situation. A series of preventive measures has been taken by SJM according to the guidelines issued by the government.

In this coming Year of the Rat, SJM wishes Macau and its residents every prosperity and success, with good health, great luck and good cheers.

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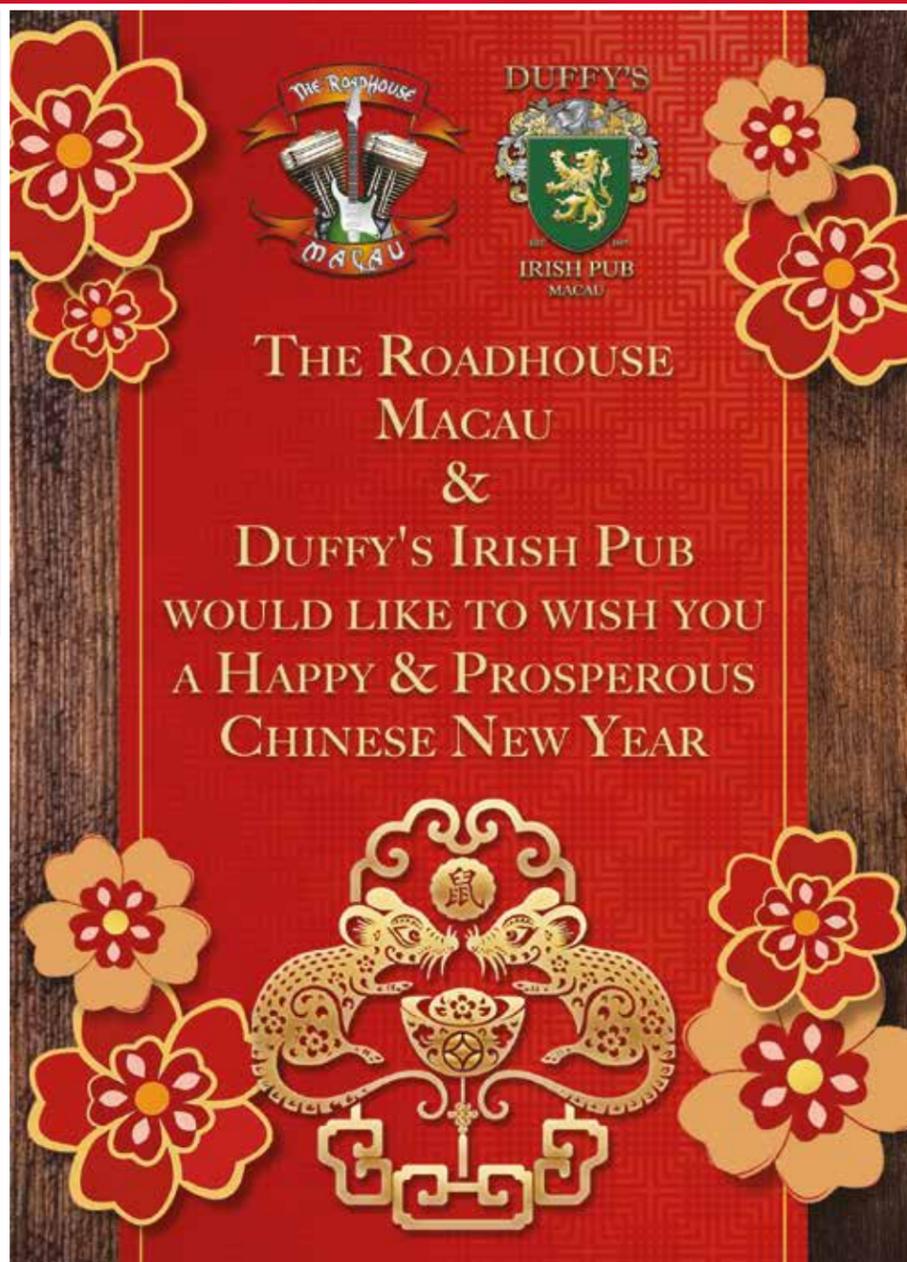


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HK CUSTOMS BUSTS LARGEST CANNABIS TRAFFICKING CASE IN A DECADE

Hong Kong customs seized about 70 kilograms of suspected cannabis buds at Hong Kong International Airport last week, the largest cannabis trafficking case detected by the customs at the airport in the past decade, an official statement said yesterday. Customs officers on Jan. 17 found the batch of suspected cannabis buds inside 32 speakers wrapped with tinfoil and vacuum bags, which arrived in Hong Kong from Canada. After follow-up investigations, a 50-year-old man suspected to be involved in the case has been arrested, and was released on bail pending further investigation. The customs said cannabis and controlled cannabinoids, such as tetrahydrocannabinol, are controlled dangerous drugs in Hong Kong and it is a criminal offense to bring such products into Hong Kong. Trafficking in dangerous drugs could lead to life imprisonment and a fine of up to 5 million Hong Kong dollars (about \$650,000).

GUANGZHOU WILL NO LONGER FIRE STAFF FOR HAVING MORE THAN TWO KIDS

Guangzhou will no longer dismiss civil servants and staff from state-owned companies if they violate family planning policies by having too many children, according to China Daily. Late last year, controversy brewed when a police officer in Yunfu city surnamed Xue was fired from his job when he was found to have had four children – one with his former wife and three with his current wife. Local police defended dismissing Xue for violating the family planning policies while many people said he should only have faced the same fines as everyone else. The Guangdong Provincial People's Congress has recently urged cities and departments in the province to remove inappropriate family planning regulations after the country allowed Chinese couples to give birth to a second child. Many local residents are also in favor of removing such family planning regulations, according to China Daily.

SUSTECH LAUNCHES JOINT NEUROSCIENCE CENTER WITH AUSTRALIAN UNIVERSITY

Southern University of Science and Technology (SUSTech), a rising research university based in Shenzhen, has launched a joint center for neuroscience and neural engineering with a leading Australian university. The project was approved in 2019 after four years of close collaboration with the University of Queensland in the fields of neuroscience and neural engineering, according to SUSTech. Chen Shiyi, president of SUSTech, said the joint center will promote bilateral technological development that will enrich brain science research with more profound knowledge and wisdom. It is an opportunity for the city of Shenzhen to transform basic research into clinical applications, he noted. More than 50 experts and scholars in the field, including members of the leadership of both universities, attended the launch ceremony held at SUSTech's Shenzhen campus.

Hong Kong seeks powers to curb online harassment amid unrest

BLAKE SCHMIDT & SHELLY BANJO

HONG Kong's privacy chief said cases of online harassment have surged since the city's protests erupted last year, as the government seeks new powers to take down posts and prosecute their authors.

Privacy Commissioner Stephen Wong said the agency received about 4,700 reports about doxxing and other types of harassment since June, with some 1,400 cases referred to police for criminal investigation. About one-third of the cases involve complaints about online attacks on the police, including the publication of personal details about officers and their families, Wong said.

"The internet has become a refuge for hate in Hong Kong," he told an annual briefing.

The Hong Kong government is considering expanding the privacy commissioner's powers to pursue criminal cases and to seek the removal of content from social media feeds and websites. Opposition lawmakers and human rights groups have questioned whether the regulations would unnecessarily limit free speech without providing sufficient privacy protections.

Hong Kong protest groups



THOMAS LEFEBVRE

have relied on social media platforms such as Facebook and Telegram to organize a historic wave of protests over the past seven months, with some turning to the sites to criticize police officers whom they accuse of using excessive force. In October, Hong Kong's High Court granted the government's request for a court order banning the publication of officers' personal information.

The Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau outlined potential measures in a paper submitted to the city's Legislative Council this week. Wong argued that the commission needed more powers to pursue harassment, adding

that "restrictions on certain rights especially fundamental human rights like freedom of speech have to be proportionate to other competing rights."

Investigations have so far resulted in eight arrests for exposing data without consent, one prosecution and no convictions, Wong said. "The success rate is nil," he said.

Pro-democracy lawmaker Charles Mok said he was concerned that the proposals and the recent court orders could unfairly prioritize the police above other victims. He said the injunctions appeared to be part of an effort to erode internet freedoms in the former British colony.

Human Rights Watch urged the government to broaden the definition of personal data to include online and device identifiers, to impose strict conditions on sensitive personal data that reveals ethnicity or political and religious views. The group also called for a moratorium on government use of facial recognition until comprehensive privacy protections are introduced.

"The government appears to be empowering regulators, but not empowering individual rights when it comes to privacy," said Maya Wang, a researcher with Human Rights Watch. **BLOOMBERG**

HONG KONG

Protest messages shared in Lunar New Year packets

HONG Kong's anti-government protests are putting a new spin on a Lunar New Year tradition.

Every year, adults hand out red packets stuffed with cash to children and young, single adults. Messages printed on them generally convey wishes for prosperity and happiness, but artist Jason Kwan has designed rubber stamps for those who want to add a political message.

Kwan says stamping the packets can be therapeutic for those who have taken part in the



Jason Kwan makes a 'red packet' with the words "Liberate Hong Kong" in his workshop

protests and offer a sense of participation. Many of the printed messages were drawn from the protest movement, expressing a desire for greater democracy or an investigation into alleged police abuses. "Although a rubber stamp can convey relatively little in terms of de-

tails and information, I think the rubber stamps could evoke the memories of the Hong Kongers who have gone through this," Kwan said.

The Lunar New Year holiday is the most important on the Chinese calendar and falls on Saturday this year.

Hong Kong's protests began in June to oppose proposed extradition legislation that would have allowed Hong Kong residents to be sent to stand trial in mainland China. The bill was withdrawn, but the demonstrations widened

to other demands, fueled by a distrust of the Communist Party-ruled central government in Beijing.

Artistic elements have accompanied the protests, from protest-themed tattoos to "Lennon Wall" displays of street art incorporating posters, graffiti and collages of sticky notes.

Kwan has been incorporating protest themes into his work for some time. He said he hopes to use the stamps to record specific incidents and promote the movement's goals.

Hong Kong was returned to China from British colonial rule in 1997 but was promised certain rights not afforded to the mainland. Many in Hong Kong believe those rights are being eroded by Beijing. **AP**

MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

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TECHNOLOGY

Malaysia's 5G plan follows China's path

MALAYSIA is offering airwaves for 5G networks at little cost to carriers to reduce the investment needed for the speedier wireless service, a model followed by China in its rollout of the technology last year.

The government will forgo revenue from spectrum auctions and instead will allocate airwaves to a consortium of carriers via a tender starting after April, Al-Ishsal Ishak, Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission chairman, said in an interview. Commercial 5G services may be available in the country by the third quarter this year, according to a January presentation by the commission.

The cheap airwaves policy frees up funds for companies including Maxis Bhd. and Axiata Group Bhd. to invest in 5G infrastructure that could cost at least 7 billion ringgit (\$1.7 billion) over the next five years, Al-Ishsal said. The policy also sets up competition among carriers including Maxis, Axiata, Telekom Malaysia Bhd. and Digi.com Bhd. to form groups that will vie for the license to operate the country's first 5G network.

Countries around the world are pushing for upgrades to the higher-capacity wireless technology, which also has less lag or latency, because it is crucial for implementing industrial applications from self-driving trucks to remote surgery and robotics.

Axiata unit Celcom Axiata Bhd. has said it expects 5G to be a catalyst for consolidation in the industry to help spread

the cost of building the networks and to increase the likelihood of winning a bid for the solo consortium license to serve the country of about 32 million people.

Malaysia's approach will avoid duplicating infrastructure, allowing consumers to benefit from lower cost, Al-Ishsal said in the northern city of Langkawi.

China's carriers are also benefiting from very cheap 5G airwaves as the government pushed for early implementation of the networks in a bid for tech supremacy, including at Huawei Technologies Co., the world's largest supplier of 5G wireless equipment.

The Malaysian and Chinese approach contrasts with most of the rest of the world, where governments from Germany to Italy, Taiwan, India and the U.S. have pushed to raise billions of dollars in auctions of spectrum.

In Malaysia, carriers will only need to pay "a few thousand ringgit" per tower, Al-Ishsal said.

Malaysian carriers may also hold costs down by using 5G equipment from China-based suppliers including Huawei, which has been subject to a U.S. boycott and pressure campaign asserting the company's gear poses a risk to national security.

Malaysian Prime Minister Mohamad Mahathir has pushed back, saying in May last year that the country will use Huawei gear "as much as possible," and that it offers a "tremendous advance over American technology." **MDT/BLOOMBERG**

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'BIRTH TOURISM' FACES NEW RESTRICTIONS FROM US STATE DEPARTMENT

MATTHEW LEE, COLLEEN LONG, WASHINGTON

TRUMP administration is coming out with new visa restrictions aimed at restricting "birth tourism," in which women travel to the U.S. to give birth so their children can have a coveted U.S. passport.

Visa applicants deemed by consular officers to be coming to the U.S. primarily to give birth will now be treated like other foreigners coming to the U.S. for medical treatment, according to State Department guidance sent Wednesday and viewed by The Associated Press. The applicants will have to prove they are coming for medical treatment and they have the money to pay for it.

The State Department planned to publicize the rules today [Macau time], according to two officials with knowledge of the plans who spoke to the AP on condition of anonymity. The rules will take effect Friday.

The practice of coming to the U.S. to give birth is fundamentally legal, although there are scattered cases of authorities arresting operators of birth tourism agencies for visa fraud or tax evasion. And women are often honest about their intentions when applying for visas and even show signed contracts with doctors and hospitals.

The Trump administration has been restricting all forms of immigration, but the president has been particularly plagued by the

AP PHOTO



issue of birthright citizenship — anyone born in the U.S. is considered a citizen, under the Constitution. He has railed against the practice and threatened to end it, but scholars and members of his administration have said it's not so easy to do.

Regulating tourist visas for pregnant women is one way to get at the issue, but it raises questions about how officers would determine whether a woman is preg-

nant to begin with, and whether a woman could get turned away by border officers who suspect she may be just by looking at her.

Consular officers right don't have to ask during visa interviews whether a woman is pregnant or intends to become so. But they would have to determine whether a visa applicant would be coming to the U.S. primarily to give birth.

Birth tourism is a lucrative business in both the U.S. and abroad.

American companies take out advertisements and charge up to \$80,000 to facilitate the practice, offering hotel rooms and medical care. Many of the women travel from Russia and China to give birth in the U.S. The U.S. has been cracking down on the practice since before Trump took office.

There are no figures on how many foreign women travel to the U.S. specifically to give birth. The Center for Immigration Studies,

a group that advocates for stricter immigration laws, estimated that in 2012, about 36,000 foreign-born women gave birth in the U.S., then left the country.

The draft rule is "intended to address the national security and law enforcement risks associated with birth tourism, including criminal activity associated with the birth tourism industry,"

a State Department spokesperson said. **AP**

Student's jailing for US tweets shows Beijing's reach

THE case of a Chinese student jailed for tweets he sent while studying in America underscores that being overseas is no protection from Beijing's censors.

Luo Daiqing, who attends the University of Minnesota in the U.S., was sentenced to six months in jail by a district court in November for "provocation" after he posted tweets that "defaced the image of the country's leaders" and had a "negative impact" on society. He was detained in his hometown of Wuhan between July 12 and Jan. 11.

A Twitter account linked to Luo posted photos showing government slogans printed over a cartoon villain who looks similar to Chinese President Xi Jinping, according to Axios, which first reported the case Wednesday. The account, which was inaccessible yesterday, also posted

images of Winnie the Pooh, whose likeness is considered sensitive on Chinese social media due to unflattering comparisons to the Communist Party chief.

The case is another sign that China is cracking down on government criticism, even outside its borders. While Twitter Inc.'s service is one of many foreign websites banned on the mainland, it's accessible using virtual private network software that mask a user's location and Chinese propaganda organizations maintain a robust presence on the platform.

The court said Luo had "confessed" to using a false identity for a post that included altered pictures in a bid to attract attention. He later deleted them after realizing they were "improper." Human rights groups have long

accused Chinese authorities of extracting forced confessions as a condition of release, even though local law excludes such evidence from trial.

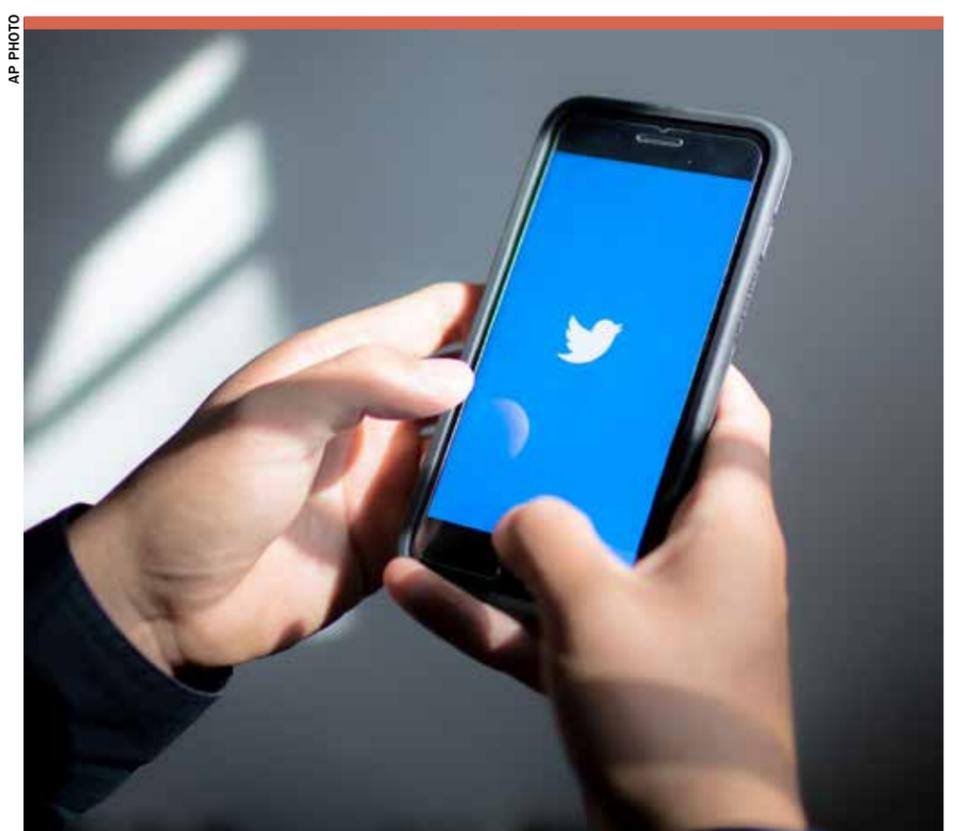
The Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Beijing didn't immediately respond to a faxed request for comment yesterday.

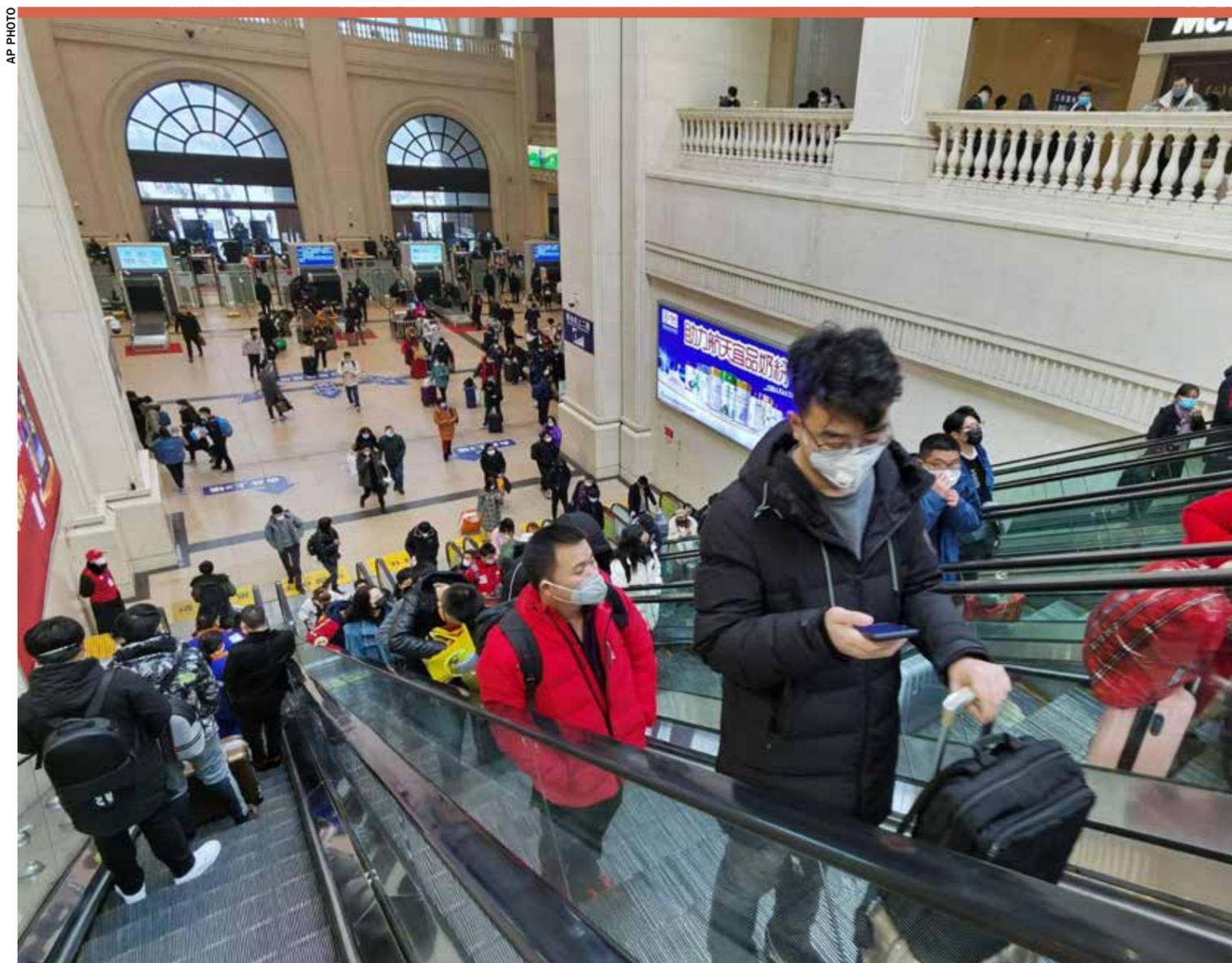
U.S. Senator Ben Sasse, a Nebraska Republican who sits on the Intelligence Committee, criticized the prosecution in a statement.

"The Chinese Communist Party has banned Twitter, so the only people who even saw these tweets were the goons charged with monitoring Chinese citizens while they're enjoying freedom here in the United States," Sasse said. "This is what ruthless and paranoid totalitarianism looks like."

BLOOMBERG

AP PHOTO





Gov't expands travel curbs as Singapore reports virus case

CHINESE health officials expanded travel restrictions beyond the epicenter of a SARS-like outbreak that's killed at least 17 people as the virus appeared in the Asian financial hub of Singapore.

Channel News Asia reported the Singapore case yesterday. Travel was halted in Wuhan, China, where the virus was first detected, nearby municipalities restricted the use of transport and public sites, and schools in surrounding Hubei province delayed the opening of spring terms.

The dramatic steps came as pressure grows on China to contain the outbreak. With hundreds of millions of Chinese citizens traveling for the Lunar New Year this week, the virus's spread could accelerate. Hong Kong and Beijing are canceling planned holiday activities, according to local officials and state media.

Under the shadow of its mishandling of SARS 17 years ago, China wants to show the world it's dealing with the crisis transparently and effectively, while still struggling to understand a pathogen that is difficult to detect. When the SARS epidemic broke out, Chi-

na was slow to share information, and initially denied the extent of the crisis.

The new coronavirus, which first appeared last month in Wuhan, has already spread from the mainland to locations from Hong Kong to Thailand to the U.S., coloring what is usually a period of celebration and reunion for Chinese people across the world with tension and anxiety.

China's National Health Commission said there were 571 confirmed coronavirus cases as of Jan. 22. The number of infections may ultimately exceed 6,000, Chinese media Caixin reported, citing estimates from unidentified doctors working at key hospitals in Wuhan.

Asian stocks and oil prices slid and haven assets rose as concerns about the widening outbreak resurfaced. Chinese shares bore the brunt of losses, with the CSI 300 index dropping 3.1%, the most since May 2019.

On Wednesday, the World Health Organization delayed a decision on whether to declare the outbreak a public health emergency of international concern,

a designation used for complex epidemics that can cross borders. The United Nations agency said it would meet again yesterday to determine a strategy.

"This is an evolving and complex situation," said Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, director-general of the WHO, in a briefing with reporters in Geneva. "To proceed, we need more information."

The number of infections may ultimately exceed 6,000

In Wuhan, a city of 11 million, chaos erupted as residents woke up to news of the travel restrictions. Long lines quickly formed at transport links as people tried to leave the city in the middle of the night before the ban took effect. Hundreds of flights were canceled. Nearby Huanggang, Ezhou, Xiantao and Chibi cities also imposed curbs.

Across China, social media postings questioned the blockade, asking why officials had waited

until now to implement it, and whether it would be effective.

Jeremy Konyndyk, a senior fellow at the Center for Global Development and a former Obama administration official, said that such involuntary quarantines "have a questionable track record and can often be counterproductive."

"A quarantine around a city larger than New York will be challenging to enforce, and past precedents suggest it could lead to more hiding of cases and less voluntary compliance with public health measures," he said.

Efforts to quarantine cities can also result in social disorder, according to University of Sydney associate professor Adam Kamradt-Scott. "There's a delicate balance to be struck here between wanting to avoid the spread of the virus and at the same time maintaining social order and preventing unrest," he said.

Disruptions are also taking place outside of Wuhan. Some schools in Beijing banned visitors - including parents - from spending extended periods of time on campus, while some public bui-

ldings in the city are testing the temperatures of anyone entering. Officials elsewhere are stepping up readiness.

"While there's an increased likelihood that cases may arise in this country we are well prepared and well equipped to deal with them," U.K. Health Secretary Matt Hancock told the House of Commons.

Global companies operating in China are altering their plans, limiting travel or forgoing long-held traditions around Lunar New Year to protect employees. Tencent Holdings Ltd., the Chinese social media giant, called off a long-standing annual tradition in which top executives hand out Lunar New Year red envelopes in person to employees.

WHO's Help

At the briefing in Geneva, the WHO's Tedros commended China's response to the outbreak but said the agency nevertheless has a team in the Asian nation working with authorities.

China was criticized during the SARS crisis for initially providing limited information and denying the scope of the problem. With this new virus, health experts have generally praised the speed at which China identified and shared the genetic sequencing of the new coronavirus, allowing other countries to spot cases quickly.

Health officials have been taking important steps in tracing the virus through communities, finding earlier cases of people with pneumonia who may have escaped identification and following their close contacts to see whether they've become ill, said Maria van Kerkhove, an epidemiologist serving on the WHO emergency committee.

Anthony S. Fauci, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases at the U.S. National Institutes of Health, said SARS was eventually stopped by good public health standards, including identification, isolation and quarantine.

"I think that's a lesson we need to have learned from SARS, and apply those same principles right here with this new coronavirus that is causing this disease," he told Bloomberg Television.

There hasn't been any secondary transmission among patients who left China and all the human-to-human transmission has been among very close contacts or health-care workers, WHO officials said at the briefing. There has been little mutation within the virus, suggesting it's stable, they said.

Symptoms include fever, cough or chest tightness, and difficulty breathing. At least nine of the victims had pre-existing conditions, and eight were aged 80 or over. However, several didn't display signs of fever, potentially complicating efforts to check for infected travelers as they arrive at airports and other travel hubs.

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AP PHOTO



Downtown Tokyo's homeless fear removal ahead of Olympics

YURI KAGEYAMA, TOKYO

SHELTERS made of cardboard start popping up in the basement of Tokyo's Shinjuku train station right before the shutters come down at 11 p.m., in corridors where "salarymen" rushing home and couples on late-night dates have just passed by.

Dozens of homeless people sleeping rough in such spots worry that with Japan's image at stake authorities will force them to move ahead of the Olympics. Already, security officials have warned them they will likely have to find less visible locations by the end of March.

The former laborers, clerical workers and others sleeping in cardboard boxes are a not-quite-invisible glimpse of a more pervasive but largely hidden underclass of poor in Japan, a wealthy nation seen as orderly and middle class.

Efforts to clean up what some see as urban blight have preceded every recent Olympics, including those in Beijing, London

and Rio de Janeiro.

Tokyo city officials deny they are moving to force the homeless out specially for the Olympics. They say trying to get them into shelters is part of an overall welfare effort to get them off the streets and find them jobs and housing.

"There is nothing more than the programs we already have in place to help the homeless," said Emi Yaginuma, a Tokyo city official in charge of such programs.

"We keep trying by making the rounds and talking to them, but all we can do is to try to persuade them."

In theory, overnight sleeping at train stations is trespassing. In practice, the homeless have long slept in Shinjuku station and other spots. JR East, a major train company servicing Tokyo, doesn't have regulations on the homeless and employees handle situations as they come up, such as passenger complaints.

Just as the homeless arrive

for the night, a public speaker overhead is warning that sleeping in the station isn't allowed.

As preparations for the Olympics began years ago, homeless people camping in a park in Tokyo's Shibuya were forced out to make way for development and a soup kitchen program there was moved to another, less visible park nearby. Advocates for the homeless fear that was just the start.

Efforts to clean up what some see as urban blight have preceded every recent Olympics

Homeless people were evicted in 2016 from a park near where the New National Stadium was built, the main arena for the Olympics.

Like the U.S., Japan has a relatively high poverty rate for a wealthy nation. It also is less generous with social welfare than

countries in Europe, and lacks the sorts of private charities prevalent in the U.S.

Nearly 16% of Japanese fall below the poverty rate, with annual income below the cutoff of 1.2 million yen (\$11,000), according to 2017 Japanese government data. The poverty rate for single-adult households with children is way higher, at 51%.

The unraveling of extended family support networks and job insecurity have left many in Japan vulnerable to setbacks that can lead to homelessness. Japan's culture of conformity leaves many, including families, ashamed to seek help.

Most of the homeless sleeping underground in Shinjuku, a glitzy shopping area fringed by red-light districts, high-rise offices and parks, are older men.

Shigeyoshi Tozawa has a lacquer begging bowl with a few coins, three tiny, solar-powered toy figures with bobbing heads bought at a 100-yen (\$1) store, and various bags filled with

blankets, clothes and other items, including his poems.

"Last night/ dream of a future trip/ it is dark," goes one poem. Passersby sometimes give him money for the poems, he says.

"This is my community. We all help each other," Tozawa said. "There are no dirty homeless here. We are all 'trendy.'"

In what's clearly a routine, he and the others quietly prepare for the night, picking their favorite spots, neatly folding blankets. Some change into sleepwear and wipe their feet clean with wet towels, daintily placing their shoes beside their lopsided cardboard shelters.

Tozawa and the others are relatively well-dressed, in handout down jackets, baseball caps and camouflage sweatpants. Some have cell phones and other gadgets. Many have some money in the bank. They get by making the rounds of downtown soup kitchens run by church and volunteer charities, and other spots where they can get free rice balls or sandwiches.

Many of those sleeping rough are "working poor," said Daisaku Seto, who works for a nonprofit for refugees and a consumers' food cooperative called Palsystem. He says some suffer psychological trauma and need training to get better-paying jobs. Once they drop into poverty, they rarely find their way back out.

"We need to come up with ways to help that empower them," said Seto, who is a leader in one of the leaders of a grassroots group called the Anti-Poverty Network.

Yukio Takazawa, executive director of a support group for the poor in Yokohama's Kotobukicho, an area of flophouses where homeless people also tend to congregate, worries the worst is to come.

The construction boom from the Olympics will be winding down, reducing chances for odd jobs for day laborers. The younger poor, who now spend nights in Internet cafes, likely will eventually end up on the streets, said Takazawa, who has been working with the poor for 30 years.

Finding affordable housing in Tokyo is tough. Rents are high and landlords tend to be finicky. Just getting a rental contract can require six months of rent or more up front.

Those unable or unwilling to get apartments camp along river banks, in parks and train stations. Welfare offices try to get people to move into shelters but many, like former construction worker Masanori Ito, resist. "They have rules," he said, munching on sandwiches he got from a volunteer.

If he has to move, Ito said he plans to find some other warm outdoor spot.

"I don't know where we will all move next," he said. AP

MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER



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MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

Portugal police: Banker in Angola scandal hangs himself

BARRY HATTON, LISBON

A Portuguese banker named in a major Angolan money-laundering and corruption scandal has died in apparent suicide at home, police said yesterday.

Nuno Ribeiro da Cunha, named as a suspect by Angolan authorities in an investigation targeting the billionaire daughter of Angola's former longtime leader, appeared to have hanged himself in the garage of his Lisbon apartment building late Wednesday, a police statement said.

Cunha was the head of private banking at Lisbon-based EuroBic where Isabel dos Santos, reputedly Africa's richest woman, holds a 42.5% stake.

Angolan authorities suspect Dos Santos embezzled money from the country's state oil company and laundered it through foreign banks.

Angola's attorney general arrived yesterday in Portugal to ask his country's former colonial ruler for help investigating a major cor-



Isabel dos Santos (right)

ruption case targeting the billionaire daughter of Angola's former longtime leader.

Angolan authorities suspect that Isabel dos Santos, reputedly Africa's richest woman, embez-

zled millions of dollars from the state oil company Sonangol, which she once headed.

Angolan attorney general Helder Pitta Gros announced late Wednesday in Luanda, the Ango-

lan capital, that Dos Santos is an official suspect in an investigation into mismanagement at Sonangol and misappropriation of company money.

Four others, all believed to be close to Dos Santos, are suspects in the investigation, which was started after Dos Santos' successor at Sonangol alerted authorities. All the suspects are living outside Angola, Pitta Gros said.

One of them, Mario Silva, a Portuguese businessman thought to be Dos Santos' right-hand man, stepped down yesterday as chairman of the board of Banco de Fomento Angola, the Luanda-based bank announced on its website.

Dos Santos has denied any wrongdoing. She has numerous business interests in Portugal, including a majority shareholding in a Portuguese bank. Senior Angolan officials have long made major investments in Portuguese real estate and companies.

Pitta Gros told Portuguese public broadcaster RTP at Lisbon airport he planned to meet with

his Portuguese counterpart Lucia Gago. He said he had traveled to Lisbon "to ask for a lot of things," but he didn't elaborate. Portuguese officials didn't confirm the meeting.

Last December, a Luanda court froze Dos Santos' major assets, which include banks and a telecom company. The government says it is trying to recover \$1.1 billion it says the country is owed by Dos Santos, her husband and a close associate of the couple.

Dos Santos was appointed head of Sonangol by her father, Jose Eduardo dos Santos, before he stepped down in 2017 after 38 years in power. Human rights groups long accused Jose Eduardo dos Santos of heading a kleptocracy which left most people in the oil- and diamond-rich country living in poverty.

The International Consortium of Investigative Journalists earlier this week accused Isabel dos Santos of using "unscrupulous deals" to build her fortune, estimated at \$2 billion.

The allegations were based on more than 715,000 confidential financial and business records provided by the Platform to Protect Whistleblowers in Africa, an advocacy group based in Paris, as well as hundreds of interviews. The cache of documents is known as the Luanda Leaks. AP

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TV canal macau

13:00	TDM News (Repetição)
13:30	Telejornal RTPi (Diferido)
15:00	Bordado de Viana do Castelo
16:00	Animaizinhos Selvagens Exploradores
16:15	As Novas Viagens Filosoficas - Fim
16:45	Portugueses Pelo Mundo Sr.1
17:30	Literatura Agora
18:00	Império (Repetição)
18:50	TDM Talk Show (Repetição)
19:25	Livros com João Guedes (Repetição)
19:30	Ouro Verde Sr.1
20:25	Mensagem de Sua Excelência o Chefe do Executivo, Ho Iat Seng, por Ocasião do Ano Novo Lunar
20:30	Telejornal
21:15	TDM Reportagem
21:30	Viagens em Série
21:50	Solteira e Boa Rapariga
22:20	Império
23:10	Mensagem de Sua Excelência o Chefe do Executivo, Ho Iat Seng, por Ocasião do Ano Novo Lunar
23:15	TDM News
23:50	Até Onde?
01:05	Telejornal (Repetição)
01:50	RTPi Directo

Offbeat

JUDGE DEALS BLOW TO WOMAN CHARGED FOR BEING TOPLESS AT HOME

A judge refused to overturn part of Utah's lewdness law Tuesday in a blow to a woman who's fighting criminal charges after her stepchildren saw her topless in her own home.

Judge Kara Pettit sided with prosecutors who argued that lewdness is commonly understood to include women's breasts in American society, the Salt Lake Tribune reported. Judges should not second-guess what lawmakers have decided is lewd conduct, she wrote.

It wasn't immediately clear whether Tilly Buchanan would appeal the ruling. If she does not, her misdemeanor charges would move toward trial. If convicted, she could face jail time and be forced to register as a sex offender for 10 years.

Buchanan and the American Civil Liberties Union of Utah had pointed to a court ruling that overturned a topless ban in Colorado and helped fuel a movement. They said Utah's law on lewdness involving a child is unfair because it treats men and women differently for baring their chests.

A global movement advocating for the rights of women to go topless, called the Free the Nipple campaign, has seen mixed success fighting similar ordinances in other parts of the country.

The 10th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals has upheld a ruling that blocked a ban in Fort Collins, Colorado, on women going topless in public.

But the U.S. Supreme Court this month left in place the conviction of three members of the Free the Nipple campaign who were arrested for going topless on a New Hampshire beach in 2016.

A public indecency law in Missouri also was upheld in 2017, and a court allowed a San Francisco public nudity ban to remain on the books in 2013.

Buchanan was charged after she and her husband took off their shirts to keep their clothes from getting dirty while they hung drywall in their garage in a Salt Lake City suburb in late 2017 or early 2018.

When her husband's three children, ages 9 through 13, walked in, she "explained she considers herself a feminist and wanted to make a point that everybody should be fine with walking around their house or elsewhere with skin showing," her lawyers said in court documents.

The charges against her were filed after the children's mother reported the incident to child welfare officials working on a separate investigation involving the kids.

Police said Buchanan removed her shirt and bra in front of the children while "under the influence of alcohol." Her husband was not charged.

cinema

CINETEATRO

16 - 22 Jan



ENTER THE FAT DRAGON

ROOM 1

2:00, 6:05pm

Director: Kenji Tanigakari

Starring: Donnie Yen, Teresa Mo, Niki Chow

Language: Chinese (Chinese, English)

Duration: 123min

TO BE OR NOT TO BE

ROOM 1

3:50, 8:00, 10:15pm

Director: Dayo Wong

Starring: Dayo Wong, Annie Liu, Catherine Chau

Language: Chinese (Chinese, English)

Duration: 109min



DOLITTLE

ROOM 2

2:00, 5:50, 9:45pm

Director: Stephen Gaghan

Starring: Robert Downey Jr, Antonio Banderas

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 125min



ALLS WELL THAT ENDS WELL 2020

ROOM 2/3

2:55, 7:45, 9:30pm

Director: Raymond Wong

Starring: Julian Cheung, Louis Cheung, Raymond Wong

Language: Chinese (Chinese/English)

Duration: 101min



SPIES IN DISGUISE

ROOM 3

2:00, 3:55, 7:30pm

Director: Troy Quane, Nick Bruno

Starring: Rachel Brosnahan, Jarrett Bruno, Claire Crosby

Language: Chinese

Duration: 120min

this day in history



1969 LSE CLOSES OVER STUDENT CLASHES

The London School of Economics has been closed following violent protests by students angry at the installation of steel security gates.

Police were called in to try to break up the demonstrators who broke through seven sets of steel protective gates put up last week at the university in the Aldwych, central London.

The gates had been attacked with crowbars, pickaxes and sledgehammers.

Officers arrested 25 students who were taken to Bow Street police station.

A crowd of student protesters followed, marching in a column, nine abreast, calling for the release of their colleagues.

The installation of the gates was regarded as highly provocative by the students - and some members of the academic staff.

They resemble the iron grilles fitted outside jewellers' shops and students claim they made the school look like a concentration camp.

LSE director Dr Walter Adams, whose appointment two years ago sparked off a series of student sit-ins, said the gates were put up to allow certain parts of the building to be closed off during protests - and allow others, such as the union premises, to remain open.

Students and staff held a meeting during the day to discuss the removal of the gates - but the student union president, Francis Keohane, lost a motion that removal should be by negotiation.

Within half an hour the gates were down. The union president, and treasurer Roger Mountford, announced their resignations saying they could not defend the law-breaking action.

The damage to the security gates is the latest in a long line of confrontations with the authorities which began in 1966 when students protested at the appointment of Dr Adams, then principal of the University College of Rhodesia.

The students claimed Dr Adams had not shown sufficient resistance to the regime of Ian Smith.

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

The London School of Economics remained closed for more than three weeks. It brought legal action against 13 people, including three staff, said to be ringleaders.

The "troublemakers" were banned from the college for a month and only allowed to return on condition they did not interfere with the management or damage the premises.

Two of the three staff were subsequently sacked. A number of the students faced further disciplinary action for disrupting lectures.

Student unrest in the late 1960s was widespread not just in the UK but also in North America and some European countries.

MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

YOUR STARS

ARIES

Mar. 21-Apr. 19

Smiling faces get told yes a lot more than frowning faces do, and that's something you need to remember throughout the day, especially when you enter a new situation.

TAURUS

Apr. 20-May. 20

Whether you're feeling super social or in the mood for some quiet alone time, today is a good day to spend by yourself. The day's energy is mellow, and you will be, too.

GEMINI

May. 21-Jun. 21

You're going to get a huge dose of positive energy right from the moment you open your eyes today, so much so that it might overwhelm you a bit! Just take your time.

CANCER

Jun. 22-Jul. 22

Sure, things aren't running smoothly, but do you really want them to? How boring would your life be if everything happened on schedule and according to plan?

LEO

Jul. 23-Aug. 22

Don't get too caught up in the details of everything. You'll drive yourself nuts trying to get everything to line up perfectly. Opt for a more low-key approach.

VIRGO

Aug. 23-Sep. 22

Watch out for impulse buying. It could be a big mistake. This applies to any type of shopping, whether you're going to the grocery store for a weekly supply trip or going online to order a new book.

LIBRA

Sep. 23-Oct. 22

You'll be blessed with a lot of energy today, which will do more than help you get a lot done. It could trigger some inspiring changes within your group of friends.

SCORPIO

Oct. 23-Nov. 21

While you're usually laser-sharp in your ideas and convictions, right now you're entering a phase in which you'll be seeing a lot more gray where before you saw only black and white.

SAGITTARIUS

Nov. 22-Dec. 21

Invite everyone to have fun together! Choose a spot or activity that you all love, and it will increase the chances that everyone will move mountains in order to make it.

CAPRICORN

Dec. 22-Jan. 19

Lately, you've been fighting the urge to start any new projects, but today is finally the right time to embrace a new idea and work on fleshing it out. Initiate something new.

AQUARIUS

Jan. 20-Feb. 18

A co-worker's personal issues might become part of your reality today, much to your dismay. Mixing business and pleasure isn't your style, but the same can't be said for everybody.

PISCES

Feb. 19-Mar. 20

You'll be able to find a perfect balance between diplomacy and honesty today, which will enable you to help other people without being too critical or overly dramatic.

The Born Loser by Chip Sanson



SUDOKU

EASY					EASY+				
8		2		6 3	3				8
4		8 5		7		1	7		
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7			9 1	6					
2 3			8		4				7

MEDIUM					HARD				
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		9		3 1		2			4
	7		6			9		8	
1		4		3	7 3				1
	3			6			2 9		
6		3		8		8			
		2		8			6 8	2	
3 2			5		3 1				
			6	3 5					

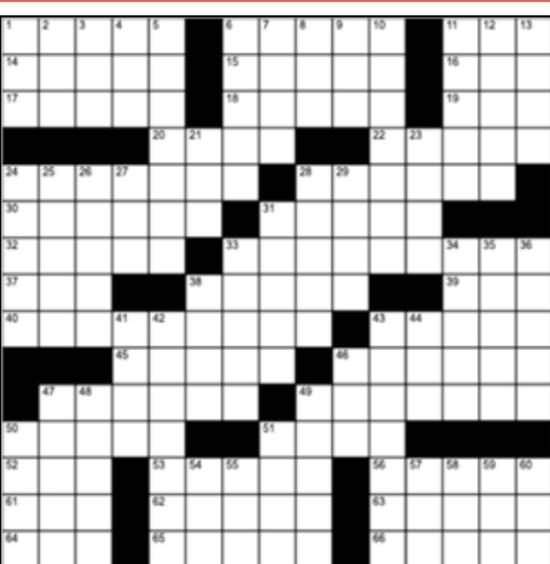
WEATHER

	MIN	MAX	CONDITION
CHINA			
Beijing	-6	3	clear
Harbin	-25	-13	clear
Tianjin	-3	4	cloudy
Urumqi	-11	-3	clear
Xi'an	0	7	drizzle
Lhasa	-6	3	cloudy
Chengdu	7	10	drizzle
Chongqing	9	11	drizzle
Kunming	2	18	cloudy
Nanjing	7	9	overcast
Shanghai	8	11	drizzle
Wuhan	5	7	drizzle
Hangzhou	7	9	moderate rain
Taipei	18	21	cloudy
Guangzhou	19	28	cloudy
Hong Kong	20	25	cloudy
WORLD			
Moscow	-1	1	sleet
Frankfurt	-2	5	clear
Paris	0	5	clear
London	3	6	drizzle
New York	-5	3	cloudy

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1-Ruin; 6- I don't give ___; 11- Down; 14- Beethoven dedicatee; 15- Rate; 16- Attempt, a score in rugby; 17- Ward off; 18- Girder; 19- 100 square meters; 20- Minus; 22- Greek epic poem; 24- Permanently attached, to a zoologist; 28- Destitution; 30- Microscopic; 31- Melts together; 32- Divvy up; 33- Lie; 37- ___ Aviv; 38- Bring about; 39- Canard; 40- Of times past; 43- Silk fabric; 45- Compassion; 46- Less difficult; 47- Boring; 49- Genuine; 50- Ancient tongue; 51- Piece of work; 52- Summer Games org.; 53- Root or Yale; 56- Garden pest; 61- Health haven; 62- Early evening; 63- Like marshes; 64- Sugar amt.; 65- "Lovegirl" singer ___ Marie; 66- Small change;

DOWN: 1- That woman; 2- Beer; 3- Big shot; 4- Sugar suffix; 5- Yo-Yo Ma, e.g.; 6- Spring up; 7- Small amounts; 8- Had a bite; 9- Narrow inlet; 10- Candidate; 11- Flight segment; 12- Marshal; 13- Colored; 21- Cathedral city of England; 23- Succulent; 24- Condition; 25- Conger catcher; 26- Vends; 27- ___ Cone; 28- It's often taken after exercise; 29- Being, to Brutus; 31- Flaw; 33- Pixie; 34- Stan's pal; 35- Fuel transport; 36- Caterpillar competitor; 38- Burn slightly; 41- Of ___ I Sing; 42- Most feeble; 43- Large drinking cup; 44- Home of the Trojans; 46- Frozen Wasser; 47- Falls; 48- Summarize; 49- Hot spot; 50- Essence; 51- At that point; 54- Levi's rival; 55- "___ had it!"; 57- Architect I.M.; 58- Fashion line; 59- Ox tail?; 60- Bad start?;



Crossword puzzles provided by BestCrosswords.com

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- Emergency calls 999
- Fire department 28 572 222
- PJ (Open line) 993
- PJ (Picket) 28 557 775
- PSP 28 573 333
- Customs 28 559 944
- S. J. Hospital 28 313 731
- Kiang Wu Hospital 28 371 333
- Commission Against Corruption (CCAC) 28326 300
- IAM 28 387 333
- Tourism 28 333 000
- Airport 59 888 88
- Taxi 28 939 939 / 2828 3283
- Water Supply - Report 2822 0088
- Telephone - Report 1000
- Electricity - Report 28 339 922
- Macau Daily Times 28 716 081



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MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

HALLMARK MEDIA CEO LEAVES, MONTH AFTER SAME-SEX AD BACKLASH

AP PHOTO



THE head of Hallmark's media business is leaving the company after 11 years, just a month after its flagship Hallmark Channel faced an outcry over a decision to pull an ad with a lesbian couple kissing.

No reason was given for Bill Abbott's departure, and no replacement was immediately named.

In a statement, Mike Perry, president and CEO of Hallmark Cards Inc., said that with immense competition from TV networks and streaming services, it is important for the company to find "relevant new ways to grow our business."

Abbott was CEO of

Crown Media Family Networks, a company controlled by Hallmark Cards. Crown Media's flagship cable channel is The Hallmark Channel, known for family-friendly programming, particularly made-for-TV Christmas-themed movies.

In December, the Hallmark Channel's decision to pull an ad featuring the same-sex couple led to an outcry online. The company later reversed the decision.

Crown Media also operates the Hallmark Movies & Mysteries, Hallmark Drama networks, subscription streaming service Hallmark Movies Now and e-book publishing division



OLD SPICE CELEBRATES 10 YEARS SINCE VIRAL AD CAMPAIGN

OLD Spice is celebrating 10 years since its groundbreaking "Smell Like a Man, Man" campaign by bringing back the original Old Spice Guy Isaiah Mustafa and introducing young breakout star Keith Powers as his TV son in a new campaign.

The original iconic spot, featuring a shirtless, towel-wrapped Mustafa, is often recognized as the first branded viral ad sensation, having racked up more than 105 million online views to date and an Emmy Award in 2010. It helped Old Spice's transformation to become

a leading anti-perspirant and deodorant brand for men in the United States.

In the latest "Smell Like Your Own Man, Man" campaign, which debuted yesterday, Mustafa tries to impart Old Spice wisdom to his son, played by Powers. While Powers looks up to his dad, he humorously dismisses Mustafa's product recommendations and shares his preference for the all-new Old Spice Ultra Smooth line that offers dermatologist-tested benefits and subtle scents, without compromising performance.

GM'S CRUISE HEADS DOWN NEW ROAD WITH NEW ROBOTAXI CONCEPT

GENERAL Motors' self-driving car company will attempt to deliver on its long-running promise to provide a more environmentally friendly ride-hailing service in an unorthodox vehicle designed to eliminate the need for human operators to transport people around crowded cities.

The service still being developed by GM's Cruise subsidiary will rely on a boxy, electric-powered vehicle called "Origin" that was unveiled late Tuesday in San Francisco amid much fanfare. It looks like a cross between a mini-van and sports utility vehicle with one huge exception — it won't have any steering wheel or brakes.

The Origin will accommodate up to four passengers at a time, although a single customer will be able to summon it for a ride just as people already can ask for a car with a human behind the wheel from Uber or Lyft.

For all the hype surrounding the Origin's unveiling, Cruise omitted some key details, including when its ride-hailing service will be available and how many of the vehicles will be in its fleet. The company indicated it will initially only be available in San Francisco, where Cruise has already been offering a ride-hailing service that's only available to its roughly 1,000 employees.

AP PHOTO



AD

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FOOTBALL | EPL

'This isn't good enough': Solskjaer's Man United loses again

ROB HARRIS, LONDON

OLE Gunnar Solskjaer knows how badly he's doing at Manchester United. However, the manager can't seem to find any solutions.

"When you're at Man United there's always going to be criticism," Solskjaer said after a 2-0 loss to Burnley on Wednesday. "We can't do anything but hold our hands up and say, 'This isn't good enough for this club.'"

United's first loss to Burnley at Old Trafford since 1962 came on the back of Sunday's defeat at Liverpool and left the club in fifth place, six points from the Champions League places.

United seemed helpless as Chris Wood and Jay Rodriguez scored either side of halftime.

"The boys have given everything they've got," Solskjaer said on BT Sport television. "They are experiencing this period for the first time in their lives, some of them.



Manchester United manager Ole Gunnar Solskjaer

"It's very, very difficult for them. The expectations of this club as well are high, and some of them have played 10, 12 or 15 games and it's not easy for them. Of course I'm going to back them. I'm going to be here to help them get through this."

That might not be up to Solsk-

jaer, though, after a night when fans turned on the owning Glazer family with abusive chants.

"Stand up if you hate Glazers," was one of the milder chants against the Americans, who have owned the club since 2005.

Solskjaer was brought in by United to succeed Jose Mourinho

in December 2018 seemingly on the basis of being a former title-winning player under Alex Ferguson. His managerial experience in the Premier League amounted to being relegated with Cardiff in 2014.

United rushed into handing Solskjaer a permanent contract in

March 2019 despite no risk of losing the coach. Since then, he has lost 12 Premier League matches and won 11.

"We're fifth in the table, but of course we work every day with these boys to improve and get us performing better than this," Solskjaer said. "We're looking to improve, definitely."

Meanwhile, Tottenham moved level on points with United after ending a four-match winless run in the Premier League with a 2-1 victory over Norwich.

Tottenham took the lead in the 38th minute, with Dele Alli netting the team's first goal since Dec. 26 in the league.

Last-place Norwich leveled in the 70th through Teemu Pukki's penalty after Ryan Sessegnon clipped Max Aarons but Son Heung-min headed in Alli's deflected cross in the 79th minute to seal the win.

Leicester beat West Ham 4-1 to reboot its push to return to the Champions League after four years following back-to-back losses.

Ayoze Perez netted twice, including a penalty, and there were also goals from Harvey Barnes and Ricardo for third-place Leicester. But the 2016 champions lost leading scorer Jamie Vardy to a left hamstring problem in the first half. **AP**

AD

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OPINION

Bizcuits

Leanda Lee



VALUES: THE WORLD WE WANT

Another show of superfluous consumption has given us the Wuhan coronavirus, threatening to knock on our doors and anything we contact. Sanitation of public facilities and directing citizens to take person responsibility for hygiene was the original level of what is now escalating caution in Macau.

On Wednesday, casino workers were directed to wear masks and the public was advised to don them where people might congregate. Group tours from Wuhan have been banned. The premonitions of the tourism authority cancelling Lunar New Year celebrations in Macau were laughable until they became reality yesterday. In China, Wuhan's public transport services went into lock-down yesterday morning and a quarantine placed over the city at a time of the year with the highest mobility in the country.

All this for what? The poor management of and desires for a civet cat or other exotic wild-life meal? Extending this form of uncontrolled avarice to a similar set of objectionable values and entirely poor taste, it would have been healthier, and less damaging and wasteful to import some roast koalas.

Having been informed by Wuhan City authorities on 31st December of a cluster of cases of pneumonia and receiving gene sequencing information, the World Health Organization lauded the speed with which the Chinese authorities were able to offer the global community preliminary identification of the new virus. Wednesday, at an emergency meeting, the WHO did not declare the novel coronavirus 2019-nCoV a global health emergency due to insufficient information and met again yesterday. So far animal-to-human cases have been identified and cases of human-to-human transmission, which were confirmed this week, appear to be between those in close contact, like family members and health providers.

After the first imported case of the virus to Macau was reported Wednesday, the response shifted dramatically yesterday as a second case was recorded. The original position of the government on Wednesday for a system to distribute masks to only local residents was rightly amended. Non-residents make up over 45% of the workforce, often in close proximity to employers in family homes, providing care to the young, elderly, and sick, living in tight living quarters and taking public transport. As such, the health of the entire population would have been compromised had this segment of the community been excluded from the program to curtail the spread of the disease. In such circumstances, the automatic response of prioritizing local residents backfires fabulously.

The mask distribution system was to partly alleviate any panic-buying by consumers and the predictable opportunism by retailers. In a show of greed in times of public need, sufficient numbers of pharmacies price-gouged on surgical masks and sanitizers to support such merchants' deservedly poor reputation: individual profit trumps community welfare. This poor show is only matched by enough individuals hoarding these items to create a supply deficit. This, again, only lowers access for other members of the community, thus undermining community-wide health outcomes: short-sighted individual self-interest - which also exacerbated the risk to the public as crowds lined up together grabbing their quotas.

Behaviours counter to the common good are easily attributed to ignorance. We have seen in discussions on how to quickly mobilize society to act for both mitigation and adaptation to the climate crisis and other environmental disasters, that those that are most immovable are often the better informed. Perspectives and behaviours are more about values, and less about facts and information as the IPCC has recognized. Professor Maisa Rojas, the COP25 Scientific Coordinator explains that after 30 years of naively assuming scientific facts will speak for themselves, scientists now realise that perceptions, values and storylines are crucial for behavioural change.

Social and political transformation towards mitigating crises rely on both facts and community values. Wuhan its causes and responses, Macau and her responses hold interest as case studies on how values drive action and community behaviours.

My prediction for the New Year: the Rat will nudge work on global community values.

French and Dutch police have arrested 23 suspected members of a criminal network that has smuggled as many as 10,000 migrants from France to Britain, according to the European police agency Europol.

The network was suspected of earning 70 million euros (\$77.6 million) in profits by organizing illegal passages for migrants from Afghanistan, Syria, Iraq and Iran, Europol said yesterday.

The migrants traveled to Britain from around the western French cities of Le Mans and Poitiers. Many of them faced life-threatening conditions, hidden in refrigerator trucks crossing the English Channel by ferry or undersea train. As many

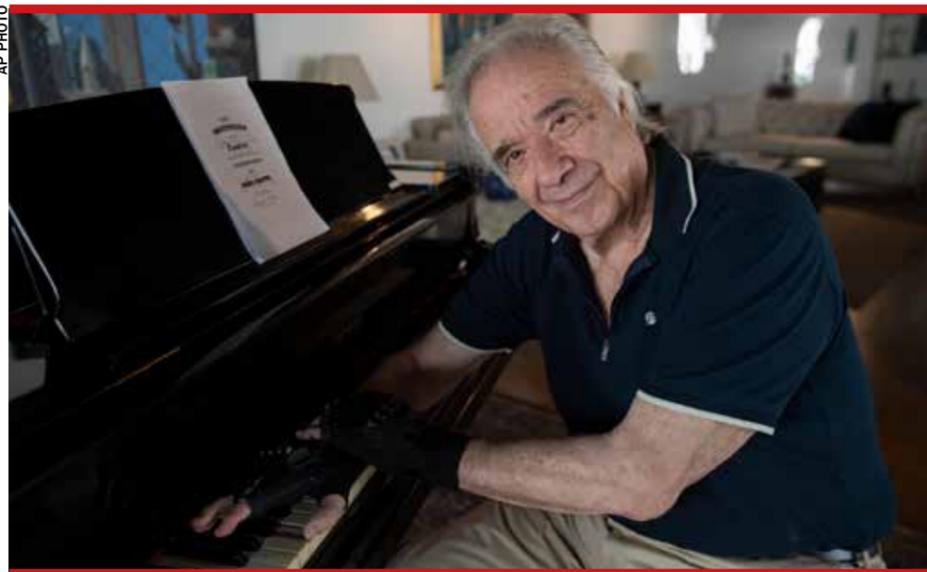
as 20 migrants were held in each truck and each paid as much as 7,000 euros (\$7,760) for the crossing, Europol said.

A suspect in the Netherlands collected those payments via an underground banking system, Europol said. Police seized firearms and vehicles in five searches, and the migrants found during the operation were taken to safety.

Ton van Lierop, a spokesman for Eurojust, said most of the arrests were Tuesday in France.

The operation came amid renewed attention to migrants risking their lives in trucks trying to cross the Channel after 39 Vietnamese trying to enter Britain died in October in a refrigerated truck container.

'MAGIC' GLOVES LET ACCLAIMED BRAZILIAN PIANIST PLAY AGAIN



MAURICIO SAVARESE

A few days before Christmas, renowned pianist João Carlos Martins summoned his friends to a Sao Paulo bar so he could show off the best gift he'd received in decades: a new pair of bionic gloves that are letting the 79-year-old play with both hands in more than two decades.

Considered one of the great interpreters of Johann Sebastian Bach's music, the Brazilian classical pianist and conductor had retired last March after 24 surgeries trying to stop pains from a degenerative disease and a series of accidents. His limitations had forced him to work mostly as a conductor since the early 2000s.

But since the closing days of 2019, friends have been returning to Martins' downtown penthouse to hear him bring Frédéric Chopin, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart and his favorite Bach back to life at his Petrof piano.

Before the gloves, which were especially developed for him, the pianist could only play songs slowly with his thumbs and, sometimes, his index fingers.

"After I lost my tools, my hands, and couldn't play the piano, it was if there was a corpse inside my chest," Martins told The Associated Press.

Martins' health problems date back to 1965. He famously rebounded after every

setback — nerve damage in his arm inflicted during a soccer match in New York, a mugger hitting him over the head with a metal pipe while he toured in Bulgaria, and more. But even friends expected the latest surgery, on his left hand, to mark the end of his days on the piano bench.

That might have been his fate, were it not for a designer who believed the pianist's retirement had come too early. Ubiratã Bizarro Costa created neoprene-covered bionic gloves that bump Martins' fingers upward after they depress the keys, and which are held together by a carbon fiber board.

"I did the first models based on images of his hands, but those were far from ideal," Costa said. "I approached the maestro at the end of a concert in my city of Sumaré, in the Sao Paulo countryside. He quickly noticed they wouldn't work, but then he invited me to his house to develop the project."

Costa and Martins spent the subsequent months testing several prototypes. The perfect match came in December, and cost only about 500 Brazilians reals (\$125) to build. Now Martins never takes off his new gloves, even when going to bed.

"I might not recover the speed of the past. I don't know what result I will get. I'm starting over as though I were an 8-year-old learner," he said, joined by his

poodle Sebastian. His dog's name, of course, is a tribute to Bach.

The pianist's return was first reported by the Brazilian newspaper Folha de S.Paulo. Reporter Ricardo Kotscho said Martins hurried to the bar near his home before Christmas "like a boy who got a new toy."

Martins said he has received more than 100 gadgets in the last 50 years as miraculous solutions to his hand problems. None worked well or long enough.

"But these gloves do. I can even tune them accordingly," he said, showing how he can rearrange the glove's internal pads to play at a faster or slower tempo. "That doesn't mean it's all sorted. The muscle atrophy plays a role. Sometimes I try to play a speedy one and get depressed because it just doesn't happen yet."

The "extender gloves," as their inventor calls them, gave Martins a goal: Play the piano again at New York's Carnegie Hall in October, when he is scheduled to conduct a concert celebrating the 60th anniversary of his first appearance there.

Martins, meantime, is practicing early in the morning and late at night, to the delight of his neighbors, until he can interpret an entire Bach concert perfectly.

"It could take one, two years. I will keep pushing until that happens," he said. "I won't give up." AP

Cyprus The government spokesman backpedaled yesterday on a claim that Turkey may have stolen technical data to pinpoint a target for gas drilling in waters where the island nation has exclusive economic rights.

Government spokesman Kyriakos Koushos told The Associated Press that no such data theft had occurred and his use of the word "stolen" in a Wednesday broadcast by Greece's state broadcaster was a mistaken "a slip of the tongue."



Israel Dozens of world leaders gathered yesterday in Jerusalem for the largest-ever gathering focused on commemorating the Holocaust and combating rising modern-day anti-Semitism — a politically charged event that has been clouded by rival national interpretations of the genocide.



Russia Lawmakers yesterday quickly gave preliminary approval to a slew of constitutional changes widely seen as an attempt by President Vladimir Putin to remain in charge after his current term ends in 2024. Kremlin critics have described the amendments as an attempt by Putin to secure his rule over Russia for life, but still it remains unclear how exactly the changes allow him to do that.

HOLIDAY TIMES

Macau Daily Times will not be published during the holiday. The Times will be back on the stands on Wednesday January 29. However the MDT website will be updated with breaking news during the recess period. We wish our readers, advertisers and friends the best of times.