

The Macao SAR Government urges:

Let's all persist;
Avoid crowd gathering;
Wash hands frequently;
Wear a mask properly;
Declare health conditions;
Reduce leaving Macao.

Novel Coronavirus Response and Coordination Centre

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A FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN LAUNCHED BY MACAU'S COMMUNITY TO HELP IN THE COVID-19 FIGHT IN PORTUGAL RAISED NEARLY 2 MILLION PATACAS P2

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A VIETNAMESE MAN IS FACING CRIMINAL CHARGES FOR A ROBBERY AND FRAUD CASE INVOLVING A GOLDSMITH P5

Indonesia The deadly coronavirus may infect as many as 95,000 people in Indonesia by next month before easing, a minister said, as authorities ordered people to wear face masks to contain the pandemic. The dire forecast, which came as the country reported its biggest daily spike in confirmed cases, is based on a projection by the nation's intelligence agency, University of Indonesia and Bandung Institute of Technology. The estimate was discussed at a cabinet meeting held by President Joko Widodo yesterday.

AP PHOTO



Covid-19 The US and Britain braced for what could be one of their bleakest weeks in memory as the human and financial toll of the coronavirus outbreak mounted. But new deaths and infections appeared to be slowing in Italy, Spain and France, suggesting that lockdowns and social distancing are working. More on p6-7

AP PHOTO



Spain has the highest number of confirmed cases in Europe, but the data suggests the deadly outbreak could finally be slowing. The infection rate is also dropping consistently - showing the lockdown measures could be working. There is however still a long way to go, and the government has suggested people may have to wear masks in public after the quarantine measures are lifted.

Italy The death toll in Italy is the highest in the world, standing at over 15,800. Infections and daily deaths are dipping, and the number of people in intensive care in Lombardy - the worst affected region in Italy - is decreasing. Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte however has said he is not sure when the lockdown restrictions will be lifted.

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DE-ANSUN VIA UNSPLASH



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MACAU CDC REMINDS PUBLIC TO REMAIN VIGILANT DURING EASTER HOLIDAYS

ANTHONY LAM

THE public should remain vigilant during the upcoming four-day Easter holiday, advised Dr Leong Iek Hou, coordinator at the local Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), during yesterday's daily press conference. They should continue to follow the practices that have been well-observed in the past two months, added Leong, notwithstanding the growing pressure on the economy.

The coordinator had been asked by the press if the upcoming Easter holidays will pose a threat on the anti-outbreak effort in Macau.

Last week, an extended weekend in jurisdictions such as Macau and Taiwan prompted social media discussion over a potential rise in new cases. Netizens pointed to Japan, where cases escalated after the country's four-day spring holiday.

Pictures that showed crowds of 20,000 tourists packing the scenic area of Huang Shan in the eastern Chinese province of

Anhui were also published by Hong Kong media.

Leong addressed the reports on such elevated threats in other places, while further emphasizing that the increase in new cases after extended holidays was caused by the "gathering of crowds."

"After all, it is the gathering of crowds that poses the risk" of rising infection rates, said Leong.

Leong believes that if people stay vigilant in Macau and adhere to social distancing instructions, the risk may remain under control. "Although there is a long weekend coming, we should try our best to avoid gathering [in crowds]," Leong reminded the public. "Even if you stay at home, try to avoid hosting parties or gatherings."

In response to questions about crowds in shopping malls, Leong noted that following the advice of the health authority helps lower the risk. She added that even though certain shops in Cotai were taking in a significant number of shoppers, shopping while abiding by health advice should be safe.

The government has previously acknowledged that keeping the city idle for an extended period will severely hurt the economy. Leong voiced the same view yesterday, noting that the health authority understood the need for a resumption in economic activities.

"We foresee the pandemic may exist for some time. It's impossible to keep all commercial activities halted for all this time," Leong explained, but added that it was nonetheless "essential to conduct health measures and remain vigilant."

Business owners and operators should also bear in mind social distancing instructions, the medical doctor said. "Running a business should not be a problem, provided that operators follow our advice, such as maintaining social distance and hygiene," she explained.

"I think with this advice being followed, we can strike a balance between anti-pandemic [measures] and economic performance."



People walk in the rain on a central Macau street with mostly closed stores

Suspected electoral violation case dropped by prosecution

ANTHONY LAM

A case of suspected electoral violation against an indirectly-elected lawmaker has been dropped in the prosecution phase of the judicial procedure, public broadcaster Radio Macau reported.

Functional constituency lawmaker Wang Sai Man, who was suspected of violating the Legislative Assembly Election Law, was selected by a conglomerate led by the Macao Chamber of Commerce to run in last year's by-election. The election was to select a lawmaker to fill the seat of incumbent Chief Executive, Ho Iat Seng, who was then lawmaker and president of the Legislative Assembly.

Wang, representing the

industrial, commercial and financial sector, was suspected of campaigning on the by-election day, when he gave a media interview at the entrance of the voting station.

According to the Election Law, all campaign activities, be that online or offline, must cease on election day. The stipulation is colloquially known as the 'cool-down period'.

Following the suspicion of Wang's violation, the Electoral Affairs Committee immediately notified the police who pledged that they would conduct an investigation. After the investigation, the case was passed to the Public Prosecutions Office (MP) to decide whether charges would be pressed.

Recently, the MP decided that the file would be closed, meaning that no charges will be made against the incumbent lawmaker.

Radio Macau reported that, according to the MP, the ground for its decision was that "Wang's subjective intention of campaigning was unable to be proved."

A violator of the cool-down period is subject to a maximum penalty of one year in jail or a 240-day fine. Moreover, if a person violates the stipulation at a voting station or within a 100-meter radius of it, they are subject to a maximum penalty of two years of imprisonment.

Wang won the uncontested election on November 24, 2019, and was sworn-in on December 16.

FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN RAISES NEARLY 2 MILLION PATACAS TO HELP PORTUGAL

A fundraising campaign launched by Macau's Portuguese community has reportedly raised nearly 2 million patacas.

The campaign is intended to support healthcare professionals in Portugal by giving them the funds to obtain personal protective equipment and other medical equipment urgently needed to fight the Covid-19 outbreak.

According to Banco Nacional Ultramarino, one of the fundraiser's organizers, as of Sunday the dedicated account held 1,864,000 patacas

in donations from institutions, companies, and individuals in Macau.

While the campaign should have ended on Sunday, it was extended until today, when it is expected that the total amount may surpass 2 million patacas.

According to the organizers, the money will be used to acquire screening tests for the virus and protective equipment which will then be sent to Portuguese healthcare professionals who are on the frontline of the Covid-19 fight.

The acquisition process will be coordinated by the Portuguese governmental Trade and Investment Agency – AICEP Portugal Global. In coordination with the Portuguese Embassy in Beijing, it will ensure all the products and equipment reach Portugal's Ministry of Health, which will then coordinate distribution to hospitals and medical facilities.

As of yesterday, Portugal had registered a total of 11,730 cases of infection which has already resulted in 311 deaths. **RM**

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Mechanism exists to send patients in life-threatening condition to Hong Kong

ANTHONY LAM

DESPITE all public transportation links between Macau and Hong Kong having been closed, a mechanism by which Macau patients with emergency needs are sent to Hong Kong for medical assistance is still in effect, a representative of the Health Bureau (SSM) has clarified.

The SSM director, Lei Chin Ion, has previously mentioned that the already-established mechanism was still in effect during this special period. Lo Iek Long, medical director of the Conde São Januário Hospital, made that same observa-

tion at yesterday's daily press conference.

Journalists were concerned whether patients who have been under medical care in Hong Kong under the mechanism would be able to get follow-up medical treatment for their conditions by doctors in Hong Kong.

The mechanism has been under review, according to Lo, with regard to the degree of urgency necessary for doctors in Macau to consider sending patients to Hong Kong. However, the review was not prompted by this current pandemic situation. Lo said that as use of the mechanism could pose an additional threat to other members

of society, any decision to use it will be made with extreme caution.

Lo disclosed that the bureau has made contingencies for these patients, but the exact course of action will always depend on the specifics of the case.

"We rely on the actual condition of the patient to determine a medical plan," Lo explained. "We need to base our plans on the availability of medications, for example."

Medical plans, according to the medical director, are the result of comprehensive review. With reference to life-threatening illnesses, the SSM will conduct high-level communications with its counterparts in Hong Kong to facilitate the

necessary action, should cases arise during this unusual period.

The medical director indicated that many people would like to seek medical assistance in the neighboring Special Administrative Region or other places. He said that Macau residents enjoy the freedom to choose the location where they receive medical services at their own discretion.

The only thing he can do is to encourage people to "get the medical problems that can be resolved in Macau handled locally."

The medical director said that currently the most crucial work is to fight Covid-19. "I believe it's a consensus that human movement

should be kept to a minimum," Lo said.

The Macao Government Tourism Office announced yesterday that following the Metropole Hotel's recent discharge as a designated hotel for quarantine, the Regency Art Hotel has also now been discharged.

After the last guest left the hotel, the SSM deployed a team to instruct hotel staff on sanitization.

With the discharge of the Regency Art Hotel, 10 hotels are still in use as government quarantine venues. For the time being, 1,636 people – 1,378 locals and 258 non-locals – are under quarantine in these hotels.

Almost two-thirds of all recently shipped EMS parcels contain masks

RENATO MARQUES

FACE masks have become the most common product shipped from Macau to the rest of the world in the last two months.

According to data released by Macao Post (CTT), 65% of all parcels shipped via Express Mail Service (EMS) contained face masks, accounting for 12,357 parcels in the months of February and March.

The CTT also noted that among the most frequent destinations of these parcels were Portugal, mainland China, the U.S., the U.K., Hong Kong, Taiwan, Australia, and Canada, ac-

ording to the government.

The same data also shows that the number of parcels sent in February and March soared 334% in year-on-year terms. There are two likely reasons for this: the stabilization of the face mask supply in Macau, and the return to postal operations after services were curtailed mid-February when all government services were stopped or significantly reduced for almost three weeks.

According to a South China Morning Post report, the trend seen in Macau is similar to the neighboring region of Hong

Kong, with many people using postal services and parcel shipping companies to send face masks to their friends and family in other parts of the world as soaring demand and disrupted supply chains caused a worldwide scramble for supplies since the Covid-19 outbreak.

China, the world's major mask manufacturer, has reportedly increased its production nearly 12-fold to produce 116 million masks daily since the end of February. More than 2,500 companies, including 700 technology firms, have reportedly switched to producing masks.

The race for masks has led to accusations that the U.S., one of the most reluctant countries to accept the preventive potential of the product, has begun playing hardball to secure supplies. The first sign came from U.S. mask manufacturer 3M which had apparently been ordered by the administration not to export their N95 respirators to Canada and Latin America.

The U.S. administration was also under fire from the German government who accused the U.S. of performing acts of "modern piracy," claiming that a shipment of



200,000 masks headed for Germany was confiscated in Bangkok and diverted to the U.S. instead.

Portuguese media outlets have also widely reported cases of face mask parcels sent to Portugal by Portuguese nationals abroad, including from Macau, had been held by local customs authorities requesting payment of high taxes on such products so they

could be released.

A subsequent report said that the Macau government had acted to ensure that such parcels will arrive at their destinations. However, there are many cases reported on social media of people in Macau claiming that many of their parcels destined to several European countries never arrived at the final destination and were reportedly lost or stolen.

2020 SUPERMOON TO APPEAR TOMORROW, VISIBLE ACROSS CHINA

The Guangdong Wuyang Astronomical Museum predicts the roundest and biggest moon in 2020 will occur tomorrow night. According to the museum, if the weather is fine and the sky is clear on Wednesday, the 2020 supermoon will be visible across China. A supermoon is a full moon or a new moon seen at the same time that the moon is at its closest to the Earth in its elliptic orbit. This results in a slightly larger-than-usual apparent size of the lunar disk as viewed from Earth. At 2:09 a.m. on Wednesday, the moon will be the closest to the Earth for this year, only 356,017 kilometers away from the planet. At 10:35 a.m., on the same day, the moon, the Earth and the sun will fall into alignment. The museum expects that on May 26 of 2021, the supermoon will be visible again.

SECOND PAID EMPLOYMENT TRAINING PROGRAM TO BEGIN IN MID-APRIL

The local government plans to launch the second session of paid employment training in mid-April. According to the Labour Affairs Bureau (DSAL), the second session will have approximately 8,000 vacancies. The details will be announced soon. The DSAL claimed that, from January 1 to March 31, the bureau helped approximately 700 people obtain employment through the bureau's job services in the construction, transport and retail sectors. A worker taking the course can receive a maximum of 6,656 patacas after completing it. The entire program provides 2,000 training positions involving 20 types of jobs. Workers who attend 80% of the courses, participate in the relevant exams, and accept the DSAL's offers for employment assistance can also receive a subsidy.

MAINLAND GROUP FACES PUNISHMENT FOR HIDING TRAVEL HISTORY TO MACAU

More people have been investigated in mainland China for violating a provision that requires honest travel history disclosure. In Taizhou, Jiangsu Province, the police department opened an investigation into four people who failed to report their travel to Macau appropriately to the local government. In Hainan Province, the relevant police department has put one man under administrative detention because he hid travel records that include a visit to Macau. In mainland China, returning residents must report their travel history to the relevant community government department upon their return home from another place. The measure was implemented to help curb the spread of the coronavirus on the mainland.

ANALYST PREDICTS CASINOS CAN LAST YEARS WITH 'NEAR-ZERO REVENUE'

DANIEL BEITLER

ANALYSTS at JP Morgan Securities (Asia Pacific) say that Macau casino operators have enough financial liquidity behind them to survive with "near-zero revenue" for years.

Operators need aggregate gross gaming revenue to hold at just MOP300 million per day, or about MOP9 billion per month, in order to break-even, the analysts suggested. By comparison, monthly gross gaming revenue average MOP24.3 billion last year.

According to the Monday note seen by GGR Asia, all six concessionaires have "ample liquidity to survive this unprecedented period of 'near-zero revenue' for over a year."

The JP Morgan analysts say that Galaxy Entertainment Group is in the strongest financial position with enough reserve to survive up to six years without a recovery in gross gaming revenue. That is based on a net cash position of HKD51.7 billion and



only HKD600 million of debt as of late-February, together with estimated fixed operating costs amounting to about \$90 million (MOP718 million) per month and maintenance capital expenditure of \$11 million (MOP87 million) per month.

Casino operator SJM Holdings has enough reserves to survive for about four years of no revenue, according to JP Morgan, while Sands China, Wynn Macau and Melco Resorts and Entertainment have about two years. MGM China can survive for "over a year" un-

der the present circumstances, the analysts said.

Separately, Macquarie Securities estimated that MGM Resorts International, which owns a majority share in Macau concessionaire MGM China, is burning through \$14.4 million (MOP115 million) a day during the casino closures in North America. This translates to about nine to 10 months before MGM Resorts International runs out of cash, according to Macquarie Securities.

Analysts at Deutsche Bank Securities Inc, said that MGM

Resorts International, which recently appointed Bill Hornbuckle as acting CEO, has "adequate liquidity, with levers to pull."

The analysis comes as Macau's economy is reeling from months of coronavirus-induced business shutdowns, including a 15-day suspension of all gambling activity in February.

Macau gross gaming revenue dropped 80% in March to just MOP5.2 billion after posting MOP3.1 billion in February, its lowest take since 2004.

New entry restrictions applied to arrivals in Guangdong Province has quashed enthusiasm for a second-quarter recovery in the sector. The restrictions mean that all arrivals in Guangdong Province, including residents of the province, must undergo 14-day mandatory quarantine.

Mainland visitors typically account for about two-thirds of Macau's monthly arrivals, with about half of those hailing from southern Guangdong Province.

Singapore casinos face month-long closure

SINGAPORE'S two integrated resorts, Marina Bay Sands and Resorts World Sentosa, have closed their doors for four weeks to help curb the spread of Covid-19. The closures will last until May 4, according to information released by the operators.

The move comes after the Singapore go-

vernment instructed all non-essential workplaces to halt operations for a month-long "circuit breaker" campaign designed to curb virus transmission. As of yesterday, the city-state had recorded over 1,300 confirmed cases of the coronavirus and six fatalities.

The closure will affect all gambling activities,

hotels, and tourist attractions, including the ArtScience Museum at Marina Bay Sands and Universal Studios Singapore at Resorts World Sentosa. Hotel bookings during the closure period will be cancelled and fully refunded, both companies said in separate statements.

Marina Bay Sands is

operated by a unit of the U.S.-based Las Vegas Sands Corp., which also operates casinos in Macau via its local subsidiary, Sands China. Rival Resorts World Sentosa is operated by Genting Singapore.

Macau's 41 casinos were ordered to close for a 15-day period in February, after the special

administrative region recorded several cases of Covid-19 among gaming operator employees.

Inside Asian Gaming reported that the Singapore closures leave Macau as the only major jurisdiction in the Asia-Pacific region in which casinos continue to operate. **DB**

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RENATO MARQUES

THE Public Prosecutions Office (MP) has formally accused nine people involved in cases of crimes related to the Covid-19 outbreak, the MP informed in a statement.

From the nine cases, seven are related to accusations of breaching quarantine rules at home or in the designated hotels, one is related to document forgery, and the last person is accused of aggravated damage.

The first seven cases relate to people that have breached the quarantine rules for home quarantine and in one case, a designated hotel while undergoing the mandatory 14-day quarantine after having arrived in Macau from high-risk areas.

According to the information in the MP's formal charges, while they were supposed to be undergoing medical observation, the defendants left, one or more times, the quarantine venue without proper authorization, claiming that they had to get some goods, park a vehicle, or deal with other personal matters. In another case, one of the individuals had someone else in his hotel room.

One Macau resident left Macau on the same day that quarantine requirements were placed upon him. Regarding the case of document forgery, the accused non-resident worker, upon arriving in Macau and being told he would be required to quarantine, not only falsely declared his residential address to escape quarantine, but also subsequently hid the fact that he had been required to undergo medical observation but continued to perform work as a security guard. Police officers on patrol discovered these falsehoods.



Public Prosecution accuses nine with Covid-19 related crimes

The last case, in which the defendant is being accused of aggravated damage, is related to a man that purposefully damaged a total of 320 face masks that were being distributed at the Seac Pai Van Health Care Center by spitting and intentionally discharging nasal mucus into the bag containing the masks as a form of protest. According to the reports at the time,

the man went to the health facility seeking to exchange some face masks he had acquired previously and that he claimed were of low quality.

The MP noted that the act of the last defendant is considered aggravated since it was performed at a critical time of the epidemic outbreak. As such, the defendant will be subjected to a penal pu-

nishment of up to five years of imprisonment or a fine penalty up to 600 days.

The non-resident worker accused of document forgery may receive a prison sentence up to three years or an equivalent fine.

As for the other seven defendants that breached the quarantine rules, they face prison sentences up to six months or a

fine of up to 60 days.

According to the statement from the MP, the Office has accelerated the procedures for investigating and charging anyone who commits a crime related to the violations of the preventive measures for the epidemic, ensuring that the cases will be submitted for trial in a timely fashion to the Court of First Instance.

Police arrest man accused of raping neighbor

THE Judiciary Police (PJ) arrested one man under the charge of rape, the PJ reported during a press conference yesterday.

The suspect is a 20-year-old mainland man from Guangdong who works in Macau as an electrical technician. The victim is a local woman in her 30s.

They live in the same five-storey building on Rua da Praia do Manduco, but in different units. The suspect has lived in the apartment for three years. The two are not familiar with each other except for being acquainted as neighbors.

On the evening of April 4, the suspect knocked on the victim's door to ask her about how to operate his washing

machine. The victim did not answer but the suspect saw her inside, wearing her pajamas, through a window.

The suspect allegedly entered the house through the window, armed with a cleaver knife, which he used to threaten the victim while raping her. The victim tried to call for help but failed.

After the rape, afraid that the victim would report the crime to other people, the suspect allegedly took her to his apartment imprisoning her there. However, during this process, the victim started screaming and fighting, and successfully attracted the attention of her neighbors downstairs.

The neighbors saw the si-

tuation and intervened to save the woman. During the confrontation with the neighbors, the suspect sustained an injury to his right foot and fled the scene.

The victim reported the case to the police authority.

The suspect went to the house of his relatives, who also live in Macau. His relatives persuaded him to turn himself in. Four hours after the crime, at 2 a.m. in the morning of April 5, the suspect returned to his apartment where he was arrested by police officers waiting for him.

If convicted, the man will be sentenced three to 12 years in prison. The case is now with the prosecution authority. JZ

MAN ARRESTED FOR GOLDSMITH ROBBERY, FRAUD

A Vietnamese man is facing criminal charges after becoming the main suspect in a robbery and fraud case involving a goldsmith.

The 33-year-old suspect has been working in a restaurant in Macau. The robbery took place at approximately 5 p.m. on April 2, at Rua de Camilo Pessanha in San Ma Lou, when the store was still open.

Upon entering the shop, the suspect pretended to be a customer. He selected two items worth 33,000 patacas and dashed out of the shop without paying for them. Before the actual robbery took place, he had vi-

sited the goldsmith several times to case the area.

After committing the crime, the suspect, who was sharing an apartment with many other workers, did not return to his apartment. He took a public bus to leave the scene and went to a pawn shop to exchange the stolen items for cash. Later, he went to a casino located in the central district, where he lost all the money gambling.

At midnight on April 5, Judiciary Police (PJ) officers waited at the man's apartment and arrested him when he arrived.

The PJ investiga-

tion revealed that the man claimed to have had purposely injured himself by cutting his left wrist with a knife because he felt guilty about the crime. The PJ found him in a state of confusion and sent him to the hospital to receive medical treatment.

The suspect admitted to his crime. As result of his gambling, he fell into debt, owing 100,000 patacas in total. He also confessed to the PJ to having stolen some 20,000 patacas from his employer.

The PJ charged him with aggravated theft and fraud and forwarded him to the prosecution authority. JZ

TED ANTHONY

As the coronavirus spread across the world and began its reach into the United States, an assortment of Americans from the president on down summoned one notion as they framed the emerging cataclysm.

"The Chinese virus," they called it — or, in a few particularly racist cases, the "kung flu." No matter the terminology of choice, the message was clear: Whatever the ravages of COVID-19 are causing, it's somewhere else's fault.

Not someone. Somewhere.

A thick thread of the American experience has always been to hold the rest of the world at arm's length, whether in economics, technology or cultural exchange. The truth is, this nation has always been a bit of an island, a place where multilingualism, or even holding a passport, is less common than in many other lands.

Now, the notion of a virus that came from a distant "elsewhere" stands to carve deeper grooves into that landscape.

"It's a continuation of the same kinds of fears that we have had," says Jennifer Sciubba, an

AP PHOTO

ANALYSIS

After virus, how will Americans' view of the world change?

international studies professor at Rhodes College in Memphis, Tennessee. "We've seen this conversation before."

As the outbreak worsens by the day, the United States, like other nations, is drawing quite literally inward. With little ability

to plan and increasing numbers of Americans out of work, that's a natural reaction. "The coronavirus is killing globalization as

we know it," one foreign-affairs journal said.

It's unlikely that much of the globalization that touches Ame-

Patients rush to join studies testing drug for coronavirus

MARILYNN MARCHIONE

The new coronavirus made Dr. Jag Singh a patient at his own hospital. His alarm grew as he saw an X-ray of his pneumonia-choked lungs and colleagues asked his wishes about life support while wheeling him into Massachusetts General's intensive care unit.

When they offered him a chance to help test remdesivir, an experimental drug that's shown promise against some other coronaviruses, "it did not even cross my mind once to say 'no,'" said Singh, a heart specialist.

Coronavirus patients around the world have been rushing to join remdesivir studies that opened in hospitals in the last few weeks.

Interest has been so great that the U.S. National Institutes of Health is expanding its study, which has nearly reached its initial goal of 440 patients. The drug's maker, California-based Gilead Sciences, is quickly ramping up its own studies, too.

"I would enroll my family in a heartbeat" if the need arose, said Dr. Libby Hohmann, who placed Singh and nearly 30 others in

the NIH one at Mass General. To have no approved medicines for COVID-19 now is "kind of terrifying," she said.

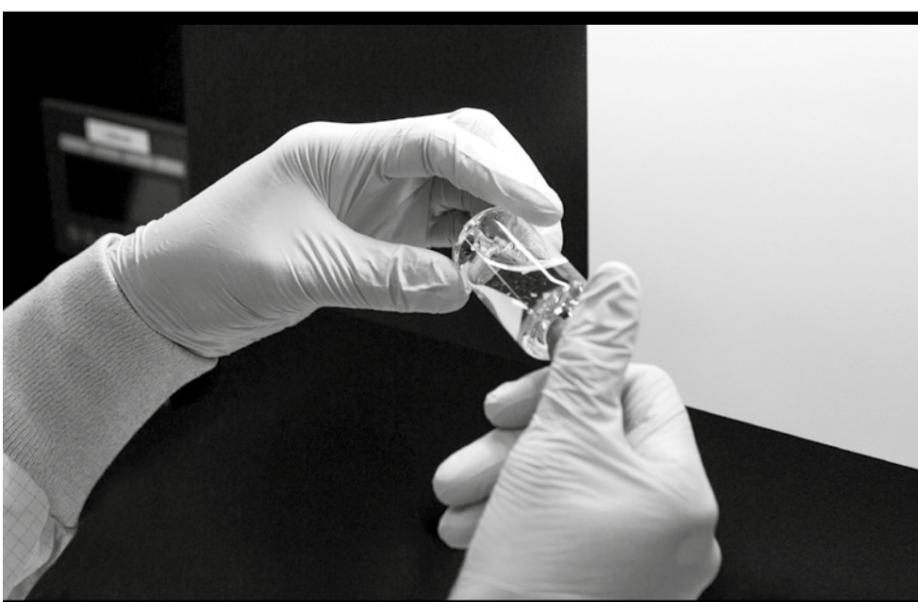
For most people, the new coronavirus causes mild or moderate symptoms, which can include fever and cough but sometimes pneumonia requiring hospitalization. The risk of death is greater for older adults and people with other health problems.

Remdesivir is given through an IV. It's designed to interfere with an enzyme that reproduces viral genetic material.

In animal tests against SARS and MERS, diseases caused by similar coronaviruses, the drug helped prevent infection and reduced the severity of symptoms when given early enough in the course of illness. It's farther along in testing than many other potential therapies and the current studies could lead to regulatory approval.

Gilead has given remdesivir to more than 1,700 patients on a case-by-case emergency basis, but more people ultimately will be helped if the company does the needed studies to prove safety and effectiveness,

AP PHOTO



chief executive Dan O'Day wrote in a recent letter to the public.

"Many people have reached out to Gilead to advocate for access to remdesivir on behalf of friends and loved ones. I can only imagine how it must feel to be in that situation," he wrote. "We are taking the ethical, responsible approach."

In another letter on Saturday, O'Day said the company has 1.5 million doses, which could mean more than 140,000 treatment courses, depending on how long treatment needs to last. The company is pro-

viding the drug for free for now and has set a goal of making 500,000 treatment courses by October and more than a million by the end of the year.

Gilead supplied remdesivir for two studies in China expected to give results by the end of the month. It also launched two studies for hospitalized patients in the U.S., Asia, Europe and elsewhere. One in severely ill patients tests five versus 10 days of treatment. Another in moderately sick patients compares those two options to stan-

dard care alone.

"There's so much anxiety about the disease that the patients are quite interested" and no one offered the chance has refused, said Dr. Arun Sanyal, the study leader at Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond.

The first patient he enrolled was a previously healthy middle-aged man who had an out-of-state visitor a few days before his symptoms began. What started as mild illness escalated to profound shortness of breath requiring supplemental oxygen.

At University Hospitals Cleveland Medical Center, Dr. Grace McComsey has enrolled roughly half a dozen patients.

"We're seeing more and more younger people, like 30, really sick," she said.

The NIH study is the most rigorous test. It compares remdesivir to placebo infusions, and neither patients nor doctors know who is getting what until the end of the study. Besides the U.S., it's open in Japan, Korea and Singapore.

In Chicago, an 89-year-old man was Northwestern Memorial Hospital's first participant and "the family was very excited" to have him included, said infectious diseases chief Dr. Babafemi Taiwo.

At the University of California, Irvine, Dr. Alpesh Amin has enrolled several patients. All are getting standard care even if they wind up getting a placebo rather than remdesivir, Amin said.

The Boston cardiologist, Singh, said he was willing to take that chance to advance science even if he personally winds up not benefiting. He's now recovering at home after spending a week in the hospital. AP



icans daily — the parts in their iPhones, the cheap consumer goods, the out-of-season fruit in their produce aisles, the ability to communicate around the world virtually — is going anywhere, at least for good. But a protracted period of coronavirus anxiety and impact will almost certainly redraw — and in many cases reinforce — opinions about the wider world's role in American lives.

Throughout its 244-year existence, America's relationship with the rest of the world has been marked by the tension between working together with other nations, going it alone as a land of rugged individualists."

Isolationism was, in fact, a dominant American policy until the 20th century — except when it wasn't, like when those millions of immigrants arrived from Germany, Ireland, Italy, Eastern Europe and other somewhere elses to become American.

Geography played a role in early isolationist attitudes. Insulated by oceans, the United States bordered only two nations, which often meant no regular exposure to people who were different. What's more, many communities, particularly on the frontier, had to be insular to survive — even as they desperately needed goods from "civilization"

back East.

The most obvious motivation, however, is economic, in the form of a perceived loss of opportunities.

Since the Industrial Revolution's beginnings in the 19th century, chunks of the population have exhibited wariness of outsiders willing to work for less and take jobs from longer-term Americans. That has proven fertile ground for populist politicians to exploit.

Finally, of course, there's fear — of an unknown other, the kind that allows a word like "globalism" to evolve into a sinister, sometimes anti-Semitic epithet. "It's a human condition to fear the

son, a political scientist at the University of the South in Sewanee, Tennessee, who helps lead the institution's global initiatives.

"It has shown the importance of integration in terms of the response," Wilson says. "Without global institutions and global cooperation, we would be in much worse shape. ... We can't turn that back."

So what happens next? Presuming American society emerges from the spring (and summer?) of coronavirus largely intact, where does its global-engagement discussion go?

Jonathan Cristol, a research fellow at Adelphi University's Levermore Global Scholars Program in New York, predicts that the coronavirus will "provide ammunition for all sides."

"People ... opposed to globalization and free trade will use the spread of the pathogen as an argument for why we need to roll back globalization. That will be framed in terms of immigration, in terms of anti-Chinese sentiment," he says. "And the people who favor interconnectedness will use the working together toward a common purpose as a way to back up their argument."

One side effect of the virus era may actually stimulate globalization. Stripped of their ability to travel or

meet in person, humans have doubled down on virtual communication more fundamentally than ever. That means the person two doors down presents in the same way as the one two continents away — as a pixelated image on a screen.

"I could see the shift to online work actually encouraging links around the world," says Stephen L.S. Smith, an economist at Hope College in Michigan who focuses on global trade. "It could end with a deeper globalization, but one that was more cognizant with security risks."

That's the question in a post-virus United States, a more distilled version of its pre-COVID counterpart: How to shape the American place in the world to benefit as many as possible without compromising the control and sovereignty so valued by many in a land that sometimes considers itself an exception to global rules?

"If the pandemic teaches us nothing else, it shows that we are all in this together. We are all vulnerable to forces like this," says Betty Cruz, president and CEO of the World Affairs Council of Pittsburgh, which fosters international engagement.

"Insularity isn't something that we can afford. Period," Cruz says. "The entire nation can't afford to not be globally connected. So it's not how do we get back to normal, but how do we create a new normal with connections that are deeper than before?" AP

JAPAN

Abe to declare state of emergency as early as today

JAPANESE Prime Minister Shinzo Abe said that he will declare a state of emergency for Tokyo and six other prefectures as early as today to bolster measures to fight the coronavirus outbreak, but that there will be no hard lockdowns.

Abe also told reporters yesterday that his government will launch a 108 trillion yen (\$1 trillion) stimulus package to help counter the economic impact of the pandemic, including cash payouts to households in need and financial support to protect businesses and jobs.

Abe said experts on a government-commissioned task force urged him to prepare to declare a state of emergency, with the COVID-19 outbreak rapidly expanding in major cities including Tokyo, and hospitals and medical staff overburdened with patients. He said the state of emergency will cover Tokyo, Osaka, Fukuoka and

four other hard-hit prefectures, and will be in effect for about a month.

The prime minister said he will hold a news conference on Tuesday to explain the state of emergency.

He said the measure is intended to further reinforce social distancing between people to slow the spread of the outbreak, and to continue to keep social and economic activities to a minimum.

Tokyo Gov. Yuriko Koike said the city will start transferring patients with no or slight symptoms from hospitals to hotels and other accommodations to make room for an influx of patients with severe symptoms.

Japan's health ministry has confirmed 3,654 cases of the coronavirus, including 84 deaths, as well as another 712 infections and 11 fatalities on a cruise ship that was quarantined in the port of Yokohama near Tokyo earlier this year. AP

As the outbreak worsens by the day, the United States, like other nations, is drawing quite literally inward

unknown. So people clump it all into 'danger' or 'stay away'," says Jeffrey Martinson, a political scientist at Meredith College in Raleigh, North Carolina.

The important thing to remember, advocates of engagement say, is this: Since World War II in particular, Americans have benefited from the fruits of engagement as much as they've suffered from its detriments.

"The pandemic has shown that illness and other aspects of life now can't be stopped by borders," says Scott Wil-

AP PHOTO



Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe

AP PHOTO



Thousands of Afghan refugees walk as they enter Afghanistan at the Islam Qala border crossing with Iran

From Iran's hot zone, Afghans flee home, spreading virus

TAMEEM AKHGAR,
KABUL

MAHDI Noori, a young Afghan refugee in Iran, was left jobless when the factory where he'd worked cutting stone was shut down because of the coronavirus outbreak. He had no money, was afraid of contracting the virus and had no options. So he headed home.

He joined a large migration of some 200,000 Afghans and counting who have been flowing home across the border for weeks — from a country that is one of the world's biggest epicenters of the pandemic to an impoverished homeland that is woefully unprepared to deal with it.

At the border, Noori lined up with thousands of other returning refugees earlier this month, crowded together waiting to cross. "I saw women and children on the border, and I was thinking, What if they get infected now, here?" the 20-year-old told The Associated Press.

The massive influx of returnees, who are going back untested and unmonitored to cities, towns and villages around the country, threatens to create a greater outbreak in Afghanistan that could overwhelm its health infrastructure wrecked by decades of war. So far, Afghan authorities have confirmed 273 cases of the new coronavirus, more than 210 of them in people who returned from Iran. Four dea-

ths have been recorded.

Afghan Health Minister Ferozudin Feroz says the virus has already spread because of the returnees. "If the cases increase, then it will be out of control and we will need help," he said.

He and other Afghan officials expressed concern that Iran would push out the more than 1 million Afghans working illegally in the country. Iran has already barred entry from Afghanistan, preventing any who left from coming back. Iran has had more than 58,000 coronavirus cases and more than 3,600 deaths.

So far, the International Organization of Migration has recorded more than 198,000 Afghans returnees from Iran this year, more than 145,000 of them in March as the outbreak in Iran accelerated. At the height of the influx, 15,000 people a day were crossing the border, according to Repatriation and Returnees Minister Sayed Hussain Alimi Balkhi, though it has gone down slightly since.

At the border, the IOM gives tents and blankets to returnees who have nowhere to go and transportation money to others. But the Afghan government and independent agencies don't have the capacity to test, take temperatures or quarantine the returnees. Almost all go back to their home provinces using public transportation, around a quarter of them to Herat province, bordering Iran.

Noori's experience mir-

rors that of many other returnees.

He quit school to go work in Iran when he was 15, bouncing between multiple jobs, most recently cutting stone in a construction materials factory in the central Iranian city of Isfahan. He earned enough to send \$180 a month back to his impoverished family of eight.

When the factory shut, he lost his income. He feared that, if infected, he would get no treatment because Afghans are far down in priority. He tried to get tested in Iran but was refused, he said.

He traveled back with other workers, not knowing if any of them were infected. Once in Afghanistan, he took buses across almost the entire breadth of the country to reach the capital, Kabul.

On the buses, he was met with hostility from other Afghans who told him, "Fear of coronavirus brought you home to kill others with it," he said.

He reached his home in Kabul on March 17 and isolated himself for two weeks from his family, fearing he could infect them. "I experienced the worst moment of my life, meeting my parents, sisters and brothers from a distance after such a long time," he said, speaking by phone from his home.

The government ordered a lockdown on March 28 in Kabul and Herat province, shutting down businesses, restaurants and wedding

halls, just as the traditional spring season for weddings was beginning.

But the response has been hobbled by a government crisis that has seen two candidates claiming to have won recent presidential elections and by continued violence.

Yesterday, neighboring Pakistan said it would reopen its border for four days so that Afghans wishing to return home can go back. On the other side of the border, which closed nearly a month ago, the Afghan government has set up a quarantine camp for the returnees.

Pakistani nationals stranded in Afghanistan will also be allowed to go back. According to the IOM, 1,827 undocumented Afghan refugees had returned from Pakistan between Jan. 1 and mid-March.

Habibullah Zafari, who had been studying in Iran, returned to Kabul four weeks ago. The next day, he went to the testing center in the capital, where they didn't test him but instead took his temperature and checked for symptoms. They declared him negative.

Nevertheless, Zafari quarantined himself until just a few days ago, when he finally met with friends and family. He still wears a mask and gloves and stays at home most of the time.

"This virus is like the wind," he said. "You do not know where it comes from and how you get infected." AP

this day in history



1999 US CLAIMS 'BANANA WAR' VICTORY

The World Trade Organisation (WTO) has ruled in favour of the United States in its long-running trade dispute with Europe over bananas.

The WTO says the European Union (EU) has broken international rules on trade but Brussels says it may appeal.

The banana row centres on the preferential treatment allegedly given by the EU to banana producers from former African, Caribbean and Pacific colonies at the expense of Latin American growers and their US backers.

The WTO was asked last month to rule on whether the EU had done enough to amend its import regime and whether retaliatory American sanctions were legitimate.

Washington had sought \$520m (£330m) in retaliatory sanctions as compensation for lost business in Europe.

However, the WTO awarded only \$191m (£120m). America's top negotiator on agriculture matters, Peter Scher, said the list of European goods targeted for sanctions last month would now be revised as a result of the reduced compensation.

Items on the list include Scottish cashmere sweaters, Italian cheese, French handbags and German coffee makers.

Products selected for sanctions will be subject to import taxes of up to 100% - doubling their price to American shoppers.

Senior EU officials have meanwhile confirmed that the union will comply with the ruling, but said they would reserve the right to appeal against it.

They insist that the WTO panel has approved the principle of its policy, which is to protect African and Caribbean banana producers.

An EU spokesman said: "There is no ruling here that says under WTO rules it is illegal to offer protection to those (Caribbean) producers."

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

The EU adopted a new banana import system under which import rights would be granted as ships arrived at port, in a "first come, first served" system.

But the US argued this would still favour imports from former colonies and threatened to step up its sanctions by rotating import tariffs over a wider range of goods.

In April 2001 the long-running dispute was finally settled. The new agreement involved a complicated system of licences and quotas which gave Central American producers greater access to European markets.

The banana war was the most serious disagreement over trade between the EU and the US in recent years, although other industries including beef and steel were also at the centre of disputes.

MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

YOUR STARS



ARIES

Mar. 21-Apr. 19

Opening yourself up to a new romantic opportunity also means that you're opening yourself up to emotional intensity and upheaval, so be careful. Don't do anything for a new heartthrob.



TAURUS

Apr. 20-May. 20

There's a nice, warm place in your heart where you keep special memories and nostalgic ideas, but it's not an infinite space, and right now you need to make some room.



GEMINI

May. 21-Jun. 21

You are living proof that a person doesn't have to be an Olympic gymnast to be extremely skilled at balance! Rest easy knowing that there's nothing in this day you can't handle with grace.



CANCER

Jun. 22-Jul. 22

When you come across a person from your past today, rely on your good memory to help you come up with a great conversation starter. In just a few moments, you'll know exactly what subject to bring up.



LEO

Jul. 23-Aug. 22

Buying things to make yourself feel better may provide temporary relief, but in a couple days whatever has been bothering you will still be bothering you.



VIRGO

Aug. 23-Sep. 22

After months or even years of going back and forth in a relationship, you could reach a major turning point today, thanks to a revelation. Sometimes things come to an abrupt ending.



LIBRA

Sep. 23-Oct. 22

Men are going to be the primary actors in today's dramas, or the people around you will be displaying stereotypically masculine traits like aggressiveness and competitiveness.



SCORPIO

Oct. 23-Nov. 21

There's a lot to be said for being direct, but today the more rewarding type of communication for you to explore will be much more subtle: eavesdropping.



SAGITTARIUS

Nov. 22-Dec. 21

Put your feet up and relax for a while. It won't be as boring as you think, and you will learn how to prevent more stress and pressure in your life. Your mind is still very active, so don't worry.



CAPRICORN

Dec. 22-Jan. 19

Beautiful words will turn anyone's head today, so if you've been working up the courage to make your move on a certain someone, today is the day to do it! Get creative.



AQUARIUS

Jan. 20-Feb. 18

Today, the devil will be not only in the details but also in the fine print. Keep that in mind when you're looking over any sort of contract. This includes credit card receipts and application forms.



PISCES

Feb. 19-Mar. 20

Itchy fabrics, spicy foods, and atonal music. Any (or all) of these off-kilter experiences will be just the ticket for you today. What you need most is stimulation!

The Born Loser by Chip Sanson



SUDOKU

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

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

WEATHER

	MIN	MAX	CONDITION
CHINA			
Beijing	9	18	cloudy
Harbin	-2	6	sleet
Tianjin	10	17	overcast
Urumqi	11	23	clear
Xi'an	10	23	cloudy
Lhasa	2	13	cloudy
Chengdu	12	19	overcast
Chongqing	14	21	cloudy
Kunming	0	24	cloudy
Nanjing	6	20	cloudy
Shanghai	9	20	cloudy
Wuhan	10	24	cloudy
Hangzhou	9	19	cloudy
Taipei	17	20	drizzle
Guangzhou	14	18	drizzle
Hong Kong	16	21	shower
WORLD			
Moscow	2	4	drizzle
Frankfurt	6	16	moderate rain
Paris	5	14	drizzle
London	5	13	drizzle
New York	0	4	cloudy

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- Lose one's cool; 5- Hurler Hershiser; 9- General on Chinese menus; 12- Monetary unit of Cambodia; 13- Seizes with teeth; 15- Had the mic, say; 16- Mogul capital until 1658; 17- Unsaid; 18- Like some history; 19- Firearm; 21- Place in order; 23- 3:00; 24- Sort; 25- Whip up; 28- In condensed form; 33- Scoundrel; 34- Bald eagle's relative; 35- Andean country; 36- Van Gogh had one later in life; 37- Arrogant; 38- Pick up; 39- One hunted; 41- "___ She Lovely?"; 42- Browned sliced bread; 44- Guess; 46- Hire; 47- Long, long time; 48- Peter Fonda title role; 49- Beef portion; 53- A little brown; 57- Toward the mouth; 58- Organization; 60- Romeo's last words; 61- The ___ the limit; 62- Former Russian rulers; 63- Beatty and Rorem; 64- CIA forerunner; 65- Air; 66- Departs;

DOWN: 1- Ladies of Sp.; 2- Upon us; 3- Dynamic beginning; 4- Highland; 5- Dull; 6- Cheerful; 7- And so on; Abbr.; 8- Sci-fi princess; 9- Go sour; 10- Catch; 11- Give the eye; 14- Like barber poles; 15- Absorb; 20- Fence opening; 22- Literary monogram; 25- Fancy pancake; 26- Lion sounds; 27- Everglades bird; 28- Witchy woman; 29- Sometimes you feel like ___; 30- Juridical; 31- You ___ right; 32- Like lousy roads; 34- Formerly, formerly; 37- Tickler of the ivories; 40- Cedes; 42- Revenuers, for short; 43- Employment vacancy; 45- Cattle call; 46- Slip by; 48- Complete reversal; 49- Indifferent; 50- Annoys; 51- Beams; 52- Treehouse used by birds; 54- Logical beginning?; 55- Team; 56- Shell competitor; 59- Kind of cross;

Yesterday's solution

C	A	P	E	C	A	T	O	S	H	O	M	E
O	W	E	N	O	R	A	L	E	I	B	I	S
W	H	E	T	V	A	R	E	S	N	O	S	E
L	O	R	I	A	M	P	U	T	A	T	E	S
		C	O	T		M	E	A				
E	M	P	E	R	O	R	S		T	H	I	R
W	A	R	A	S	A	I	R		S	N	E	E
E	L	O	I	E	N	T	E	R		A	B	A
S	T	O	P	S		G	A	N	E	S		A
A	F	O	U	L		R	A	M	P	A	R	T
		M	A	T		E	A	T				
F	I	R	S	T	H	A	N	D		N	C	A
S	I	N	E		H	A	N	O	I		E	A
T	R	O	N		E	N	O	L	A		S	K
E	E	R	O		K	E	N	A	L		T	E

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

- 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



<p>FOR SALE</p> <p>Ocean Gardens FrAGRANT Court, Taipa HK\$24,000,000 3,500 ft² 4 1/2 3</p>	<p>FOR RENT</p> <p>Manhattan Apartment, Taipa \$20,800/mth 1,626 ft² 3 1/2 2 1/2</p>	<p>FOR SALE</p> <p>[Macau] Apartment w/ balcony 2 1/2 1 1/2 840 ft² \$4,580,000 (ref: 20016003)</p> <p>[Macau] Waterfront Duet Studio Apartment 1 1/2 469 ft² \$4,980,000 (ref: 20016001)</p> <p>[Coloane] Hoi Wan Garden Apartment 2 1/2 1 1/2 900 ft² \$4,900,000 (ref: 19106003)</p> <p>[Macau] Nova City Apartment 3 1/2 2 1/2 1,515 ft² \$11,500,000 (ref: 19106001)</p>	<p>FOR RENT</p> <p>[Macau] Vai Fung Triplex, Macau 2 1/2 2 1/2 1,065 ft² \$15,800/mth (ref: 19121001)</p> <p>[Coloane] Ocean Garden 4 1/2 4 1/2 3,700 ft² \$35,000/mth (ref: 18040674)</p> <p>[Taipa] Manhattan 3 1/2 2 1/2 1,626 ft² \$20,800/mth (ref: n/a)</p> <p>[Taipa] Buckingham 2 1/2 1 1/2 1,100 ft² \$15,900/mth (ref: 20031002)</p>	<p>jml 卓雅物業 property SINCE 1994</p> <p>(853) 2835 2699 hello@jmlproperty.com www.jmlproperty.com</p> <p>f jmlmacau @ jmlproperty</p>
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MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

ASIA'S 50 BEST RESTAURANTS THAT YOU CAN'T VISIT RIGHT NOW

SINGAPORE'S Odette has held on to the title of Asia's best restaurant for the second year running, as top chefs grapple with city lockdowns, temporary closures of their restaurants or food-supply interruptions during the coronavirus pandemic.

Cantonese restaurant The Chairman in Hong Kong, Tokyo kaiseki eatery Den, neo-Parisian bistro Belon in Hong Kong and Singapore-based barbecue restaurant Burnt Ends rounded out the top five. The winners were announced in a video livestream, in place of a ceremony originally planned for Saga prefecture, Japan, during cherry blossom season.

Odette chef Julien Royer said his three-Michelin-starred restaurant has been "working hard to support guests who have had to delay their visits and change travel plans."

"In unpredictable times food can be a source of comfort," Royer said in an email interview. "And now more than ever we wish to offer our guests the comfort of a beautiful and thoughtful meal above all else."

Two Macau restaurants made the list this year, both of which are located inside the Wynn Pala-

ce integrated resort.

Cantonese fine-dining establishment Wing Lei Palace made number 22, while double Michelin-starred Sichuan Moon came in at number 23. According to the Wynn Palace website, Sichuan Moon is closed until further notice.

Meanwhile, in Hong Kong, Chef Richard Ekkebus of two-Michelin-starred Amber (No. 31) said food-supply logistics have been "a challenge." But he says the restaurant has been able to source the ingredients it needs to continue serving its French menu, which includes dishes such as pigeon with foie gras, pepper berry and blackcurrant as well as spelt with black trumpet mushroom and preserved black truffle.

Amber reopened in April 2019 with a renovated interior and a new menu that eliminated what Ekkebus calls "the usual tricks of the trade," including butter, refined sugar and salt, so that ingredients' natural flavors could shine through.

"Where salt is needed," he said, "it's distilled from natural umami through ingredients like seaweed or techniques like fermentation. Where dairy is required, we've

searched for plant-based alternatives."

Mume in Taipei (No. 18 and the best restaurant in Taiwan) has seen a drop in its usual tourist clientele, prompting it to close once or twice a week and to limit the number of reservations to ensure ample space between diners. Mume's staff wear face masks at all times and check guests' temperatures before they sit down. The chefs wear antimicrobial gloves while preparing food.

"Just like most businesses and maybe 99 percent of the hospitality industry, we are of course greatly affected by the outbreak," said Mume's chef and owner, Richie Lin.

Lin can count one blessing: His food is 99 percent locally sourced, enabling him to offer a tasting menu that includes cuttlefish with mullet roe and black garlic as well as abalone and duck risotto. Lin says his interest was piqued by indigenous ingredients such as "wild vegetables that is foraged by aboriginal [people]" of Taiwan.

Asia's 50 Best Restaurants list is selected and voted on by a panel of 300 food writers, critics, chefs, restaurateurs and foodies across Asia. The awards have been held and published each year since 2013 by William Reed Business Media. **MDT/BLOOMBERG**

CORPORATE BITS

MGM presents Wuhan hot dry noodles at Macau properties



MGM China is introducing a series of authentic delicacies of Hubei to the Macau public, including their signature dish hot dry noodles, at Imperial Court and Square Eight at MGM Macau, as well as Chün and Hao Guo at MGM Cotai.

These new menu items are to commemorate that Wuhan, Hubei is finally seeing lockdown measures gradually lifted.

Aside from the celebration of its proud Chinese staple food culture, MGM also hopes to empower its guests with the taste of warmth for heart and soul, and most importantly, to hearten the people of Wuhan.

Originating in Wuhan, hot dry noodles is a staple breakfast dish as well as the

most iconic comfort food in Wuhan. People in Wuhan value breakfast culture as they believe it is an essential revitalizing meal as it welcomes a brand-new day.

The dish has earned an array of national gastronomic recognitions, including the title of "Five Acclaimed Noodles in China" and the first place of "China's 10 Best Noodles."

Made by MGM's experienced Hubei chefs, the dish is made following traditional recipes: hand-pulled, thin and al dente noodles mixed with sesame oil, sesame sauce, soy sauce and pickled spicy radishes, and then seasoned with a handmade spicy sauce that is infused with a variety of spices and herbs.

AD

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為了保護客戶和員工的健康和安全，我們將繼續按照本地政府的建議在辦公室入口處實施預防措施。

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Macau SAR, China **Mon-Thu: 9:30-13:00, 14:30-18:30**
地址:澳門南灣大馬路759號3-5樓 **Fri: 9:30-13:00, 14:30-18:00**
Tel: (853) 2837 2642 / 2837 2623 **Sat: 9:00-13:00**

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STEPHEN WHYNO,
WASHINGTON

NFL

Pro Football Hall of Famer Bobby Mitchell dies at 84

BOBBY Mitchell, the speedy Hall of Famer who became the Washington Redskins' first black player, has died. He was 84.

Mitchell split his career with the Cleveland Browns and Redskins and was inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 1983. The Hall of Fame said Sunday night that Mitchell's family said he died in the afternoon but didn't provide any other details.

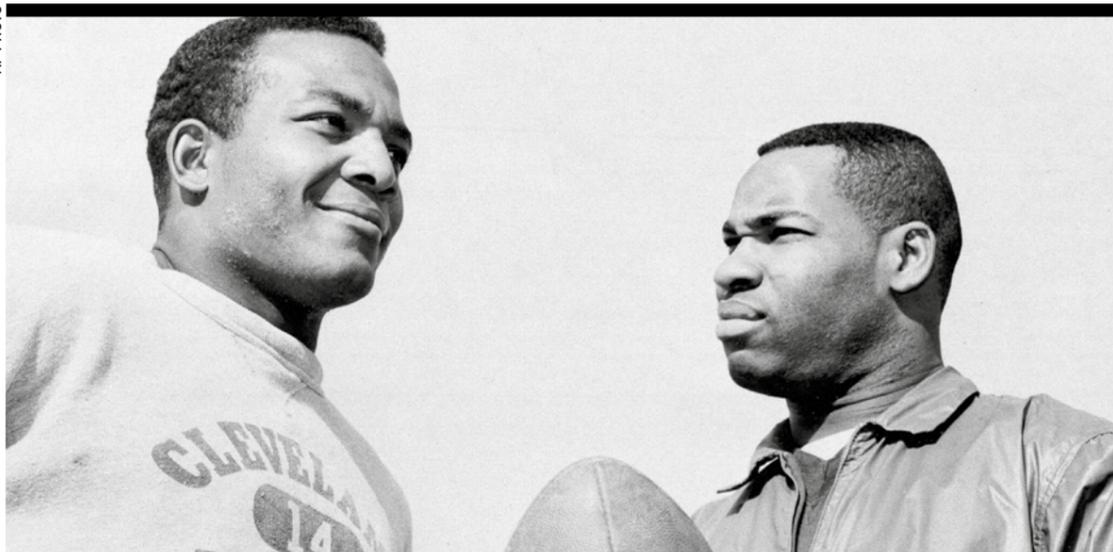
"The game lost a true legend today," Hall of Fame President & CEO David Baker said in a statement. "Bobby was an incredible player, a talented executive and a real gentleman to everyone with whom he worked or competed against."

When Mitchell joined the Redskins in 1962, they became the last NFL team to integrate. After playing his first four seasons in Cleveland, he spent seven more with Washington and retired with the second-most combined offensive yards.

Mitchell became a Redskins scout and later served as assistant general manager.

"His passion for the game of football was unmatched by anyone I have ever met," Redskins owner Daniel Snyder said. "Not only was he one of the most influential

AP PHOTO



Fullback Jim Brown (left) and flanker back Bobby Mitchell, once a feared duo for the Cleveland Browns before Mitchell was dealt to Washington

individuals in franchise history, but he was also one of the greatest men I have ever known. He was a true class act and will be sorely missed."

Retired NFL running back Brian Mitchell, who has no rela-

tion to Bobby but became friends with him, said he learned from the Hall of Famer, "Tough times don't remain, tough people do, and you don't let what you go through change who you are unless it's for the better."

"I'm sure there was people saying stuff to him and doing things that (ticked) him off, but he wasn't bitter," Brian Mitchell said. "When you look at him when he was working for the Redskins early on, many people

felt Bobby should've been the general manager of the Washington Redskins. He didn't get bitter. He kept doing the things he can do."

Bobby Mitchell said during a 2015 episode of Showtime's "60 Minutes Sports" that he understood pretty quickly upon signing in Washington "there was no one in this town used to having a black star." Friend and fellow Hall of Famer Jim Brown took it one step further.

"Bobby was an individual that was thrown into the arena of being a victim for no reason," Brown said. "He had to suffer for being black more than any person I know that played football at the time I played. With that kind of ability, if he were white, everybody on this earth would know who he was."

Mitchell played halfback for the Browns from 1958-61 and moved to flanker with the Redskins, leading the NFL in yards receiving in 1962 and 1963. He was a three-time All-NFL selection, played in four Pro Bowls, and his 7,954 all-purpose yards were the second-most in league history when he retired in 1968.

After retiring, Mitchell became active in the community and held an annual golf tournament raising funds for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society since 1980. AP

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OPINION

Our Desk

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**NOT ENOUGH TO BE ALIVE,
 YOU MUST LOOK ALIVE**

In ancient Rome, an episode occurred around the year 62 BC involving Julius Caesar's wife Pompeia Sula. It led to the creation of the famous quote, "Caesar's wife must not only be honest; she must look honest."

The quote highlights the fact that when you have a high status and reputation to keep, you must not only "do the good thing" but also you must care for "looking like you are doing the good thing," otherwise, distrust from a group of people or society more broadly can lead to the creation of rumors that might jeopardize your position.

The same applies to businesses, companies and even individual people that have acquired higher status in society.

In fact, "Do good" and "Look good" do not always match perfectly and if in ancient Rome the second one was already important, nowadays the "Look good" pretty much accounts for everything, despite that popular proverb that says, "Appearances are often deceptive."

The same happens now in a time of difficulties and social alarm due to the worldwide outbreak of the COVID-19, a microscopic virus that came to remove the veil of all our fragilities.

In the past few weeks, we have seen Macau being highly praised by many regional and international entities, as well as people, for the way it battled this virus outbreak.

Yes, we are alive, but... (just like Caesar's wife) we also need to "look alive." Our hospitality and gaming industry, our main pillars that for decades have sustained our economy, our international status and our social wellbeing, play a very important role in keeping these "appearances."

After long months confined to the four corners of my apartment due to a health condition that had nothing to do with the virus, finally, I managed to gain enough confidence and physical strength to go out of the house and see the city and its developments.

Looking for some new clothes (unfortunately, home confinement also often brings some extra pounds) I went to the Cotai area, thinking that having a larger choice in a smaller area would help me to find what I needed without roaming up and down the city.

But, to my surprise, I found myself not in the booming Cotai Strip of other days but on a Macau version of New Jersey's Atlantic City where the once glowing and shiny integrated resorts now present dark shades of severe depression.

I know that we all are suffering from the consequences of the COVID-19. I also know that there is almost no influx of tourists and that locals should refrain from walking around unless it is necessary, but the emptiness I saw was almost scary.

But scarier than the fact there were a very low number of people in the casinos and shopping areas, and even a significant number of stores were closed, was the neglect of the public areas. Corridors were as empty as the hand soap and toilet roll dispensers in the lavatories.

Most of the stores that were open for business present reduced working schedules with closing times coming as early as 8 p.m., and many no longer offer "free Wi-Fi."

In the malls, the scenario was devastating, with corridors filled with the silence of the closed shutters. In some cases, even the corridor lights were completely off, turning the roaming of the mall into a kind of "haunted house" theme park adventure, especially when out of the darkness jumps a couple of security staff members in face masks as they patrol the area.

Suddenly I started thinking, "I am glad there are not many tourists coming. What would they say if they saw this?"

The economic fallout from the coronavirus could linger a lot longer and prove far more damaging without international policy coordination, according to Bank for International Settlements staff.

"No one can hide from the consequences of a pandemic, and unilateral macroeconomic policies are doomed to fail," Emanuel Kohlscheen, Benoit Mojon and Daniel Rees wrote in a bulletin published by the Basel-based institution yesterday.

In the study, they looked at various scenarios taking into account economic spillovers across major economies.

In one model, a "more severe" initial economic hit plus a second wave of the virus, U.S. GDP would be close to 12% below its non-virus level by the end of 2020. In the "less severe" scenario, and with the virus contained quickly, the trough comes this quarter, and is limited to about 5%.

The authors warn that disjointed national efforts raise the chance of a second outbreak wave.

HUMAN TO BEAST

**TIGER AT NYC'S BRONX
 ZOO TESTS POSITIVE FOR
 CORONAVIRUS**

A tiger at the Bronx Zoo has tested positive for the new coronavirus, in what is believed to be the first known infection in an animal in the U.S. or a tiger anywhere, federal officials and the zoo said yesterday [Macau time].

The 4-year-old Malayan tiger named Nadia — and six other tigers and lions that have also fallen ill — are believed to have been infected by a zoo employee who wasn't yet showing symptoms, the zoo said. The first animal started showing symptoms March 27, and all are doing well and expected to recover, said the zoo, which has been closed to the public since March 16 amid the surging coronavirus outbreak in New York.

The test result stunned zoo officials: "I couldn't believe it," director Jim Breheny said. But he hopes the finding can contribute to the global fight against the virus that causes COVID-19.

"Any kind of knowledge that we get on how it's transmitted, how different species react to it, that knowledge somehow is going to provide a greater base resource for people," he said in an interview.

The finding raises new questions about transmission of the virus in animals. The U.S. Department of Agriculture, which confirmed Nadia's test result at its veterinary lab, said there are no known cases of the virus in U.S. pets or livestock.

"There doesn't appear to be, at this time, any evidence that suggests that the animals can spread the virus to people or that they can be a source of the infection in the United States," Dr. Jane Rooney, a veterinarian and a USDA official, said in an interview.

The USDA said it's not recommending routine coronavirus testing of animals, in zoos or elsewhere, or of zoo employees. Still, Rooney said a small number of ani-



Nadia, a Malayan tiger at the Bronx Zoo in New York

mals in the U.S. have been tested through the USDA's National Veterinary Services Laboratories, and all those tests came back negative except Nadia's.

The coronavirus outbreaks around the world are driven by person-to-person transmission, experts say.

The 4-year-old Malayan tiger and six other tigers and lions are believed to have been infected by a zoo employee who wasn't yet showing symptoms

There have been a handful of reports outside the U.S. of pet dogs or cats becoming infected after close contact with contagious people, including a Hong Kong dog that tested positive for a low level of the pathogen in February and early March. Hong Kong agriculture au-

thorities concluded that pet dogs and cats couldn't pass the virus to human beings but could test positive if exposed by their owners.

Some researchers have been trying to understand the susceptibility of different animal species to the virus, and to determine how it spreads among animals, according to the Paris-based World Organization for Animal Health.

The American Veterinary Medical Association and the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention have been recommending that out of an abundance of caution, people ill with the coronavirus should limit contact with animals — advice that the veterinary group reiterated after learning of the tiger's test result.

In general, the CDC also advises people to wash their hands after handling animals and do other things to keep pets and their homes clean.

At the Bronx Zoo, Nadia, her sister Azul, two Amur tigers and three African lions developed dry coughs, and some of the cats exhibited some wheezing and loss of appetite, said Dr. Paul Calle, the zoo's chief veterinarian. AP



Portugal has recorded its lowest daily rise in the coronavirus infection rate since the outbreak started. The total of 11,730 official cases reported yesterday was up just 4% from the previous day. Health authorities said the total coronavirus related deaths rose just over 5% from Sunday to 311.



Iran Mahdi Noori, a young Afghan refugee in Iran, was left jobless when the factory where he'd worked cutting stone was shut down because of the coronavirus outbreak. He had no money, was afraid of contracting the virus and had no options. So he headed home. More on p8



Germany The German government has launched another rescue package to try to ease the flow of financial aid to small and medium-size companies squeezed by the coronavirus crisis. Vice-Chancellor Olaf Scholz (pictured, right) said companies that were in good health last year can apply for loans totaling as much as three months of revenue with a 800,000 euros cap. Liability for the loans will ultimately lie with the government.

Spain The mother of Manchester City manager Pep Guardiola has died after contracting the coronavirus. The Premier League club says Dolores Sala Carrió died near Barcelona in the city of Manresa. She was 82. City says "everyone associated with the club sends their most heartfelt sympathy at this most distressing time to Pep, his family and all their friends."