

Arriving SAR Macao from Zhuhai  
Steps to Make Health Declaration



澳門健康碼  
Macao Health Code

Before leaving Zhuhai:  
1. Generate a "Guangdong Health Code" by scanning QR code or using WeChat mini program "Yueshengma (粤省事)"  
2. Apply "Macao Health Code" (Only green code is accepted to enter)

Upon arrival at a Macao border checkpoint:  
Present Macao Health Code + valid Nucleic Acid Testing information + travelling document

Novel Coronavirus Response and Coordination Centre

www.rcr-macau.com



**AN OPERATION THAT HAD PRINTED FAKE IMMIGRATION DOCUMENTS SINCE JULY 2019 WAS BUSTED BY THE POLICE**

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**PRIMARY SCHOOLS TO RESUME CLASSES FROM MAY 25**

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**NON-RESIDENT WORKERS CROWDED THE TAIPA FERRY TERMINAL FOR COVID-19 TESTING TO BE ABLE TO ENTER ZHUHAI**

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**China's** direct investment in the United States fell last year to its lowest level since the Great Recession, even before the coronavirus pandemic shut down much of global commerce. A report out yesterday found that China's direct investment in the U.S. dropped from \$5.4 billion in 2018 to \$5 billion last year, the lowest level since the recession year of 2009.

**China** New coronavirus clusters have been reported in Wuhan city - where the virus first emerged - and the north-eastern province of Jilin in China. Wuhan reported five new cases yesterday, after confirming its first case since 3 April on Sunday. Authorities said the small cluster of cases were all from the same residential compound. The National Health Commission reported 17 new cases, seven of them imported.



**China** More than 82,000 third-year middle school students went back to classes in China's capital Beijing to prepare for their high school entrance exams. Students must show valid health codes and tracking records of their travels over the past 14 days on the mobile phones to gain entry to their schools.

**Sri Lanka's** government asked state and private sector workers to resume work yesterday after a nearly two-month coronavirus lockdown. A 24-hour curfew was lifted on the island, except for two main districts that include Colombo. Restaurants, liquor stores, clothing stores and gyms also remain closed. Buses and trains will only transport those going to work.

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BLOOMBERG



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## 200 'WEALTHY HOUSEHOLDS' MOVED OUT FROM SUBSIDIZED HOUSING

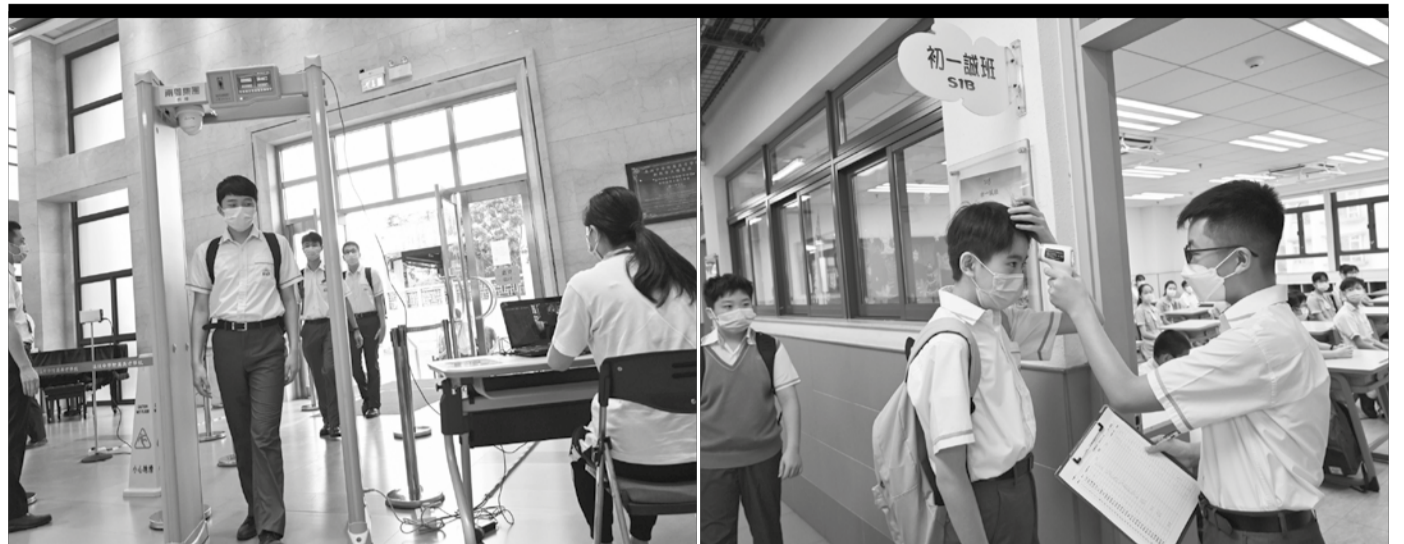
In 2019, over 200 households moved out from government-subsidized apartments due to their growth in incomes, according to Chan Wa Keong, head of the Public Housing Department of the Housing Bureau (IH). Currently, 90% of the residents living in government-subsidized apartments are exempted from rental payment. Ten percent of the households recorded an income double that of the maximum income. In 2019, IH carried out 1,100 inspections at government-subsidized apartments. In 18 cases, the bureau proceeded with administrative procedures because the households violated certain policies. Six people (one for each case) were disqualified and moved out of the apartments. The remaining 12 people are still involved in IH legal procedures. The bureau has allowed the concerned individuals to provide an explanation for the violation in order to continue living in the apartments. They will see their contracts revoked should they fail to provide a legitimate explanation.

## ALLOWANCES AVAILABLE FOR PUPILS IN GUANGDONG IN OCTOBER

In October, the SAR government will hand out the education allowances for pupils studying in Guangdong, according to a statement released by the Executive Council yesterday. Eligible students must have been enrolled in Guangdong's kindergarten, primary school, middle school or high school as of March 31 of 2020. The tuition allowance ceiling is 8,000 patacas for kindergarten students, and 6,000 patacas for students in primary school, middle school and high school. Different subsidy amounts are available for students to buy school essentials. For kindergarten and primary school levels, the subsidy is 1,450 patacas. The allowance for middle school and high school is 1,700 patacas. Starting from October, DSEJ will transfer the subsidies as a once off payment to parents and legal guardians of eligible children. The students must not have received the subsidies for the academic year of 2019/2020.

## MACAU NEW NEIGHBORHOOD CONSTRUCTION EXPECTED IN Q3

The construction of the "Macau New Neighborhood" in Hengqin, is expected to start in the third quarter of this year. The office for the Secretary for Transport and Public Works replied to an interpellation by lawmaker Song Pei Kei on the matter by disclosing the projected schedule. On April 9, the mainland and Macau signed the agreement regarding the concerned land plot. The city's urban renewal company will pay for a residential development project in Hengqin designed to accommodate Macau residents. According to the local government's earlier statement, the Macau government-owned urban renewal company will develop the project. With floorage of 422,000 square meters, the project will provide 3,800 housing units at below-market prices for qualified Macau residents only. In addition to businesses and parks, the integrated community will have public support facilities built in accordance with Macau criteria and standards related to medical treatment, education, and community services.



The class resumption of junior secondary education yesterday

## EDUCATION

# PRIMARY SCHOOLS TO RESUME CLASSES FROM MAY 25

RENATO MARQUES

**L**ocal primary school level students will be back in classes from May 25, the government announced yesterday during the daily press conference of the Novel Coronavirus Response and Coordination Center.

The news follows the resumption of classes for high school students, which has taken place under a phased approach this month.

According to Education and Youth Affairs Bureau (DSEJ) Chief of the Department of Education, Wong Ka Ki, the return to classes for primary education students will be done in two phases. On May 25, the classes will resume for the

students from primary year levels four to six, followed by the resumption of classes from primary year one to primary year three one week later, on June 1.

Wong said that the decision was based on the results so far obtained by the class resumption for secondary school levels that started on May 4 and have "been generally working smoothly and all requested measures been enforced," adding that this is the "adequate time for the primary level to resume too."

Wong also noted that besides the primary schools' resumption, from May 25, study and activities centers are expected to reopen in addition to continuing edu-

cation centers.

Questioned on whether the kindergarten and special education levels would resume this school year, Wong admitted they may remain closed.

"We do not exclude the possibility that the classes [from those levels] will not resume this school year," he said. He noted that for the time being, the conditions to allow those levels to restart have not yet been met.

Wong also said that according to the regulations put in place regarding Covid-19, if parents disagree with the return of their children to school for any particular reason, they could request that their children remain absent from class

on the grounds of the epidemic.

Wong said that all hygiene and safety measures are being put into place and granted by the school institutions, adding that Macau's stock of masks for children is sufficient and schools have also acquired some in case a student loses or damages the facemask during the school day.

Questioned about the so-called "courtesy program" - under which some institutions are helping families whose children's class activities have not resumed but have no way to take care of their children - Wong said that so far the DSEJ has received a request for help from 2,800 students.

# Hospital visits reinstated, with limitations

RENATO MARQUES

**V**isits to hospitalized patients at the Conde de São Januário Hospital Center (CHCSJ) have been reinstated as of yesterday, although several restrictions will remain in force, the Health Bureau (SSM) informed in a statement.

According to the statement, the measure comes following the easing

of some restrictions put in place to curb the outbreak of Covid-19. The statement noted that authorities are requesting a gradual roll-back of these restrictions in order to ensure the health and safety conditions of Macau.

For the time being, visiting hospitalized patients has been reinstated between 6 p.m. and 8 p.m. daily, and access to the wards is

restricted to a maximum of two visitors at once.

The SSM took the same opportunity to urge members of the public not to visit newborns or children under six years of age.

From yesterday, the CHCSJ also reinstated access to the CHCSJ External Consultation Building thorough the ground floor door.

Previously enforced measures continue to be in for-

ce, including the mandatory use of facemasks for all people, including patients, visitors, and hospital workers, as well as body temperature measuring and the presentation of the "Macau Health Declaration" (now replaced by the Macau Health Code).

The SSM also reminded that all those who are unable to present the health declaration should go to the CHCSJ lobby reception.

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MacauDaily 澳門每日時報  
**Times**

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A MACAU TIMES PUBLICATIONS LTD PUBLICATION

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For subscription and general issues:

general@macaudailytimes.com | Printed at Welfare Printing Ltd

# DSEJ online study platform to help schools to launch September

JULIE ZHU

**T**HE Education and Youth Affairs Bureau (DSEJ) is establishing a centralized online study platform for local schools to use. According to DSEJ Director Lou Pak Sang, who said he expects the platform to launch this September, the platform will serve to improve the quality of Macau's online teaching.

Yesterday, many of the city's pupils returned to campus for the first time since the end of January when the SAR government announced school suspension amid the Covid-19 outbreak.

In the course of the last four months, students of all educational levels were supposed to continue their studies at home. One of the study methods was stu-

dyng through an online education platform.

Educational institutions, especially tertiary ones, built online study platforms for teachers to deliver lectures to students remotely. For non-tertiary levels, the local government released self-education materials to local parents. The materials include voice recordings and videos prepared by relevant teachers. The local government suggested that parents supervise their children's self-education at home.

Even though few secondary schools built online education platforms, the outcome of these independently designed and managed platforms by each school has not pleased the DSEJ head. Some local parents also complained that they did not have the time to teach their children at

home.

Lou commented that online study platforms individually built by schools themselves have demonstrated widely varying degrees of effectiveness.

According to Lou, a specifically designed and managed platform is almost certainly the best solution to minimize the differences in results between educational institutions.

In a reference to the experience of Macau's neighboring regions, the DSEJ's centralized, or "unified" platform, as Lou called it, is believed to assist all schools to lecture "under the same conditions."

As for Macau's neighbors, the mainland Chinese government has designed and managed online studying platforms, whereas Hong Kong has not.

In mainland China, such

study platforms are administered by the local education authority and schools mandatorily take part in it. The online teaching platforms allegedly aim at providing equal education opportunities for all, and the content prioritizes patriotic education.

The actual design of Macau's online study platform is yet to be revealed. The DSEJ Director only claimed that his department will strive to provide more online study resources.

Currently, the bureau is preparing a public tender for the platform. Lou estimated that the platform will cost several million patacas.

The principal of Macao Sam Yuk Middle School, Simon You De Xu, has already endorsed the DSEJ project, having stated that online studying is the future trend.

## IC LAUNCHES NEW APP FOR LIBRARY USERS

**T**HE Macao Public Library has launched the new mobile application "My Library", which includes functions such as reserving and renewing library items and searching for items in the library catalogue.

Through the mobile app, residents can access library resources and services, including viewing the status of checkouts, reserved, loaned and overdue items, fines, and checkout history.

Residents can also reserve or return books and audio-visual materials at the self-check machines or reception counters, using their Electronic Library Card available in the app.

The Cultural Affairs Bureau said in a statement that the launch of the app was a response to the government's electronic service initiative.

The city's public libraries reopened to the public on March 2 after being closed for over a month due to the pandemic outbreak.

However, only the newspaper and periodicals reading areas, and the book lending and reservation services were in operation.

The multimedia rooms, children's reading areas, Macao Collection Room, reading areas, self-study rooms, and group discussion rooms of the library are still closed to the public. LV

AD

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# MAXIM BESSMERTNY'S LATEST FILM IS AN EYE INTO THE FREELANCER LIFE

DANIEL BEITLER

**A**FTER months of 20th anniversary fever in Macau, there is a welcome respite in Maxim Bessmertny's *The Handover* (2020), which is neither a salute to the 1999 transfer of sovereignty from Portugal to China, nor really has much to do with it.

Best known for his narrative short film *Tricycle Thief* (2014), the local director's latest film premiered at Cinematheque Passion on Friday night in what became the arthouse's first major screening event since the coronavirus struck in late January.

His comedy short is moving day for a Portuguese-Chinese couple, who must get their affairs in order before the landlord of their spacious Coloane apartment arrives for an inspection. Their carefully devised plan falls apart in comedic fashion as everything that can go wrong does go wrong.

Despite its name, *The Handover* doesn't dwell on the handover.

Instead, as the local director protests to the Times, it is a snapshot of the present. "I am talking [in this film] about right now; the situation today. That's what cinema should be," he said.

The well-paced plot peppered with references to millennial Macau lifestyle went down well with Macau's small audience of art and culture socialites invited to the premiere. Like Bessmertny, this motley crew of freelancer filmmakers, artists and other creative types may identify with Jorge Vale's character, 'Miguel', a struggling musician who notes that if all else fails, he can "always find work with the casino."

"The character of Miguel is si-



From left: Maxim Bessmertny, Mi Lee and Jorge Vale

milar to anyone in the arts industry – going through all these jobs, doing one after the other. Doing gigs you don't want so that you can finally make the album you want," Bessmertny told the Times on the sidelines of the premiere.

That reality may be changing in Macau. The cultural and creative industries have seen top-down support from a government keen to drive economic diversification in very specific sectors. Still-new Chief Executive Ho Iat Seng wants to restart these efforts, though it remains unclear whether he will be as fond of the arts as his predecessor.

"Why not? Why can't this be an industry?" asks Bessmertny. "A lot of the filmmakers in Macau were trained outside in film academies in Hong Kong, Taiwan, Singapore, New York... you have talented

people with experience in serious productions. Why not take things a little more seriously and get se-

rious producers to come here with their projects?"

The *Handover* stars three lea-

ding characters of three nationalities. Actors Jorge Vale and Mi Lee play the young couple ("madly in love" as Mi jokes in a post-screening interview), while Fabio Ari Calangi, who makes his acting debut, is the agent-cum-translator on whose shoulders move day is made possible.

Vale and Mi are professional actors, but Vale works as a radio disc jockey and Mi takes jobs as a master of ceremonies. Both talk about the need to branch out into different entertainment sub-genres. Both talk about the importance of social media.

In a joint interview with the Times, the duo said their multiple roles were less about money and more about the need to develop an entertainment personality.

"In Macau – and elsewhere in the future – I believe this is the trend," said Vale. "It's not about being the best at something, but about being able to adapt and do new things."

That rings true for Bessmertny as well, who says that "a filmmaker in Macau needs to be the leader, the director, the writer... sometimes the editor too." It wouldn't hurt, he adds, to ask for help from the outside once in a while.

## CINEMATHEQUE PASSION TO REOPEN IN AUGUST AFTER RENOVATION

**A**FTER renovation works scheduled for July, the Cinematheque Passion is expected to reopen to the public this August, possibly under a new operator.

Macau Association of Audiovisual CUT, which has operated the arthouse since its opening in March 2017, will see its management contract expire this June, association president Albert Chu informed the Times last weekend. According to Chu, the Association has already bid for the next tender and is waiting for the result.

Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture Ao Ieong U issued a six-month temporary contract to the association within days of taking office last

December. Reportedly, the contract to operate the arthouse had been due to expire sooner than the tender could feasibly be arranged.

Chu also said that the reopening of the cinema since the Covid-19 outbreak was brought under control was "good for us but it's also good for audiences in Macau. Since we reopened, a lot of people have come here to watch movies because the other [mainstream] cinemas are still closed."

The current preventive measures in force at the arthouse include spacing cinema-goers at least one seat apart, requiring the use of health declarations, face mask wearing, and the reading of body temperatures. **DB**

### CRIME

## Police bust document forgery group

ANTHONY LAM

**A**n operation that has been counterfeiting visitor arrival documents since July 2019 has been uncovered by the Public Security Police Force (PSP), the bureau announced yesterday.

Last Tuesday, the PSP announced that it arrested a suspect, surnamed Chan, for manufacturing and selling fraudulent arrival paper slips. After questioning Chan, the police obtained intelligence that another suspect, aged 36 and surnamed Lam, was part of the operation.

According to Chan's confession, he received fake slips from Lam, who later confessed his role in the alleged crime. In Lam's statement, a 33-year-old mainland Chinese tourist surnamed Zhang, was said to have acted as the broker.

When the police intercepted Zhang, they were told that the suspect was staying at a hotel room in Cotai. Reaching the room, the police officers discovered two more men inside, both of whom were on overstaying condition and has been offered accom-

modation by Zhang.

The duo were surnamed Du and Feng. Du's permission to remain in Macau ended on April 5, while Feng's ended on April 8. Zhang had met the two at a casino in Cotai where he initiated conversation. Du and Feng told him that they had no place to stay, and Zhang offered to allow them to stay in a room.

Without an official visa or permission to remain in Macau, no tourist is legally able to get hotel accommodation.

To facilitate the manufacturing of the slips, Zhang rented a place on the Guia Hill, according to Lam's statement. At the location, PSP officers discovered some computer equipment, a photocopy machine for domestic use and a commercial printer.

In addition, the police discovered copies of fraudulent arrival slips. A total of 11 copies – eight intact on a piece of A4 paper and three separate ones – were confiscated by the police as evidence.

The police discovered that many of the previous-

sly confiscated fraudulent arrival slips were similarly poorly printed as was the recently discovered batch of slips, leading them to draw a connection between the two incidents. From July last year until this case, more than 20 of these slips have been confiscated.

Both Feng and Du were charged with overstaying in Macau, while Feng was given an extra charge of purchasing and possessing fraudulent documents.

### CAR OWNER 'STEALS' OWN CAR

In an unrelated case also reported yesterday, a car owner stole his own car from a repair workshop in an attempt to evade paying for the repair service.

The 30-year-old local, surnamed Fong, had sent his car for repairs at a workshop before it was fixed on April 30. The owner of the workshop gave Fong a bill for MOP14,600.

Fong claimed to the owner that a family member would collect the car and settle the bill that afternoon. But two hours after their conversation, the workshop owner discovered that the car had disappeared, so he called the police. Under questioning, Fong confessed that he was unable to settle the bill so he surreptitiously took the key of his car and drove it away.

The police also discovered that Fong was under a court-ordered driving suspension.





# Sands China works with local SME to provide pandemic relief

**A** local small and medium enterprise (SME) has been actively collaborating with Sands China Ltd. to supply necessary products during the coronavirus pandemic, as the gaming operator continually seeks to alleviate and support local enterprises despite the ongoing health and economic crisis.

In the early stage of the pandemic, Sands China needed to procure a large quantity of masks and searched for appropriate suppliers in its database.

Local firm Naija Industries Limited proactively contacted the gaming operator to inform them that they could supply facemasks to the group as the city was facing a shortage.

An affiliated company of Naija based in Fujian produces masks and has obtained accreditation from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and therefore meets international standards.

Since there was a shortage of masks globally, the company changed its other production lines to manufacture face masks.

"As a result, we received orders totalling 500,000 face masks placed by Sands China and we delivered the goods within a short period of time, thereby making our contribu-

tions to not only the enterprise but also the city in the fight against the pandemic," said Chan Kin Choi, General Manager of Naija Industries Limited.

Given that the pandemic is not yet over, Sands China still needs to procure a large quantity of masks to increase inventory, and Naija is one of its major mask suppliers.

The local SME's collaboration with Sands China came about as a result of the gaming operator's continual search for local suppliers, heeding the government's call to increase procurement with local SMEs.

It was in 2015 when Sands China took the lead in cooperating with the Macao Chamber of Commerce to launch the company's SME Supplier Support Programme and established an online platform to attract interested SMEs to potentially become one of its suppliers.

The programme is part of the Sands China's supplier relationship management strategy, which guides its long-standing effort to support local suppliers, whom it views as its strategic partners.

Sands China's Local Su-

pplyer Support Programme is the first programme of its kind in Macao – a pioneering initiative that helped spearhead industry efforts to support local SMEs and "buy local."

Thus, Naija Industrial Limited filed its application via Sands China's online platform in 2017. After the bidding procedures and internal evaluation, the gaming operator worked with Naija and passed

**While the pandemic has brought negative effects to society and the economy, Sands China has continued welcoming SMEs of different types and sizes**

them some small-value procurement orders, which mainly involved producing souvenirs and other products for its departments.

Through this collaboration, the local firm provides customized products, such as fabric bags, eco-friendly shopping bags, wristbands, employee identification cards and souvenirs.

"At first, we started the collaboration with small-volume orders and Sands China has

gradually increased its purchases, which now accounts for around 20% of our overall business volume," said Chan.

"Being a large enterprise, Sands China pays a great deal of attention to procedures, workflow and mutual communication with a conscientious and meticulous attitude. Other enterprises now have more faith in us after learning of our collaboration with Sands China," the executive added.

In addition, the SME also participates in the practical training programmes launched by the Sands Procurement Academy, seeking to gain deeper knowledge of business operations and enhance its competitiveness.

Sands China understands that all industries have been put under great pressure amid the pandemic. Thus, the gaming operator has paid cash for all its procurement in advance so that SMEs can provide products and services to Sands China without any financial worries.

Gaming operators have been continuously supporting and increasing procurement from SMEs and Sands China welcomes SMEs to contact them via its online platform.

Cathy Lo, Assistant Procurement Manager of Sands China's Procurement & Supply Chain commended Naija for providing quality products and quick delivery, and says the SME has no problem in tailoring products for clients. "We have received positive feedback from our user departments. Naija is also willing to accept orders for small amounts or urgently needed supplies. In view of the smooth cooperation, Sands China has gradually increased its procurement amount tenfold compared with that of the early period," Lo explained.

Furthermore, while the pandemic has brought negative effects to society and the economy, Sands China has continued welcoming SMEs of different types and sizes to initiate contact.

Specifically, Sands China recommends that SMEs proactively give an in-depth introduction to all of their services and products, and to provide Sands China with their latest product information.

According to the gaming operator's procurement team, a quick response to procurement orders and prompt delivery of quality products during the pandemic would help an enterprise's chances of establishing long-term cooperation with Sands China.



## FINANCIAL INTELLIGENCE OFFICE VALID FOR TWO MORE YEARS

The validity of the Financial Intelligence Office has been extended for two years from August 8 this year, as announced in a Chief Executive Dispatch. The office, which was inaugurated in 2006 under the Secretary for Economy and Finance and was, in 2018, transferred to the Secretary for Security, is responsible for "collecting, analyzing and providing [to competent agencies] intelligence related to money laundering and terrorism financing." The inauguration of the office was made necessary to comply with international actions against terrorism and money laundering. According to the laws of Macau, there is usually a period of validity for such offices, which normally have a project-based nature. The validity is often extended.

## CERTAIN TAXATION RELIEF MEASURES FORMALIZED

Some of the special tax exemption and return measures earlier announced by the Chief Executive at his first Policy Address have been discussed and formalized by the Executive Council (ExCo), as announced in the Official Gazette. The special arrangement is part of the city's Covid-19 economic relief policies. First, rentals for government-owned commercial spaces from February to April will be waived. Second, licensing and related fees will be waived this year for some venues and occupations, such as hotels, food-and-beverage outlets, saunas, cinemas, theaters, tour guides, auditors and accountants, insurance agents, real estate agents, taxi drivers and tour guides. Third, certain administrative fees will be waived. Fourth, taxis can enjoy free-of-charge parking at the West Parking Lot of the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macau Bridge. Finally, the validity of taxi drivers' licenses will be extended for six months.

## CIGARETTE BUTTS LIKELY CAUSE OF NAM VAN FIRE

A podium area at a building next to the Nam Van Lake caught fire on Sunday, believed to be caused by lit cigarette butts, the Judiciary Police (PJ) announced. That evening, the PJ received a referral from the Fire Services Bureau regarding a suspicious fire above the McDonald's Restaurant near the Lake. The fire started at a pile of about 10 flat carton boxes and spread to cause burn marks to the glass panels of the restaurant's storage area. Due to the heat, the glass cracked. Inspectors from the PJ discovered cigarette butts on site and have decided to further investigate the case.

# BORDERS BUSY AS NON-RESIDENT WORKERS CROWD FOR COVID-19 TESTS

JULIE ZHU,  
RENATO MARQUES

A large number of non-resident workers who wished to carry out the nucleic acid test queued up at the Taipa Ferry Terminal, according to a statement released by the Novel Coronavirus Response and Coordination Center.

At 9 a.m. yesterday, there were about 600 people in the queue. Some of the people had no appointment while others only had an appointment for the afternoon. In view of this situation, the Center reminded that any individual wishing to take the test must first make an appointment online. The Center also said that there is no need to arrive at the test location earlier than the appointment time.

The test site only has capacity to accommodate people whose appointment is within the next hour of their arrival. Others must wait outside the test zone.

The Center reiterated that non-resident workers in Macau without a Zhuhai hukou or residence card are not exempted from the 14-day isolation by the relevant Zhuhai entity.

Starting from yesterday at 6 a.m., qualified Zhuhai workers can enter Macau and be exempted from the 14-day quarantine. With each Covid-19 test only remaining valid for seven days, workers on both Zhuhai and

MACAU PHOTO AGENCY



Macau sides have to make an appointment to have a new test every week.

Considering the cost and trouble, many Zhuhai workers are reportedly choosing to temporarily live in Macau.

According to a report by TDM, several interviewed Zhuhai workers who crossed the Border Gate to Macau are temporarily lodging in Macau, assisted by their Macau employers.

Some Zhuhai workers still choose to travel between the two cities on a daily basis because they need to take care of their relatives in Zhuhai.

Meanwhile, a representative of the Public Security Police Force (PSP), Ma Chio Hong, noted that the activity at the Border Gate checkpoint has grown significantly since the early

hours of yesterday because of increased crossing by non-resident workers from Zhuhai.

According to the figure cited by the officer, from midnight until 4 p.m. yesterday (May 11), the immigration officers registered a total of 9,701 entries to Macau and a total of 6,577 exits, accounting for increases of 49% and 37% respectively when compared to the previous day.

Non-resident workers from Zhuhai registered a significant hike of 1,500% on entries to Macau (907) and an even higher 2,000% increase in exits (1,781) when compared with the previous day.

Doctor Alvis Lo, from Conde de São Januário Hospital Center said that on May 10, ahead of the opening of the border for these workers, Macau health authorities performed a total

of 4,892 nucleic acid tests. Such tests are part of the requirements for these workers to be able to cross the border to and from Zhuhai without undergoing a medical observation that would last for six to eight hours.

When asked if the lifting of restrictions would apply soon for non-resident workers from other regions of China or foreigners, Lo said that lifting of restrictions is being considered on a case-by-case basis and only applies to the places that have attained a safe and stable situation regarding the Covid-19 outbreak.

"The cities of Zhuhai and Macau have at the moment very similar situations regarding the disease status and that is why we decided to lift some restrictions to Zhuhai," Lo said.

## HK in talks with Macau, mainland on easing travel restrictions

LYNZY VALLES

THE Hong Kong government is currently in talks with Macau and mainland authorities on lifting some of the travel restrictions in place between the three regions.

The news was disclosed by Hong Kong Chief Executive Carrie Lam in an exclusive interview with Ta Kung Pao newspaper, as cited in an RTHK report.

The mandatory 14-day quarantine measure discourages residents of the three regions from traveling. Lam hopes that an agreement can be reached by the end of this month.

Until last Friday, there was no way for Hong Kong and Macau residents to travel directly between the cities due to the closure of ferry services and buses operating on the Hong-Kong-Zhuhai Macau Bridge.

The shuttle bus service operating between Macau and Hong Kong via the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macau Bridge only recommenced operations last weekend, a month after being suspended. However, previously announced travel and quarantine measures for local residents, non-resident workers and tourists are still in place.

Since late March, the

Macau government has imposed various quarantine measures and other restrictions for tourists and residents upon arrival to the region.

Currently, Chinese nationals who are non-resident workers and are living in Zhuhai are allowed to enter the SAR under restrictive measures, which are still in place.

Since yesterday, Zhuhai-based blue card holders can enter Macau without having to go through mandatory quarantine if they have tested negative for the virus and if their health code results show a green QR code.

Although Macau resi-

dents have always been allowed to enter, they are still obliged to undergo a 14-day quarantine at a government-designated hotel. Non-resident workers who are from mainland China (except Hubei), Hong Kong and Taiwan are also allowed to enter, following the same quarantine measures.

Hong Kong has similar measures for persons arriving at the HKSAR from all places outside China since March 18. Under their regulations, all persons having stayed in overseas countries and territories specified in a general notice in the Hong Kong government

gazette for any period during the 14 days preceding arrival in Hong Kong, regardless of nationality and travel documents used, will be subject to compulsory quarantine measures for 14 days.

The regulation will take effect for three months.

Macau Chief Executive Ho Iat Seng previously announced that he planned to request that the central government extend its issuance of visa permits for mainlanders from other Chinese cities to travel to Macau.

Currently, the Individual Visit Scheme, which was launched in July 2003 to help boost Hong Kong and Macau's economy following the SARS outbreak, is allowed for residents of 49 mainland cities, many of which are in Guangdong province.



TALE OF TWO OUTBREAKS

# Singapore tackles a costly setback

EILEEN NG, KUALA LUMPUR

**W**EEKS after two of his roommates were diagnosed with COVID-19, Mohamad Arif Hassan says he's still waiting to be tested for the coronavirus. Quarantined in his room in a sprawling foreign workers' dormitory that has emerged as Singapore's biggest viral cluster, Arif says he isn't too worried because neither he nor his eight other roommates have any symptoms.

Still, the 28-year-old Bangladeshi construction worker couldn't be blamed if he were more than just a bit concerned.

Infections in Singapore, an affluent Southeast Asian city-state of fewer than 6 million people, have jumped more than a hundredfold in two months — from 226 in mid-March to more than 23,800, the most in Asia after China, India and Pakistan. Only 20 of the infections have resulted in deaths.

About 90% of Singapore's cases are linked to crowded foreign workers' dormitories that were a blind spot in the government's crisis management. Arif's dorm complex, which has 14,000 beds, accounts for 11% of total infections, with over 2,500 cases.

This massive second wave of infections caught Singapore off guard and exposed the danger of overlooking marginalized groups during a health crisis. Despite warnings from human rights activists as early as February about the dorms' crowded and often unsanitary living conditions, no action was taken until cases spread rampantly last month.

Singapore's costly oversight was also an important lesson to other countries in the region with large migrant populations. Neighboring Malaysia recently announced mandatory coronavirus testing for its more than 2 million foreign workers after dozens were diagnosed with COVID-19.

The slip-up highlighted Singapore's treatment of its large population of low-wage foreign workers, who play an integral part in the economy but live on the fringes in conditions where social distancing is impossible. The misjudgment was also an embarrassment for Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong's government ahead of a general election anticipated in the next few months that is expected to be the last for Lee, who has led Singapore since 2004 and is planning to retire soon.

Singapore's nanny state government, which won global praise for its meticulous contact tracing and testing in the early stages of the crisis, quickly moved to con-

AP PHOTO



tain the problem by treating the flare-up in the dorms as a separate outbreak from that in the local community, a policy that some say is discriminatory.

The government shut schools and nonessential businesses island-wide on April 7. So-called "safe distancing ambassadors" were recruited to remind people to wear masks and stay at least a meter apart from each other in public places, or face heavy penalties.

Meanwhile, all construction sites and dorms were locked down and foreign workers largely confined in their rooms. More than 10,000 foreign workers in essential services were moved to safer sites to reduce crowding, and testing was ramped up to include people with no symptoms.

In Arif's S11 Punggol dorm — advertised as the cheapest in Singapore — police have mounted a 24-hour patrol of the 13 multicolored housing blocks located in the island's northeast.

Arif, who was sharing a room with 11 other workers, said one of them was moved to an army camp in early April to help ease overcrowding. Shortly afterward, another roommate was hospitalized with a fever, and on April 17 another was isolated with light symptoms, with both testing positive for the coronavirus.

Arif said he hasn't been tested yet because thousands of residents of his dorm will probably have to be tested. But he said he was comforted by Singapore's top-notch medical facilities and its relatively low number of deaths from the virus.

He gets food delivered to his room, free Wi-Fi on his cellphone and, most importantly, he said the government has pledged that the workers' salaries will be paid.

"I am not worried because the government is taking good care of us like Singaporeans," said Arif, who has lived in Singapore for seven years. "Right now, we take our temperature twice a day, try to stay a meter apart from each other and constantly use hand sanitizer."

Once belittled as a tiny red dot on the global map, Singapore has relied on overseas workers to build infrastructure and help power its growth into one of the world's wealthiest nations.

Some 1.4 million foreign workers live in the city-state, ac-

counting for 38% of its workforce. At least two thirds are low-wage, transient migrants from across Asia performing blue-collar jobs that locals shun, such as construction, shipping and maintenance, as well as working as maids.

Roughly 250,000 of the migrants live in 43 privately run dormitories mostly tucked away in the outskirts far from Singapore's stunning skyscrapers and luxury malls. Workers sleep in bunk beds in rooms usually packed with 12 people, sometimes up to 20, with a required minimum living space of 4.5 square meters per person.

Another 120,000 migrant laborers live in factory-converted hostels or temporary facilities at work sites, where conditions are sometimes even more dismal.

Most of Singapore's migrants earn between 500 and 1,000 Singapore dollars (\$354-\$708) a month.

Since last month, the government's infection data has separated foreign workers' cases from those among the general population. Although cases continue to rise among foreign workers, infections have decreased in the local community. The government plans to gradually reopen the economy today before island-wide restrictions end June 1, eager to show that it has remedied the situation and that measures have worked. AP

## EPIDEMIC CONTROL MEASURES

### POINTS TO NOTE WHEN USING PUBLIC TRANSPORT

During the virus epidemic, please take necessary precautions to protect yourself when using public transport to reach your destination.

People with fever, cough or other respiratory symptoms should avoid using public transportation. Otherwise, they should wear a mask at all times and observe personal hygiene, and avoid close contact with other people on the vehicle.

#### Bus



- ★ All passengers should wear face masks
- ★ Please keep windows open for good ventilation
- ★ Use a tissue paper to wrap the handrail before holding it
- ★ Avoid talking to the driver or other passengers
- ★ Avoid getting on crowded buses
- ★ Avoid crowded bus routes by taking advantage of the transit routes
- ★ Use hand sanitiser after disembarking

#### Taxi



- ★ Wear a face mask
- ★ Sit in the back seat
- ★ Keep the windows open
- ★ Avoid talking to the driver
- ★ Avoid touching the inside of the taxi
- ★ Prepare small change
- ★ Use hand sanitiser after disembarking

#### Light Rail



- ★ Please wear a face mask
- ★ Use a tissue paper to wrap the handrail before holding it
- ★ Keep a certain distance from other passengers
- ★ Avoid talking to other passengers
- ★ Use hand sanitiser after disembarking



AP PHOTO



# Restart or re-stop? Countries reopen amid second-wave fears

**P**LASTIC spacing barriers and millions of masks appeared yesterday on the streets of Europe's newly reopened cities, as France and Belgium emerged from lockdowns, the Netherlands sent children back to school and Spain let people eat outdoors.

All faced the delicate balance of trying to restart their battered economies without causing a second wave of coronavirus infections.

Fears of infection spikes have been borne out over the past few days in Germany, where new clusters were linked to three slaughterhouses; in Wuhan, the Chinese city where the virus started; and in South Korea, where a single nightclub customer was linked to 85 new cases.

With yesterday's partial reopening, the French did not have to carry forms allowing them to leave their homes. Crowds formed at some metro stations in Paris, one of France's viral hot spots, but the city's notorious traffic jams were absent and only about half the stores on the Champs-Élysées were open.

Hairdressers in the city planned to charge a fee for the disposable protective gear they will have to give

to customers. Walk-ins will be a thing of the past, said Brigitte L'Hoste, manager of the Hair de Beauté salon.

"The face of beauty will change, meaning clients won't come here to relax. Clients will come because they need to," said Aurelie Bollini, a beautician at the salon. "They will come and aim at getting the maximum done in the shortest time possible."

In Greece, Smaragda Petridou was out buying beauty products.

"Look, I'm not afraid to go in when the protection measures are being adhered to," she said. "We'll shop. What can we do? So the shops can survive, too."

In Germany, gyms reopened in the most populous state, but authorities there and in France have warned that a rise in the daily number of infections could lead to new restrictions.

In South Korea, the government pushed back hard against new infections, halting the school reopenings that had been planned for this week and reimposing restrictions on nightclubs and bars. It is trying to track down 5,500 people who had visited a popular Seoul entertainment district by checking credit-card transactions, cellphone records and security camera footage.

Roughly half of Spain's 47 million people shifted into a softer version of the country's strict confinement, beginning to socialize, shop in small stores and enjoy outdoor seating in restaurants and bars. Its biggest cities, Madrid and Barcelona, remained under lockdown as the country reported the lowest numbers of coronavirus-related deaths and infections since March 17.

In Belgium, Brussels' City2 shopping mall reopened, and "everyone was impatient to open their shops, see their customers, so it is a relief despite the tremendous work they did to adapt their shops, to create paths with entries and exits for customers," said manager Jurgen De Gelas.

Nearby, Omar Marrakchi bought a television.

"When I enter a shop, I thank every shop owner," he said. "I thank them and I wish them good luck because we all have to be united and just a small 'thank you,' a small 'good luck,' is not much, but if everybody does it and follows the rules, we should be all right."

In Britain, Prime Minister Boris Johnson announced a modest easing of the country's lockdown but urged citizens not to squander the progress made. Some people, however, were con-

cluded as the government shifted its slogan from "Stay at Home" to "Stay Alert." Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland stuck with the old motto.

People in jobs that cannot be done at home "should be actively encouraged to go to work" this week, Johnson said. He also set a goal of June 1 to begin reopening schools and shops if Britain can control new infections. Johnson himself is the only world leader to suffer a serious bout of COVID-19.

"We will be driven not by mere hope or economic necessity," he promised. "We're going to be driven by the science."

At London's Waterloo train station, not everyone was convinced.

"I am nervous about going back, because I have a family and they have been isolating since the start. I feel like I am now putting them at risk," said Peter Osu, 45, who was returning to work at a construction site.

In the U.S., Trump administration officials spoke optimistically about a relatively quick rebound from the pandemic — but then announced that Vice President Mike Pence is "self-isolating" after an aide tested positive. Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin predicted the American economy will rebound in the second half of this year from unemployment rates unseen since the Great Depression.

India reported its biggest daily increase in coronavirus cases yesterday as it prepared to resume train service to ease a lockdown that has hit migrant workers and their hungry families especially hard. AP

## this day in history

### 1967 STANSTED TO BECOME LONDON'S THIRD AIRPORT

The British Government has given the green light to plans to convert Stansted into London's third airport.

President of the Board of Trade Douglas Jay told the House Of Commons that the small airfield in Essex would become the site for a £47m international airport by 1974.

Announcing the decision following the conclusions of a White Paper, Mr Jay said the verdict had been reached "after very careful consideration".

There had been considerable support for an alternative site on the Isle of Sheppey in Kent but Stansted was eventually selected by an inter-departmental committee.

The cost of developing Stansted, where there was already an airport with a 10,000ft runway, would be far cheaper than building a new airfield from scratch.

But Mr Jay said that the government had carried out a thorough re-examination and was satisfied that Stansted, though by no means ideal, was the best area for the airport.

Under proposals in the White Paper, the current airfield will be extended from 800 acres to 2,500 acres and once operational will include two parallel runways for supersonic and jumbo jets.

On top of the £41m development, another £6m will be allocated for road and rail access.

When the new travel facilities are completed it will take 70 minutes by road using the M11 and 45 minutes by rail to reach the airport from central London.

The development will also create jobs for over 20,000 people.

But 20 schools and a hospital will have to close and around 7,000 houses will be exposed to high levels of noise.

Peter Kirk, MP for Saffron Walden, objected to the development and said the decision would be received with "deep resentment and bitterness in his constituency".

But Mr Jay said: "We realise there will be regret in the neighbourhood but this is inescapable wherever the airport is placed.

"No matter where the airport is sited, there will be a disturbance to some people who live and work in the area."

Farmers also objected to the development on the grounds that it would lead to the loss of good agricultural land.

The National Farmers Union said: "From an agricultural point of view, few if any sites could be more disastrous.

"The government has opted for the easy and unimaginative course in preference to the realistic and bold planning for which we had hoped."

Mr Jay defended the proposals and said that compensation would be "arranged in the normal course of compulsory land purchase."

He said that Stansted would begin operating scheduled services from next year.

Improvements to all three of London's international airports including Gatwick and Heathrow, would cost £100m.

Courtesy BBC News

## IN CONTEXT

The decision to build Britain's third airport at Stansted came against a background of 10 years of discussion.

More than 3,000 people from towns and villages in north Essex and east Hertfordshire took part in a rally in the weeks following the announcement.

The airport's first terminal building opened in 1969 and was expanded a year later to handle a growing number of holiday-makers.

In 1979 it was, once again, designated as London's third airport.

In 1984, the government approved a plan to develop Stansted in two phases, involving both airfield and terminal improvements that would increase the airport's capacity to 15 million passengers per year.

Construction of the current terminal building began in 1986 and was completed in 1991.

In February 2005, the High Court gave the go-ahead for further expansion at either Stansted or Luton airports.

The "Stop Stansted Expansion" group is campaigning against a second runway.



MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

**YOUR STARS**

**ARIES**  
**Mar. 21-Apr. 19**  
 Every day offers a new opportunity and a new set of choices to make, and this day is no different. If you want to make a change, make it. Stop working so hard to come up with excuses.

**TAURUS**  
**Apr. 20-May. 20**  
 You might be comfortable with the way things are, but you should keep yourself open to experiencing something new. Try to inject a more diverse cultural influence into your daily life.

**GEMINI**  
**May. 21-Jun. 21**  
 A lot of energy could be coming at you today and push you in many different directions at once. All of this gusty force is coming from people who may not have your best interests at heart.

**CANCER**  
**Jun. 22-Jul. 22**  
 You know that something new and wonderful can get started today, and you have no interest in wasting any more time thinking about it. You're ready to move, so that should be the thing you focus on today.

**LEO**  
**Jul. 23-Aug. 22**  
 Use your charm to convince any hesitant folks to get into the swing of things, and if they still don't want to play, ask them to come up with their own suggestions.

**VIRGO**  
**Aug. 23-Sep. 22**  
 Get ready for an unexpected event to clear a lot of stress from your life. A particularly loud and abrasive personality has been making more frequent appearances, much to your annoyance.

**LIBRA**  
**Sep. 23-Oct. 22**  
 You're in a very receptive frame of mind and will be able to appreciate the best aspects of everything you try. Not everything will be a new favorite, but you can learn more about what you like.

**SCORPIO**  
**Oct. 23-Nov. 21**  
 You're ready to challenge yourself, and you should. It's only when you expect the best out of yourself that you have a chance to make yourself proud.

**SAGITTARIUS**  
**Nov. 22-Dec. 21**  
 Whatever you do today, you'll be able to put your special mark on things. All you have to do is speak your mind in your usual clever way. Don't be intimidated by anyone.

**CAPRICORN**  
**Dec. 22-Jan. 19**  
 Let go of worry and have faith in what's going on. After a few more days of this uncomfortable feeling, check in again on what the game plan is.

**AQUARIUS**  
**Jan. 20-Feb. 18**  
 You're especially tuned in to the rhythms of different cultures and beliefs, and you're ready to incorporate important insights. This is a day for celebration, emancipation, and education.

**PISCES**  
**Feb. 19-Mar. 20**  
 Today could be full of signs and affirmations that you're on the right path despite what other people may say. Even if you feel unsure about the next steps, it's all part of the process.

**The Born Loser by Chip Sansom**



**SUDOKU**

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

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

**WEATHER**

	MIN	MAX	CONDITION
<b>CHINA</b>			
Beijing	14	22	cloudy
Harbin	0	15	cloudy
Tianjin	14	21	overcast
Urumqi	15	26	shower
Xi'an	20	36	cloudy
Lhasa	8	17	cloudy
Chengdu	22	31	drizzle
Chongqing	23	31	drizzle
Kunming	14	27	clear
Nanjing	23	33	cloudy
Shanghai	23	32	clear
Wuhan	23	34	cloudy
Hangzhou	22	35	cloudy
Taipei	23	27	cloudy
Guangzhou	24	34	clear
Hong Kong	25	31	cloudy
<b>WORLD</b>			
Moscow	12	21	drizzle
Frankfurt	6	18	drizzle
Paris	10	19	clear
London	7	15	drizzle
New York	11	25	drizzle

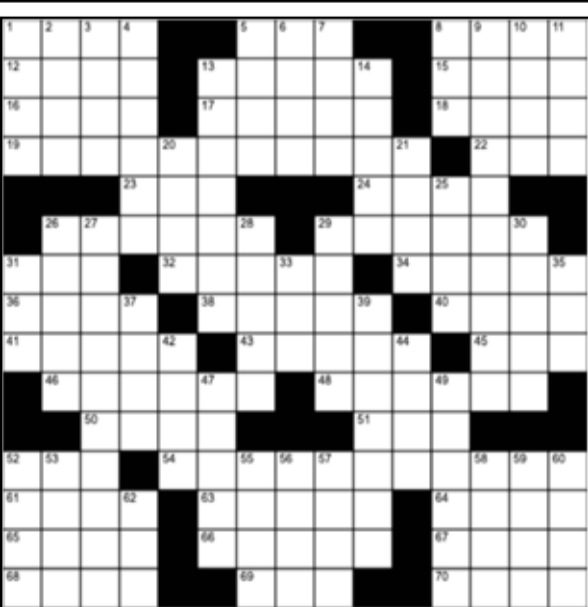
**CROSSWORDS**

ACROSS: 1- Side; 5- Trail; 8- School orgs.; 12- La Scala solo; 13- Member of the nobility; 15- Big swallow; 16- Nobleman; 17- Island off Venezuela; 18- Commedia dell'arte; 19- Joint schooling of both sexes; 22- Cushion; 23- Historical period; 24- Trumpet accessory; 26- Solitary; 29- Sick; 31- Velvet finish?; 32- Alleviates; 34- Admit; 36- Reformer Jacob; 38- Honshu port; 40- Wheel parts; 41- Cornerstone abbr.; 43- Had dinner at home; 45- PBS benefactor; 46- Lose; 48- Scribe; 50- Gregory Peck role of 1956; 51- Chem., for one; 52- Kernel; 54- Tepid; 61- Not "fer"; 63- Egyptian peninsula; 64- Bang-up; 65- Ruse; 66- Stub; 67- Group of individual facts; 68- Mozart's "\_\_\_ kleine Nachtmusik"; 69- Sugar amt.; 70- Geraint's lady;

DOWN: 1- Baby powder; 2- Switch back?; 3- Yorkshire river; 4- Infuriate; 5- Pasternak heroine; 6- Stuck, after "in"; 7- Mongolian desert; 8- Links org.; 9- Oil derived from the resin of pine trees; 10- Neighbor of Sask.; 11- Floored it; 13- Codfish; 14- Model Campbell; 20- Impulse to act; 21- Without value; 25- Stadium section; 26- Quake; 27- Formal admission into society; 28- Short literary composition; 29- Crooked; 30- Private Pyle; 31- Before, poetically; 33- Chow down; 35- Code-cracking org.; 37- Scarf; 39- Floating craft; 42- Drab; 44- Pleasing; 47- Vast chasm; 49- Vehement speech; 52- Neck part; 53- Wrinkly fruit; 55- Big East team; 56- Responsibility; 57- Pack firmly; 58- Haunted house sound; 59- Opposed; 60- Heavy metal; 62- TV's "Science Guy";

**Yesterday's solution**

BLTS	PETAL	ADEN			
LORI	AORTA	LALO			
ATEM	KNEES	ELSE			
BIKINI	ASOCIAL				
LIS	EROS				
INDERTED	IMARI				
GEO	ADD	EOSIN			
LESSONS	SUNPASS				
ODETS	MIR	HIE			
OASES	URBANIST				
TREG	AMI				
CANTEEN	NAMATH				
LAOS	ATARI	BRIO			
EROO	RESET	LEER			
MENS	DRAPE	EARN			



Crossword puzzles provided by BestCrosswords.com

**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



**FOR SALE**

**Fragrant Court, Ocean Gardens**  
 HK\$24,000,000 3,500 ft² 4 1/2 3 1/2

**FOR RENT**

**Buckingham, Taipa**  
 \$15,900/mth 1,100 ft² 2 1/2 1 1/2

**FOR SALE**

- [Macau] Retail space, Area Preta 170 ft² \$3,200,000 (ref: 19096003)
- [Macau] One Central 2 1/2 2 1/2 1,269 ft² \$12,000,000 (ref: 19070000)
- [Macau] One Central lakeview 2 1/2 2 1/2 1,269 ft² \$12,500,000 (ref: 19070002)
- [Taipa] Manhattan 3 1/2 2 1/2 1,720 ft² \$12,980,000 (ref: 19096006)

**FOR RENT**

- [Taipa] Delightful 1 Bed 1 1/2 1 1/2 820 ft² \$9,500/mth (ref: 20051001)
- [Macau] Vai Fung Triplex, Macau 2 1/2 2 1/2 1,065 ft² \$14,000/mth (ref: 19121001)
- [Taipa] Buckingham 2 1/2 1 1/2 1,100 ft² \$15,900/mth (ref: 20031002)
- [Taipa] Manhattan 3 1/2 2 1/2 1,626 ft² \$20,800/mth (ref: n/a)

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MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

# SHANGHAI DISNEYLAND REOPENS WITH ANTI-VIRUS CONTROLS

**VISITORS** in face masks streamed into Shanghai Disneyland as the theme park reopened yesterday in a high-profile step toward reviving tourism that was shut down by the coronavirus pandemic.

The House of Mouse's experience in Shanghai, the first of its parks to reopen, foreshadows hurdles global leisure industries might face. Disney is limiting visitor numbers, requiring masks and checking for the virus's tell-tale fever.

China, where the pandemic began in December, was the first country to reopen factories and other businesses after declaring the disease under control in March even as infections rise and controls are tightened in some other countries.

"We hope that today's reopening serves as a beacon of light across the globe, providing hope and inspiration to everyone," the president of Shanghai Disney Resort, Joe Schott, told reporters.

Tourism has been hit especially hard by controls imposed around the world that shut down airline and cruise ship tra-



vel, theme parks and cinemas. Disney blamed a 91% plunge in its latest quarter profit on \$1.4 billion in virus-related costs.

Shanghai Disneyland and Disney's park in Hong Kong closed on Jan. 25 as China isolated cities with 60 million people to try to contain the outbreak. Tokyo Disneyland closed the following month and parks in the United States and Europe in March.

China has allowed shops and offices to reopen but is keeping cinemas, bars, karaoke parlors and other businesses closed.

Disney guests, some wearing Mickey Mouse ears, and children in Little Mermaid, Mulan, Minnie Mouse and Snow White costumes were checked yesterday for fever at the park gate and then walked down nearly empty lanes as employees wa-

ved to them. The company's signature tune, "When You Wish Upon a Star," played over loudspeakers.

Decals on sidewalks and at lines for attractions show visitors where to stand to keep themselves separated. The company said rides will be limited to one group of visitors per car to keep strangers apart.

The company said its plans

were based on the experience of Disneytown, an adjacent shopping and entertainment facility that reopened earlier in the 1,000-acre Shanghai Disney Resort.

Advance reservations are required and visitors are assigned times to enter. The company said earlier guest numbers will be limited to one-third of the usual daily level of 80,000 at the start and will gradually increase.

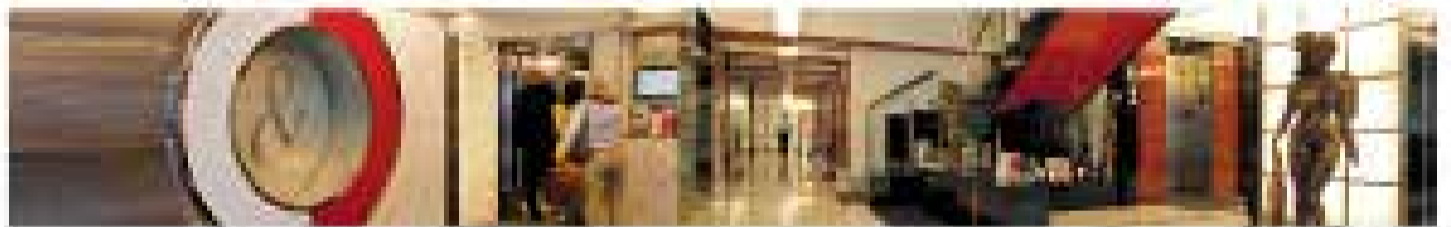
"Excited about the opening of the gate!" people in the first group of guests shouted as they entered the park at 9:30 a.m.

Shanghai Disneyland, which opened in 2016, is a joint venture between Walt Disney Co. and a company owned by the Shanghai city government. Disney has a 43% stake in the Shanghai Disney Resort, which includes the theme park, two hotels and Disneytown. The resort said earlier it attracted about 12 million guests last year and a total of 66 million since it opened.

Disney, headquartered in Burbank, California, said some outlets in Disney Springs, a shopping, dining and entertainment complex attached to the Disney World theme park in Florida will reopen this month. The company has yet to set a date for reopening Disney World or its other parks worldwide.

MDT/AP

AD



**高級合夥人 SENIOR PARTNERS**  
區卓怡 Mui Jooh-ai Cunha  
山羅士 Avano Rodriguez  
馬天耀 Marco Sardinha da Mata  
趙剛 Zhao Lu  
馬傑安 João Inocencio Marques

**大律師 ASSOCIATE LITIGATORS**  
曹少軒 Adalino Campos  
陳耀勳 Faiva Rodrigues  
白文潔 Susana Hoang  
馬國強 Marco João Marques  
潘國強 Antonio João de Almeida  
呂麗紅 Lisa Rodrigues  
吳麗紅 Mariana Fátima Ribeiro  
杜景輝 Marco António Garcia  
馬富華 Carlos António Santos Pereira  
杜文傑 Nelson de Almeida  
陳智文 João Carlos de Almeida  
何慧珊 Vera Santos  
曹小敏 Rui Helena de Sousa  
曹華文 Alexandre Maria Luísa Gomes  
梁文傑 Miguel Beirão  
陳文傑 Joana Chan  
陳曉輝 Graça Almeida  
區耀宗 Marco Hoang

**實習律師 Trainee Lawyers**  
梁文傑 Miguel Beirão  
陳文傑 Joana Chan  
陳曉輝 Graça Almeida  
區耀宗 Marco Hoang  
曹華文 Alexandre Maria Luísa Gomes

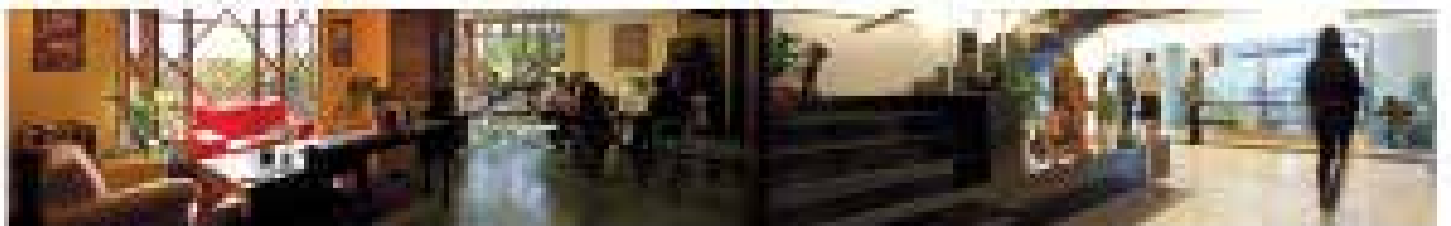
To protect the health and safety of our Clients and Staff, we continue implementing prevention measures at the office entrance, as recommended by the local Authorities.

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THE ARCHITECT OF ROCK 'N' ROLL

# Jagger, Dylan react to death of Little Richard

**L**ITTLE Richard, one of the chief architects of rock 'n' roll whose piercing wail, pounding piano and towering pompadour irrevocably altered popular music while introducing black R&B to white America, died over the weekend after battling bone cancer. He was 87.

AP PHOTO



Pastor Bill Minson, a close friend of Little Richard's, told The Associated Press that Little Richard died Saturday morning. His son, Danny Jones Penniman, also confirmed his father's death, which was first reported by Rolling Stone.

Bill Sobel, Little Richard's attorney for more than three decades, told the AP in an email that the musician died of bone cancer at a family home in Tullahoma, Tennessee.

"He was not only an iconic and legendary musician, but he was also a kind, empathetic, and insightful human being," Sobel said.

Born Richard Penniman, Little Richard was one of rock 'n' roll's founding fathers who helped shatter the color line on the music charts, joining Chuck Berry and Fats Domino in bringing what was once called "race music" into the mainstream. Richard's hyperkine-

tic piano playing, coupled with his howling vocals and hairdo, made him an implausible sensation — a gay, black man celebrated across America during the buttoned-down Eisenhower era.

He sold more than 30 million records worldwide, and his influence on other musicians was equally staggering, from the Beatles and Otis Redding to Creedence Clearwater Revival and David Bowie. In his personal life, he wavered between raunch and re-

ligion, alternately embracing the Good Book and outrageous behavior and looks - mascara-lined eyes, pencil-thin mustache and glittery suits.

"Little Richard? That's rock 'n' roll," Neil Young, who heard Richard's riffs on the radio in Canada, told biographer Jimmy McDonough. "Little Richard was great on every record."

It was 1956 when his classic "Tutti Frutti" landed like a hand grenade in the Top 40, exploding

from radios and off turntables across the country. It was highlighted by Richard's memorable call of "wop-bop-a-loo-bop-a-lop-bam-boom."

A string of hits followed, providing the foundation of rock music: "Lucille," "Keep A Knockin'," "Long Tall Sally," "Good Golly Miss Molly." More than 40 years after the latter charted, Bruce Springsteen was still performing "Good Golly Miss Molly" live.

The Beatles' Paul McCartney

imitated Richard's signature yelps — perhaps most notably in the "Wooooo!" from the hit "She Loves You." Ex-bandmate John Lennon covered Richard's "Rip It Up" and "Ready Teddy" on the 1975 "Rock and Roll" album.

"I just heard the news about Little Richard and I'm so grieved. He was my shining star and guiding light back when I was only a little boy. His was the original spirit that moved me to do everything I would do," Bob Dylan tweeted.

When the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame opened in 1986, he was among the charter members with Elvis Presley, Berry, Buddy Holly, Jerry Lee Lewis, Sam Cooke and others.

"It is with a heavy heart that I ask for prayers for the family of my lifelong friend and fellow rocker Little Richard," said Lewis, 84, in a statement provided by his publicist. "He will live on always in my heart with his amazing talent and his friendship! He was one of a kind and I will miss him dearly. God bless his family and fans."

Mick Jagger called Little Richard "the biggest inspiration of my early teens" in a social media post. **MDP/AP**

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**OPINION**

**Our Desk**

Lynzy Valles



**TO GIVE OR NOT TO GIVE**

The ongoing petition for non-resident workers to also receive the 3,000 patacas e-voucher has reached nearly 2,800 signatures as of press time.

The petition was started to call on the government to support blue card holders with consumer vouchers – similar to the support given to local residents.

The petition started in mid-February when the government announced that it would issue a 3,000 pataca consumption e-voucher to Macau citizens in a bid to boost the local economy.

The measure – currently in its first phase – is budgeted at 2.2 billion patacas.

The move excludes blue card holders, many of whom (as I see online) describe the selective decision as unfair.

I do not want to comment on whether the distribution of the vouchers was unfair or not – I'd prefer to believe that not all classes in society should have been given the voucher – but that is another argument.

Many have already signed the petition, surpassing the initial goal of 1,000 signatures.

We live in a city in which laws and regulations are not really for non-residents, sadly. Yet at some point it makes sense, as local residents of a certain city should always be prioritized.

It may seem almost impossible that the petition's call will be heeded by the government, but baby steps like this are such a significant step for non-resident workers' voices to be heard.

"Because we do have the financial capability, Macau should shout out in example and support the blue cards with the consumer voucher because they support this community and are part of the rich mix of cultural identity!" the petition noted.

"They are the ones doing some of the hardest jobs and with very low income. They too can help stimulate the local economy with this showed appreciation from our government. They deserve this support no matter their nationality!" it added.

After the launch of this campaign, I heard several non-resident workers expressing hope that the campaign will actually come to pass.

Many of them have encouraged their friends to sign the petition with high hopes that they would also be given 3,000 patacas in a form of an electronic card.

"This is important because we also live here and I am on no work no pay leave and we need to pay house rent and buy food," commented one who signed the petition.

"As I've spent my 15 years in Macau, I think the government should at least share some benefits for me as I spend 50% of my salary here just like the locals," said another.

Several hundred blue card holders are currently jobless due to the impact of the pandemic.

Many local residents are jobless as well but non-residents workers are in a very difficult situation.

There are over 200 Indonesian migrant workers, over 600 Filipino and some 150 Vietnamese blue card holders who are currently on unpaid leave, which makes it extremely difficult for them to continue living in an expensive city.

I passed by the Philippine General Consulate yesterday and dozens of the Philippine workers were lining up to submit their application for its cash aid program.

Those qualified will be able to receive a one-time amount of USD200 in financial assistance, as part of the Philippine government's measures to support its migrant workers.

But what about those Vietnamese or Indonesian communities who do not have any consulate in the city to financially assist them?

The question remains largely on how the city can show its support and acknowledge these "excluded" parts of society while ensuring that they look after local families, and hotel and food and beverage operations.

More than 200 people were arrested during anti-government protests in Hong Kong on Sunday night, police said yesterday, as authorities seek to prevent a revival of last year's massive demonstrations, including through the application of anti-social gathering regulations intended to contain the coronavirus outbreak.

Around 230 people between the ages of 12 and 65 were arrested on a range of charges, including unlawful assembly, "possessing anything with intent to destroy or damage property" and failure

to produce proof of identity, police said in a statement.

Another 19 people were ticketed for having violated the Prevention and Control of Disease Regulation, which prohibits gatherings of more than eight people in any public space, the statement said. At one point, police used pepper rounds to disperse people who had surrounded officers, it said.

"Police condemn protesters for disregarding the Government's disease prevention and control measures, and participating in or organizing prohibited group gatherings," the statement said.

**GRANT BOWIE RESIGNS FROM MGM CHINA TOP POSTS**

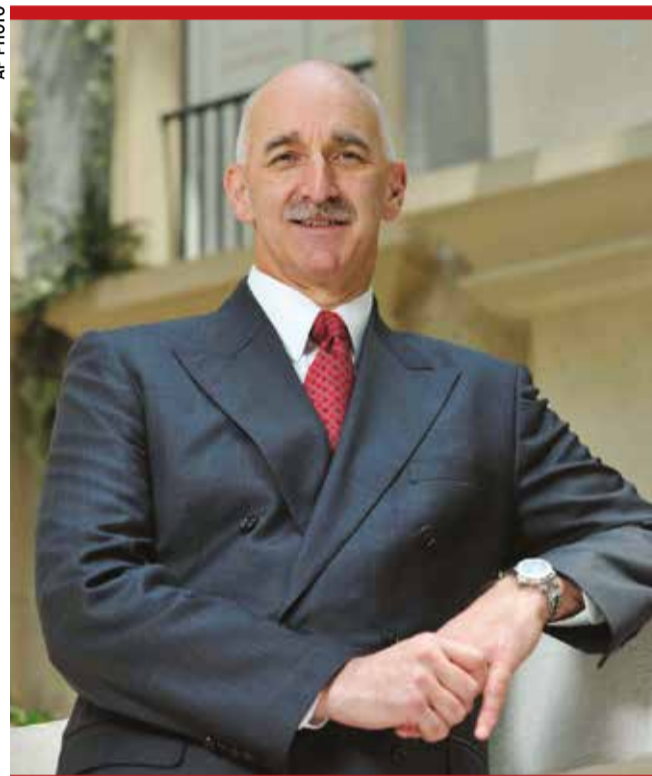
**M**GM China Holdings Chief Executive Officer and Executive Director, Grant Bowie, will leave his position at the company effective May 31, the casino operator unveiled in a filing with the Hong Kong Stock Exchange (HKEx).

In the filing, the casino operator revealed that Bowie had "decided not to extend his contract and elected to step down earlier to match with his personal retirement plans."

Grant Bowie, who's been in Macau since 2003, will remain as Executive Director for an undetermined handover period. Bowie will also continue in an advisory role through December 31, 2022, the note to the HKEx says.

"Mr Bowie has confirmed that he has no disagreement with the board and there are no other matters in relation to his retirement... which need to be brought to the attention of the shareholders of the company," noted the filing.

Before joining MGM China in 2008, 62-year-old Bowie held a similar position at Wynn Macau, the local subsidiary of Wynn Resorts.



Currently, MGM China operates two casino complexes in Macau, namely MGM Macau on the peninsula, located adjacent to the Mandarin Oriental, Macau and Wynn Macau, as well as MGM Cotai, situated between Sands Cotai Central and Wynn Palace on the Cotai Strip.

Locally, Bowie is known for being friendly and approachable with staff at MGM China. The HKEx highlighted Bowie's expression of gratitude to

MGM China's team over the years he has served at the local company's helm.

From dragon boat racers and race spectators, the Times has learned that Bowie normally stayed at the race venue for entire days to support MGM China's teams, as long as they remain in the race.

The dragon boat races will return next month as one of the first events in Macau to be staged since the coronavirus outbreak in late January. **AL**



**New Zealand** Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern announced a plan to reopen the economy and schools over the next 10 days. Social distancing rules will apply, and social gatherings will be limited to 10 people at events like weddings and funerals. The nation's borders will also remain closed. Retail stores, malls, restaurants, hair salons and gyms can reopen Thursday, and people can take domestic flights. Schools will reopen from next Monday; bars, from May 21.



**South Korea** has delayed the reopening of schools by a week after health authorities found scores of new coronavirus infections linked to club goers. Before discovering the new cases, the country had relaxed social distancing guidelines and scheduled the reopening of schools, starting with high school seniors tomorrow.



**India** reported its biggest daily increase in cases yesterday as it prepares to gradually resume train service while easing its virus lockdown. India's train network was halted in late March as a lockdown was imposed on the country of 1.3 billion people. When service restarts today, passengers must wear masks and pass health screenings before being allowed to board trains.



**USA** Vice President Mike Pence (in the background) is self-isolating after an aide tested positive for the coronavirus last week. An administration official says Pence is voluntarily limiting his exposure. He has repeatedly tested negative for COVID-19 since his exposure but is following the advice of medical officials.

**THE DECISIVE MOMENT**

AP Photo/Christophe Ena



Au premier temps de la valse. The French began leaving their homes and apartments for the first time in two months without permission slips as the country cautiously lifted its lockdown.