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WAIVER APPLICATIONS FOR ZHUHAI QUARANTINE SUSPENDED AGAIN FOR THE SECOND TIME IN FOUR DAYS

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RED FLAG

P3

Beijing finds outbreak in wholesale market after Xi declares victory in war against epidemic, Macau health authorities keep an eye on travelers from the capital



China A tanker truck exploded on a highway in southeastern China this weekend, killing 18 people and injuring at least 189 others, authorities said. The explosion caused extensive damage to nearby buildings. One photo showed firefighters hosing down a row of buildings with blown-out facades well into the night. The truck carrying liquefied gas exploded on the Shenyang-Haikou Expressway south of Shanghai in Zhejiang province.

South Korea has confirmed 34 new cases of the coronavirus, mostly in the densely populated Seoul metropolitan area. The new cases have been linked to nightlife establishments, church services, a large-scale e-commerce warehouse and door-to-door salespeople. In late February and early March, South Korea was reporting hundreds of new cases each day before improving the situation significantly with aggressive contact tracing.

South Korea yesterday convened an emergency security meeting and urged North Korea to uphold reconciliation agreements, hours after the North threatened to demolish a liaison office and take military action against its rival. There's concern that North Korea could turn to provocation to bolster its internal unity and wrest outside concessions as nuclear talks with the United States remain deadlocked.

Bangladesh reported 3,141 new cases and 32 more deaths from the coronavirus yesterday, raising its total caseload to 87,520, including 1,171 fatalities. Nasima Sultana, additional director general of the Health Directorate, said a junior minister from Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's Cabinet and a former health minister and close aide to Hasina both died of the virus on Saturday in Dhaka. Bangladesh's main state-run hospitals are overwhelmed.

More on backpage



HONG KONG
DEMOCRATS
FEAR
DISCARDS
AHEAD OF KEY
ELECTION

P6-7

**LIFESTYLE
SUPERMARKET TO
OPEN IN TAIPA**

Taste, a supermarket brand owned by Hong Kong's supermarket chain ParkShop, opens a store today at the new Nova Mall. The mall is owned and managed by Shun Tak Holdings as part of its real estate development, Nova Grand. The mall already houses Ikea and Starbucks stores. Along with the supermarket, today's openings at the mall also include Toys"R"Us, Kid's Cavern, Best Mart 360°, Dr. Kong, Macau Street Produtos Seco Limitada, Mannings and Watsons – all have a least one branch outlet elsewhere in the city. They will all be located on the first basement floor of the mall. On the ground level of the mall, there will be an HSBC branch facing the Central Park. A food court managed by Koufu will also start operation later this year.

**FIRE BLACKS OUT
RESIDENTIAL
BUILDINGS**

A fire that occurred yesterday morning at around 1 a.m. in a fuse room at one of the city's most popular computer parts shopping centers, the Fortune Tower Shopping Center, has left the two residential buildings above and the shopping center without electricity and water. The fire also caused a significant amount of smoke. The Fire Services Bureau deployed a team of 47 members and 12 rescue vehicles in response. About a dozen residents evacuated themselves. The incident has left four people in discomfort, of whom two men – aged 74 and 90 – were sent to hospital for treatment.

**MAN REPORTEDLY
DIES AFTER JUMPING
FROM ROOF**

A man in his 60s has died after reportedly jumping from the roof of a residential building in Seac Pai Van in Coloane, the Judiciary Police has disclosed. On the morning of June 12, a property management officer found the roof door open and conducted an inspection. On the roof, the officer saw the man smoking and asked him to leave. The man suddenly crossed the barrier and jumped off the building. A Public Security Police Force officer passing by heard a loud bang before discovering the body. Paramedics were immediately notified. After preliminary inspection, the injuries found on the body are consistent with falling from a height.

YOUTHS FOUND RESPONSIBLE FOR SERIES OF UNLAWFUL CONDUCT

JULIE ZHU

Two police departments have reported the discovery of different groups of local students engaging in unlawful behavior.

During the joint police press conference on Friday, the Judiciary Police (PJ) and the Public Security Police Force (PSP) revealed that a 20-year-old male took photos of intimate body parts of two girls who were walking near a school in the northern district.

At 4 p.m. on June 9, he was lurking around a school when two girls from that school passed by him, at which point he took the photos.

The victims immediately noticed what the suspect had done and reported the case to the PSP.

The victims described the suspect as being on a motorbike at the time of the incident. Using the CCTV surveillance footage from a nearby shop, PSP police officers identified the man and began to search for him the same day. He was found at home.

During his questioning by police, the young man admitted that not only had he carried out this unlawful deed, he had also engaged in a similar activity in the past. All pictures from these incidents had been saved on his laptop.

The PSP has already forwarded the case to the prosecution authority.

PJ has also reported a juvenile crime, this one involving local youths.

These residents include Im (14, student), Lei (15, student), Leong (14, student), Chan (19) as well as Chan (21).

On June 7, PSP received a re-

JULIE ZHU



port of arson in a building located in the Ilha Verde area. From its investigation, the PSP learnt that a total of eight teenagers were involved in the case.

CCTV surveillance footage showed Im burning a letter in a rubbish facility, which led to other items in the vicinity catching fire. Although Im later put out the fire, the incident resulted in damage to the facility, which is worth approximately 50,000 patacas.

Later, the 21-year-old Chan arrived at the scene on a motorbike to fetch Im.

During their investigation of the arson, officers noticed that the motorbike Chan had arrived on was a reported lost vehicle.

The PSP requested that six of the eight teenagers submit to a police inquiry. Im admitted that he started the fire because he was angry about his romantic relationship.

Im also confessed that he was responsible for stealing the motorbike. According to Im, on June 7, he came across the motorbike on the street and noticed that the owner had left the key with the vehicle. He rode off with the motorbike and gave it to Lei, Leong, and the

two Chans.

The PSP charged Im with arson and unlicensed driving. Lei, Leong, and the two Chans were charged with unlicensed driving.

**PJ UNCOVERS
DRUG TRAFFICKING
INVOLVING TEENAGERS**

Earlier in May, the PJ uncovered two separate drug trafficking cases involving local teenagers. The first teenager, Cheang, 18, received a parcel containing electrical appliances and drugs. The PJ seized the drugs, weighing 0.4 grams, from Cheang's home. The teenager was supposed to deliver the substance to another person.

A second case involves a 23-year-old man and a 17-year-old girl. They were both hired by Hong Kong drug dealers, who mailed them a total of 29 small bags (13.2 grams of cocaine) in a single parcel. The parcel contained a radio-controlled car, inside which the bags of cocaine had been hidden. The cocaine is estimated to be worth 44,000 patacas on the black market. The girl denied any involvement in drug trafficking.

**STUDENT LOSES
MOP4,000 THROUGH
ONLINE BLACKMAIL**

A 23-year-old local male student fell victim to an online scam and was cheated of about 4,000 patacas after participating in a nude video chat with a woman he met online on June 9.

During their conversation, the woman sent the victim an online link, which he then accessed.

At midnight on June 11, the victim received a message containing a video recording of the nude video chat, as well as contacts' data from the victim's mobile phone.

Soon after, he received a call from the alleged suspect, an unknown man who told the victim that if he didn't send HKD4,000, the video would be sent to the victim's friends.

The victim then asked a friend to transfer HKD2,000 into the designated account. He also purchased points card worth 2,100 patacas and transferred them to the suspect.

Later, the alleged suspect demanded another HKD6,400 from the victim. The victim believed that the man would keep asking for more money, so he decided to report the matter.

WHISTLEBLOWER ALLEGES TEACHER'S SEX OFFENCES

MEDIA outlets have recently received an email from an apparent whistleblower, who alleges that a physical education teacher at the Workers' Children High School has committed a sex offen-

ce against a female student.

In response to inquiry, the Judiciary Police eventually admitted that it has investigated a case involving a "sexual offence on minors and sexual

offence on pupils or dependents." It added that it could not provide further information due to a "strong request from the victim's family and to avoid additional harm to the victim."

The writer of the

email accuses the suspect of "putting his hand on several girl students over his dozen years' service at the school." It added that "the school management has kept threatening students, teachers and parents,

attempting to cover up the accusations."

The email has also been posted on several social media platforms and gone viral, prompting other users to report their own experiences in comments. **AL**

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Waiver applications for Zhuhai quarantine suspended again



THE applications for waivers for Macau residents from quarantine in Zhuhai have been suspended again, the Novel Coronavirus Response and Coordination Center has announced, due to the popular turnout.

The Center announced that a massive number of applications were received in the first two days. The platform received nearly 5,500 applications in the first eight hours of operation.

The Center has decided to temporarily suspend applications and reserve time for the various government bureaus to conduct short-listing, reviews and sorting of the applications received before the suspension.

Macau and Zhuhai also need to undertake further negotiations on quotas and conditions for border crossings.

Regarding the time required for review, the Center reminded applicants that those undergoing review by the Macau SAR Government would still be required to be reviewed by the Zhuhai authorities.

More importantly, the projected date by which applications might be approved, as displayed on the application screen, is for reference only. Applicants should receive an email or cellphone message once their applications are approved.

During a press conference on Friday, Alvis Lo Iek Long, medical director of the Conde São Januário Hospital pleaded with members of the public not to fill in the application form with inappropriate reasons. Nevertheless, he acknowledged that the local government is unlikely to fine those who applied for illegitimate reasons.

"We can only plead with the public not to abuse the application process," said Lo, who believes that fining people is not a solution.

On June 10 and June 11, a total of 58 new arrivals were transferred through to quarantine, including 37 local residents and 21 non-local residents.

In the two designated hotels, 457 people, consisting of 261 local residents, 74 blue-card holders and 122 visitors, are quarantining. **JZ/AL**

SSM tightens inspection on travelers from Beijing

THE Novel Coronavirus Response and Coordination Center has decided to tighten inspections on travelers who arrive from the capital city after it has received a notification from the National Health Commission regarding a series of new cases of Covid-19 in Beijing over the weekend.

It will also keep an eye on the development of the epidemic in Beijing. Meanwhile, people in Macau are reminded to remain vigilant. As a preventive measure, the Municipal Affairs Bureau will also tighten quarantine on imported seafood.

According to the notification, the national commission found, on June 13 midday, seven new cases of Covid-19, alongside 46 newly discovered asymptomatic cases. The capital's authorities detected coronavirus on 40 ambient samples at the city's Xinfadi market, a major wholesale food and vegetable market.

One positive sample collected was from a chopping board used for imported raw salmon.

The outbreak — coming more than 50 days after the last local case in the city of 20 million people — showed how the virus can still come back as restrictions are eased. The city's swift response reflected China's emphasis on moving quickly to stem the spread of new cases wherever they appear, a lesson learned from fighting the outbreak earlier.

"The epidemic was already almost over, and then suddenly there's one or two more new hot spots," said Jin Zheng, a woman in her 20s walking in central Beijing. "I'm a little scared. I hope everyone avoids going outside too much and wears protective gear."

Authorities locked down 11 residential communities near the Xinfadi market, about 3 kilometers southeast of the Temple of Heaven tourist site. Police officers could be seen maneuvering white fencing into place to seal off a road leading to a cluster of apartment buildings.

Communist Party members and volunteers were being mobilized to shop for food and other daily necessities for

the affected residents, the Beijing News newspaper said in a social media post. It wasn't immediately clear how many people live in the 11 communities.

Outside the market, paramilitary police in green uniforms put up vehicle barricades and stood in position at the entrances. Some people were allowed in after showing documents at checkpoints. A red banner reading "We cannot lower our guard when it comes to epidemic prevention and control" hung on a fence.

Beijing officials said 45 workers at the market tested positive for the coronavirus, though they showed no symptoms. That was in addition to seven earlier cases of people with symptoms, including six who had visited or worked at the market. China does not include asymptomatic cases in its official case count.

Inspectors took 1,901 samples from meat, surfaces, dustbins, handles and other objects at the market, and 40 tested positive, the officials said. **AL/AP**

PSP RESPONDS TO THE BAN OF RECYCLING ACTIVITY

PUBLIC Security Police Force (PSP) offered a "cryptic" explanation for its recent ban on recycling activities. Lei Tak Fai, spokesperson for the PSP during Friday's press conference, responded to the most recently banned gathering, which consisted of a recycling activity.

Talking on behalf of the PSP, Lei said that "due to the coronavirus prevention [policies], we don't think the gathering would be suitable, so we disallowed it."

Lei claimed that some government departments, such as the Municipal Affairs Bureau and the Transport Bureau, normally notify the PSP when there is a group activity to be organized, and that these departments would request PSP's assistance to maintain order at the gathering.

Once again, PSP claimed that the refusal was lawful and it has been practiced in the past.

Macau for Waste Reduction is a local group that, for over one year, has regularly organized special activities to collect waste for recycling. The group had planned another recycling activity for June 13.

However, this year, the PSP unexpectedly banned the activity in a letter issued to the organization, on the grounds that it is a threat to public hygiene and public security, and that it violates the city's infectious disease prevention law.

Unlike the most recent bans of two political assemblies, relating to the June 4 vigil and the acceptance of an assembly in support of Hong Kong's national security law, this recycling event is unrelated to politics. **JZ**

IC SAYS BILLBOARD CELEBRATING NATIONAL SECURITY LAW MAY BE ILLEGAL

ANTHONY LAM

A billboard printed in red, hung on and covering the wall of a building in Praia Grande within the World Heritage buffer zone, may be in violation of the law, Mok Ian Ian, director of the Cultural Affairs Bureau (IC), has commented after a public occasion.

The billboard was printed in Chinese characters with the Tiananmen and the Golden Lotus against a sharp red background. It is an advertisement to support Beijing's national security legislation in Hong Kong.

The advertisement is titled "Hong Kong National Security Law." Beneath the title are slogans that show support for the law. It states that the legislation is following public will and desire, and that it will safeguard "One Country" and



consolidate the "Two Systems."

The advertisement is posted in the name of the Macau Media Culture Association, an organization that constitutes a legal entity under the law in Macau.

On the sidelines of the public occasion, the IC director suggested that the billboard is placed within the buffer zone of a certified fixed property. As such, an official application must be made to the IC prior to its installation,

pursuant to Article 35 of the Cultural Heritage Protection Law.

Item 4 of the Article stipulates that any posting or installation of objects of any nature on a fixed property located within the buffer zone [of architecture of artistic value] requires prior assessment by the IC.

According to Mok, her bureau has not received any application for the billboard. The bureau will press administrative charges against the violator

should any breach of law be ascertained.

The administrative charge in Mok's words is punishable. Pursuant to the same law Article 98, individual violations of Item 4 of Article 35 is punishable with a fine of MOP20,000 to MOP100,000.

The next article of law, however, stipulates that if the breach is committed by a legal entity, the fine will be between MOP20,000 and MOP500,000.

In addition, certain taxis in the city have posted stickers that show support for the legislation in Hong Kong. They have been permitted to go around the city as they operate their business. The taxi group also held an assembly near the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macau Bridge on June 6 in support of the cause. So far, the police have not conducted any investigation into the event.

NO IRREGULARITY IN HIGH-RISE GUIA RESIDENTIAL PROJECT

LYNZY VALLES

MOK Ian Ian, director of the Cultural Affairs Bureau (IC) said that the proposed 90-meter residential building project complies with the city's height limits, noting that the bureau does not anticipate the need to study the heritage impact of the construction.

The government has planned to build a 90-meter tall high-rise building on the land plot nearby Guia Light House.

Currently, the Land, Public Works and Transport Bureau (DSSOPT) is collecting opinions from members of the public regarding a housing project designed for this piece of land. The collection of opinions ends today.

The official pointed out that the height limit of the project is in accordance with the Chief Executive's Order No. 83/2008.

Mok said that the bureau has commissioned the Chinese Academy of Cultural Heritage through the

National Cultural Heritage Administration to conduct an assessment following the guidelines of the UNESCO on the landscape around the site.

The official added that the preparation of the protection and management plan for the historical site has been carried out on time, and that the Legal Affairs Bureau has completed the drafting of the regulations. She expects to send it to the Executive Council for discussion within this year, according to reports.

Last week, New Macau Association representatives once again urged the local government to suspend the high-rise building project that would obscure the view of the Guia Light House.

Lawmaker and member of the association Sulu Sou condemned the government's regulations as insufficient to protect the view of the Guia Light House. Sou believes that it cannot be foreseen how the actual natural view will be affected once the residential project is completed.

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Gov't admits difficulties in tendering process for public jobs

RENATO MARQUES

SECRETARY for Administration and Justice André Cheong admitted that the centralized system for hiring public service staff has flaws, and that the need to follow a lot of bureaucracy can make the process long. However, he said that the system has clearly improved.

Cheong was speaking at the Legislative Assembly (AL), where he was called to reply to several questions from lawmakers.

On the topic of careers for civil servants and access to those careers, lawmakers Si Ka Lon and Song Pek Kei wanted to know how the government can improve the centralized recruitment system for new applicants to the public service, calling also for more equity within the civil service that, according to Song, is discriminatory for those working on individual contracts when compared to permanent staff.

The lawmakers called for a complete reform of the recruitment system to solve the many problems that have been reported over the past few years, but Cheong said that the centralized recruitment system is expected to stay, noting that some improvements have recently come into force and are getting good results.

"We aim to perfect the scheme to increase administrative efficiency," Cheong said, adding that in the past the attendance rate of the initial examina-



tions was only 20 to 30%, "with the introduction of changes, the situation has improved and currently the attendance rate is above 60%," the Secretary noted, explaining that changes were to charge a non-refundable registration fee to the applicants.

"We have been benchmarking against other regions on this matter [the charging of a registration fee]. This happens also

in other regions and it serves to ensure that citizens have a real intent and interest in being part of the process," Cheong said, adding, "It's very easy to apply, it can be all done via the internet, so we need to ensure that people will participate because there is a lot of work done and money spent to host the applications."

Although acknowledging the waste of resources and expenses

to manage the applications for civil service positions, the Secretary clarified that the fee is charged not to cover some of those expenses, but rather to improve the attendance rate.

"We have been improving the attendance rate but it is still not the best. This fee is not to cover expenses but to push people to think carefully [before filling the application] about whether they

are keen or not," he explained.

Regarding the duration of the process, one of the aspects highlighted by Si as the most important, Cheong said, "We are working on this matter and that is why we need to improve the law and the [complementary] administrative regulations."

Acknowledging the lengthy period needed to recruit for the public service, the Secretary admitted that applications can run a long time, and that it is "Impossible to predict when the service can get the staff they need. [The process] takes between 1 to 1 and a half years," he said, noting that the length of time can also be a factor influencing the dropout rate.

"People's life [perspectives] can change as well as their motivation to join the public service [over the time of the process]. But this happens also because we need to assure people that this is a transparent process and so we need to go through several stages, publish provisional lists and final lists and also give time for the participants to appeal those decisions, etc."

Replying to Song regarding the career differences between contracted and permanent staff members, the Secretary noted that such differences exist because people come from different recruitment systems and processes, and that with time, such differences tend to smooth out, becoming "almost invisible when they reach retirement."

Lawmaker José Pereira Coutinho took the opportunity to bring up, once again, his proposal to merge the careers under the salary index of 195 points and 260 points in order to equate those careers. He has raised this topic with several past Secretaries for Administration and Justice, although an outcome appears not to have been reached.

Lawmakers call gov't to demand more from Air Macau contract

RENATO MARQUES

THE service of Macau's air carrier, Air Macau, was the target of much criticism by the lawmakers at Legislative Assembly (AL) last Friday.

Legislators urged the government to take the opportunity of this contract extension to demand significant improvements in the service by the Macau flag carrier.

Several lawmakers, including Wang Sai Man, Mak Soi Kun, and Sulu Sou, criticized the airliner for the service it provided at a time that the government is negotiating the



details of a contract extension for three more years.

The original concession contract was due to expire this November, making way for an expected opening of the market, but

several factors including the outbreak of Covid-19 forced the government to hold back from the idea of market liberalization of the aviation sector, granting Air Macau an ex-

ension of the original 25-year concession.

The topic, initially launched by a spoken inquiry on the aviation sector from lawmaker Chui Sai Peng, quickly escalated into criticism, with the majority of the lawmakers intervening in the debate with Secretary for Transport and Public Works, Raimundo do Rosário noting that now is the right time for the government to demand improvements from the company.

Wang noted that given Air Macau is not a low-cost airliner he considers that the services provided fall short of expectations.

"Sometimes they don't even provide the passengers [with basic onboard amenities such as] a pillow or a newspaper. It seems that this airline [does not deserve the title] of representing Macau if we consider their quality of service," Wang said, while accepting the decision to extend the concession contract taking the current situation into account.

In turn, Mak added to the criticism saying that the company's service embarrasses Macau people.

"It's shameful. The flights are always late. They

don't even provide food on the plane," Mak said.

As for lawmaker Sou, the concerns were more focused on the identity of the company, he accused of not being "really local" since they do not provide announcements to passengers in Cantonese.

Although the many critics and appeals were for the government to exercise negotiating power, the Secretary did not promise that the problems aired by the lawmakers would be included in the negotiations of the extension of the exclusivity arrangement that will continue until November 2023.



ANALYSIS

CHINA'S EFFORTS TO WIN HEARTS AND MINDS WITH AID AND INVESTMENT MAY MAKE ALL THE DIFFERENCE IF THERE'S A COLD WAR WITH THE US

NADER HABIBI, BRANDEIS UNIVERSITY & HANS YUE ZHU, YALE UNIVERSITY

U.S.-China relations are the worst they've been in decades – at least since the Tiananmen Square crackdown in June 1989, which led to almost complete international isolation of China.

Some officials and observers have even publicly fretted that the U.S. and China are on the brink of a 21st-century cold war.

Significant disagreements over trade, human rights and China's growing might have long been flashpoints in the relationship between the world's two biggest economies. But tensions over China's handling of the coronavirus outbreak and Hong Kong's autonomy are pushing it to the breaking point.

Yet, what's most interesting to us – as close observers of China's economic and foreign policy – is the differences in how the U.S. and China are handling the fallout.

While the Trump administration has primarily focused on confrontation – by accusing China of mishandling the initial outbreak and threatening to downgrade its relationship with Hong Kong over China's passage of a new security law for the island – China has been taking a more nuanced and moderate approach. The Chinese government hasn't shied away from being provocative or defending itself, to be sure, but most of its

foreign policy efforts have been directed toward strengthening its hand on the international stage through humanitarian aid and more investment.

We hope they're wrong about a new cold war. But if they're right, China's focus on winning international hearts and minds – like the U.S. did in its Cold War with the Soviet Union – will likely prove to be the superior strategy.

TENSIONS BOIL OVER

Until Donald Trump became president in 2017, U.S.-China economic and diplomatic relations generally had been on an upward swing for more than three decades, despite occasional tensions.

The situation deteriorated sharply in mid-2018, when Trump launched a trade war with China. For the next one-and-a-half years, the two sides placed an escalating series of trade barriers on each other's products, until virtually every product was subject to additional tariffs.

A breakthrough emerged earlier this year, as China agreed to buy more U.S. products in exchange for cutting some U.S. tariffs. But the thaw didn't last long before the pandemic's devastating impact in the U.S. prompted Trump to blame China for covering up the seriousness of the coronavirus in January – concerns that

got a boost when countries such as Australia called for an independent investigation.

Then, after China passed a new security law in Hong Kong, raising fears of a loss of liberties, the U.S. threatened to downgrade its economic relations with the island, which could hurt its status as a regional financial capital. The U.K., Australia and Canada have also criticized China over the issue.

DISARM AND CHARM

China, of course, hasn't let these attacks go unanswered.

The Chinese government has engaged in a diplomatic and media campaign to defend its coronavirus policies and refute charges of negligence and cover-up. China's ambassadors, for example, have used mainstream and social media to defend China's policies to local audiences in countries around the world.

“What's most interesting to us is the differences in how the US and China are handling the fallout.”

But its more substantive response came when China initiated a large-scale international humanitarian aid campaign in early March. After containing the spread of coronavirus at home, China has been supplying billions of dollars worth

of medical supplies and dispatching medical teams to at least 82 countries all over the world, including Spain, Italy, Iran and dozens of African countries such as Nigeria.

Dubbed “mask diplomacy,” this assistance came at a crucial time when the pandemic had forced many countries, particularly the U.S., to turn inward and focus on domestic needs.

BELT AND ROAD 2.0

Perhaps the most important part of China's strategy relates to its Belt and Road Initiative.

Belt and Road, also known as the “new Silk Road,” is a US\$1.2 trillion global infrastructure and energy investment plan launched in 2013. It's China's main strategy to promote its long-term economic interest.

Due to the global spread of COVID-19, however, many of its dozens of ongoing projects came to a halt and will be hard to resume as governments redirect their financial and fiscal resources to health care expenses and economic recovery.

So China is shifting gears, converting the initiative's focus from energy and infrastructure – two industries that are less important in the current environment – to health care and digital telecommunications, which are sectors seen as critical to recovery.

Originally introduced in 2017, the “Health Silk Road” is being promoted as a way to invest in other countries' health care infrastructure to help fight future pandemics and build cooperation.

Similarly, China's “Digital Silk Road,” valued at \$200 billion, is helping countries such as Italy, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Zambia improve their digital infrastructure, such as with advanced telecommunications technology.

MAKE FRIENDS, NOT ENEMIES

These efforts are helping the Chinese government not only deflect the Trump administration's anti-China campaign but also seize the opportunity to continue deepening its international relationships.

There is evidence it's working, as surveys in countries such as Germany and Serbia show citizens are viewing China more positively – while becoming more critical of the U.S.

If Trump continues an anti-China policy with the aim of isolating the country internationally, he may want to rethink his strategy. Instead, he should follow China's lead and return to the playbook that helped the U.S. in the 20th century: winning hearts and minds. **MDT/AP/THE CONVERSATION**

HONG KONG

Democrats

NATALIE LUNG & IAIN MARLOW

As the leader of one of the largest pro-democracy parties in Hong Kong's legislature, Alvin Yeung could make history if the city's opposition wins an unprecedented majority in September elections. Or he could find himself disqualified before the campaign even starts.

The 39-year-old lawyer is among several prospective candidates accused by Chinese authorities of behavior that opposition politicians fear could be used to bar them from running or expel them after the vote. After rejecting a half dozen “localist” candidates for seeking independence from China four years ago, the government and its supporters have criticized activists by name for a growing range of actions that could run afoul of the new national security legislation and other laws.

On Friday, for instance, China's top agency for Hong Kong accused Yeung of “glorifying illegal behavior” in a statement denouncing several other high-profile politicians. At the same time, he was featured on decks of novelty playing cards handed out in the city showing pictures of prominent opposition figures superimposed against prison bars and listing their “crimes.”

“No one in the opposition can guarantee that they would be able to get into the race,” said Yeung, whose Civic Party currently holds five of the Legislative Council's 70 seats. “The only thing we can do is to stick to our own principles.”

The push has cast fresh doubt over democracy advocates' hopes of converting the enthusiasm generated by a historic wave of protests in the former British colony last year into real political power. Not only could the opposition use the council to block Chief Executive Carrie Lam's agenda, it could theoretically force her to resign by repeatedly rejecting her budget proposals.

How the election unfolds may have big consequences for the future of Hong Kong, which has become a key friction point between China, the U.S. and the U.K. The process is unfolding against the backdrop of a U.S. presidential campaign in which President Donald Trump has sought to run against China, announcing last month that he would “begin the process” of revoking special trade privileges granted to the Asian financial center because of its political autonomy.

The U.S. gave Hong Kong its special status after China agreed with the U.K. to preserve the city's capitalist economy and Common Law legal system until at least 2047 under a “one country, two systems” framework. The U.K.-China negotiations left several controversial items unresolved after the 1997 handover, including plans to expand local elections and enact national security legislation.

Trump levied his threat shortly after the Chinese National People's Congress

Opposition fear disqualifications ahead of key election

BLOOMBERG



A deck of novelty playing cards distributed throughout the city showing pictures of prominent opposition figures superimposed against prison bars and listing their "crimes"



Alvin Yeung

approved a plan to bypass Hong Kong lawmakers and impose measures to criminalize the harshest criticism of Beijing. The legislation, which local media have said could be enacted before the Sept. 6 election, is expected to provide the government sweeping powers to jail opposition figures or otherwise block them from office.

While details of the measures have yet to be made public, a similar proposal withdrawn after street protests 17 years ago would allow for sentences up to life in prison for offenders convicted of crimes such as sedition and subversion. The legislation could be finalized as soon as this week's meeting of the NPC's Standing Committee, although the item isn't currently on the public agenda.

Tam Yiu-chung, Hong Kong's only representative to the NPC Standing Committee, wrote in a pro-establishment magazine this month that candidates who oppose the effort "should be disqualified." That would rule out just about all opposition candidates, with a Hong Kong Public Opinion Program survey released May 29 showing 96% of democracy supporters are against the legislation.

"The entire democratic camp, including sitting democratic legislators, can be wiped out because all of us must have or will openly oppose the law as part of our political platform," opposition lawmaker Fernando Cheung said.

The Hong Kong Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau said in a statement over the weekend that the government would uphold residents' right to seek elected office, while noting that candidates must sign a declaration to uphold

the law. The local Electoral Affairs Commission said separately that decisions regarding the eligibility of candidates would be made solely by returning officers.

"No one in the opposition can guarantee that they would be able to get into the race."

ALVIN YEUNG
CIVIC PARTY

After a returning officer barred activist Joshua Wong from seeking a District Council seat last year, the government defended the decision, saying there was "no question of any political censorship, restriction of the freedom of speech or deprivation of the right to stand for elections."

Still, Hong Kong authorities and their backers in Beijing have been raising the pressure on opposition politicians with a series of arrests and pointed statements. Several pro-democracy lawmakers have been charged in recent weeks with either joining or inciting people to participate in protests rejected by police.

On Friday, the Hong Kong and Macao Affairs Office in Beijing accused several activists of acting as "black hands" to corrupt local schools. All but one of the people named by HKMAO were included on the playing cards, namely Yeung, Wong (King of Diamonds) and legal scholar Benny Tai (Ace of Spades), although it's unclear who's responsible for the campaign.

The mere threat of mass disqualifications complicates the opposition's "35+" plan to capture more

than half of the Legislative Council's seats. A majority would give the coalition control over the chamber's agenda and the power to block Lam's bills. One provision of the city's Basic Law would require Lam to step down if her budget is voted down twice.

To overcome fractures between the moderates and more radical localists, Tai is attempting to organize an unofficial primary on July 11 and July 12 to select favored candidates in each district. Supporters argue such a system is the opposition's best chance to repeat its historic landslide in District Council elections in November, in which pro-democracy activists won 85% of the seats.

Problem is, any government decision to bar candidates won't come until after they officially register as candidates between July 18 and July 31. The government has blocked nine candidates from running over their support for independence and self-determination since first taking the then-

unprecedented step four years ago of banning politicians because of their political views.

Tai, who's appealing a 16-month prison sentence for helping to organize the Occupy protests in 2014, said many in Hong Kong view the election as their "last chance" to register their dissatisfaction with Beijing and appeal for support from abroad.

"Even if we are all disqualified, I believe our voice would have been heard," Tai said. The opposition has launched a crowd-funding campaign to raise HKD3.5 million to cover the expenses of the primary.

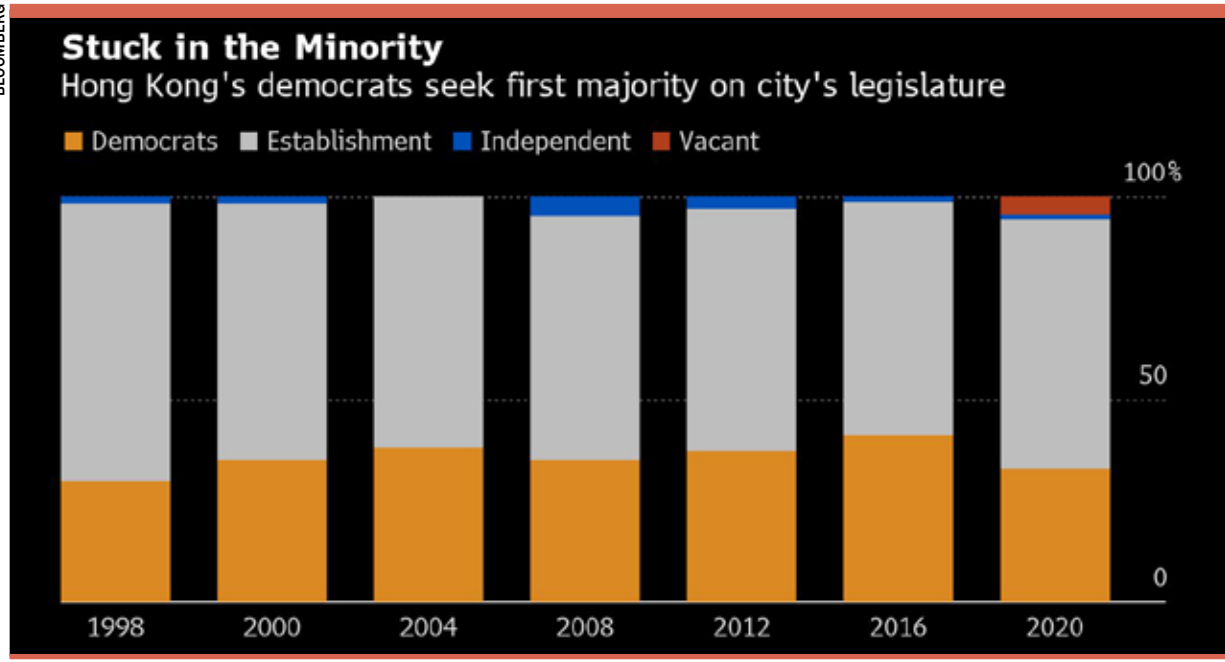
In 2016, the opposition won 29 seats, including 19 from geographic constituencies and 10 from "functional consistencies" representing the business community and other interest groups. That success was soon diluted after Beijing intervened to require the ousting of lawmakers who support independence. Six opposition lawmakers were expelled, largely for delivering their oaths improperly.

The opposition believes it could win at least 21 geographic seats in September, meaning it would also need to gain four functional constituency seats to secure a majority. Pro-democracy activists have tried to set up their own unions to register more voters in sectors traditionally won by Beijing loyalists.

The looming national security law and other recent Chinese statements are further expanding the list of political views that could put candidates in jeopardy. But that shared threat could help unify the opposition camp, with some self-described localists such as Ventus Lau saying they're considering joining the primary effort.

Lau, who was barred from running to replace an ousted lawmaker in 2018, said he was hoping that support for sanctions would grow if Hong Kong takes steps to interfere with the election. "In an ideal situation, the international community would take countermeasures," Lau said.

BLOOMBERG



AstraZeneca agrees to make Covid-19 vaccine for Europe

DANICA KIRKA, LONDON

DRUGMAKER AstraZeneca struck a deal yesterday [Macau time] to supply up to 400 million doses of an experimental COVID-19 vaccine to European Union countries, the latest in a series of agreements as scientists, governments and pharmaceutical companies race to combat the virus.

AstraZeneca plans to begin delivering the vaccine to European countries by the end of this year under the agreement with the Inclusive Vaccine Alliance, formed this month by France, Germany, Italy and the Netherlands. All other EU member states will have the chance to take part under the same terms as the original alliance members.

The cost of making the vaccine, which was developed by Oxford University, is expected to be offset by funding from the governments.

"This agreement will ensure that hundreds of millions of Europeans have access to Oxford University's vaccine following approval," AstraZeneca CEO Pascal Soriot said in a prepared statement. "With our European supply chain due to begin



production soon, we hope to make the vaccine available widely and rapidly."

The deal is the latest in a series of agreements to produce the vaccine — even though it is not certain it will work to prevent coronavirus infections. Because of the desperate need for a vaccine amid the pandemic that has killed more than 426,000 people worldwide, AstraZeneca is scaling up manufacturing with human trials still under way.

The Anglo-Swedish company recently completed similar agreements with Britain, the United States, the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations, a public-private-charita-

ble partnership based in Norway, and Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, another public-private partnership headquartered in Geneva, for 700 million doses. It plans to produce an additional 1 billion doses under a deal with the Serum Institute of India.

Soriot told reporters that conversations were also under way with the governments of many other nations, including Japan, Russia and Brazil.

"We are also looking at China," he said, "China, as you know, are developing their own vaccines. [...] It's important to make several bets on different vaccines in every country."

The vaccine was developed by Oxford University's Jenner Institute, working with the Oxford Vaccine Group.

Testing of the experimental COVID-19 vaccine began in April with a study involving over 1,000 healthy volunteers in Britain aged 18 to 55. Another round of testing with 10,000 volunteers began last month.

Other companies, including Moderna and Sanofi, are racing to develop and produce a vaccine to protect against the new coronavirus, a step experts say will be crucial to allowing countries to ease public health lockdowns and restrictions on public life. **AP**

Australia 'disheartened' by death sentence in China

AUSTRALIA yesterday described as "deeply disheartening" a death sentence China imposed on an Australian man accused of drug smuggling, and the trade minister said it shouldn't be linked to ongoing friction over trade and the pandemic.

Cam Gillespie was arrested in 2013 at Baiyun Airport in the southern Chinese city of Guangzhou on charges of attempting to board an international flight with more than 7.5 kilograms of methamphetamine in his check-in luggage.

The Guangzhou Intermediate People's Court on Saturday announced Gillespie had been sentenced to death and ordered the confiscation of all



of his personal property. Australia's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade said it was "deeply saddened to hear of the verdict."

"Australia opposes the death penalty, in all circumstances for all people," it said.

"We support the universal abolition of the death penalty and are committed to pursuing this goal through all the avenues available to us."

Trade Minister Simon Birmingham called the sentence "distressing" but said it shouldn't necessarily be linked to disputes between China and Australia.

"This is very distressing for Mr. Gillespie and his loved ones and our government will continue to provide consular assistance," Birmingham told Sky News yesterday.

"This is a reminder to all Australians [...] that Australian laws don't apply overseas, that other countries have much harsher penalties, particularly in relation to matters such as drug trafficking."

Australia has led calls for an inquiry into China's handling of the coronavirus outbreak in Wuhan.

In response China, Australia's largest trading partner, has imposed some new restrictions on Australian exports and issued travel warnings to Chinese students planning to study in Australia, citing racism.

Gillespie has 10 days to appeal his sentence. **AP**

this day in history



1974 MAN DIES IN RACE RALLY CLASHES

A march through central London has left one person dead and many more injured as rival demonstrators clashed with police and each other.

One man died at the scene while up to 39 policemen and several demonstrators received treatment for cuts and other injuries.

The National Front was marching to protest against the government's amnesty for illegal immigrants.

As a counter protest, the Liberation group also set up a march to end in the same place on the same day.

Members of the International Marxist Group (IMG), marching with Liberation, clashed with police at Red Lion Square when they attempted to continue on their pre-planned route.

The body of maths student, Kevin Gately, aged 21, was found by St John's Ambulance crew among the fighting. It is not known how he died.

The counter-demonstration's route had been agreed by organisers Liberation and the police to avoid any confrontation with the National Front who were also marching to the same destination, County Hall.

Other scuffles were reported to have broken out near Southampton Row where police horses were being used to separate protesters.

The Liberation group has condemned the violence. A spokesperson said: "This section of the IMG believed that the way to protest was to make an assault on the police which we think is senseless."

Members of the Liberation group had expressed their amazement at the police's decision to allow them to march towards the same destination as the National Front.

"When the police agreed to the meeting I must say I raised my eyebrows. It poses the question of whether they should have foreseen the geographical situation" said Liberation's London Council Chairman Sydney Bidwell.

Scotland Yard has yet to comment on its decision to allow the two marches to go ahead.

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

The death at Red Lion Square was the first at a demonstration in 55 years.

The following weekend hundreds of students demonstrated in Coventry and London after the funeral of Kevin Gately. A pathologist concluded he had been killed by a blow to the head.

Following the violent scenes there police stepped up their presence at all future demonstrations.

It is thought 1,200 people marched in the counter-demonstration against the National Front.

The result of the violence was a great deal of publicity for the National Front and their views. This had been the outcome those in Liberation against the march had feared most.

MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

YOUR STARS

ARIES
 Mar. 21-Apr. 19
 You don't always have to plan ahead if you want to travel, especially right now, when your wanderlust has reached near epidemic proportions. Strike out on a little adventure.

TAURUS
 Apr. 20-May. 20
 Your public self and your private self want different things right now, and it's starting to make you feel out of place wherever you are. But the good news is that a confluence is coming soon.

GEMINI
 May. 21-Jun. 21
 Talk to the party involved and make sure that they are informed as to what actually happened. Residential moves will be favorable, and larger quarters the most probable direction.

CANCER
 Jun. 22-Jul. 22
 Watch for differing ideas that could create conflict today. Not everyone is on the same page. You might feel the need to create harmony with everyone.

LEO
 Jul. 23-Aug. 22
 You can easily impress others with your generous nature. In return, the satisfaction you get is enough for you. This is a great day to get out and enjoy an entertaining evening with friends or lovers.

VIRGO
 Aug. 23-Sep. 22
 Overexertion and negligence will be your worst enemies. Travel will be in your best interest. Things will be hectic and family members will be erratic, so a vacation may be in order.

LIBRA
 Sep. 23-Oct. 22
 Be cautious when dealing with coworkers. Have a heart-to-heart talk with family and find out what the problems are. Opportunities to pamper yourself may unfold.

SCORPIO
 Oct. 23-Nov. 21
 Don't let your mate force you into making a decision that you aren't ready to make. Try to stay calm. Don't allow colleagues to put unreasonable pressure on you.

SAGITTARIUS
 Nov. 22-Dec. 21
 Mingle with those who have similar interests, and you should be able to start something. Jealous colleagues may try to undermine you. Be careful not to let relatives or friends interfere in your personal life.

CAPRICORN
 Dec. 22-Jan. 19
 If you're making any type of travel plans, you should try to finalize them soon. If you leave anything up in the air, chances are good that it will fall through the cracks.

AQUARIUS
 Jan. 20-Feb. 18
 Stay flexible and be prepared! Make it clear that you're ready to go at a moment's notice and take on anything those in power are willing to give you. Don't be afraid to be obvious about it either.

PISCES
 Feb. 19-Mar. 20
 Don't pull rank on your underlings or associates today. You have power because you know how to use it, not because you know how to lord it over people!

The Born Loser by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

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

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

WEATHER

	MIN	MAX	CONDITION
CHINA			
Beijing	22	36	clear
Harbin	14	23	thundershower
Tianjin	23	36	clear
Urumqi	20	30	clear
Xi'an	21	27	moderate rain
Lhasa	14	26	cloudy
Chengdu	23	31	shower
Chongqing	25	34	cloudy
Kunming	17	27	shower
Nanjing	25	28	heavy rain
Shanghai	25	30	heavy rain
Wuhan	25	32	shower
Hangzhou	26	31	moderate rain
Taipei	25	30	cloudy
Guangzhou	25	30	moderate to heavy rain
Hong Kong	26	31	cloudy
WORLD			
Moscow	14	26	clear
Frankfurt	13	24	moderate rain
Paris	15	23	drizzle
London	12	22	clear
New York	16	25	clear

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- Israel's Abba; 5- Party; 10- Meat substitute; 14- Network of nerves; 15- Not dead yet; 16- Let out; 17- Movable barrier; 18- Kitchen gadget; 19- Editor Wintour; 20- Ice cream topped with syrup; 22- Sustain with food; 24- ATM maker; 25- Arguing; 26- Adjacent; 30- Quizzes, trials; 35- Cartoon Chihuahua; 36- Crusty treat; 37- Journalist Pyle; 38- Move by degrees; 41- Begin, e.g.; 43- Footnote; 44- And so on; 45- Still, in poetry; 46- Guide; 47- Practice; 50- Mend with rows of stitches; 53- Authorizes; 54- Prophecy; 58- Wound; 62- Hideout; 63- City near Kobe; 66- Goofing off; 67- Does in; 68- Chad neighbor; 69- Mariners can sail on seven of these; 70- Ferrara family; 71- Catches; 72- 27th president of the U.S.

DOWN: 1- Energy units; 2- Boyfriend; 3- Env. notation; 4- "You ___ worry"; 5- Early fruit; 6- Certain Ivy Leaguer; 7- Singer Damone; 8- Blessed ___; 9- Vive ___!; 10- Shred; 11- Old Dodge model; 12- Fish appendages; 13- Mormon state of western USA; 21- Take steps; 23- Say; 25- Get on; 26- Rich tapestry; 27- Animal; 28- Free; 29- It may be picked; 31- Historical period; 32- Twisted expression?; 33- Roofing items; 34- Paris divider; 39- Alphabet trio; 40- Range rovers; 41- Follower's suffix; 42- Learned persons; 44- Ocean flier; 48- Supplement, with "out"; 49- Help; 51- Ages; 52- Gum; 54- Floating ice; 55- Big lugs; 56- Fissure; 57- Gaelic language of Ireland or Scotland; 59- Brain wave; 60- Minnesota's St. ___ College; 61- Treehouse used by birds; 64- Ottoman official; 65- Small cask;

Friday's solution

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

Crossword puzzles provided by BestCrosswords.com

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Emergency calls 999	Taxi 28 939 939 / 2828 3283
Fire department 28 572 222	Water Supply - Report 2822 0088
PJ (Open line) 993	Telephone - Report 1000
PJ (Picket) 28 557 775	Electricity - Report 28 339 922
PSP 28 573 333	Macau Daily Times 28 716 081
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	



<p>FOR SALE</p> <p>One Central 2 Bedroom Views Over Nam Van Lake HK\$11,800,000 1,269 ft² 2+ 2+</p>	<p>FOR RENT</p> <p>Retail Shop, Barra Area Macau \$48,000/mth 1,968 ft²</p>	<p>FOR SALE</p> <p>[Macau] One Oasis modern studio 2+ 1+ 1+ 691 ft² \$6,357,000 (ref: n/a)</p> <p>[Taipa] Chun Fuk apartment 2+ 2+ 2+ 834 ft² \$8,998,000 (ref: 20036002)</p> <p>[Taipa] Buckingham 2+ 2+ 2+ 1,439 ft² \$11,770,000 (ref: 19045004)</p> <p>[Cotai] One Grantai 4+ 2+ 2+ 2,556 ft² \$25,600,000 (ref: 19096001)</p>	<p>FOR RENT</p> <p>[Taipa] Delightful 1 Bed 1+ 1+ 1+ 820 ft² \$9,500/mth (ref: 20051001)</p> <p>[Taipa] Traditional Apartment 2+ 1+ 1+ 600 ft² \$9,900/mth (ref: n/a)</p> <p>[Macau] One Central 2+ 2+ 2+ 1,269 ft² \$25,000/mth (ref: n/a)</p> <p>[Taipa] Private house 2+ 3+ 3+ 3+ 4,266 ft² \$45,000/mth (ref: 19055006ST)</p>
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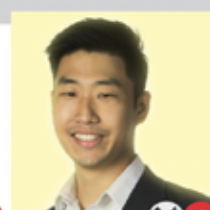
Avenida da Praia Grande No.599, Edf. Comercial Rodrigues, 12 andar C, Macau
澳門南灣大馬路599號羅德禮商業大廈12樓C座



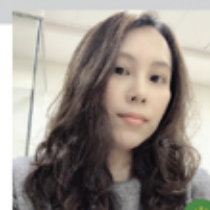
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Property of the Week



One Central 2 Bedroom Views Over Nam Van Lake
HK\$11,800,000 1,269 ft² 2 2



Two Bedroom apartment in One Central, Tower 7 overlooking Nam Van Lakes. Fully fitted out to a high standard, en-suite bathroom, amazing clubhouse facilities, swimming Pool, Gym and convenient access to Macau's best known hotspots. The apartment is currently tenanted but is available with vacant possession if required.

Property Hotlist



Wa Bao, Taipa
\$7,995,000
1,071 ft²
2 2



The Fountainside Villas In Historical Macau
PoA
2,973 ft²
3 4 1



Retail Shop, Barra Area Macau
\$48,000/mth
1,968 ft²



Lakeview Mansion Carpark
\$3,800/mth
1



More Listings

For Sale

- [Macau] One Oasis modern studio 1 691 ft² **\$6,357,000** (ref: n/a)
- [Taipa] Chun Fuk apartment 2 2 834 ft² **\$8,998,000** (ref: 20036002)
- [Macau] Lakeview Tower 3 2 1,344 ft² **\$11,000,000** (ref: 19126001)
- [Taipa] Buckingham 2 2 1,439 ft² **\$11,770,000** (ref: 19045004)
- [Cotai] One Grantai 4 2 2,556 ft² **\$25,600,000** (ref: 19096001)

For Rent

- [Taipa] Central Taipa 1 Bed 1 1 820 ft² **\$9,500/mth** (ref: 20051001)
- [Taipa] Old Taipa Village Apartment 2 1 600 ft² **\$9,900/mth** (ref: n/a)
- [Macau] One Central 2 2 1,269 ft² **\$25,000/mth** (ref: n/a)
- [Taipa] Great View Apartment 4 2 2,060 ft² **\$28,000/mth** (ref: 20031001)
- [Taipa] Private house 2 3 3 4,266 ft² **\$45,000/mth** (ref: 19055006ST)

Recent Movements

Sold

Nova City, 3 beds, 2 bath

Sold

Kinglight carpark

Rented

Buckingham, 2 beds, 1 bath



JML Events



Cradle of Hope



Caritas Macau



Macau Bats Junior Rugby Team



Macau Golf Masters

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CRAZY RICH ASIAN

The former reporter behind a fugitive's \$8 billion fortune

BLAKE SCHMIDT

WHEN entertainment reporter Chan Hoi-wan first met her future husband, billionaire mogul Joseph Lau, she reached out to a mole on his head and asked if it was real.

So begins the story of one of Hong Kong's most peculiar family sagas, as reported by Chan's former employer, the Apple Daily run by media tycoon Jimmy Lai. It culminated this week with Chan, Lau's second wife, gaining more influence over her fugitive husband's real estate empire, which is altogether worth about \$8 billion, according to the Bloomberg Billionaires Index.

Filings with the Hong Kong stock exchange showed that Lau Ming-wai, Lau's son from his first wife, transferred 25% of Chinese Estates Holdings Ltd. to an entity of Chan's children, putting her in charge of a 75% stake. The transfer, worth about \$300 million, is the latest in a reshuffling of Lau's empire that began in 2017, when he gave shares to his son and Chan. It effectively consolidates Chan's control over one of Asia's largest fortunes.

"The more share-holding concentration will reduce the possibility of disputes concerning future direction, which would be positive for Chinese Estates' development and also for the shareholders," said Kenny Ng, a securities strategist at Everbright Sun Hung Kai. "It's expected that Chan Hoi-wan will be more actively involved in the company."

The transfer is happening at a



Kimbie Chan Hoi-wan and Joseph Lau (Courtesy Apple Daily)

tricky time for Hong Kong, where the real estate sector faces a downturn from ongoing anti-government protests and the Covid-19 pandemic. Despite a 41% jump this month, Chinese Estates shares are down 20% for 2020.

ENTERTAINMENT COVERAGE

Before marrying Lau in 2016, Chan was a reporter at Apple Daily for several years, where she covered entertainment and made connections with various celebrities around the city. She joined the Chinese Estates group as an associate in 2002, working in its cosmetic business, according to a company filing. Her elder sister, Chan Sze-wan, was appointed chief executive officer of the company in 2015 after joining in 2002. Chan Lok-wan, her younger sister, is an executive director.

Lau, who was convicted of bribery and money laundering in Macau in 2014, came into the

political spotlight last year, when his lawyers applied for a judicial review against the government's plans to permit extraditions, including to mainland China and Macau. His legal challenge opened a split between the Hong Kong government and the business community, which deepened as other business leaders came out against the bill. Lau later withdrew the application, and the government ended up scrapping the law in the face of growing protests.

PRISON SENTENCE

He was sentenced in absentia to five years and three months in prison for his conviction but, with no extradition pact between Hong Kong and Macau, hasn't served jail time -- he just hasn't returned to the gambling hub. This week's share transfer to Chan may be a way to protect the stake, said Everbright Sun Hung Kai's Ng.

"Lau's family is still optimistic

about the prospect of Hong Kong and Chinese Estates so the members of the family increased their shareholding," the company said in an email. "Chinese Estates' general operation and policy will remain unchanged. Please do not make any conjectures."

Lau, one of Hong Kong's richest moguls whose early fortune came from making ceiling fans with his brother Thomas, has been known for some of his high-profile relationships with women. His first marriage to Theresa Po Wing-kam ended in the early 1990s. They had a daughter, Jade, and Lau Ming-wai, who is the chairman of Chinese Estates and deputy chairman of Ocean Park Corp., the debt-laden amusement park that is seeking a government rescue plan.

DRAMATIC BREAKUP

Before marrying Chan, he had a dramatic breakup with his girlfriend Yvonne Lui Lai-kwan that resulted in Lau's printing of a full-page statement in several newspapers to debunk "untrue reports in the media," in which he said he had given her gifts worth more than HKD2 billion (\$258 million) over the years, making her a "very wealthy woman." Lau had two children with Lui.

Nowadays, the 68-year-old mogul keeps a low profile. This year, as most of Hong Kong's richest tycoons declared support for Beijing's controversial national security law, he has not come out publicly on the issue.

One of the few places where he appears is on the Instagram feed of his wife. Chan, who

goes by Kimbee on the platform, posts shots to her 182,000 followers with celebrity friends and business elites. As recently as last year, she showed photos of Lau hobnobbing with fellow billionaires, including Jack Ma, China's richest man, and Thomas Kwok, a member of Hong Kong's wealthiest family. She also posts frequently about penguins.

'NOT GREEDY'

Chan, whose age was given as 40 in a December filing, started accruing assets in 2017, when Lau gave her a retail complex at commercial building The One in Tsim Sha Tsui that he bought for HKD7.8 billion. The same year, he transferred most of his stake in Chinese Estates to her. He told Apple Daily that Chan "is not greedy. She is pure, and she is not a bad woman. She has been taking good care of me and my children."

Lau, who has also owned a Boeing 747 jet and has properties in Hong Kong and London, is known for his investments in art, wine and jewelry, and children with Chan have been the recipients of his largesse. He bought them precious stones and named one of them "The Blue Moon of Josephine," after their daughter Josephine. It has the highest possible color grade of fancy vivid blue, and its pre-sale price was estimated at 34.2 million francs (\$36 million) to 53.7 million francs, according to Sotheby's website.

Despite the health concerns he cited for his transfer of shares to Chan in 2017, they had a third child in 2018.

Chinese Estates' annual report shows that Chan holds her shares as trustee for her minor children, which means they will be among the heirs to one of the world's greatest and most bewildering fortunes. But while they're still kids, their mom will protect them. On Instagram, Chan sometimes covers their faces with penguin emojis. **BLOOMBERG**

CORPORATE BITS

The St. Regis Macao receives accolade from TTG China Awards



The St. Regis Macao, Cotai Strip has been awarded the Best Luxury Hotel in Macau from the 13th TTG China Travel Awards 2020.

the hotel announced in a statement.

"It is a great honour to receive this award and to be recognized by the rea-

ders of TTG China for the commitment to luxury that goes into every stay at The St. Regis Macao," said Janet McNab, Multi-Property Vice President at Sheraton Grand Macao, Cotai Strip and The St. Regis Macao, Cotai Strip.

"The luxury hotel market in Macau is home to so many formidable hotel brands, and to be recognized within that esteemed group makes this award all the more special," the executive added.

The TTG China Travel awards are among the travel and leisure industry's most prestigious awards, and are voted on by TTG readers from across China and the Asia Pacific region.

MGM holds blessing ceremony for dragon boat team



MGM held the annual blessing ceremony for its Dragon Boat Team at the Nam Van Lake Nautical Center, led by a team of the Company's senior executives, the gaming operator announced in a statement. The ceremony was

to extend best wishes to 59 MGM team members who will take part in the "Macao International Dragon Boat Races 2020" later on this month. Consisting of over 90% of local employees, the Dragon Boat Team will split

up into two sub-teams and compete across 4 categories.

The ceremony featured a series of traditional rituals, such as offering incense, carving a suckling pig and eye-dotting the dragon boats -- a gesture made to symbolically awaken the spirit of the boats.

Kenneth Feng, President, Chief Strategic Officer and Director, said, "MGM encourages team members to compete in the international race every year, for it is not only the best way to inherit this traditional sport, but also a great opportunity to embody the spirit of unity, cooperation and determination."

OPINION

World Views

Cass R. Sunstein, Bloomberg

**HERE'S SOMETHING WE CAN
 LEARN FROM THE URBAN FOX**

Would you adopt a fox?

The prudent answer is “no”; foxes are wild animals. Or are they?

In something out of science fiction, new research suggests that we are now starting to see two different kinds of foxes: the wild and the domesticated. The research tells us something about mammals in general, including the beloved Canine Lupus Familiaris (also known as the dog) and Homo Sapiens. It is also uplifting – a hopeful sign in these dark days.

The relevant research, by Kevin Parsons of the University of Glasgow and colleagues, has a daunting title: “Skull morphology diverges between urban and rural populations of red foxes mirroring patterns of domestication and macroevolution.”

But the title contains a bombshell. For some time, urban populations of red foxes have been domesticating themselves in London and its environs. True, they're not dogs, but they have been moving in that direction.

In areas around London, fox populations are looking different from their rural counterparts. Their snouts are shorter and wider. The differences between males and females are less pronounced. Their brains are smaller.

These changes are characteristic of a process identified by Charles Darwin and known as the “domestication syndrome.” If you compare dogs with wolves, you will see the same kinds of differences that are now separating urban foxes from rural ones.

As it happens, the new research fits well with pathbreaking work by Duke's Brian Hare and Vanessa Woods on the domestication of dogs, bonobos and human beings.

In a recent book, Hare and Woods focused on the origins of dogs and lightly suggested that the idea of “survival of the fittest” might be replaced by that of “survival of the friendliest.” In a forthcoming book with that title, Hare and Woods focus on people – and contend that of the many human species, Homo Sapiens survived and prospered because it too engaged in a process of self-domestication, fueling trust and cooperation.

Hare and Woods note that if you traveled back 100,000 years, Homo Erectus would have been the best bet for the ultimate survivor among the multiple human species. They controlled fire, with which they cooked and warmed themselves. They were the first human species to use advanced stone tools. They had been around for 1.8 million years and so outlasted many other human species.

If you flashed forward 25,000 years, you would switch your bet to the Neanderthals. As tall as Homo Sapiens but stronger, the Neanderthals triumphed during the Ice Age. They made paintings and had advanced tools. They were accomplished hunters, using long, heavy spears.

But flash forward another 25,000 years, and Homo Sapiens is outstripping all other human species.

What made us so special? Hare and Woods urge that the answer lies in “a kind of cognitive superpower: a particular type of friendliness called cooperative communication.”

More than other humans, we showed an ability to work with one another – not always, and not perfectly, obviously, but among the various human species, Homo Sapiens wins Olympic Gold for cooperation. Crucially, we are especially good at reading each other's signals; we can tell what other people are feeling and thinking.

These abilities are “the gateway to a sophisticated social and cultural world.” The central reason that we flourished, and that other human species did not, is that we “excel at a particular kind of collaboration.” True, we are not the only species capable of collaboration. But we are uniquely good at it, as reflected in our buildings, our cities, and most of all our cultures and our norms.

Amid Covid-19, and protests over racial injustice, we are seeing a great deal of division, suspicion and polarization. At the same time, nations all over the world are experiencing extraordinary levels of cooperation, collaboration and trust. To take just one example, we are witnessing an outpouring of thinking about how to help the elderly during the pandemic, especially when they are isolated.

Evolution favors the most cooperative – and the friendliest.

[Abridged]

How accurate are the coronavirus tests used in the U.S.?

Months into the outbreak, no one really knows how well many of the screening tests work, and experts at top medical centers say it is time to do the studies to find out.

When the new virus began spreading, the Food and Drug Administration used its emergency powers to OK scores of quickly devised tests, based mainly on a small number of lab studies showing they could successfully detect the virus.

That's very different from the large patient studies that can take weeks or months, which experts say are needed to provide a true

sense of testing accuracy.

The FDA's speedy response came after it was initially criticized for delaying the launch of new tests during a crisis and after the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention stumbled in getting its own test out to states.

In recent weeks, preliminary findings have flagged potential problems with some COVID-19 tests, including one used daily at the White House. Faulty tests could leave many thousands of Americans with the incorrect assumption that they are virus-free, contributing to new flare-ups of the disease as communities reopen.



EVA BUCHHO

**TEAMLAB HOLDS SOFT
 OPENING TODAY**

TEAMLAB SuperNature Macao, an interactive experience, will hold a soft opening today at The Venetian Macao, featuring cutting-edge art installations in a massive, three-dimensional space. According to Sands China, teamLab SuperNature Macao represents one of its largest investments in non-gaming attractions. It is a permanent exhibition at The Venetian Macao's Cotai Expo. At over 5,000 square metres of labyrinthine floor space and with eight-metre high ceilings, the museum presents a series of installations and digital artworks that is only premiered in Macao. Highlights include

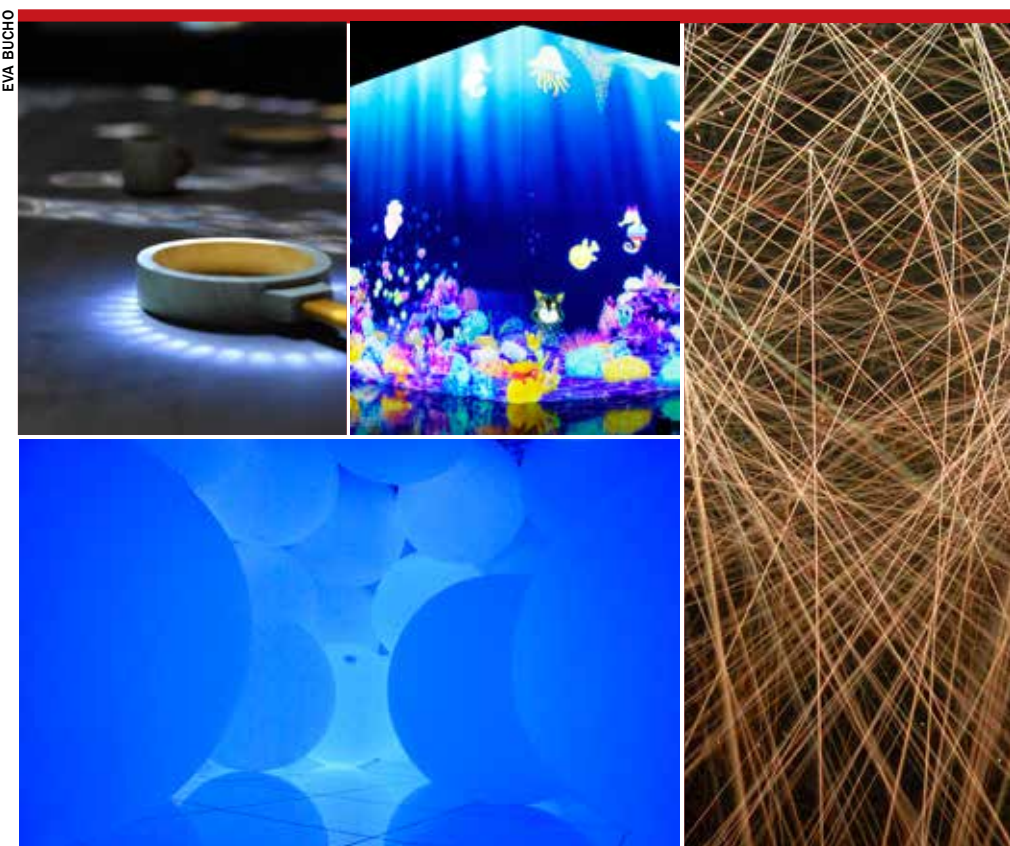
artworks such as Valley of Flowers and People: Lost, Immersed and Reborn and Inverted Globe Graffiti Nature – Red List. These installations allow visitors to explore new perceptions of the world and the relationship between humans and nature.

Initially, teamLab SuperNature was supposed to open in February 2020.

Previously, in an interview with the Times, the founder of teamLab, Toshiyuki Inoko, said that the museum in the city is the fourth largest museum the company has built. “We have the teamLab Borderless museums in Shanghai and

in Tokyo. However, the one that we are going to launch here will have a different concept from that,” said Inoko. “It is rather closer to teamLab Planets, which is another museum in Tokyo, where visitors will be immersed in extremely immense artworks with their entire bodies. This will be a group of artworks and extremely large artworks – that is going to be the uniqueness of this exhibit,” he added.

Previous teamLab exhibitions have been included on Time Magazine's “The World's 100 Greatest Places of 2019” list, and awarded “Top 10 Art Exhibitions” for 2015 - 2018 by designboom. LV



EVA BUCHHO



AP PHOTO

Europe is taking a big step toward a new normality as many countries open borders to fellow Europeans after three months of coronavirus lockdowns – but even though Europeans love their summer vacations, it's not clear how many are ready to travel again. Tourists from the U.S., Asia, Latin American and the Mideast will just have to wait, for now. More on macaudailytimes.com

USA Bars are being allowed to reopen in party-loving New Orleans after a long shutdown prompted by coronavirus fears. The question as bar owners got ready to reopen on Saturday was whether locals and tourists will show up in sufficient numbers to help them stay afloat financially. The reopening comes with restrictions.



AP PHOTO

USA Atlanta police announced that an officer, Garrett Rolfe, had been fired following the fatal shooting of Rayshard Brooks, 27, on Friday night, and another officer, Devin Brosnan, had been placed on administrative duty. Mayor Keisha Lance Bottoms has called for the immediate firing of the officer who opened fire on Brooks at a press conference yesterday.



AP PHOTO

French President Emmanuel Macron is giving an address to his nation early today [Macau time] after an unusually long silence, as France faces both exceptional economic blowback from the virus pandemic and rekindled anger over deep-seated racism. From struggling restaurant owners to worn-out nurses and minorities angry over police brutality, people across France want Macron to address their concerns.