

The Macao SAR Government urges:

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

Novel Coronavirus Response and Coordination Centre

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"THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN' "

NEW MACAU URGES GOV'T TO SAVE PENHA CHAPEL SIGHTS ON THE EVE OF THE PUBLIC CONSULTATION REGARDING URBAN PLANNING P2

GALAXY SIGNS SAFETY CHARTER WITH CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTOR P2

THE NEW DIRECTOR OF THE GOVERNMENT INFORMATION BUREAU, INÊS CHAN, SAYS CLOSE COMMUNICATION WITH THE PRESS IS A TOP PRIORITY P2

Philippines is shifting defense spending and putting on hold military modernization projects to help finance the response to COVID-19. Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana told a news forum that \$260 million from his department's budget was shifted to the pandemic campaign. The country's military modernization program may be set back by up to three years after its annual allocation was also slashed by \$348 million, which will be used to fight the virus.



New Zealand's health minister resigned following a series of personal blunders during the coronavirus pandemic. David Clark (pictured) had earlier described himself as an "idiot" for breaking the nation's lockdown measures and then last week appeared to blame a beloved health official for border lapses, generating an angry response from the public. Clark said he was becoming a distraction from the country's virus response.



Australia A coronavirus outbreak in Melbourne continued to grow, and the Northern Territory detected its first case in three months. The man from the Northern Territory had traveled overseas and stayed in the virus hot spot of Melbourne recently. The territory's health minister did not say whether the man was likely infected in Melbourne or overseas. Most of Melbourne's 77 latest cases were in suburbs that were put under a one-month lockdown Wednesday night.

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GET ME THE 'PRESIDENT'S DAUGHTER'

Crystal Chang, daughter of the former investment agency president, became the focus of yesterday's court hearing P3

JACKSON CHANG/MDT ARCHIVE



MACAU PHOTO AGENCY



E-VOUCHERS TO GIVE ECONOMY BIGGER BOOST THAN SALARY SUBSIDY: ECONOMIST P4

AUSTRALIA MAY OFFER 'SAFE HAVEN' TO HONG KONGERS - TOO

Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison said his government was considering an offer of safe haven to willing HKSAR residents, following the UK's steps

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ANTHONY LAM

NEW MACAU URGES GOV'T TO SAVE PENHA CHAPEL PANORAMAS



The 30-meter tall Court of First Instance building seen from Penha Hill

ANTHONY LAM

ON the eve of the government's public consultation period regarding the general urban planning of the city, which will start in September, the New Macau Association (ANM) urged the government yesterday to conduct planning with rigor and caution.

At the dedicated press conference, Alin Lam, director of the

ANM, introduced the three areas in question: Reclamation Zone B, and the Nam Van Lake Zones C and D. These areas have significant and strategic value for Macau.

Zone B is an extension to the existing coastal areas of NAPE and Nam Van Lake. It starts by the Macao Science Center and runs west towards the Macau Tower. Currently, the Municipal Affairs Bureau is turning a sec-

tion to the east of the Governor Nobre de Cavalho Bridge into a leisure area with sporting facilities and green corridors.

The area west of the bridge, according to available government documents, will house government offices and other leisure and tourism facilities. For the time being, the land is being used as a parking lot for coaches, and is also used as fireworks lighting area during Lunar New Year.

Nam Van Lake Zones C and D, on the other hand, consist of a collection of land plots around the Macau Tower and the Legislative Assembly Building. The government has hinted that it will build leisure facilities, such as a theater, on this land.

Lam believes these projects, which reshape the coastline of the city, will have an irrevocable impact on the city's overall views, the livelihoods of residen-

ts and tourism development.

Although the government has already started construction on part of Zone B, Lam thinks it is inappropriate to plan the zones individually and that they should have been planned collectively.

Hong Kong's West Kowloon Cultural District in Hong Kong and Singapore's Gardens by The Bay should be used as references for the planning of the zone. Lam explained that Singapore's placing of a 101-hectare coastal garden has managed to lower the city-state's temperature by 1 degree Celsius on average.

Nam Van Lake Zones C and D are also problematic, said Lam, as no height limits have been imposed. This means that towers as tall as 160 meters, nearly half the height of the Macau Tower, can legally be built in these zones.

Lam said that this will severely jeopardize the views from the Penha Chapel. He suggests that the government institute stricter limits on the buildings in these zones.

Finally, the association director recommends that the government scrap the government offices in Reclamation Zone B and use the area for leisure facilities instead.

The government's preliminary proposal for the zone featured nine buildings of heights ranging from 25 to 145 meters.

GALAXY Entertainment Group (GEG) and Shanghai Construction Group (Macau), a main contractor for GEG's new development in Cotai, recently signed a safety charter formalizing both companies' commitment to creating a safer work environment.

The safety charter defines the practices and values which underpin occupational health and safety, with the objective of continually optimizing safety measures. It defines all stakeholders' commitment to maintaining open communication about safety and maintaining a safe workplace.

The signing ceremony was attended by representatives of the Labour Affairs Bureau (DSAL), including Wong Chi Hong, director of DSAL, and Lam Iok Cheong, head of

Galaxy signs safety charter with construction contractor



Wong Chi Hong (center) exchanges opinions with DSAL and GEG representatives

the DSAL Occupational Safety and Health Department.

"The signing of the safety charter is very meaningful," said Wong, according to a statement issued by the casino ope-

erator. "It will enhance the [occupational health and safety] awareness of all related stakeholders at the construction sites, encourage them to fulfil their responsibilities, and protect the safety and

health of workers."

Witnessed by DSAL representatives, GEG flagship properties Galaxy Macau and StarWorld Hotel had previously signed the Occupational Safety and Health Charter in 2015 and 2018. In addition, GEG has rolled out the DSAL Workplace Safety Training Program. GEG aims to have all team members complete the program by 2021.

In March, three workers were killed and four others were injured in an industrial accident at the Galaxy Macau Phase 3 construction site. DSAL ordered work at the site to halt while it investigated the incident. **DB**

NEW GCS DIRECTOR WANTS TO MAKE COMMUNICATION WITH PRESS A PRIORITY

THE new director of the Government Information Bureau (GCS), Inês Chan Lou, says she wants to make maintaining close communication with the press a top priority.

Chan was sworn in as GCS director at an oath ceremony yesterday, presided over by Chief Executive Ho Iat Seng. During the ceremony, Chan said she would serve in the role with dedication and humility, according to a statement issued by the bureau.

Chan pledged to visit local news organizations and journalist associations in order to maintain ties and collect opinions and suggestions.

In addition to promoting closer ties with the media, Chan also said she would increase the use of new techno-

logies and new media platforms at the GCS to promote official information to the press and the public.

Prior to her appointment as GCS director, Chan served as the head of the Licensing and Inspection Department of the Macao Government Tourism Office (MGTO) from 2001. Previous to that role, Chan was also involved in research and planning, information technology, administration and finance at MGTO.

Chan has been a regular panelist at the government's Covid-19 briefings. Since the briefings began in late January, Chan has attended more than 100 press conferences on behalf of the MGTO. **DB**

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COURTS | IPIM

Visa applicant learned of investment criteria from Jackson Chang's daughter

JULIE ZHU

THE daughter of the former Macao Trade and Investment Promotion Institute (IPIM) president became the focus of yesterday's court hearing, as the case against Jackson Chang (also known as Cheong Chou Weng) and more than two dozen other defendants continued at the Court of First Instance.

Yesterday's session invited another witness from the Commission Against Corruption (CCAC) to give her testimony, also in the unusual form of a PowerPoint presentation.

The CCAC was the body responsible for investigating Jackson Chang and other IPIM officials after it learned of alleged corruption, bribery and irregularities in the granting of residency permits for investors and skilled professionals. Several officials from the anti-graft authority are witnesses in the case.

Session participants and attendees spent most of yesterday watching one female investigator from the CCAC go through each slide of her presentation. Unusually, the prosecutor did not ask the witness any questions, save for some reminders not to forget to mention certain details of each slide in order for the court to better follow.

According to the witness, in 2014, Sheng Hong Fang, a defendant who was then a mainland resident, applied for Macau residency via the investment immigration program of IPIM. Sheng's investment plan was to open a hotpot restaurant, of which she would own 40% of the shares. A second partner would own 50% of the company and a third partner would own 10%.

The equity (net assets) of

Sheng in the investment project was less than 13 million patacas, an amount understood to be a threshold figure by the CCAC investigator in deciding whether to grant investment immigration approval or not.

Later, IPIM notified Sheng that her application was not approved, without mentioning that it was because Sheng's equity was less than 13 million patacas.

Crystal Chang, the daughter of the former IPIM president, was at the time working for Ng Kuok Sao, another defendant in the case and a former immigration applicant when Jackson Chang headed the bureau.

After IPIM notified Sheng of

both in text and audio format, which indicated that another IPIM official and defendant, Ian Iat Chun, had directly communicated with Ng's company regarding Sheng's insufficient equity as well as regarding advice on how to increase the sum of the investment. The recordings show that Ng's employees, Ian, Crystal Chang and other parties exchanged confidential information about Sheng's case, the witness argued.

In these conversations, nicknames including "leader", "Papa Chang" and "President" were mentioned occasionally. The witness believes that the nicknames were referring to Jackson Chang.

The witness believes nicknames including 'leader', 'Papa Chang' and 'President' mentioned in digital communications referred to Jackson Chang

the rejection, Ng informed his employee to contact the "president's daughter" regarding the IPIM reply.

One of the voice recordings heard at the trial plainly confirmed that Crystal Chang later replied to inform Ng that Sheng's equity was less than 13 million patacas. Crystal also informed Ng's company that Sheng's hotpot restaurant does not have significant benefits for Macau and would only hire 35 Macau residents.

The CCAC witness in yesterday's session believed that the aforementioned details were confidential to IPIM staff.

The witness pointed to a series of WhatsApp and WeChat records,

The witness believes that Crystal Chang learned about the 13 million patacas threshold from her father, Jackson Chang.

Jackson Chang's lawyer asked the CCAC witness for evidence that could demonstrate that his client had ever mentioned the 13 million patacas criteria to any person. The witness acknowledged that there is no other proof except for the nicknames she mentioned.

The same lawyer also showed a document explicitly stating that, starting from November 17, 2015, IPIM increased the minimum equity requirement of investment immigration applications to 13 million patacas.

The lawyer accused the witness of not knowing when the 13 million patacas requirement had started and yet alleging that Jackson Chang had leaked sensitive information to the applicant.

In mid-2017, Shang acquired another 10% of her company's shares, together with other assets of the same business. Her total equity exceeded 13.3 million patacas, putting her above IPIM's threshold amount.

However, the CCAC investigation suggested that Sheng's share acquisition might have been forged. Transfer records reveal that Sheng had made several transfers to her business partner to create the illusion that she had paid for purchasing the shares. The involved amount of money was returned to Sheng's account on the same day.

On September 19, 2017, Sheng's immigration application was approved, but Sheng was not yet aware of the approval.

By November 2017, Sheng, still unaware of the approval, was displeased with the progress of Ng, and decided to trust another person to help her in the process of the Macau identification application.

According to evidence disclosed during the trial, immigration applications made through an investment plan will score zero points, in terms of net asset, if the amount is below 13 million patacas. Applications will score 7 points for a sum between 13 million patacas and 20 million patacas. IPIM gives an applicant 11 points or 15 points if the asset is between 20 and 35 million patacas, or above 35 million patacas, respectively.

The trial continues today, when the same witness will further testify and will face questions from the defendants' lawyers.

GOV'T TO GIVE 2 WEEKS' NOTICE BEFORE ENDING MASK SCHEME

The termination of the Centralized Mask Supply Scheme will be announced two weeks in advance, Dr. Alvis Lo from the Novel Coronavirus Response and Coordination Center disclosed yesterday. The potential termination of the scheme has been a core concern of late. Authorities have hinted several times that the scheme was initiated to ensure supply during the Lunar New Year, when mainland factories were not operating. As mask-wearing requirements have not been relaxed, the scheme is likely to continue. As of Wednesday, nearly 100 million masks have been sold to local residents and non-local workers under the scheme.

LAWMAKER CALLS FOR EDUCATION ON INTANGIBLE HERITAGE

After the recent inscription of 55 items as local intangible heritage, lawmaker Lei Chan U commented that this was another step to protect traditional heritage with important historic and cultural value. He hopes that the authorities will not only step up their efforts to survey local culture, but will also promote intangible heritage items. In Lei's opinion, this is a crucial means by which the items may be preserved. Lei said foreign cultures are impacting local traditions, many of which have been forgotten by, or lost to, younger generations. He stressed that merely inscribing the items as local intangible heritage will not help protect them, and that expanding education is more effective.

NUMBER OF MOTOR VEHICLES EDGES UP 0.7% IN MAY

The number of licensed motor vehicles on Macau roads reached 239,700 at the end of May, up 0.7% in year-on-year terms. According to statistics released by the government, the number of light automobiles (109,400) and heavy motorcycles (99,900) rose by 1.4% and 2.2% respectively, however the number of light motorcycles (22,900) dropped by 7.2%. Meanwhile, the new registration of motor vehicles in May increased by 23.7% year-on-year, with that of heavy motorcycles surging by 64.2%, while light automobiles fell 7%. In the first five months of 2020, new registration of motor vehicles decreased by 12.4% year-on-year to a total of 4,280.

LYNZY VALLES



E-VOUCHERS TO GIVE ECONOMY BIGGER BOOST THAN SALARY SUBSIDY: ECONOMIST

LYNZY VALLES

THE government-issued e-vouchers, formally known as the Consumption Subsidy Smartcard, which are being handed out to all local residents, are expected to be more beneficial for small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) in alleviating the financial burden of Covid-19 than the 15,000 pataca salary subsidy that was recently distributed, according to an economist.

The second round of e-vouchers will be issued this month and will be made available for use starting in August and lasting until the end of the year. Eligible Macau residents, permanent and non-permanent, will receive 5,000 patacas worth in credit to be spent in Macau.

This adds to a previous round

worth 3,000 patacas which was to be spent between May 1 and July 31.

So far, official data shows that spending by local residents using consumption vouchers reached a total of 1.46 billion patacas in the past two months. Of this, 70% of total spending went to the retail and supermarket sector.

Speaking to the Times, economist Albano Martins suggested the e-vouchers have largely supported local SMEs but have not directly contributed to the city's economy.

"I believe it will help pay expenses in situations like this but the normal consumption in 2019 was around 110 billion patacas. [In this scheme], we are talking about 1.5 billion to 3 billion patacas during the three months. It's a small amount of support," Martins said.

Based on the figure of 110 billion patacas, the city's consumption previously stood at some 9.2 billion per month.

These consumption vouchers were benefitting SMEs, as the money went directly to them, unlike the 15,000 patacas salary subsidy, which will not circulate if residents choose to keep the money in banks.

"The [salary subsidy] can help some people, but this is a time where it is important to keep the economy boosted. It's so much cleverer to use the subsidy for private consumption because it will generate jobs and employment, and alleviate communities that are not so rich," the economist said.

With the next round of vouchers rolling out this July and available for use by August, Martins predicts that the second phase

vouchers will help support the economy through December, the end of the 2020 budget period.

Details about the upcoming round will be announced at a later date. It is thought that the criteria and requirements will remain unchanged from the first round of the e-voucher scheme. The extra e-vouchers will cost the government MOP3.6 billion. The first phase cost the government some MOP2.2 billion.

Asked about other government measures recently announced, Martins argued that it was not wise for the government to reduce its 2021 public expenditure by 10%.

Last week, Chief Executive Ho Iat Seng ordered the local government to cut expenditure next year as a consequence of Covid-19.

The total expenditure of the

MSAR integrated budget for the 2020 financial year is 114.64 billion patacas, and the balance is currently 828.88 million patacas. The decree says that amid the changes to the economic environment, all public government departments and organizations must make prudent evaluations of all types of budget expenditure for next year.

"Next year, for sure we will not reach the 2019 level [of economic activity] and that's expected. So to cut the expenses by 10% as the government had announced is not clever and it's against the basic concepts of macroeconomics," Martins explained.

"These expenses are good for [the] economy because it's a direct incentive for private consumption, which is one of the variables of gross domestic product."

CHIEF Executive Ho Iat Seng has pledged that he will press ahead with the commercialization of knowledge and products linked to the traditional Chinese medicine sector, as well as the promotion of synergy between traditional Chinese medicine and the healthcare industry.

In a recent meeting with pulmonologist Zhong Nanshan, Ho said that his government would dedicate more efforts to gathering information from the mainland and from overseas about standards for the prescription of traditional Chinese medicines.

The official also said that the government would promote the development of specialized legal fra-

Ho Iat Seng pledges to commercialize Chinese medicine



meworks and registration systems for this field. This is part of a bid to speed up local legislative efforts aimed at strengthening the supervision and regulation of traditional Chinese medicine.

Ho added that the government would also work to advance established and nas-

cent industries, and devote extra effort to the development of innovative industries linked to science and technology.

In the meeting, Zhong, who is also an academic from the Chinese Academy of Engineering, remarked that nascent industries could contribute to the city's

aims of achieving economic diversification beyond tourism and gaming.

The expert then suggested introducing projects to Macau that have successfully conducted their initial stages on the mainland, such as integrated aged care and medical services. Accord-

ing to Zhong, this could help accelerate the development of these projects from the research stage to full commercialization.

Zhong, who was invited to the seminar by the Chief Executive, has warned against the relaxation of Covid-19 containment measures in the city.

During his talk, the medical expert said that vigilance should be maintained. There is currently no vaccination available for the disease, meaning the majority of the Macau population is not protected against Covid-19. LV

TWO LOCAL UNIVERSITIES INCLUDED IN LATEST UNIVERSITY RANKINGS

THE Macau University of Science and Technology and the University of Macau ranked 38 and 42 respectively in the Times Higher Education Young University Rankings 2020.

The 2020 ranking list includes 414 universities across 66 territories. Mainland China had six universities on the list, while Hong Kong had four.

MUST accumulated 53.4 points out of 100, while UM accumulated 52.2. In terms of citations and research, MUST scored 83 and 32.1 points respectively, while UM re-

ceived 61.9 and 45.1 points. MUST received 35.2 points for teaching, while UM scored 39 points.

The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology ranked first in the Young University Rankings 2020, while the City University of Hong Kong ranked 7th.

The Times Higher Education Young University Rankings 2020 are based on the same 13 performance indicators as the World University Rankings. The weightings have been adjusted to give less weight to reputation so as to reflect more favorably on young universities. LV

MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

CALEB LUCAS

Environment bureau has will to ban polystyrene, but no timeline



ANTHONY LAM

THE Environmental Protection Bureau (DSPA) will work to restrict the use of disposable polystyrene and is collecting data to determine the scope of a possible ban, the Central District Community Service Advisory Commission has revealed.

However, the DSPA has no timeline for the restrictions at present.

The vice convener of the commission, Bell Cheong, announced the news following a plenary meeting of the commission in which Chan Kuok Hou, director of the DSPA's Management Center for Environmental Protection Infrastructure, presented the bureau's work on discouraging the use of disposable dining utensils.

Polystyrene is used in many establishments in Macau, despite many catering businesses transitioning to more durable plastic containers in recent years, which most people still throw away after a single use.

The bureau's main concern is how wide the scope of the ban on polystyrene should be. Many brands package their instant noodles in polystyrene foam, for example.

The major problem with polystyrene foam is that it is not biodegradable. It can stay in the soil in which it was disposed for centuries, according to some estimates.

However, the material is versatile and can be used under roads and other structures to prevent soil disturbances due to freezing and thawing. It is also light and buoyant, as it is 98% air.

Taiwan started restricting the use of the foam in the 1990s. In 2002, it completely banned polystyrene cups and dining utensils, although takeaway drink shops were exempt from the ban. However, Tainan has taken this one step further, including the shops in the ban.

Polystyrene utensils are still allowed to be used in Hong Kong.

At the commission's plenary, the DSPA representative also introduced the bureau's work on the disposal of electronics and electrical appliances.

Between January to May this year, the bureau has collected more than 25,000 of these items

for recycling. They include home appliances, computers and equipment, and communication gadgets. The overall recycling rate was 92%.

Cheong noted that in younger districts, such as Taipa and the Outer Harbor, waste collection and recycling is more popular than in older districts. Cheong speculated that this may be due to the average age of the population living in these districts.

The commission has asked the DSPA to work more closely with community associations to improve the efficiency of its work.

The bureau's main concern is how wide the scope of the ban on polystyrene should be

ADVERTORIAL



'MELCO & COLLEAGUES GIVING STORES' now open to support the community

IN partnership with Macao Federation of Trade Unions (FAOM) and the Fu Hong Society of Macau, *Melco & Colleagues Giving Stores* are now open to support Macau's locals. *The Stores* will enable community beneficiaries access to a broad range of donated goods from *Melco & Colleagues* which are in new or almost new condition. To date, more than 53,000 individual items have been donated for the community.

The opening events' officiating guest, Mr. Choi Sio Un, Department Head of Social Solidarity, Social Welfare Bureau of the Macau SAR Government, said, "We are pleased to see integrated resort companies such as Melco offer support to social service-oriented NGOs like FAOM and Fu Hong Society to aid the people of Macau and contribute to a harmonious society."

Located at the FAOM community center, FAOM workers' service center in Areia Preta and Stage FAOM, the *Melco & Colleagues Giving Stores with FAOM* has benefited 500 underprivileged families to help relieve pressures on their livelihood with donations of daily necessity kits and more. Most goods

have been made available for free for beneficiaries, whilst larger items such as household furniture have been available at a fraction of their retail price, with proceeds going to charity to benefit the community.

Starting from July 1, the *Melco & Colleagues Giving Stores with FAOM* will be open to members of the general public who have registered interest via FAOM's online application system. It is expected that 120 community beneficiaries will be visiting the store each day, with a maximum total of 10 persons present inside each store at any one time to observe coronavirus-prevention social distancing measures.

One *Melco & Colleagues Giving Store with FAOM* beneficiary said, "It is really heartwarming to see larger companies like Melco and their colleagues donate so generously and that members of the community and their needs have not been forgotten. While some people might consider necessity packs just a small gesture, but to myself and my family, it really means a lot. Thank you to Melco and their employees for their thoughtfulness during these tougher times!"



This article is sponsored by Melco Resorts & Entertainment.

INTERVIEW

JIMMY LAI SAYS CITY NOW 'DEAD'

ZEN SOO, HONG KONG

WHEN Hong Kong media tycoon Jimmy Lai arrived in Hong Kong at age 12, the city felt like heaven to him, brimming with hope and freedom. He arrived poor, but over the years embarked on a rags-to-riches path from a garment factory worker to a wealthy businessman known for founding the popular Apple Daily newspaper and for being an outspoken pro-democracy activist.

"The hope I had (in Hong Kong) lasted for a long time, it made me who I am today," Lai said in an interview with The Associated Press hours after a new Hong Kong national security law imposed by mainland China came into effect.

"(When I first arrived), I could feel it, it was so palpable, that I almost thought a great future was waiting for me."

But that hope dimmed over the years, and with the enactment of the security law, Lai says the Hong Kong he once knew is dead.

"It's worse than the worst scenario imagined. Hong Kong is totally subdued, totally under control," he said. "It's sad that Hong Kong is dead."

The security law is seen by many as Beijing's boldest move yet to erase the legal firewall between the semi-autonomous territory and the mainland's authoritarian Communist Party system.

Under the law, anyone suspected of taking part in subversive, secessionist or terrorist activities, as well as colluding with foreign forces to intervene in the city's affairs, could face a maximum punishment of life imprisonment. In some cases, mainland China will assume jurisdiction and suspects could be sent there for trial.

Lai said he will continue fighting for democracy, but it will now have to be in a "very different way."

"We will have to see how many of us are left in the fighting camp," he said, adding that many will be frightened away by the new law.

"We will have to stand up and be the backbone of the



Hong Kong media tycoon Jimmy Lai

movement's integrity, and the integrity of Hong Kong's justice," he said.

Lai declined to elaborate on how the pro-democracy movement will continue, saying that discussions are needed on how to move forward. He remained hopeful that Hong Kong will one day have democracy.

"Dictatorship of such extremes cannot last in today's world, it's impossible," he said. "We have to persist, time is on our side. We are on the right side of history."

Lai also condemned the security legislation for violating the rule of law in Hong Kong, still based on British common law.

"The details (of the law) are ... very draconian but also very vague," he said. "They're saying the security law is going to be used for people who make trouble who are the tiny minority, and that common law will still be useful for commercial businesses and all that. But the two hands can switch at any time."

The city will lose its status as an international financial hub because trust cannot be built when there is no rule of law, and businesses will have no protection, he said.

In the future, Hong Kongers will be very cautious about what they say on the phone and on social media, and will be careful whom they speak to, afraid that someone might turn them in, he said.

"This is going to be a very different society. I don't think Hong Kong people, who are used to freedom and rule of law, will be able to adjust," he said. "Many

will leave."

But he emphasized that he would stay, even if one day his family has to leave.

"I cannot (leave). If I leave, not only do I disgrace myself, I'd discredit Apple Daily, I'd undermine the solidarity of the democratic movement," he said. "It's something I have to take responsibility for."

Lai became an outspoken advocate for democracy in Hong Kong after the bloody June 4, 1989, crackdown on pro-democracy protesters around Beijing's Tiananmen Square.

"The reason I went into media was the idea that I will be able to deliver information, which equals delivering freedom," he said.

He founded the Apple Daily tabloid in 1995, ahead of Britain's handover of Hong Kong to China.

Like Lai, Apple Daily adopts a strong pro-democracy stance, often urging readers to take part in protests. On Wednesday, its front page denounced the security legislation, stating that the "evil law is the final nail in the coffin for the 'one country, two systems' framework" under which Hong Kong was returned to China.

Lai, together with 14 other pro-democracy figures, is currently facing charges of organizing and participating in several massive anti-government protests deemed unlawful last year. He says neither the prospect of prison nor the consequences of the national security law fazes him.

"If I have to go to prison, I don't mind. I don't care," he said. AP



Australia may offer safe haven to Hong Kongers

AUSTRALIAN Prime Minister Scott Morrison said yesterday his government was considering an offer of safe haven to Hong Kong residents threatened by China's move to impose a tough national security law on the semi-autonomous territory.

Morrison said Cabinet would soon consider options "to provide similar opportunities" as British Prime Minister Boris Johnson has offered Hong Kongers.

"When we have made a final decision on those arrangements, then I'll make the announcements," Morrison told reporters. "But if you're asking: are we prepared to step up and provide support? The answer is: yes."

Britain is extending residency rights for up to 3 million Hong Kongers eligible for British National Overseas passports, allowing them to live and work in the U.K. for five years.

Morrison said "we think that's important and very consistent with who we are as a people and very consistent practically with the views that we've expressed."

Australia could potentially offer Hong Kong residents temporary protection vi-

sas that allow refugees to live in the country for up to three years.

China bypassed Hong Kong's Legislative Council to pass the sweeping legislation without public consultation.

Australian Foreign Minister Marise Payne said the laws threatened Hong Kong's judicial independence and the rights and freedoms of its people.

An offer of safe haven to Hong Kong residents would further strain relations between Australia and its most important trading partner, China.

"They have not positively contributed to Australia's - or the region's - security and stability," Australian Defense Minister Linda Reynolds told a security think-tank.

"Australia has watched closely as China has actively sought greater influence in the Indo-Pacific," she said. "Australia is far from alone in being troubled by this."

Morrison on Wednesday announced 270 billion Australian dollars (\$190 billion) in additional defense spending over the next decade, which will include long-range missiles and other capabilities to hold enemies further from its shores. AP

HOUSE PASSES BILL REBUKING CHINA OVER HONG KONG; SENATE NEXT

THE House yesterday [Macau time] joined the Senate in approving a bill to rebuke China over its crackdown in Hong Kong by imposing sanctions on groups that undermine the city's autonomy or restrict freedoms promised to its residents.

The bill targets police units that have cracked down on Hong Kong protesters, as well as Chinese Communist Party officials responsible for imposing a strict "national security" law on Hong Kong, which is considered a special administrative region within China and maintains its own governing and economic systems. The measure also would impose sanctions on banks that do business with entities found to violate the law.

House Speaker Nancy

Pelosi called the unanimous House vote "an urgently needed response to the cowardly Chinese government's passage of its so-called 'national security' law, which threatens the end of the 'one country, two systems' promised exactly 23 years ago today."

Pelosi, a fierce critic of Chinese human rights violations, said, "All freedom-loving people must condemn this horrific law" imposed by China, adding that it is specifically intended to "dismantle democratic freedoms in Hong Kong."

The House bill is similar to a measure approved last week in the Senate, but makes some minor changes. Sen. Chris Van Hollen, D-Md., a co-sponsor of the Senate bill, said senators will vote as soon as Thurs-

day to give final legislative approval, sending it to the White House.

Lawmakers from both parties have urged the Trump administration to take strong action in response to the crackdown by China against the former British territory, which was granted partial sovereignty under a treaty that took effect July 1, 1997.

China has said it will impose visa restrictions on Americans it sees as interfering over Hong Kong.

Secretary of State Mike Pompeo denounced the threat of a visa ban as a sign of "how Beijing refuses to take responsibility for its own choices" and said adoption of the security law "destroys the territory's autonomy and one of China's greatest achievements." AP

CHINA'S government and pro-Beijing activists in Hong Kong condemned what they called foreign meddling in the territory's affairs yesterday, as countries moved to offer Hong Kongers refuge and impose sanctions on China over a new security law.

Chinese foreign ministry spokesman Zhao Lijian said no amount of pressure from external forces could "shake China's determination and will to safeguard national sovereignty and Hong Kong's prosperity and stability."

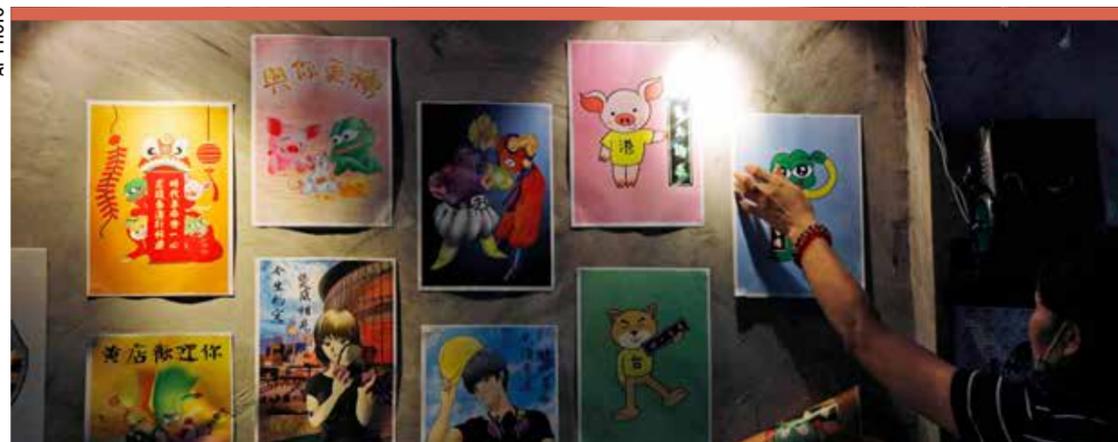
Meanwhile, dozens of pro-Beijing activists and lawmakers protested outside the U.S. Consulate in Hong Kong to demand that the U.S. stop meddling. The group said it gathered 1.6 million signatures online in support of its call.

Tam Yiu-Chung, Hong Kong's sole delegate to the National People's Congress Standing Committee, said on public broadcaster RTHK yesterday that the new security law imposed by Beijing on Hong Kong was not harsh. If it were, no one would dare violate the law, he said.

His comments came a day after thousands of protesters marched against the security law, which took effect in Hong Kong late Tuesday.

The security law outlaws secessionist, subversive and terrorist acts, as well as any collusion with foreign forces in intervening in the city's affairs. Critics say the law

China, pro-Beijing activists condemn 'meddling' in Hong Kong



An employee removes stickers and posters with messages in support of the pro-democracy movement at a restaurant in Hong Kong yesterday

effectively ends the "one country, two systems" framework under which the city was promised a high degree of autonomy when it reverted from British to Chinese rule in 1997.

The maximum punishment for serious offenses under the legislation is life imprisonment, and suspects in certain cases may be sent to stand trial on the mainland if Beijing deems that it has jurisdiction.

The law takes aim at actions that occurred during anti-govern-

ment protests last year. It says destruction of government facilities and utilities would be considered subversive, while damaging public transportation facilities and arson would constitute acts of terrorism.

About 370 people were arrested during and after Wednesday's protests, including 10 on suspicion of violating the new security law. Some of those arrested allegedly possessed materials that advocated Hong Kong's independence.

Hong Kong police arrested a

man on a London-bound flight early yesterday on suspicion of having stabbed a police officer in the arm during Wednesday's protests.

The 24-year-old man, surnamed Wong, was arrested on a Cathay Pacific flight after police received an anonymous tip-off about his travel plans, police said.

Wong had purchased a ticket on Wednesday and boarded the flight with no check-in luggage, police said.

Meanwhile, two protesters

were sentenced to four weeks in jail yesterday for vandalizing a ticketing machine at a rail station in September last year.

The central government's passage of the security law for Hong Kong has triggered concern from the territory's former colonial ruler, Britain, and other countries.

British Prime Minister Boris Johnson said that imposition of the law was a "clear and serious breach" of the Sino-British Joint Declaration.

The Foreign Office summoned Chinese Ambassador Liu Xiaoming to a meeting with Permanent Secretary Simon McDonald, who reiterated Britain's concern.

Yesterday, the Chinese Embassy in London said such a move would be in breach of "international law and basic norms governing international relations."

"We firmly oppose this and reserve the right to take corresponding measures," it said in a statement, without elaborating. "We urge the British side to view objectively and fairly the national security legislation for Hong Kong, respect China's position and concerns." AP

AD



FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN FOR CARITAS MACAU TO ACQUIRE FOOD ITEMS

Donations until July 9, 2020

HOLDER: AIPIM - ASSOCIAÇÃO DE IMPRENSA EM PORTUGUÊS E INGLÊS DE MACAU
BANK: BANCO NACIONAL ULTRAMARINO
ACCOUNT NUMBER: 900555136

The Macau Portuguese and English Press Association (AIPIM) launched a fundraising campaign to acquire food items to be delivered to Caritas Macau with the aim of assisting this NGO in supporting citizens (residents and non-residents) who are struggling as a result of the COVID-19 crisis.

Protecting the environment is very easy - Recycling in buildings



OPINION

CHINA AND THE GLOBAL COVID-19 ECONOMY

DARYL GUPPY, CGTN

THE ongoing situation has economic consequences, and once the markets recover, all will be right with the world. It's a comforting thought that ignores the nature of COVID-19.

The COVID-19 crisis is not an economic crisis. It's a health crisis, and that is something very different from an investment perspective. The most important feature of the crisis is the difference in health responses. This issue was highlighted during my panel discussion with John Ross, former director of economic and business policy of London, at the Renmin University Global Think Tanks COVID-19 International Cooperation Forum.

China, most of Asia, Singapore, Australia and New Zealand have attempted to suppress and aggressively control the spread of COVID-19. They used intensive tracking and testing coupled with very strong quarantine lockdown and isolation strategies. The total lockdown of Wuhan, a city with a population larger than that of Australia, is an example of this approach, as is the South Korean response.

In contrast, the Swedes applied the most clearly acknowledged strategy of herd immunity. Put crudely, this means the disease is able to run freely through the community so the survivors develop immunity. This is suitable for managing the

spread of a seasonal flu, but this approach has resulted in very high mortality rates when applied to the management of COVID-19.

By design or by accident, the herd immunity approach has been adopted by the United States, the UK and much of Europe. This may be a result of reckless indifference, as may be the case in the United States, or poor health systems, as in the UK. In either case, the impact is the same with a high mortality rate and a continuing large reservoir of infected people.

This is the nub of the problem when considering the establishment of global trade activity. It's easy for each country to re-establish its domestic economy but the real problems come when a country with a COVID-19 containment approach wants to interact with a country with a COVID-19 herd immunity approach. Each one of their tourists, each shipment from that country, every movement of people for whatever reason, carries personnel who threaten to reignite COVID-19 in the countries which have it under control.

The Australian situation is a precursor example of the dilemma. Australia's largest single source of coronavirus infections and of at least 22 deaths came from passengers on a single ship, the Ruby Princess. This shows how a single source of infection can threaten the

success of the entire containment policy.

Every day under normal circumstances, hundreds of ships are loaded or unloaded in the port of Singapore, Shanghai or Sydney. There is inevitable close interaction between customs staff, agents, stevedores and crew members. The risk of infection stemming from herd immunity countries is high.

The modern economy relies on the movement of people, be they tourists, fee-paying students or business people. The movement is channeled through airports where foot traffic is high and deliberately compressed so the passenger dwell time for shopping is enhanced. Support staff in all positions from check-in to immigration and retail are in inevitable close contacts despite enhanced self-check in procedures. The risk of infection from herd immunity countries is high.

The suggested COVID-19-free passport is an inadequate solution to this difference in health strategies. The passport could only be issued to people who have contracted COVID-19 and recovered. In countries where COVID-19 has been successfully suppressed there are very few people who qualify for the COVID-19-free passport because they have not been infected. This classic Catch-22 does nothing to free up people exchanges between herd immunity and COVID-19 containment camps.

This division in COVID-19 health management approaches applies a greater constraint and risk to the resumption of international trade in all its forms than is realized at first glance. For countries with COVID-19 containment approach there can be no return to the laissez-faire of international trade. The long-term investment and economic impacts are substantial. Border security has involved the management of illegal immigration but now its long-term policy focus will include the management of COVID-19 infection.

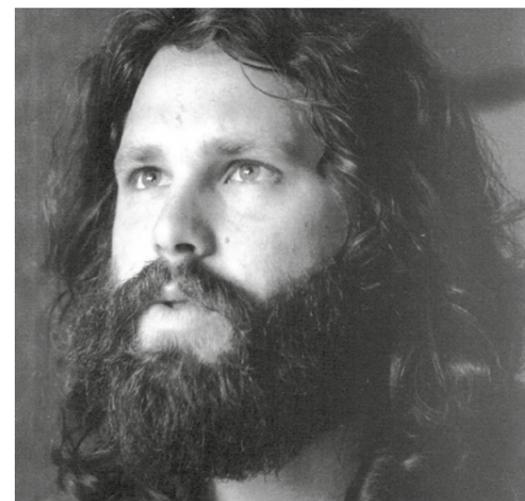
COVID-19 responses in some countries have increased demands for a decoupling from China. This brings its own range of economic adjustments which are reasonably well understood. However, pressure to decouple from China takes on a new health dimension because COVID-19 containment countries may prefer to concentrate their trade with countries that have a like-minded COVID-19 containment approach.

The risk associated with trade and people-to-people movement from herd immunity countries may pose too large a health and economic risk to enable a return to previous trade levels, let alone to increase trade as a substitute for reducing trade with China.

The proposed travel-bubbles between countries with demonstrated success in suppressing COVID-19 may provide a more realistic model for trade and business relations than the idea that global trade will quickly return to normal. Smart investors are beginning to factor in these trade restrictions when making investment decisions. Ultimately the choice between trade and COVID-19 management models and infection risk will be a new and important consideration in the post-COVID-19 structure of the international economic recovery. MDT/CGTN

*** Daryl Guppy is an international financial technical analysis expert. He has provided weekly Shanghai Index analysis for Chinese mainland media for more than a decade. Guppy appears regularly on CNBC Asia and is known as "The Chart Man." He is a national board member of the Australia China Business Council. The article reflects the author's opinion, and not necessarily the views of CGTN or MDT.**

this day in history



1971 DOORS' SINGER JIM MORRISON FOUND DEAD

Jim Morrison, the lead singer of American rock group The Doors has died in Paris aged 27.

He was found in a bathtub at his apartment at 17 Rue Beaubatillis by his girlfriend, Pamela Courson.

A doctor's report stated the cause of death was heart failure aggravated by heavy drinking.

The rest of the band - keyboardist Ray Manzarek, guitarist Robbie Krieger and drummer John Densmore - are currently in the United States.

Morrison, also known as the Lizard King, was born in Florida in 1943, his father Stephen was in the US Navy and rose to the rank of admiral.

He formed The Doors with Ray Manzarek in 1965 in Los Angeles.

Morrison had come up with the name after reading Aldous Huxley's account of drug experiences, The Doors Of Perception.

The group became the first popular "new wave" band. Their first album, The Doors, released by Elektra Records in 1967, was a number one hit in the US, though only just scraped into the British charts.

Their following albums, Strange Days and Waiting For The Sun, provided further American hits and, in Hello I Love You, a British number 15.

But with its ever growing fame, the band lost some of its credibility in the rock underground.

Morrison's behaviour, fuelled by drink and drugs, became more outrageous and in 1969 he was arrested for "indecent exposure, lewd conduct and public intoxication" after a concert in Miami's Dinner Key auditorium.

Though some of the charges were later dropped, the scandal made it hard for the band to perform live for some time.

Morrison used the crisis as a spur to creativity and produced one of the group's most critically acclaimed albums, Morrison Hotel, in 1970.

Over the past year he has made clear he wanted to drop music altogether to become a writer.

He has already published two volumes of poetry, The Lords and The New Creatures, and planned to begin a literary career once his contractual obligations to Elektra were fulfilled.

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

Jim Morrison is buried at Père Lachaise cemetery in Paris, where his grave has become a shrine for successive generations of fans.

In 1991, the 20th anniversary of his death, the cemetery had to hire extra security after police used tear gas to disperse rowdy fans.

Since Morrison's death his records have never been out of print and Hollywood, too, has found The Doors music attractive.

The End was used in Francis Ford Coppola's Apocalypse Now, and in 1991 Oliver Stone helped cement the Morrison legend with his film biography The Doors, starring Val Kilmer. The film created a whole new generation of fans.

The three surviving members of the group released a new album, Doors Box Set, in 1997. It included three CDs of previously unreleased songs.



AP PHOTO

MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

YOUR STARS

ARIES
Mar. 21-Apr. 19
Being active is usually a good thing, but if you've been running on overdrive for a while, it's now time to slow down. Before you get overheated, you need to stop and just let things cool off.

TAURUS
Apr. 20-May. 20
Accept a compliment and feel proud of who you are and the role you play in other people's lives. The fact that you helped someone is almost as important as the way you helped someone.

GEMINI
May. 21-Jun. 21
Pay closer attention to your dreams, both the kind your subconscious cooks up while you sleep and the kind your conscious mind creates as part of your life goals.

CANCER
Jun. 22-Jul. 22
Make any sort of impulse buy today and you may regret it. This isn't a good time to throw your money around, even if you recently came into a small windfall.

LEO
Jul. 23-Aug. 22
Creating an intellectual connection with someone is easier than you think. It just requires you to be bold. If you need to make headway with someone, today is the day to push forward.

VIRGO
Aug. 23-Sep. 22
You should expect a lot of activity around you today. In fact, there could be a little too much. In other words, you could be a bit overwhelmed by everything going on in your world.

LIBRA
Sep. 23-Oct. 22
Sometimes when you finish a journey, you arrive at a place that looks very different from what you thought it was going to look like. You might be disappointed; you might be pleasantly surprised.

SCORPIO
Oct. 23-Nov. 21
Take your ego out of the equation and let other people in on the fun. Now that your ideas have established a foothold in the real world, there may be some criticism. You have nothing to be worried about.

SAGITTARIUS
Nov. 22-Dec. 21
If a friend has their heart set on a crazy night out, tell them you prefer a quiet night in. They might be up for it, online or in person, and the two of you can take things to a more significant level.

CAPRICORN
Dec. 22-Jan. 19
Self-discipline isn't easy, especially now, when so many different ideas and opportunities are tempting you to scatter your energies. Think of these temptations as tests of your willpower.

AQUARIUS
Jan. 20-Feb. 18
You'd be wise to compromise today, because it will enable you to get what you want without ruffling the feathers of powerful people with short tempers.

PISCES
Feb. 19-Mar. 20
Has someone been putting you under pressure to be perfect lately? Ignore them. Shake loose of their appraising gaze and invite them to focus on someone else for a while - like themselves.

The Born Loser by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

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

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

WEATHER

| | MIN | MAX | CONDITION |
|--------------|-----|-----|---------------|
| CHINA | | | |
| Beijing | 21 | 25 | thundershower |
| Harbin | 20 | 30 | cloudy |
| Tianjin | 23 | 28 | thundershower |
| Urumqi | 20 | 32 | clear |
| Xi'an | 20 | 36 | cloudy |
| Lhasa | 13 | 24 | thundershower |
| Chengdu | 23 | 33 | cloudy |
| Chongqing | 23 | 32 | overcast |
| Kunming | 16 | 24 | shower |
| Nanjing | 23 | 27 | thundershower |
| Shanghai | 23 | 27 | moderate rain |
| Wuhan | 23 | 30 | overcast |
| Hangzhou | 25 | 29 | moderate rain |
| Taipei | 26 | 31 | drizzle |
| Guangzhou | 26 | 33 | thundershower |
| Hong Kong | 27 | 31 | cloudy |
| WORLD | | | |
| Moscow | 18 | 23 | drizzle |
| Frankfurt | 13 | 21 | drizzle |
| Paris | 12 | 21 | clear |
| London | 12 | 19 | cloudy |
| New York | 25 | 32 | cloudy |

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- It may be floated; 5- Remove a covering; 10- Meerschaum part; 14- Et ___ (and other men); 15- Ornamental coronet; 16- Submarine; 17- Chinese dynasty; 18- How some losses are shown; 19- Estimator's phrase; 20- Chuckhole; 22- Decked out; 24- Prefix with athlete; 25- Meal crumb; 26- Kind or sort; 30- Surgical knife; 34- To ___ (perfectly); 35- Aquatic opossum; 37- Indian exercise method; 38- Back muscle, briefly; 39- TKO caller; 40- Paranormalist Geller; 41- Quod ___ demonstrandum; 43- "Delta of Venus" author Nin; 45- Anna of "Nana"; 46- Large, striped female feline; 48- Altar boy; 50- Bumbler; 51- Retrovirus component; 52- Ladies of Spain; 56- Condiment; 60- The jig ___; 61- Lunar valley; 63- Corn syrup brand; 64- Canoeing body; 65- Extra-terrestrial being; 66- Enthusiastic vigor and liveliness; 67- Stadium section; 68- Mends a shoe; 69- Depend;

DOWN: 1- Light source; 2- A dish with many ingredients; 3- "Is so!" rebuttal; 4- Lingerie item; 5- Usefulness; 6- Baseball team; 7- Sedan, compact, or convertible, e.g.; 8- Disaster ___; 9- Field; 10- Soon; 11- Small gull; 12- Limerick language; 13- State of mind; 21- Metal-bearing mineral; 23- ___ mouse?; 26- Hired parker; 27- Maker of Pong; 28- Put a new price on; 29- Threads; 30- Balkan capital; 31- Sully; 32- Heron, usually white; 33- Singer Frankie; 36- Seed of a legume; 42- Cavalry soldier; 43- To the extent that; 44- Sieves; 45- Shirker; 47- Auditory apparatus; 49- Thunder Bay's prov.; 52- Riverbank component; 53- Morales of "NYPD Blue"; 54- Dangerous weapon; 55- Farm structure; 56- "Twittering Machine" artist; 57- Fit as a fiddle; 58- Caspian Sea feeder; 59- Small horse; 62- Like Abner;



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

Hellene Gardens, Coloane
HK\$15,800,000 2,530 ft² 3 1/2 2 1/2

FOR RENT

One Central, Macau- Lovely 2 bedroom
\$25,000/mth 1,269 ft² 2 1/2 2 1/2

FOR SALE

- [Taipa] Hoi Wan Garden 2 1/2 1 1/2
900 ft² \$4,900,000 (ref: 19106003)
- [Taipa] Taipa Village (2 units) 4 1/2 2 1/2
1,404 ft² \$8,380,000 (ref: 19096006)
- [Macau] Seaview Garden 3 1/2 2 1/2
1,420 ft² \$10,900,000 (ref: 20016004)
- [Coloane] Large 3/4 bedroom 2 1/2 3 1/2 2 1/2
2,530 ft² \$12,980,000 (ref: 19096000)

FOR RENT

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

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GAMING

BORGATA PRESIDENT ONE OF FEW BLACK WOMEN TO RUN A US CASINO

MELONIE Johnson is making history as the first Black woman to hold the title of president of an Atlantic City casino, and she's one of only a small handful of women with such a job nationwide.

But right now, she's dealing with a different sort of history-making challenge: Restarting Atlantic City's top-performing casino in the midst of a coronavirus pandemic that has upended the gambling industry, and much of life itself.

"The biggest challenge is opening under this environment," she said in an interview in the virtually empty casino this week.

Johnson spoke just 30 minutes before New Jersey Gov. Phil Murphy did an about-face and canceled indoor dining, while banning smoking and the consumption of all beverages — alcohol included — on casino floors.

That prompted Borgata's parent company, MGM Resorts International, to drop its plan to reopen this week, the only one of Atlantic City's nine casinos to do so. MGM said it could not offer guests the kind of experience they have become accustomed to under the current restrictions and



Melonie Johnson, the new president of the Borgata casino

has not announced a target date to reopen.

The Borgata had planned to do an invitation-only "soft opening" for its first few days, which would have started Thursday. On Monday July 6, doors were to be thrown open to the general public. Now, it's anyone's guess when the casino might reopen.

Johnson arrived at Borgata a month ago during the virus shutdown from MGM's National Har-

bor casino outside Washington, DC, as part of a nationwide management restructuring.

She takes over the dominant casino in Atlantic City. Borgata won nearly \$800 million from gamblers last year, more than twice what its nearest competitors did. That was an increase of 3.5% over its performance in 2018.

Johnson is one of a small number of Black women to run a U.S. casino, with or without the

title of president.

Others include Mary Cheeks, president and general manager of the Jamul Casino near San Diego, and Jacqueline Grace-Pope, vice president and assistant general manager of the Horseshoe Baltimore Casino. Both had previously worked in management roles in Atlantic City casinos.

"Women in gaming have made tremendous progress since the first women broke the glass cei-

ling in Nevada decades ago, and that progress continues with the appointment of Melonie Johnson," said Virginia McDowell, the retired president and CEO of Isle of Capri Casinos who is now active with Global Gaming Women, an organization supporting the advancement of women in the casino industry.

"As a professional who worked in the Atlantic City gaming industry for nearly twenty years, and a board member of Global Gaming Women, I am thrilled to see a woman of color elevated to run a premier property in Atlantic City," she said.

Johnson realizes she is a trailblazer in her industry as a Black woman, but does not feel any added responsibility or pressure because of it.

"If you had asked 40-year-old Melonie, she would have said yes," Johnson said. "But 50-plus Melonie says no. My personality does not allow me to seek validation through others; I have to wake up in the morning and like what I see in the mirror. I'm never afraid to say, 'I don't know' or 'I need help.'" MDT/AP

AD

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MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

DOUG FERGUSON

GOLF

Champ can play under tour's latest coronavirus policy change

CAMERON Champ was added to the field in the Rocket Mortgage Classic in Detroit under a modified PGA Tour policy that allows players who test positive for the coronavirus to be eligible if they had no symptoms and get two negative test results at least 24 hours apart.

The decision yesterday [Macau time] was the latest change to an evolving "Health and Safety Plan" as the tour enters its fourth week back from the COVID-19 shutdown. Champ is among six players and two caddies on the PGA Tour who have tested positive.

Ricky Elliott, the caddie for Brooks Koepka, tested positive before the Travelers Championship last week in Connecticut, and then had a negative test.

The tour said after several asymptomatic positive tests that were followed by a negative test, it consulted with the CDC and is moving to a test-based model, which allows players or caddies to return if they have two negative tests at least 24 hours apart. Previously, the tour relied on time-based protocols that required those who test positive to self-isolate for at least 10 days.

Champ tested positive on June 23 and withdrew from the Travelers Championship. The tour said



AP PHOTO
Cameron Champ

he had three negative tests over the 72 hours. He still had to be tested at Detroit Golf Club upon arrival. Champ was set to tee off as a single at 2:10 p.m. Thursday on the 10th tee.

"Today's changes - and those announced over the past week - illustrate our commitment to pre-

serving the health and well-being of our athletes, constituents and our impact on the communities in which we play, as well as a willingness to make medically sound adjustments that allow our players to compete, safely," PGA Tour Commissioner Jay Monahan said in a statement. "The conti-

nued success of our return to golf depends on that approach."

Harris English and Chad Campbell tested positive when they arrived in Detroit for the Rocket Mortgage Classic, while Brandon Wu and Jonathan Hodge had positive tests in Colorado on the Korn Ferry Tour. The tour said all

were asymptomatic. They would be eligible to play next week if they have two negative tests at least 24 hours apart.

The tour made two other adjustments to its policy.

Players who are coming off a break must take a home test for the coronavirus if they want to be eligible for a stipend to cover their costs if they test positive. The stipend - reported to be worth up to \$100,000 for PGA Tour players - will be the same amount for a positive test returned at home or a tournament site.

That makes eight changes to the evolving policy since the tour resumed its schedule June 8 at Colonial in Fort Worth, Texas. Other changes include players being tested before taking a charter to the next flight and when they arrive at the next event; players not receiving a stipend for a positive test if they don't follow safety protocols; and players or caddies being banned from the golf course until their tests results are back. **AP**

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OPINION

World Views

Sylvia Hui, Associated Press

DIVIDED WEST CAN DO LITTLE AS CHINA TIGHTENS UP ON HONG KONG

From Tokyo to Brussels, political leaders have swiftly decried Beijing's move to impose a tough national security law on Hong Kong that cracks down on subversive activity and protest in the semi-autonomous territory.

But the rhetoric has more bark than bite. For people in Hong Kong, the question is: Will international anger and statements of concern make any difference?

Individual countries have little leverage over Beijing on human rights, experts say. A joint effort could make a difference, but coordinated action seems unlikely given strained ties between the Trump administration and many of Washington's traditional European allies.

"The U.S.A. and EU are moving in different directions in many areas. It is perhaps to China's advantage that that should be so," said Rod Wye, an Asia-Pacific associate fellow at the Chatham House think tank in London. In particular, Europeans do not want to be drawn into the U.S.-China trade war, he said.

"Expressions of concern are certainly not going to change the Chinese intention one little bit," he added.

A joint U.S.-European report released this week on relations with China described "a deep sense of frustration, fatigue, and futility. The stronger China gets, the less willing it has become to even engage perfunctorily with the West on the issue."

The report — from the Asia Society, the Bertelsmann Stiftung and George Washington University — said that concern about human rights abuses in China remains deep, from the new security law in Hong Kong, which went into effect Tuesday night, to the repression of Muslim minorities in the Xinjiang region in western China.

China routinely dismisses all such criticism as interference in its domestic affairs. One of the crimes in the Hong Kong security law explicitly outlaws receiving funding or support from overseas to disrupt lawmaking in Hong Kong or impose sanctions on the city.

"This issue is purely China's internal affairs, and no foreign country has the right to interfere," Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Zhao Lijian said.

Many fear the law will be used to curb opposition voices and see it as Beijing's boldest move yet to erase the legal firewall between the mainland's Communist Party system and Hong Kong, which was promised a high degree of autonomy and civil liberties under a "one country, two systems" principle.

Britain called the law "deeply troubling" and said it "lies in direct conflict with China's international obligations." The U.S. warned that China's repeated violations of its international commitments "is a pattern the world cannot ignore." And the European Union warned that China risked "very negative consequences" to its reputation and to business confidence in the global financial hub.

Steve Tsang, who directs the China Institute at London's School of Oriental and African Studies, said that if the EU were to join forces on the issue with the "Five Eyes" alliance — the U.S., Britain, Canada, Australia and New Zealand — the group would have real economic clout. The EU is China's largest trading partner.

But he said it was "far-fetched" for either British Prime Minister Boris Johnson or President Donald Trump to work with the EU on the issue.

"It is reasonable for Beijing to calculate that both the U.K. and U.S. are paper tigers," Tsang said. "Boris is focused on Brexit. He is happy to cooperate with anyone except for the EU."

Chinese experts said the West isn't able to sway China because of fundamental differences in their views. The West stresses political rights, while China emphasizes economic rights, said Yu Wanli, an international relations professor at Beijing Language and Culture University.

"It is not that China is trying to withstand pressure from the West, but it is that China's own policies have achieved results," Yu said. "China doesn't need to care about pressure from the West." [Abridged]

China has demanded staff and business information from four U.S. media companies including The Associated Press in what it called a necessary response to similar demands by Washington on Chinese state-controlled news outlets.

Foreign ministry spokesperson Zhao Lijian announced earlier this week that the AP, United Press International, CBS and National Public Radio had seven days to file declarations regarding their staff, financial operations, real estate ownership and other matters.

"It should be pointed out that the above-mentioned measures

by China are completely necessary countermeasures and are completely legitimate defenses compelled by unreasonable suppression of the U.S. side on Chinese media agencies in the United States," Zhao said at a daily briefing.

The Trump administration last month added four Chinese media outlets to a list of organizations that should be considered "foreign missions" because of their ties to the government and the ruling Communist Party. That move could force them to cut staff in the U.S. and adds to a long list of frictions in economic and political relations between the two countries.



Activists of Jammu and Kashmir Dogra Front shout slogans against Chinese President Xi Jinping during a protest in Jammu, India

CHINA ACCUSES INDIA OF TARGETING CHINESE IMPORTS AFTER CLASH

CHINA accused India yesterday of improperly disrupting activities by Chinese companies in the midst of tensions over a bloody clash between forces along their disputed border.

China has not taken any retaliatory measures in response to India's actions and a return to normal is in the best interests of both countries, Commerce Ministry spokesperson Gang Feng told reporters, according to the ministry's website.

"It is hoped that Indian side will immediately correct the discriminatory practices against China and Chinese enterprises," Gao said. New Delhi's moves were in violation of World Trade Organization rules and India's commitment to global trade's rules-making body, he said.

Earlier this week, India said it had banned 59 Chinese-owned apps, including TikTok, while Chinese companies are being blocked from participating in highway projects and are banned from investing in micro, small and medium-sized enterprises.

Indian protesters have been calling for a boycott of Chinese goods since the

June 15 confrontation along the border.

India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi quit ubiquitous Chinese social media platform Weibo to send a strong message to Beijing on the border issue, economic front and at "personal level too," the Press Trust of India news agency cited his party leader B.L. Santhosh as saying.

On Wednesday, Indian and Chinese military commanders met for a third time in an attempt to

Indian protesters have been calling for a boycott of Chinese goods since the June 15 confrontation along the border

ease a monthlong face-off over disputed territory and emphasized the need for a phased deescalation of tensions, a senior Indian army official said.

The official said more meetings are expected, both among military officials and diplomats, to reach a mutually agreeable solution and ensure peace along their disputed "Line of Actual Control."

The latest meeting took place on the Indian side

of the disputed border on Tuesday, he said.

The official spoke on condition of anonymity as he was not authorized to talk to reporters.

India's army chief, Gen. M.M. Naravane, visited the area in Ladakh last week to review his troops' preparedness after hand-to-hand combat between Indian and Chinese soldiers on June 15 left 20 Indians dead. Indian officials say there were casualties on the Chinese side as well, but there has been no confirmation by Beijing.

Indian officials say the current standoff began in early May when large contingents of Chinese soldiers entered deep inside Indian-controlled territory at three places in Ladakh, erecting tents.

They say the soldiers ignored repeated verbal warnings, triggering a yelling match, stone throwing and even fistfights in at least one place along Pangong Lake, the site of several such confrontations in the past.

The Galwan Valley, where the clash occurred, is part of a remote stretch of the 3,380-kilometer "Line of Actual Control" — the border established following a war between India MDT/AP

India's number of coronavirus cases passed 600,000. The 19,148 new cases reported in the past 24 hours raised the national total to 604,641, with nearly 100,000 of them in the past four days. However, Goa, a popular backpacking destination, opened for tourism yesterday with the state government allowing 250 hotels to reopen after more than three months. Tourists will either have to carry COVID-19 negative certificates or get tested on arrival.



Japan Tokyo Gov. Yuriko Koike (pictured) warned yesterday that the spread of the coronavirus is beginning to accelerate again in the capital as daily confirmed new infections jumped to a two-month high of 107. She urged residents to take more precautions and stay away from nightlife districts. Yesterday's rise in new cases spiked from 67 the day before and is the highest since 154 on May 2, when Japan was under a state of emergency for the pandemic.

South Korea reported 54 new cases as the virus continues to spread beyond the capital area and reach cities like Gwangju, which has shut schools and tightened social restrictions after dozens were found infected this week. Health Minister Park Neung-hoo during a virus meeting expressed alarm over the rise of infections in Gwangju, which had one of the smallest caseloads among major South Korean cities before this week.



USA Federal authorities in New York yesterday [Macau time] seized a shipment of weaves and other beauty accessories suspected to be made out of human hair taken from people locked inside a Chinese internment camp. U.S. Customs and Border Protection officials told AP that 13 tons of hair products worth an estimated \$800,000 were in the shipment.