

For your health and the health of others
Get vaccinated against COVID-19

Vaccination booking system



Please scan QR code or visit website
<https://eservice.ssm.gov.mo/covidvacbook>
Novel Coronavirus Response and Coordination Centre

www.rcr-macau.com



MACAU AND HONG KONG WERE DROPPED FROM THE INDEX OF ECONOMIC FREEDOM 2021 AS THE REPORT STATED THAT ITS ECONOMIC POLICIES ARE CONTROLLED BY BEIJING P3

THE DEADLIEST DAY IN MYANMAR P8



North Korea may be trying to extract plutonium to make more nuclear weapons at its main atomic complex, recent satellite photos indicated, weeks after leader Kim Jong Un vowed to expand his nuclear arsenal. The 38 North website, which specializes in North Korea studies, cited the imagery as indicating that a coal-fired steam plant at the North's Yongbyon nuclear complex is in operation after about a two-year hiatus.

South Korea's first known transgender soldier, who protested the military's decision last year to discharge her for undergoing gender reassignment surgery, was found dead at her home. Shin Jeong-hwan, a fire department official in the central city of Cheongju, said rescue workers visited the home of Byun Hui-su after local mental health counselors reported that she had been out of contact for days.



Thailand's Prime Minister Prayuth Chan-ocha says he has assigned the Royal Thai Army to investigate after Facebook Inc. removed 185 accounts and groups allegedly engaged in an information-influencing operation in Thailand run by the military. That followed Facebook's announcement a day earlier that it had deleted 77 accounts, 72 pages, 18 groups and 18 Instagram accounts for violating its policy against government interference.

Afghanistan At least seven civilians were shot and killed by unknown gunmen overnight in the country's east, a provincial security official said yesterday. Gen. Juma Gul Hemat, provincial police chief in Nangarhar province said the victims of the brutal attack were workers at a plaster factory in the Sorkh Rod district. Police arrested four suspects, he added.

More on backpage



THE WORLD ACCORDING TO XI

China's legislature begins its annual meeting today with economic growth, climate, patriots and Xi's new mantra of tech self-sufficiency on the agenda P6-7



SJM: PANSY HO COMING HOME P2

IFT ACHIEVES HIGH SCORES IN UNIVERSITY RANKINGS P5

RENATO MARQUES

GAMING

PANSY HO IS COMING HOME

THE co-chairperson and executive director of gaming operator MGM China Holdings Ltd [MGM], Pansy Ho, is getting ready to return "home" and take the helm of another gaming operator, SJM Holdings Ltd.

The pending scenario was confirmed to the Times by the managing partner of IGamiX Management & Consulting, Ben Lee.

Questioned by the Times as to whether yet another sale of shares by Ho could represent an intention of reducing her position as a stakeholder at MGM even further before leaving the post to run SJM, Lee said, "Yes, that has always been our belief that Pansy [Ho] will leave MGM to go take over the helm at SJM once the concessions have been settled. MGM made it worth her while to help them get [her] over the line."

Lee believes that Ho's move to SJM should happen soon after the new concessions tender is finished, aiming to secure a more comfortable position for MGM since SJM's concession is not considered to be at risk in any way.

When asked who could be in an advantageous position to assume the helm of MGM in this scenario, Lee said, "The [president and] chief operating officer, Hubert Wang, could be a contender," adding that it would be "politically unwise" for the company to appoint an American national.

Ho sold another 1.45 million shares of MGM Resorts International yesterday, worth a total of USD56.7 million (MOP460.3 million), further reducing her participation in the company after selling of another USD35.6 million (MOP 284.5 million) worth of shares from the same company on February 24.

Before the initial transaction, Ho had just over 8.2 million shares. Her stake is now reduced to about 6.7 million shares, a filing with Stock Exchange of Hong Kong (HKEX), where the parent company MGM China is listed, notes.

According to a different filing lodged with the HKEX two days later, which reports the annual results of the company in 2020, Ho still currently holds as much as a 22.49% share of MGM China.

Last year, MGM China saw revenue fall by 78% to approximately HKD5.1 billion



GAMING

LVS property sale could be related to Macau concession tender: expert

RENATO MARQUES

THE sale of two properties by Las Vegas Sands Corp. (LVS) on Wednesday might be related to the company's bid for the tender of the new gaming concessions in Macau by 2022, the managing partner of IGamiX Management & Consulting, Ben Lee, has told the Times.

"It's either [related to] their cutting all overt ties with the U.S. to improve their chances of getting a new concession or a prelude to a total cashing out by the family now that the patriarch is no longer at the helm," Lee said.

The gaming industry expert also refuted the idea that the sale in the U.S. could be related to



SCOTT WEBB

the company's added focus and investment in the Asian operations, including Macau and Singapore, hinted at by the company's chairman and

CEO Robert Goldstein in a statement from the company.

Questioned by the Times as to whether the money gathered arising from the sales of the properties in Las Vegas could be used, as Goldstein had hinted at, on further investments in Macau and Singapore, Lee said, "I don't think it does. There's not much to invest in Singapore and Macau that can't be done with debt financing. [This method] would be more efficient and probably safer risk-wise."

In the statement from LVS, Goldstein noted that Asia remains the "backbone" of the company and that its developments in Macau and Singapore remain the "center of attention."

"This company is focused on growth, and we see meaningful opportunities on a variety of fronts. [...] We will always look for ways to reinvest in our properties and those communities," he said, adding that there are also potential development opportunities domestically, which the

company believes would involve significant capital investment.

On Wednesday, LVS announced that it has entered into definitive agreements to sell its Las Vegas real property and operations, including The Venetian Resort Las Vegas and the Sands Expo and Convention Center, for an aggregate purchase price of approximately USD6.25 billion (about MOP50 billion).

J.P. Morgan's gaming industry analyst, Joseph Greff, said that LVS made a very good deal on the sale.

"From our perspective, this is a great price, higher than the USD3.7 billion of the value we ascribe [and] [...] would add USD2.5 billion, or USD3.31 of incremental equity value per share," Greff indicated in a report.

The USD6.25 billion valuation of the Nevada assets represented almost 13-fold the company's 2019 property EBITDA value.

www.macaudailytimes.com.mo

REACHING OUT!

+20,000

Like us on facebook.com/mdtimes



MacauDaily 澳門每日時報
Times

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF (DIRECTOR) Paulo Coutinho paulocoutinho@macaudailytimes.com
ASSISTANT EDITOR_Lynzy Valles SENIOR WRITER_Honey Tsang
CONTRIBUTING EDITORS_Leanda Lee, Severo Portela, Sheyla Zandonai

NEWSROOM AND CONTRIBUTORS Albano Martins, Annabel Jackson, Anthony Lam, Daniel Beitler, Emilie Tran, Irene Sam, Ivo Carneiro de Sousa, Jacky I.F. Cheong, Jenny Lao-Phillips, João Palla Martins, Joseph Cheung, Julie Zhu, Juliet Risdon, Linda Kennedy, Paulo Cordeiro de Sousa, Renato Marques, Richard Whitfield, Viviana Segui
DESIGNERS_Eva Bucho, Miguel Bandeira | ASSOCIATE CONTRIBUTORS_JML Property, MdME Lawyers, PokerStars, Ruan Du Toit Bester | NEWS AGENCIES_Associated Press, Bloomberg, MacauHub, MacauNews, Xinhua
SECRETARY_Yang Dongxiao amy@macaudailytimes.com

A MACAU TIMES PUBLICATIONS LTD PUBLICATION

ADMINISTRATOR AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Kowie Geldenhuys kowie@macaudailytimes.com
OFFICE MANAGER Juliana Cheang juliana@macaudailytimes.com
ADDRESS Av. da Praia Grande, 599, Edif. Comercial Rodrigues, 12 Floor C, MACAU SAR Telephones: +853 287 160 81/2 Fax: +853 287 160 84
Advertisement advertising@macaudailytimes.com
For subscription and general issues: general@macaudailytimes.com | Printed at Welfare Printing Ltd

SEND NEWSWORTHY INFORMATION AND PRESS RELEASES TO: NEWSROOM@MACAUDAILYTIMES.COM WEBSITE: WWW.MACAUDAILYTIMES.COM.MO

ECONOMIC FREEDOM INDEX

SARs excluded from rankings as policies 'ultimately controlled from Beijing'

LYNZY VALLES

MACAU and Hong Kong were dropped from an economic freedom index as the Heritage Foundation noted that their economic policies are controlled by Beijing.

The Heritage Foundation's Index of Economic Freedom 2021 has removed Hong Kong from a list that it topped for 25 years until 2019.

Hong Kong and Singapore traded places in the 2020 index for the first time ever in its 26-year history, primarily due to a decline in the investment freedom score for Hong Kong.

While Hong Kong and Macau residents benefit from policies offering greater economic freedom than on the mainland, "developments in recent years have demonstrated unambiguously that those policies are ultimately controlled from Beijing," the Washington-based think tank noted.

Developments in the two SARs that are relevant to economic freedom would be considered in the context of China's evaluation within the index, the report added.

BLOOMBERG



Political and social scientist Larry So, meanwhile, believes that it is expected that there would be some kind of sanctions from the U.S., following the implementation of the national security law in June. The U.S. State Department previously said that the detentions of pro-democracy activists in Hong Kong show how the national security law imposed by Beijing is being used to stifle dissent.

On Sunday, Hong Kong police charged dozens of opposition activists with violating the city's national security law, taking for-

mal action against them less than a week before China's highest-profile annual political meeting. "The American government is trying to [take] some kind of action against [the central government], trying to put pressure so that they can help these [activists]. [...] China [could] be saying that this is a domestic issue and has nothing to do with foreign countries who are trying to intervene," So told the Times.

Speaking about the Washington-based think tank, So said, "This kind of ranking is, first of all, politicized, [as] they are trying

to [apply] pressure to see if China will give in. [But] I don't think China will really pay that much attention."

China slipped down to 103 from 107 in the rankings, among the list of 178 countries.

The motherland ranks between Uganda and Uzbekistan among economies rated as "mostly un-free."

The move to dump both Hong Kong and Macau's independent ratings comes as top Communist Party officials prepare to meet in Beijing for the National People's Congress today.

The congress is expected to unveil further measures designed to bring Hong Kong's pro-democracy movement to heel.

Meanwhile, Hong Kong's Finance Secretary Paul Chan pushed back against the think tank's decision to remove Hong Kong's standalone ranking. "When they arrived at that decision, they must have been clouded by their ideological inclination and political bias," Chan said during an online conference, according to Radio Television Hong Kong.

For So, the effect of being removed from the rankings is more evident for Hong Kong than Macau, as there is more financial business in the neighboring region than in this city.

"At least the U.S. funding capital when they go to Hong Kong and Macau would [have] some kind of difficulties. [But] in Macau, I don't think the aftermath will be that serious," the scholar said.

In the Index of Economic Freedom 2021, five countries (Singapore, New Zealand, Australia, Switzerland, and Ireland) earned very high economic freedom scores of 80 or more, putting them in the rank of the economically "free."

PUBLIC HOUSING

Residents have freedom to opt out from Wai Long: Rosário

ANTHONY LAM

THE government has never forced residents to apply for the proposed public housing project opposite the University Hospital which is the subject of debate, Secretary for Transport and Public Works Raimundo do Rosário said yesterday.

On the sidelines of an association event, the senior official was asked to comment on the proposed project on Avenida de Wai Long, which is next to the roundabout between Macau International Airport and Macau University of Science and Technology.

The senior official issued a reminder that the land plot had always been assigned for a residential

development. Previously, the green light had been given to develop prime residential estate on the land.

The project was later scrapped and the land retrieved by the government, following a court ruling connected to the corruption case involving the former Secretary for Transport and Public Works, Ao Man Long, who is now serving a term of imprisonment.

"It is not a new thing," Rosário stressed. "Previously, the land plot was assigned for a private housing estate."

He reminded the media that the land was confiscated later and then converted to public housing during the term of the last government. He even took

the chance to educate the public on the choice of a subsidized housing unit.

"I would like to take this chance to explain to the public: there are public housing projects on both Zone A and Avenida de Wai Long," the senior official said. "If [interested buyers] don't like Wai Long [housing project], go for Zone A instead."

The government has previously announced that 28,000 public housing units would be built on the newly reclaimed land, off from the coast near the main reservoir.

"I haven't forced them to choose Wai Long [public housing project]," Rosário added.

When asked whether he feared the attractiveness of

the Wai Long project would be low, the official did not sound convinced that people would not like the future Wai Long public housing units. "Time will tell," he said.

The project was objected to by certain urban planners, who said that the area, let alone its proximity to the trash incinerator, does not have enough land to support a residential neighborhood.

Urban planner Lam Iek Chit has been quoted as saying that it is quite unconvincing when the public health facility has to be planned for the 11th floor of a building.

In addition, given its proximity to Cotai, the airport, a university, a hospital, two bridge exits and a

ANTHONY LAM



future tunnel connecting to the fourth bridge, the public housing project has the potential to create an even heavier burden on the traffic network in the neighborhood.

For example, when road networks are congested within traditional residential districts on the Macau Peninsula, not even emer-

gency vehicles, such as ambulance and fire engines, can make their way to their destinations.

Some members of the public tried to defeat the proposal citing concerns over pollution from the incinerator. People feared that the pollution may impact the health of residents living there.

SECTOR CALLS FOR CENTRALIZED LICENSING SYSTEM FOR CONSTRUCTION WORKERS

ANTHONY LAM

A centralized licensing system for construction workers should be established to eradicate the difficulties contractors encounter in finding reliable workers, Lo Chi Cheong, director-general of the Macau Construction Association, has proposed on the sidelines of an association event.

According to the association manager, it is difficult for construction contractors to easily find workers for their projects because "anybody can claim themselves to be construction workers," Lo said.

It is time consuming for contractors to confirm whether a candidate has legitimate skills for the job.

As such, he has proposed the aforementioned licensing system. He used a similar system on the mainland to justify his opinion. In mainland China, a construction worker can obtain a license after passing certain exams which test knowledge of a particular skill.

He is happy to issue such a license, operating similarly to an accreditation system managed by the legal sector. "However, we are lacking the public agreement to do so," Lo explained. "If the public or the government appoints us to run the system, we're happy to do so."

When asked about unemployment in the industry, the association director hoped that the government would build up a database showing the number of unemployed construction workers.

In addition, Lo said the number of skilled and willing construction workers has been falling, with many skilled workers having retired.

Many skilled workers have either retired, got promoted



Lo Chi Cheong

or changed career paths. newcomers, in contrast, changed their career paths to work in the construction industry, Lo

admitted. They can only be briefly trained before they start working in the industry.

The association director also

admitted that it is difficult to attract young newcomers due to the nature of the industry. "Who would choose an energy-consuming job?" he asked.

At the same occasion, Secretary for Transport and Public Works, Raimundo do Rosário, commented on unemployment in the construction industry.

"I think there are quite a number of public and private construction work this year, so I asked [the industry] to beware of the situation," the official noted. "The government has invested more in public works this year, thus employment in the industry should not be a problem."

"Considering factors in Macau, the quantity of construction works should not be seen as low," Rosário revealed. "Of course, when you compare now with the peak period when all casinos were building properties [it's now worse]."

Judging from the applications the DSSOPT has so far received, the official thinks that the sector will have enough employment.

When questioned if the government can help workers get employed, the Secretary said there is not much his team can do under his branch. He explained that when the government concludes a tender, it is assigned to a company.

"Finding people to work on a project is the concerns of the company," he added. "In all these years we have not interfere with this matter. But again, I have reminded the industry to be attentive to the matter."

However, the Chief Executive has previously ordered the municipal bureau to ensure employment right of local construction workers. On this matter, the official said, "We haven't been [levying a threshold], but I have requested the industry to beware of the condition."

"For some public works, we require the tender winner to be a local company. Even with that said, we have not restricted them from employing workers of specific nationality," the official added.

CONSTRUCTION ASSOCIATION INAUGURATES 10TH-TERM MANAGEMENT

THE Macau Construction Association held a ceremony yesterday at MGM Cotai to inaugurate its 10th term of management, the swearing-in for which was postponed to this year due to the Covid-19 outbreak.

Originally, the inauguration was set to be held last year. Due to the pandemic, it was cancelled and later postponed to yesterday. In his speech, director-general Lo Chi Cheong of the association highlighted that he was elected to the position last year.

Founded in 2000, the association has upheld the tradition of patriotism and uniting the construction industry. According to the director-general, it has also helped

improve the quality of the local construction workforce and helped safeguard the rights for the industry.

Lo stressed that the construction industry will continue to generate synergies for the development of Macau so that the city can enjoy the benefits of the new national development master plan.

Not only was the new management structure inaugurated, so was the association's Youth Committee. The Youth Committee is only in its second term. The committee was founded in 2017, with its one completed term covering three years.

Lai Meng San from Lai Si Construction is the incumbent director of the committee. AL



AD

MAKE-UP
FOR ALL OCCASIONS

- BRIDAL / WEDDINGS • PHOTO SHOTS • PARTY •
- GRADUATION • SPECIAL EVENTS •

MAKE YOUR APPOINTMENT TODAY!

TEL / WHATSAPP: (853) 6685 3323 | WECHAT: MISSJ_23
WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/JULIANACMAKEUPARTIST

新 陽 光 清 潔 服 務 有 限 公 司
NEW SUNSHINE CLEANING SERVICES LTD.

Clean Kitchen

Grease Box

Urgent!! Call Now!! Tel: 28833008

Member of General Association of Macao Cleaning Service Industry

EDUCATION

IFTM achieves high score in QS World University Rankings

RENATO MARQUES

THE Macao Institute for Tourism Studies (IFTM) has achieved strong results in this year's QS (Quacquarelli Symonds) World University Rankings.

The updated rankings for 2021 were published yesterday, with the local tourist and hospitality studies university achieving its best result ever. Among higher education institutions in hospitality and leisure management, it is considered the 14th best worldwide and the 2nd best in Asia.

This was the highest position achieved by the IFTM since the rating service began covering this field of study in 2017.

Publisher QS Quacquarelli Symonds Ltd considered a total of 1,636 institutions around the world as part of the hospitality and leisure management ranking.

Last year, IFTM placed 33rd



in the subject.

The QS World University Rankings compiles a list of more than 1,000 of the world's top tertiary education institutions based on several criteria. The rankings according to subject have been released since 2011 and consider the university's academic reputation, reputation among employers, citations per academic paper, and H-index, a measure of the productivity and impact of the work published by each institution's team of scholars and

researchers.

The rankings by subject are a tool to help students and their families identify the top tertiary education institutions worldwide or by region in each field of study.

In the global ranking of higher education institutions, Macau is represented by the University of Macau (UM) in 367th place, and the Macau University of Science and Technology (MUST), which placed between 701st and 750th place in the world rankings.

LEI CHIN ION APPOINTED TO ACADEMY OF MEDICINE ROLE

THE outgoing director of the Health Bureau (SSM), Lei Chin Ion, has been appointed to the role of medicine specialist of the Specialty Council of the Macao Academy of Medicine.

The appointment, announced Wednesday within the government's official gazette, takes effect from March 7 and is valid for a period of two years.

Lei is leaving his post as director of the SSM at the end of this month, and will be replaced in that position by the pulmonologist Alvis Lo, who is recently known by being one of the noticeable faces leading the press briefings at the Novel Coronavirus Response and Coordination Center on the Covid-19 situation.

In the same Chief Executive's (CE) order, the mandate of 16 other medical specialists was renewed, including that of the president of the Council, Hung Chi Tim.

Besides Lei, the CE also appointed four other new members for the Council, including Lui Kin Man, Ng Hou, Lam Chong, and Kwok Yau Fong. **RM**

AD

仁德 CENTRO MEDICO PEDDER
◆ 仁德醫療中心 ◆

We bring high quality of medical service to Macau

General Surgery : Dr. Fok Manson, Dr. Lai Cheuck Seen Edward, Dr. Lau Wing Kee Peter, Dr. Kwong Man, Dr. Nie Fu Zhong, Dr. U Chong San, Dr. Lei Chin Chong

Breast Surgery : Dr. Leong Iat Lun

Urology : Dr. Lo Kwong Yin Richard, Dr. Zhao Yun Qiao

Paediatric Surgery : Dr. Yeung Chung Kwong

Paediatrics : Dr. Zhang Zhiqin

Obstetrics & Gynaecology : Dr. Fong Kuan Io

Plastic & Aesthetic Surgery : Dr. Lam U Lin

Orthopaedic Surgery & Sports Medicine : Dr. Lam Kun Kuan

ENT : Dr. Cheng Zheng Ang

Cardiology : Dr. Wong Kwok Yiu Chris, Dr. Jin Chun, Dr. Leong Man Kin

General Medicine : Dr. Ng Kam Hong, Dr. Lam Weng Chio

Dietitian : Chan Lai U Joey

Avenida da Praia Grande No 599, Edifício Comercial Rodrigues 14 e 15 Andar, em Macau
T. 2832 2298 / 2832 2229 Website: www.peddermacau.com
Opening Hours: Mon - Fri 10:00 - 19:00 Sat 10:00 - 14:00 Sun & PH closed

Let's act in compliance with the "Courtesy Living Charter" Bear responsibilities

www.iam.gov.mo
2833 7676

公民教育資訊網
Rede de Informação de Formação Cívica
Civil Education Information Website
http://divicedu.iam.gov.mo

OPINION

China Daily
Editorial, China Daily

TWO SESSIONS WILL SET COURSE THAT WILL ALSO HELP THE WORLD

This year marks the 100th anniversary of the founding of the Communist Party of China, the start of the country's 14th Five-Year Plan (2021-25) and its efforts to realize the long-range objectives for development that are being set for the year 2035.

Convened at this historical point on the country's charted course to national rejuvenation, the annual gatherings of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference National Committee, and National People's Congress, which start on Thursday and Friday respectively this year, are of profound significance to the country and the world.

The two sessions, as they are commonly known, set the stage for the members of the country's top political advisory body and top legislature to deliberate on the proposals for the formulation of the 14th Five-Year Plan for National Economic and Social Development and the Long-Range Objectives Through the Year 2035.

They will draw on their collective wisdom to suggest final adjustments to the landmark document that will serve to guide the country's development over the coming years, ensuring their pertinence to meet people's needs, foresight in answering the calls of the times and practical operability in the context of China's national conditions over the foreseeable future and the fast-changing external situation.

Quality economic development, innovation, countryside vitalization and environmental protection are set to be the keywords for their deliberations, during which the in-

terests of different stakeholders will be balanced and then reflected in the to-do lists that will be set out in the document.

The draft amendments to the NPC Organization Law and the NPC Rules of Procedure will also be deliberated on by the NPC during its meeting this year. These will become important institutional guarantees for the country's highest organ of State power to exercise its duties according to law.

The two laws have not been revised since they were enacted more than 30 years ago, and the amendments are expected to include the experience that has been gained, and the successful practices and achievements that have been made since 2012 when Xi Jinping became general secretary of the CPC Central Committee, so that the NPC can better serve the country's development.

Given the pandemic is still raging in many parts of the world and the growing pessimism surrounding the global economy and the climate crisis, and that China is the world's second-largest economy, major supporter of multilateralism and economic globalization, and largest contributor to global growth, as well as largest producer of essential medical supplies, the two sessions are certain to catch worldwide attention.

Through the meetings, China will once again reassure the world that the pandemic can be brought under control and it is dedicated to not only improving its own people's livelihoods, but also helping to improve those of people around the world.

CPPCC

China to foster 'patriotism among young people' in Macau, Hong Kong

CHINA'S top legislative advisory body opened its annual session Thursday against the background of a crackdown on Hong Kong's political opposition and the country's recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.

In his opening address, the head of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC), Wang Yang, pledged support for calls that only "patriots" who show undivided loyalty to the ruling Communist Party should be allowed to hold elected office in Hong Kong, a semi-autonomous southern Chinese city where Beijing imposed a sweeping national security law last year.

"We will strengthen unity and friendship with our compatriots overseas and in Hong Kong, Macau and Taiwan, and conduct studies and consultations on fostering patriotism among young people in Hong Kong and Macau," Wang told delegates in the



Xi Jinping arrives for the opening session of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference

hulking Great Hall of the People in the heart of Beijing.

Taiwan is a self-governing democracy that China claims as its own territory.

Wang, the party's fourth ranking member, also said the CPPCC contributed to local-level efforts to end the COVID-19 outbreak in the country, where no new cases of local transmission have been reported for more than two weeks.

The CPPCC has no legislative powers of its own but is

mandated to conduct research and offer proposals to the ceremonial parliament, the National People's Congress, which begins its annual session on Friday.

With COVID-10 on the wane in the country, the leadership decided to hold the sessions on the usual dates in March, rather than delay them until May as they did last year. However, the meetings are shorter this year and media coverage is being conducted remotely. MDT/AP

AD

合夥人 PARTNERS:
官樂怡 Rui José da Cunha °
山度士 Álvaro Rodrigues °
馬天龍 Nuno Sardinha da Mata °
趙魯 Zhao Lu °*
馬傑安 João Nogueira Marques

大律師 ASSOCIATES:
高文軒 Adelino Correia °
羅善齡 Zelina Rodrigues *
白秀蘭 Susana Batalha
馬潔冰 Maria João Marques
陶義德 António Isóo de Azeredo
白穎怡 Icília Berenguel
冼玲鳳 Mariana Afonso Esteves
薛明恩 Maria Antónia Giestas
飛嘉華 Carlos dos Santos Ferreira °
杜力信 Nelson de Azevedo
馬秀文 Sofia Mendes Martins
宋哲言 João Gonçalves Assunção
巴慧雅 Vera Bastos
莫永誠 Rui Velez de Moura
安東尼 António Manuel dos Santos
歐文傑 Miguel Evaristo
陳芷喬 Joana Chan
顏曉蓉 Teresa Xiaorong Yan
諾瑪莉 Maria Noras
康靜雅 Viviana Hong
梁淑嵐 Ana Leon

實習律師 TRAINEE LAWYERS:
黃瀚賢 Frederico Vong
張偉鴻 Cheong Wai Hong
李莉 Lei Lei
陳健雄 Eurico Chan
吳霆鋒 Ng Teng Fong

法律專家 JURISTS:
羅成軒 José J. Rodrigues
潘卡莉 Candice Pun
斐彥德 Gonçalo Figueiredo
羅嘉慧 Emily Lo
陳子健 Chan Chi Kin



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

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

A: Av. da Praia Grande 759, 3-5 Floors Macau SAR, China
地址:澳門南灣大馬路759號3-5樓
Tel: (853) 2837 2642 / 2837 2623
Office hours: Mon-Thu: 9:30-13:00, 14:30-18:30
Fri: 9:30-13:00, 14:30-18:00
Sat: 9:00-13:00

WWW.CCADVOG.COM

律師事務所



C&C
LAWYERS
& NOTARIES
SINCE 1996

EXPLAINER

What to look for at China's annual Congress

CHINA'S legislature begins its annual meeting this week with economic growth, climate and a crackdown on political opponents in Hong Kong expected to be on the agenda.

The gathering of the National People's Congress and its advisory body, the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, brings handpicked delegates from across the country to discuss governing priorities and receive instructions from the ruling Communist Party leadership. Comprising roughly 3,000 members, the NPC is under complete party control and rubberstamps decisions made in advance but also offers the leadership feedback on pressing national concerns.

The party rejects any role for opposition parties or a separation of executive, judicial and legislative powers. Party leader and head of state Xi Jinping has eliminated limits on his term, potentially putting him in control for life. This year marks the centenary of the party's founding, and leaders will likely repeat a much-ballyhooed though difficult to qualify claim that no parts of the vast country of 1.4 billion people remain mired in extreme poverty.

ECONOMY TAKES CENTER STAGE

The state of the world's second-largest economy takes precedence among the myriad issues presented by Premier Li Keqiang in his address at the NPC's opening session on Friday. Amid the COVID-19 pandemic, no target for economic growth was issued last year, but China has since shrugged off the impact and is

AP PHOTO



expected to begin shifting its focus back to longer-term efforts to make the country a tech power less reliant on trade. This year will see the start of the 14th five-year plan, a vestige of the planned economy that speaks to the enduring role of state-owned businesses from banks to shipyards. After last year's multidecade-low 2.3% growth, forecasters say it would be easy to hit 7% as manufacturing and spending rebound.

CLOSING DOWN HONG KONG OPPOSITION

In the semi-autonomous city of Hong Kong, China is moving to eliminate the possibility of opposition politicians gaining office, saying only patriots loyal to the Communist Party can have a role in government. That could prompt the NPC to reassign votes in the 1,200-member committee that selects the city's leader to deprive a small number of elected local district counselors from taking

part. A sweeping national security law endorsed by the NPC last year has had a chilling effect on free speech and opposition political activity in Hong Kong. China says the city needs stability after months of anti-government protests in 2019, while critics say Beijing has largely abandoned its pledge to allow the former British colony to maintain its own legal, economic and social institutions until 2047.

FOCUS ON CLIMATE CHANGE

Expectations are high that the 14th five-year plan will align domestic policies with international pledges on climate change. Xi made a surprise pledge at a United Nations meeting in September that China would go carbon neutral by 2060. He has also pledged that China, currently the world's largest emitter of climate change-causing emissions, would hit its carbon peak by 2030. China has been a world leader in adding solar and wind power to its ener-

gy supply, while continuing to build new coal plants, including overseas under its "Belt and Road Initiative." To meet its climate goals, China will need to drastically reduce its reliance on coal, with the heavy smog blanketing Beijing this week illustrating the continuing challenge. With the United States rejoining the Paris climate agreement, Washington and others will be seeking evidence that Beijing is making good on its commitments.

US-CHINA RELATIONS AND THE MILITARY

This year's meeting comes as China and the U.S. are attempting to soften the caustic tone in relations that prevailed during the Trump administration. While President Joe Biden is maintaining pressure over trade and technology, he has shown a willingness to restore dialogue. However, China has not shown any willingness to budge in the face of U.S. support

for Beijing-claimed Taiwan and criticism of Chinese policies in Hong Kong, Tibet and Xinjiang. China is also continuing its military buildup and recently passed a law authorizing its coast guard to use force to remove any foreign presence in what it considers Chinese waters and islands. In his speech to the opening session, Li will announce the military budget, whose 6.6% increase last year was the lowest in recent memory, a reflection both of the economic headwinds then facing the country and the massive improvements made during years of double-digit percentage increases that have put China's defense spending second in the world behind only the United States.

HEIGHTENED SECURITY, ANTI-VIRUS MEASURES

China has largely controlled local transmission of the coronavirus, but is taking no chances while vaccination levels remain relatively low. As was the case last year, the two meetings are being held on a truncated schedule with reporters covering the proceedings from a remote media center. While China last year postponed the meetings until May, it has reverted to holding them in March this year in what the official Xinhua News Agency portrayed as a sign of confidence. "The arrangement reconfirms that China's political, economic and social life is returning to normal," Xinhua said in a commentary Wednesday. As usual, security has been tightened in the capital with paramilitary troops patrolling near the Great Hall of the People where the meetings are held and standing guard at subway stations. **MDT/AP**

HONG KONG

Pro-democracy activists' court hearing enters fourth day

A marathon court hearing for 47 democracy activists charged under Hong Kong's national security law entered its fourth day yesterday, as the court deliberates whether the defendants will be granted bail.

The mass case is the most sweeping action taken against the city's pro-democracy camp since the security law was implemented last June. The activists were charged and detained on Sunday over their involvement in an unofficial primary election last year that authorities say was part of a plot to paralyze Hong Kong's

government.

The bail proceedings ongoing since Monday have lasted often a full day and at times into the morning, and several defendants have fallen ill.

If the defendants are denied bail, it would mean that most of Hong Kong's pro-democracy figures would be in jail or in self-exile abroad amid an ongoing crackdown on dissent in the semi-autonomous Chinese city.

Under Hong Kong's common law system, defendants are usually granted bail for non-violent crimes. But

the national security law removed the presumption of bail, with a clause saying it will not be granted unless the judge has sufficient grounds to believe defendants "will not continue to commit acts endangering national security."

The 47 are part of a broader group of 55 activists who were arrested in January for their role in the primary elections. Eight of them were not charged on Sunday.

The primary was aimed at determining the strongest candidates to field for a legislative council election

that would give the pro-democracy camp the best chance to gain a legislative majority. The government later postponed the legislative elections, citing public health risks from the coronavirus.

If the pro-democracy camp had won a majority, at least some members of the camp had plans to vote down major bills that would eventually force Hong Kong leader Carrie Lam to resign. Authorities said the activists' participation in the primary was part of a plan to paralyze the city's legislature and subvert state power. **AP**

AP PHOTO





Anti-coup protesters run from teargas and charging riot police and soldiers in Mandalay, Myanmar

MYANMAR

38 died on deadliest day yet for coup opposition: UN

MYANMAR security forces were seen firing slingshots at protesters, chasing them down and even brutally beating an ambulance crew in video showing a dramatic escalation of violence against opponents of last month's military coup.

A U.N. official speaking from Switzerland said 38 people had been killed Wednesday, a figure consistent with other reports though accounts are difficult to confirm inside the country. The increasingly deadly violence could galvanize the international community, which has responded fitfully so far.

"Today it was the bloodiest day since the coup happened on Feb. 1. We have today — only today — 38 people died. We have now more than over 50 people died since the coup started" and more have been wounded, the U.N. special envoy for Myanmar, Christine Schraner Burgener, told reporters at U.N. headquarters yesterday [Macau time].

Demonstrators have regularly flooded the streets of cities across the country since the military seized power and ousted the elected government of leader Aung San Suu Kyi. Their numbers have remained

high even as security forces have repeatedly fired tear gas, rubber bullets and live rounds to disperse the crowds, and arrested protesters en masse.

The intensifying standoff is unfortunately familiar in a country with a long history of peaceful resistance to military rule — and brutal crackdowns. The coup reversed years of slow progress toward democracy in the Southeast Asian nation after five decades of military rule.

The Democratic Voice of Burma, an independent television and online news service, also tallied 38 deaths. A toll of at least 34 was compiled by a data analyst in Yangon, Myanmar's biggest city, who spoke on condition of anonymity because he feared for his safety. He also collected information where he could on the victims' names, ages, hometowns, and where and how they were killed — an effort he said he had made to honor those who were killed for their heroic resistance.

The Associated Press was unable to independently confirm most of the reported deaths, but several square with online postings.

According to the data analyst's list, most were in Yangon, where 18 died. In

the central city of Monywa, which has turned out huge crowds, eight deaths were reported. Three deaths were reported in Mandalay, the country's second-biggest city, and two in Salin, a town in Magwe region. Mawlamyine, in the country's southeast, and Myingyan and Kalay, both in central Myanmar, each had a single death.

As part of the crackdown, security forces have also arrested hundreds of people, including journalists. On Saturday, at least eight journalists, including Thein Zaw of The Associated Press, were detained. A video showed he had moved out of the way as police charged down a street at protesters, but then was seized by police officers, who handcuffed him and held him briefly in a chokehold before marching him away.

He has been charged with violating a public safety law that could see him imprisoned for up to three years.

The escalation of the crackdown has led to increased diplomatic efforts to resolve Myanmar's political crisis — but there appear to be few viable options. It's not yet clear if Wednesday's soaring death toll could change the dynamic.

The U.N. Security Cou-

ncil is expected to hold a closed meeting on the situation on Friday, council diplomats said, speaking on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to make the information public before the official announcement. The United Kingdom requested the meeting, they said.

Still, any kind of coordinated action at the United Nations will be difficult since two permanent members of the Security Council, China and Russia, would almost certainly veto it. Some countries have imposed or are considering imposing their own sanctions.

The U.N. special envoy, Schraner Burgener, who supports sanctions, said she receives some 2,000 messages per day from people inside Myanmar, many "who are really desperate to see action from the international community."

The 10-member Association of Southeast Asian Nations, which includes Myanmar, issued a statement after a teleconference meeting of foreign ministers Tuesday that merely called for an end to violence and for talks on how to reach a peaceful settlement. ASEAN has a tradition of non-interference in each other's internal affairs.

Ignoring that appeal, Myanmar's security forces have continued to attack peaceful protesters.

In addition to the deaths, there have been reports of other violence. In Yangon, a widely circulated video taken from a security camera showed police in the city brutally beating members of an ambulance crew — apparently after they were arrested. Police can be seen kicking the three crew members and thrashing them with rifle butts.

Security forces are believed to single out medical workers for arrest and mistreatment because members of the medical profession launched the country's civil disobedience movement to resist the junta.

In Mandalay, riot police, backed by soldiers, broke up a rally and chased around 1,000 teachers and students from a street with tear gas as gun shots could be heard.

Video from the AP showed a squad of police firing slingshots in the apparent direction of demonstrators as they dispersed. AP

this day in history

1956 US COURT VICTORY FOR BLACK STUDENTS



The United States Supreme Court has upheld a ban on racial segregation in state schools, colleges and universities.

The University of North Carolina was appealing against an earlier ruling, in 1954, which ordered college officials to admit three black students to what was previously an all-white institution.

Until recently, black and white students have been educated in separate schools under the principle of "separate but equal" but the Supreme Court has now ruled this doctrine "has no place in the field of public education".

The BBC's Panorama programme has been to the southern US state of Virginia, where racial segregation in schools is still rigidly enforced. In other states, schools and colleges have begun to accept black and white pupils.

In the Virginian state capital, Richmond, officials are looking at ways of getting round the new ruling. They are considering subsidising white pupils so they can go to racially segregated private schools - or even abolishing state or what are known as public schools in America.

The state governor, Thomas Stanley, said: "The feeling of the people of Virginia is rather unanimous - that it was unfortunate that this decision should have been handed down.

"I would say from the letters, telephone calls and telegrams this office has received, a very large proportion of Virginians would want to continue segregation of the races because we believe we can provide a better system of education by doing that."

Dr Tinsley, president of the Richmond branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Coloured People, has welcomed the court's ruling as long overdue.

Dr Tinsley, who is a dentist, has branded the policy of segregation as "ridiculous, unreligious and unconstitutional". He said segregation laws in Virginia meant black and white people could not sit down together in a hall where an entry fee had to be paid. Blacks are also forced to sit at the back in buses.

Asked how black people felt at this treatment, he said: "We are plenty angry."

Not all whites object to the ban. Dr Marion, Director of the Council of Human Relations, rejected claims black students were educationally inferior to their white counterparts. He said segregation had imposed a "second-class citizenship" on the black population.

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

An 1896 Supreme Court decision first established the "separate but equal" principle. It permitted separate trains or carriages for white and black passengers as long as they were equal in nature.

In 1954 the US Supreme Court declared racial segregation in schools and colleges unlawful. Its decision launched the legal movement to desegregate American society.

The 1956 decision upheld the earlier ruling - but racial segregation was still a major problem in many southern states. In 1957 troops were sent into Little Rock, Arkansas, to enforce the ban.

In 1964 the Civil Rights Law prohibited racial discrimination in education, employment or in public places.

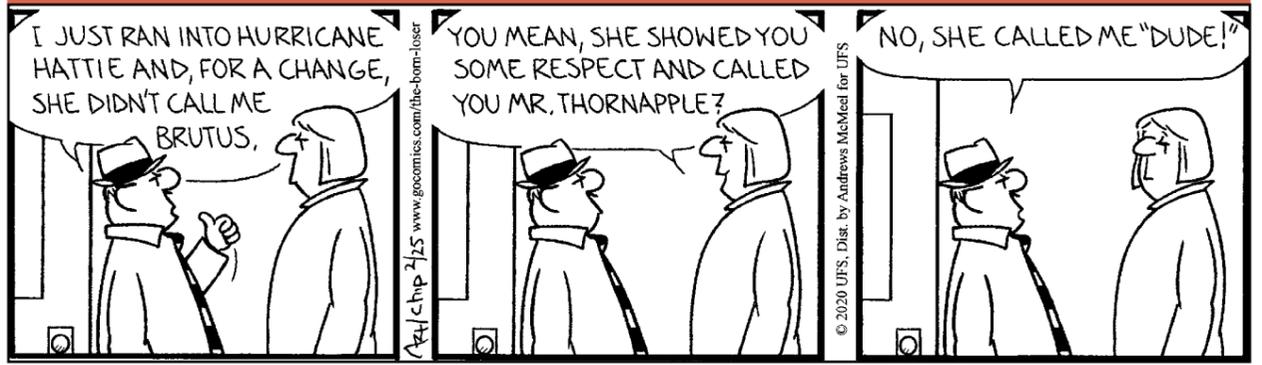
However, the move to desegregate schools received a setback in 1974 when a Supreme Court decision banned plans to mix schools across city-suburban boundaries. It has meant central city schools have become increasingly attended by non-white students.

A Harvard University study in August 2002 found schools across the US were once again becoming more racially segregated.

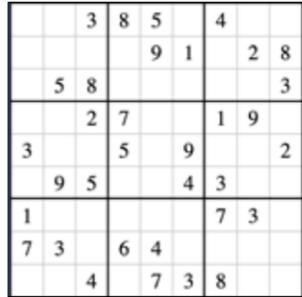
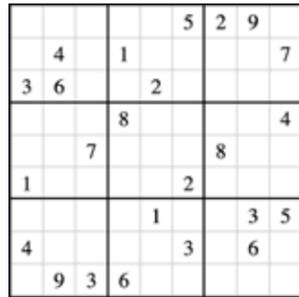
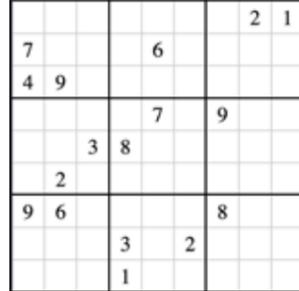
YOUR STARS

 ARIES Mar. 21-Apr. 19 Listen to your gut when it comes to any business or financial dealings today. Any contracts put in front of you today will have some mighty small type, and you'd better read every single word.	 TAURUS Apr. 20-May. 20 Don't ignore the problems that are going on, but don't let them control your day. These aren't fires you need to extinguish. They're merely facts you need to deal with.
 GEMINI May. 21-Jun. 21 Don't waste any of your energy on blame or culpability. Even if those people who are making things complicated fess up to the charges, nothing will change. The problem will remain. Stay solution oriented.	 CANCER Jun. 22-Jul. 22 To foster this spirit of open-mindedness, be prepared to create a place where new people can meet and mingle. A social event like a dinner party or even bowling can help cultures meld instead of collide.
 LEO Jul. 23-Aug. 22 You need to help the person who helps you whenever you need a leg up. It's time for a karmic payback, and you're the person who will be making the payment.	 VIRGO Aug. 23-Sep. 22 You can't change people's minds about things that are important to them, so don't even try. Acceptance would be a good skill to learn today.
 LIBRA Sep. 23-Oct. 22 Building this relationship could pay off in a very big way, sending your life in a brand-new direction. Show them you have what it takes, but try not to come on too strong.	 SCORPIO Oct. 23-Nov. 21 If you're seeking inspiration right now, look to the things in your life that are a source of frustration. It might sound counterintuitive, but the stars say that is the right idea.
 SAGITTARIUS Nov. 22-Dec. 21 You're sharper than a tack, quicker than a whip, and much more charming than a puppy! Plus, you have an unbeatable secret weapon: your organizational skills.	 CAPRICORN Dec. 22-Jan. 19 And don't just complain about it to your friends or co-workers. Make an appointment with the person who can really make the changes that you need. Stand up for yourself. You're not asking for more than you deserve.
 AQUARIUS Jan. 20-Feb. 18 The last time you spent any time with old relatives, you learned a lot. Why not plan another visit with someone from your family who can offer some insight into your current conundrum?	 PISCES Feb. 19-Mar. 20 Get out of the past today. The days of yesteryear are relevant in terms of retro clothing styles, classic movies, architecture, and musical inspirations. It's the future you should be focusing on right now.

The Born Loser by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

EASY 	EASY+ 
MEDIUM 	HARD 

WEATHER

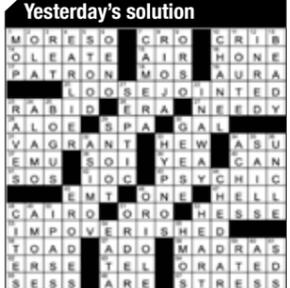
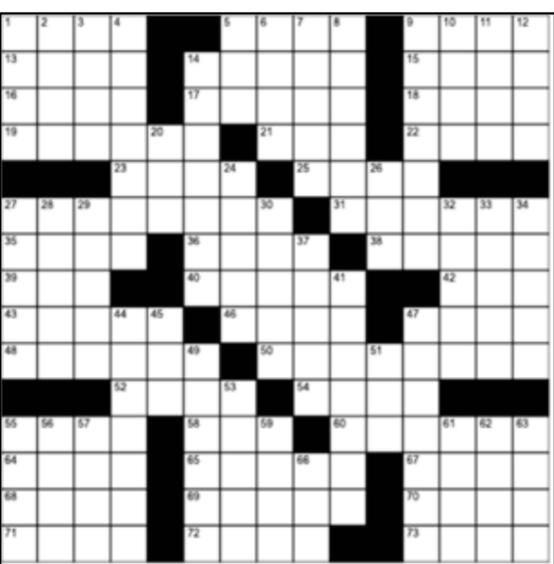
	MIN	MAX	CONDITION
CHINA			
Beijing	2	8	drizzle
Harbin	-18	-4	cloudy
Tianjin	5	9	drizzle
Urumqi	-7	0	cloudy
Xi'an	7	16	cloudy
Lhasa	2	13	cloudy
Chengdu	10	18	cloudy
Chongqing	12	15	drizzle
Kunming	9	21	cloudy
Nanjing	6	16	drizzle
Shanghai	7	15	drizzle
Wuhan	10	14	drizzle
Hangzhou	8	17	drizzle to moderate rain
Taipei	18	21	drizzle
Guangzhou	17	23	drizzle to moderate rain
Hong Kong	20	24	shower
WORLD			
Moscow	-11	-2	overcast
Frankfurt	1	12	overcast
Paris	2	11	overcast
London	2	6	overcast
New York	-5	4	clear

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS 1- The closest one to us is the sun; 5- Greet the day; 9- Roman date; 13- Sheet of stamps; 14- Semi-automatic pistol; 15- Pianist Peter; 16- Many wapti; 17- Overhead; 18- German Mister; 19- Instrument used in combat; 21- VCR button; 22- Church recess; 23- Bothers; 25- Hwys.; 27- Headache; 31- Hunting dog; 35- Cleveland's lake; 36- Seemingly forever; 38- Bobby of the Black Panthers; 39- Thrice, in prescriptions; 40- Chambers; 42- Yank's foe; 43- Register as a participant; 46- Agricultural implement; 47- Mother Hubbard's quest; 48- Go over again; 50- Odoriferous; 52- RR stops; 54- Enthusiastic vigor and liveliness; 55- Opposed to; 58- Flight formation; 60- Neither gas nor solid; 64- Nothing more than; 65- Mindlessly stupid; 67- Golden rule preposition; 68- Former spouses; 69- ___ your life!; 70- Elysium of Genesis; 71- Editorial notation; 72- Metric unit of mass; 73- Voluminous volume.

DOWN: 1- Gush forth; 2- Story; 3- "Puppy Love" singer; 4- Breathe; 5- Massage; 6- Aviation pioneer Sikorsky; 7- Cleave; 8- Establishes; 9- Rashly; 10- Thought-provoking; 11- Slips up; 12- Tender; 14- Taller and thinner; 20- ___ mouse?; 24- Pry; 26- Some MIT grads; 27- Unit just above a yard; 28- Peace goddess; 29- Circumference; 30- ___ Gay; 32- Fortune-telling cards; 33- 1985 Kate Nelligan film; 34- Renaissance fiddle; 37- Campfire treat; 41- Tumid; 44- Least difficult; 45- Queue after Q; 47- Feast; 49- Owning; 51- Month after avril; 53- Spanish Mister; 55- City on the Skunk; 56- Immediately following; 57- It transforms carbon dioxide into oxygen; 59- I could ___ horse!; 61- Word processing command; 62- Romantic couple; 63- Ready to eat; 66- ___ de guerre;

Yesterday's solution

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>Macau, NAPE Apartment with Uninterrupted Views HK\$13,888,000 1,862 ft² 4 3</p>	<p>FOR RENT</p>  <p>Cattleya Court, Ocean Gardens \$12,000/mth 955 ft² 2 1</p>	<p>Rain Dance Property "We dance until it's SOLD!"</p>  <p>Apartment in the Historical Centre HK\$3,900,000 840 ft² 2 1</p>	<p>YOUR PROPERTY HERE</p> <p>Call us for more info</p>	<p>jml 卓雅物業 property since 1994</p> <p>(853) 2835 2699 hello@jmlproperty.com www.jmlproperty.com</p> <p>f jmlmacau @ jmlproperty</p>
--	---	---	---	--

MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

JAKE COYLE,
MDT/AP FILM WRITER

DRIVE IN

IN 'TRUFFLE HUNTERS,' AN ENCHANTING BUT BESET WORLD

YOU'VE got to love a movie that credits its dogs before it does its executive producers.

"The Truffle Hunters," Michael Dweck and Gregory Kershaw's exquisitely charming documentary about old Italian men who scavenge truffles and the dogs they're bound to, lists the canines with the appropriate respect in the end credits. Birba. Biri. Charlie. Fiona. Nina. Titina. Yari. These are some of the stars of "Truffle Hunters," a profoundly lovely movie that delights in the noble scavengers of a dog-eat-dog world.

"The Truffle Hunters," which is shortlisted for best documentary at the Academy Awards and which Sony Pictures Classics will release in theaters Friday, is set in the northern Italy forests of Piedmont. Dweck and Kershaw, both cinematographers, film the truffle hunters — aging, sweet men practicing an ancient and secretive tradition — in painterly, pointillistic tableaux as they walk through autumnal forests, foraging with their dogs. They seep into the landscape.

The film, scored by composer Ed Cortes with retro Italian pop mixed in, conjures an otherwor-



Aurelio Conterno and his dog Birba in a scene from "The Truffle Hunters"

ldly enchantment. In between backwoods trips where their dogs smell their way to the high-priced delicacies, the hunters live humbly in old country homes. Our main characters are never explicitly introduced, but we're drawn intimately into their world, as if we just passed through a magical portal. Aurelio, 84, dines with his

companion, Birba, sitting on the table. Carlo, 88, never seems to stop smiling, especially when he manages to get past his wife (who sternly believes him too old to truffle hunt at night) and slip into the woods with his dog, Titina. The younger, long-haired Sergio, a kindly but passionate soul, bathes with his pups — Pepe and Fiona

— in a pink-tiled tub. This, surely, is a gentle realm every bit as bewitching as Narnia.

But the hunters' earthy endeavor isn't as simple as it seems. Their way of life is a dying one. The rare white Alba truffle is increasingly hard to find because of effects on the soil connected to climate change. The hunters are often pressed for their secrets. "If tomorrow something happens, your wisdom would be lost," one man urges Aurelio. So sought-after are the truffles that their dogs are perpetually at risk of being poisoned by competitors. Sergio, terrified of losing his, pounds on his drums for catharsis. Another hunter, intent on putting something down, hammers furiously at his typewriter. "Dogs are innocent," he writes.

The sense that the hunters — who are really in it for the dogs more than money or anything else — are, like their four-legged friends, innocents in a cor-

rupt world only expands when the filmmakers follow the truffle food chain. Hagglng over prices by headlight, the hunters seem always lowballed by a well-dressed buyer. Higher up, still, are the Michelin-starred restaurants and auction houses that feast on the hunters' finds.

Just as last year's beekeeping beauty "Honeyland," "The Truffle Hunters" is a richly allegorical documentary of a vanishing agricultural pastime. The truffles, weighed and sniffed at market, are delicacies. But the finer things rhapsodized here are not expensive rarities. What's worth savoring is natural splendor, the charms of tradition, and, above all, a good dog. Those things aren't delicacies, but they're fragile just the same.

"The Truffle Hunters," a Sony Pictures Classics release, is rated PG-13 by the Motion Picture Association of America for some language. Running time: 84 minutes. ★★★★★

AD

DD3 VERANDAH UPPER FLOOR

MAR 06 2021

TOGETHER WE DANCE

AKI LIVE SESSION (JAPAN)

NIGLS FORMA (PORTUGAL)

SUPPORTING DJs:

D-HOO (MDMA)

LOC x ERICK (MDMA)

RYOMA (BE-ATS JP)

TIME: 22:00 - LATE

ADMISSION: \$180 + 2DRINKS

VENUE: DD3 VERANDAH

ADDRESS: 2ND FLOOR ESPANHA II FISHERMAN'S WHARF MACAU

BOOKINGS & ENQUIRIES: 28711800

MPMA TWD

THE ROADHOUSE MACAU

DUFFY'S IRISH PUB MACAU

ST. PATRICK'S DAY STREET PARTY

SATURDAY, 20TH MARCH

FROM 8PM ONWARDS

LIVE BAND & DJ MIGUEL

- SPECIAL PROMOTIONS
- FREE GIVEAWAYS
- BALLOON DROP AT THE ROADHOUSE

BROADWAY FOOD STREET AT GALAXY MACAU, TAIPA, MACAU SAR 2884 5212 OR 6328 1245

WELLNESS

EMOTIONAL BEAUTY

IN the 21st century, discerning skin care consumers are now moving away from purchasing items made mostly of chemicals.

Emotional benefits gained while using skin care products are taken into consideration when one is choosing an item. A pioneer in combining skin benefits with elegant aesthetics and innovative technologies, Ayuna has come up with Terra Bella, a cannabis sublimating cream that encourages skin's regeneration mechanisms.

Biotechnological cocktail of terpenes and micro-lipids from cannabis sativa stems cells acts on the microbiota-skin-brain axis, which becomes an instant mood lifter stimulating positive emotions. Ayuna believes that the skin is able to synthesise a plethora of neurochemicals.

Connecting directly with the brain pleasures areas, these molecules produced by the skin can modify human's state of mind and how we are perceived externally. A key molecule in this axis is oxytocin, which is known to activate the social brain and influences interpersonal attraction.

The vessel that contains the precious cream is a handmade work of art. Made out of clay, the texture of the container evokes a feeling of touching the earth and connecting with nature. The cream itself is rich, yet not oily. Upon application, absorption is immediate and the skin becomes softer instantly. After a week of usage, blemishes are reduced and calmed. A porcelain-like sheen envelopes the top layer of the skin, creating an exquisite, flawless complexion.



TASTE OF EDESIA

Gourmet hot dogs

IRENE SAM, MDT

EVERYONE knows **Vida Rica Bar** at Mandarin Oriental, Macau is the place to be for cocktails, but this spring they are surprising foodies with some of the city's finest hotdogs. Out of the five flavoursome hot dogs on the special menu crafted by Chef de Cuisine, Marco De Boni, "A Night in

Paris" stands out as a highlight.

A hot dog made with frankfurter, choucroute, lardons, topped with Dijon mustard in an extra-long baguette, this hot dog is perfect to be shared with several friends.

For those who enjoy spiciness, "Gangnam Dog" is a must-try, made with hot and spicy pork sausage, kimchi and topping it off with pork belly. Truffles lo-

vers can order "The Italian," with black truffles, Italian sausage caramelised onions, cheese and chives that will surely delight.

The selection could also be paired with Disco Fries – Jumbo potatoes, Black pepper, crispy bacon and cheddar cheese or the Diablo Fries – Sweet potato, hot sauce, feta cheese and onions together with a milkshake or beer.

Macau Racing Tips

By Davy Chiu, MDT



THE CURITIBA 1350 METERS SAND

2020-03-05 | Fri | 19:40

Ilike the name of this race The Curitiba, if my memory serves me right this is the place where top jockeys such as J. Moreira and R.Maia learned their racing skills. Both of them have been raced in MJC before and has been very successful in other racing jurisdictions too. Hope these two successful jocks from Brazil can give me good vibes in finding a good winner for our readers this week. Wednesday morning at the track a horse galloped strongly in front of my eyes; checking at his brand no, he is the all mighty **Smart Arrow** from Y.C Fung's stable, looking at his racing forms, I will not hesitate to select him to be my best bet of the week. **Smart Arrow** is a smart sand performer and the booking of K.H Yu is a perfect match, in fact checking at **Smart Arrow's** forms, K.H Yu has rode him three times and all these engagement has all been in the money. He may be short in the odds this Friday night but he should oblige again.

Race 2 | Horse no. 3 Smart Arrow Win & Place bets as well as your banker in your exotics



OPINION

World Views

The Editors, MDT/Bloomberg

**HOW FARMERS COULD
 FIGHT CLIMATE CHANGE
 (AND MAKE A PROFIT)**

Agriculture has never been a principal focus of efforts to reduce greenhouse gases. But farm emissions — which make up about 10% of the U.S. total — are coming under increasing scrutiny as Democrats take the reins of agricultural policy and farmers themselves awoken to the threats of climate change. One strategy in particular is getting attention this year: encouraging farmers to view emissions reduction and carbon sequestration as potential sources of income.

The idea is fairly straightforward. Farmers would take steps to reduce their carbon output, such as reducing tillage to avoid releasing soil carbon, planting cover crops to hold carbon in the soil, applying manure treatments and “digesters” to limit emissions of methane, and using nitrogen fertilizer more precisely to lower nitrous-oxide emissions. In return, they could sell credits to companies looking to reduce their own climate footprint. Private markets for such credits are already springing up, and Congress took measures to encourage similar exchanges in the 2008 Farm Bill.

But much about this concept has yet to be worked out, notably the basic question of how to measure the climate value of various farming practices. Here the U.S. Department of Agriculture could help. A Senate bill introduced last year would direct the USDA to create standards for measuring the effectiveness of climate-protection measures on farms, certify people to help farmers take such measurements and verify their value, and work with the Environmental Protection Agency to monitor private carbon-credit markets.

Such exchanges could go a long way toward encouraging farmers to reduce emissions and sequester carbon. But they won't work unless regulators can ensure that they'll actually bring substantial climate benefits. The danger is that a carbon-credit system might instead mainly enable airlines, investment funds, energy firms, agribusinesses and other companies to excuse their own greenhouse-gas emissions by purchasing inexpensive and largely meaningless offsets.

By setting standards for measurement and verification, and monitoring the private markets, the USDA can maximize the potential of “carbon farming.” It can also extend the benefits beyond the big operations, which can most easily demonstrate emissions reductions, to smaller farms — by helping them participate in collective efforts. If such measurements proved reliable, the Biden administration's proposal to create a government “carbon bank” — which would buy credits from farmers for a guaranteed price per ton — might act as a powerful incentive for farmers big and small.

Carbon credits won't be enough on their own; they should be thought of as a complement to other efforts to encourage climate-friendly agriculture, including existing USDA programs that help farmers finance conservation efforts (which also improve soil health and crop yields), and Energy Department research on soil carbon capture. Congress should also make possible improved terms on loans and reduced premiums on crop insurance for farmers who limit emissions (and water pollution) and conserve carbon.

That said, carbon trading does hold significant promise for limiting emissions on the farm — so long as it's based on verifiable practices that will allow markets to accurately value the credits. The first step is to get the right data.

The Duchess of Sussex has said Buckingham Palace could not expect her and Prince Harry to be silent if it was “perpetuating falsehoods about us,” BBC reported.

In a clip of Oprah Winfrey's interview with the couple, Meghan had been asked how she felt about the palace hearing her “speak your truth today”.

Meghan also said: “If that comes with risk of losing things, I mean [...] there is a lot that has been lost already.”

According to BBC, Buckingham Palace is investigating claims

the duchess bullied royal staff.

The allegations of bullying levelled at Meghan were published after the interview with Winfrey was recorded.

The interview with Winfrey, which will air in the US on Sunday and in the UK on Monday, is expected to detail Harry and Meghan's short period as working royals together before they stepped down for a life in the US.

The Duke and Duchess of Sussex quit their roles as senior working royals in March 2020, and now live in California.

**CHINESE ASTRONAUTS
 TRAINING FOR SPACE
 STATION CREWED FLIGHTS**

CHINA said yesterday a cohort of astronauts is training for four crewed missions this year as the country works to complete its first permanent orbiting space station.

The station's core module, christened Tianhe, could be launched as soon as next month, according to the China National Space Administration and foreign observers. The massive Long March-5B Y2 rocket and its payload were moved into place last month at the Wenchang Spacecraft Launch Site in tropical Hainan province for assembly and testing.

That launch would be the first of 11 missions over the next two years to finish constructing the station by the end of 2022. Two other modules will be launched later, along with four Tianzhou cargo supply mission and the four Shenzhou crewed missions.

CNSA listed 12 astronauts training for the crewed missions, including veterans of previous Shenzhou flights, newcomers and women, though it wasn't clear if there were others selected.

Up to three crew members will reportedly live at a time in the the core module, which has docking



ports to allow the attachment of scientific modules launched later.

China has already launched two smaller experimental space stations to test measures for rendezvous, docking and life support aboard. Once completed, the permanent space station will allow for stays of up to six months, similar to the International Space Station.

The Chinese station reportedly is intended to be used for 15 years and may outlast ISS, which is nearing the end of its functional lifespan.

ISS is backed by the U.S, Russia, Japan, Europe, Canada and others, but China did not participate, partly at the insistence of the United States, which was wary of sharing technology with the secretive,

military linked Chinese program.

China's space program, though, has chalked up steady progress since it first put an astronaut into orbit around Earth in 2003.

A rover went to the little-explored far side of the moon in 2019.

Another craft, the Tianwen-1, is in a parking orbit around Mars in anticipation of landing a rover on the surface in the coming months. If it succeeds, China would become only the second country after the U.S. to put a spacecraft on Mars.

China is also working on a reusable space plane and planning a crewed lunar mission and a possible permanent research base on the moon, though no dates have been proposed. AP

India Police in northeastern Mizoram state said yesterday they have detained three Myanmar policemen who entered India seeking refuge a month after the country's powerful military ousted the elected government of leader Aung San Suu Kyi in a coup.

Yemen's Houthi rebels said they attacked a Saudi oil facility in the port city of Jiddah yesterday, the latest in a series of cross-border missile and drone strikes the group has claimed against the kingdom amid the grinding war in Yemen. Saudi Arabia's state-owned media did not immediately acknowledge any incident in Jiddah. But overnight, the military coalition the Saudis are leading against the rebels announced that the Houthis had fired two explosives-laden drones toward Khamis Mushait.

EU The European Medicines Agency has started a rolling review of Russia's Sputnik V coronavirus vaccine, many months after it was first approved for use in Russia and after dozens of countries around the world have authorized it. In a statement yesterday, the European regulator said the review is based on results from lab studies and research in adults, which suggests the vaccine may help protect against the coronavirus.

UK Amazon has opened a cashier-free supermarket in London, its first bricks and mortar expansion outside the U.S. as the company bets on strong demand for its contactless shops. The online retailing giant opened the doors to its Amazon Fresh shop in West London's Ealing neighborhood on Thursday, in what it said will be the first in a wave of shops in the British capital using its automated checkout technology.

THE DECISIVE MOMENT

Xinhua/Then Chih Wey



Family Vacation. A pack of wild smooth-coated otters crosses Penang Road in Singapore. The “Zouks,” a well-known otter family in Singapore, started out from the Istana, and made a “royal” tour of various landmarks in Singapore.



UK Prince Philip has had a successful heart procedure at a London hospital and is expected to remain for several days of “rest and recuperation,” Buckingham Palace said yesterday. The palace said the 99-year-old husband of Queen Elizabeth II “underwent a successful procedure for a pre-existing heart condition at St Bartholomew's Hospital.”