



CIVIL WATCH, NEW MACAU PROGRESSIVE AND POWER OF SYNERGY ANNOUNCED LISTS OF CANDIDATES YESTERDAY FOR THE UPCOMING ELECTION

P4

PROPERTY INSPECTIONS WITHOUT COURT ORDER MAY BE PERMITTED

P3

THE PUBLIC SECURITY POLICE FORCE HAS REPORTED THAT THEY HAVE DETAINED FOUR PEOPLE ON SUSPICION OF BEING PART OF A SHAM MARRIAGE SCHEME

P5

AP PHOTO



Indonesia Rescuers yesterday were searching for 11 people missing in rough seas overnight after a ferry sank near Indonesia's resort island of Bali. Seven bodies have been recovered and 39 people were rescued, many of them unconscious after drifting in choppy waters for hours. The KMP Yunice sank about half an hour after leaving East Java's Ketapang port late Tuesday, Bali Search and Rescue Agency chief Gede Darmada said. It was bound for Bali's Gilimanuk port, a 50-kilometer trip.

AP PHOTO



Australia The Queensland and Western Australia state governments yesterday advised people under age 40 not to take the AstraZeneca vaccine because of the risk of a rare blood clotting disorder, despite the Australian government making those shots available to all adults. The state governments' advice to those under 40 is based on British government guidelines, while the new federal government's position acknowledges the scarcity of the Pfizer vaccine and an urgent need to accelerate a slow national rollout.

AP PHOTO



Israel has reached a compromise with Jewish settlers who rapidly established an unauthorized outpost in the occupied West Bank last month, officials and the settlers. Under the agreement, the settlers will leave by the end of the week. The area will become a closed military zone, but the houses and roads will remain in place.

More on backpage

MARKING 100 YEARS

China is marking the Chinese Communist Party's centenary today with fireworks and fanfare, celebrating the party's century-long efforts to 'rejuvenate China'

P7



XINHUA

BLOOMBERG



MGTO IN CONTACT WITH LOCAL HOTELS FOR HK GUESTS' ARRANGEMENTS

P2

CENTLINE PROPERTY MARKET SET FOR REBOUND

P3



XINHUA

male working in Hong Kong airport, together with his 24-year-old female colleague, both bearing Delta strains, from “local case of unknown source” to “epidemiologically linked with imported cases.”

The cases were reclassified after it was found that the man “had brief encounters with the three imported cases at the Department of Health’s Temporary Specimen Collection Centre in the Hong Kong International Airport on June 11,” the CHP explained.

Hong Kong registered no local cases yesterday. Given the reclassification, Hong Kong technically recorded no locally-transmitted case for 23 consecutive days: five days short of the trigger for the Hong Kong-Macau travel bubble plan to be further cemented.

On Monday, Tai Wa Hou, coordinator of the Health Bureau’s Covid-19 vaccination operation, said that the intercity travel bubble may resume, even without the need for Hong Kong to register no local cases for 28 consecutive days.

The prerequisite for the re-opening of the travel bubble, he added, will be scientific evidence proving that Hong Kong’s recent confirmed cases are imported and there is no contagion risk in the community.

Officials of the two cities are actively discussing how to re-assess the “28 days” requirement, he confirmed.

The MGTO also reiterated to the Times that when the target of 28 consecutive days is reached, the implementation of the travel bubble measure between Hong Kong and Macau “will be carried out progressively and in several stages (with a limit of entries at each stage).”

“Additional measures” must be taken to ensure a firm containment of the spread of the pandemic and the safety of the population in Macau in the Hong Kong-Macau travel scheme, the MGTO added.

HOTEL ARRANGEMENTS FOR HONG KONG GUESTS UNDER DISCUSSION

HONEY TSANG

SINCE the sudden developments in Hong Kong’s pandemic situation on Tuesday, with the reclassification of the recent two confirmed Delta cases as imported cases, the Macao Government Tourism Office (MGTO) told the Times yesterday that the authorities are in discussion with local hoteliers to formulate new arrangements for the accommodation of Hong Kong travelers after the border reopens.

According to a report published yesterday by HK01, a Hong Kong-based Chinese media outlet, vaccinated Hong Kong arrivals will be assigned a new health code color upon arrival — not one of the current green, yellow or red codes.

According to the report, holidaymakers from Hong Kong will be granted permission to move around inside their hotels after entering Macau, but they may

only stay on hotel floors designated exclusively for them.

The report also claims that Hong Kong tourists will be banned from entering swimming pools and other water activities in the hotels.

rently in internal communication and discussion with local hotels and guesthouses for feasible arrangements.”

“Given that the plan is in a stage of discussion, the MGTO is inquiring those accommodations to

two cities soon. Some particulars are tabled for discussion, such as the need to set an initial quota for ferry passengers, the need for ferry staff to be fully vaccinated and whether they might be exempted from quarantine while crossing between the two cities, among other questions.

On June 29, the Hong Kong Centre for Health Protection (CHP) announced that it will reclassify the case of a 27-year-old

“MGTO is currently in internal communication and discussion with local hotels and guesthouses for feasible arrangements.”

MACAO GOVERNMENT TOURISM OFFICE

The HK01 report also stated that the MGTO has already communicated with Macau’s hotel operators to inform them of these proposed measures.

Questioned by the Times about the accuracy of these statements, a spokesperson of the MGTO replied in an email: “MGTO is cur-

provide information, but has no information to announce to the public at this moment,” the MGTO’s spokesperson added.

In addition, the report also said that the Macau government has already liaised with the ferry company to discuss the feasibility of resuming services between the

INTEGRATED RESORTS TO BENEFIT MOST UNDER THE NEW PLAN: JP MORGAN

JP Morgan released a memo yesterday sharing its views on the new proposed restrictions applied exclusively to visitors from Hong Kong. The brokerage consulted with some Macau hoteliers who suggested that Hong Kong travelers after entering Macau are very

likely to be forbidden to leave the hotel premises for some time. The brokerage also stated that these proposed measures “would benefit large-scale integrated resorts more than the others, as guests are likely to be asked to stay within the property.”

www.macaudailytimes.com.mo

REACHING OUT!

+20,500

Like us on facebook.com/mdtimes



MacauDaily 澳門每日時報
Times
DIRECTOR & EDITOR-IN-CHIEF_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, Emilie Tran, Irene Sam, Ivo Carneiro de Sousa, Jacky I.F. Cheong, Jenny Lao-Phillips, João Palla Martins, Joseph Cheung, 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, MacauHub, MacauNews, Xinhua
SECRETARY_Yang Dongxiao amy@macaudailytimes.com

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

A MACAU TIMES PUBLICATIONS LTD PUBLICATION

ADMINISTRATOR & 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

Real estate market to experience a rebound

HONEY TSANG

AS Macau's inoculation rate increases, the local property market will obviously be stimulated, the Centaline (Macau) Property Agency Ltd predicted in its forecast for rent and sale property markets at a briefing yesterday.

Given the fact that the Covid-19 situation in Guangdong (GD) province has largely subsided, the local tourism industry is expected to soon experience a rebound in the third quarter — which will, in turn, boost the leasing market.

Regarding the leasing sector, the transaction volumes for merchant stores continue strong, with shops with large floor-areas in Taipa being most pronounced.

Around the May Golden Week, a string of leases were signed for first-tier shops at traditional tourist spots such as Ruins of Saint Paul, Rua de S. Domingos, and others. The rents of these shops were lowered by around 30% to 50% when compared



to the pre-pandemic era.

There were six transactions of shops in casino areas, with their rents down 50% on average.

The agency also saw a noticeable improvement in the housing property in the second quarter of this year. The number of property viewings in the market arranged through the agency increased 50% compared to the previous quarter.

Coupled with other boosting factors such as mortgage discounts offered by local banks, the transaction volumes of Macau's housing fared well, registering 592 in April and 677 in May.

However, the market was hindered by the resurgence of coronavirus in GD in June, reaching only 500 transactions, which fell short of the agency's earlier projection of over 1,000 transac-

tions for the month.

Overall, around 1,800 transactions in housing were made in the second quarter.

In terms of property prices, the average housing price was MOP 6,700 per square foot. This number is still 5.6% lower than the agency's previous forecast of MOP 7,100, or the average levels in 2019.

Centaline expects that the improvement in the tourism industry will result in advancement growth in the housing market. However, if the Covid-19 continues to overshadow the region, the city's housing transactions will remain at a low level.

The trading volume for apartments with a value below MOP8 million has not yet been affected. With a price range considered to be affordable for young first-time buyers, it has been a bright spot in the market.

However, large housing units have registered fewer transactions during the period as consumers have been more inclined to save as much money as possible during the pandemic.

Despite that, the agency expects the transaction rate of larger apartments is about to bottom out and rebound in the next one or two years, considering they are still more favored by buyers in the long term, whilst taking into account the factors of lighting, practicality and landscape.

TEACHER-DEVELOPMENT KEY IN CONSULTATION ON NON-TERTIARY EDUCATION

Consultation on mid- to long-term planning for Non-tertiary Education has garnered 978 submissions in a 49-day period. The five topics of most concern are the nurturing aspect of teaching, infant education, teaching a sense of happiness, further revision of curricula, teaching and assessment, as well as refining innovative and technological education. Some opinions called for the elimination of squeeze-in education, education through memorization or model-answer style education.

LAWMAKER BECKY SONG CALLS FOR ACCELERATED URBAN RENEWAL

Incumbent lawmaker Becky Song hopes urban renewal and the introduction of elderly hostels can be accelerated. Residents complained to the lawmaker about the poor hygiene conditions in lao Hon, where it is reported there are not enough trash cans and trash is scattered over the streets, causing an unpleasant smell. Due to the lack of owners' unions, some lao Hon buildings are full of flies, cockroaches, rats and even human excrement. While attributing the cause of these conditions to historical factors, the lawmaker admitted that the habits of the residents are another cause.

PROPERTY INSPECTIONS WITHOUT COURT ORDER MAY BE PERMITTED

THE latest version of the Urban Architecture Legal Regime Bill proposes allowing officers from the Land, Public Works and Transport Bureau (DSSOPT) to enter a property for inspection without court order even if not resident's consent is obtained.

The Second Standing Committee of the Legislative Assembly is still studying the details of the draft legislation. After a recent meeting, the committee announced the proposal.

However, the committee stressed, this practice will only be allowed in one of three limited circumstances.

In principle, the committee said, consent must be obtained from the resident of a property before DSSOPT officers may enter for an inspection. The bill leaves three exceptions to this requirement.

The first exception is when the residence is an illegal structure, such as a rooftop bungalow. The second exception is when the building is in immediate danger of collapse. The final exception



is when a situation hazardous to public health or personal safety is suspected.

On the other hand, the committee said that the government had added special stipulations to limit the power of the authority.

It is proposed that when DSSOPT officers enter and conduct inspection at a residence, they must abide with the "principle of appropriateness," finish the inspection within a reasonable amount

of time, and must focus only on the concerned areas, or areas with finished or ongoing work, within the residence.

The committee explained that, for example, DSSOPT officers will not enter the bedroom if the concerned area is the living room.

The bill also proposes to waive permits for civil engineering projects conducted at and by public administration bureaus. AL

HOTEL OCCUPANCY IN MAY STOOD AT 62%

THE average occupancy rate of guest rooms in May surged by 50.2 percentage points year-on-year to 62.0%, with both 3-star and 4-star hotels outperforming the sector's average, at 70.7% and 67.5% respectively, according to data from the Statistics and Census Service (DSEC).

The number of guests checked into hotels & guesthouses leapt by 552.3% year-on-year to 760,000 in May, with those from mainland China (659,000) shooting up by 816.4% and local guests (68,000) jumping by 112.3%.

Previously, president of the Macau Hoteliers & Innkeepers Association, Cheung Kin Chung said that the general hotel occupancy in Macau reached levels of between 80% to 90% during the May 1 holidays, giving the industry confidence



that "the worst has passed."

From January to May, the average occupancy rate of guest rooms was 51.3%, up by 21.2 percentage points year-on-year.

The number of guests of hotels & guesthouses increased by 71.5% year-on-year to 2,908,000, while their average length of stay held stable at 1.7 nights.

There were no inbound package tour visitors in May while the number of visitors joining local tours added up to 8,300. Outbound residents using services of travel agencies totalled 26,000, and 98.8% of them went to mainland China. From January to May 2021, visitors joining local tours soared by 126.6% year-on-year to 21,000. LV



From left: Civil Watch, New Macau Progressive and Power of Synergy

ANTHONY LAM

ELECTIONS 2021

CIVIL Watch, New Macau Progressive and Power of Synergy – three parties campaigning on professionalism – announced yesterday their lists of candidates for the upcoming parliamentary election.

The latter two groups submitted their lists of candidates and election platforms yesterday at the Public Administration Building. Meanwhile, the former group held a press conference just to announce their candidates.

The New Macau Progressive held a special rally outside the Public Administration Building, with a speech reviewing its background and history, and presenting its policies.

CIVIL WATCH

Led by incumbent lawmaker Agnes Lam, has listed eight candidates in total. Lam heads the list, followed by George Zhao (medical doctor), Gary Chu (engineering consultant), Addy Chan (mechanical and electric engineer), Jacky Cheong (lecturer of public health), Rebecca

Mak (overseas education consultant), Rui Leão (architect) and Jason Wong (lawmaker's assistant).

The group will focus on economic livelihood in the pandemic-era, employment, support for the disadvantaged, housing, transport, healthcare and economic development, among other issues.

Agnes Lam has not been a particularly popular lawmaker online, with social media users mocking her with occasional sexist remarks. When questioned about these attacks, she said she would defend policies and comments that she believed to be right.

She said that being criticized online was part of the political game, but she said she would "correct her comments if, at the end of the day, the public was convincing enough."

Lam recognized that the city has laws that guarantee women's rights, but added that education on gender equality should be streamlined.

NEW MACAU PROGRESSIVE

This year New Macau Progressive has a list of five candidates. Incumbent lawmaker Sulu Sou leads the list, followed by Rocky Chan, Wong Ip Po, Lei Ka Kan and Chan Wai Chun. It is worth noting that the latter Chan is a founding member of the New Macau Association, which was inaugurated in 1992.

The group is attempting to win two seats in the parliament. It currently holds only one seat.

The New Macau Progressive stressed several times throughout the rally that the team is relatively young: the list has an average age of 35 years. It was also reiterated that young people

in Macau are "reliable" in achieving changes.

The group will focus on opening the committee meeting in the parliament. Currently, these parliamentary committee meetings are held with doors closed.

It will also remain its position in calling for democratic political reform, strengthening a sense of morality, discipline, legality and accountability of senior officials, reforming subsidization schemes for autonomous public organizations, as well as publicizing the accounts of subsidized social entities.

He also shared his view on patriotism by citing a Chinese proverb: "Love it tight, blame it harsh," to illustrate that the more an individual loves their country, the more rigorous they should scrutinize its public administration.

POWER OF SYNERGY

Of the three groups which announced candidates yesterday, Power of Synergy is the only one without an incumbent lawmaker.

It submitted a list of seven candidates, with Ron Lam and Johnson Ian, both commentators, taking the first two positions. They are followed by Sio Ieng Weng, Che I Kei, Vitor da Rocha Vai, U Lok I and Cheong Iek Chong.

Leading candidate, Ron Lam, said that this list consists of professionals from various sectors, such as medicine and engineering. He hopes that this list will be versatile enough to address the needs of all directions, all levels and all ages in the community. He stressed that the list will "uphold facts and figures to do real work and face problems."

Reviewing the last election, which was the first time the group participated in a parliamentary election, Ron Lam said that despite the group not managing to win a seat, it has overcome barriers in the past four years to "comment [on] and supervise" the government's work.

He stressed that the group has also helped many people seeking assistance.

CRIME

PSP arrests theft suspect after a hot pursuit in ZAPE area

RENATO MARQUES

THE Public Security Police Force (PSP) has arrested a man suspected of theft yesterday morning following a high-speed pursuit through the NAPE and ZAPE areas, the PSP announced yesterday at the regular press conference of the police forces.

According to the statement, the PSP received a notification at 10:06 a.m. yesterday that a 51-year-old woman from the mainland had been assaulted and robbed in the

Avenida 24 de Junho in the NAPE area. A man punched her in the chest and then stole her handbag.

The PSP deployed officers to the location who found the woman. To the police, she said that while she was walking on the street a man suddenly punched her, making her fall to the ground. He then took her handbag and fled the scene on foot in the direction of the ZAPE area.

Just five minutes later, officers spotted a man matching the victim's description at the Avenida do Dr.

Rodrigo Rodrigues.

When he saw the officers following in pursuit, he entered a taxi which then drove in the direction of the city center.

The police officers finally stopped the taxi at Rua da Encosta and detained the fugitive.

According to the victim, the bag contained all her documents, RMB6,100 and HKD40,300 in cash and HKD37,000 in casino gaming chips.

Questioned by the PSP, the man admitted to the crime, and added that af-



ter stealing the handbag he only kept the cash from it, discarding the bag and other contents at a rubbish bin located at the President Hotel.

Officers then went to

the hotel and found the victim's bag with all the documents and casino chips still inside, thus managing to recover all the stolen items.

The suspect is a 40-year-

old male who is also from the mainland. At the time of the press conference, his case was waiting to be referred to the Public Prosecutions Office to be charged for theft.

MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER



Registered vehicles increased by up to 3.6% y-o-y

LICENSED motor vehicles in Macau totaled 244,420 at the end of May, up 2.0% year-on-year, according to recent data published by the Information from the Statistics and Census Service (DSEC). Light automobiles (111,889) went up by 2.3% and heavy motorcycles (103,537) went up by 3.6% year-on-year. New registration of motor vehicles in May dropped 16.6% year-on-year to 915, with heavy motorcycles (472) falling by 29.6%.

while that of light automobiles (426) rising by 10.1%.

The number of traffic accidents in May totaled 1,107, with 393 persons injured. In the first five months of 2021 there were 5,204 traffic accidents, causing 1,787 injuries.

Meanwhile, cross-border vehicular traffic in May soared by 761.8% year-on-year to 395,466 trips.

Arriving and departing commercial flights totaled 1,696 in May: an upsurge of 612.6% year-on-year.

In the first five months of 2021 the number of arriving and departing commercial flights fell 33.2% year-on-year to 5,889 trips, while air cargo rose by 51.3% to 15,796 tons.

Number of mobile phone subscribers decreased 36.6% year-on-year to 1,246,341, a fall which may be attributed to the 64.6% drop in prepaid SIM card subscribers (406,753).

In May, internet subscribers rose by 5.2% year-on-year to 644,110. **LV**

CRIME

POLICE DETAIN FOUR OVER FAKE MARRIAGES

RENATO MARQUES

THE Public Security Police Force (PSP) has announced that they have detained four people on suspicion of being part of a sham marriage scheme.

Of the four detained, three people were parties to the marriages, and a fourth person, the PSP claimed, acted as an intermediary.

According to the PSP spokesperson, the police received the case through an online report, which said that the third suspect, a 36-year-old woman from the mainland, had a fake marriage in Macau in an attempt to gain resident status.

After checking with the relevant services, the PSP found that she had married the second suspect in 2018, a 43-year-old male from the mainland who had been previously been granted resident status, also by marriage.

The couple had two chil-

dren, one born in 2011, before the marriage, and another born in 2019.

The police also found that the second suspect had a previous marriage with the first suspect, a 49-year-old local woman, back in 2006.

Four years later, she applied for residency status for the husband claiming a family reunion.

The second suspect and the first suspect were divorced seven years later, and after this, he married the third suspect almost immediately.

According to the fourth suspect, also a local 49-year-old woman, it was she who initially introduced the man to the first suspect in order for them to marry and gain residency in Macau.

She also said that the first suspect got RMB20,000 in compensation for the marriage at the time.

All four are charged with document forgery and providing false declarations to the authorities.

AD



9th Macao International Travel (Industry) Expo

9 - 11 / 7 / 2021 • Hall A and B, Cotai Expo, The Venetian Macao

Welcome

Program

(Opening hours)

July 9 11:00-18:00

July 10 10:00-18:00

July 11 10:00-17:00



Visitors should wear masks, have temperature checked and present their green Health Code upon admission.

5 Major Highlights

- ▶ Strengthen "Cloud Series", integrate online and offline exhibitions.
 - ▶ Expand "Macao Street", boost local tourism economy.
- ▶ Promote inheritance, innovation and exchange of gastronomy via "City of Gastronomy" culinary demonstration.
- ▶ Promote cultural tourism development, integrate "tourism + culture and creativity".
 - ▶ Promote "Distinctive Shops", enhance brand images.

Transportation

4 Shuttle Bus Points

- ▶ Rua do Dr. Pedro José Lobo (near The Macau Square)
- ▶ Rua de Seng Tou (near Urbanização Jardim Nova Taipa Block 21)
- ▶ Rua do Mercado de Iao Hon (near Mei Lin Building Block 4)
- ▶ Avenida do Conselheiro Ferreira de Almeida (near Pak Wai Bus Stop)

Lucky Draw on Consumption

Visitors can participate in the "Mak Mak, your Tour Guide in Macao" Lucky draw with consumption of over MOP300.



Pre-registration



Scan QR code for registration

Join the Checkpoint reward game, visit the 5 highlights exhibition area to redeem a souvenir. <https://www.mitexpo.mo>



CHINESE State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi Tuesday called on the Group of 20 (G20) members to promote the spirit of partnership and put forward suggestions for joint efforts.

Wang made the remarks when attending a conference of the G20 foreign ministers via video link in Beijing.

Noting that the global epidemic situation is still grave, and the economic recovery is clearly disparate, Wang said G20 members should uphold unity and cooperation and exert leadership in the global fight against the epidemic.

It is necessary to accelerate the implementation of the results of the Global Health Summit, strengthen cooperation in vaccines, diagnosis and treatment, joint prevention and control, and provide more support to developing countries, Wang added.

He said China has so far provided more than 450 million doses of vaccines to nearly 100 countries, calling on nations with the ability to reject export res-

Official calls on G20 members to advance partnership spirit



trictions or overstocking and make contributions to eliminate the immunization gap.

Wang called on G20 members to uphold multilateralism and contribute to the stability of the international order. He said G20 members should take the lead in practicing true multilateralism and firmly safeguard the global system with the United Nations as the core and the international order based on international law.

They should also adhere to openness and inclusiveness, aim for win-win cooperation, and oppose zero-sum games.

"We should persist in openness and integration to provide impetus to the recovery of the world economy," Wang said. He added that G20 members should adopt responsible macroeconomic policies to avoid spillovers of the negative effects of their own actions and ensure the steady operation of

the international economic and financial system.

Wang called on G20 members to unswervingly build an open world economy and actively maintain the security and stability of the global industrial chain and supply chain. He also urged the G20 to prevent fragmentation of the international market and politicizing cooperation mechanisms. They should continue to advance structural reforms to achieve a high-quality and resilient recovery, he said.

China and African countries jointly launched the "Initiative on Partnership for Africa's Development" and welcome more nations and international organizations to join, Wang said, calling for actions to improve sustainable development and enhance the resilience of the global governance system. **MDT/XINHUA**

TAIWAN

BOY DIES AFTER BEING REPEATEDLY SLAMMED IN JUDO CLASS

A 7-year-old Taiwanese boy has died after being repeatedly slammed by his coach and others at a judo class.

The boy, identified only by his surname, Huang, was taken off life support on Tuesday night after being in a coma since the April 21 incident.

The coach, identified in reports by his surname, Ho, has been indicted on charges of causing bodily injury and using children to commit a crime.

Ho reportedly ordered other students to throw Huang to the mat, then began to do so himself, even after the boy vomited and pleaded for the abuse to stop. He eventually became unresponsive and was taken to a hospital but never recovered consciousness.

red consciousness.

The official Central News Agency said Ho had no coaching license and had been offering classes in the central Taiwanese city of Fengyuan for free. He has said the throws were part of normal training, even though Huang was a new student and hadn't yet acquired the skills to protect himself, CNA said.

The decision to take him off life support came after doctors were unable to stop Huang's blood pressure and heart rate from declining, the agency said.

Ho is free on bail while the investigation continues.

Martial arts are popular in Taiwan, which has found international success in several forms, especially Taekwondo. **MDT/AP**

AD



WE THINK DIFFERENTLY ...

**NOT IN
NOT OUT
JUST THE BOX**



28 years experience in shipping your goods across the ocean

Direct Service Macau - Lisbon

**Don't Miss Out
Next Sailing SOON**



+853 63083130



onthemove@ottcargo.com

Chinese take pride, genuine joy in CPC's landmark anniversary, defy West's smears

CHEN QINGQING,
ZHAO YUSHA & CAO SIQI

WITH a dazzling light show illuminating the night sky of the Chinese capital Beijing, thousands of drones soaring simultaneously into the sky in the southern city of Shenzhen to form scenes of momentous events in the history of the Communist Party of China (CPC), and red Chinese national flags fluttering on the streets of Hong Kong, the world's largest ruling party is celebrating its 100th anniversary today, a thrilling event ahead of which the festival atmosphere has become omnipresent. The whole world is watching how the biggest ruling party parties. Instead of delving into the true reason why Chinese people are eager to celebrate the CPC centenary on such a large scale and in so many ways, some Western media outlets and observers focused on the roadblocks and enhanced security in cities like Beijing, hyping it is to maintain absolute stability for the so-called propaganda blitz for the Party's achievements. Some reports exaggerated the so-called sacrifice of the country's ordinary people for the event. However, the majority of the Chinese people know why the CPC centenary and the celebrations are important to them, given the Party's century-long efforts to rejuvenate China, its leading role in making the country the second-largest global economy with a strong entrepreneurial middle class and world-beating high-technology as well as its strong military. The celebratory activities are reminding Chinese people of the grand journey the CPC has experienced, which transformed a weak and war-torn nation into a global power.

THE GRAND JOURNEY

An art performance titled "The Great Journey" was held in celebration of the 100th anniversary of the founding of the CPC at the Na-



tional Stadium in Beijing on Monday evening with around 20,000 spectators. Chinese President Xi Jinping and other Party and state leaders watched the performance. With fireworks rocketing into the sky, displaying the number 100 over the stadium, the curtain was lifted on the performance. On a giant screen at the center of the stage, the golden Party emblem shone against the red curtain in gilded fonts with "1921" and "2021" written on both sides. The epic show, divided into four parts, revealed how the Chinese people, under the leadership of the CPC, have carried out revolution, construction and reform over the past 100 years. A man, who preferred to be called Li Hai and attended the show, said it highlighted significant events of the Party, ranging from the May Fourth Movement to the War to Resist US Aggression and Aid Korea, from the Wenchuan earthquake to Wuhan's battle against COVID-19, and from high-speed railway to 5G. The show's grand staging and spectacular light effects combined to depict all the significant events, Li told the Global Times on Tuesday. "The audience was all singing along. It felt really stirring and emotional," he said. "I was amazed by the stage full of modern technologies and the fantastic fireworks show that lasted for such a long time," Nixie

Lam, board member of the United Nations Association of China and a former Hong Kong district councilor, told the Global Times after attending the glorious performance on Monday. "After all we can only appreciate such fireworks show for a very short time in Hong Kong as it is quite expensive." Nixie Lam is a member of the 60-strong delegation of public figures led by Hong Kong Chief Executive Carrie Lam to Beijing to participate in the CPC centenary celebration. Nixie Lam said she was most impressed by the performance by medical workers who fought on the anti-epidemic frontlines. "Their stories show that the Chinese people deeply trust the CPC and the government led by the Party. It fully demonstrates that the Party's principle is to serve the people," Nixie Lam said. At the end of the performance, the audience stood up and sang the song "Without the Communist Party, There Would Be No New China" in a long ovation. Outside the stadium, when he saw the culmination of the display, a recreation in fireworks of five golden stars that hung in the sky above the National Stadium, and lit up the dark sky, Wang Han was moved to tears. Standing among a passionate crowd who were taking photos to capture the unforgettable moment, Wang said the splendid fireworks

made him feel an unprecedented sense of pride about being Chinese. He said the memories took him back to 2008 when he decided to pursue his college studies in Beijing as the capital city finally had the chance to host the Olympic Games. "After all these years, I could finally see fireworks at the Bird's Nest to witness how great the country is," Wang said. The foreign media's pillories of security measures are "lame," Peking University professor Zhang Yiwu told the Global Times on Tuesday. "Of course we have to tighten security checks and impose other measures to ensure those activities go smoothly. Doesn't the US adopt any safety checks ahead of big events, like the presidential inauguration?" Zhang asked. The Party's centennial is a grand day for all Chinese, the professor said. "The public is so eager to participate in this celebration themselves, as they firmly believe that the country's destiny is closely linked with the Party... and that the Party has fought hard for their current happy lives," he noted.

BIG DAY FOR ALL

Cities across the nation have been staging light shows at city landmarks. In a more time-consuming and creative way, some villages planted crops like rice in anniversary-themed patterns. To enable people to get involved with

the anniversary, there were special tours at memorial sites connected with the CPC like the former revolutionary base Yan'an in Northwest China's Shaanxi Province. In Hong Kong, buses and trams are getting in on the festivities, with many decorated with red designs featuring elements related to the CPC. The harborside district of Tsim Sha Tsui is festooned with red Chinese national flags and the flags of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, with residents describing it as an "unprecedented scene."

Compared with last year's celebration of National Day in October, Nixie Lam felt evident changes in Hong Kong's political atmosphere after the implementation of the national security law for Hong Kong and the electoral system reform. As the celebration date comes close, exhibitions themed around the founding of the Party are gradually opening to the public. Tiananmen Square, where the celebrations are expected to be held, was closed to the public from June 23 and will reopen on the morning of July 2. Xi, general secretary of the CPC Central Committee, will address at a grand gathering celebrating the CPC centenary at Tiananmen Square in Beijing today starting from 8 a.m. When Global Times reporters visited the Tiananmen Square on Sunday night, some roads were shut down, but people showed palpable joy when they saw the place is fully decorated with flowers and lights, signaling hope and best wishes for the future.

Besides the government-organized big celebrations and galas, some residential communities are staging their own performances to celebrate this significant date, Zhang noted. "So yes, some people have encountered minor inconveniences due to those security measures. But it doesn't mean that they are not happy about the Party's centennial," he said. **GLOBAL TIMES**

COMMUNIST PARTY OF CHINA NOW HAS OVER 95 MILLION MEMBERS

THE Communist Party of China (CPC) has 95.148 million members as of June 5, the Organization Department of the CPC Central Committee announced yesterday.

Membership was 3.5 percent up from the figure reported at the end of 2019, and approximately 20 times more than the figure in 1949 when the People's Repu-

blic of China (PRC) was founded, the department said in a report ahead of the CPC's centenary on July 1.

In 1921 when it was founded, the CPC had more than 50 members.

Approximately 2.31 million people joined the CPC in the first half of this year, the statement added.

"The continuous increase of members has shown the strong vitality of the Party and the prosperity of the Party's cause," the statement said.

The number of primary-level Party organizations has increased from 195,000 when the PRC was founded to 4.86 million, an increase of about 24 times, according to the statement. **XINHUA**

XI TO ADDRESS GRAND GATHERING CELEBRATING CPC CENTENARY

XI JINPING, general secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee, will attend a grand gathering celebrating the CPC centenary at Tian'anmen Square in Beijing today.

Xi, also Chinese president and chairman of the Central Military Commission, will deliver an important speech at the event that will begin at 8 a.m.

The event will be broadcast live by China

Media Group and on www.xinhuanet.com. It will also be broadcast simultaneously by television and radio stations across China, as well as on news websites and new media platforms. **XINHUA**



NORTH KOREA

Kim berates officials for 'crucial' virus lapse

KIM TONG-HYUNG,
SEOUL

NORTH Korean leader Kim Jong Un berated top officials for failures in coronavirus prevention that caused a "great crisis," using strong language that raised the specter of a mass outbreak in a country that would be scarcely able to handle it.

The state media report yesterday did not specify what "crucial" lapse had prompted Kim to call the Politburo meeting of the ruling Workers' Party, but experts said North Korea could be wrestling with a significant setback in its pandemic fight.

So far, North Korea has claimed to have had no coronavirus infections, despite testing thousands of people and sharing a porous border with China. Experts widely doubt the claim and are concerned about any potential outbreak, given the country's poor health infrastructure.

At the Politburo meeting, Kim criticized the senior officials for supposed incompetence, irresponsibility and passiveness in planning and executing anti-virus measures amid the lengthening pandemic, the North's official Korean Central News Agency said.

Kim said "senior officials in charge of important state affairs neglected the implementation of the impor-

tant decisions of the party on taking organizational, institutional, material, scientific and technological measures as required by the prolonged state emergency epidemic prevention campaign," according to KCNA. This "caused a crucial case of creating a great crisis in ensuring the security of the state and safety of the people and entailed grave consequences."

The report also said the party recalled an unspecified member of the Politburo's powerful Presidium, which consists of Kim and four other top officials.

"There is no possibility that North Korea will ever admit to an infection - even if there were mass transmissions, the North will definitely not reveal such developments.

HONG MIN
SENIOR ANALYST AT SEOUL'S KOREA INSTITUTE FOR NATIONAL UNIFICATION

The reference indicated Kim may replace his Cabinet Premier Kim Tok Hun, who would be held responsible for failures in the government's anti-epidemic work, said Hong Min, a senior analyst at Seoul's Korea Institute for National Unification.

"There is no possibility that North Korea will ever admit to an infec-

tion — even if there were mass transmissions, the North will definitely not reveal such developments and will continue to push forward an anti-virus campaign it has claimed to be the greatest," Hong said.

"But it's also clear that something significant happened and it was big enough to warrant a reprimanding of senior officials. This could mean mass infections or some sort of situation where a lot of people were put at direct risk of infections."

Cheong Seong-Chang, an analyst at South Korea's

private Sejong Institute, expressed a similar view, saying North Korea is potentially dealing with huge virus-related problems in border towns near China, such as Sinuiju or Hyesan. He said the Presidium member Kim Jong Un sacked could possibly be Jo Yong Won, a secretary of the Workers' Party's Central Committee who had been

seen as a fast-rising figure in the leadership circle.

But other experts said Kim could be responding to illicit border trade that defied his lockdown measures or setting the stage for a political shakeup or purge to solidify his grip on power as he navigates perhaps the toughest time of his nine-year rule.

South Korea's Unification Ministry, which deals with inter-Korean affairs, said it had no immediate information to share about the North Korean report and that it wouldn't make prejudgments about the country's virus situation.

Wang Wenbin, spokesperson of China's Foreign Ministry, raised the possibility of helping North Korea in the event of a major outbreak of COVID-19.

"China and the DPRK have a long tradition of helping each other when they encounter difficulties," Wang said, referring to North Korea by its official name, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

"If necessary, China will actively consider providing assistance to the DPRK."

From the start of the pandemic, North Korea described its anti-virus efforts as a "matter of national existence," banned tourists, jettied out diplomats and severely curtailed cross-border traffic and trade. The lockdown has further strained an economy already battered by decades of mismanagement and crippling U.S.-led sanctions over the country's nuclear weapons program.

Kim during a political conference earlier this month called for officials to brace for prolonged COVID-19 restrictions, indicating that the country isn't ready to open its borders despite its economic woes.

North Korea has told the World Health Organization it has not found a single coronavirus infection after testing more than 30,000 people, including many described as having fevers or respiratory symptoms.

North Korea's extended border controls come amid uncertainties over the country's vaccination prospects. COVAX, the U.N.-backed program to ship COVID-19 vaccines worldwide, said in February that North Korea could receive 1.9 million doses in the first half of the year, but the plans have been delayed due to global shortages. **MDT/AP**

this day in history

1997 HONG KONG HANDED OVER TO CHINESE CONTROL



Hong Kong has been handed back to the Chinese authorities - ending more than 150 years of British control.

The British flag was lowered over Government House - home to the last Governor Chris Patten for the past five years - at midnight last night.

The flag was presented to Mr Patten who was then driven off in his official Rolls Royce, before the car was handed over to Tung Chee-hwa, the territory's Chief Executive.

In his farewell speech, Mr Patten said: "The story of this great city is about the years before this night and the years of success that will surely follow it."

Britain has controlled Hong Kong island since 1842 - apart from a brief period during World War II when the Japanese took over.

A huge fireworks display lit up Victoria Harbour at 2000 local time. One hour later, 4,000 guests sat down to a banquet in the Convention Centre on the harbour front, while 509 Chinese troops crossed the land border into Hong Kong.

Among the guests for the final handover ceremony at the Convention Centre were Prince Charles, Prime Minister Tony Blair, Foreign Secretary Robin Cook and Chris Patten. Chinese dignitaries included President Jiang Zemin, Premier Li Peng, Foreign Minister Qian Qichen and military leader General Zhang Wannian.

In Beijing the ceremony was watched on giant screens erected in Tiananmen Square.

At the stroke of midnight, the red digits of the countdown clock turned to zero and the handpicked crowd roared its approval.

Shortly afterwards, Prince Charles and Mr Patten boarded the Royal Yacht Britannia and waved a final farewell to the strains of Rule Britannia and Land of Hope and Glory.

Just half an hour after the handover, there was a demonstration by the Hong Kong Democratic Party outside the Legislative Council building - but it did not delay the inauguration of the new Special Administrative Region government.

Tung Chee-hwa was sworn in as Hong Kong's new leader.

"This is a momentous and historic day ... Hong Kong and China are whole again," said Mr Tung.

But he promised, "We value this empowerment and we will exercise our powers prudently and responsibly."

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

Discussions between Britain and China on the future of Hong Kong began in 1982.

After 22 rounds of formal talks, Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and her Chinese counterpart, Zhao Ziyang, signed the Joint Declaration in 1984.

In 1992, Chris Patten was sworn in as the last governor of Hong Kong with a remit to prepare for the colony's democratic future under Chinese rule. Democratic elections were held in 1995 for the new Legislative Council.

Proposals to introduce controversial new security laws in 2002 galvanised public opinion to a degree not seen since the handover.

MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

YOUR STARS



ARIES

Mar. 21-Apr. 19

The heat is getting turned up a lot higher in one of your personal relationships, but, unfortunately, it might not be in a good way. Look for little annoyances to suddenly turn into full-fledged fights.



TAURUS

Apr. 20-May. 20

Try to keep matters of the heart on the up-and-up right now. Being brutally honest is tough sometimes, but it's much more valuable than softening the truth with little white lies.



GEMINI

May. 21-Jun. 21

You have an important choice to make today. You can either expend all your energy trying to avoid any and all conflict, or you can have fun debating people whose thoughts and feelings differ from yours.



CANCER

Jun. 22-Jul. 22

Staying conservative and cautious might be the right strategy when it comes to investing money. But when it comes to sharing your emotions, the more extravagant you are the better!



LEO

Jul. 23-Aug. 22

Sure, it takes a little bit of confidence to talk to new people. In normal times, meeting the right people also takes luck - you need to be in the right place at the right time.



VIRGO

Aug. 23-Sep. 22

When a goal is too easy to attain, it isn't as fulfilling as a hard-won victory. So take the more difficult route today, and don't be too rigid about what you are willing or unwilling to do.



LIBRA

Sep. 23-Oct. 22

Remember to keep the horse before the cart on this particular issue. If you let them push you into doing or saying something before you're ready, things won't go as they are supposed to.



SCORPIO

Oct. 23-Nov. 21

You might get so wrapped up in overcoming a challenge today that you lose track of time. One minute you're yawning into the morning daylight, and the next the sun is setting!



SAGITTARIUS

Nov. 22-Dec. 21

The exciting opportunity that arrives today might intimidate or even frighten you a little bit, but if you focus on the potential rewards it could bring you, you'll find yourself more and more willing to take the chance.



CAPRICORN

Dec. 22-Jan. 19

You're in a real fix-it mood today. You'll want to put things right and solve any and all problems that come your way. But you should hold off on playing the hero too early in the day.



AQUARIUS

Jan. 20-Feb. 18

The extraordinary efforts of someone in your crew are creating some incredible opportunities for you right now, and today is the day to take advantage of them!

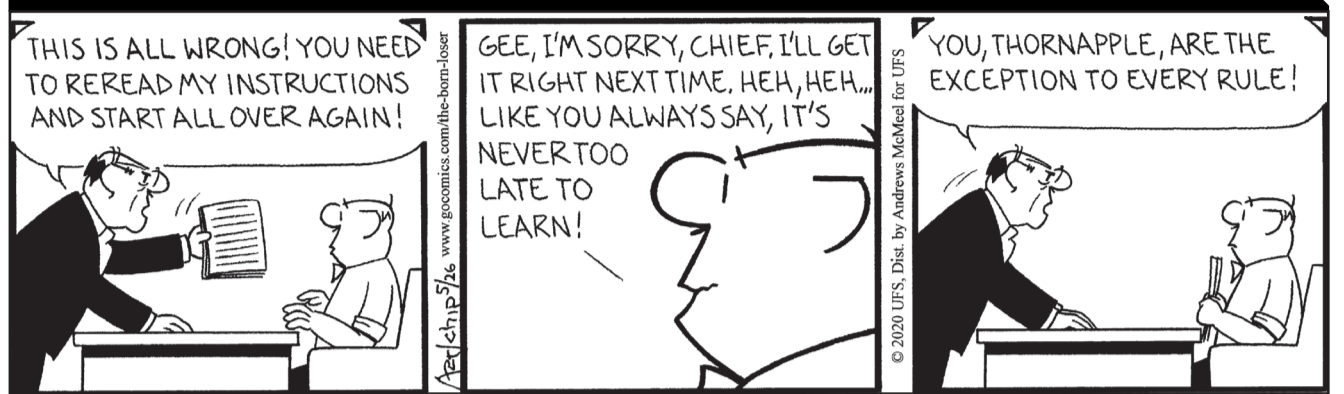


PISCES

Feb. 19-Mar. 20

This is a good day for you to work on your self-esteem and communication skills. The day isn't going to be too hectic, so you should have all the time you need to get introspective and check in with yourself.

The Born Loser by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

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

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

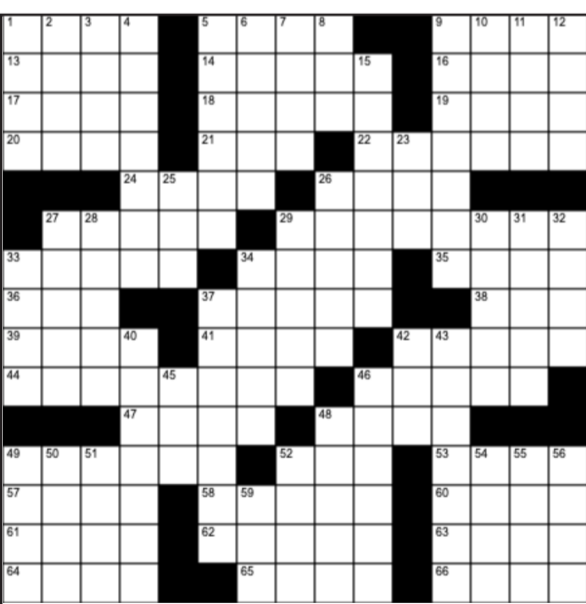
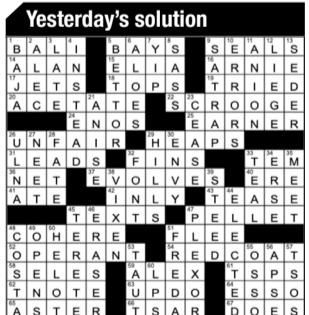
WEATHER

	MIN	MAX	CONDITION
CHINA			
Beijing	26	33	thundershower
Harbin	18	31	cloudy
Tianjin	28	34	thundershower
Urumqi	17	24	moderate rain
Xi'an	19	36	clear
Lhasa	12	22	drizzle
Chengdu	19	31	clear
Chongqing	21	30	cloudy
Kunming	17	25	moderate rain
Nanjing	23	31	cloudy
Shanghai	23	28	drizzle
Wuhan	24	31	shower
Hangzhou	22	27	drizzle
Taipei	26	30	overcast
Guangzhou	26	33	thundershower
Hong Kong	27	32	cloudy
WORLD			
Moscow	13	18	moderate rain
Frankfurt	16	26	drizzle
Paris	14	21	cloudy
London	12	21	drizzle
New York	21	28	cloudy

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS 1- So long!; 5- Red-bearded god; 9- No ifs, ____; 13- Light brown; 14- Ancient region of Asia Minor; 16- Rhythm; 17- Hire; 18- Deadens; 19- Actress Downey; 20- Hurler Hershiser; 21- Dallas-to-Houston dir.; 22- Certain fisherman; 24- Sheltered, nautically; 26- Curve; 27- Disinfectant brand; 29- Airmail letter; 33- Awkward boors; 34- High-ranking NCO; 35- I could ____ horse!; 36- Invite; 37- Ribbons; 38- Boy king; 39- Boxer Spinks; 41- Send forth; 42- Agitates; 44- Pertaining to birds; 46- Attach, as a patch; 47- Affectedly dainty; 48- Movie-rating org.; 49- Strong aversion; 52- Sailor; 53- Fiddlesticks!; 57- Voice of America org.; 58- Island greeting; 60- Floor model; 61- Steps down to an Indian river; 62- Wanting; 63- Den; 64- Alleviate; 65- Egyptian goddess of fertility; 66- Biblical garden;

DOWN: 1- Atlantic mackerel; 2- Bakery worker; 3- "Rule Britannia" composer; 4- Survive longer; 5- Showy pretense; 6- Residence; 7- Treater's words; 8- Curved bone; 9- Diminish; 10- Dodge model; 11- Matron; 12- Toronto paper; 15- States; 23- Brian of rock; 25- ____ Lobos; 26- Father; 27- One in second, say; 28- Klondike territory; 29- Savory jelly; 30- Rate; 31- Done to ____; 32- Floor coverings; 33- Composer Schifrin; 34- Jackie's predecessor; 37- Mideast capital; 40- River pollutant; 42- Ocean; 43- Silly talk; 45- Snake eyes; 46- Squirts; 48- Muslim messiah; 49- Enormous; 50- Dept. of Labor division; 51- Narrow inlets; 52- Some digits; 54- Went through, as the paper; 55- French friend; 56- Undecided; 59- Wreath of flowers;



Crossword puzzles provided by BestCrosswords.com

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

- Emergency calls 999
- Fire department 28 572 222
- PJ (Open line) 993
- PJ (Picket) 28 557 775
- PSP 28 573 333
- Customs 28 559 944
- S. J. Hospital 28 313 731
- Kiang Wu Hospital 28 371 333
- Commission Against Corruption (CCAC) 28326 300
- IAM 28 387 333
- Tourism 28 333 000
- Airport 59 888 88
- Taxi 28 939 939 / 2828 3283
- Water Supply - Report 2822 0088
- Telephone - Report 1000
- Electricity - Report 28 339 922
- Macau Daily Times 28 716 081



SELL INVEST RENT

卓雅物業
jml property since 1994

hello@jmlproperty.com
www.jmlproperty.com

MORE INFO
(853) 2835 2699

FOR SALE

Tong Hei Duplex **HKD 4,250,000**
Ref: 2011 6003 1,100 ft² 2 1 1

FOR RENT

Taipa Village **HKD 11,500/mth**
Ref: 2012 1001 900 ft² 2 1 1

Rain Dance Property
"We dance until it's SOLD!"

Traditional apartment **HKD 2,680,000**
Ref: 2103 6001 788 ft² 2 1 1

AD

MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

STOCKS

CHINA'S DIDI TOUTS TECH SPENDING AHEAD OF WALL ST DEBUT

JOE MCDONALD,
BEIJING

CHINESE ride-hailing service Didi says it lost \$5.5 billion over the past three years ahead of its U.S. stock market debut yesterday but it's highlighting its global reach and investments in developing electric and self-driving cars.

The Beijing-headquartered company operates in 16 countries but almost 90% of the 493 million customers who used the service at least once in the past year are in China.

Didi Global Inc. planned to raise up to \$4 billion by selling 288 million shares on the New York Stock Exchange at \$13-\$14 each. It said 30% will be spent on technology development, another 30% to expand outside China and 20% on new products.

The company founded in 2012 by Will Wei Cheng, a veteran of e-commerce giant Alibaba Group, says it aims to become the "world's largest one-stop transportation platform" and operator of vehicle networks.

"We aspire to become a truly global technology company," said Cheng and president Jean Qing Liu in the prospectus. Liu is a former Goldman Sachs managing director and the daughter of Liu Chuan-



zhi, founder of computer maker Lenovo Group.

Early investors included Apple Inc., Japan's Softbank, Alibaba and Chinese internet giants, Tencent Holding Ltd. and Baidu Inc.

Didi acquired rival Kuaidi in 2016 and Uber Technologies Inc.'s China operation the following year, ending a battle in which the American company said it was losing \$1 billion a year.

China's populous ride-hailing market has gone through abrupt changes as the ruling Communist Party tries to nurture development of technology while keeping control of promising industries.

Founded as a smartphone-based taxi-hailing service, it launched ride-hailing in 2014 and expanded abroad in 2018 by acquiring Brazil's 99 Taxis

and setting up operations in Mexico.

In 2015-16, regulators tightened control in what state media said was an effort to curb traffic congestion and prevent crime linked to ride-hailing services. Drivers were required to be residents of cities and towns where they worked and to be more closely supervised.

Didi has plowed money into development of self-driving, electric vehicles and other technology. The company launched an electric car last year with Chinese automaker BYD Auto, a unit of BYD Ltd.

Didi lost 15 billion yuan (\$2.3 billion) in 2018, 9.7 billion yuan (\$1.5 billion) in 2019 and 10.6 billion yuan (\$1.6 billion) last year, according to its prospectus. It says Didi had \$3 billion in cash as of Dec. 31. MDT/AP

JAPAN

SoftBank says Pepper robot remains 'alive' and well

YURI KAGEYAMA,
TOKYO

JAPANESE technology company SoftBank denies it's pulling the plug on its friendly, talking, bubble-headed Pepper robot.

"There is absolutely no change to our Pepper business," SoftBank Robotics Corp. spokesperson Ai Kitamura said yesterday.

Pepper, introduced seven years ago, is centered around a rentals business, and production is regularly adjusted, the Tokyo-based company said.

While production was halted temporarily, Kitamura denied reports that set off speculation Pepper might be "killed."

The company acknowledged the contracts of 330 workers at the Paris division of SoftBank Robotics were being reviewed, but the move was routine and did not spell a death knell for Pepper.

If anything, the need for social distancing during the pandemic has boosted demand for robots like Pepper, which sometimes is used to take people's temperatures in stores.

Pepper robots, which have expressive hands but move around on wheels, have been cheering and dancing in the stands for the home games of the SoftBank Hawks Japanese professional baseball team in Fukuoka, southwestern Japan.

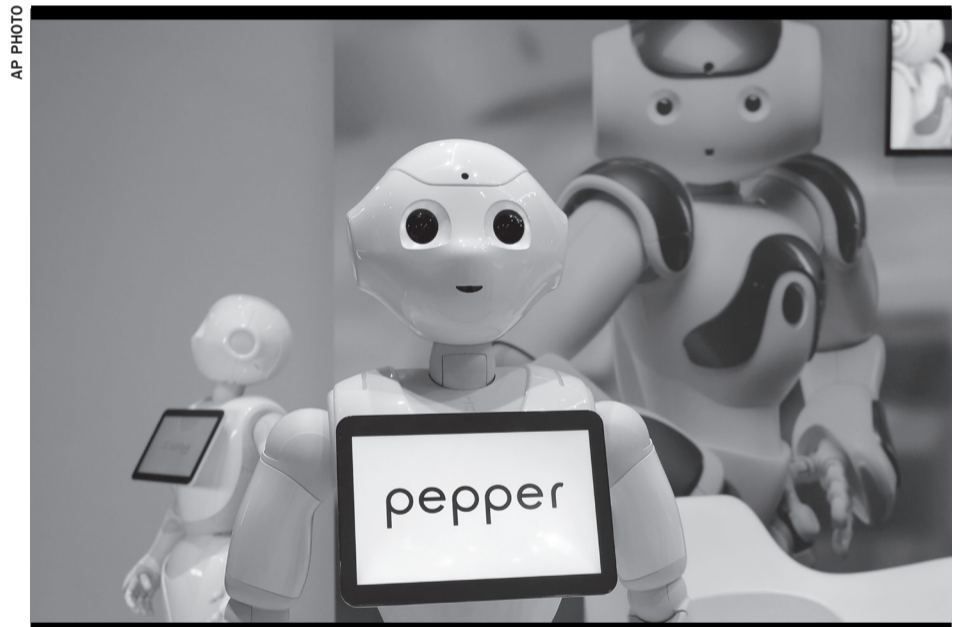
And Pepper's latest gig involves computer programming education in Japanese schools.

Robotics technology is widely used in manufacturing production lines and the transport of goods around the world.

But SoftBank Group Corp. founder and chief Masayoshi Son and other experts say Japanese have a soft spot for robots like Pepper that look somewhat human and sometimes appear to show emotion.

Kitamura said the outpouring of reaction from Pepper fans was appreciated, and showed it has become a beloved icon.

"So many people said they would be sad if Pepper is gone," she said. MDT/AP



CORPORATE BITS

MGM team members visit exhibitions of CPC history



MGM recently arranged a group of over 50 local management team members to visit two exhibitions about history of the Communist Party of China (CPC) and the nation.

The group visited the photo exhibition celebrating the 100th anniversary of the foun-

ding of the Communist Party of China, and the "Glorious Dream" - China's Railway Development in the Past Century" exhibition.

The former exhibits nearly 300 historical photographs in four areas, capturing the historical path that the Chinese

nation has taken throughout the past century; and the latter showcases over 100 historical exhibits alongside some other interactive multimedia installations to introduce the history of China's railway development.

On top of the exhibition visits, MGM said in a statement that it also joined hands with various local associations and organizations to celebrate the 100th anniversary of CPC.

The company partnered with Macao Youth Federation to launch the "Footprints in 100 Years' MGM Community Outreach eLearning Program to Commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the Founding of the CPC."

Sands Resorts' restaurants receive accolades from Trip.com



Sands Resorts Macao restaurants have been recognised by Trip.com Group Gourmet 2021 Top Global Restaurant List in an award ceremony at The Londoner Macao's London-

er Theatre. La Chine at The Parisian Macao and Zi Yat Heen at the Four Seasons Hotel Macao won the Diamond award, while The Manor (The St. Regis Macao) was

awarded Platinum.

The Gold award was given to The Golden Peacock (The Venetian Macao), Chiado (The Londoner Macao) and Lotus Palace (The Parisian Macao), while North, Red Dragon Noodles and Imperial House Dim Sum (The Venetian Macao), Southern Kitchen (The Londoner Macao), Market Bistro (The Parisian Macao), The St. Regis Bar (The St. Regis Macao) received the Silver award.

The Trip.com Group Gourmet 2021 Top Global Restaurant List was introduced in 2016 to provide Chinese travellers with international food and restaurant recommendations, as well as a convenient online booking platform.



MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

England sheds agonizing history by knocking out Germany

As the Wembley Stadium announcer roared the final score — “England 2, Germany 0” — Gareth Southgate’s vision was momentarily diverted from his victorious players to the big screen.

Shown beaming from the VIP seats, reveling in England’s passage to the European Championship quarterfinals on Tuesday, were David Beckham and Ed Sheeran. Prince William, wife Kate and 7-year-old Prince George were also there celebrating, as fans just like their subjects rather than royalty.

But it was the sight of David Seaman that caught Southgate’s eyes and made him pause, to think back — in one of his greatest moments as England coach — to the pain of 25 years ago. It was Southgate’s penalty miss at the old Wembley that denied an England side with Seaman in goal the chance to reach the Euro ‘96 final.

“For the teammates who played with me, I can’t change that — so that’s always going to hurt,” Southgate said. “But what this group of players has been able to do is give a new generation a lot of happy memories and another afternoon where they have made a bit of history.”

England is finally unburdened by the weight of its agonizing history against the Germans. This was a day more reminiscent, albeit with a long way to go in Euro 2020, of the 1966 World Cup final win over them on the same site.

Not that it came easily. Just like in England’s two group wins, Raheem Sterling was on the scoresheet, breaking the tense deadlock in the 75th minute. But this time Harry Kane finally scored

AP PHOTO



his first goal at Euro 2020, easing the pressure on the 2018 World Cup Golden Boot winner’s shoulders.

“With all the expectation and pressure, we delivered,” Kane said. “It’s a moment none of us will ever forget. The perfect afternoon.”

It was England’s second-ever win in the knockout stage of the European Championship. The last such triumph came on penalties against Spain at Euro ‘96 before the hosts were denied a place in the final by Germany in that shootout.

It was on penalties that Germany also beat England in the 1990 World Cup semifinals. Then there was the English goal wrongfully disallowed as Germany knocked the English out of the 2010 World Cup.

Now England will play Ukraine in the Euro 2020 quarterfinals on Saturday in Rome, eyeing a return to Wembley for the semifinals and the final.

It marked the end of the 15-year reign of Joachim Löw as the 2014 World Cup-winning coach takes time out to consider his next steps.

“We were not clinical enough,” he said. “The team needs to mature to be more successful.”

There will still be questions about Southgate’s team selection and persistence with Kane when he managed only one touch in the opposition penalty area in the first half. And it was a bad one, taking a ball too far past Manuel Neuer while trying to go

around the goalkeeper.

But while Sterling’s goals are spearheading England’s progress at this largely-home tournament, the saves of Jordan Pickford are proving vital, too, including using one hand to push over Kai Havertz’s shot at the start of the second half.

The clamor to introduce Jack Grealish was growing in the second half. It’s what got fans chanting inside Wembley, with a crowd of about 40,000 the biggest in Britain since the pandemic began in March 2020.

The winger finally entered with about 20 minutes to go and played a role in the opening goal.

Sterling first took on the defenders, going past Antonio Rüdiger before passing to Kane, whose layoff to Grealish then went to Luke Shaw. And it was the left back’s cross that Sterling connected with, shooting past Neuer with his right boot.

“We knew the intensity we can play at,” Sterling said, “and not many teams can deal with it.”

For all the experience in Germany’s side compared to the youth of England, it was World Cup winner Thomas Müller who squandered a chance to equalize in the 81st minute. Clean through with only Pickford to beat, Müller put the ball wide.

Kane showed him how it’s done, heading in a cross from Grealish in the 86th minute to get the 35th England goal that eluded him in the group stage.

“When you’re a center forward it doesn’t matter what else you’re doing in the game,” Southgate said. “You need those goals.”

England has yet to concede in its four games. Just like at the 1966 World Cup — and that ended well.

“This,” Kane said, “will give us more self-belief going forward.”

MDT/AP

LATEST RESULTS

England	2	0	Germany
Sweden	1	2	Ukraine

De Boer quits as Netherlands coach after loss to Czechs

FRANK de Boer quit as coach of the Netherlands on yesterday following the team’s elimination from the European Championship.

The Dutch lost to the Czech Republic 2-0 on Sunday in the round of 16 after winning their first three group matches at Euro 2020. De Boer and the Dutch soccer federation had set a goal of reaching at least the quarterfinals.

“I have decided not to continue as national coach,” De Boer said in a statement released by the federation. “The goal was not reached, that is clear.”

De Boer faced fierce criticism after the loss to the Czechs because of his decision to abandon the traditional Dutch formation of four defenders, three midfielders and three forwards.

De Boer had only been in the job since September. He took over from Ronald Koeman after he left to join Barcelona.

De Boer said pressure

on him since the loss had increased “and that is not a healthy situation for me or the squad” as it prepares to resume qualifying for next year’s World Cup. The Netherlands will play at Norway on Sept. 1 in Oslo.

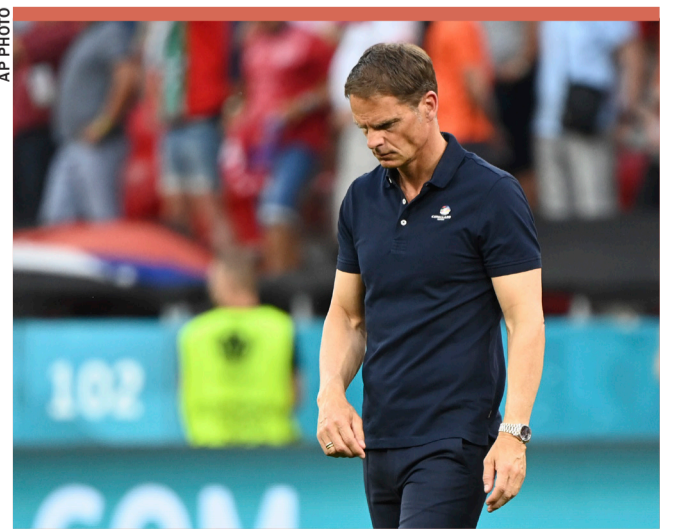
De Boer was appointed to the Dutch job about two months after he left Atlanta United following a poor re-start to the MLS season, with the team losing all three of its group games at the MLS Is Back tournament in Florida.

De Boer had a successful start to his management career at Ajax, winning four straight league titles from 2011-14.

But he was fired in 2016 after only 85 days in charge of Inter Milan and lasted just 10 weeks at Crystal Palace in 2017 before being ousted after the team lost its first four Premier League games without scoring a goal.

No replacement was immediately announced for De Boer. MDT/AP

AP PHOTO



OPINION

China Daily
Editorial, China Daily

NEW ERA CALLS FOR
MORE PEOPLE WITH
UNsung-HERO SPIRIT

On behalf of the Communist Party of China Central Committee, General Secretary Xi Jinping conferred the July 1 Medal on 29 outstanding Party members in Beijing on Tuesday. The new medal, which has been introduced this year, is the highest honor the Party bestows.

Those honored for their devotion to the people and commitment to the Party's mission are from all walks of life, ranging from a teacher and textile worker to a soldier and doctor. Their awards drive home not only how much their efforts and achievements are appreciated, but also how their strength of character and moral integrity have inspired others.

Although the times have changed tremendously since the Party was founded in 1921, the spirit and quality these 29 individuals represent have remained unchanged, as these essential attributes have been inherited by generation after generation of Party members.

Over the past 100 years, joining the Party has proved the best way to deliver tangible benefits to the people. That partially explains why the Party has thrived to become the world's largest ruling party, and why, with more than 90 million members and governing the world's second-largest economy, it continuously shows robust vitality and tremendous courage to adapt to the changing realities of the country.

Unlike many political parties in the West, the CPC represents the fundamental interests of the people, rather than the interests of a wealthy few, and takes the realization of national independence, unification and rejuvenation as its mission, and that people can live happy lives as its purpose.

That's why the Party can always unite the country, and has the support and trust of the people, and why it can attract people willing to make sacrifices for its cause, and also, why it has always stood on the right side of history and emerged stronger after overcoming one difficulty after another.

Those trying to disparage the CPC and separate it from the Chinese people are doomed to failure, as it is not them who determine the relations between the Party and the people, but the Party and the people themselves.

Under the leadership of the Party, the nation has never been so close to achieving its great rejuvenation. The Chinese people know how far the country has come to be where it is now, and the price they have had to pay for it. The headwinds the country is now encountering will only serve to inspire a new generation to join the Party and make their contribution to the country.

The new era calls for, and will inevitably produce, future medal winners. For, as Xi said in his speech at the award ceremony, all of the medalists are unsung heroes from the people, who have proved that every Party member can make larger-than-life contributions to the Party and the people in the great cause of seeking national rejuvenation.

In the years ahead, there will undoubtedly be more Party members, who, by carrying forward the spirit of the Party and devoting themselves to the people and the country, will be deserving of the medal.

Russian President Vladimir Putin said yesterday that a U.S. reconnaissance aircraft was operating in sync with a British destroyer during last week's Black Sea incident in what he described as a "provocation" to test Moscow's response. Moscow said one of its warships fired warning shots and a warplane dropped bombs in the path of British destroyer Defender on June 23 to force it out of an area near the Crimean Peninsula, which Russia annexed in 2014. Britain denied that account, insisted its ship wasn't fired upon and said it was sailing in Ukrainian waters.

Asked if the incident could have triggered World War III, Putin said that it was hardly possible even if Russia had sunk the British warship because Western powers knew they couldn't emerge as winners in a global conflict.

Speaking during a live call-in show, Putin said that the U.S. aircraft's apparent mission was to monitor the Russian military's response to the British destroyer. He added that Moscow was aware of the U.S. intentions and



PROTESTERS MARK
PHILIPPINE PRESIDENT'S
LAST YEAR IN POWER

JOEAL CALUPITAN,
MANILA

LEFT-WING activists and relatives of people killed in Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte's anti-drug campaign marked the start of his last year in office yesterday with a noisy protest and a "countdown toward achieving justice."

Riot police prevented more than 150 flag-waving protesters from approaching the presidential palace in Manila. The demonstrators dispersed peacefully after less than an hour and police made no arrests despite a ban on such gatherings under COVID-19 restrictions.

"We count 365 days left in his reign of terror," protest leader Renato Reyes said. "We want to mark this as a countdown toward achieving justice and accountability."

The protesters held placards that read "Stop the killing, prosecute Duterte." Others carried a mock coffin, while several family members displayed portraits of mostly

young people they said were victims of extrajudicial killings in the drug crackdown.

Duterte's anti-drug campaign, in which thousands of mostly petty drug suspects have died since he took office in June 2016, has alarmed human rights groups and prompted several people to file complaints with the International Criminal Court.

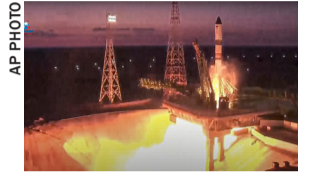
The International
Criminal Court [...] said this month
that a preliminary
examination found
reason to believe
crimes against
humanity had been
committed during
the crackdown

"My appeal to the ICC is please don't abandon us," said Emily Soriano, whose 15-year-old son died in the crackdown. "ICC is the only one which can hold Duterte accountable for all that he did here in the Philippines in his war on drugs."

The International Criminal Court's outgoing chief prosecutor said this month that a preliminary examination found reason to believe crimes against humanity had been committed during the crackdown. The prosecutor sought authorization to open a formal investigation and the court's judges have 120 days to decide.

Duterte, a 76-year-old former mayor who made a name in politics with his extra-tough approach to crime, has denied condoning the murder of large numbers of drug suspects but has openly threatened drug dealers with death. He said suspects were killed after they violently resisted arrest, although human rights groups have reported cases of police killing unarmed suspects and then altering the crime scene to make it appear the suspects opened fire at them.

Duterte has said he would never cooperate in a possible ICC investigation. MDT/AP



Russia An uncrewed Russian cargo ship blasted off yesterday on a mission to deliver supplies to the International Space Station. The Progress MS-17 lifted off atop a Soyuz rocket from the Russian space complex in Baikonur, Kazakhstan, at 4:27 a.m. It's scheduled to dock at the station in two days, delivering food, fuel, equipment and supplies for the seven residents.

Yemen A government official said that Houthi rebels fired two missiles in the latest attack in the government-held city of Marib, killing at least three people, including a child. The missiles landed in the Rawdha neighborhood in the crowded city, according to Ali al-Ghulisi, the provincial governor's press secretary.

Ukrainian lawmakers on Tuesday approved a much-anticipated judicial reform, a move long sought by the West. The Ukrainian parliament, Verkhovna Rada, voted to endorse a bill that sets up an independent panel to appoint judges. It includes a provision that gives international experts a decisive voice in selecting the nominees.

Italy A migrant boat overturned yesterday off the Sicilian island of Lampedusa just as rescue crews were arriving, and seven bodies were pulled from the sea, authorities said. Another 46 people were rescued and the search is continuing for any others. An estimated 60 people were packed onto the 8-meter boat. Italy's coast guard said in a statement.



France's lower house of parliament adopted a law Tuesday that will allow single women and lesbians access to medically assisted reproduction for the first time. The measure had been much awaited by LGBT rights groups, who had pushed for the reproduction measure since France legalized same-sex marriage in 2013.