

OPINION: HONG KONG SAR ELECTIONS P.30 | FEATURES: GLAMPING IS TRENDING P.36

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CONTENTS

EDITOR'S DESK

02 Benefits of Benevolence

THIS WEEK

COVER STORY

12 Lending a Hand

The channels of charity run far and wide

16 The Genetics of Generosity

There's no such thing as a small act of kindness

18 Donate With a Click

Online fundraising widens the range of charitable contributors

OPINION

22 How China's Political Leadership Elevates Progress

To understand China, one must first understand the CPC

24 Entering a New Stage

The Shanghai Cooperation Organization expands its scope

26 A Correct Understanding Of China Matters

Getting the China-U.S. relations back on track

30 The People's Will

HKSAR casts first vote following changes to its electoral system

FEATURES

32 Making the Difference Together

President Xi Jinping at the UN: Global development is key to people's wellbeing

34 Welcome Home!

After 90 days in space, taikonauts have landed back on Earth

36 Glamping It Up

Stunning nature meets modern luxury

38 Under Village Wings

The value chain that is the valley of the birds

40 Lust for life

Everyday people turn raw emotion into creative fuel

CULTURE

44 From Olympic to National Games

China's highest-level athletic extravaganza

46 Fine-Tuning Fandom

Stricter regulations target the unhealthy aspects of idol worship

EXPAT'S EYE

48 Wuhan, Fighting for Life

A Lebanese researcher tells a tale of hope

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Benefits of Benevolence

On September 5, China's official Charity Day, a total of 182 people, teams, enterprises, charity programs and trusts were honored at the China Charity Awards courtesy of the Ministry of Civil Affairs. Most of them are charity models in the country's campaigns fighting COVID-19 and eradicating rural poverty. Their endeavors in the development of charity set an example for society at large.

Derived from the traditional notion of "universal love and benevolence," the modern Chinese have inherited and carried forward the nature of kindness by assisting those impoverished, helping the elderly and orphans as well as generously contributing to various altruistic causes. Charity has long been part of the Chinese DNA.

The Chinese Government has been actively supporting charity work and issued the Charity Law to regulate and guide its overall development.

At present, China features more than 9,000 charity organizations. The digital revolution has also made the "Internet Plus Charity" a newfangled model for the expansion of charity, where individuals are able to make donations using their mobile phones, in turn widening the charitable scope. At a time when the country's modernization drive accelerates and common prosperity becomes an

important national goal, the development of charity will usher in great opportunities.

However, despite the marked progress in the scale, methods and awareness of charity, China still falls behind Western countries in certain respects. For example, the legal environment for charity work is not yet sufficiently comprehensive, policy support remains inadequate, the country's capability in resource mobilization is lacking, and the role of charity in readjusting social wealth distribution is still limited. In addition, charity organizations do not feature enough transparency when it comes to disclosing their donation allocation and supervision over the use of funds is not effective.

Therefore, China should carry out extensive international cooperation and learn from the practices of other countries. Instead of simply copying the Western model, charity work must base itself on Chinese culture and serve the country's overall development. Encouraging high-income groups to voluntarily assist their low-income counterparts through charity programs is considered part of China's three-pronged wealth distribution system, together with market-based compensation and government redistribution. **BR**



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A FEAST FOR THE EYES

Artists perform at the Mid-Autumn Festival Concert in the Greater Bay Area 2021 held in Shenzhen, Guangdong Province, in celebration of the traditional Chinese festival on September 21.

A number of new songs that signify the integration of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area, too, made their stage debut in this show themed on family reunions.



New Motto

The unveiling ceremony of the official motto for the Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games Beijing 2022 (Beijing 2022) “Together for a Shared Future” takes place in Beijing on September 17. As the Beijing 2022 organizers explained, “Together” depicts how mankind stays strong in the face of adversity and points out the solution to overcome those difficulties and create a better future; “for a Shared Future” embodies the vision for a better life and conveys hope and confidence.

Successful Docking

China’s cargo spacecraft *Tianzhou-3*, carrying supplies for the upcoming *Shenzhou-13* crewed mission, successfully docked with the space station core module *Tianhe* on September 20, according to the China Manned Space Agency (CMSA).

At 10:08 p.m. (Beijing Time), *Tianzhou-3* completed a computer-orchestrated rendezvous and docking at the rear docking port of the *Tianhe* core module. The whole process took approximately 6.5 hours, the CMSA said.

Following *Tianzhou-3*’s docking, two cargo crafts, docked at

the two ends of the *Tianhe* core module to form a linear shape, are waiting for the arrival of *Shenzhou-13* crew members.

Tianzhou-3 carries nearly 6 tons of goods and materials, including living supplies for the astronauts, one extravehicular space suit for back-up, supplies for extravehicular activities, space station platform materials, payloads and propellants.

Rare Horse Species

The number of Przewalski’s horses in Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region had grown to 487 by the end of 2020, according to the Xinjiang Wild Horse Breeding

and Research Center.

The Przewalski’s horse is believed to be the only truly wild horse species in existence today. It is listed as endangered by the International Union for Conservation of Nature Red List of Threatened Species and is under first-class national protection.

The horse species had been introduced to the United Kingdom, Germany and the United States before its extinction in China due to excessive poaching and environmental degradation. Starting in the mid-1980s, some horses have been brought back to China, raised in Xinjiang and Gansu Province.

In 2000, the population of this rare horse in Xinjiang increased to nearly 100, and some of them have been roaming wildly at a nature reserve since 2001.

“Over the past 20 years, 16 batches of the rare horses have been released into the Xinjiang wild. A total of 110 wild horses have returned to the wilderness and their population had increased to 274 by the end of last year,” said Yang Jianming, director of the research center.

The center will release 18 such horses into the wild over the next few months.

Picturesque Festival

The 21st Pingyao International Photography Festival kicked off in Pingyao, a UNESCO world cultural heritage site known for its well-preserved ancient architecture, in Shanxi Province, on September 19.

Themed “Wonderful World and Beautiful China” this year, the week-long festival showcased more than 8,000 works by 1,679 photographers from 26 countries and regions.

As this year marks the 100th anniversary of the founding of the Communist Party of China (CPC), the festival presented an exhibition featuring 100 photos from 100 photographers covering the past 100 years to showcase the history of the CPC.

Due to the pandemic, the festival mainly took place online this year.

Launched in 2001, the annual festival has attracted photographers from more than 100 countries and regions, and is considered an important stage for cross-cultural communication.

Tax Regulations

China will further intensify tax regulations on individuals and

businesses in the entertainment industry as part of efforts to promote the sector's sound and long-term development, according to the latest guideline released by the State Taxation Administration (STA).

The tightened regulation will focus on day-to-day management and require celebrities and live-streaming performers to set up tax accounts for their studios or businesses in accordance with the law and have their tax declarations and payments audited and verified by the tax authorities, said the STA circular.

The guideline also underlined the need to carry out regular tax risk assessments on this sector, based on which celebrities and network anchors exposed to tax risks will receive one-to-one reminders and can rectify their problems.

War Commemoration

Sirens sounded and a huge bell tolled in Shenyang, capital of Liaoning Province, on September 18, in commemoration of the September 18 Incident 90 years ago that marked the start of Japan's 14-year invasion of China.

Some 300 people gathered in front of the 9.18 Historical

Museum in the morning. At 9:18 a.m., 14 representatives from all of society jointly struck the huge bell at the museum 14 times, symbolizing the arduous course of China's bitter war against Japanese aggressors. Air raid sirens wailed for three minutes, with pedestrians stopping in the streets and drivers honking their horns.

On September 18, 1931, Japanese troops blew up a section of railway under their control near Shenyang and accused Chinese troops of sabotage as a pretext for the attack. Later that night, they bombarded barracks near Shenyang, starting the bloody invasion.

Since 1995, Shenyang has been sounding the alarm every year to commemorate the events of that tragic day.

Wetland City

A total of 80 wetland parks will be constructed in Wuhan, capital of Hubei Province, over a period of five years, local authorities announced.

The city plans to improve the ecological environment through 213 projects, including wetland parks, street gardens and flower fields.

The city is also making further efforts to protect and restore



Past and Present

People pass by a mural depicting life in a small alley in an old residential area of Shanghai on September 19. The neighborhood is under renovation.

15 wetland nature reserves and parks, said Yu Lijun, head of the municipal forestry bureau.

"We hope to turn Wuhan into a genuine international wetland city in five years," Yu said.

Wuhan, sitting at the confluence of the Yangtze River and its longest tributary, the Hanjiang River, boasts about 1,624 square km of wetlands.

In 2019, the city won the bid for the 14th Wetland City

Accreditation of the Ramsar Convention and set the goal of creating an international wetland city.

The Ramsar Convention, or the Convention on Wetlands, is an inter-governmental environmental treaty adopted in 1971. It provides a framework for national action and international cooperation regarding the conservation and sensible use of wetlands and their resources.



Quantum Conference

A quantum computing prototype model is on display at the 2021 Quantum Industry Conference in Hefei, capital of Anhui Province, on September 18. Themed "Quantum Technology-Industry Revolution," the conference brought together scientific researchers and industry leaders to discuss the development of the quantum industry and released a series of applications.

Innovation Leader

China remains the only middle-income economy listed in the world's top 30 most innovative ones, according to a report released by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) on September 20.

WIPO's Global Innovation Index (GII) 2021 shows that China moves from ranking 14th in 2020 to 12th this year, and is "knocking at the door of the GI top 10," which "underlines the continued importance of governmental policies and incentives to stimulate innovation."

Since 2013, China has consistently moved up in the GI rankings, establishing itself as a global innovation leader.

According to the GI, the number of China's patents by origin scaled by GDP is higher than those of Japan, Germany and the U.S. The same goes for the number of trademarks and industrial designs by origin as a

percentage of GDP.

In terms of innovation clusters geographically, the top 10 list remains the same as last year with only minor shifts. The Shenzhen-Hong Kong-Guangzhou region and Beijing now rank second and third, respectively, after the Tokyo-Yokohama cluster in Japan. Shanghai ranks eighth. Of the top 100 clusters, China has 19.

Published annually, the GI provides performance measures and ranks 132 economies on their innovation ecosystems. As in past years, Switzerland, Sweden, the U.S. and the UK continue to lead the rankings. Other top 10 individuals include the Republic of Korea, the Netherlands, Finland, Singapore, Denmark and Germany.

According to WIPO Director General Daren Tang, "in spite of the massive impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, many sectors have shown remarkable resilience, especially those that

have embraced digitalization, technology and innovation."

RMB Globalization

The use of the Chinese yuan in cross-border payments will be expanded amid efforts to advance its internationalization, the People's Bank of China (PBC) said in a recent report.

The signing of the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership agreement will further boost trade in the Asia-Pacific region, thereby offering more opportunities for the yuan's use in trade and investment activities, according to the report released on September 18.

Based on yuan-denominated commodity trade settlements, which develop steadily, China will increase the use of the currency in cross-border e-commerce, it added.

To push forward RMB internationalization, the country will also explore more options for

yuan-denominated investment and financing, step up currency settlement cooperation with other countries, and improve the infrastructure for yuan-based settlement and clearing.

The cross-border use of the Chinese currency, including payments and receipts, surged 44.3 percent year on year to 28.39 trillion yuan (\$4.4 trillion) in 2020, an all-time high, data from the report showed.

Power Production

Installed power generation capacity of China increased 9.5 percent year on year in the first eight months of the year to 2.28 billion kW, according to the National Energy Administration.

Specifically, the installed capacity of wind power jumped 33.8 percent year on year to about 300 million kW, while that of solar power increased 24.6 percent to 280 million kW.

The country's electricity

NUMBERS

(\$1=6.5 yuan)

Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in January-August

Paid-in FDI into the Chinese mainland

Total



Up 22.3% y.o.y.



Service industry



Up 25.8% y.o.y.



FDI into:

Hi-tech industry



Hi-tech service sector



Hi-tech manufacturing sector



consumption, a key barometer of economic activity, totaled 5.5 trillion kWh in the January-August period, up 13.8 percent year on year, the administration's data also showed.

Auto Market

Chinese automobile brands saw their market share at home expand to 42.1 percent in August, up 8.3 percentage points year on year, according to a monthly report from the China Passenger Car Association.

Retail sales of their producers reached 600,000 units within the month. According to the report, the figure represented a 6-percent growth from the same period in 2020 and was 10 percent higher than in 2019.

Market leaders BYD, SAIC Passenger Vehicle Branch and GAC Aion have displayed fairly strong supply chain resilience by effectively coping with chip shortages and expanded their

presence in the new-energy vehicle market in August.

Compared to joint ventures, local brands managed to respond more swiftly to market changes, maintain a faster pace of product development, and better keep up with the changing consumption patterns in the Chinese market, the report said.

The association also attributed the growing acceptance of local brands to the rising purchasing power of consumers born after 1995, who appear less sensitive to joint-venture brands but are more interested in indigenous products with Chinese characteristics.

Cloud Spending

Expenditure on cloud infrastructure services in China surged 54 percent year on year to \$6.6 billion in the second quarter of 2021, according to technology market research

firm Canalys.

Alibaba Cloud remained the market leader with a 34-percent share, while Huawei Cloud stayed in second place, occupying 19 percent, data from Canalys showed.

Driven by the smart tourism, government and finance sectors, Tencent Cloud saw accelerated growth in the period, accounting for 18.8 percent of the market.

Baidu AI Cloud came in fourth with an 8-percent share.

The four companies accounted for 80 percent of the country's total expenditure in the field, Canalys said.

Data Centers

The direct investment in data centers on the Chinese mainland reached approximately \$880 million in the first six months of the year, the largest in the Asia-Pacific region, data from a recent report by real estate services and investment firm CBRE Group

showed.

Total investment across the Asia-Pacific region amounted to \$1.8 billion in the period, equivalent to 80 percent of last year's total.

The investment is expected to set a new record this year, after an already record-breaking performance in 2020, according to the agency.

With 5G commercialization, the rapid development of the digital economy amid the pandemic and the government's strong support in "new infrastructure," data centers are increasingly gaining the favor of investors, Sam Xie, head of CBRE research in China, said.

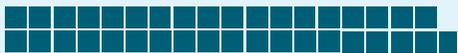
Xie noted that data center investment on the Chinese mainland will continue its upward momentum this year, as long-term trends such as tech innovation and consumption upgrades become increasingly important in investor strategy development.

Growth of FDI by source

From the Belt and Road participating countries
Up
37.6% y.o.y.



From the Association of Southeast Asian Nations
Up
36.8% y.o.y.



Growth of FDI by region

East China
Up
23% y.o.y.



Central China
Up
30.1% y.o.y.



West China
Up
1.6% y.o.y.



(Source: National Bureau of Statistics)

THIS WEEK **WORLD**



UNITED STATES

White flags fly on the grassy lawn at the National Mall in Washington, D.C., to honor the lives lost to COVID-19, on September 18. One in 500 people living in the U.S. have died from the virus since its first reported infection



BELGIUM

People ride their bikes on the Car Free Sunday in Brussels on September 19. From 9:30 a.m. until 7 p.m., motor vehicles were not allowed in the Brussels Region, including the city of Brussels



FRANCE

People sketch the fabric-wrapped Arc de Triomphe in Paris on September 21. The posthumous art project, between September 18 and October 3, pays homage to late Bulgarian artists Christo and his wife Jeanne-Claude





INDONESIA

Visitors take pictures at the Prambanan Temple complex in Sleman district, Yogyakarta, on September 18. The landmark reopened its doors to the public on that day in strict accordance with the latest health protocols and COVID-19 public activity restrictions



SHUTTERSTOCK



CHILE

The Chilean Air Force in action during the annual military parade to celebrate the Day of the Glories of the Army in Santiago on September 19



RUSSIA

A woman registers to vote during the elections of the State Duma, the lower house of the Russian Parliament, in Moscow on September 19. United Russia remained the largest party with 49.82 percent of votes, according to the Central Election Commission



SHUTTERSTOCK

THIS WEEK PEOPLE & POINTS

↓ A NEW-GENERATION STAR SWIMMER

Olympic gold medalist **Wang Shun** stood atop the podium in the Men's 200M Freestyle Final with his time of 1 minute and 46.14 seconds at China's 14th National Games on September 21, winning his fourth straight title in the event at the quadrennial tournament.

Born in Zhejiang Province, the 27-year-old is now a veteran of the Chinese swimming team. He performed very well at this event after winning gold in the 200m individual medley at the Tokyo Olympics.

Wang also won the 400m individual medley on September 19. He expressed his hopes of competing at the next National Games in 2025, to be jointly hosted by Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao.

Wang improved his gold medal tally at the National Games to 13, breaking swimmer Sun Yang's 12-gold National Games record.



Student Body Fitness

People's Daily

September 17

The physical fitness of Chinese students has seen overall improvement since 2014, according to a recent report jointly released by several governmental departments.

There is an upward trend in their physical morphological indexes such as height, body mass and bust size; an overall growth in the vital capacity of their lungs; a reversal of the trend in their body resilience, strength, speed and endurance; and a continuous improve-

ment in their nutritional intake, said the report, quoting a nationwide survey held in 2019.

Schools increasing their emphasis on physical exercise should be thanked for the turnabout in the figures. Yet obesity and myopia among children and the declining health status of university students remain tough issues.

However, the evaluation of the students' physical constitution should not focus only on the change of indexes. After all, physical education needs to develop into a national and systematic project in different forms, including sports classes.



The Best Treatment

Life Week

September 13

For Li Junling, a chief physician at the Cancer Hospital with the Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences, there is only one topic on the table when he sits down with patients, namely their life expectancy. He provides patients suffering from lung cancer, the most deadly form of cancer in China, with two numbers. One is the median survival rate based on his professional judgment; the other is the best case scenario he's come across—to build up patients' confidence. Though most patients initially are pessimistic, there is a good chance they can win the battle.

“China has been working toward development for all of mankind with the notion of mankind's fate being a shared one... So we see them working with countries, small or big, from the angle of common interest.”

Adnan Bourji, Director of the Lebanese National Center for Studies, in an interview with Xinhua News Agency on September 21

“Providing more RMB-denominated financial products with greater liquidity for foreign investors could be an effective way to accelerate the process of RMB internationalization.”

Zhang Ming, Deputy Director of the Institute of Finance and Banking at the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, in an interview with *China Daily* on September 20

The three pillar treatments of cancer—surgery, chemotherapy and radiation—have made much progress in recent years. Nevertheless, patients can increase their chances of survival when they accept new therapies. That makes how to achieve optimal results a topic worth discussing in the face of reality.

Technological advances aside, new concepts for treatment also benefit patients. A joint diagnosis between different departments is receiving gradual promotion in China. Breaking down the barriers between disciplines, doctors can get the full picture of patients' conditions and discuss the most befitting treatment and discharge plans.

Life expectancy is not the only indicator during the treatment because cancer treatment brings along a host of side effects, such as vomiting, pain, weight loss, as well as depression and other psychiatric symptoms. Some patients have to deal with various disabilities as a result of the treatment. In the past, therapies focused on the elimination of malignant cells without paying enough attention to the patient's pain levels.

Li always invites patients to look at the imaging data, explaining to them in great detail the upcoming treatment plans. At that point, the tumor is their common enemy, forging a close bond between doctors and patients. Under these circumstances, the best and most rational decisions will prevail.

Pandemic Challenges

Beijing Youth Daily

September 15

Confirmed COVID-19 cases reported in Fujian Province have led to tightened prevention and control measures from September 10 onward.

The expert team appointed by the National Health Commission pointed out that Putian and Xiamen in the province face a challenging situation. Cases will be possibly detected in communities, schools and factories and result in the virus' wide spread.

Compared to previous outbreaks, the situation in Fujian reveals different

characteristics. For example, the first case was detected during a routine round of nucleic acid testing at an elementary school in Putian, where one student tested positive. The source may have been the student's father, who had returned from Singapore, though he had gone through a lengthy quarantine period and tested negative multiple times. It was very likely that he was infected during his quarantine.

The infection rate in Fujian suggests using more sensitive detection reagents or improved sampling methods during nucleic acid testing. As Chinese children under the age of 12 have not been vaccinated against the virus, schools should strengthen their monitoring of those who come in contact with people entering the country.

↓ CHINESE GEN Z DIRECTOR DEBUTS IN VENICE

Luo Runxiao, an aspiring young director born in 2000, completed his debut short film *Hair Tie, Egg, Homework Books* in 2021. The film was subsequently selected to feature in the 78th Venice International Film Festival's Orizzonti Short Film Competition.

Luo is an undergraduate film student at the Tisch School of the Arts with New York University. He focuses on female narratives and feminist themes, and hopes to bring these stories about China's realities to the global stage through the 15-minute short film.

The Venice International Film Festival is one of the "Big Three" European film festivals. Luo is the youngest Chinese director in history to be nominated at one of these three prestigious film affairs.



"The world's two largest economies should be working together to tackle climate change and resolve disputes over trade and technology, even as they clash over a wide range of contentious topics."

UN Secretary General **Antonio Guterres** in an interview with Associated Press on September 18, calling for the re-establishment of a functional relationship between the U.S. and China

"By 2020, the rate of agricultural technological development's contributions to China's economic growth had reached over 60 percent; the coverage rate of improved crop varieties reached over 96 percent."

Tang Huajun, President of the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences, in an interview with CGTN on September 19



Children read at a library where the books are mostly donated in Chongqing Municipality on September 10

COVER STORY

LENDING A HAND

Philanthropy contributes to a more caring and sharing future By Lu Yan

Community social worker Lu Jiaxin and her colleague have recently received many kindnesses from caring people.

In September, they collected donations for impoverished local households living in apartments in dire need of renovation in Zhongnan Subdistrict of Guangzhou, capital city of Guangdong Province.

They handed out flyers, called on shop owners and visited company buildings to reach out to potential donors.