

Looking ahead

Events and stories coming up in the next few days

Development forum on key issues to be held in Beijing

The China Development Forum will be held at the Diaoyutai State Guesthouse in Beijing from March 24 to 26 under the theme of "China in the New Era". Hosted by the Development Research Center of the State Council, this year's event will address key issues, including high-quality development, fiscal and tax system reform, supply-side structural reform and financial policies, manufacturing and innovation.

China Cup in Nanning scores with major soccer stars

The 2018 China Cup International Football Championship will be held from Thursday to March 26 in Nanning, Guangxi Zhuang

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Society: Devoted keeper cares for lonely tiger cub

Wang Xinyu is devoted to caring for Bao Li, a 1-month-old tiger cub, rejected by its mother, at the Strange Slope Northeast Tiger Park in Shenyang, Liaoning province. A cub is usually nurtured by its mother until about age 3, but Wang is taking care of the cub even though it is demanding work to feed a hungry cub sheep's milk every two hours.



Slope Northeast Tiger Park in Shenyang, Liaoning province. A cub is usually nurtured by its mother until about age 3, but Wang is taking care of the cub even though it is demanding work to feed a hungry cub sheep's milk every two hours.

Education: 200 colleges from overseas seek students

More than 200 universities, colleges and educational institutions from 23 countries and regions will attend the annual China International Education Exhibition Tour from March 24 to April 1, the Chinese Service Center for Scholarly Exchange said. They will visit Beijing, Xi'an, Shaanxi province, Chengdu, Sichuan province, Shanghai and Guangzhou, Guangdong province. Since the first tour was held in 1999, the annual event has accumulatively attracted more than 2,000 universities and institutions from 55 countries and regions.

Heritage: Snuff bottles find a new market for their beauty

In the late 17th century, European merchants and envoys introduced the aromatic tobacco mixture known as snuff to China. It usually came in boxes, but craftsmen created airtight bottles to protect against the local climate, where snuff was prone to dry out. Artists also painted the inside of the bottles, and each container could take weeks to finish. Though snuff bottles have gradually disappeared since the early 20th century when cigarettes became available, the containers have become a collectors' item. Tianjin-born artist Wang Xinnian, 52, has dedicated more than three decades to the age-old art of painting inside of the snuff bottles. Visit our website to have a look at the exquisite snuff bottles.



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autonomous region. Launched by the Wanda Group and the Chinese Football Association, the event will attract big names including Gareth Bale, Luis Suarez and Edison Cavani. China will play the opening game against Wales on Thursday.

HK Government House opens its doors to the public

Government House in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region will be open to the public on Sunday. Visitors will be able to view the flowers and trees in the garden and see the places where the Chief Executive holds official functions and receives dignitaries. There will be guided tours for visitors to learn more about the history and architectural features of the distinguished building.

People: Father, daughter, 4, go on epic journey across China

A father came good on his dream of giving his daughter a childhood to remember. In 2015, Qi Hailiang, 37, from Tangshan, Hebei province, embarked on a bike ride across China with his daughter, who was 4. Their journey lasted 761 days and covered almost all the country's provinces and regions. Visit our website to find more about their odyssey.

Lifestyle: 10 springtime foods to indulge your palate

Spring declares the budding of nature from its wintry slumber. As the temperature picks up, animals and plants all start a new growth cycle — which offers the perfect window to nip the freshest ingredients to add some seasonal delights to your dining table.

Forum: Mattel pays homage to inspiring role models

Mattel has created 17 "Inspiring Women" Barbie dolls with educational information about the way each woman shaped society. The lineup consists of both historical and modern-day figures. Amelia Earhart (above), the first female to fly across the Atlantic Ocean and Frida Kahlo, the acclaimed Mexican artist and activist, are among them. Although the series has only three dolls so far, the lineup is set to grow.

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Culture: Exhibition shows vision of young artists

The *New Vision of China Art 2018* kicked off in Beijing this week, putting the spotlight on young artists. Nearly 500 artworks from 244 artists are featured, covering paintings, sculptures, calligraphy, photography and other art forms. With their adept skills, the young artists bring to life natural and urban scenery, portraits of people from different walks of life and historical figures. The exhibition at the China Millennium Monument will run until Tuesday.



Candid camera: Tea time



Farmers carry their hoes to a tea plantation in Mengxi village, Guizhou province, on Wednesday. LONG YUANBIN / XINHUA

Band of angels joins war on poverty

Wang Haizhu, who works in the financial sector in Beijing, refuses to remain on the sidelines as China's war on poverty escalates.

"I don't want to be just a spectator," she said. Wang once participated in a charity project near Zhangjiakou, Hebei province, where she witnessed the brutal poverty among single, elderly villagers, many of them in their 80s or older, who had no children or income. Deeply affected, she decided to act on her own.



James Healy  
Second Thoughts

Wang, whose English name is Anne, posted about her experience on her WeChat Moments. She told the story of a man of almost 90 who moved to one village

three decades ago and married a local woman, who later died.

"They had no children, no house, nothing," said Wang. "He lives with one of the families temporarily. He has nothing in his room except a blanket and pillow that look like they have been used for decades. I didn't even see a bowl."

Her friends were shocked by the living conditions of these lonely men and women, and they asked how they could help. They began sending Wang money so she could buy food and clothing.

Wang tirelessly gathered donated items and set out with seven other adults and a 10-year-old child to personally deliver hope and love to 26 needy souls in four remote mountain villages.

In a truck provided so this mercy mission could navigate the unpaved roads between villages, Anne and

her band of angels arrived on a particularly bitter December day with care packages that included coats, blankets, cooking oil, noodles and rice.

"It was super cold, like thousands of knives cutting your flesh. But none of us complained. When we think of them living in such a place under such conditions their whole life, we have no reason to complain."

The encounters with the lonesome villagers left a deep impression, Wang said.

"One of them was an old woman. When she saw us taking so much stuff to her home, she said thank you so much. Then she burst into tears."

When they visited a man of about 70, "we were wearing thick coats and boots, but he was in a thin, worn-out coat and very thin shoes. I saw some dry rice that looked rotten in the pot. He was cooking that."

Still another was hemiple-

gic. "The first time we saw him, he could speak, though we couldn't understand him. This time he was much worse. He just lay on the bed. He hadn't eaten in days. We saw a coffin in the yard. He has no wife, no children. I thought it must be the last time we'll see him. Before leaving, I kissed his forehead, hoping he wouldn't suffer." She said the man has since died.

The motivation for Wang, who hopes to bring help to other villages, is profoundly simple. "My mom taught me a lot about Buddhism since I was little. I just want to help people as much as I can."

Contact the writer at jameshealy@chinadaily.com.cn

Online Scan the code to hear an audio version.



This Day, That Year



**Editor's Note:** This year marks the 40th anniversary of China's reform and opening-up policy.

In 1980, the country's first Special Economic Zones were set up in Shenzhen, Zhuhai and Shantou in Guangdong province and Xiamen, Fujian province, to encourage overseas investment and boost the country's economic growth. Shenzhen attracted 14 percent of the country's total

foreign investment in 1992. It is the country's major trade hub and leading manufacturing base.

Following the successful development of the Special Economic Zones, China established its first 14 national economic and technological development zones in 1984.

In 1992, a national economic and technology development zone was established in Yangpu, Hainan province.

As reform and opening-up deepens, there are 219 such zones across the country.

The economic zones and industrial clusters that

emerged after the country's reform and opening-up have made crucial contributions to the phenomenal economic growth. They successfully tested the market economy.

To further open up, the country's first Free Trade Zone was established in Shanghai in 2013, serving as an important channel for prime foreign products entering China.

A number of measures have been taken to facilitate trade by promoting the negative list for foreign investors, which removed several restrictions on foreign investment, and the single-window service for businesses, mean-

Special privileges for big Hainan 'open port' plan



ing all necessary facilities are available in one place. So far, 11 such pilot zones have been set up.

**FRI - SAT MARCH 16-17**

# weather

**TRAVELER'S FORECAST**  
LOW/HIGH TEMPERATURES, IN DEGREES CELSIUS, AND EXPECTED CONDITIONS

CHINA				
Beijing	-1/10	C	-1/8	C
Changchun	-10/1	S	-6/6	S
Changsha	11/16	C	11/16	C
Chongqing	14/23	C	14/18	D
Dalian	-4/5	S	-2/6	S
Fuzhou	14/21	D	12/18	C
Guangzhou	19/27	C	18/25	C
Guilin	17/22	O	14/18	D
Guiyang	12/18	Sh	14/18	Sh
Haikou	19/28	C	20/29	C
Hangzhou	9/13	D	9/16	O
Harbin	-17/1	S	-9/6	S
Hefei	7/11	C	5/15	C
Hohhot	-6/8	C	-2/10	Sn
Hongkong	21/26	C	19/22	C
Jinan	-1/10	S	2/9	C
Kunming	8/23	C	9/20	Sh
Lanzhou	7/21	C	6/15	C
Lhasa	0/12	C	1/9	C
Lijiang	7/16	Sh	8/17	Sh
Macao	19/25	C	18/23	C
Nanchang	13/18	O	11/20	O
Nanjing	7/11	O	6/16	C
Nanning	19/26	O	20/25	D
Qingdao	0/8	S	2/8	S
Sanya	20/30	C	21/30	C

CHINA				
Shanghai	9/12	C	9/14	C
Shenyang	-15/1	S	-7/7	S
Shenzhen	20/27	C	18/25	C
Shijiazhuang	0/9	C	1/9	C
Suzhou	13/25	D	8/22	D
Taipei	19/24	D	17/22	D
Taiyuan	-2/11	O	-1/9	R/Sn
Tianjin	-2/9	S	1/6	C
Urumqi	1/8	C	1/6	D
Wuhan	9/14	O	8/15	O
Xi'an	9/16	Sh	4/7	O
Xiamen	17/25	C	13/22	C
Xining	-3/17	C	-1/11	O
Yantai	-1/4	S	-3/11	S
Yinchuan	2/12	O	5/14	O
Zhengzhou	2/9	C	5/7	O
Zuhai	19/25	C	18/24	C

EUROPE				
Athens	11/20	C	9/22	O
Berlin	0/0	R/Sn	-3/-3	Sn
Brussels	6/7	D	5/6	D
Geneva	4/6	D	5/5	D
Istanbul	9/18	D	11/20	C
London	4/5	D	1/1	R/Sn
Madrid	6/8	O	5/8	D
Moscow	-6/-6	Sn	-11/-6	Sn
Paris	8/10	D	6/10	D
Rome	7/12	D	8/12	D
Vienna	1/3	R/Sn	1/4	R/Sn

ASIA-PACIFIC-MIDDLE EAST				
Abu Dhabi	19/34	S	19/34	S
Bangkok	27/35	D	27/36	D
Colombo	25/32	D	25/32	C
Dubai	22/32	S	23/31	C
Hanoi	18/27	D	21/30	D
Islamabad	13/26	S	11/27	S
Jakarta	25/31	D	25/30	D
Karachi	21/33	S	19/34	S
Kuala Lumpur	25/27	D	24/30	D
Manila	25/33	D	26/33	D
Mumbai	22/33	S	21/34	S
New Delhi	17/30	C	15/31	S
Pyongyang	2/9	S	2/11	C
Riyadh	15/27	C	18/26	S
Seoul	4/12	S	3/12	S
Singapore	25/28	D	24/28	D
Sydney	22/27	D	21/32	D
Tehran	11/13	D	9/10	R
Tokyo	13/15	D	4/14	C
Wellington	17/23	D	14/19	D
Yangon	20/37	S	21/36	S

AMERICAS				
BuenosAires	13/23	S	13/25	S
Caracas	26/27	D	26/27	C
Chicago	0/0	O	-2/0	Sn
Houston	22/24	D	19/22	D
Las Vegas	11/12	S	7/12	D
Los Angeles	13/14	S	11/14	D
Mexico city	15/17	S	13/17	C
New York	0/1	S	1/2	R/Sn
Ottawa	0/0	Sn	-7/-5	Sn
Rio De Janeiro	27/28	D	25/26	D
San Francisco	8/10	D	9/10	D
Sao Paulo	20/21	D	18/22	R
Vancouver	3/5	D	2/6	D
Washington	0/1	S	0/1	C

AFRICA				
Cairo	14/28	S	13/27	S
CapeTown	17/25	D	17/27	S
Johannesburg	11/27	C	15/18	R
Lagos	24/27	D	25/28	D
Nairobi	17/24	D	19/24	D