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Looking ahead

Events and stories coming up in the next few days

City home price data for last month to be released

On Friday, the National Bureau of Statistics will release last month's average new home prices for 79 major cities. In April, prices of new homes in top-tier cities edged down 0.4 percent year-on-year due to curbs to prevent overheating amid speculative investments, the bureau said.

NPC Standing Committee to meet and review draft laws

The National People's Congress Standing Committee, the country's top legislature, will convene its bi-monthly session from Tuesday to June 22. Legislators will review the draft e-commerce law and revised drafts

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Video: Dazzling show lights up Qingdao's soaring skyline



A light show illuminating skyscrapers provided a visual feast in Qingdao, East China's Shandong province. The coastal city successfully hosted the 18th Shanghai Cooperation Organization Summit at the weekend. Enjoy the show on our website.

Biz: Short-video platform attracts 150 million daily users

Short-video platform Douyin released its user numbers for the first time on Tuesday. It has already attracted more than 150 million daily active users and 300 million on a monthly basis. Beginning with music and dance videos, Douyin has expanded its reach to other categories, such as gourmet food, exercise, travel and culture. More than 40 percent of Douyin users are ages 24 to 30. The platform has also attracted more than 500 government bodies and media organizations to open accounts, including the State-owned Assets Supervision and Administration Commission of the State Council.

Photos: Celebrities in black and white add a touch of color



For all the advantages of color, black-and-white photographs often capture the mood better and leave a stronger impression. Photos in black and white can have more depth and feeling than those taken with a rainbow of colors. They may be less common, but have never gone out of fashion. Visit our website to have a look at some classic black-and-white photos of celebrities in China to inspire you.

Society: Applications open for Macao vehicles to cross bridge

Applications are open for Macao-registered vehicles to drive on the Hong Kong-Zhuhai

to the laws on the people's courts and the people's procuratorates. They will also deliberate a bill on the duties of the Constitution and Law Committee and a bill on the protection of maritime rights and Coast Guard law enforcement.

Dragon Boat Festival will make a weekend splash

China Daily will publish holiday editions for the Dragon Boat Festival on Saturday and Monday with a 12-page edition published on both days. The festival falls on Monday. Traditionally, people spend the day participating in, or watching, the boat racing and eating *zongzi*, a pyramid-shaped dumpling made of sticky rice wrapped in bamboo leaves.

Macao Bridge, the Special Administrative Region's government gazette

said on Wednesday. There will be 600 permits available for owners of Macao-registered private vehicles. Each permit is valid for one year and offers unlimited access to use the bridge to travel to Hong Kong and back. Of the 600 permits, 300 can be applied for by vehicle owners, while the other 300 are for companies that have registered a vehicle. Individual applicants must be a Macao permanent resident and have a valid Macao driver's license for light vehicles. They also must be either an employee with remunerated work or have established a registered company.

Lifestyle: Designer showcases the future of style in London

Chinese designer Zhou Xiangyu has transformed his whimsical ideas about the future into menswear, as highlighted recently at the 2019 Spring/Summer London Men's Fashion Week. For this series, Zhou called on both traditional Chinese myths and popular Western culture for his designs. Many celebrities have worn his creations on the red carpet, including actress Zhou Xun and singer Li Yuchun.

Tech: Drones will help seed Taihang mountain range

Drones will become a new force in the reforestation of the Taihang mountain range, which meanders across several provinces in northern China. The forestry authority in Henan province said drones were able to access places that helicopters couldn't reach and were less affected by bad weather. The province will use the drones and helicopters to seed an area of 17,946 hectares, its largest ever annual reforestation program.



Scan it! Read more on chinadaily.com.cn

Candid camera: Flight of fancy



A paraglider soars above Xifeng county, Guizhou province, on Wednesday. LIU XU / XINHUA

An ode to the humble but reliable tricycle

Ernest is an economist from the United States and resides in Beijing. He rides a golden trike and shoots fake money from a cannon at parties.

He says the decision to purchase the electric tricycle was largely, well, economic. But the glittery-gold spray paint — like the cannon that blasts fake notes — was an investment in fun.

Indeed, trikes' prevalence and diversity strikes many new arrivals in China.

And a growing number of expats are getting three wheels of their own.

Beijing has long been hailed as the "Kingdom of Bicycles".

I believe the country is underappreciated as an "Empire of Trikes".

Bikes are relatively stan-

dard everywhere.

But most Asian countries have their own adaptations of three-wheeled transport.

China has a taxonomy of tricycles — from small, foot-pedaled ones with flat beds to specialized species of gasoline-powered three-wheelers with rows of benches and coverings to protect riders and drivers from the elements.

Years ago, an artist rode through Beijing's *hutong* (traditional alleys) on a trike re-engineered to dribble water to write calligraphy on the pavement as he pedaled along.

His statement was that both water writing — traditionally rendered on public spaces with massive brushes, like literati's vanishing graffiti — and the trike were evaporating amid development.

Water writing seems scarcer than when I arrived 12 years ago.

Trikes? Not quite.

That's because they offer advantages bicycles and cars can't simultaneously provide

— a compromise between mobility in traffic congestion and versatility of function.

They offer less zoom than cars but more than bikes, and more room than bikes but less than cars.

Call it a Goldilocks vehicle. And a growing number of foreigners, who haven't previously lived around trikes, appreciate their advantages so much that they're buying their own.

A foreign couple in our apartment building used their trike, with two rows of benches, as the "family van". That's because they could fit mom, dad and both kids on the vehicle and zip around as they please. Before they left the country, they sold it to another foreign neighbor, who gave birth days ago.

My wife and I purchased a trike with similar intent, shortly after our daughter was born.

We got it mostly to transport donated clothes from a downtown drop-off station to our home many kilome-

ters away, where we processed them for shipment to nomadic communities.

It was physically and financially draining to haul a few bulging bags at a time to the nearest place we could get a cab over several trips. Plastic bags often broke.

When that happened, it was like carrying a large net's worth of fish without the net.

The trike was meant to solve this problem. We customized the vehicle to connect to two batteries so we could also ride all the way to the countryside and back with our daughter.

Alas, it was stolen within a week. So, we switched gears and bought an e-bike.

Yet we're considering purchasing another tricycle, since we have another child, and Ernest has reminded us of how trikes can serve as the gold standard for practical transportation.

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This Day, That Year



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

The Shanghai Cooperation Organization was founded by China, Russia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan in Shanghai on June 15, 2001, as seen in the item from China Daily.

In June 2002, the second SCO summit was held in St. Petersburg, Russia, when the

leaders of the six countries signed the Charter of the SCO to define the organization's development goals and institutionalize cooperation among member states.

The intergovernmental organization aims to strengthen mutual trust among the member states, promote effective cooperation in various sectors including economy, technology, education and culture, make joint efforts to maintain peace, security and stability in the region and establish a fair and rational international political and economic order.

SCO promotes regional peace



In 2003, Chinese Ambassador to Russia Zhang Deguang was appointed as its first secretary-general at the third summit in Moscow.

The group remained the same size for 16 years until India and Pakistan were admitted last year at the 17th

SCO summit in Astana, Kazakhstan. Now the SCO covers three-fifths of Eurasia, and has nearly half the world's population.

At the weekend, the 18th summit was successfully held in Qingdao, Shandong province.

FRI - SAT JUNE 15-16

weather

TRAVELER'S FORECAST

LOW/HIGH TEMPERATURES, IN DEGREES CELSIUS, AND EXPECTED CONDITIONS

CHINA				
Beijing	20/31	C	21/33	C
Changchun	16/23	T	17/24	T
Changsha	23/31	C	23/33	S
Chongqing	22/29	O	23/29	O
Dalian	17/22	C	17/23	C
Fuzhou	21/26	O	21/31	C
Guangzhou	24/30	C	24/31	C
Guilin	26/33	C	25/34	C
Guiyang	18/24	O	18/24	O
Haikou	27/30	R	26/29	R
Hangzhou	22/31	C	21/30	C
Harbin	16/24	R	18/24	D
Hefei	21/33	S	21/33	C
Hohhot	15/30	S	17/31	O
Hongkong	25/30	T	26/31	T
Jinan	20/31	S	24/34	S
Kunming	16/22	R	16/22	Sh
Lanzhou	19/33	C	17/29	O
Lhasa	13/26	D	12/23	D
Lijiang	13/18	R	15/21	D
Macao	26/30	T	27/30	T
Nanchang	20/31	C	23/33	S
Nanjing	21/33	C	22/32	C
Nanning	25/32	O	25/32	D
Qingdao	19/23	S	19/24	S
Sanya	27/31	T	27/30	T

CHINA				
Shanghai	22/30	O	22/29	C
Shenyang	17/21	T	17/25	Sh
Shenzhen	24/30	T	25/31	T
Shijiazhuang	21/32	S	24/35	S
Suzhou	20/29	O	19/22	R
Taipei	24/31	R	23/30	D
Taiyuan	12/32	S	16/34	S
Tianjin	22/30	S	24/33	S
Urumqi	20/29	S	19/30	C
Wuhan	23/33	C	23/34	S
Xi'an	21/37	O	21/34	O
Xiamen	24/32	O	23/32	C
Xining	12/25	C	11/23	D
Yantai	18/24	C	19/26	S
Yinchuan	19/32	D	18/28	D
Zhengzhou	23/35	S	24/37	S
Zhuhai	26/30	T	26/30	T

EUROPE				
Athens	21/35	S	22/32	S
Berlin	14/17	O	16/20	D
Brussels	14/19	D	13/17	D
Geneva	14/17	D	14/19	O
Istanbul	21/29	D	22/31	C
London	15/16	D	13/16	O
Madrid	13/24	S	14/23	S
Moscow	9/20	C	8/22	S
Paris	14/18	D	13/18	D
Rome	18/22	D	18/26	C
Vienna	16/19	D	17/21	D

ASIA-PACIFIC-MIDDLE EAST				
Abu Dhabi	27/39	S	28/39	S
Bangkok	26/34	D	27/34	D
Colombo	27/30	D	26/31	D
Dubai	29/40	S	28/39	S
Hanoi	26/34	D	26/33	D
Islamabad	26/42	C	25/38	D
Jakarta	25/33	D	25/31	D
Karachi	28/34	C	28/35	D
Kuala Lumpur	25/33	D	25/32	D
Manila	28/31	D	28/31	D
Mumbai	27/33	D	26/32	D
New Delhi	28/40	S	27/41	S
Pyongyang	16/20	D	16/25	D
Riyadh	21/40	S	23/39	S
Seoul	17/26	D	17/29	C
Singapore	26/32	D	26/32	D
Sydney	11/17	S	10/17	S
Teheran	22/33	D	24/33	D
Tokyo	16/21	D	17/23	D
Wellington	11/13	D	13/14	D
Yangon	23/31	D	23/31	D

AMERICAS				
Buenos Aires	2/9	D	2/7	D
Caracas	26/26	D	26/26	D
Chicago	19/25	S	24/26	D
Houston	26/29	D	26/29	D
Las Vegas	33/38	S	30/36	C
Los Angeles	19/20	C	18/21	C
Mexico city	18/18	D	18/20	D
New York	21/26	S	20/28	S
Ottawa	15/23	D	17/17	D
Rio De Janeiro	22/24	D	20/21	D
San Francisco	13/16	S	13/17	S
Sao Paulo	15/19	D	13/15	D
Vancouver	12/15	D	13/16	D
Washington	22/28	S	21/26	S

AFRICA				
Cairo	25/34	S	30/38	S
Cape Town	14/16	R	13/15	D
Johannesburg	1/12	S	1/16	S
Lagos	24/26	D	23/27	D
Nairobi	12/23	C	13/24	D