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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.



Erik Nilsson
Second Thoughts

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	CHINA	CHINA	EUROPE
Beijing 20/31 C 21/33 C	Shanghai 22/30 O 22/29 C	Shanghai 22/30 O 22/29 C	Athens 21/35 S 22/32 S
Changchun 16/23 T 17/24 T	Shenyang 17/21 T 17/25 Sh	Shenyang 17/21 T 17/25 Sh	Berlin 14/17 O 16/20 D
Changsha 23/31 C 23/33 S	Shenzhen 24/30 T 25/31 T	Shenzhen 24/30 T 25/31 T	Brussels 14/19 D 13/17 D
Chongqing 22/29 O 23/29 O	Shijiazhuang 21/32 S 24/35 S	Shijiazhuang 21/32 S 24/35 S	Geneva 14/17 D 14/19 O
Dalian 17/22 C 17/23 C	Suzhou 20/29 O 19/22 R	Suzhou 20/29 O 19/22 R	Istanbul 21/29 C 22/31 C
Fuzhou 21/26 O 21/31 C	Taipei 24/31 R 23/30 D	Taipei 24/31 R 23/30 D	London 15/16 D 13/16 O
Guangzhou 24/30 C 24/31 C	Taiyuan 12/32 S 16/34 S	Taiyuan 12/32 S 16/34 S	Madrid 13/24 S 14/23 S
Guilin 26/33 C 25/34 C	Tianjin 22/30 S 24/33 S	Tianjin 22/30 S 24/33 S	Moscow 9/20 C 8/22 S
Guiyang 18/24 O 18/24 O	Urumqi 20/29 S 19/30 C	Urumqi 20/29 S 19/30 C	Paris 14/18 D 13/18 D
Haikou 27/30 R 26/29 R	Wuhan 23/33 C 23/34 S	Wuhan 23/33 C 23/34 S	Rome 18/22 D 18/26 C
Hangzhou 22/31 C 21/30 C	Xi'an 21/37 O 21/34 O	Xi'an 21/37 O 21/34 O	Vienna 16/19 D 17/21 D
Hefei 16/24 R 18/24 D	Xiamen 24/32 O 23/32 C	Xiamen 24/32 O 23/32 C	
Hohhot 21/33 S 21/33 C	Xining 12/25 C 11/23 D	Xining 12/25 C 11/23 D	
Hongkong 15/30 S 17/31 O	Yantai 18/24 C 19/26 S	Yantai 18/24 C 19/26 S	
Jinan 25/30 T 26/31 T	Yinchuan 19/32 D 18/28 D	Yinchuan 19/32 D 18/28 D	
Kunming 16/22 R 16/22 Sh	Zhengzhou 23/35 S 24/37 S	Zhengzhou 23/35 S 24/37 S	
Lanzhou 19/33 C 17/29 O	Zhuhai 26/30 T 26/30 T	Zhuhai 26/30 T 26/30 T	
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			

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 S	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
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AMERICAS

BuenosAires 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
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AFRICA

Cairo 25/34 S 30/38 S	CapeTown 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
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