

QUOTABLE

“Many local governments are functioning redundantly because some staff workers don’t put their heart into the work and many temporary workers are hired to cover their shifts. Officials’ power must be used transparently and supervised by the public so that they are obliged to engage in the work.”

ZHUANG DESHUI, deputy director of the Research Center for Government Integrity Building at Peking University, talking about improving government efficiency in a China Youth Daily report.

THE NUMBER

200

MILLION AGING PEOPLE

China’s population of people aged 60 or older surpassed 194 million — 14.3 percent of the population — by the end of 2012 and will exceed 200 million this year, said Wang Suying, a senior Ministry of Civil Affairs official, at a recent forum in Tianjin. China has 45,000 elderly-care facilities, far fewer than the number needed, she said.

ON THE WEB

Highlights from chinadaily.com.cn



Photo: People play mahjong, a popular four-player Chinese tile game, during a large competition in Dujiangyan, Sichuan province, on Thursday. A total 2,380 mahjong lovers participated in the event, setting a Guinness world record for the most participants in a mahjong activity.

Bilingual: US President Barack Obama responded angrily on Friday to congressional budget battles that threaten to cause a partial government shut-down. He accused Republicans who voted to defund his signature healthcare law of focusing on politics and “holding the whole country hostage”.

Buzzword: A paywall is a system that prevents Internet users from accessing Web page content without a paid subscription.

On China Forum <http://bbs.chinadaily.com.cn/>

News talk: A US senator believes the fingerprint recognition technology in Apple’s new iPhone 5S raises “substantial privacy questions”. Does the prospect of hundreds of millions of Chinese citizens’ fingerprints gathered and mined by Apple pose a security risk for China?

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around china

BEIJING Aircraft carrier completes tests

China’s first aircraft carrier, the *Liaoning*, returned to its homeport in Qingdao on Saturday after a three-month voyage, during which it carried out major tests. After setting out on June 11, the carrier performed more than 100 landings and takeoffs by various aircraft, the Liberation Army Daily reported on Sunday. J-15 fighters took off and landed on the vessel carrying maximum loads and various weapons, the report said.

HONG KONG Milk exports ban may be lifted

Food and health authorities in Hong Kong will monitor the milk powder supply during the National Day holiday period, Oct 1 to 7, before deciding whether to lift the ban on baby formula exports next month, Southern Metropolis Daily reported on Sunday. Ko Wing Man, head of Hong Kong’s Food and Health Bureau, said the authority will test the overall supply of baby formula during an expected influx of mainland tourists.

SHANGHAI Mother demands new shoes for son

A mother broke flowerpots in a shopping mall in Minhang district on Saturday after her son’s shoe was destroyed by an escalator and the mall refused to pay for new shoes, eastday.com reported. The boy’s shoe got stuck in the escalator when he was shopping with his mother in Skymall that morning. The mall refused the mother’s request for 300 yuan (\$49) to buy new shoes, so she threw four flowerpots from the second floor onto the mall’s atrium on the first floor.

‘Mimicry computer’ developed

The world’s first “mimicry computer”, developed independently by China, was



PLATES OF PEACE

PHOTO BY ZHAO JING / FOR CHINA DAILY

Middle school students hold paper plates that read *heping*, the Chinese characters for “peace”, in Linzhou, Henan province, on Saturday to mark the International Day of Peace. The event was part of the Second International Friendship and Peace Arts Festival, which runs through December.

introduced in Shanghai on Saturday, Shanghai Television reported. The computer, inspired by how animals learn to adapt to their environments, will increase problem-solving efficiency, experts said.

ZHEJIANG Flight returns to pick up passenger

A jetliner that was about to take off from Hangzhou returned to pick up a passenger who was going home after her daughter died, Qianjiang Evening News reported on Sunday. Chen Jing, who was on a business trip, got a phone call on Sept 15 that her daughter had died in a traffic accident. By the time Chen arrived at Hangzhou Xiaoshan International Airport, the jetliner she planned to take had already taxied to the runway, about 5 km from the terminal. Airport staff then called the flight back.

GUANGDONG Manager accused of taking bribes

A manager of a State-owned company is under investigation on suspicion of taking bribes worth nearly 100 million yuan (\$16 million) in Guangzhou, local disciplinary authorities said on Sunday. Zhang Xinhua, manager of Baiyun Nonggongshang United, is suspected of taking advantage of his post to seek benefits for others and accepting bribes of more than 90 million yuan and \$HK8 million (\$1 million), according to the Guangzhou CPC Committee for Discipline Inspection.

SICHUAN Cobras escape from snake farm

Fifty-two baby cobras are still on the loose after escaping from a snake farm one month ago. A crack in a wall allowed 320 baby cobras to escape on

Aug 20, three days after they were born in Longchang county, Chengdu Business Daily reported. The baby cobras will be dangerous to humans next summer if they survive the cold winter, said Chen Dahua, owner of the snake farm.

HENAN Couple donate more than intended

A couple in Zhengzhou mistakenly donated 10 times more than they intended to help a girl with cancer, but decided to let the child keep all the money, Today’s Morning News reported on Saturday. When the couple learned that a 4-year-old girl with leukemia needed money for medical treatment, they decided to donate 4,000 yuan (\$650). However, Jiang Xiaoju, the wife, mistakenly added an extra zero when she made the donation, turning over 40,000 yuan.

CHINA DAILY—XINHUA

Mission to moon will boost research and awareness

By ZHAO LEI
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China could take advantage of its Change-3 lunar exploration mission to boost international cooperation on space exploration and promote space education and awareness among the public, a leading expert from the United States said on Sunday. Speaking on the sidelines of a Galaxy Forum workshop held in Beijing, Steve Durst, founding director of the International Lunar Observatory Association, said the sharing of imaging technologies would be key to such exchanges.

“We will use the ultraviolet lunar telescope aboard the Change-3 to conduct astronomical imaging for educational purposes,” he said, “and with an exchange in kind, researchers from China National Space Administration and National Astronomical Observatories of Chinese Academy of Sciences can use the ILO-X and ILO-1 instruments in 2015.”

The ILO-X and ILO-1 are lunar telescopes that will go to the moon with a privately sponsored lunar lander in 2015, according to Durst, who initiated the Galaxy Forum events in 2008 to advance public awareness of space, particularly among students.

He said the cooperative project between the association and the China National Space Administration will enable astronomers to observe the central part of the Milky Way galaxy for the first time.

“The association is the first US space organization to have an agreement with Chinese authorities on cooperation,” he said, adding that it first established links with Chinese astronomers two years ago when China announced its plan for the Change-3 probe. The association signed a memorandum of understanding with the China National Space

Administration in August. Professor Liu Hong, director of the Research Center of Space Life Science and Life Support Technology at Beihang University in Beijing, said that Chinese scientists have been promoting cooperation with their foreign peers in space research.

Liu said her center has been involved in extensive collaboration with foreign institutes to develop the life support systems for China’s lunar mission. “We have a wide range of communication and exchanges with our foreign counterparts and are performing joint research into aspects of lunar exploration.”

The Change-3 probe has been scheduled to enter space at the end of this year for its lunar landing mission, the Chinese space authority announced in August.

The mission, the second phase of China’s lunar program, will see a Chinese orbiter soft-land on the celestial body for the first time. The Change-3 moon rover will also roam the moon’s surface to conduct exploratory patrols.

Durst underscored the significance of the Change-3 mission, saying it will spur governments around the world to invest more in space exploration and education.

“For 38 years no spacecraft has landed on the moon. The landing of the Change-3 is very likely to accelerate plans for astronauts (landing) on the moon, both in China and the US, and it will also facilitate our space education programs,” he said.

China’s lunar exploration effort means not only that humans will return to the moon, but also that “we are going to expand our reach to places even farther than the moon”, Durst explained, suggesting that educators and students should “think big” and be inspired to explore the universe.

Local governments prune unqualified members from Party

By WANG ZHENGHUA
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A county in Zhejiang province has expelled 55 unqualified members from the Party in a drive to remove incompetent members.

Another 430 Party members at Pujiang county in central Zhejiang were each given a “yellow card” for their minor shortcomings, told to receive training, and given six to 12 months to correct their faults.

For a long time, the Communist Party of China, with 85 million members by the end of 2012, continued recruiting new

members but seldom expelled any unless they committed serious offenses.

The pilot program in Pujiang came after the nation’s Party chief, Xi Jinping, urged at a meeting of the top leadership body earlier this year to improve management of the Party’s membership and deal in a timely way with unqualified members.

Liang Yanhui, a professor at the Party School of the CPC Central Committee, said on Sunday that the idea of expelling unqualified members was proposed as early as the Party’s 13th National Congress in 1987.

“All these years there was a guideline, but how to actually

do it was not settled,” she said. The attempt at Pujiang is a positive step, she added.

According to the publicity department of Pujiang, those expelled from the Party included a member identified as Xue, who took a job as a fortuneteller.

Xue, along with 54 others, were expelled based on appraisals since April.

The county selected 10 standards from the Party’s Constitution and other regulations to determine if a member is competent. These standards include a member’s faith and belief, political position, sense of organizational discipline, perspective of the overall situation and awareness of law.

To prevent wrongful dismissal, the county set up a series of procedures that involve an investigation and verification of the offense, an initial appraisal, a preliminary examination by a local Party committee, talks with organization department officials, a decision by the Party branch and final judgment by a local Party committee.

The county’s organization department could not be reached for comment on Sunday. But a report by Jinhua Daily in July offers a glimpse of how the appraisals were organized in Pujiang villages.

According to the newspaper, in Qianwu township alone, 24 out of the 550

Party members were viewed as problematic in appraisals conducted by Party and non-Party members. Seven of the 24 didn’t participate in Party activities, two violated the nation’s family planning policy, five built illegal houses, and others were found not supporting their parents or embroiled in fights.

The Party punished all of them, the report said.

Similar programs have also taken place in Guangdong and Shandong provinces. In Shandong’s Shouguang, which has more than 60,000 Party members, 102 members were expelled last year.

Wu Hui, an associate profes-

sor of governance at the Party School of CPC Central Committee, said a big reason that Party members are seldom expelled is the lax implementation of Party regulations.

The population movement also makes it difficult to manage Party members, he added.

To address the problem, an effective way is needed to allow members to leave the Party while being able to appeal if they consider the dismissal or other punishment as unfair, Wu said.

“We need a long-term system rather than whirlwinds of movement to set up an ‘exit mechanism’ for Party members,” he added.

MON - TUE
SEPT 23-24

weather

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

C Cloudy

D Drizzle

Du Dust

F Fog

O Overcast

R Rain

Sh Shower

S Sunny

Sn Snow

St Storm

T Thunderstorms

MONDAY
TUESDAY

ASIA-PACIFIC-MIDDLE EAST			
Abu Dhabi	24 / 41 D	24 / 39 D	
Bangkok	26 / 33 O	26 / 33 O	
Colombo	25 / 30 O	25 / 30 O	
Dubai	30 / 39 S	29 / 39 S	
Hanoi	25 / 32 O	25 / 31 C	
Islamabad	18 / 32 S	18 / 32 S	
Jakarta	24 / 32 C	24 / 33 C	
Karachi	26 / 30 Sh	26 / 30 C	
Kuala Lumpur	25 / 33 C	25 / 33 C	
Manila	25 / 31 O	25 / 32 T	
Mumbai	24 / 30 Sh	24 / 31 C	
New Delhi	23 / 35 S	21 / 35 S	
Pyongyang	17 / 26 O	17 / 26 C	
Riyadh	24 / 40 S	24 / 40 S	
Seoul	17 / 26 C	18 / 27 C	
Singapore	26 / 31 C	26 / 31 C	
Sydney	12 / 27 S	13 / 20 C	
Tehran	22 / 33 S	22 / 32 S	
Tokyo	20 / 23 R	20 / 27 O	
Wellington	5 / 15 S	7 / 14 S	
Yangon	25 / 31 O	25 / 30 Sh	

AMERICAS			
Buenos Aires	8 / 17 C	11 / 17 C	
Chicago	8 / 15 S	2 / 20 S	
Caracas	26 / 33 C	26 / 33 C	
Houston	21 / 32 C	21 / 31 C	
Las Vegas	25 / 36 C	26 / 35 S	
Los Angeles	20 / 26 C	20 / 24 S	
Mexico City	11 / 20 Sh	11 / 21 O	
New York	18 / 22 S	17 / 20 S	
Ottawa	12 / 16 C	5 / 15 C	
Rio De Janeiro	20 / 23 C	18 / 25 C	
San Francisco	13 / 22 C	13 / 24 C	
Sao Paulo	15 / 20 C	13 / 24 C	
Vancouver	11 / 19 C	12 / 18 C	
Washington	17 / 23 S	12 / 21 S	

AFRICA			
Cairo	22 / 30 S	22 / 30 S	
Cape Town	7 / 17 O	8 / 19 D	
Johannesburg	13 / 22 S	9 / 22 S	
Lagos	24 / 29 O	24 / 29 C	
Nairobi	12 / 27 C	12 / 28 Sh	