

News in Brief

• Tourist info

JIADING'S tourism authorities have launched a WeChat account. People can check the number of visitors at prominent scenic areas in the district, including Nanxiang Old Street, Zhouqiao, Guyi Garden. When the number of visitors reaches 80 percent of maximum capacity, the scenic spot will control the number of visitors and ease traffic around the area.

• Market time

JINJUN Wet Market has opened in Huimin New Area in Jiading New Town. On the first floor at 1531 Congxin Road there are 21 shops and numerous vendors. On the second floor there are a community canteen, a TCM clinic and some training institutions.

• Center on trial

BAIYIN Neighborhood Center starts test operation at Jiading New Town from the beginning of the month. The center offers services for residents, that include health care, culture and sports. The center has four floors, with more than half of the area used for charity affairs. Residents can access a library, table tennis, children's activity room and a room for dancing.

• Bank opens

SHANGHAI Jiading Hongdu Rural Bank has opened on Tacheng Road with registered capital of 300 million yuan (US\$46 million). During its test operation last year, the bank had deposits of 570 million yuan and lent 100 million yuan. The bank plans to set up branches in Jiangqiao and Anting in the future.



• Lantern appeal for Xuhang's young folk

Last week, folk artists in Xuhang Town gather to make rabbit lanterns for Lantern Festival. There are thought to be only eight folk artisans in Xuhang who have the skills needed to make paper lanterns by hand. They are calling out for young people to learn the craft of hand-made lanterns. — Zhao Jun

Student's visit preserves local culture

Wang Anqi and Tom Qian

When Tongji University student Peng Jing was a volunteer teacher in Nuodeng Village in southwest China's Yunnan Province, the experience sparked a strong interest in its history and culture.

Therefore she recruited five people at the university with the same interest to collect and edit the history and culture of Nuodeng. Last June, after a year in preparation, a series of textbooks were published.

The books answer questions about how Nuodeng

was formed, what the village was like when its salt industry was at its peak, and the legends pertaining to the Bai ethnic minority. The series covers the history, folk customs, religions, handicrafts and natural environment in short stories and cartoons.

Peng and her team also designed social activity courses to go with the textbooks.

"Nuodeng is one of the oldest villages in Yunnan with a history of over 1,000 years. I hope these textbooks can open a door for children to get to know their hometown," Peng said.

When she visited Nuodeng for the first time she was still

a sophomore, and the only thing she knew about the village was Nuodeng ham, which became famous after the "A Bite of China" series was aired on CCTV.

To her surprise, the local children knew very little about their own culture. Only some senior residents knew about the village's history and traditions. "If we don't do something, the traditional culture might be forgotten forever," Peng said.

Peng and her team managed to collect information from 30 schools, and more than 80 percent of them expressed a willingness to teach the local culture but couldn't find

suitable textbooks.

Upon hearing this, the team members checked large numbers of documents and interviewed people who had tales to tell of local history, folklore.

Writing the text was a major challenge for the college students as they had not only to convey what was in ancient documents and materials in straightforward language, but also had to make the stories interesting for primary and secondary school students.

With the help of experts and professors in Shanghai, the textbooks were published after about six months of editing and revision.

• SIPG star at academy's opening

Argentine footballer Dario Conca waves to fans at the opening ceremony of a football academy established by his club — Shanghai International Port Group Football Club — in collaboration with Boo King Football Club. Conca played in a practice match. The academy is the 14th of its type that SIPG has established. — Li Huacheng



District to spend US\$944m on improving roads and bridges

Li Huacheng and Wang Xiaoli

JIADING plans to spend 6.15 billion yuan (US\$944 million) on road construction, including opening up of the end road and road connections between districts.

Basic construction of the Jiading-Minhang viaduct was completed recently and the whole project is due to be completed at the end of the year. The viaduct will connect Jiading central city and Hongqiao Transport Hub and people able to drive from Jiading to Hongqiao

airport in 15 minutes.

Jiading's "four vertical and four horizontal" urban expressways and "five vertical and six horizontal" arterial roads are planned to be finished within 5 years. The road network density reached 3 kilometers per square kilometer and at a higher level in the suburbs.

Chenxiang road tunnel and the S5 ramp project have been included in the 13th 5-year plan, which will bring convenience to the people living in eastern part of Nanxiang.

Concerning the site setting of Line 11 and surrounding commercial facilities, the Chenxiang project will have an upper path as the regular urban road and the lower path as an expressway.

Crossing the Suzhou River which separates Jiading and Minhang should take just a few minutes; but in fact, it takes half an hour because the Huajiang road bridge is too narrow. This year, the districts will get together to open up new roads and broaden the bridge.