

# WEA LEE'S GLOBAL NOTES

06/18/2020

## CORONAVIRUS DIARY

# Long Unemployment Lines In Alabama

According to Labor Department statistics, more than forty-five million people have lost their jobs since the Coronavirus pandemic broke out. Yesterday we saw very long lines in front of an unemployment office in a city in Alabama. We felt so sad. Those unemployed people have to stand in line for a whole day just to talk to the unemployment office and try to get some help because they are so very helpless to face daily life.

Federal and state governments wanted to open up the country and stimulate the business activity. The real reason was to ease unemployment and restart the economy. But on the other hand, the medical community is really worried that the second wave the pandemic may come back. We are watching people in

different cities just ignoring the rule to wear the masks and the keep social distance. If the second wave comes back, that will result in even more serious damage for our economy.

Today, the White House is facing another challenge. Former national security advisor John Bolton dropped bombshell in his new book saying that Trump asked China for re-election help and encouraged the Chinese government to keep building concentration camps for social dissidents. In many U.S. cities, the recent demonstrations are still going on. This is why the majority of people feel that we are in a national turmoil and still unsafe.

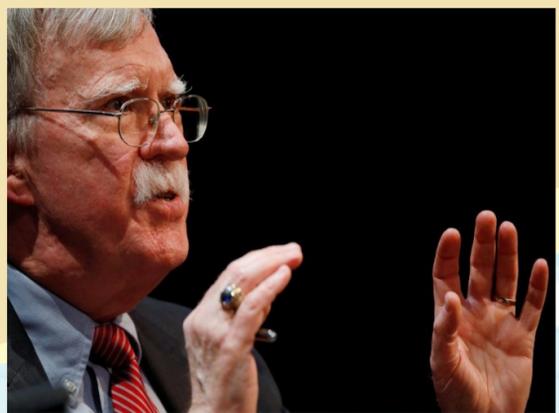
We are urging all the people to come to the rescue our nation. From Congress to the White House to local government, we need to overcome the corrupt politicians. The vote is in our hands and this is the only weapon we have to do it.

We adopted America as our



home and our country. This is our sole responsibility and duty to do what is right. You need to look at your community, your neighbors and

participate in your local elections to rebuild the country. As Abraham Lincoln said in his Gettysburg address: "For the people by the people."



Southern News Group Chairman / CEO  
Chairman of International Trade & Culture Center  
Chairman of International District Houston Texas



Publisher Southern Daily Wea H. Lee

Stay Safe!

# BUSINESS

Wear Mask!

## New Beijing Outbreak Raises Virus Fears For Rest Of World



A worker cleans the glass door to a health center for COVID-19 testing in Beijing on Wednesday, June 17, 2020. The Chinese capital on Wednesday canceled more than 60% of commercial flights and raised the alert level amid a new coronavirus outbreak, state-run media reported. (AP Photo/Ng Han Guan)

Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor

BEIJING (AP) — China raised its emergency warning to its second-highest level and canceled more than 60% of the flights to Beijing on Wednesday amid a new coronavirus outbreak in the capital. It was a sharp pullback for the nation that declared victory over COVID-19 in March and a message to the rest of the world about how tenacious the virus really is. New infections spiked in India, Iran and U.S. states including Florida, Texas and Arizona as authorities struggled to balance restarting economic activity without accelerating the pandemic. European nations, which embarked on a wide-scale reopening this week, looked on with trepidation as the Americas struggled to contain the first wave of the pandemic and Asian nations like China and South Korea reported new outbreaks. Chinese officials described the situation in Beijing as "extremely grave." "This has truly rung an alarm bell for us," Party Secretary Cai Qi told a meeting of Beijing's Communist Party Standing Committee.



After a push that began June 14, the city expects to have tested 700,000 people by the end of the day, said Zhang Qiang, a Beijing party official. About half of them were workers from the city's food markets, nearby residents and close contacts. The party's Global Times said 1,255 flights to and from the capital's two major airports were scrapped by Wednesday morning, about two-thirds of those scheduled. Since the virus emerged in China late last year and spread worldwide, there have been more than 8.1 million confirmed cases and at least 443,000 deaths, according to a tally kept by Johns Hopkins University. Experts say the true toll is much higher, due to the many who died without being tested and other factors.

The U.S. has the most infections and deaths in the world, with a toll that neared 117,000 on Wednesday, surpassing the number of Americans who died in World War I.

Arizona reported a daily high of nearly 2,400 new infections for a total of more than 39,000, while in Texas, Gov. Greg Abbott insisted the state's health care system could handle the fast-rising number of new cases and hospitalizations.



Tuesday marked the eighth time in nine days that Texas set a new high for COVID-19 hospitalizations at 2,518. State health officials reported 2,622 new cases. "It does raise concerns, but there is no reason right now to be alarmed," Abbott said. Texas began aggressively reopening its economy May 1. Abbott noted that Texans may have become lax in wearing masks or practicing social distancing and urged people to stay home as much as possible. Canada and the U.S. extended to July 21 a deal to keep their border closed to non-essential travel, with many Canadians fearing cases arriving from the U.S. As the U.S. struggles with the first wave of the virus, other countries where it was widely thought to be under control faced disturbing developments.



Airline employees redirect a traveller at a checkpoint for passengers from high risk areas to present their COVID-19 test results before checking in for their flight at the Beijing Capital Airport terminal 2 in Beijing on Wednesday,

June 17, 2020. The Chinese capital on Wednesday canceled more than 60% of commercial flights and raised the alert level amid a new coronavirus outbreak, state-run media reported. (AP Photo/Ng Han Guan)

In South Korea, authorities reported 43 new cases amid increased public activity. Authorities said 25 of them came from around Seoul, where hundreds of infections have been linked to nightclubs, church gatherings, e-commerce workers and door-to-door salespeople. Twelve of the new cases came from international arrivals.

Not long after declaring itself virus-free, New Zealand saw a reemergence of the virus. Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern assigned a top military leader to oversee the border quarantines after what she described as an "unacceptable failure" by health officials. Two New Zealand citizens who had returned from London to see a dying relative were allowed to leave quarantine before being tested. After the women tested positive, New Zealand began tracing their potential contacts to ensure the virus is contained. Their cases raised the specter that international air travel could ignite a new surge of the virus just as countries seek to boost devastated tourism industries.

China also limited other travel around the capital, keying in on hot spots. Beijing had essentially eradicated local transmissions until recent days, with 137 new cases since last week. On Wednesday, the city of 20 million raised its threat level from 3 to 2, canceling classes, suspending reopenings and strengthening requirements for social distancing. China had relaxed many lockdown controls after the Communist Party declared victory over the virus in March.



Passengers wait for their flight at the

Beijing Capital Airport terminal 2 in Beijing on Wednesday, June 17, 2020. The Chinese capital on Wednesday canceled more than 60% of commercial flights and raised the alert level amid a new coronavirus outbreak, state-run media reported. (AP Photo/Ng Han Guan)

India, with the fourth-highest caseload after the U.S., Brazil and Russia, added more than 2,000 deaths to its tally after Delhi and Maharashtra states included 1,672 previously unreported fatalities. Its death toll of 11,903 is now eighth-highest in the world. India has reported 10,000 new infections and more than 300 deaths each day for the last two weeks. Iran's latest outbreak comes after a major Muslim holiday last month and as travel and lockdown restrictions were relaxed. Health Minister Saeed Namaki said he realized the extent of the challenge when he took a domestic flight.

"Many people have become careless, frustrated with wearing masks," he said. "They did not observe (social) distancing in the flight's seating and the airliner's ventilation system was not working." In Europe, which has seen over 184,000 virus-related deaths, Spanish Prime Minister Pedro Sánchez announced the country will hold a ceremony July 16 to honor its more than 27,000 dead. German officials said over 400 people at a large meatpacking plant had tested positive for COVID-19, prompting authorities to order the closure of all schools and childcare centers in the western region of Guetersloh. The industry has seen several outbreaks in recent weeks, prompting the government to impose stricter safety rules. Denmark's health minister urged anyone who joined a large racial injustice protest on June 7 to be tested "whether you have symptoms or not" after one person in the crowd was found to be infected. "As long as we have the virus in Europe and in Denmark, it will flare up. We are dealing with a very, very contagious disease," said Health Minister Magnus Heunicke. (Courtesy <https://apnews.com/>)

# Editor's Choice



Merlin Coles 3, watches the horse racing from Royal Ascot on TV at his home, whilst sat on his horse Mr Glitter Sparkles with his dog Mistress, in Bere Regis, Dorset, Britain. REUTERS/Paul Childs



People line up outside Kentucky Career Center prior to its opening to find assistance with their unemployment claims in Frankfort, Kentucky. REUTERS/Bryan Woolston



A woman watches as healthcare workers wearing personal protective equipment check the temperature of residents of a slum in Mumbai, India. REUTERS/Francis Mascarenhas



Supporters of President Donald Trump camp outside the BOK Center, the venue for his upcoming rally, in Tulsa, Oklahoma. REUTERS/Lawrence Bryant



People take photos of a memorial to Rayshard Brooks at the Wendy's where he was shot and killed by police officers, in Atlanta, Georgia. REUTERS/Elijah Nouvelage



Army officers salute to pay tribute to Sunil Kumar, an Indian soldier who was killed in a border clash with Chinese troops in Ladakh region, before his cremation in Maner, in the eastern state of Bihar, India. REUTERS/Stringer



Alpha jets from the French Air Force Patrouille de France and the Royal Air Force Red Arrows perform a flypast over the statue of Charles de Gaulle on the Champs Elysees avenue to celebrate the 80th anniversary of wartime leader's appeal to the French people to resist the Nazi occupation, broadcast from London, in Paris, France. REUTERS/Christian Hartmann



A woman holds an electric candle in her hand at a rally against racial inequality and the police shooting death of Rayshard Brooks, in Atlanta, Georgia. REUTERS/Elijah Nouvelage

## U.S. Coronavirus Outbreaks Spur Debate Over Personal Freedoms



Liz Cahn, center, and her daughter Cara eat lunch at Meli-Melo Creperie, Juice Bar & Cafe, Wednesday, June 17, 2020 in Greenwich, Conn. The state began Phase 2 Wednesday, which includes allowing indoor seating at restaurants during the coronavirus pandemic. (AP Photo)

Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor

PHOENIX (AP) — When the coronavirus flared in China this week, the country canceled flights, suspended reopenings and described the situation as “extremely grave.” With cases still rising in some U.S. states, local officials have balked at requiring people to wear masks. In the United States, which has more reported cases and deaths than anywhere else, local authorities are wrestling with balancing demands for constitutional rights and personal freedom with warnings from health officials that being lax will have deadly consequences. China responded Wednesday to a new outbreak in Beijing by scrapping more than 60% of its flights to the capital, canceling classes and strengthening requirements for social distancing. It was a sharp retreat for the nation that only in March had declared victory over COVID-19.

“This has truly rung an alarm bell for us,” Party Secretary Cai Qi told a meeting of Beijing’s Communist Party Standing Committee.

In other countries where infections have flared, governments responded by again tightening restrictions. But as U.S. states

decide how and when to reopen parts of the economy amid surges in cases in places like Arizona and Florida, requiring even the use of masks has become a political and cultural debate, with some local officials defying pleas from doctors.



A TSA worker, right, checks a passenger before entering a security screening at Orlando International Airport Wednesday, June 17, 2020, in Orlando, Fla. Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis stated Tuesday that 52% of airport employees tested positive for COVID-19 but Phil Brown, CEO of Orlando International Airport, said in a statement Wednesday that last week's rate of positive cases from the 500 workers tested last week was only 0.4%. (AP Photo)

“Wearing masks decreases the shed of this

virus,” said Dr. Bill Saliski, a lung specialist at Jackson Hospital in Montgomery, Alabama. “If this continues the way we’re going, we’re going to be overrun.”

Montgomery County has added more than 700 coronavirus cases in the past week, more than any other county in Alabama, with a total of 2,922 infections. Saliski appealed to the Montgomery City Council on Tuesday night to mandate face coverings at public gatherings of 25 or more, but the measure failed, with members concerned about trampling on individuals’ rights.

“I think to make somebody do something or require somebody to wear something is an overreach,” said council member Brantley Lyons.

Council member Audrey Graham upbraided members for what she said was a failure to act.

“I think we fail to realize how serious this really is,” Graham said. “We are not taking a stand. We’re doing nothing. Nothing here.”

South Carolina Gov. Henry McMaster has expressed concerns about mandating masks as infringing on civil liberties, stressing that people must take responsibility for their actions.



An Apple store is open for the first day since the start of the shutdown during the coronavirus pandemic, Wednesday, June 17, 2020, in Greenwich, Conn. The state began Phase 2 of reopening Wednesday. (AP Photo)

There are some limits to what we can do and what we can enforce,” he said, adding: “At this point, the answer is individual responsibility. It’s not mandates by the government.”

The state has added 595 new virus cases, bringing the total to nearly 20,000 since the outbreak began. In all, 607 people have died from the virus in South Carolina.

A heated debate about masks has erupted

in Arizona, where cases have been growing daily. Hundreds of medical professionals signed a letter urging Gov. Doug Ducey to require them, and the state’s largest newspaper, the Arizona Republic, on Wednesday said he should take action. Ducey has encouraged people to use masks but, like President Donald Trump, has not worn one himself during any of his news conferences and has rebuffed calls to issue an order requiring them. He has also resisted imposing new restrictions on businesses, attributing Arizona’s surge in cases to increased testing. Arizona has been doing more tests, which can yield more cases, but health experts say a better way to see if more people getting sick is to look at the percentage of positive tests. When that percentage rises, it means the outbreak is worsening -- not just that more people are getting tested. Arizona currently leads the nation with the highest seven-day average positive test rate: 17.7%, or about double the national average and well above the 10% threshold that health officials find worrisome. It also has the most new cases per capita in the nation in the past 14 days. The state’s leading hospital system says it is almost running out of beds, and more than 1,100 people visited emergency rooms Tuesday with positive or suspected cases. Several restaurants and other businesses also have had to close because staff tested positive in the last week, including one sports bar chain in a hard-hit Phoenix neighborhood where staff was not required to wear masks.

In parts of Florida, people under 35 are testing positive at a higher rate since the pandemic began, contributing to a surge in cases, officials said Wednesday. In St. Petersburg, three popular bars closed after employees tested positive.



Librarian Emily Giguere delivers books to a reader waiting in his car outside

the Haverhill Library, Wednesday, June 17, 2020, in Haverhill, Mass. Libraries are closed for interior use due to coronavirus concerns. (AP Photo)

“This is happening statewide. Ideally, we would have leadership from the top and this would be a statewide decision,” St. Petersburg Mayor Rick Kriseman said, adding that Gov. Ron DeSantis has encouraged people to use masks but not mandated them. Pinellas County Commissioner Ken Welch said the county’s cases initially were in assisted living residences and nursing homes but now have shifted to younger people. He said 25% of the cases are in the African-American community.

Welch and Kriseman, both Democrats, blamed Republicans DeSantis and Trump. DeSantis said he has no intention of closing Florida’s economy again despite the new cases, saying many of those getting sick are young and thus unlikely to suffer serious illness or death. DeSantis said much of the two-week spike in confirmed infections that pushed the daily total past 2,700 on Tuesday can be traced to farm workers or businesses where a few positive cases led to widespread testing that uncovered high percentages of asymptomatic or barely symptomatic cases. Since the virus emerged in China late last year and spread worldwide, there have been more than 8.1 million confirmed cases and at least 443,000 deaths, according to Johns Hopkins University. Experts say the true toll is much higher. The U.S. has the most infections and deaths in the world, with a toll that neared 117,000 on Wednesday.

European nations, which embarked on a wide-scale reopening this week, watched with trepidation as the Americas struggled with the pandemic and new outbreaks were reported in Asia. After lockdown restrictions were relaxed in Iran, Health Minister Saeed Namaki said he realized the extent of the challenge when he took a domestic flight. “Many people have become careless, frustrated with wearing masks,” he said. “They did not observe (social) distancing in the flight’s seating and the airliner’s ventilation system was not working.” (Courtesy https://apnews.com/)

## 副刊 Daily News



## 93岁华裔演员卢燕 信念是人生最重要基石

听梅先生的唱片，学习京剧的唱腔。那段时间，梅兰芳为表抗日之心，“蓄须明志”，辍演居家，总有梨园行的朋友来家串门。每到夜晚，家中灯火辉煌，皮黄之声不断，卢燕在旁看得认真，梅兰芳也常指点她梅派艺术的技巧和要领。在卢燕心里，梅大师是她最崇拜，也是最佩服的人。“不但艺术好、很爱国，而且他的人格很高尚，总是照顾所有的同行，对人非常的仁慈”。

16岁那年，卢燕和梅葆玖一起在上海黄金大戏院登台演出，母亲李桂芬和梅兰芳一家都坐在台下。她唱完二本《霓虹关》，便向梅先生请教。梅兰芳对她说：“教你的身段都做了，做得很好——就是不到家。”这句话从此深深地刻在卢燕的脑海里，成为她一生处事的提醒。

若干年后，卢燕独闯好莱坞，走上了另一条表演之路。卢燕敬业执着、谦虚勤勉，从不松懈一分对艺术的追求。1992年，已是国际影星的卢燕应邀翻译的话剧《普莱茨大饭店》到上海演出。她谦恭好学，每天排练回来还要与对手演员对两个小时的对词，细细推敲角色语言的处理。B组的年轻后辈演出时，她放弃休息，在侧幕日日观摩，汲取他们的长处，常勉励自己“还要再加把劲儿啊”。对待翻译工作，卢燕也不含糊，在排演的空闲时间，她邀请懂戏且中文功底深厚的校友，对照原著，逐字逐句地推敲，常常从清晨一直研讨到子夜。《普莱茨大饭店》上演后引起了巨大的轰动，剧作家叶沙新说，年逾花甲，卢燕还能有这种严肃认真的创作态度，着实令他肃然起敬。卢燕说，她永远记得要精益求精，无论做什么都尽力追求完美，把磨练和精进看成一种平常，“用梅先生的话说，就是‘追求到家’”。

从好莱坞看中国电影，文化自觉是一种本能

1947年，卢燕与母亲移居美国。她说，初到美国的时候，日常来往的还是华人

圈子，她不善辞令，很少与美国人主动交流。“那个时候，美国人根本就不了解中国人，他们没有见过中国是什么样儿，中国人的文化他们也不懂。他们看到的只是最早的一批华侨，而那些华侨本来也没有机会做别的，只能开饭馆和洗衣店，用劳力来换取生活”。

当她从帕萨迪纳戏剧学院毕业，真正走向银幕和荧屏之后，才意识到这种文化认识上的差异有多严重。当时她扮演的华人角色，常常按照美国编剧所理解的那种“程式化”印象，被描写成低眉顺眼、忸怩作态，惶惶不顾是否符合真实情况。而一直以来，缺少沟通的桥梁、缺少分辨的声音，使得认识的分歧越来越大。“我不能认同这种负面的描述，我觉得该表达自己的观点，于是每次被要求如此表演，我就会提出‘真实的中国人不是这样的形象’。”她的坚持和争取换来了尊重和认同。她说，我只是做好我的本分，我是土生土长的中国人，这是文化的自觉，是本能，已经深深刻在我的血脉里了。

卢燕先后出演了200多部各类型的好莱坞电影、电视剧，在当时好莱坞的华裔女演员中，有着极高的知名度和声望，被认为是上世纪50年代后期好莱坞影界最具艺术修养的华裔女演员。

直到1979年，卢燕才再次回到祖国大陆。彼时，父兄梅兰芳已作古，原本住过的思南路洋房不复昔日的模样。而归来的卢燕已经在默默无闻的新人演员，成为奥斯卡外语片评委会执行委员和好莱坞外国记者协会的会员。从只求“在银幕上呈现真实中国人的形象”，到思索中国电影及电影人走出国门的若干可能，她将一桩桩期待化作实践——回国的第一件事，就是在母校上海交通大学设立“卢燕人文奖学金”，为有志向电影发展的青年提供帮助；2003年，成立上海交大美国电影研究中心；2015年成立“卢燕电影基金会”。她说：“研究和总结美国电影艺术、技术和商业运作的经验，必将有助于发展中国电影的风格和样式，培养我们自己的大师。”

在卢燕看来，好莱坞是一个相当庞大而完整的商业体系，每一部电影里都灌注了美国精神，弘扬美国人的价值观，这正是他们的“主旋律”。对于中国电影来说，我们何尝不需要灌注我们的民族精神和

我们的价值观？我们要有更多好的编剧、好的剧本，通过电影，向全世界观众传达更真实的、更深刻的中华民族精神和中国形象。我们的编剧和导演要充分挖掘中国人的美好品质和文化传统，这些中国元素是人类共同的财富，更该是中国电影的“主旋律”。

化身为一块基石，托起充满生机的新人和新气象

2018年，记者与卢燕初次相见于伦敦，她端坐的样子宛若画报里的太师祖母，庄重又慈祥。卢燕的行程一年四季都满满当当，那个时候，好莱坞全亚裔班底的影片《摘金奇缘》广受热议，作为主演之一，她正受邀参加伦敦国际电影节；又在大英图书馆举办演讲，为当时中国国家京剧院的伦敦之行做宣传铺垫。那是我第一次专访卢燕。同在海外，彼时我很能理解她在异国他乡传播中国的文化是多么令人敬佩的事情，就好像走出国门的华夏儿女才更知道祖国在心中的位置、文化的乡愁与根脉。去年，在卢燕来京演出的空档，记者再次采访了她，听她娓娓道来过往人生。

在外人看来，卢燕早已是最具国际影响力的华裔演员之一，而我更好奇她会如何回顾自己奔忙的一生。于是我问她：“从戏剧到电影，从香港到好莱坞，从演员到制片人，您怎样定义自己的身份和角色——您是谁，从哪里来，要到哪里去？”她笑着说，这是个太哲学的问题，我是个很简单的人，我只是个好人。可是，我不是一个很好的制片人，也不是一个有商业计划的人。我企图做很多事，可是没有很成功，因为我是个简单的人，所以我就做在我这一生能够做到的事吧。

身居海外多年，卢燕翻译了京剧《拾玉镯》《武家坡》《打渔杀家》《汾河湾》……组织国剧社，把中国的传统戏曲带进美国的大学、中学校园；重新踏上祖国的土地，卢燕更加热切地渴望为祖国的文化事业发展贡献自己的力量——1983年，她组织影视公司，深入西藏拍摄《卢燕的西藏系列纪录片》和《中国早期华侨对美国开拓的贡献》，向西方社会传达真实的“中国含义”；2014年，卢燕还为讲述世界非物质文化遗产《侗族大歌》为背景的同名电影担任艺术总监及主演，推动对传统文化的保护和传承。在卢燕看来，汉族

文化也好，藏族文化也好，侗族文化也好，民族的就是世界的，传统的就是未来的。她不过是在被需要的时候，竭尽所能。

当一个人有了心中的远方，那么她自己的很多遗憾便都不再是遗憾。卢燕说，从影时她已经30岁了，是3个孩子的母亲。在她演员的黄金年里，找不到好莱坞关于中国文化的真实题材。庆幸有了邵逸夫的邀请，才让她在上世纪70年代回到华语电影圈，主演了她最为业内人士称道的电影《董夫人》《十四女英豪》和《倾国倾城》。可惜后来，我们只能在诸多经典的电影片段中，略略地见到她精湛的表演——《末代皇帝》里的慈禧、《喜福会》里的华人移民母亲、《姨妈的后现代生活》里的上海阿姨、《2012》里的藏族老阿嬷……岁月使她的皮肤起皱，但她还有热忱，那么她演的角色就还有饱满的灵魂。卢燕说，她不在乎是否老去，因为戏里总需要不同年龄段的人物。“演戏不是就主角，做一个绿叶也要好好地衬托。只要你喜欢演戏，把你的角色演好就可以了”。

2019年，92岁的卢燕再次登上了话剧舞台，在《德龄与慈禧》中，平生第四次扮演慈禧。此时她的头发已经全白，腿脚也不再行走自如。可是她飞扬的神采依旧吸引着所有人的目光，她饰演的慈禧在威严中带着优雅，仿佛从历史的画卷中缓缓走来。登场后一句“平地不用扶，又不是七八十岁的老太太”。让全场观众笑开了，她以年过九旬的高龄仍然站立在她终身热爱的舞台上，举手投足极尽完美。“我正在城楼观山景……”下半场大幕拉开，她唱京剧《空城计》高亢豪迈，惊艳了现场的所有人。

这晚来的掌声让我们恍惚地想起那个梅兰芳领班的戏曲盛世，想起她为中美文化交流奔波辗转的身影。江南几度梅花发，人在天涯鬓已斑。她还计划着再翻译一些不朽的剧本，“以后我不便上台行动了，那么我就致力于这方面的工作，让年轻人有好的剧本可以发展。我自己看看，也很高兴”。

卢燕曾说，她几十年未曾停止，时刻心系祖国文化在海内外的传承、交流，充满热情，意气风发。她愿化身为一块基石，托起充满生机的新人和新气象。天空高远，是内心的力量支撑着她一往无前。