Community Forum Gives Voice to Malden Residents' Concerns

By Alissa Greenberg

In a community accustomed to silence, speaking up is more than an effort, it’s an achievement. And an achievement it was on May 22, when the Asian American community of Malden came together for the first meeting of its kind to meet their prospective political representatives and voice their opinions and concerns about life in their adopted home.

The forum, which was held in the auditorium of the Old Emerson School, was organized by Mei Hung of Chinese Culture Connection and Mai Du of Wah Lum Kongfu and Tai Chi Academy and was intended to bring the Asian American community together to discuss the successes and obstacles of life in Malden. The run up to the meeting included Cantonese and Mandarin stations, translated flyers, and in-school announcements. Cantonese and Mandarin translators were on hand to do simultaneous translation, a first for Malden community meetings. The crowd of 75 was a mix of ethnicities, ages, and languages—a good reflection of Malden’s diverse population.

Janelle Chan, executive director of Chinatown’s Asian Community Development Corporation, began the meeting with a few opening remarks. "It used to be that the Asian American community in Boston was only in Chinatown. Now, that’s changed," she said. Described as important to the economic development of the entire region and promised that her organization would pitch in to that end, she added, "We’re here to help build a vibrant community."

Du then took the microphone to explain that this was an event only for introductions and "not a venue for questions or debating." The speech portion of the afternoon proceeded from mayoral down to school committee candidates. Although each speech differed, several themes ran throughout: the idea of Malden as a diverse, inclusive city; the importance of translation in government; the need for school system and public service improvement. Although several candidates referred to their own immigrant background and memories of how difficult it was to find other ways to combat crime," he said.

Continuing with the theme of safety, sean Gilligan of National Grid rose to tell residents about the rash of burglaries that has plagued Malden recently. In response, mayoral candidate Gary Christenson urged residents to follow "a see something/say something approach. "We’re down license plate numbers, notice strangers in your neighborhoods. We don’t have enough funds for policing, but we can find other ways to combat crime," he said.

Continuing with the theme of safety, Sean Gilligan of National Grid rose to tell residents how to report a burnt out streetlight or to request a new one installed in a poorly-lit area. "All you need to do is call National Grid and the address, and we’ll come out," he said. "Public safety is a big concern for us." Residents also spoke up, in a mix of Cantonese, Mandarin, and English, about their concerns about Malden playgrounds, pedestrian and bike safety, leach laws, and services for the elderly. One short discussion revealed that many Malden residents are frustrated with the lack of trash recep-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

Candlelight Vigil held to Commemorate June 4 Massacre

A woman bows her head in respect during the candlelight vigil. (Photo by Kane Carpenter)
CORRECTIONS

In the article “WGBH Shows Documentary, Discusses Identity, in Celebration of Heritage Month,” Michael Liu was incorrectly addressed as a professor at UMass Boston. Liu is a Research Associate at UMass Boston’s Institute for Asian American Studies.

CHINATOWN

AAACA launches new job training program in the summer

The Asian American Civic Association (AAACA) will begin its newest job training program in August called Careers in Banking and Finance. In thirteen weeks, AAACA will train adults for jobs in the retail banking and financial services sectors. The entry-level program will include training in sales and customer service skills, basic accounting, computer skills, as well as job readiness skills. English as a Second Language (ESL) will be offered for English language learners in conjunction with the training.

All potential students can contact Victoria Wong at AAACA for more information: 617-426-9492, ext. 251 or email intake@aaca-boston.org.

Boston Chinese Evangelical Church Celebrates 50th Anniversary

On Sunday June 19, 2011 at 10:00 am at 249 Harrison Avenue, Chinatown, MA, the Boston Chinese Evangelical Church (BCEC) will celebrate its 50th Anniversary. There will be an outdoor worship service, combining their six congregations in three languages, on the playground behind the church.

Invited dignitaries include, Mayor Thomas Menino, Senator Scott Brown, Bill Linchon, Danny Chin, Ellen Zane, Peter Meade, Kairos Shen, Tai Lim, Babara Rubel, Sonia Chang-Diaz, Aaron Mchleowitz.

New Hostel Coming to Chinatown

Invited dignitaries include, Mayor Thomas Menino, Senator Scott Brown, Bill Linchon, Danny Chin, Ellen Zane, Peter Meade, Kairos Shen, Tai Lim, Babara Rubel, Sonia Chang-Diaz, Aaron Mchleowitz.

Hostelling International’s Eastern New England Council has officially begun construction on its new Boston hostel during a “ground-breaking” celebration held at the site last night with business leaders and community leaders. The new hostel – the Hub of Boston is located in the historic Dill Building at 25 Stuart Street in Boston and is expected to be open for guests in the spring of 2012. When the new hostel opens, it will be the second largest in North America. For more information: www.HInewengland.org.

CULTURE

Boston Dragon Boat Festival

Sunday, June 12- 12 PM to 5 PM at The Charles River in Cambridge

Spinning nearly 2300 years, the Dragon Boat Festival transform old traditions into an exciting sporting and cultural event, right here on the Charles River. There will be performances, arts and crafts demonstrations. Tasty Asian foods. Free admission. Visit http://www.bostondragonboat.org for more information.

MUSIC

Spring Guzheng (Chinese zither) Recital presented by students of Shin-Yi Yang

Guzheng is a traditional Chinese plucked instrument that has 2500 years history. 

6/11/2011, 2:00pm at Town Center of Bedford, Union School Room

12 Mudge Way, Bedford, MA 01730

Five administration

617-782-3000

www.shinyiyang.com

Adannies & Events Listings

Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center

Job Posting: Bilingual Family Services Specialist (Full Time)

The Family Services Program of Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center (BCNC) provides educational activities for parents and empowers them with the knowledge and skills necessary to support their children’s development. BCNC is currently seeking a Bilingual Family Services Specialist.

The Family Services Specialist will assist in creating, planning, organizing and implementing family or parent events such as parent workshops; researching for resources, translating and developing parents’ curriculums; and also provides individualized support, information and referral services to families with special social. The specialist supports the implementation of inter-agency collaborations or projects in the community. The ideal candidate is outgoing, and highly motivated to learn how to support families from immigrant background.

Qualifications - Minimum Skills and Experience:

• Bilingual in both English and Cantonese/Mandarin (written and oral)
• Computer skill: Microsoft Office & Chinese word-processing (e.g. Twin-bridge)
• Experience, confidence, and motivation in working with immigrant parents and families
• Good organization, communication, and problem-solving skills
• Knowledge of community, school and government agencies, programs, & resources
• Bachelor degree in social work, counseling, psychology
• Additional Preferred Skills and Experience:
• Experience in case management
• Public speaking skills

Position is full time, with flexible schedule depending on program needs, but availability on Friday evenings and Saturdays is greatly preferred. Hourly rate: $17 hour. BCNC is an equal opportunity employer.

Apply: email cover letter & resume to Cynthia.Wong@bcnc.net. Please indicate what position you are applying.
COMMUNITY FORUM CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The Asian American Civic Association (AACA) will begin its newest job training program in August: Careers in Banking and Finance. In thirteen weeks, AACA will train adults for jobs in the retail banking and financial services sectors. The entry- level program will include training in banking and customer service skills, basic account- ing, computer skills, as well as job readi- ness. An English Second Language (ESL) will be offered for English language learners in conjunction with the training. In addition to a 27-year history of providing office skills training, Careers in Banking and Finance will train students spe- cifically for jobs in the banking and finance in- dustry in response to the demands of today's labor market. Throughout the year, AACA has maintained strong partnerships with banks and financial institutions to address the ongoing job vacancies in this industry.

AACA's Careers in Banking and Fi- nance training program is an ideal pro- gram to meet the employment needs of recent immigrants. "It really is an honor for me, as President of Business Banking, East- ern Bank and AACA Board Member, AACA has a strong reputation for its skills training programs, which include suc- cessful building maintenance program and automotive maintenance program. After com- pletion of any of AACA's job training programs, AACA provides job placement and two-year post-placement support to help graduates get jobs and continue to advance in their careers.

We are pleased to have this new program that will address the needs of both the people we serve and financial sector employers," says Ching- ing Lee, AACA's Executive Director.

All potential students can contact Victo- ria Wong at AACA for more information: 617- 584-9492, ext. 25 or email intake@aca- ba.org.

It's great that we are coming together to give ourselves a voice. People here don't speak up, so we don't know what's hap- pening. This is a way to stay informed."

His friend, Amy Tran, who came to Mal- den from Vietnam in 1990, agreed. "I'm actu- ally one of the residents that would be really shy, normally," she said. "It was so good to hear elderly voices not being shy about speaking up... In other cities, they all have kind of munity organizations and we could develop those here too. This [meeting] makes me feel like I need to be more active in my community."
Teen smoking might begin innocently enough, but it can become a lifelong habit. In fact, most adult smokers began smoking as teenagers. Your best bet? Help your teen resist taking that first puff.

**10 tips can help.**

1. **Understand the attraction.** Smoking is a form of rebellion or a way to fit in with a particular group of friends. Some teens light up in an attempt to lose weight or to feel better about themselves. Others smoke to feel cool or independent. To know what you’re dealing with, ask your teen how he or she feels about smoking.

2. **Say no to teen smoking.** You may feel as if your teen doesn’t hear a word you say, but say it anyway. Tell your teen that smoking isn’t allowed. Your disapproval may have more impact than you think.

3. **Set a good example.** If your teen has already started smoking, keep it up. If you do smoke, quit — now. Ask your doctor about stop-smoking products and other ways to quit smoking.

4. **Appeal to your teen’s vanity.** Teen smoking is more common among teens whose parents smoke. If you don’t smoke, keep it up. If you do smoke, quit — now. Ask your doctor about stop-smoking products and other ways to quit smoking. In the meantime, don’t smoke in the house, in the car or in front of your teen, and don’t leave cigarettes where your teen might find them. Explain how unhappy you are with your smoking and how difficult it is to quit.

5. **Do the math.** Smoking is expensive. Help your teen calculate the weekly, monthly or yearly cost of a pack-a-day smoking habit. You might compare the cost of smoking with that of electronic gadgets, clothes or other teen essentials.

6. **Expect peer pressure.** Friends who smoke can be convincing, but you can give your teen the tools he or she needs to refuse cigarettes. Rehearse how to handle tough social situations. It might be as simple as, “No thanks, I don’t smoke.” The more your teen practices this basic refusal, the more likely he or she will say no at the moment of truth.

7. **Take addiction seriously.** Most teens believe they can quit smoking anytime they want. But teens become just as addicted to nicotine as do adults, often quickly and at relatively low doses of nicotine. And once you’re hooked, it’s tough to quit.

8. **Predict the future.** Teens tend to assume that bad things only happen to other people. But the long-term consequences of smoking — such as cancer, heart attack and stroke — may be all too real when your teen becomes an adult. Use loved ones, friends or neighbors who’ve been ill as real-life examples.

9. **Think beyond cigarettes.** Smokeless tobacco, clove cigarettes (kreteks) and candy-flavored cigarettes (bi-dis) are sometimes mistaken as less harmful or addictive than are traditional cigarettes.

10. **Get involved.** Take an active stance against teen smoking. Participate in local and school-sponsored anti-smoking campaigns. Support bans on smoking in public places. If your teen has already started smoking, avoid threats and ultimatums. Instead, be supportive. Find out why your teen is smoking — and then discuss ways to help your teen stop smoking, such as hanging out with friends who don’t smoke or getting involved in new activities.

Step teen smoking in its tracks is the best thing your teen can do for a lifetime of good health.

**Health**

**Tween and teen health**

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We’re Getting Married!

By Michael C. Tow
Sampan Contributor

So you’ve met that someone special in your life and now you plan to get married! Congratulations! While I’m sure the two of you will live happily ever after, the reality is that over 50% of marriages end in divorce and financial issues are one of the most common issues and problems that you will be dealing with. It is important to be open about your finances and to have discussions about it to try to avoid problems down the line. Here are some tips to think about and topics to discuss with your fiancé.

Be transparent about each other’s financial situation

Set a time to go over each other’s financial situation with a pen and paper. Go over what assets and debt each other has. This includes retirement accounts, mutual funds, CD’s, credit cards, school loans and car loans. I say over pen and paper because my experience is that whether consciously or unconsciously, when talking about debt, people tend to severely underestimate. Remember once you’re married the debt load will now be shared.

Discretionary spending

Couples need to agree on what are the levels of spending that would not require permission or consent from each other. While it is clear that big items should be discussed by both parties, what about middle range items that are not necessities? Having boundaries set before hand helps to prevent resentment and to help the both of you to live within your means.

Joint or Separate Accounts?

One of the big debates about finances after getting married is whether to have joint or separate bank accounts. While there is no one best solution for everyone it is clear that having the discussion makes a lot of sense. I have observed that couples with one joint account and separate individual accounts work well. Some have income flow through the joint account and then an “allowance” amount split to the separate accounts. Others have income to their separate accounts and then as a percentage based on income, contribute to the joint account.

Prenup or No prenup?

There are people who think that a pre-nuptial agreement is starting a marriage on the wrong foot. There are others who say with a 50% divorce rate it is a potential reality. There may be a higher need for a prenup if one party has significantly more assets than another, large inheritances are involved or if there has been a prior marriage or children.

Both Parties need to be involved

Understandably usually the more financially inclined of a couple seems to gravitate towards taking over the finances in a household. However regardless of who has more interest, both parties need to be involved. I would set up periodic times to go over the finances and to review. This is also a time to go over longer term financial goals and creating a plan to achieve them.

A successful marriage is not easy but if your communications and plan regarding your finances are in line, it makes everything else a lot easier. Again congratulations, and let me know when you want a copy of one of my past articles “We’re having a baby!”

If you have successful financial tips regarding what works in your marriage or a topic that you would like me to discuss in a future article please email me at mtow@newbostonfinancial.com.

CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER ™ Michael Tow can be reached at 617-734-4400 or www.newbostonfinancial.com

Jajangmyeon is addictive!

By Anna Ing
Sampan Contributor

For those who crave the Korean version of Chinese food, Buk Kyung (stands for Beijing in Korean) (151 Brighton Avenue, Allston, MA 617-254-2775) is one of two locations in the Boston area. This stand out dish does not look appealing, but don’t be deterred by its appearance. Jajangmyeon ($8.95) differs from the Chinese Zhu Jiang Mian “fried sauce noodles” by using a salty black bean sauce stirred with pork, onions, potatoes, and zucchini served on a saucy hand-pulled noodles topped with cucumbers. To make eating this messy a bit easier, kitchen shears are given after mixing the noodles and the sauce together. Damuji (yellow pickled sweet radish) and raw onions to be dipped in jjajang sauce are always served with this dish. Once you have tasted it, you want to have it again!

This dish is so addictive! It is no surprise that the Korean government in 2006 called this dish among the top “100 cultural symbols,” it is a popular take out dish akin to the popularity of pizza here. A more recent celebration on every April 14th is called Black Thursday where singles in South Korea eat jajangmyeon.

As with Korean restaurants, the banchan (side dishes) is a wonderful and favorite part of the meal with three different types of kimchi (korean pickled vegetables) and blanched parsley. Our server gave us a rare first as she noticed we appreciated Korean food. Ganpoongki ($16.95 small) is a boneless, battered and deep fried chicken, tossed in a sweet spicy sauce. The amount of batter is just right with also has an extensive menu with other Korean favorites as well, so make sure to try out this gem in Allston.

Get Involved in Your NEWSPAPER!

SAMPAN is seeking community correspondents, photographers, translators and columnists to help us provide coverage of major events and happenings in the Asian American community in Metro Boston. We are especially seeking Malden and Quincy correspondents to help us stay connected with these communities. Ideal candidates should have an interest in writing or/and reporting. We welcome students, working professionals, stay-at-home parents, retirees and all others who are interested in Asian-American affairs.

- Event Reporting
- Event Announcements
- Event Photos
- Translation
- Opinion

Anyone interested in contributing to SAMPAN should e-mail recruit@sampan.org.
Twenty-six (26) units offered at discounted rents through a lottery process.

- One-Bedrooms from $855/month (7 units)*
- Two-Bedrooms from $1,000/month (17 units)*

*Rent includes Heat, HW, Water & Sewer (tenant responsible for electric & cooling)

Applications for the lottery must be picked up in person at 6 Fort Street, Quincy, MA Monday, Wed, & Fri 9AM - 5PM & Sat, Sun, & Thurs - 4PM - 8PM

Applications can be dropped off at the above days & times.

Applications pick-up and submittal period will run from June 22 - July 1.

For more info or reasonable accommodations, call 617-209-5401 or visit FortStreetApartments.com

Applications and Information also available at:
- Stoughton Public Library (M-Th 9-9, Fri-Sat 9-5)
- 32 Railroad Street, Quincy, MA 02169
- In Town Hall.

Maximum Annual Income Limits for Households are as follows:

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<th>Household Size</th>
<th>60% AMI (26 units)</th>
<th>55% AMI (18 units)</th>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>6 Person</td>
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Available September 2011

- Rent includes Heat, HW, Water & Sewer (tenant responsible for electric & cooling)
- Applications for the lottery must be picked up in person at 6 Fort Street, Quincy, MA
- Completed Applications for inclusion in the lottery must be received, not postmarked, by July 7th, 2011.
- The lottery for these units will be held on Thursday July 7, 2011.
- Applications and Information also available at:
  - Stoughton Public Library (M-Th 9-9, Fri-Sat 9-5)
  - The Planning Department in Town Hall.

For information on the development and units go to www.LodgeAtStoughton.com

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Fort Street Apartments and Maloney Properties do not discriminate because of race, color, sex, sexual orientation, religion, age, handicap, disability, national origin, familial status, or marital status in the leasing, rental, sale, or transfer of apartment units, buildings, and related facilities, including land that it owns or controls.

“Sure, downsizing was a chore, but... making room for new opportunities was SIMPLE”

Like most people, Alva wasn’t excited by the notion of downsizing “over forty years of stuff,” but she knew the choice would offer more control of her retirement.

“I wish I had done it sooner.”

— Alva Holcomb

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Breaking Barriers at Harvard Law School

By Diana Li
Sampan Correspondent

Considered as an “A list celebrity” in the world of law, Jeannie Suk recently became the first Asian American woman to receive tenure at Harvard Law School. At a young age, Suk was already passionate about becoming a lawyer. Her passion to become a lawyer was intrigued by the idea of arguing cases in front of a jury. Suk was born in Seoul, Korea. When her father was given the opportunity to attend a medical training program in the U.S., her family immigrated here. Suk commented, “I’ve never totally understood how one undertakes the momentous decision to start a life in a new country.” Fortunately for Suk’s family, her family did not immigrate to the U.S. alone. Instead, they came along with her father’s classmates, where they shared a common goal and provided support for each other — forming a community. Suk’s father is a physician and owns his own private practice; her mother manages the business in Flushing, New York. Suk was six years old when she came to the US and similar to most immigrants, she had no command of the English language. Suk recalls, “It was extremely difficult to be dropped into first grade without speaking any English, probably the most difficult experience I have ever had in my life.” Suk grow up in Queens, New York. In 1995, Suk received her Bachelor of Arts from Yale University in literature. She continued her education by attending Oxford University to receive her Doctor of Philosophy in 1999. Following Oxford, Suk attended Harvard Law School in 2002, where she obtained her Juris Doctor. Suk’s current research interests include criminal law and procedure, family, art, and entertainment law. “My interests in art and entertainment law are probably related to my background in the arts, particularly music and dance, which I studied,” said Suk. “As a lawyer and family law lawyer, these interests developed through law school and in my subsequent jobs clerking on the D.C. Circuit and the Supreme Court, as well as working as a prosecutor in New York where I saw many criminal cases involving families.”

The topic of many ethnic Americans facing “glass ceiling” barriers still arises among us. Undoubtedly, Suk broke many barriers that confronted her being a female or an Asian American. “Many Asian Americans have the story of being a workaholic and having the people you work with constantly confuse you with someone else because the other person is Asian American too.” Suk said. “It can be undermining when you are trying to establish yourself in a new job and to have to struggle to have your basic individuality recognized. Of course this happened a bit when I was prosecuting.” Suk described herself as not the typical “pre-existing image of a Harvard Law professor.” Suk recollected, “When I came...”

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8
HARVARD LAW
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

Jeannie Suk recently became the first Asian American woman to receive tenure at Harvard Law School. (Courtesy of Jeannie Suk)

to Harvard Law School as a professor. I was the only Asian American woman around and I looked young.” One thing about her achievement that Suk finds humorous is the reaction on people’s faces when they realize that she is a professor. The most common reaction that she gets is a shocked look accompanied by the question, “YOU are a professor?” Suk believes, “Eventually Asian American professors will be a dime a dozen, and I won’t be so unusual, so I figure I will enjoy chuckling at surprising people now, while it lasts.”

When Suk was asked whether she felt that she had faced any challenges in receiving tenure at Harvard Law because she was the first Asian American woman, Suk answered, “Of course there are challenges in working toward tenure, but I believe I faced nothing more challenging than other colleagues in the same positions.” She said, “I have felt very comfortable at Harvard, first very encouraged by my teachers, and then embraced and supported by colleagues. Also I joined the faculty at Harvard at a time when we had the first Asian American woman, Suk answered.”

Suk’s accomplishments include receiving prestigious awards, such as the Guggenheim Fellowship, Paul & Daisy Soros Fellowship for New Americans, and the Marshall fellowship. In addition, Suk has several published works. Suk’s work, “At Home in the Law: How the Domestic Violence Revolution is Transforming Privacy,” received the Herbert Jacob Prize by the Law and Society Association.

Today, Suk’s class at Harvard Law School is one of the highly coveted courses. Michelle Wu, Harvard Law Student and Political & Outreach Co-chair of the Harvard Asian Pacific American Law Students Association, was enticed to Suk’s class. Wu said, “I ranked Professor Suk’s class as my top choice in the course selection lottery because there is nothing else like it at Harvard Law School, or any other law school. The subject matter involved exploring the intersections and interplay between two integral parts of my own life, performing arts and the law. Moreover, the professors were uniquely suited to teach it. I couldn’t pass up the opportunity to take a class taught by both Jeannie Suk, the Harvard Asian Pacific American Law Students Association’s faculty sponsor, and Damian Woetzel, former ballet star and current arts expert.”

Wu was left with an outstanding experience where she was given the opportunity to meet with experts. Wu noted, “Each class session focused on a different intersection between performing arts and the law, featuring special guests to guide our conversation. For instance, playwright John Guare came to explore the tension between protecting creative works without stifling inspiration; Leslie Rosenthal, general counsel of the Lincoln Center, came to share her experiences as chief legal officer for the world’s premiere performing arts center.” Wu was able to vividly recount her experience in Suk’s class. Wu praised Suk’s class by calling it a class that is beyond ordinary.

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