Residents of an apartment building on Chinatown’s Harrison Avenue were evacuated last week due to concerns that the building could collapse.

The building at 25 Harrison Avenue was deemed unsafe by local officials after firefighters were called to investigate a fire alarm. No fire was found, however, firefighters found that the building’s support columns had been removed.

Though fire officials have stated that the building is not in “imminent” danger of collapsing, tenants of the building have not been allowed back into their apartments pending the repair of the building violations.

During the evacuation, the first two floors of the building were empty. Residents in 11 units on the top three floors were told to leave the five-story building. Many haven’t had the opportunity to return to the building to retrieve their belongings.

The landlord of the building, Alex Szeto, paid for a one night’s stay at a local hotel for the residents in the immediate aftermath of the evacuation; however the residents have not had a permanent place to stay since they were forced to leave their homes on Wednesday, February 8.

As of press time, many of the residents had found temporary housing at locations such as 40 East Berkeley, according to Helen Wong, Boston Centers for Youth and Families (BCYF) Administrative Coordinator.

Also, more than a week after being evacuated, many residents are on the verge of moving into Boston Housing Authority units spread all over Boston.

“The BHA has been very helpful and fast-tracked all the applicants,” said Wong, in a phone interview. “A lot of the residents have signed leases and should be moving very soon.”

For the time being, residents who haven’t found a permanent location to live have been living in the Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association (CCBA) in makeshift cots.

Videos posted on the websites of numerous local news organizations show conditions within the 25 Harrison Avenue building to be cramped and poorly lit. Residents shared communal bathrooms and kitchens and lived in rooms only large enough to fit around three beds, according to WCVB-TV.

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Located in the heart of the city, Chinatown and its surrounding areas are in the middle of a development boom despite the country suffering in an economic recession. Currently, Kenmore Plaza, a 390 unit 29 story building, is being built on Washington Street along with a smaller 75 unit building, is being built on Washington Street along with a smaller 75 unit building, is being built.

With all this development, the question begs to be asked, how will Chinatown benefit? Who will get the jobs created by all the development? The Boston Residents Jobs Policy states that for any construction projects funded in part by the City of Boston must hire at least 50% Boston residents, 25% minorities, and 10% women for all construction work. Since 2000, the City of Boston has had a majority minority city meaning that over 50% of the residents in Boston are people of color. Recently there has been a construction project that has set a new standard reflecting this population change. The KnoxCorps Community Center, a $115 million project in Roxbury, was built under the standards of the Roxbury Masterplan of 51% Boston residents, 51% minorities, and 15% women for construction jobs on the project. The community organized and won these standards to be applied to the project and the general contractor had these standards written into its contract with the subcontractors. If the standards weren’t met, the general contractor had the right to hire a different subcontractor. We need these standards to be applied to projects in Chinatown and across the city. A higher minority requirement will create more opportunity for Chinese residents living in and outside of Boston.

As a community we need to make sure the jobs created in our backyard benefit the people who live here or are part of the community. At the same time, we need to work with construction unions to ensure that Chinese people are able to enter the industry and how to apply for the programs. Women are part of the community. Some exceptions may apply if you have documented hours in the construction industry.

Requirements for these programs vary from trade to trade, but they usually require:

- High School Diploma or GED (Some exceptions may apply if you have documented hours in the construction industry)
- Conversational English

For more information, become a Facebook fan at www.facebook.com/EmptyBambooGirl

SAMPAN
A Publication of the AACA
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SAMPAN is a publication of the Asian American Civic Association
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Boston, MA 02111
Telephone: (617) 426-9492
Fax: (617) 482-2316

Women are also strongly encouraged to apply.
Kam Man Supermarket Opens New Store in South Bay

February 11. The Mayor of Boston - Thomas M. Menino, the mayor of Quincy - Thomas P. Koch, and the mayor of Malden - Gary Christenson were all present at the opening ceremony. Local customers crowded in front of the new store on the first day of its grand opening.

Excited local customers began crowding around the new store at the store's opening time of 9 a.m. There were long lines in front of each of the many cashiers, and the flow of customers was jammed many times due to the large number of people present at the opening.

“Many media had spread the news that we will open today, that may be the reason we attracted so many customers today,” said Wu, the manager of the new store.

Inalienable Rights

The Tide is Turning

By Samuel Tsoi

In the context of years of paralysis in Congress, states have taken addressing our dysfunctional immigration system into their own hands. There has been a rising tide of “attrition through enforcement” legislation, most notably enacted in Arizona and Alabama. This “self-deportation” strategy aims to make life so hard for unauthorized immigrants that they have no other options but to flee. In Alabama, local police are allowed to detain individuals suspected of being undocumented. Parts of the law, later repealed, even rendered going to school and attending church risky decisions and assisting undocumented immigrants potentially illegal.

Indeed, thousands of immigrants, legal or unauthorized, have left those states. This is happening despite significant decline of national unauthorized entries over the years as border security intensified and the economy suffered. Meanwhile, nativist strategists and special interests groups such as the private prison industry are cheering. However, this cynical strategy is backfiring. The chief supporter of Arizona’s bill was voted out of office in a special election, and a recent University of Alabama study shows an upward of $10 billion in lost revenue for its state due to the exodus of immigrants, criminalization of work, loss of consumer activity, and stigmatizing everyday interactions between people. These indicators suggest that this is not only bad for the economy and civility, but damaging to overall morale in such a fragile moment in our history.

Voters are re-energized in Arizona and elsewhere, ready to flex their political muscles against this strategy. Bloggers, media professionals and activists are re-injecting humanity back to the conversation around immigration. In the last few months alone, a reversal is being felt in legislatures across the union. Many lawmakers, rejecting the divisive and economically self-effacing methods, are instead advancing pragmatic, uplifting and forward-thinking measures. One such proposal, tuition equity, is leading the way in turning the tide.

For years, over a dozen states as politically diverse as Utah, Texas, Connecticut and California have already chosen to grant equal access to public colleges and universities for undocumented students as their citizen and legal permanent resident classmates. The educational, economic and social impacts have been overwhelmingly positive. These states are generating additional tuition revenue and students are pursuing their dreams. Now, Colorado, Hawaii, and Florida are taking significant steps toward passing in-state tuition bills, acknowledging the urgent need to compete in a globalized innovation economy by leveraging the skills and drive of immigrant youth to build their home-states.

Alas, Massachusetts is still caught floating without proactive direction. The eight-year-long campaign for tuition equity in Massachusetts still has a shot this year. With broad support from business, faith, and education sectors, Beacon Hill must prioritize economic competitiveness and opportunity for young people and overcome fear and political wrangling. This would soon be put to the test. A self-deportation-esque proposal is being considered by the Judiciary Committee at the end of February – one that would make tuition equity even harder to achieve for hundreds of hard-working Massachusetts students. Senate Bill 2661 was filed in response to headlines that portray immigrants as threats, even though empirics prove otherwise. It could make the lives of immigrants, or others perceived as immigrants more difficult in community-police relations, the workplace, and even the DMV and drive the experience of getting a driver’s license can only get better. Creating an inhospitable environment for people is not a solution, harnessing talents and dreams is a better way forward. Let’s self-deport fear before we erode our human capital and welcoming heritage.

Samuel Tsoi is a Policy Associate at the Mass. Immigrant & Refugee Advocacy Coalition.

AACA, Kwong Kow Chinese School Awarded Grants

Both the Asian American Civic Association and the Kwong Kow Chinese School were awarded grants by the city of Boston’s Partners with Non-Profits program to help with building maintenance and improvement work.

The AACA plans on using the money to finish a project that placed echo-reducing material on the ceilings of its facility’s classrooms. Only half of the project had been completed with money received last year.

The KKCS plans on using the money to replace the carpet on the second and third floor of its facility as it had become dirty, according to Kwong Kow Chinese School Principal Evonne Liu. Both the AACA and Kwong Kow share a building at 87 Tyler Street in Boston.

Moderate Income Subsidized Waiting List

Waiting list for one and two bedroom subsidized apartments open at Bedford Village Apartments, Bedford MA. For one-bedroom, rents start at $777 and up. Two bedroom apartments start at $934 and up. Includes heat, h/w, and cooking gas. Income restrictions apply. EHO. Call 781-275-1038.

“DUXBURY FARMS”

TOWN OF DUXBURY

Affordable Housing Lottery

April 18, 2012

Available to first time homebuyers

3 Bedroom Single Family Homes

$207,200

4 Bedroom Single Family Homes

$225,000

LOW INCOME ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE

MAXIMUM HOUSEHOLD INCOME

1 Person Household – $45,800

2 Person Household – $52,800

3 Person Household – $56,200

4 Person Household – $60,000

Applications are available at:

Duxbury Town Hall – 87 Tremont St.

Duxbury Free Library – 77 Alden Street

www.massaffordablehomes.org

www.masseasthousingregistry.org

Informational Workshops

March 3, 2012 @ Duxbury Senior Center

El Planeta

Ad #:

21309-5

Size:

2 col x 2.5 inches

Run Date:

02/17/2012

Publication:

El Planeta

Ad #:

21309-3

Size:

2 col x 2.5 inches

Publication:

El Planeta
DO YOU NEED WHEELCHAIR-ACCESSIBLE AFFORDABLE HOUSING?

The Stoneham Housing Authority (SHA) is seeking applications for its wheelchair-accessible Chapter 200 State-aided Family Housing Program from eligible and qualified applicants seeking accessible two and three-bedroom sized apartments. Applications from Veterans and Veterans’ families are given a preference. Other persons seeking accessible units may apply. These units are located within our developments in Stoneham.

Our accessible two and three-bedroom waiting list will be open beginning February 21, 2012. Qualified and eligible applicants needing a wheelchair-accessible unit will be placed on the waiting list by lottery selection and assigned a priority and preference accordingly. The lottery will be drawn on Thursday, March 22, 2012 at 12 Noon at the SHA’s office. Thereafter, applications received will be entered by date and time of application. Applications for our Chapter 200 family wait list for our 3-bedroom units will also be open at this time.

Eligible/qualified residents of State-aided family housing pay no more than 27% of their monthly net (adjusted) income for rent. In order to qualify for State-aided public housing administered by the Stoneham Housing Authority, you must have a net income by household size, as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Household Size</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>7 Persons</td>
<td>$79,900.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>8 Persons</td>
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Applications are also available for our one-bedroom Chapter 667 State-aided elderly/handicapped apartments, which is always OPEN. Eligible/qualified residents of State-aided family housing must have a net income by household size, as follows:

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Income Restrictions Apply – See Application for Details

Monthly Rental Rates from $114 to $1103

For Information or to request an application, please call 508-487-9087, TTY 711 or email to planning@tcbinc.org

Applications may be picked up in Provincetown at:
- Town Hall (lower level) Council on Aging
- Unitarian Universalist Meeting House
- Methodist Church
- Helping Our Women (HOW)
- AID’s Support Group and Library

In Truro at the Library and Council on Aging. In Wellfleet at the Library and at Outer Cape Health Services.

“GET REAL!”
with Mildred Wong
Drama-Free Real Estate Advice

MYTH: Always insist that your agent show you NO FEE apartments only. That way you won’t get stuck with paying a broker fee.

FACT: It is important to view ALL available apartments that fit your needs. EVERY apartment rented through a real estate broker agency comes with a fee equal to one month’s rent. Fee and no fee apartments are simply apartments.

For a no fee apartment, the landlord pays 100% of the fee. For a full fee apartment, you pay 100% of the fee; for $500, you pay 50% of the fee; for $1600, you pay 50% of the fee; for $2000, you pay 50% of the fee; and for $3000, you pay 50% of the fee. There are also listings that are ¼ fee and ½ fee. Whatever portion is not paid for on your behalf, you are then responsible for.

If I don’t use a broker, I can save on the fee, right? GET REAL! In Boston, you really do need a broker in order to gain access to most listings. The fee structure will vary from listing to listing; your agent will let you know what the fee is for each apartment. The current economic climate and the number of vacancies will dictate whether landlords will pay the fee. As mentioned in last week’s article, Boston’s rental market remains tight with unprecedented vacancy rates, so expect to pay the full fee.

When landlords put their apartments on the market, they need to cover their expenses, and will often incorporate variables such as heat, hot water, taxes, maintenance, and fees into the rent. Paying a fee can actually work in your favor! If you do not plan to move for the next two or more years, paying the lower rent with full fee will make sense financially. For example, for $1500 the tenant pays the full broker fee; for $1550 the fee is split – tenant pays half the fee and landlord pays half. For $1600 the tenant pays the full broker fee. It is the same apartment, just three different rents with three different fee structures. By paying the lower rent of $1500 with the $1500 spread out over three years, you will be paying $1541 a month, less than the other two fee structures!

When apartment hunting, working with multiple agents from different neighborhood groups will give you the most options. GET REAL! Working with more than one agent will actually dilute the process and place you in a competitive disadvantage versus other apartment hunters. Real estate offices may claim to have “the best” or “the most” listings, but must have access to the same list of landlords. With increased electronic and online advances in real estate software and databases, an agent can view listings in all neighborhoods ... even throughout the state! An efficient agent will show you a range of apartments, allowing you to see ALL available listings that fit your needs and budget in one productive block of time so you can make an informed decision.

Your home should be a place you look forward to returning to every day. When apartment hunting, put broker fees aside and instead, focus on the cost of rent, included utilities, amenities, and location. You will more likely find a place you love, and remain in, saving you time and money hopping from apartment to apartment every year.

CALL TO READERS: In the process of apartment hunting and have questions? Call or email and your topic could be the next discussion. Mildred Wong is a Licensed Real Estate Agent at City Central Realty, LLC. She can be reached at 617-236-2020 or mildred@citycentrera.com. Follow her on Twitter: @GETREALMildred.

GODDARD HIGHLANDS
Stoughton Affordable Housing

3BR and 4BR single family homes starting at $197,500

Goddard Highlands is a new community that will eventually consist of 104 beautiful single-family homes (42 homes will be built in this first phase) on beautiful wooded lots in Stoughton, Massachusetts. Located only minutes from downtown Boston, Routes 24 & 128, and the Stoughton commuter rail station, Goddard Highlands offers a unique opportunity for the discerning homebuyer who desires ultimate convenience. This is a lottery for the first 10 affordable homes (both 3BR and 4BR) sold at affordable prices to households with incomes at or below 80% of the area median income. The first affordable homes will be ready for occupancy in fall of 2012.

The Maximum Income Limits for Households are as follows:

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Households cannot have more than $75,000 in assets.

For more information on the Development, the Lottery, and Application Process, please visit www.nw-ea.com/lottery or call 617.782.6900 x4. For more information on the development please visit www.GoddardHighlands.com.

Applications and Information also available at Stoughton Public Library (M-Th 9-9, Fri-Sat 9-5) and The Planning Department in Town Hall.

A Public Information Session will be held on Feb 29th at 6 pm in Stoughton Town Hall. Completed Applications and Required Income Documentation must be delivered, not postmarked, by 2 pm on April 5th, 2012. The Lottery will be held on April 18th, 2012 at 6 pm in Town Hall.

POSSIBLE AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Province Landing Apartments
90 Shank Painter Rd, Providence, MA 02657

- o 1, 2 and 3 Bedroom Apartments
- o Accessible Units Available
- o Spacious Floor Plans
- o Energy Efficient
- o Laundry Facility
- o Community Room
- o Parking

*Monthly Rental Rates from $114 to $1103*

Income Restrictions Apply – See Application for Details

Application Deadline for Selection Lottery is 3/12/2012

Stoughton Affordable Housing

3BR and 4BR single family homes starting at $197,500
February 17, 2012

**FEATURE**

Many seniors have to deal with brutal winters every year. Fortunately, bad weather barely makes a dent in day-to-day life for those who live at Linden Ponds.

Since there’s easy access to on-site health care services right on campus, you have peace of mind knowing you’ll never miss another appointment again.

The climate-controlled walkways allow you to access all parts of the community without ever having to set foot outside during bad weather.

From now on, why not put yourself in the driver’s seat when the snowy season rolls around?

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**SAMPAN SPOTLIGHT**

**Allan Tow**

2012 Creating the Dream Award Recipient
Associate Professor, Suffolk University

Suffolk University professor Allan Tow possesses a pedigree most would be proud of. He spent his early working years on the island of St. Thomas, has taught at Harvard Law School (where Alan Khazee was a student of his), and more recently, won the Suffolk University 2012 Creating the Dream Award – which recognizes the outstanding efforts of an individual, organization or department with the University in creating an inclusive, respectful and safe climate for members of the AHANA (African American, Hispanic, Asian American, and Native American) community.

Born in Medford, Massachusetts, Tow studied Anthropology and Linguistics at Brandeis University before taking a gap year and later pursuing a law degree.

“There’s not much you can do [with an undergraduate degree in Anthropology and Linguistics],” said Tow, in a phone interview. “So I took a year off.”

Tow’s first job, a clerkship (a typical entry level job in the field of law, according to Tow) on the west coast came about due to his desire to work for the first Asian American judge “East of the Rockies.” Tow then went on to work many prestigious positions on the faculty of both Harvard Law School and Suffolk University.

However, 15 years ago, Tow was asked to oversee the Asian-American Student Association at Suffolk and he hasn’t look back.

“It was just so much fun,” said Tow. “These kids are ABCs (Asian-born Chinese), just like I was. It’s just fun to talk and watch them grow because they’re all really good kids.”

Part of the fun, according to Tow, is that he and his wife take part in many of the excursions that the association takes to New York City, as well as the banquets and activities the kids organize.

There is an academic side to Tow’s participation though.

“I offer tutoring advice and will look at their papers,” said Tow. “But I’m not their parent. And it takes a while for the kids to get used to that. You know, they see an older Asian person and think authority figure. But I’m just their friend.”

No doubt, the friendship and (sometimes) guidance that Tow provides the undergraduate students at Suffolk has left an indelible impact on the lives of those who join the Asian American Association.

“It’s great,” said Tow. “I just have a lot of fun with these kids, and I get an award. It’s really great.”

Among the many subjects Professor Tow teaches at Suffolk University are Immigration and International Law.

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**Chinese**

護士, 你們在哪裡？

Were you a nurse in your homeland?
Do you want to be a nurse in Massachusetts?
Are you having trouble getting licensed here?

The Boston Welcome Back Center can help you.

617-228-ICAN (4226)
WelcomeBack@bhcc.mass.edu

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**STOP YIELING TO WINTER!**

Many seniors have to deal with brutal winters every year. Fortunately, bad weather barely makes a dent in day-to-day life for those who live at Linden Ponds.

Since there’s easy access to on-site health care services right on campus, you have peace of mind knowing you’ll never miss another appointment again. The climate-controlled walkways allow you to access all parts of the community without ever having to set foot outside during bad weather.

From now on, why not put yourself in the driver’s seat when the snowy season rolls around?

**Don’t Let Winter Slow Down Your Retirement**

Call 1-800-715-6943 for your free brochure.
Living with Diabetes

Tips on living a healthy life with diabetes

Even though the diagnosis of diabetes can be stressful and unnerving, millions of people around the world continue to live prosperous and healthy lives with the condition. But it is also important to understand that, even though you may not feel unwell or any different than you did before, it is vital to take the condition seriously and take the appropriate precautions to control and manage diabetes.

Remember, diabetes does not mean you cannot do the things you have always wanted to do! Perhaps you wanted to go on a cruise? Maybe you wanted to climb the Great Wall of China? All your dreams and aspirations don’t have to come to a halt because of diabetes.

One of, if not the most important ways to keep your diabetes in check is to manage your diet. By controlling the amount and types of food you put into your body, you can effectively manage your insulin intake.

How to eat healthier?

What is considered “healthy eating” varies vastly between cultures, and even between families. But there are a few proven methods that, if you follow, will ensure you are eating in the healthiest possible way for you:

- Eat a variety of different kinds of food. This includes including different kinds of vegetables, whole grains, fruits, non-dairy products, healthy fats, and lean meats. Try a host of different foods, and you might find one you like better and is healthier than what you're eating now!
- Limit the amount of food you eat. By eating less, you also manage your weight – which is another important aspect to control diabetes.
- Try not to eat too much of one type of food.
- Space your meals evenly throughout the day. This gives your body the adequate amount of time to digest the food you have eaten, as well as the process the insulin you’ve given it, too.

Don’t skip meals. Skipping meals is bad for your body no matter who you are, but for a person with diabetes, skipping meals can throw all the hard work you’ve done to manage the condition out the window!

How to get healthier?

Diabetes has the potential to cause irreparable damage to organs in your body such as your kidneys. The condition can also damage your eyes, if not carefully managed. So it is important to give your body the best chance of living a healthy life with diabetes as possible. One of the best ways to do this is to begin exercising routinely. Try to aim for around 30 minutes of physical activity every day. And if you’re trying to lose a little bit of weight, look to do more than half an hour a day.

There are many different ways to include exercise in your day, even if you don’t feel that you have the time to commit to 30 minutes in the mornings or the evenings:

- Walk instead of drive. You’ll be surprised how many calories you’ll burn!
- Get off the bus one stop earlier and just walk the remainder of the distance.
- Wash your car, do some gardening, mow the lawn.
- Play with your kids.
- Pace around when you’re talking on the phone. You might notice an area of the house that needs cleaning!
- Don’t park near the entrance. Park at the far end of the parking lot and walk a bit.

Asian Soup with Shredded Chicken and Rice

A recipe to get the ball rolling!

Here is a great little recipe that infuses both Asian and Western sensibilities, while also completely appropriate for a diabetic diet!

### Asian Soup with Shredded Chicken and Rice

- **4 dried black mushrooms, rinsed**
- **1 large clove garlic, minced**
- **1 small Serrano or Thai chili pepper, seeded and minced**
- **1 tablespoon minced fresh ginger**
- **6 cups low-sodium canned chicken broth**
- **2 teaspoons low-sodium soy sauce**
- **2-ounce chicken breast halves, poached and shredded**
- **4 ounces snow peas, trimmed**
- **1 small carrot, 2 ounces, thinly sliced**
- **1 cup hot cooked rice**
- **salt (to taste)**
- **freshly ground pepper (to taste)

**DIRECTIONS**

1. In a soup pot, combine mushrooms, garlic, chili pepper, ginger, chicken broth, and soy sauce. Bring to a boil over medium heat. Boil for 2 minutes. Remove from heat, cover, and let stand for 30 minutes.

2. Using a slotted spoon, remove black mushrooms and slice. Return to the pot.

3. Bring mixture back to a boil. Add remaining ingredients, except scallions and rice.

4. Lower heat and simmer, partially covered, for 10 minutes.

5. Stir in scallions and ladle soup into wide soup bowls.

6. Place 1/4 cup of the hot rice in the center of each bowl. Serve at once.

### Tips on living a healthy life with diabetes

### Food

- **Eat a variety of different kinds of food.** This includes including different kinds of vegetables, whole grains, fruits, non-dairy products, healthy fats, and lean meats. Try a host of different foods, and you might find one you like better and is healthier than what you’re eating now!

- **Limit the amount of food you eat.** By eating less, you also manage your weight – which is another important aspect to control diabetes.

- **Try not to eat too much of one type of food.**

- **Space your meals evenly throughout the day.** This gives your body the adequate time to digest the food you have eaten, as well as the process the insulin you’ve given it, too.

- **Don’t skip meals.** Skipping meals is bad for your body no matter who you are, but for a person with diabetes, skipping meals can throw all the hard work you’ve done to manage the condition out the window!

### How to get healthier?

Diabetes has the potential to cause irreparable damage to organs in your body such as your kidneys. The condition can also damage your eyes, if not carefully managed. So it is important to give your body the best chance of living a healthy life with diabetes as possible. One of the best ways to do this is to begin exercising routinely. Try to aim for around 30 minutes of physical activity every day. And if you’re trying to lose a little bit of weight, look to do more than half an hour a day.

There are many different ways to include exercise in your day, even if you don’t feel that you have the time to commit to 30 minutes in the mornings or the evenings:

- **Walk instead of drive.** You’ll be surprised how many calories you’ll burn!
- **Get off the bus one stop earlier and just walk the remainder of the distance.**
- **Wash your car, do some gardening, mow the lawn.**
- **Play with your kids.**
- **Pace around when you’re talking on the phone.** You might notice an area of the house that needs cleaning!
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North Quincy High transformed for Lunar New Year Festival

By Kane Carpenter

QUINCY — North Quincy High School transformed into a cultural hub this past weekend in celebration of the Lunar New Year. In its 24th incarnation, the Lunar New Year festival attracted almost 10,000 visitors, organizers said.

The high school, noted for its commitment to foreign language education as well as fostering an international atmosphere at the school, featured different cultural exhibits in different rooms. One major attraction was a painting and Chinese herb display in the school’s library.

However, the festival made a major effort to cater to all age groups, incorporating a Chinese opera show in the school’s auditorium, while also providing coloring crayons and paper for children wanting to entertain themselves, too.

The main attraction at the festival, though, took place in the school’s gymnasium where local and national organizations put up stalls showcasing the work they do. Also, the gymnasium hosted traditional Chinese performances, such as a lion dance display.

In the school’s cafeteria, local restaurants set up booths offering visitors lunch or just something to snack on while they enjoyed the rest of their visit to the festival. Sushi, cotton candy, and Vietnamese submarine sandwiches were notable cuisines on offer at the festival.

From 9 AM January 30, 2012 until 1 PM February 24, 2012 we will open our waitlist for the very low income category for our two bedroom apartments, and our waitlists for the extremely low AND very low lists for our one bedroom apartments.

The waitlists for low and moderate income applicants will remain open.

For two bedroom applicants, your gross income by household size must be above the following minimum:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Household Size</th>
<th>Minimum Income</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 person</td>
<td>$31,350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 persons</td>
<td>$35,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 persons</td>
<td>$40,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 persons</td>
<td>$44,750</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Rent for 2012 equals 30% of adjusted household income, not to exceed $1,189.

Please contact the Management Office for information regarding our waitlists for other income categories.

Applications can be obtained in person from the management office at 140 Evergreen Drive, Bradford or by calling 978-373-2543, Relay 711, and may be returned in person or mailed to the above address. Reasonable accommodations made.

No applications for the two-bedroom very low income, the one-person very low income waitlists will be accepted prior to 9 AM on Monday, January 30, 2012 or later than 1:00 PM on Friday, February 24, 2012.

No consideration all applications must be completely filled out and signed by all household members aged 18 or over. Eligible applications will be placed on the appropriate income-based waitlists.

Selection of an application from the waitlist for processing is based on income category, then date and time application.

We will reject all incomplete applications. We are not responsible for applications that are lost or delayed in the mail. Faxed applications will not be accepted.

Translation assistance in completing applications is available. Presidential Gardens is an equal housing opportunity property. It is managed and marketed by Maloney Properties, Inc., 27 Mica Lane, Wellesley, MA 02481. Phone 781-943-0200 Relay 711.
Boston is home to a few token BBQ places and the newest entry that joined last November has taken the city by storm. Helmed by Season One finalist of the popular Bravo TV Reality show “Top Chef” Tiffani Faison, barbecue fans are in for a treat. After the South End Italian restaurant Rocca closed its doors, Tiffani decided our fair city needed a place that served Texan style BBQ. After some serious road tripping throughout Texas trying out the different barbecue, they came back and to our great fortune, Sweet Cheeks (1381 Boylston Street, Boston, MA 02215 (617) 266-1300) was born.

On a recent busy Friday night, one could barely hear themselves in this big room with a mix of seating that consisted of some communal tables. Water is served out of Mason jars (usually used for canning foods) and the condiments - BBQ sauce (big bottle), Hot Sauce (smallest bottle), and vinegar North Carolina sauce (middle sized bottle) - are all at your fingertips. Sweet Cheeks doesn’t mess around with the BBQ meats as the emphasis is on pulled chicken, pulled pork, pork belly, brisket and ribs. All their meats are natural, no hormones and local. The BBQ is served on metal trays and the choice of three meats, four pork ribs, two big slices of flavorful lean and fatty brisket as well as the three smallish pieces of succulent pork belly were delicious. I was a fan of the nice sweet BBQ sauce. The North Carolina sauce served a nice vinegary tang if that is your speed. The hot sauce was avoided though.

The other tray was the Berkshire pulled pork ($17) and the two sides chosen were the collard greens and farm salad. The collard greens were lovely with bits of meat and vinegar sauce that kept it interesting. The farm salad consisted of brussel sprouts (wild cabbage with edible buds), parmesan cheese, candied hazelnuts, farro (popular Italian grain) and arugula filled up the veggie component of the meal. The pulled pork was like threads of pork that were easy to eat and delicious. The house made pickles were light and refreshing.

Our Fried Green Tomatoes (S7) were outstanding! We liked the textures of the batter versus the green tomato. We found the portions to be abundant that we had no room for dessert and had leftovers for another meal. Unfortunately, we had to skip ordering desserts. The prices are a little on the pricier side, service was efficient and knowledgeable. While there are other barbecue places in town, Sweet Cheeks is worthy of a look.

By Kane Carpenter
Sampan Editor

The Gee How Oak Tin (GHOT) Association of New England held its annual Chinese New Year banquet at Hei La Moon Restaurant on February 4, 2012. A packed restaurant of some 40 tables and close to 250 guests attended the dinner, along with notable guests such as Mayor Thomas M. Menino, City Councilor Bill Linehan, Congressman Michael Capuano, and Harvard Law School professor and Democratic candidate for the 2012 United States Senate Elizabeth Warren. During the dinner Kwong Kow Chinese School students performed dance routines for attendees. After KKGS' dance performances, Congressman Capuano was given the honor of “bringing a lion to life” by drawing eyes on a brand-new lion of a lion dance performance.

According to the Association’s website, the mission of GHOT of New England is to unite all brothers and sisters of Chan (Chin, Chen, Tran, etc.), Woo and Yuan families to foster a spirit of self help and mutual support and to advance the welfare of its members, in accordance to the teachings of Emperor Shuen (2318 B.C.), and to support charitable causes, including outreach to the larger Chinese community and the American society at large.

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