Two Chinatown committees elect 2014 members

BY LING-MEI WONG

At the CNC election were (left to right) Bill Chin, CNC 2014 agency representative Sherry Dong and James Chan. (Image courtesy of Ling-Mei Wong.)


The CNC election on Dec. 1 was open to Chinatown residents and Mass. Asians over 16, with 1,436 votes cast. Candidates can run in five categories. Four new members were named for 2014: Sherry Dong (1,070 votes) in the agency category, Kye Liang (1,080 votes) in the organization category, and Kenny Wong (317 votes) and Nicholas You (321 votes) in the resident category.

Incumbent Rosemary Yee (1,139 votes) was reelected in the organization category, along with Hung Goon (1,151 votes) in the other category, Brian Moy (214 votes) in business category and Felicia Lee (170 votes) in the resident category.

Gilbert Ho (177 votes) and Rick Wong (147 votes) ran in the organization category and lost; four candidates ran for two seats. WingKay Leung (138 votes) ran in the other category and lost, which had two candidates for one seat.

CCBA

CCBA directors were eligible to vote for the 2014 officers, with 46 ballots cast on Dec. 3. Two of the 46 ballots were invalid.

CCBA’s president-elect for 2014 will be Hung Goon (23 votes), who ran against Simon Chan (21 votes). The English secretary is Karen Lee (24 votes) over Ruth Moy (20 votes), while Philip Huang (26 votes) beat Tony Dum (18 votes) to become auditor.

The positions of Chinese secretary and treasurer were tied, with the first vote announced being the winner. Victor Louie (22 votes) was named Chinese secretary rather than Theresa Tsoi (22 votes), while Larry Young (22 votes) became treasurer over Grace Li (22 votes).

Senior citizens updated on scams and health care

By Kenny Sui-Fung Yim

Residents at the Chinatown Greater Golden Age Center gathered to hear presentations from the Boston Police Department and health care navigator Sara Tan on Nov. 26, with interpreting by Jack Hung, resident services and community programs coordinator at Quincy Tower.

Tan gave an overview of changes that might be expected in cost and coverage. At the moment, most seniors qualify for the “the white card,” which is state coverage health insurance. The new plan will be red and blue. There are four plans: A, B, C and D. The first step is to choose between A and B. A is commonly known as hospital care. B covers more advanced doctor services, including surgery and outpatient care.

In 2013, the cost was $104.90. Then, A and a portion of D. The cost is covered by the government, and can be used for private and company uses. Those under 40 will have more surgical care options. There open enrollment is until Dec. 7.

Senior citizens are encouraged to inform their family and discuss their options with relatives.

There has been a recent upsurge in scams directed against the elderly population, said Robert Luongo, BPD community service officer for senior response. He urged them to be suspicious of any messages that come from hospitals, banks, electric companies, the lottery or anyone they did not expect a message from. Luongo advised the residents not give out information.
ATASK celebrates 20 years at Silk Road Gala

BY SUZIE YEUNG

The Asian Taskforce Against Domestic Violence Silk Road Gala took place Nov. 23 at 60 State Street. Mayor Thomas Menino and chef Ming Tsai attended the event. (Image courtesy of Suzie Yeung.)

The Asian Taskforce Against Domestic Violence celebrated its 20th anniversary at the Silk Road Gala on Nov. 23. The gathering was held atop 60 State Street, overlooking downtown Boston. Hundreds of attendees adorned in ethnic clothing represented the diversity of Asian cultures.

Linda Chin, president of ATASK invited a former ATASK client to speak about her experience. The woman from Vietnam expressed her gratitude to the organization for providing her the assistance that she needed. After turning to her center of support, she was able to obtain a certificate as a manicurist, tend to her young son in her own apartment and purchase her very first car.

“ATASK supported me with my dream and made me feel good about myself again. Without your help, I would not be standing here today,” said the survivor.

Guests mingled during cocktail hour and were offered wine and hors d’oeuvres. Placed around the venue were small, folded paper cranes that represent survivors. Proceeds went toward victims of domestic violence.

Anchor Janet Wu of 7 News hosted the event. Afterwards, talented pianist George Li of Young Concert Artists performed, amazing the crowd with his deft fingers and skill. Everyone was treated to dessert — included nitrogen ice cream from Churn in Cambridge — to conclude the night.

ATASK provides English language lessons, job skill training and social support for victims to get their lives back in order. It has recently renewed a federal grant. ATASK has grown from a small meeting of like-minded, determined individuals to an organization that assists people in need.

Chinatown meeting roundup: CCBA, CNC, CRA, CSC

BY LING-MEI WONG

The Chinatown Resident Association met on Dec. 4 at the Josiah Quincy School. (Image courtesy of Ling-Mei Wong.)

The Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association, Chinatown Neighborhood Council, Chinatown Resident Association and Chinatown Safety Committee met in November and December. The CCBA had a presentation on developing the Tai Tung Village parking lot on Harrison Avenue into housing. Preliminary sketches by Winn Development would place a residential building with underground parking on the 35,000 square foot lot.

The CRA heard presentations on renovating Liberty Tree Plaza and bilin

The Anti-Defamation League’s New England chapter celebrated its 100th anniversary by hosting a panel discussion on immigration reform at the University of Massachusetts, Boston’s John F. Kennedy Library on Nov. 19. ADL was founded in 1913 “to stop the defamation of the Jewish people and to secure justice and fair treatment to all.” Today, the organization is known for fighting anti-Semitism and all forms of bigotry as well as defending democratic ideals and protecting civil rights for all.

The panel, “America — A Nation of Immigrants: Where We Stand Today,” was named after President John F. Kennedy’s book, “A Nation of Immigrants,” and sought to highlight some of the issues surrounding comprehensive immigration reform today.

“Every day we are reminded that the America of 2013 is based on the foundation of immigration,” said ADL regional director Robert Trestan in a prepared statement.

ADL has long supported comprehensive immigration reform that respects individual rights and human dignity, while maintaining safety. “It is time,” Trestan said, “for Congress to pass meaningful immigration reform. Millions of people are counting on them to act.”

The panel featured three guest speakers: Vargas, Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist, filmmaker and founder of the Define America campaign; Ali Noorani, executive director of the National Immigration Forum in Washington, D.C.; and Rev. Cheng Imm Tan, director of the Mayor’s Office of New Bostonians. All of the panelists emphasized the flaws behind current immigration laws and called for change.

Vargas was born in the Philippines and raised in the U.S. from age 12. He did not know he was an undocumented immigrant until he tried applying for a California driver’s license when he was 16. He did not reveal his status as an undocumented immigrant until June 2011, when he wrote an essay for the New York Times Magazine to promote dialogue about U.S. immigration. The essay also advocated for the Dream Act, which would help young people in similar situations obtain a path to citizenship through education.

Throughout his struggles to obtain the everyday things American citizens often take for granted, such as a driver’s license or loans for college, Vargas came to a sad realization: “To be an undocumented immigrant actually means obsessing over pieces of paper.”

“Yes, we are fighting for pieces of paper that would allow us to be here, to work, or you are more than pieces of paper,” he continued.

Tan acknowledged this reality, reminding the audience that human beings have more in common than differences. She quoted one of her favorite Buddhist mantras, “What is so special about me that I should work for my happiness alone?”

Tan also urged advocates of immigration reform to take the fight to a local level by having conversations about immigration within the community and calling local legislators to demand action.

Whether Washington, D.C. passes comprehensive immigration reform or not, Vargas stressed that “we live in a country that dares us to dream as big as possible. And you owe it to yourself, to your family, and to this country to dream as big as you can, even though they won’t allow you.”

“So please, don’t give up,” he said.

The Anti-Defamation League’s New England chapter celebrated its 100th anniversary with a panel discussion on immigration reform at the University of Massachusetts, Boston on Nov. 19. (L to R) Jose Vargas, Cheng Imm Tan and Ali Noorani. (Image courtesy of Joe Savitch.)
Event Calendar

Harry H. Dow dinner
Friday, Dec 6
6 p.m.
China Pearl
9 Tyler Street
Boston, MA 02111

The seminar covers free housing energy check, free change of energy saving light bulbs and electric thermostats. Benefits discussed include a 75 percent heating discount, 0 percent interest loans and discounts on solar energy installation. Refreshments provided. For more information, contact Mrs. Lu at (617) 482-2380 x 212.

Immigration seminar
Saturday, Dec. 7
9:30am to 11:00am
Presidents Place Room
418 Quincy College
250 Hancock Street
Quincy, MA 02169

The topic of this event is “Top Immigration Myths Debunked” presented by attorney Vincent Liao, a Quincy resident with experience in the field of immigration law. For more information, please contact Fred Doyle at fjdoyle@quincycollege.edu.

Advent celebration
Saturday, Dec. 7
1 p.m.
St. Peter’s Episcopal Church
838 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge, MA 02139

The audience is invited to sing favorite choruses, with scores provided by Masterworks Chorale. Conducted by Artists Von Bringham (soprano), Peter Terry (alto), Fausto Miro (tenor), Thomas Dawkins (bass), and organist Thomas Dawkins, Von Bringham and Joshua Lawton. Suggested donation $10 at the door.

Medicare and Masshealth open enrollment period
Affordable Health Insurance: Oct 1, 2013 to Mar 31, 2014

For more information, please contact Mrs. Chen at the Chinese Greater Golden Age Center at (617) 357-0226 x 233.

Enchanted Trolley tour and tree lighting
Sunday, Dec. 8
1 p.m.
Phyllis Square, Harrison Avenue and Essex Street
Come join Mayor Meilo Smith and the audience is invited to sing favorite choruses, with scores provided by Masterworks Chorale. Conducted by Artists Von Bringham (soprano), Peter Terry (alto), Fausto Miro (tenor), Thomas Dawkins (bass), and organist Thomas Dawkins, Von Bringham and Joshua Lawton. Suggested donation $10 at the door.

Bilingual chat meetup
Tuesday, Every week
6 p.m. to 9 p.m.
677 Huntington Avenue
Boston, MA 02115

Conservatory Lab Charter School winter concerts
Winter Concert I: Tuesday, Dec. 10
3:30 p.m.
Winter Concert II: Thursday, Dec. 19
3:30 p.m.

At Winter Concert I, students in K1 through Grade 2 will perform; while at Concert II, students in Grade 3 through Grade 7 will perform. The concerts are free and open to the public.
New England Table Tennis Championship held at MIT

BY SYLVANA CHAN

The New England Table Tennis Championship hosted its second annual competition at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology on Nov. 24. Approximately 100 players in more than 30 teams competed for gold, silver and bronze titles across four levels of expertise: D Division for beginners, C Division for intermediate players, B Division for more advanced players and A Division for the experts.

The competition drew a diverse crowd: the youngest player at the tournament was 10 years old and trained daily and plays semi-professionally. The oldest was in his 70s.

Vincent Liung, one of the tournament organizers, said anyone can participate in the competition. Amateurs or pros, men or women, young or old — there is a skill category for every table tennis enthusiast to participate.

Iris Li competed in the A Division games. A graduate student at Northeastern University, Li picked up the sport in her native China when she was just 4 years old. Eventually, her hobby turned serious and she spent a few years training at the prestigious Beijing Sports School.

“It’s a little like chess and athletics put together,” Shapiro said. “A true challenge.”

The competition’s success already has Liung looking toward the future. “I’m hoping to have more participants in the competition and expand its scope to be bigger — more than just New England.”

Author John Jung spoke about his new book at a Chinese Historical Society of New England event on Nov. 18. (Image courtesy of Lan Nguyen.)

Author explores history of Chinese laundries

BY LAN NGUYEN

The Chinese Historical Society of New England hosted a talk and book signing with John Jung, author of “Chinese Laundries: Tickets to Survival on Gold Mountain” on Nov. 18. Jung, a former psychology professor at the California State University of Long Beach, was born to immigrant parents who ran a laundry business in Macon, Ga., during the early 1900s.

Jung and his family were the only Chinese people living in Macon at the time. Due to the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882, a historic piece of legislation which prevented Chinese laborers from immigrating to the United States, the Chinese living in America risked deportation if they were found to be laborers.

As a result of racial discrimination and limited job opportunities, many Chinese families operated laundry businesses, ironic because there were no laundries in China. Consequently, the laundryman became a symbol for all Chinese people.

According to Jung, Chinese laundrymen were often isolated and “the target of derision” and disrespect. The situation was made worse when a white woman was found murdered and stuffed in the steamers of a Chinese man’s apartment. The event demonized Chinese men who were subsequently seen as a danger to white women.

Despite being tormented and mocked, Chinese laundymen endured these hardships for the sake of providing for their families in America and back in China. The laundry business gave them security and also taught their children a good work ethic, which they carried into adulthood. Jung worked in his father’s laundry business and was unaware of what a vacation was. When Jung was 15 years old, the family moved to San Francisco, where they acquired a home with an operating laundry business on the lower level.

Ultimately, Chinese restaurants and groceries became alternatives to running laundries. Laundromats eventually replaced laundries. The business also declined when the older generation of Chinese immigrants either passed away or retired and returned to China. Rather than continue the laundry business, these immigrants’ educated children found themselves with better job opportunities. This brighter future for the next generation was what led Jung to conclude that laundries were “tickets to gold mountain.”

Confessions of a youth leadership coordinator

BY SEE VANG, AACA YOUTH LEADERSHIP COORDINATOR

Youth-focused programs often tout “youth empowerment,” the notion that these programs exist to help youth realize their own voices and their potential to effect positive changes in their communities. I am by no means suggesting these programs are not needed, as youth voices have historically been excluded from major decisions that oftentimes directly affect them. What I am criticizing is the one-way street assumption that inspiration, empowerment, impact, engagement and learning travel from the experienced adult to the developing minds of youth.

Many questions plagued me as a young professional starting my first “real” job as the youth leadership coordinator at the Asian American Civic Association. Would I be an effective coordinator? Would I be able to empower them? Would I be able to guide them to see the value of the communities that make up their identities, and the reasons for becoming embedded in the well-being of these communities? What if I don’t know enough? What if they don’t like me?

Since then, the Youth Council members have impacted me in so many ways. I become more confident every time they show up for meetings and events, every time they complete something I ask of them and every time they communicate their plans with me. I feel giddy every time they “Like” my posts on Facebook, and felt really honored when one of the members asked me to write a college letter of recommendation on her behalf! Even when I know they are feisty and will bolt as soon as I say “OK you’re free to go!” I am inspired to work harder to grab their attention and engage them at the next meeting.

I don’t think they are aware of how much they inspire me. I am amazed at their dedication and commitment to community service. Being dedicated means they had to intellectually engage in identifying the community, how they are impacted by the community, their role in that community and how their role can impact their communities. These are all things that I only started to do when I was in college.

I have learned an immense amount from the Youth Council members in the short three months that I have been here, and know that they will teach me more before my service year is up in July. I am proud to say that I work with a group of highly motivated youth that care about and are engaged in their communities, and I can only hope and work towards making these feelings and opportunities for learning mutual.

Asian American Civic Association Youth Council members attended an immigration forum at AACA on Nov. 4. (L to R) See Vang, Tsering Lhadon, Asian Americans Advancing Justice Youth Council members.

Asian American Civic Association Youth Council members attended an immigration forum at AACA on Nov. 4. (Image courtesy of Ling-Mei Wong.)

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Application Deadline
December 27, 2013

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(978) 456-8388
Pick Up:
Medway Town Hall, Town Clerk’s Office
Medway Public Library

APPLICATION AVAILABLE ONLINE AT: www.mcohousingservices.com

Public Information Meeting
7:00 p.m., Thursday, December 5, 2013
Medway Senior Center—76 Oakland St.

Application Deadline
December 27, 2013

The TransformAsians conference on Asian women and cancer took place Nov. 16. (Image courtesy of Kenny Sui-Fung Yim.)

Asian Women for Health presents the brave faces of cancer

BY KENNY SUI-FUNG YIM

Asian Women for Health in conjunction with the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, hosted TransformAsians, an educational conference focused on Asian women and cancer on Nov. 16. Led by executive director Chen-Chi Huang, various speakers presented their expertise on and experience of women affected by cancer.

In her keynote address, Wendy Chen, assistant professor at Harvard Medical School specializing in breast cancer, described Asian breast cancer facts, risk factors and future research direction. According to Chen, cancer incidence rates are on the rise in Asia, particularly in the Philippines, as that part of the world develops and adopts western lifestyles. More women are first diagnosed with cancer before age 40, as this group represents 15 to 20 percent of cases in Asia, compared to 8 percent in the United States.

Fat tissue is a common risk factor as it increases estrogen levels. Therefore, Chen stressed nutrition and exercise as important areas on which individuals should concentrate.

A panel of four cancer survivors followed Chen’s address and had great impact. The women shared their experiences with the suddenness and unexpect edness of their respective diagnoses, including lung, throat and breast cancers. All felt scared, and one woman said her “mind went blank, blind.” She asked herself, “Am I going to die?”

The panelists talked about leaning on their families, even as they continued to form the “backbone of the family,” as Huang described. One woman pointed to her husband in the audience. They spoke of faith and encouragement from the Bible, despite hellfire pain that made it impossible to do something as basic as swallowing.

A medical student asked, “How can doctors be better at treating women with cancer?” One panelist answered, “Just remember that patients are not pieces of wood. They are human. Just ask me, ‘How am I?’ Be compassionate. If you cannot, don’t be a doctor.”

The panelists were asked, “What should I do if I find someone close to me has cancer?” One woman thoughtfully said, “Just hold her hand.”

For more information, contact Asian Women for Health at www.asianwomenforhealth.org or (617) 870-4056.
Ask Dr. Zhao: Can you die from too much anesthesia?

BY PEI-SHAN ZHAO

Yes, it is possible to die from too much anesthesia. Doctors found 2,211 recorded anesthesia-related deaths between 1999 and 2005, based on death certificates maintained by the National Vital Statistics System at the National Center for Health Statistics. Of these, 46.6 percent were attributable to an overdose of anesthesia; 42.5 percent were attributable to adverse side effects of anesthesia during therapeutic use. The highest death rate was found in the 85 and older demographic. The study estimates that, on average, 8.2 out of 1 million hospital surgical discharges and 1.1 out of 1 million people in the general population die from anesthesia-related causes each year. In comparison, vehicular accidents in the United States cause about 11 deaths out of 100,000 people per year, a rate that is 100 times higher than anesthesia-related deaths in the general population. That is to say, the risk of dying from anesthesia is much lower than dying on the street.

Most people think anesthesiologists administer anesthesia to a dummy. (Image courtesy of Vassar College.)

A medical student practices administering anesthesia to a dummy. (Image courtesy of Vassar College.)

Generally speaking, patients will not be given too much anesthesia, since we watch what we give and how much we give carefully. We adjust the amount of anesthetics based on the patient’s condition. As bodily functions in multiple systems decrease with age, we decrease the dosage of anesthetics for elderly patients. The same situation applies to very sick patients, such as individuals with severe heart disease, lung disease, severe obesity and other health problems. These conditions put patients at higher risk for death under the stress of anesthesia and surgery.

A review of studies from different countries showed that anesthesia-related deaths in otherwise healthy patients occurred at a rate of 0.4 out of 100,000 people. However, the death rates increased to 27 to 55 individuals out of 100,000 in patients with uncontrolled medical problems, depending on the severity of the disease.

“Errors are an inevitable part of anesthetic practice. Anesthetists are humans and humans make errors,” wrote J.G. Hardman and I.K. Moppett in an editorial published in Deutsches Ärzteblatt International. Although this is true, the American Society of Anesthesiologists has been striving to improve patient safety. Actions taken include close supervision of anesthesiologist residents, limiting resident working hours, continuing medical education for well-trained anesthesiologists, simulator training for both resident and attending physicians, and much more.

Let me tell you a story. It is reported that anesthesiologists in the United States earn the highest salary in the medical field. While this is untrue, this rumor has spread to China, where doctors do not get the pay they deserve — not including “under the table” income. An American-trained anesthesiologist went back to China to give a lecture. He was asked whether he made a lot of money just by sitting in the operating room after injecting anesthetics into a patient. He replied, “I will give anesthesia for free if I can leave my patient after I inject anesthetics.”

What he meant was that anesthesiologists not only inject anesthetics, but also monitor and manage patients continuously after the first injection. This is more critical for patient safety rather than the risk of overdosing the patient accidentally. Many people — including medical professionals — often do not understand what an anesthesiologist does.

Too much anesthesia does occur, but it does not necessarily cause patient death. Anesthesiologists are vigilant in monitoring patients for any problems and treating the patient immediately. If anything bad happens to a patient during surgery, the anesthesiologist is the first member of the medical team who will save your life.

Pei-Shan Zhao is an attending anesthesiologist and director of the Asian Community Outreach Program at Tufts Medical Center. He is a graduate of Peking University’s School of Medicine and has trained at Peking University and Caritas St. Elizabeth’s Medical Center.

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Teens mobilize for underage drinking awareness

BY LING-MEI WONG

“Hey, I’m underage. Can you buy me a drink?”

Standing just outside Sagarino’s liquor store on South Street, Meiling Xu of Boston Latin School looked expectantly at a man passing by. He shook his head and kept walking. Xu was underage, but she was not looking for alcohol. Instead, she, along with fellow classmates Ado Jean-Noel and Maddie Montgomery, were part of an underage drinking awareness event run by the Allston-Brighton Substance Abuse Task Force (ABSAATF) in conjunction with Boston Asian Youth Essential Services.

On Nov. 21, Xu, Jean-Noel and Montgomery participated in a “Shoulder Tap” activity. After soliciting passersby for alcohol, the students gave adults who refused to buy them a drink a business card that said they had done the right thing and listed penalties for buying alcohol for minors. Those who did offer to buy alcohol for the minors were given a “thumbs down” card which also listed the penalties of such actions.

The teens were not alone. Standing at a safe distance was Boston Police Officer Ted Boyle of District A-1, along with task force project assistant Lauren Antonelli. As a further precaution, the Latin School students carried out their volunteer service in Chinatown to avoid recognition in Brighton.

While underage drinking is not a major problem in Chinatown, Shoulder Tap and other activities serve to increase awareness among youth.

“They learn at their centers about driving drunk, as some people can handle it and others can’t,” Boyle said. “We speak on laws and what the consequences of alcohol are, such as legal fees, loss of license and property damage. Education is a big part of this.”

In addition to the Shoulder Tap activity, ABSAATF and Boston Asian YES offer other ways for youth to get involved. Though too young to actively participate in Shoulder Tap, Josiah Quincy Upper School freshman and Boston Asian YES member Kenny Mei has helped at “Stick-er Shock” events, placing labels on cases of beer to warn adults not to buy alcohol for minors.

“They can see the need,” Mei said.
Restaurant Guide: Joyful Garden

BY LING-MEI WONG

The Days Inn on Soldiers Field Road may look nondescript from the outside, but inside blooms an oasis of authentic Chinese food. Joyful Garden serves solid southern Chinese cuisine in Brighton. With a capacity of 300 guests, free parking and live seafood, the restaurant has earned a loyal following through word of mouth. For the past seven years, owner Henry Ho has enjoyed brisk business in Brighton. Joyful Garden’s ample space and mouth-watering food attract even the most discerning Chinese gourmands.

A signature seafood dish is the grey sole filet ($35.95 or market price). The whole butterflied fish is golden and crispy. Tender chunks of fish are stir-fried with mushrooms, carrots, peapods and leafy Chinese broccoli. Served hot, the fish is a feast for the eyes as well as the stomach.

Sirloin steak chunks in black pepper ($12.95) come straight out of the kitchen on a hot iron plate; the savory meat is complemented with sweet peppers and onions. The iron plate keeps the food sizzling, a welcome sound during New England’s chilly winter. The black pepper blends savory and sweet together with gentle heat, making this a hearty and aromatic dish.

More hearty fare includes the beef with Chinese parsley soup ($8.95). The Chinese parsley is bright green and tender in this thick soup, which features beaten egg whites and a generous serving of minced beef. Finely minced scallops, ginger, onion and garlic give this soup its full-bodied flavor.

Vegetables at Joyful Garden are crisp and bursting with aroma, thanks to excellent “wok air,” or fiery woks producing dishes with a tasty char. The dry cooked string beans ($8.95) are a Chinese classic: string beans stir-fried with chilies and onions over high heat. The crunch of the string beans is satisfying without being overly greasy. Joyful Garden is a wonderful place for authentic Chinese cuisine without Chinatown’s parking woes.

Wah Lum Kung Fu and Tai Chi Academy wins big at international event

SUBMITTED BY WAH LUM KUNG FU AND TAI CHI ACADEMY

Mayor Gary Christenson and Wah Lum Grandmaster Bob Rosen congratulated 20 Wah Lum Kung Fu & Tai Chi Academy students on their big win at the 2013 International Chinese Martial Arts (ICMAC) Worldwide Circuit Championships. The event took place at the Reggie Lewis Athletic Center in Boston. Though this was the ICMAC’s third event in Boston, it was the first time the Wah Lum Malden team participated. Wah Lum Kung Fu & Tai Chi Academy champions took home 23 gold medals, 18 silver medals, 7 bronze medals and five fourth place medals.

Mai Du, Mayor Christenson and Grandmaster Rosen congratulated the champions: advanced male kung fu champion Jian Li of Quincy, advanced girls kung fu champion Yen-Nhi Chit of Lynn, advanced girls kung fu champion Michelle Ngo of Everett and advanced female kung fu champion Andrea So of Malden.

A week after the event, the all-around score for the four required categories was tallied, and Wah Lum Kung Fu & Tai Chi Academy won four Grand Championships. Mayor Christenson and Grandmaster Rosen presented the awards to the Grand Champions. For more information about Wah Lum Kung Fu & Tai Chi Academy, please call (781) 397-0338 or visit www.wahlumacademy.com.