AACA 2010 graduation ceremony showcases student success

By Natalie Ornell

Graduating students from the Asian American Civic Association’s (AACA) ESOL and job-training programs shared stories of struggle and success during the programs’ annual graduation ceremony at Tufts Medical Center Woolf Auditorium on June 25th.

Keynote speaker and Director of the Mayor’s Office of New Bostonians Reverend Cheng Imm Tan emphasized the importance of immigrants at the graduation, reminding the audience that immigrants are the “soul of the city and the country.” Tan also shared anecdotes that reflected the uncer-

SEE GRADUATION, PAGE 8

First caps and gowns

Twenty children graduated from BCNC’s Acorn Childcare Program

Caption: BCNC Acorn children proudly display their graduation diplomas. (Photo courtesy of BCNC)

Twenty children graduated from the Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center’s preschool program Acorn Center for Early Education and Care (Acorn). Acorn is the first bilingual Chinese-English program in Massachusetts.

In addition to being state-licensed, Acorn is nationally accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC); only 8% of the country’s childcare centers receive this accreditation indicating Acorn’s high quality of care. Upon graduation, these children are ready to go to public schools in Boston, Malden, Everett, Quincy, Watertown, Newton, and Wellesley in the fall.

At the graduation children performed songs in Chinese and English including Big Watermelon (Chinese), I Am a Big Apple (Chinese), Zippity Doo Da (English), and I’ve Been Working on the Railroad (English) and later enjoyed a pizza party.

Acorn serves eighty-one children per year.
Two Boston schools designated International Baccalaureate world schools

Schools join elite group of programs; only 11 others in Massachusetts

Two Boston schools have been designated International Baccalaureate (IB) world schools. Muriel S. Snowden International Headmaster Dr. Gloria Coulter. "This designation has been years in the making and will renew our focus on providing educational opportunities that are among the highest-quality in the City of Boston," said Snowden International Headmaster Dr. Gloria Coulter. "We believe this program will add significant rigor and meaning to our juniors' and seniors' education, even while providing our younger students' vision and direction for their future at our school and beyond," said Quincy Upper Headmaster Dr. Bak Fun Wong. "Quincy Upper is also moving forward in the application process to offer the IB "Middle Years Programme" for students in grades six through ten. The school will also offer a summer enrichment pre-IB program for students to prepare them for the demands of the "Diploma Programme." The IB Acceleration Agen-da, unveiled in November 2009, sets a goal of having 100% of IBP students take at least one college-level course (Advanced Placement, Honors, International Baccalaureate and/or dual enrollment) during high school. Among other innovative models implemented within IBs is the popular Montessori program in the East Boston Early Education Center. The unique program began in September 2009. The IB does not own, operate or manage any schools, rather it works in partnership with 3,001 IB World Schools in 139 countries.
**AFFORDABLE SENIOR HOUSING**

Constitution Cooperative Apartments, where residents have a voice in the management of their building, is currently accepting applications for studio and one bedroom apartments. Heat & electricity included.

Located in the heart of City Square in Charlestown, this active senior housing co-op is within walking distance to shopping, banks, churches and is on an MBTA bus line.

Rent is based on 30% of income (income limits apply) to qualified seniors 62 and older and to younger persons who are mobility impaired requiring the special design features of accessible units.

Call 1-800-225-3151 for leasing information.

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**SENIORS LIVE ROYALLY AT CASTLE COVE**

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A unique community of seniors managed by CSI Support & Development Services of Malden

A cooperative apartment is a building controlled by the members. All major operating decisions are voted on by the members. Coop apartments help to keep quality housing affordable.

We have:
- Our own separate apartment
- A non-profit organization; any profits are put back into coop services to benefit its members.
- Open voluntary membership without social, political, racial or religious discrimination.
- A building democratically controlled by the residents.

Each building has its own activities run by a committee of residents, such as entertainment • bingo • gift case

We have:
- A library • game room • community room
- Lounges on each floor • our own laundry room

The success of a Cooperative depends on the active participation of its members.

If you would like more information or to apply, please call 1-800-225-3151

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**Josiah Quincy Elementary School honored for efforts to combat childhood obesity**

On Tuesday, June 15, 2010 the Alliance for a Healthier Generation, founded by the American Heart Association, and the William J. Clinton Foundation, recognized Josiah Quincy School for transforming a healthier place(s) for students and staff.

To earn this award, Josiah Quincy School created healthy eating and physical activity programs that met or exceeded stringent standards set by the Alliance for a Healthier Generation’s Healthy Schools Program, which provides free support and technical assistance to more than 9,000 schools nationwide to help them reverse the national trend in childhood obesity. Schools are eligible for Bronze, Silver, Gold or Platinum National Recognition Awards based on their level of achievement. A BRONZE National Recognition Award winner, Josiah Quincy School joins an implementation phase, directed by an implementation committee made of volunteers who will work together with appropriate community groups.

Youth from the community also expressed their visions for a better Chinatown. Winners of the Youth Art Contest were announced. The contest was designed to give youth the opportunity to display their own visions for an enhanced Chinatown. The best works were displayed at the Quincy School and winners received special recognition on stage at the end of the meeting.

Angus Mo, a rising 7th grader at the Linden school in Malden, won first place for his drawing of an improved Chinatown which he “drew with his mind.”

“I drew a picture with more alternative energy using solar panels and windows,” Mo said. Angus Mo stands proudly with his first place drawing of a more environmental Chinatown.

Natalie Ornell is the Sampan correspondent.

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**MASTER PLAN, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1**

to a question by the audience about plans to incentivize housing development, Director of the Chinatown Progressive Association (CPA) Lydia Lowe emphasized that Chinatown must preserve the immigrant working, class portion of the community and therefore must focus on low and moderate income housing. She also ruled out recommending a general incentive for developers to gentrify the community.

The goals and visions summarized in the Master Plan arose from the input of the community at large. Now that this planning phase has concluded, Liang explained that the Master Plan will move onto an implementation phase, directed by an implementation committee made of volunteers who will work together with appropriate community groups.

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Natalie Ornell is a Sampan correspondent.
Chinatown News

Chinatown South Cove Neighborhood Council supports liquor license for new Dumpling Café

By Natalie Ornell

The Chinatown South Cove Neighborhood Council (CNC) met on June 21st and voted in support of a beer and wine license for the new Taiwanese restaurant Dumpling Café, set to open in July 2010. Located on 695 Washington Street next to the Malaysian Penang Restaurant, the Dumpling Café will serve traditional Taiwanese dishes from 7 to 15 dollars and will open from 10 am to 2 am with food service ending prior to closing time. The restaurant will have a forty person capacity and will be handicapped accessible.

Dumpling Café manager Jennifer Li said, “We welcome everyone to come. Dumpling Café is very popular for dumplings or buns, oyster pancakes, and stinky tofu. Our chef, Mr. Sam Wang, attended a culinary institute in China and cooked in a famous hotel in the Fuzhou province called Waimao Zhongxin for fifteen years.” All members of the council voted in support of the new restaurant’s license; however, the license will still need to be awarded from the City Licensing Board and approved by the safety committee. The newly renovated Dumpling Café will replace a former adult bookstore.

During the meeting, the CNC also showed support for affordable housing developments to both ACDC (Parcel 24) and CEDC (Oxford Street). The committee will reconvene on Monday, July 19 at 90 Tyler Street.

Natalie Ornell is a Sampan correspondent.

Youth

ABCD Summer Works

Action for Boston Community Development (ABCD) employs more than 2,000 young Bostonians with paid seasonal jobs and work experiences in Massachusetts. The ABCD Summer Works program will kick off its first day of work for students after the July 4th holiday weekend. The youth employment initiative helps prepare more than 2,000 youth and young adults ages 14-24 for future careers while fighting teen unemployment.

During this time of rising national unemployment rates, the job prospects for teenagers who want to work are even worse. Students seeking summer work experience, generally 16 to 24 years old, are struggling to find jobs.

For over 45 years ABCD has offered summer jobs through their ABCD Summer Works program to youth throughout the City of Boston. This program offers more than just summer employment. The participants receive guidance, comprehensive world and life skills workshops in collaboration with local neighborhoods in Chinatown, Roxbury, Dorchester, and East Boston.

Should I get a summer job? This summer, students are applying to fast-food restaurants and retail stores to make their earnings. There are benefits for teenagers who have summer jobs. They have the opportunity to bring home some money.

COMMUNITY YOUTH VOICE provides a section in the Sampan newspaper as an outlet for youth and young adults to voice their concerns within the community, celebrate artistic expression, and share personal stories through various creative medias such as journalism, arts, poetry, and painting.

It serves as a tool for youth to exercise their social and political voices. It also amplifies the ability to impact the lives of children, families, and the community for positive youth development through a powerful bilingual newspaper.

LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD! Contact: Natali Ornell 617-277-0027 (nollen@massboston.org) CHINATOWN/BOSTON 07/01/2010

ABCD Summer Works Flyer

CHIEF U.S. PROBATION OFFICER

U.S. Probation, Massachusetts has a need for a full-time Chief U.S. Probation Officer. For more info: www.map.uscourts.gov. Current Employment Openings. EOE

29,000 Employees Worldwide

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HIRING FOR POSITIONS IN:

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Qualified candidates should submit a cover letter and resume to: careers@cbre-ne.com

Ying is a skilled commercial real estate professional with 15 years of experience in leasing, management, development and property operations. She is an accomplished negotiator with a strong track record of achieving results.

www.QCC.edu

QUINSIGAMOND Community College

Marketing and Press Relations Administrator

The Marketing and Press Relations Administrator is responsible for the College’s integrated marketing and communications strategies in support of the College’s mission and strategic planning goals. The position oversees the efforts of the Marketing and Communications teams, develops and implements marketing and public relations plans and strategies, and ensures the effective delivery of marketing and public relations messages to target audiences.

Applicants for this position must have a minimum of two (2) years experience in marketing and public relations, a Bachelor’s degree in Communications or a related area, proficiency in Adobe Creative Suite applications and excellent computer, oral and written communication skills.

Interested applicants should visit our website www.QCC.edu for a complete job description, requirements and application procedures. All applicants must apply online by July 18, 2010.

Quinsigamond is an equal opportunity affirmative action college supporting diversity and a member of the Colleges of the Worcester Consortium.

Financial Aid Assistant

Immediate need for an individual to assist applicants, staff and the general public relative to financial aid processes and procedures. An applicant must have a minimum of a Bachelor’s degree, one year of office experience, ability to maintain accurate records and be able to deal tactfully with a wide variety of people.

This position is full time with a competitive salary range of $35,496 to $51,458 and an outstanding benefit package.

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www.QCC.edu
By Alexander Pavoll, MPH

Skin cancer is the most common type of cancer in the United States, and ultraviolet (UV) light from the sun is the major cause. It is never too late to start protecting and taking care of your skin, so pick a sunscreen that protects you against both UVA and UVB radiation.

What to expect as you get older

Skin starts to wrinkle as you get older. This is caused by things in the environment and UV light from the sun, which makes your skin less elastic. Gravity causes the skin to wrinkle as it gets dryer and looser. Reducing your exposure to the sun can help your skin stay healthy as you get older.

Ways to keep your skin healthy

- Drink liquids to prevent dry skin and dehydration
- Wear sunscreen and try to stay in the shade when you are outside during daylight hours
- Wear a hat and sunscreen even when it is cloudy outside
- Use moisturizers like lotions, creams, or ointments to soothe dry, itchy skin. They should be used everyday
- Try taking fewer baths and using milder soap to help your dry skin.
- Warm water is better than hot water for your skin.
- Place a humidifier in your room to add moisture to the air often helps too.
- Do not smoke. If you do smoke, try to quit. The chemicals that go into your body when you smoke damage many things, including the parts of your skin that keep it firm and healthy. Years of smoking causes your skin to weaken and wrinkle.
- Don’t go tanning. Sunlamps and tanning beds expose your body to high amounts of UV rays. When to see a doctor

- You find something that looks like a blood pimple or a piece of skin that does not heal. This could be basal cell carcinoma or squamous cell carcinoma, the most common forms of skin cancer.
- If a dark looking liver spot or freckle on your skin is elevated and oddly shaped, this could be melanoma, which is the deadliest form of skin cancer and less common.
- You have a skin growth that is larger than the size of a pencil, changes in size, color, or shape over time, starts to hurt, and is an odd shape (not round).
- You have a lesion anywhere that does not go away.

Eye Care

The same harmful sunrays that can hurt your skin can cause eye problems as well. Cataracts are a clouding of the eye’s lens that develops over time, and sunrays plays a big role in their development. Like sunscreen, make sure that the sunglasses you choose to wear protect against both UVA and UVB light. Combine sun-glasses, clothes, and sunscreen to help protect your whole body from the sun.

The Department of Dermatology provides medical care to both adults and children, including diagnostic evaluation, treatment and follow-up for skin disorders. To be seen by the Department of Dermatology at Tufts Medical Center in Boston, call (617)-636-0156.

Alexander Pavoll, MPH, is the Injury Prevention Coordinator for the Trauma Service at Tufts Medical Center.
**The Apartments at The Groves**

Lincoln, MA

Eight (8) new construction affordable rental units are being offered of renters 62 years of age or older. Maximum Rents from $1,170 per month for a One Bedroom and $1,300 for a Two Bedroom. Utilities except for sewer and water and certain amenities are not included.

Applicants must have a maximum household income of:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>HOUSEHOLD SIZE</th>
<th>INCOME LIMITS</th>
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<tr>
<td>One Person</td>
<td>$45,100</td>
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<td>Two Person</td>
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Information session Tuesday July 13, 2010 7pm, The Groves Great Room
19 Cambridge Turnpike, Lincoln, MA 01773
Application Deadline August 19, 2010, 1pm
Contact the Lottery Agent for more details: Beth Rust (978) 639-3388

housing@Town.Sudbury.MA.us www.grovesinlincoln.org

**Feature**

By Cliff Wong

For the past few years, Chinatown has been treated with the “Films at the Gate program.” On four consecutive nights, there are feature films and Kung Fu exhibitions. The event is sponsored by the Asian Community Development Corporation (ACDC) as an effort to provide Chinatown viewers with a glimmer of the past. How can a series of outdoor Kung Fu movies and exhibitions help one relive the past? To answer this, one has to examine the past.

The Films at the Gate provide an exposure of ethnic cinema in a group setting, but also re-establish memories of social life in Chinatown. Today, how often do Asians sit together and enjoy a movie? Those who grew up in Chinatown from the 50’s through the 80’s embraced the Asian cinema not only as a pastime, but also as an integral part of social life. For many in Chinatown’s past, movie night was an event, a time to relax, see friends, meet significant others, or merely to get out of the house. For the restaurant worker, it was an opportunity to forget the 60-hour workweek, for the average immigrant, a place to enjoy familiar surroundings and a household language, for our mothers and aunts, a get-away from the garment factory, and for the American-born Chinese, an opportunity to see friends or brush up on Cantonese. If the movie was in Mandarin, the cinema helped improve needed reading skills. Each theatre represented its own unique environment and its own character. To just about everyone from Chinatown, the cinema was a vital part of our lives.

With today’s technology, the Chinese movie house is simply a part of history, gone by-the-wayside. Just as the protagonist in the movie “The Last Picture Show” succumbed to progress as they viewed the theatre’s final showing, many of us shared that experience when the Chinese Cinemas closed, giving way to cable television, movie rentals, DVDs etc.

It would be unfortunate for anyone who has never attended an old Chinese movie house to have missed out on such an enriching experience. That’s why the Films at the Gate are so important. The Films at the Gate recreate for a new generation that sense of community so well remembered by those who experienced the old Chinese Cinemas. Those Chinese Cinemas were reminders of a simpler more innocent era in Boston’s Chinese Community. There was a certain warmth and comfort for the moviegoers. One could hear “Chinglish” throughout the theatre. What other theatre would provide the pungent aroma of a Charsue Bow or curry turnover? If one listened carefully, one might catch up with the latest gossip in 2 different languages.

Today, one must rely on technology for local information. In those days, life seemed more real and personal. Little is known about the history of Chinatown theatres in Boston. Therefore, I will attempt to provide some information of the Boston Chinatown Cinemas from my memories.

- **CHINESE MERCHANT’S ASSOCIATION**
  The first of these historic gems to my recollection, is the Chinese Merchant’s Association. Located at the corner of Hudson and Kneeland Streets in Boston’s Chinatown Proper, the Merchant’s Association actually served as a movie house from the late 50’s through the 70’s. Better known for other things than the cinema, the Merchant’s Association provided black and white movies. The productions may have lacked sophistication, but to the people of Chinatown, it was a weekly event. During the late sixties, the theatre was literally cut in half. Due to the Mass Turnpike Project, the Albany Street properties were razed. Only half of the Merchant’s Building remained. On the other side of Kneeland Street, (the even side of Hudson Street) a famed ethnic neighborhood was next to go. Nevertheless, the Merchant’s Association did provide Chinatown with entertainment for several decades.

  Today, the Merchant’s Association’s still stands in the same location. Several failed eateries have graced the same location, fondly remembered as a once-thriving movie house in Chinatown.

- **STUART THE-ATRE**
  During the 50’s through the 60’s, the Stuart Theatre, a small, dank, low-admission-price movie house, showed double featured “B” movies by day and Chinese movies by night. The atmosphere was less than luxurious and the stench of the daytime customers was somewhat unappealing. Nevertheless, the Stuart Theatre served...
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2 Bedroom Home at Old Ann Page Way, Provincetown
Available September 1st or earlier
Monthly Rent, including heat, hot water & cooking gas: $797
Income eligibility restrictions apply
Applicants must be at least 62 years of age or disabled.
Applicants must meet strict income limitations.

Deadline to submit applications: July 21, 2010

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call Kristin Hopkins / 508-487-2426 ext. 3

Resident selection is based on competitive review of application, with scoring based on uniformly applied criteria in compliance with Fair Housing Laws.

A four-person household: $46,920
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Now Being Accepted!
Mary Colbert Apartments
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Seeking applications for 1 & 2-bedroom affordable HUD subsidized apartments.

Pick up an application in person at 20 Dawes Street, Charlestown, MA 02129 from the management office Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m.

Energy Star certified townhomes with fully applianced kitchens.

Eight newly constructed two-bedroom, one and one-half bath, Energy Star certified townhomes with fully applianced kitchens. Located just 28 miles north of Boston, minutes to major highways and a short ride to Lowell.

Income requirement of $1,515 gross monthly

For 55 years of age & older

Managed by Cornerstone Corporation
Office Hours: Mon-Fri 8am-5pm

Completed applications must be returned to the
Housing Resource Group, LLC
Four Raymond Street, Lexington, MA 02421
or visit the Tyngsborough Public Library, 25 Bryants Lane
postmarked by July 22, 2010.

SHOW CONTINUED
FROM PAGE 6
its purpose.
Today, the same location provides lunch and dinner for local diners (MacDonald’s Restaurant and part of the Empire Garden Restaurant)

• CENTER THEATRE

 acres of Chinatown, the Center theatre once showed Chinese movies to the people of Chinatown. There’s not a lot of information regarding the era, but it’s worth mention-
ing.

Today, the former Center Theatre is replaced by the Empire Garden Restaurant on Washington Street, adjacent to the former Stuart Theatre.

• STATE THEATRE

The State Theatre ran during the heyday of Boston’s infamous Combat Zone (1970s). Located at 617 Washington Street, the theatre provided “less than wholesome” X-rated mov-
es by day and wholesome Chinese movies by night.

A few “less-than-illuminated” Chinatown youths occasionally arrived early to enjoy the X-rated stuff. They, one might add, were a small minority. To my recollection, the local eat-
eries in the Washington Street area highlighted Chinese movie night at the State Theatre. One can still almost smell the aroma of a Dino’s pizza, King Pizza’s bar-b-q chicken (that’s right, chicken at a pizza place!), or a delicious “Dirty John’s” hot dog.

Today, the former State Theatre is replaced by the P & K Food Company down the street from the Chinatown MBTA Station.

• NATIONAL THEATRE

In the 80’s with the eventual demise of the Combat Zone, the need for an alternative cinema for the Chinatown crowd prolonged. The National Theatre (located in the South End of Boston) on Tremont Street took up the slack.

The National Theatre showed several run movies and also served as a neighbor-

borhood cultural center by day.

Two nights per week,

the theatre featured Asian films. Unlike their prede-

cessors, these Asian films were predominantly in Mandarin with subtitles.

The cinematic quality was surprisingly of high qual-

ity. I enjoyed attending the National Theatre and person-

nally had a favorite seat.

Located directly behind another seat with a missing back, my favorite seat always ensured a clear view of the screen.

The former National Theatre is currently re-

placed by the Boston Center for the Arts Complex.

• CHINA CINEMA

Across the street from the Chinatown Gate next to the Central Artery, the China Cinema occupied the first floor of a garage. For several decades in the 70’s and 80’s the theatre ran longer than any of its coun-

terparts. Unlike the others, the China Cinema ran Chi-


Filmmaker Nathan Quattrini (center) strikes a pose with two actors from his short films Five Minutes Flat and American Chop Suey. (Photo by Jeremy Brown)

the former land-

mark known as the China Cinema.

In light of this overview, one can appreciate the treasure that the Chinese cinema house provided for members of the commu-

nity. It served the people in multifaceted ways. It was a fitting place to gossip, see friends, read subtitles, or simply, a quiet place to sleep.

Another world, the Chinese movie house was unique in that it showed Chinese movies exclusively. A friend once reported seeing Kareem Jamaar sitting in the theatre one day. How did he ever fit in that tiny seat? In 1987, the theatre could no longer compete with cable televi-

sion and emerging video rental stores and closed its doors. This represented the ending of an era.

Today, a Chinese deli and the entrance of the Hei La Moon Restaurant replace the former land-

mark known as the China Cinema.

Filmmaker Nathan Quattrini (center) strikes a pose with two actors from his short films Five Minutes Flat and American Chop Suey. (Photo by Jeremy Brown)
She congratulated students for finding their way to AACA and reminded graduating students that their successes not only benefit themselves but also “the whole country” because “immigrants constitute more and more of the workforce.” According to Tan, in Boston alone, immigrants earn 4 billion dollars and generate 1.2 billion in state and federal taxes. Immigrants own 5,700 small businesses creating over 1,300 jobs. Additionally, 61% of new entrepreneurs are immigrants.

Tan advised the graduating class and families to engage in communities—something that should be a top priority. “If you are not seen, if your children are not seen, you will not get what you need. While it’s important to take steps to succeed economically, you need to get involved and understand what your kids are going through in school. Get involved in the community. As [President of AACA] Mary Chin was saying, give back, give back, give back.”

Students also spoke about their experiences in AACA’s programs during the ceremony. Student speaker Roger Cooper, a recent graduate from the Partnership for Automotive Career Education Program (PACE), was moved to tears as he described his journey through the program. “When I first started the program I was broke. [Director of PACE] Jill Uchiyama worked very hard with me to get through the program. I almost dropped out due to my financial issues, but she helped me out. I was the first one in my class to find a job out of fifteen students. I learned how to change tires, improved my skills in breaks, and learned new things every day. Things have gotten better since I started the program. Through this program I gained new friends and new connections and made a new career for myself. I never knew what I wanted to do in my life until I worked on my first car.”

Uchiyama attested to Cooper’s success, noting that his boss, Paul Dickson at Sullivan Tires in Watertown, commented that he and Gilberto Ortiz, another PACE graduate, “were the best guys he had.”

Program Manager Kristan Camp told the story of a man named Abdul Jalil Abdul Karim. Once a lawyer in Afghanistan, Abdul Karim was working in food service at a local hotel until he enrolled in classes at AACA. After completing the Adult Basic Education English Transitional Program (ABE) and then the Accounting Skills, Computer and English Training program (ASCENT), he is now an employee in a Human Resources department.

Concluding the event, Brian Butler, owner and founder of Boston Green Building, spoke about the developing partnership between AACA and his company. As part of the partnership, Boston Green Building hosted interns from AACA’s Building Energy Efficient Maintenance Skills program (BEEMS). “We were very thrilled with our intern. It was a learning curve at first but it was a great experience. We look forward to bringing more AACA trainees into our organization. We’re really excited about the program,” Butler said.

Natalie Ornell is a Sampan correspondent.