The Chinese Historical Society of New England celebrated 25 years of achievement. (Image courtesy of William Ge.)

Chinese Historical Society celebrates
25 years of achievement

BY WILLIAM GE

This year marks the 25th anniversary of the Chinese Historical Society of New England (CHSNE). To commemorate this historic achievement and recollect the accomplishments of the society since its founding in 1992, members and their guests gathered for dinner at Boston Chinatown Post 328 received the Soujourner Award. (Image courtesy of William Ge.)

The CHSNE Soujourner Award, dedicated each year to a member or group who has made significant contributions to the Chinese American community, honored both Caroline Chang and the American Legion Boston Chinatown Post 328. Chang, a founding member of CHSNE, leads a distinguished career as a former service representative of the Boston Mayor’s Office of Public Services, former regional manager of the Office of Civil Rights, co-founder of the Asian Community Development Cooperation, and dedicated community leader and advocate. Her award was presented by fellow CHSNE co-founder Peter Chan, who in his introductory speech dedicated a poem to her in Cantonese and English.

Boston Chinatown Post 328 was established in 1945 for Chinese-American veterans by Wesley Moy, Henry Oi, Joe Ngii Chin, Alfred Yee, and others. A post of the American Legion, the nation’s largest veterans organization, Post 328 has served the Boston Chinatown community for more than 70 years and will construct a veteran’s memorial in Chinatown.

Looking forward, CHSNE will be co-sponsoring the Boston Asian American Film Festival, where videos created for the Boston Chinatown Heritage Project will premiere on Oct. 22.

Malden Schools candidates engage Asian community

BY THE SAMPAN EDITORIAL TEAM

More than 150 residents attended a school committee candidate forum at the Malden Senior Center on Sept. 28. The event was sponsored by the Greater Malden Asian American Community Coalition (GMAAACC), along with Mass Senior Action Council, Chinese Cultural Connection, Chinese Progressive Association, and Massachusetts Asian and Pacific Islanders Civic Action Network (APIs CANT). These organizations worked together on civic engagement and language access issues.

The Malden School Committee consists of the mayor and eight members elected from each of the City’s eight wards. For this year’s municipal elections, three of those seats are being contested. All school committee candidates were invited to attend, eight of whom were able to participate. Lisa Wong, former mayor of the City of Fitchburg and current deputy director of the Asian American Civic Association, served as moderator.

The forum began with greetings from Malden Mayor Gary Christenson, followed by introductions by two students from Malden High School.

Mass Senior Action Council presented on bilingual ballots, as this election will mark the first time the City of Malden will have ballots in both English and Chinese.

The candidates present spoke about their campaign issues of concern. Topics included:

- Teaching about drug and alcohol abuse, wellness and bullying
- Culturally sensitive teaching

HIGHLIGHTS

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Young leaders’ study tour needs more Asian leaders

中文第版

美食家：素描湘菜

中文第版

Sampan publishes every other Friday.

For more news, please visit Sampan.org
Event Calendar

**Mulan Society classes**
Saturday, Oct. 7
1 p.m. to 4 p.m.
87 Tyler Street
Boston, MA 02111
Mulan Society Center for Women’s Empowerment classes will take place at the Asian American Civic Association, 4F. Refreshments provided. Register with Sherry Xue at (617) 426-9492 x 223 or sxue@aaaicentralboston.org.

**The Chinatown Coalition meeting**
Thursday, Oct. 12
9:30 a.m.
38 Ash Street
Boston, MA 02111
The Chinatown Coalition meeting will take place at the Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center, 4F. The public is welcome to attend. For more information, visit tccboston.org.

**Boston service open house**
Thursday, Oct. 12
6 p.m. to 8 p.m.
6 Norfolk Street
Dorchester, MA 02124
The nonprofit human services agency JRI will host an open house about its Boston-based human services programs to individuals and families sat the Codman Square Health Center. RSVP to James Wilson at jwilson@jrithomas.org or (617) 399-1905 x 2502.

**Mid-Autumn Moon Festival**
Saturday, Oct. 14
10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
685 Washington Street
Boston, MA 02118
Domestic Violence will take place at the John F. Kennedy Federal Reserve Plaza. RSVP at haitan@youthinc.com.

**CelebrAsians**
Friday, Oct. 27
8:30 a.m. to 9 a.m.
275 Albany Street
Boston, MA 02118
The CelebrAsians benefit fashion show will take place at Boston Medical Center’s Shapiro Auditorium. Tickets $85 in advance, $100 at the door, to benefit Asian Women for Health. Register at https://2017celebrasi ans.eventbrite.com.

**South Cove Manor breakfast seminar**
Thursday, Oct. 26
9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.
120 Shawmut Street
Boston, MA 02118
All are welcome to attend at the BCEC auditorium, the former South Cove Manor location.

**Arlington International Film Festival**
Oct. 26 to 29
240 Mass Avenue
Arlington, MA 02474
The Arlington International Film Festival will take place at the Capitol Theatre. For more information, visit AIFFest.org.

**API civil rights forum**
Friday, Oct. 27
8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
600 Atlantic Avenue
Boston, MA 02210
The 2nd annual APII Civil Rights Forum will take place at the Federal Reserve Plaza. Register at http://bostoncivilright apius.org.

**Silk Road Gala**
Saturday, Oct. 28
6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Columbia Point
Boston, MA 02125
The 25th Silk Road Gala hosted by the Asian Task Force Against Domestic Violence will take place at the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library & Museum. RSVP at www.atask.org.

**AAPI civil rights forum**
Saturday, Oct. 28
11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
99 Albany Street
Boston, MA 02111
Children’s book authors Susan Tan and Debbi Michiko Florence speak about their books at the Pao Arts Center.

**CelebrAsians**
Friday, Oct. 27
7 p.m. to 9 p.m.
275 Albany Street
Boston, MA 02118
The CelebrAsians benefit fashion show will take place at Boston Medical Center’s Shapiro Auditorium. Tickets $85 in advance, $100 at the door, to benefit Asian Women for Health. Register at https://2017celebrasi ans.eventbrite.com.

**Health screening**
Saturday, Oct. 28
10 a.m.
38 Oak Street
Boston, MA 02111
Health screenings for head and neck cancer, blood pressure and nutrition will take place at the Metropolitan community room. Refreshments provided.

**Children’s book authors event**
Saturday, Oct. 28
7 p.m.
Kroch’s & Brentano’s
380 Boylston Street
Boston, MA 02116
Children’s book authors and illustrators talk about their work.

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**Councilors Wu and O’Malley discuss environmental sustainability**

**BY RUOBING SU**

Boston City Council President Michelle Wu and District 6 Councilor Matt O’Malley discussed environmental and sustainability policies, along with ongoing projects throughout the city on Sept. 29 at Boston City Hall. (Image courtesy of Ruobing Su.)

O’Malley discussed his green Community Choice Energy plan in Boston for its potential to increase demand for renewable energy as well as strengthening consumer protection, transparency in energy consumption, and stability in the energy market.

Instead of using power from an investor-owned utility, the city would have authority to decide where energy comes from and aggregate the electricity load of residents and businesses by contracting with providers such as Eversource. With the decision from the government, it would decrease electricity bills but buy more renewable electricity, which is important for green efforts.

“We have a president, a cabinet, especially those in the EPA [Environmental Protection Agency] who are hostile to efforts to address issues of climate change, that are building the shallowest plans on this extremely accelerated climate situation. Now it’s the time for cities and towns, also the state, to lead on some issues related to the environment under the age of Trump,” O’Malley said.

Wu said it is not only good for the environment, but also will bring more local jobs in wind and solar industry. “It will still take a while, from hearings to the official implementation – the soonest will be nine months,” Wu said.

O’Malley and Wu discussed the proposed ordinance to reduce plastic bags, which is still pending, as other cities nationally and internationally have already adopted such measures. It proposes stores must provide shopping bags more than 3 millimeters thick and charge five cents for each plastic bag, which goes to the store owner. Boston will also encourage retail owners to offer a five-cent refund if customers use reusable bags.

Regarding recent extreme weather events in the United States, Boston has shown support for relief efforts. Boston sent aid to Puerto Rico for the devastating aftermath of Hurricanes Irma and Maria, as it is one of the cities with the largest Caribbean population. At the same time, O’Malley will file a proposal for cold weather in October or November to prepare Bostonians for a safe winter.

The Oak Street Fair took place at the Josiah Quincy Elementary School on Sept. 23. Kids got ready for the watermelon eating competition. (Image courtesy of William Ge.)

Hundreds of youth and families gathered at the Josiah Quincy Elementary School for the 32nd Annual Oak Street Fair on Sept. 23. This annual event, hosted by the Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center (BCNC), brings together residents of Chinatown and greater Boston for a day of family fun.

Dozens of sponsors and community organizations set up stations with activities for kids and information on events and resources in the Boston area. Organizations represented at the Fair include Pao Arts Center, South Cove Community Health Center, Buds & Blossoms Early Education and Care Center and other agencies from the Boston Chinatown community. As in past years, BCNC hosted a watermelon eating contest, which was a hit among children and BCNC volunteers. The first place winners received a gift card for dim sum at Hei La Moon, while the second place winners went home with more watermelon.

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**Taiwan celebrates 106 years**

**BY LING-MEI WONG**

The Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Boston (TECO) rang in 106 years of independence at its Double 10 celebration on Oct. 4 at the Fairmont Copley Hotel. Director-general Scott Lai cut cake with representatives from Massachusetts, Rhode Island and New Hampshire. (Image courtesy of Ling-Mei Wong.)

State officials from Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Rhode Island attended the dinner, along with representatives from several nations.

America is the second-largest trading partner of Taiwan, reaching $50 billion in 2016. It is also the second largest foreign investor. Under Lai’s leadership, Massachusetts signed a driver’s license agreement, allowing 900 Taiwanese drivers to get Mass. licenses.

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**Watermelon eating, music and fun bring hundreds to Oak Street Fair**

**BY WILLIAM GE**

The Oak Street Fair took place at the Josiah Quincy Elementary School on Sept. 23. Kids got ready for the watermelon eating competition. (Image courtesy of William Ge.)

Dozens of sponsors and community organizations set up stations with activities for kids and information on events and resources in the Boston area. Organizations represented at the Fair include Pao Arts Center, South Cove Community Health Center, Buds & Blossoms Early Education and Care Center and other agencies from the Boston Chinatown community. As in past years, BCNC hosted a watermelon eating contest, which was a hit among children and BCNC volunteers. The first place winners received a gift card for dim sum at Hei La Moon, while the second place winners went home with more watermelon.

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**Public Information Meeting**

6:00 p.m., Monday, October 30, 2017

Ashland Town Hall – 135 Main Street

Lower Level

**Application Deadline**

November 27, 2017
BY LING-MEI WONG AND SARA BROWN

Chinatown meeting roundup: CCBA, CSC, CRA

The Chinatown Resident Association celebrated the Mid-Autumn Festival on Sept. 29 at the Josiah Quincy School. (Image courtesy of the CRA.)

The Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association of New England (CCBA) held its bimonthly meeting Sept. 26 at its headquarters.

The Chinatown Resident Association did not meet on the first Wednesday of the month, instead celebrating the Mid-Autumn Festival on Sept. 29 at the Josiah Quincy School.

Former CCBA president Kai Lau presented on bilingual street signs. The entrance to 90 Tyler Street will be repaired, along with the Confucius statue. Repairs are estimated at $40,000, according to the Asset Committee.

The next CCBA election will take place this year, with the date to be set.

CSC
The Chinatown Safety Committee met on Oct. 4 at the CCBA.

Boston Police Department Area A-1 Capt. Ken Fong there were four robberies, 10 larcenies, two auto thefts and 10 car break-ins during the past 30 days. However, he said crime has been low.

“There have been no major incidents,” he said.

Lawyer Ka Yung Wong presented a plan for a hotel at 25 Beach Street, the former location of East Ocean City seafood restaurant. He had presented to the committee before and the original plan was revised for being too costly.

Currently, the plan is to develop a hotel with 14 floors and about 100 to 105 rooms. The original plan called for 84 to 85 rooms.

“We want to keep the design aligned with the neighborhood,” said Wong.

By Valerie Sizhe Li

Young Leaders Symposium engages future Asian Americans leaders

The sixth Young Leaders Symposium (YLS) took place at Vietnamese American Community Center on Sept. 23. Asian American Commissioners Nianna Liang and Uyen-Sa Nguyen (right) with VietAID director of community relations Huong Pham (middle). (Image courtesy of Valerie Sizhe Li)

The Young Leaders Symposium (YLS) took place at Vietnamese American Community Center on Sept. 23. The event was co-hosted by the Massachusetts Asian American Commission (AAC) and Vietnamese American Initiative For Development (VietAID).

Aiming to promote leadership and service in both the public and private sectors among young adults, the annual symposium offers workshops and panel discussions on topics such as leading through conflicts and negotiation strategies.

“The commission’s goal is to recognize the vital contributions of Asian Americans. The social, economic, cultural and political diversity in the Asian American community,” said Nina Liang, Quincy city councilor and AAC co-chairwoman of YLS.

She emphasized the symposium’s goal is to engage young leaders and promote leadership. “We want to encourage civic participation and community engagement and to provide an opportunity for our youth to network with each other and network with Asian American leaders,” Liang said.

Jessica Tang, the first Chinese American president of the Boston Teachers Union, encouraged young Asian Americans to “not be afraid to take action.”

“Once you get into those positions, leadership is not easy. And often times, it’s counterintuitive,” Tang said. “For example, it is easier to just dictate then to collaborate once you become a leader. It’s often easier to write off dissent than to listen to merits when you’re challenged or someone disagrees with you; it’s hard sometimes to admit you might have made a mistake. That is the challenge for us as leaders. It’s not to do what is the easiest but to challenge ourselves to do what’s right.”

Dr. Elisa Choi, AAC chairwoman, awarded this year’s AAC scholarship to Suffolk University student Salina Sang for her outstanding work on immigrant rights and racial justice.

“Sometimes we are thought of as a model minority. We might be the fastest growing ethnic community in the United States and the Commonwealth but we are relatively underrepresented at all levels of leadership, whether it’s the executives in a company or the deans of academic institutions despite our various educational and financial achievements,” Choi said.

The one-day event gathered more than 80 attendees, including many college students who aspire to be leaders.

Karonika Brown, a former student of Middlesex Community College (MCC) in Lowell and founder of ASIA club at her school, said, “In my school, there was no student organization for Asians so last year we started a club that is inclusive of all Asian populations in MCC. Lowell has a high Cambodian population but we want to encourage all Asians to join us.”

Yazhi Guo

Northeast by Far East

Saturday, November 4, 2017 at 8pm
Longy School of Music’s Pickman Hall, 27 Garden Street, Cambridge

Acclaimed by critics as “the best suona player in China,” Yazhi Guo makes his Boston Musica Viva debut in a complex and intriguing work by Pulitzer Prize-winner Zhou Long. In Metal, Stone, Silk, Bamboo, Yazhi will showcase an array of unique Chinese woodwind instruments that are rarely seen or heard in the West.

The program also includes a world premiere by MIT’s Peter Child, and previous BMV commissions by Joyce Mekeel, William Kraft, and Scottish composer David Horne.

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Chinatown crime for Sept. 23 to Oct. 6

BY THE BOSTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

All reports are submitted by the Boston Police Department. The time period is from Sept. 22 to Oct. 6 for District A-1, which includes Chinatown.

To report a crime or suspicious activity, call 911. Interpreters are available for Chinese speakers.

Disorderly
Sept. 9, 3:00 a.m.: The two suspects were arrested on Edinboro Street for causing a disturbance inside of the moon villa restaurant.

Assault and battery with a deadly weapon
Sept. 13, 2:54 a.m.: The officers responded to Oxford Street on a report of a fight. Upon arrival the officers met and spoke with the victim. He stated he was assaulted by the suspect. The victim transported to hospital for facial injur-ies.
‘Little Soldiers’ explores Chinese grit, American individualism in education

BY SHIRA LACHAROEN

Author Lenora Chu gave a talk on her book “Little Soldiers: An American Boy, a Chinese School, and the Global Race to Achieve” at the Boston Public Library’s central branch on Sept. 23. (Image courtesy of Lenora Chu.)

Author and journalist Lenora Chu gave a talk on her book “Little Soldiers: An American Boy, a Chinese School, and the Global Race to Achieve” at the Boston Public Library’s central branch on Sept. 23. As an American of Chinese descent with a bilingual young son attending one of Shanghai’s most elite state-run schools, Chu lifts the veil on Chinese education system from a unique perspective, as a “person of two worlds.”

“Little Soldiers” explores Chinese grit, American individualism in education

Chu noted the key differences between American and Chinese school models, emphasizing the authoritarian, top-down teaching methods found in Chinese classrooms. The Chinese education program focuses on the advancement of creative expression. In one instance, which can sometimes be at the cost of education, “You’ll never hear a teacher say, ‘Oh, you’re so smart,’ or ‘You’re so intelligent,’” Chu said. “It’s always about working harder.” In spite of these contrasts, Chu indicated there is much Americans and Chinese can learn from each other’s philosophies. The Chinese maintain a high level of reverence for teachers, and Chu explained that if “we give our teachers more respect and autonomy, that can go a long way.” Likewise, the Chinese have observed in American schools, teachers help children develop critical thinking skills and stimulate their curiosity.

“My message is let’s just be a little bit more open to some of the other opinions out there, because our kids are more resilient than we think,” Chu said.

Chu noted the education is taking steps towards transformation. Schools in Beijing are giving students choices of electives to take, from Frisbee to rock climbing. In some programs, children rotate from classroom to classroom, with the intention that varying faces encourages socialization. In Shanghai, students are allowed to take the college entrance exam twice.

“I have hope, especially in the urban areas, that things will change, especially as ideas go back and forth across borders,” Chu said. “I think change will be messy and slow, but it’s moving in the right direction.”


On the first day of Acton Chinese Language School, three teachers organized a Zumbathon to raise funds for Harvey victims, with more than 70 participants. (Image courtesy of ACLS.)

Acton Chinese Language School raises funds for Harvey relief

BY ACTON CHINESE LANGUAGE SCHOOL

Hurricane Harvey impacted Texas and caused significant damage to the state. People around the United States are donating money and goods to help the affected area. On the first day of Acton Chinese Language School, three Zumba and Aerobics teachers, Ally Lee, Marilyn Li and Ginger Chen organized a Zumbathon to raise funds for Harvey victims. More than 70 participants and volunteers joined the event.

AACA celebrates new alumni association

Two friends enjoyed spending time and socializing at the Asian American Civic Association Alumni Barbecue on Oct. 1 at Larz Anderson Park. (Image courtesy of AACA.)

On Oct. 6, 2017 Sampan
Understanding your breast cancer risk

BY DR. ABHISHEK CHATTERJEE, TUFTS MEDICAL CENTER

1. What are some major risk factors for breast cancer?

There are many risk factors for breast cancer. Major risk factors include a personal history of having breast cancer, previous high-risk breast lesions that include atypical cells, and ductal carcinoma in situ (DCIS), first-degree relatives who have had breast cancer, especially at an age less than 50, or a personal history of having chest wall radiation at an age younger than 40. Additionally, having a hereditary genetic mutation such as BRCA 1 or BRCA 2 puts a woman at high risk for developing breast cancer in either breast, according to 2015 research from the American Cancer Society.

2. What should a woman do if she has one or more of these risk factors?

It is important for women with one or more risk factors to have a discussion with her primary care doctor. The doctor in turn will decide whether or not this woman should see a high-risk breast cancer specialist, who is often either a surgical or medical oncologist specializing in breast disease. Additionally, this woman may need early breast screening using technology such as mammography, ultrasound, and magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), or a combination of these.

3. What are hereditary genetic mutations for breast cancer? When does a woman qualify for genetic testing?

Approximately 10 percent of all breast cancers are caused by genetic mutations that can be inherited from family members. Breast cancer tends to be common in the family tree and may even occur in males.

4. What are examples of hereditary genetic mutations in breast cancer?

The two most common and well-studied hereditary genetic mutations in breast are the BRCA 1 and BRCA 2 mutations.

Recognizing gambling addiction

BY SARA BROWN

For some people, gambling can be an occasional fun activity to do with friends. However, for others, the high-risk games can become too alluring and take over their lives. As online casinos and daily fantasy sports sites like FanDuel and DraftKings make it possible to play anywhere, gaming can quickly drain a player’s finances.

According to the Mayo Clinic, a gambling addiction or compulsive gambling is the uncontrollable urge to keep gambling despite the toll it takes on one’s life. Gambling means that someone is willing to risk something they value in the hopes of getting something of even greater value.

According to experts, gambling can raise the levels of the brain’s reward system much like alcohol or other drugs, which is what leads to addiction. Research found that lottery products given to minors as holiday gifts may be a gateway to problem gambling, according to the National Council on Problem Gambling.

The National Gambling Impact Study Commission Act says that the percentage of pathological gamblers was 0.6 percent in 2008.

Only individuals will know if their problem is severe enough to seek treatment. For treatment to be truly successful, one must want to get better for oneself instead of trying to please others.

Identifying, treating and preventing heart failure

BY JEREMY LECCHAN, TUFTS MEDICAL CENTER

According to the American Heart Association, during the remainder of their lifetime, American adults ages 40 and older have a one in five chance of developing heart failure, a condition in which the heart is unable to supply the amount of blood that the body requires.

“Most recent data show that hospitalizations for heart failure have plateaued at approximately 1 million admissions per year in the United States, but the total number of Americans suffering from heart failure is still increasing,” said Amanda Vest, associate medical director of the Cardiac Transplantation Program at Tufts Medical Center.

Types of heart failure

There are two types of heart failure – systolic heart failure and diastolic heart failure (also known as heart failure with preserved ejection fraction). People with systolic heart failure have reduced pumping function in their hearts. Those with diastolic heart failure have abnormal stiffness of the main pumping chamber of the heart.

“More than five million people in the United States are currently living with heart failure,” said Dr. Vest. “About half of these people have systolic heart failure, while the other half have diastolic heart failure, which is particularly common in older people.”

Risk factors

Obesity, diabetes and high blood pressure are the most common risk factors for heart failure. For people with systolic heart failure, some will have a history of coronary artery disease and heart attack, while others have a heart muscle disease (called cardiomyopathy) or abnormalities of the valves. The prevalence of diastolic heart failure increases with age and is particularly seen in older women with a history of high blood pressure.

Symptoms

Heart failure symptoms may include shortness of breath with exertion (such as walking up a flight of stairs), fluid retention (typically around the waist or ankles), difficulty breathing when lying flat or general fatigue.

Treatment

Several medications are available to help treat heart failure. Patients with systolic heart failure are usually prescribed medications to block the hormones that promote salt and water retention and worsen heart muscle weakness. People with systolic or diastolic heart failure commonly require diuretic medications to promote their kidneys to expel fluids.

Prevention

To reduce your risk of heart failure, Dr. Vest recommends seeing your primary care physician at least annually, seeking early treatment of high blood pressure, diabetes and obesity and living a healthy lifestyle with regular exercise and a salt-controlled diet.

Complete the Sampan health survey and WIN prizes!

www.sampan.org/2017/08/17 augustoosurve/
Travel: Qingdao serves up beer, seafood and historical flavor

BY RUOBING SU

My first visit to Qingdao was in August 2016 with my parents for the famous Qingdao International Beer Festival and beautiful cultural locations. Qingdao (Tsingtao), originally Ji-aohou Bay, is the largest city in Shandong Province, located on north China’s coastline. In 1897, the Germans seized and occupied Jiaozhou Bay until 1922, when the Republic of China gained power. Under German influence, there are many European buildings in the old city area of Qingdao, with Badaguan being one of the most famous sites. “Badaguans,” which literally means “the eight great passes” in Chinese, is a historical mansion area the Germans built for residential use. “Huashi lou,” which combines Greek and Gothic styles, is the most famous building of the all—the beautiful night scenery in Qingdao.

As a city famous for beer, we paid a visit to the beer museum. It lies on the old site of the Tsingtao Brewery Company, which is a world-famous manufacturing enterprise specialized in beer brewing. It was established in 1903 as a Chinese branch of a German brewery. We used two vouchers for draft beer and fruit puree beer.

Qingdao is renowned for seafood: fish, crab, shrimp, sea stars, clams, sea urchins and so on. If you want to enjoy the history of China, Qingdao has a perfect view of the sea, culture, as well as tasty food and beer.

We were traveling during the famous Qingdao International Beer Festival. Budweiser, Heineken, Vitalsberg—you name it, the brewery had venues and performances on Golden Sands Beach in Huangdao District. Both foreigners and Chinese locals enjoyed icy cold beers, as well as the beautiful night scenery in Qingdao.

As a city famous for beer, we paid a visit to the beer museum. It lies on the old site of the Tsingtao Brewery Company, which is a world-famous manufacturing enterprise specialized in beer brewing. It was established in 1903 as a Chinese branch of a German brewery. We used two vouchers for draft beer and fruit puree beer.

Qingdao is renowned for seafood: fish, crab, shrimp, sea stars, clams, sea urchins and so on. If you want to enjoy the history of China, Qingdao has a perfect view of the sea, culture, as well as tasty food and beer.

The meal’s highlight—and what dreams are made of—was the Red Braised Pork Belly ($25). This secret family recipe delivered amazingly delicate, melt-in-your-mouth pork belly, packed with sweet, savory and spice in every bite.

The Shaoshan Cabbage ($15) was simply cooked with garlic, aged vinegar and chili oil, but was anything but boring. Its aged vinegar heightened its flavors, making it addictive.

For starters, we got the Spicy Crunchy Cucumbers for $8. Its subtle spice from the sesame chili oil seasoning gave a lovely refreshing crunch and flavor, whetting our appetites.

The Shaoshan Cabbage ($15) was simply cooked with garlic, aged vinegar and chili oil, but was anything but boring. Its aged vinegar heightened its flavors, making it addictive.

Braised Pork Belly ($25). This secret family recipe delivered amazingly delicate, melt-in-your-mouth pork belly, packed with sweet, savory and spice in every bite.

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The meal’s highlight—and what dreams are made of—was the Red Braised Pork Belly ($25). This secret family recipe delivered amazingly delicate, melt-in-your-mouth pork belly, packed with sweet, savory and spice in every bite. **The Mala Duck ($9) features aged mala soy rub and was served cold.** Being a fan of duck, the moist and tender duck meat was enveloped with crispy skin. It was delightful with subtle spices and savory flavor in every bite. Do be aware there are some pieces with bones as well.

The Garlic Calamari ($8) with minced garlic plus green and red pepper packed a punch of flavor of subtle heat and garlic goodness. There was no heavy breading on the perfectly cooked squid, which was not overdone.

The delicious modern twist to Hunan cuisine is a welcome addition to Boston’s dining scene.
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Yee Chuan Ang, MD
Geriatrician; Primary Care Physician
老人科服務部主治醫生；主治醫生
Fluent in: Chinese-Mandarin, Malay
掌握語言: 中文-普通話, 馬來語

Elaine S. Choi, MD
Primary Care Physician 主治醫生
Fluent in: Chinese-Cantonese
掌握語言: 中文-廣東話

Michelle Dorrell, MD
Pediatrician 小兒科醫生
Fluent in: Chinese-Cantonese
掌握語言: 中文-廣東話

Jenny Hong Gao, MD
Primary Care Physician 主治醫生
Fluent in: Chinese-Mandarin
掌握語言: 中文-普通話

Kristin Huang, MD
Primary Care Physician 主治醫生
Fluent in: Chinese-Cantonese,
Chinese-Mandarin
掌握語言: 中文-廣東話, 中文-普通話

Sandra Lau, MD
Primary Care Physician 主治醫生

Yueling Guo Moran, MD
Primary Care Physician 主治醫生
Fluent in: Chinese-Mandarin
掌握語言: 中文-普通話

Myron Siu, MD
Primary Care Physician, Geriatric Services
主治醫生，老人科服務部主治醫生
Fluent in: Chinese-Cantonese,
掌握語言: 中文-廣東話

Wei Wang, MD
Primary Care Physician, Geriatrician
老年醫科主治醫生
Fluent in: Chinese-Mandarin
掌握語言: 中文-普通話

Haiyun Gong, MD
Primary Care Physician 主治醫生
Fluent in: Chinese-Cantonese,
Chinese-Mandarin
掌握語言: 中文-廣東話, 中文-普通話

Sue Ann Ponte, MD
Pediatric Nurse Practitioner; Director, Asian General Pediatric and Adolescent Health Services 儿科診症護士;主任, 亞裔兒科和青少年健康服務
Fluent in: Chinese-Cantonese, Toisanese
掌握語言: 中文-廣東話, 台山話

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