The Chinese Historical Society of New England (CHSNE) held its annual meeting and dinner banquet on Sept. 30 at Empire Garden. It recognized community active Amy Chin Guen and the South Cove Community Health Center (SCCHC) with Sojourner Awards to commemorate early Chinese immigrant pioneers. The evening included a short film about Guen’s 92 years of life by local director Ken Eng. Guen was born in Boston to merchant herbalist Wah Chen and Len Thsil Wong, who raised her with her younger brothers Bill and Frank at 32 Oxford Street. She went to school at the old Josiah Quincy School until she was 9 and moved to China for 13 years, before returning to Boston for college.

CHSNE board president Sherry Dong said, “Amy leads by doing. She believes in paying back the love and kindness bestowed on her as a child by elders and families of Boston’s Chinatown and in Chong Ling Village, Toisan, China. Guen became a social worker, serving the Chinese community with her command of English, Cantonese, Mandarin and Toisanese. Her tireless work went into the founding of South Cove Manor Nursing Home, the Greater Boston Chinese Golden Age Center, SCCHC, the Chinese American Civic Association (now Asian American Civic Association) and Somerville-Cambridge-Medford Community Transportation. SCCHC board president Nelson Liu said, “Auntie Amy pioneered the concept of pay it forward.” Guen and her late husband Edward had four children. “I will continue to work, as my health permits,” Guen said.

The National Park Service recognized CHSNE for its contribution to the Boston Chinatown Heritage Project. The historical society saw the launch of the online Chinatown Atlas in May. In August, archival images from CHSNE were part of arts projects “These Words” with Diane O’Donoghue of the Tisch College of Civic Life at Tufts University and “Home Town” with artist Won-ti Tsen.

Mass. education experts visit AACA workforce training

BY LING-MEI WONG

Two representatives from Massachusetts education bodies visited the Asian American Civic Association for its college preparation and workforce training programs on Sept. 29.

Cliff Chiang, senior associate commissioner for educational options, Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, and Robert LePage, assistant secretary for career education, Massachusetts Executive Office of Education, visited an intermediate English class and a class for Careers in Banking and Finance. AACA’s Next Steps Transitional English Program (Next STEP) was recommended to Chiang and LePage by the Adult and Community Learning Services (ACLS) unit of DESE, which manages its program. ACLS has considered Next STEP as an exemplary program for higher education for programs running by community-based organizations.
**Event Calendar**

**Free meditation class**
Sunday, Oct. 9 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. 101 Mystic Avenue Medford, MA 02155 Free meditation classes will take place Sundays and Thursdays (7 a.m. to 8:30 a.m.; 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.) at Boston Bodhi Meditation. People with limited mobility are welcome to join. For more information, call (781) 874-1023.

**Opening Our Doors**
Monday, Oct. 10 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Christian Science Plaza The Fenway Alliance announces the 15th annual Opening Our Doors festival at the Christian Science Plaza on Huntington Avenue. The Alliance’s 21 member institutions invite all to enjoy music, theater, dance, public art, tours of the Fenway, activities for kids and adults, food trucks, and more—all free. For information, visit www.fenwayalliance.org.

**Free yoga class**
Oct. 11 to Oct. 25 10 a.m. 80 Edgarley Road Boston, MA 02115 Free yoga classes will take place on Tuesdays at Symphony Park, with mats and chairs provided. People in wheelchairs and with limited mobility are welcome to join.

**Clean Up Chinatown meeting**
Tuesday, Oct. 11 10:30 a.m. 87 Tyler Street Boston, MA 02111 The Clean Up Chinatown meeting will take place at the Greater American Civic Association, 5F. The public is welcome to attend.

**Free health care service**
Every Tuesday 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. First Church in Malden 184 Pleasant Street Malden, MA 02148

The Sharewood Project offers free, unscheduled health care to the medically underserved populations of the greater Boston area. For more information please call (781) 324-8991 or e-mail sharewood.director@gmail.com.

**Voter workshop**
Wednesday, Oct. 12 10 a.m. to noon 40 Washington Street Quincy, MA 02171 Chinese American Citizens of Right Alliance will host a workshop on the importance of voting at the Thomas Crane Public Library.

**The Chinatown Coalition meeting**
Thursday, Oct. 13 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 tc-chinatown.com.

**Economic Development**
Office hours
Thursday, Oct. 13 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. 87 Tyler Street 5F Boston, MA 02111 The Mayor’s Office of Economic Development will host weekly office hours at the Asian American Civic Association.

**Author talk**

**Healthy eating workshop**
Friday, Oct. 14 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. 244 Harrison Avenue Boston, MA 02116 A free healthy eating workshop for Asian seniors will take place at ACCESS.

**5th Annual Young Leaders Symposium**
Saturday, Oct. 15 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. 361 Washington Street Brookline, MA 02445 Students and young professionals are invited to the Asian American Commission’s 5th Annual Young Leaders Symposium.

**CelebAsianS fashion show**
Saturday, Oct. 15 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. 42 Charles Street Boston, MA 02114 Asian Women for Health will host a community engagement fundraiser at Viet AIDS. For more information, visit www.asianwomensforhealth.org.

**Free information clinic**
Monday, Oct. 17 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. 275 Hancock Street 2F North Quincy, MA 02170 Chinese American Citizens of Right Alliance will host a workshop with Castle Square Tenants Organization at the Castle Square Community Center.

**Free immigration clinic**
Wednesday, Oct. 19 Noon to 2 p.m. 1 City Hall Square Boston, MA 02201 The Mayor’s Office for Immigrant Advancement offers free private immigration consultation at the Boston City Hall Room 806. For interpreters other than Spanish, please call at least one week in advance at (617) 635-2980.

**Boston Asian Film Festival**
Oct. 20 to 23 “Call to Action” is the theme of the 2016 Boston Asian Film Festival. For more information and locations, visit www.baff.org.

**AAPI Civil Rights Forum**
Friday, Oct. 21 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. 600 Atlantic Avenue Boston, MA 02210 The annual Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) Civil Rights Forum at the Federal Reserve aims to advance the presence of AAPIs in the Northeast region. For more information, visit www.eventbrite.com/e/aaapi-rights-forum-ticket-28939175800.

**Wynn Boston Harbor job fair**
Monday, Oct. 24 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. 87 Tyler Street Boston, MA 02111 A Wynn Boston Harbor job fair for construction jobs and permanent casino jobs will take place at the Asian American Civic Association. Advance registration is required at www.nursemommonkey.com/r/3WRY56.

**Free legal clinic**
Monday, Oct. 24 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. 1309 Hancock Street, Suite 2

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**Sampan**
A Publication of the ACA

**Bilingual (Cantonese or Mandarin) Case Managers Needed**

Would you like to help low income elders and adults living with disabilities continue to live at home, in safety, and with dignity? Mystic Valley Elder Services (MVES) has open positions for Case Managers who are fluent in English and Cantonese or Mandarin. These are full-time eligible benefits positions. To view open positions and apply:

http://www.mves.org/join-us/

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**SAMPAN**
A Publication of the ACA

**www.sampan.org**

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SAMPAN is New England’s only bimonthly bilingual English-Chinese newspaper. It is non-profit and nonpartisan. Founded in 1972, SAMPAN is published by the Asian American Civic Association. SAMPAN is distributed free in Chinatown and the Greater Boston area. All donations to the publication are tax deductible. Subscription: $65/year (1st class mail); $35/year (3rd class mail).

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Oak Street Fair brings fun to community

BY HONGYI GONG

Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center (BCNC) held the 31th annual Oak Street Fair on Sept. 24 at the Josiah Quincy Elementary School.

Giles Li, executive director of BCNC, greeted the participants. “BCNC really cares about families, so I hope you and your family will have a great day,” Li said.

The event featured a series of music, arts and crafts, performances, games and activities. Adam Cheung and his students performed Chinese kung fu. Children and adults attended the hula hoop contest and three-legged family race.

Community partners provided resources and information to the participants, including information on elder health, immigration, voting and adult education. They also hosted workshops that educated children in a fun interactive way. Children learned the science of medicine and vaccines through painting on their arms.

One of the most popular activities was the watermelon eating contest. The competitors were divided into several age groups. The child who finished his or her slice of watermelon first won the contest. The winner received a gift card and the runner-up brought home an extra watermelon.

BCNC is a nonprofit social agency dedicated to Asian families in the greater Boston area, providing resources and support to children, parents and families.
The Boston City council voted 12-0 on Sept. 28 on a resolution urging Congress to repeal the Hyde Amendment and provide federal funding for abortions with government health coverage.

The Hyde Amendment is a legislative provision barring the use of certain federal funds to pay for abortion except to save the life of the mother, or if the pregnancy arises from incest or rape. The Hyde Amendment is not a permanent law, but rather is a rider that has been routinely attached to annual appropriations bills since 1976. Legislation including the Hyde Amendment generally restricts the use of funds allocated for the Department of Health and Human Services and primarily affects Medicaid.

“Tes are still women and trans- people who call Boston home, who live in our Commonwealth, but who face barriers to abortion care because they are insured through other public insurance programs like the Peace Corps, Indian Health Services and military insurance programs,” Pressley said.

Boston is now the 10th city to pass an ordinance against the amendment this year. “Every woman — regardless of her income, race or ZIP code — should have the ability to make personal decisions about her health and abortion without politicians wedging themselves between her and her doctor,” said Dr. Jennifer Childs-Roshak, CEO of Planned Parenthood League of Massachusetts, in a statement.

Similar resolutions about lifting restrictions on abortion coverage have passed in recent years in localities across the country, including Seattle, Wash.; Cambridge, Mass. and New York, N.Y.

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The Acton Chinese American Civic Society held a forum on grassroots political organizations on Sept. 25 at the Bellows Farm Club House. Adrian Hancoc spoke about the Acton Democratic Town Committee. (Image courtesy of Ling-Mei Wong.)

**Acton Chinese professionals learn about local politics**

BY LING-MEI WONG

The Acton Chinese American Civic Society (ACACS) held a forum with Acton’s Democratic and Republican town committees on Sept. 25 at the Bellows Farm Club House. About 40 individuals attended the event.

Former Acton-Boxborough School Committee chairman and Acton resident Xuan Kong said, “Many of us here are first-generation immigrants who are professionals. We think political activities are for someone more experienced. As we will find out, that’s not the case.”

Four representatives — two each from the Acton Democratic Town Committee (ADTC) and Acton Republican Town Committee (ARTC) — discussed their missions and activities.

“Anyone who is a citizen should register to vote by Oct. 19,” said Adrian Hancock, ADTC member. “We are generally very low-key. We want people to vote, not tell them how to vote.”

Hancock is a British immigrant who settled in Acton and is retired. Bob Ferrara’s grandfather came from America from Sicily. He works at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, along with serving on the ADTC.

Bill Beebee and Dave Lunger spoke about their involvement with the ARTC. Beebee is retired, while Lunger works at Honeywell.

Beebee said, “Democrats are our compatriots, we are not fighting each other in Acton. We give our effort for the community.”

The forum was the third educational event conducted by KPMG and McKinsey. "The name comes out of a BRA analysis conducted by KPMG and McKinsey. "Authority' is so authoritarian. An agency is an organization of the people." BPDA director Brian Golden in a meeting with reporters on Sept. 26. "Authority is so authoritarian. An agency is an organization of the people.

The name comes out of a BRA analysis conducted by KPMG and McKinsey. In response, the agency formed an action plan with consulting group Continuum to reshape its practices.

“More than a name change, it’s about our culture and how we interface with the people of Boston and their neighborhoods,” Golden said.

The BRA and Boston’s planning board merged in the 1960s, at the height of Boston’s urban renewal period that razed the West End and built two highways through Chinatown.

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The BPDA owns Parcel 12 and Parcel R1 in Chinatown, which are currently leased as parking lots. It plans to issue a request for proposals for Parcel 12 on Tremont Street by the end of 2016. Parcel R1 on Tyler and Hudson streets is leased to Tufts Medical Center.

**Chinatown crime blotter for Sept. 23 to Oct. 7**

BY THE BOSTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

All reports are submitted by the Boston Police Department. The time period is from Sept. 23 to Oct. 7 for District A-1, which includes Chinatown.

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

**Robbery**

Sept. 23, 2:16 a.m.: The victim reports he was knocked out and robbed by three unknown black males while walking on Washington Street.

**Larceny**

Sept. 26, 11:58 a.m.: The victim reports unknown person stole a hat from her stand located on Beach Street.

**Trespassing**

Oct. 3, 12:44 a.m.: The two suspects were arrested at 885 Washington Street for trespassing on the property of the Quincy School.

**Armed robbery**

Oct. 4, 8:57 a.m.: The officers responded to Kneeland Street on a report of an armed robbery. Upon arrival, the officers met and spoke with several victims. They stated an unknown masked male entered the diner, displayed two hand guns and attempted to rob them. The suspect fled from the diner.

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**Public Announcement of Request for Letters of Interest for Design Build Services for the Green Line Extension Project**

The Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (the "MBTA") hereby solicits Letters of Interest (LOI) from firms or teams (the "Design Build Entities") interested in providing Design Build (DB) services for the Green Line Extension Project (the "Project") in Somerville, Cambridge, and Medford, Massachusetts under MBTA Contract No. E22CN07.

The MBTA is using the DB contract delivery method for the Project, seeking innovative solutions for the constructability complexities and limitations of working in an active rail right-of-way environment.

The Project is being procured using a two-phase best-value DB procurement process pursuant to M.G.L. c. 149A, s. 14, et seq., and consistent with the MBTA Design Build Procurement Procedures. As provided for in the procedures, the MBTA expects that the procurement will involve the use of national best procurement practices, including a Base Technical Concept definition intended to foster DB creativity, the use of a robust alternative technical concept process, one-on-one meetings with Design Build Entities or firms capable of leading a Design Build Entity, an affordability limit, and the payment of a commercially competitive stipend (payment for work product).

The MBTA intends to enter into a DB contract with the best-value Design Build Entity identified through a two-phase selection process including a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) with a subsequent Request for Proposals (RFP). The RFQ will be utilized to identify qualified Design Build Entities to submit a proposal pursuant to Section 19 of M.G.L. c. 149A. The best-value selection criteria detail will be provided in the RFP, with consideration for ranking Design Build Entities based on the Design Build Entity's Price Proposal along with its Technical Score. Respondents to this request for LOI will receive future notifications of the RFQ's availability and its amendments.

Project documentation and instructions for submitting a Letter of Interest are available on the MBTA website. In order to receive the most up-to-date information relating to the Green Line Extension Design Build procurement, the MBTA encourages interested firms to periodically visit the MBTA website: http://www.mbta.com/business_center/bidding_solicitations/current_solicitations/
Tufts MC navigators guide Chinese patients through cancer treatment

BY LING-MEI WONG

Cancer is never an easy diagnosis. It is a complex disease often requiring many specialists, complex technology and expensive medications for successful management. For Chinese patients, language barriers further complicate their treatment.

At Tufts Medical Center, this is when a navigator steps in. Once a Cancer Center patient of Chinese descent is diagnosed, a patient navigator who speaks the patient’s language — be it Cantonese, Mandarin or other dialect — meets with the patient to help him or her as they embark on their cancer journey. The navigator accompanies the patient on visits to all specialists, ranging from oncologists, surgeons, radiologists and more. To date, the Cancer Navigation Program has served more than 200 patients and facilitated over 1,000 visits.

Dr. Susan Parsons, founding director of the Cancer Navigation Program at Tufts Medical Center, said, “I am a cancer doctor by training and the cancer treatment program is difficult in the best of circumstances. Through this program, I wanted to help vulnerable patients who don’t have the luxury of a multilingual environment.”

The program was initiated in 2014 after three years of program planning. A paper “Promoting High-Quality Cancer Care and Equity Through Disciplinary Diversity in Team Composition” was published in the August 30 issue of the Journal of Oncology Practice, highlighting how a breast cancer patient benefited from the program.

Dr. John Erban, clinical director of the Cancer Center at Tufts Medical Center, said, “One of the real success stories was a woman who was a patient here at Tufts and she had what would be considered to be a very refractory case of breast cancer. We had her be involved in a study that was sponsored by the National Cancer Institute, and we were able to see that her cancer was responding to treatment.”

A listening session on Asian American and Pacific Islander aging took place at the CCBA on Sept. 29. Nearly 100 seniors attended the forum, organized by the White House Initiative on Asian American and Pacific Islanders (WHIAPP) and the National Asian Pacific Center on Aging (NAPCA). Local partners were the Greater Boston Golden Age Center and the CCBA.

SURVEY: October 7, 2016

TAKE THE SAMPAN HEALTH SURVEY!

Asian American aging forum listens to community concerns

BY LING-MEI WONG

A listening session on Asian American and Pacific Islander aging took place at the CCBA on Sept. 29. (From left) Peter Chan, Ken An and Wes Lum. (Image courtesy of Ling-Mei Wong.)

No research shows bilingualism is the cause of language learning difficulties. The science shows that language disorders affect both monolingual and bilingual children similarly. Parents often worry that exposing their child to two languages at an early age may cause language delays. However, when children have enough language learning opportunity across different settings, they can learn multiple languages naturally and without problems. It is important that parents understand how bilingual children learn languages differently than monolingual children.

Misconceptions about bilingualism may lead your child’s teachers or pediatrician to recommend that parents limit their child to learn English only. However, research shows that bilingualism could support your child’s communication development. Rather, forcing the child to give up one language can be more harmful. This is especially the case if the child is exposed to monolingual families and does not have a support system to communicate with their family members.

The child’s environment influences his or her bilingual language learning. It is important for teachers to be trained to provide education for children who are exposed to two or more languages. A bilingual education program can help children develop essential language skills.

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October 7, 2016

Author Ed Lin had a book signing on Oct. 4 at the Brookline Booksmith. Lin read excerpts of his latest novel “Incensed,” his sixth novel. It follows night market vendor Jingnan “Johnny” on his journey to meet family for Mid-Autumn Festival, taking him into Taiwan’s underworld.

“The night market vendor is essential in Taiwan,” Lin said. “Terrible things have happened in Taiwan, yet there’s so much optimism and fun among the young people.”

Lin also read his short story “Greg,” a story about unrequited love with an unexpected twist.

The National Asian Women’s Association of Massachusetts celebrated its 10-year anniversary on Sept. 25 at the China Pearl in Quincy. About 320 guests attended the event.

Association founder and president Van Amanda Le appreciate the members and supporters for making the group so successful.

Le took to the stage in full Cantonese opera costume, accompanied by traditional Chinese instruments and dancers. Her mother also celebrated her 96th birthday.

The scope of work consists of the replacement and new construction of storage tracks 33-38. Work includes grading, drainage, track work, traction power and signal infrastructure. Modifications to tracks 12 and 13 and installation of new turnout units to connect to a new Track 11 are required.

Additional information and instructions on how to submit a bid are available at http://www.mbta.com/business_center/bidding_solicitations/current_solicitations/
‘Warrior Class’ reveals cost of political stardom

BY LING-MEI WONG

Playwright Kenneth Lin’s “Warrior Class” is coming to Boston’s Lyric Stage from Oct. 21 to Nov. 13. Lin is a writer for TV’s “House of Cards,” a political drama with a global cult following.

In “Warrior Class,” Julius Weishan Lee is the son of Chinese immigrants and a decorated war veteran with a seemingly limitless political career ahead of him, until someone from his past threatens to reveal a college transgression that may destroy everything he has built.

Director Dawn M. Simmons said, “When you read the script, it reads just like a ‘House of Cards’ episode. The play is more believable and not quite so Shakespearean.”

Julius is portrayed by local actor Michael Tow, who spent three months reading Lin’s script and talking to local politicos to get into character.

“This is not stereotypical roles of a kung fu artist, restaurant owner or triad gang member,” Tow said. “Here’s a modern politician who is a rising star. It’s exciting to play a role like that.”

New York assemblyman Julius is thrown into the national spotlight as the “Republican Obama.” He is groomed to be a suitable House of Representatives candidate by party fixer Nathan Berkshire (Steven Barkhimer), who must sweep accusations from Julius’s college girlfriend, played by Jessica Webb, under the rug.

“They’ve found their token,” Simmons said. “He speaks well, galvanizes crowds and shows the Republican Party to be more connected to the world. … Being the first Asian American politician, he has to be the perfect candidate.”

All Asian American elected officials in Massachusetts have been invited to the show, which Tow hopes inspires more young people to serve. “Our eight or nine Asian elected representatives broke barriers without seeing anyone else who looked like them,” Tow said. “‘Warrior Class’ opens Oct. 21. For tickets, visit www.lyricstage.com.

Taiwan office celebrates 105 years

BY LING-MEI WONG

The Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Boston celebrated Taiwan’s 105th founding anniversary on Oct. 5 at the Boston Park Plaza Hotel. (Image courtesy of Ling-Mei Wong.)

The Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Boston celebrated Taiwan’s 105th anniversary of its founding on Oct. 5 at the Boston Park Plaza Hotel. Taiwan Economic and Cultural Office Director-general Scott Lai said, “We inaugurated our first female president Tsai Ying-wen … Taiwan is the first Chinese democratic country in the world and we are so proud.” The reception was attended by local and foreign dignitaries.

Boston Asian American Film Festival hosts preview on coming features

The Boston Asian American Film Festival hosted a preview party on Oct. 5 at Crave: Mad for Chicken. For tickets, visit www.baaff.org. (Image courtesy of Ling-Mei Wong.)