Veolia steam plant development could affect Chinatown park

BY LING-MEI WONG

A community meeting about public land parcels on Kneeland Street took place June 7 at the Transportation Building. The site includes the Reggie Wong Memorial Park, the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) District 6 Office at 185 Kneeland Street and the Veolia Energy steam power plant at 165 Kneeland Street.

The meeting was to present MassDOT guidelines and the Invitation to Bid (ITB) for potential redevelopment of MassDOT Parcel 25 and Parcel 26, respectively, the district office and steam power plant.

Reggie Wong Memorial Park is one of Chinatown’s few open spaces. It hosts nine-man volleyball tournaments regularly, a street sport developed by Chinese immigrants with roots in Toishan. A traveling tournament was formed in the 1930s. Local teams today include the Chinese Freemasons, the Boston Knights and the Boston Hurricanes.

Chinese Progressive Association executive director Lydia Lowe said, “What’s to say this park will remain after a developer purchase this property?”

Drew Leff, a principal architect at Stantec who provided consulting for MassDOT, said the land had a property deed restriction for the park, requiring any developer to keep the park and maintain it.

“Reggie Wong Park is near and dear to me, I played in that park in ‘80s and ‘90s as a volleyball player,” said Eric Szeto of the Boston Knights.

Community developer Asian Community Development Corporation’s executive director Angie Liou expressed concern about the ITB’s affordable housing requirements, which is currently at 20 percent. She and Lowe both supported increasing the affordable housing portion to 30 percent from 20 percent, with half of the affordable housing designated for very low-income families at 30 percent of area median income (AMI).

“In Chinatown, the average household income is closer to $20,000 a year,” Liou said. The current site proposal is for affordable housing at 60 percent or 90 percent AMI, for households earning nearly $69,000 to $88,000 a year.

Leather District residents asked for the formation of a community advisory committee before developers submitted bids.
BY JIANGYI WANG

The Mass. Asian American Commission hosted its Unity Dinner on June 3 at Boston University. During the celebration, the AAC awarded three recipients to highlight the extraordinary work of individuals and organizations within the Asian American community.

Sidney Liang, grant coordinator of the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA), said, “My reward is when I help people and they get helped,” Liang said. “The Organization Community Hero Award went to Mass. Asians + Pacific Islanders for Health (MAP for Health), a community-based nonprofit organization that works to improve health care access, disease prevention and service delivery for the Asian American Pacific Islander (AAP) community in Massachusetts.

The Asian American Commission (AAC) of Massachusetts hosted its 10th annual Unity Dinner “Celebrating Asian American and Pacific Islander Pioneers” on June 3 at Boston University. During the celebration, the AAC awarded three recipients to highlight the extraordinary work of individuals and organizations within the Asian American community.

“Four people were recognized for their inspiring public service to improve the Asian American community: Boston City Council President Michelle Wu, Cambridge City Councilor Leland Cheung, Quincy City Councilor Nina Liang and former Newton Alderwoman Greer Tan Swinton.

The event honored outstanding public servants throughout greater Boston, but also recognized future leaders of its high school national essay competition. The event honored George Frisbie Hoar, a Mass. congressman from 1869 to 1877 and later a senator from 1879 to 1904. Hoar voted against Chinese exclusion laws. He was the only senator to vote against the 1902 Scott Act, which extended the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882. It suspended the immigration of Chinese workers for 10 years and was the first significant law restricting immigration.

The CACA is the second oldest civil rights organization in America. It was founded in San Francisco in 1895.
WGBH celebrates Asian American heritage month

BY LING-MEI WONG

The Asian Pacific American Heritage Month Celebration took place May 26 at WGBH. A film screening, panel discussion and meal attracted more than 100 guests. Documentary “Chinese Exclusion Act” and part of “My Life in China” were screened, followed by a panel discussion of Asian Americans moderated by Liz Cheng, WGBH general manager of television. The panelists included Dr. Heidi Yeh, surgical director of pediatric transplants at Massachusetts General Hospital; Li-Shin Yu, editor of “Chinese Exclusion Act”; Ken Eng, filmmaker of “My Life in China” and Li-Shin Yu; and Heidi Yeh, surgical director of pediatrics at Children’s Hospital Boston. The panelists included Dr. Heidi Yeh, surgical director of pediatric transplants at Massachusetts General Hospital; Li-Shin Yu, editor of “Chinese Exclusion Act”; Ken Eng, filmmaker of “My Life in China” and Li-Shin Yu; and Heidi Yeh, surgical director of pediatrics at Children’s Hospital Boston.

Transplants are the only time you tell someone you’re going to operate on them and they’re glad,” Yeh said. Saxena came from a family of doctors in India, who did not understand her entrepreneurial aspirations in IT. “Even if it had not worked out, I had the experience of getting to know myself,” Saxena said. “That was priceless.” Eng is a Boston filmmaker who attended Josiah Quincy School and Boston Latin School. “I love traveling the world and love making friends,” Eng said. Yu was the youngest daughter and was free to pursue her dreams without family pressure. “Have faith in yourself, pursue your passion and perseverance,” Yu said. “It may not end up where you initially thought you wanted to go, but it’s a journey, you find your way.” Yeh’s work in organ transplants was praised by Cheng, who noted few Asian Americans are organ donors.

The Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association (CCBA) met June 1 at the Doubletree Hotel. A presentation was given on a proposed hotel at 25 Beach Street, currently the East Ocean City. Owner Edward Leung said he planned to add four stories to the existing six-story building, which would be shorter than the neighboring buildings. The hotel would have 80 to 85 rooms and have a ground-floor restaurant. Leung opened East Ocean City in 1992 and Brookline’s Fugakaya in 1996; the project would be his first hotel. The project is going through the permitting process.

BY LING-MEI WONG

The Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association (CCBA) of New England held its bimonthly meeting on May 31. It formed a 50 Herald Street Development Advisory Committee to look into developing the 50 Herald Street site into affordable housing and how future development would best serve the community, said CCBA president Paul Chan in a prepared statement. Its members include the CCBA asset committee’s nine directors and community representatives, who will interview prospective consultants and architects. The directors voted to budget no more than $30,000 toward consulting and an additional $40,000 for architectural site studies. C-Mart grocery store is currently leasing the land from CCBA.

The Chinatown Safety Committee held its monthly meeting at June 1 at the Doubletree Hotel. A presentation was given on a proposed hotel at 25 Beach Street, currently the East Ocean City. Owner Edward Leung said he planned to add four stories to the existing six-story building, which would be shorter than the neighboring buildings. The hotel would have 80 to 85 rooms and have a ground-floor restaurant. Leung opened East Ocean City in 1992 and Brookline’s Fugakaya in 1996; the project would be his first hotel. The project is going through the permitting process.

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BY LING-MEI WONG

The Chinatown Coalition met June 9 at Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center. (Image courtesy of Hongyi Gong.)

One Greenway affordable condo construction on schedule

BY SARA BROWN

The One Greenway affordable condo construction is coming along nicely, said developers at a public meeting May 26 at the One Greenway community room.

The South building is a six-story building with 51 affordable home-ownership condos. There will be 21 one-bedroom units, 22 two-bedroom units and eight three-bedroom condos. The 21-story North building was completed in 2015, with 91 affordable and 251 market-rate units. The South building’s one-bedroom units will range from $113,500 to $226,000. The two-bedroom units will range from $135,000 to $263,000. Eligible individuals must be first-time home buyers and their family’s annual income should be between $43,000 to $96,000. Marketing for the condos will begin in the winter or early 2017. The construction will take about 16 months to complete. Some neighbors complained that construction was taking away parking spaces in an area with already limited parking.

“We understand. We want to return the neighborhood back to you as soon as we can,” said project manager Bill Caddy. Condo fees have not been determined, said Angie Liou, Asian Community Development Corporation (ACDC) executive director. Buyers must put at least 3 percent of the payment down when they purchase a condo. ACDC is a community developer that worked to build One Greenway with New Boston Fund, a private equity real estate investment, development and management firm. ACDC offers first-time homebuyer classes. The classes are required for individuals interested in the affordable condos.

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Chinatown crime blotter for May 29 to June 10

BY THE BOSTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

All reports are submitted by the Boston Police Department. The time period is from May 29 to June 10 for District A-1, which includes Chinatown. 

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

Aggravated assault

May 29, 2:38 a.m.: The officers responded to the area of Beach Street and Harrison Avenue on a report of a person with a knife. Upon arrival, the officers met and spoke with the victim. He stated the suspect hit him in the face with the butt end of a knife. The suspect was stopped further down the street and placed under arrest.

Larceny

June 7, 7:46 p.m.: The victim reported while sitting on the steps on Tyler Street, an unknown black male grabbed her cell phone from her hand and fled in-bound on Tyler Street.

By the boston police department

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From railroad workers to Flying Tigers

BY CAROLYN KUHN, GENE CHAN AND BILL CHEN

The first major contribution by Chinese Americans in the United States was the building of the transcontinental railroads — the Central and Pacific Railroads linking east and west, resulting in economic development, commerce, passenger travel and tourism. But full recognition of the role of the pioneering Chinese railroad workers has been a slow process. The May 2014 induction of Chinese Railroad Workers in the Department of Labor’s Hall of Honor was a recognition of their accomplishments, while highlighting the accomplishments of their forefathers:

• First Lieutenant W.C. Chin, grandson of railroad foreman and labor contractor Chin Lin Sou.
• Captain Bill King, grandson of railroad foreman and labor contractor Jim King.
• Captain Moon Chen, son of railroad worker Chun Fong.

These descendants of Chinese-American Flying Tigers who are descendants of Chinese railroad workers, while highlighting the accomplishments of their forefathers:

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Three person household: $65,750
Four person household: $73,050
Five person household: $78,900
Six person household: $84,750

Household Asset Limit of $75,000

To request an application and information packet, please contact: Housing Resource Group, LLC at 781.820.8797 or hrgrllc.alwan@yahoo.com or visit the Reuben Hoar Library, 41 Shattuck Street

Completed applications must be returned to the Housing Resource Group, LLC, Four Raymond Street, Lexington, MA 02421 by July 7, 2016

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June 10, 2016
Understanding your breast cancer risk

BY DR. ABHISHEK CHATTERJEE

Dr. Abhishek Chatterjee. (Image courtesy of 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, personal high-risk breast lesions that include atypical ducts 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 their 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, 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?
When a woman has one or more risk factors such as being a first-degree relative of a woman with breast cancer or ovarian cancer, or being a male with breast cancer.

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. These increase the lifetime risk of getting breast cancer by 40 to 80 percent and increase the risk of getting ovarian cancer by 30 to 70 percent. To place this in perspective, a woman with no breast cancer risk factors has a lifetime breast cancer risk of 13 percent.

There are many other types of hereditary genetic mutations but a substantial number of these have unknown risk or significance. More is found out about hereditary mutations everyday through breast cancer research.

Eating disorders 101

BY SARA BROWN

What are eating disorders?
Eating disorders include extreme emotions, attitudes and behaviors surrounding weight and food issues, according to the National Eating Disorders Association. Eating disorders can cause emotional and physical problems. If left untreated they can cause serious physical and emotional injury and even be life-threatening.

How many people suffer from eating disorders?
According to the National Eating Disorders Association, 20 million women and 10 million men suffer from eating disorders in the United States alone. The number is constantly growing.

Are there different types of eating disorders?
Yes, there are. The most commonly known are anorexia nervosa and bulimia nervosa.

What should a woman do if she is BRCA 1 or BRCA 2 positive?
A woman with these genetic mutations should be followed by a breast genetics specialist and breast surgical oncologist, who have the option for breast reconstruction that could include implant-based or flap-based reconstruction. Having your breasts removed is a very difficult decision and these women continue to worry about their breasts. If this is done, then women with the BRCA 1 or BRCA 2 mutation need to be followed very closely with annual mammograms and most likely annual MRI breast screening.

How to get an application: Applications will be available beginning June 6, 2016. You may obtain applications in several ways during the application period:

1. In person at the management office located at 515 Hadley West Drive, Haverhill, MA on Mon., Wed., & Fri. from 9 am - 12 pm and 1:30 pm - 4 pm
2. After hours at the management office via a self-serve kiosk, and
3. By requesting an application be sent via email (see property email address above).

If you or anyone assisting you cannot use these methods to obtain an application, please contact the mgmt. office at one of the numbers listed above and ask that an application be either mailed or sent electronically. Your place on the waiting list will be decided by lottery so there is no need to come in person, come early, or wait on a long line.

Returning completed applications and lottery selection: Applications may be returned by mailing, faxing, emailing or bringing to the office by June 10, 2016. Applications received between June 6th and June 30th from program eligible applicants will be placed onto the waitlist by a lottery held on July 8, 2016 at 515 Hadley West Drive, Haverhill, MA.

Applications received after June 30, 2016 will be numbered, date and time stamped upon receipt, and added to the waitlist chronologically in the order that they are received.

Minimum household size of at least one person per bedroom required. Use and Occupancy restrictions apply. For more information or reasonable accommodations for applicants with disabilities, please contact Hadley West Apartments.

Hadley West Apartments
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Haverhill, MA 01832
(T) 978-373-9571 (F) 978-241-7965
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hadleywest@shpmanagement.com
An Affordable Housing Opportunity – Professionally Managed by SHP Management Corp.

Holly Sampan
June 10, 2016

Eating disorders can lead a happy life after treatment. But it can be life-threatening. It is a cycle of bingeing and purging.

Bulimia nervosa is also life-threatening. It is described as a cycle of bingeing and purging. It can be life-threatening.

There are many different treatment options available for those with eating disorders. The ones that have found the most success are ones that combine counseling with medical attention to nutritional needs. Every treatment should be tailored to the patient. The levels of care vary. There are both short- and long-term outpatient and inpatient care.

Once someone receives treatment, will they be cured forever?
It’s not that simple. While someone can lead a happy life after treatment, treating an eating disorder is a lifelong commitment. Eating disorders are often disguised emotional issues that are going on. Relapses don’t mean failure though. People can recover from relapses.

What should I do if I or someone I know needs help?
Visit the National Eating Disorders Association’s website at www.nationaleatingdisorders.org for resources.
Seniors learn about allergies

BY SOUTH COVE MANOR

A senior breakfast seminar on allergies took place May 26 at the Boston Chinatown Evangelical Church auditorium on 120 Shawmut Avenue, the former South Cove Manor facility. About 40 people attended the seminar, hosted by South Cove Manor.

Claire Wheeler, South Cove Manor quality assurance and compliance staff, presented the Community Partnership Award to Lily Cheng, Mass Pike Tower property manager. Mass Pike Tower has hosted the breakfast seminar for the past two years, serving more than 1,200 participants.

So Yee Ng, Midtown Home Health Services manager, spoke about seasonal allergies. Ng immigrated to America 32 years ago and shared personal experiences on how to fight seasonal allergies.

Common allergy triggers

Spring allergies begin in February and last until the early summer. Mild winter temperatures can cause plants to pollinate early. A rainy spring can also promote rapid plant growth and lead to an increase in mold, causing symptoms to last well into the fall.

Take extra steps when pollen counts are high. Seasonal allergy signs and symptoms can flare up when there’s a lot of pollen in the air. Check your local TV or radio station, your local newspaper, or the Internet for pollen forecasts and current pollen levels. If high pollen counts are forecast, start taking allergy medications before your symptoms start. Close doors and windows at night or any other time when pollen counts are high. Avoid outdoor activity in the early morning when pollen counts are highest.

TIGERS: Chinese-Americans overcome

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

Where the technology of the 19th century was locomotives and railroads, the technology of the 20th century was air-craft and aviation.

The descendants in the 20th century were successful in attaining levels of achievement consistent with the advanced technology of their time.

The Flying Tigers were Flying Tigers established by W.C. Chin, Bill King and Moon Chen.

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YOUTH VOICES

Under the knife and aware

BY KAMAN HAU

I will focus on a study named “Under the Knife and Completely Aware: A Case of Intraoperative Awareness.” It is about a case filed about a man named Sherman Sizemore, and how his family claimed that he was not given the proper anesthesiology drugs needed for him to make him unconscious, leading to his suicide.

“Private guardians may protect - or just steal and abuse” explained how guardians at home abuse their rights, and how they could possibly neglect the patient leading to diagnoses such as depression.

If proper treatment is not given to patients after surgery, they may not overcome the effects of anesthesia. This machine is essential after surgery, because it gives the patients enough air for them to breathe properly and recover. If Sizemore was not given the proper treatment after his surgery, the consequences meant he would not recover and he felt abandoned because of the lack of help.

In conclusion, Sizemore’s surgeons are not at fault for his suicide. In fact his family members are at fault because of their abuse and neglect of him.

AAC Annual Gala 2016

Their Courage to be New


Wednesday, July 13th, 2016

Club Royale, Boston

279 Tremont St

6:00pm-10:00pm

For Sponsorship and Ticket Options, Please Visit: http://aaca-boston.org/aaca-annual-gala-2016/
**BCNC awarded $100,000 Cummings Foundation grant**

BY BOSTON CHINATOWN NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER

Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center (BCNC) is one of 100 non-profits to receive grants of $100,000 each through Cummings Foundation’s “$100K for 100” program. BCNC was chosen from a total of 479 applicants, during a competitive review process.

BCNC responds to community needs by delivering holistic, family-centered, and culturally competent programs. BCNC believes families have enormous potential to thrive, and when immigrants are able to participate fully in society and create their own success stories, all of society benefits.

Castle Square youth display artwork

The Castle Square Tenants Organization hosted a Youth Art Show May 26 at its community center, featuring artwork and films by teenagers. (Image courtesy of Sara Brown.)

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