Chinatown meeting roundup for January: TCC, CUCC, CNC

BY JENNIFER LI AND LING-MEI WONG

Three local organizations had their monthly meetings in January.

TCC
The Chinatown Coalition held its monthly meeting at the Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center (BCNC) on Jan. 8, discussing neighborhood issues and plans for community space.

Denny Ching, City of Boston neighborhood liaison for Chinatown, heard about parking regulations and unreported crime from local residents.

A proposal for a community room using BCNC’s vacant space was presented by Giles Li, BCNC executive director, and Nuri Chandler-Smith of Bunker Hill Community College. They are seeking community input for 5,050 square-foot space, which will be in the final design stage in March and built in September.

CUCC
The Clean Up Chinatown Committee met on Jan. 13 at the Asian Center. It will enlist youth volunteers to pass out flyers and special recycling bags a second time.

The Inspectional Services Department has issued more fines in the neighborhood. However, many tickets are ignored by property owners, as the fines are put on annual taxes. Property owners can contest tickets if they did not commit the offence, which is documented with photos.

CNC
The Chinatown/South Cove Neighborhood Committee (CNC) meeting took place Jan. 20 at the Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association. Emerson College will renovate the Little Building on Tremont and Boylston streets adding a 13th floor to the top of the building. It presently houses 750 students and will be closed until 2017, when it will add 669 beds for about 1,600 beds total said Peggy Ings, vice president of Emerson College.

The CNC moved to support the Wild Duck Wine & Spirits liquor store, which plans to open at 660 Washington Street. It will not sell liquor to drivers illegally parked on Washington Street, will support underaged drinking prevention and will not sell cigarettes.

Chang Liu, owner of Iraishai on Kneeland Street, will open a new restaurant serving Szechuanese and Taiwanese food at the former Vinh Sun on Beach Street. It will be called Five Spice House.

Tai Tung Park to undergo renovations in summer

BY LING-MEI WONG

Tai Tung Park at Tyler and Tai Tung streets will undergo scheduled renovations this summer. The Boston Parks and Recreation Department had a community meeting on the park’s present condition on Jan. 15 at the Josiah Quincy School.

About $122,000 is budgeted for improvements in the park, which is roughly 1,400 square feet. The park will be designed by the Waterfield Design Group.

"Hopefully we can make significant impacts in this space," said Cathy Baker-Eclipse, project manager for the design and construction division of the Boston Parks and Recreation Department. "Every piece of open space in the city is a valuable asset."

Efforts will be made to keep all trees in and around the park, said Craig Miller, president of Waterfield Design Group. Currently six trees provide shade for the park.

The Parks and Recreation Department will hold another community meeting for input and present its final plans for the park in March. Construction will take place in summer and be complete by spring 2016.

Nearby Elliot Norton Park on Tremont Street will complete construction before Tai Tung Park is closed for repairs.

To offer feedback on the project, please call Baker-Eclipse at (617) 961-3058.

HIGHLIGHTS

Cathay Pacific to launch direct flights from Boston to Hong Kong in May

Breakthrough paper published in Science

AARP finds older Asian Americans uninsured at high rates

AARP report reveals Asian seniors' financial needs
ENGLISH SECTION

January 23, 2015

SAMPA

A Publication of the ACLU

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Please make an ap-
pointment with Scarlett Wu at (617) 426-9492 x 206 or scarlett@aacaboston.org.

Harbor Point on the Bay

The Section 8 waitlist at Harbor Point on the
Bay will be CLOSED on Friday, January 23, 2015 as of 4:00 p.m. This is due to the numerous applications received during the re-opening of the waitlist and the extensive size and timeframe to wait for an available unit.

617-436-0771 | TTY: 711

www.acacjbs.com
The Chinatown Community Land Trust met on Jan. 13 at the Josiah Quincy School. Board members are (left to right) Ernie Leung, Michael Liu, Suzanne Lee, Thomas Chen, Marie Moy, Jeffrey Hovis, Ann C. Moy and Lawrence Cheng. (Image courtesy of Ling-Mei Wong.)

The Chinatown Community Land Trust (CCLT) had its first community meeting on Jan. 14 at the Josiah Quincy School, attended by about 50 individuals. CCLT is working for community control of land for development and to preserve affordable housing, particularly Chinatown’s historic row houses. A community land trust acquires land from homeowners for community use. The land belongs to the community, but the building on the land belongs to the respective landlords. A community land trust can designate housing as permanently affordable. All Chinatown residents may vote, while nonresidents can vote only by invitation. The board consists of Oak Street resident Jeffrey Hovis as president, Oak Street resident Marie Moy as treasurer and Castle Square resident Ann C. Moy as secretary. Board members include architect Lawrence Cheng, historian Thomas Chen, Asian American Resource Workshop founder Michael Liu and Coco Head salon owner Ernie Leung.

The group was inspired by the Dudley Street Neighborhood Initiative formed 25 years ago in Roxbury, which manages 225 housing units, a community garden and nonprofit office space. The Dudley Street Neighborhood Initiative President Tony Hernandez bought a home on the Roxbury land trust 12 years ago. “In my neighborhood, there were a lot of empty lots. Chinatown is already really dense,” he said. “Chinatown has the opportunity to preserve housing — you guys have an incredible culture that you don’t want to go away.”

Four out of Boston’s 16 neighborhoods are affected by gentrification, including Chinatown, said Karilyn Crockett, director of economic policy and research for the city of Boston, who represented Mayor Marty Walsh.

Representatives from the Boston Redevelopment Agency (BRA) voiced support for the plan. “The conflict is we are both the development agency that promotes private development but also are charged for the growth and preservation of neighborhoods. We’re here to be open-minded, innovative,” said Kaizos Shen, BRA chief planner.

There are 260 land trusts in the continental United States. Aside from the CCLT, the Dudley Street Neighborhood Initiative is the only other land trust in the greater Boston area.
January 23, 2015

TransformAsians diabetes event

The TransformASians: Preventing and Controlling Diabetes event took place at 1199 SEIU in Dorchester on Jan. 10. Hosted by Asian Women for Health and the American Diabetes Association, the event included healthy cooking demonstrations, panel discussions and tai chi aerobics. (Image courtesy of Asian Spectrum.)

Chatime opens on Newbury Street

Chatime opened a bubble tea store at 251 Newbury Street on Jan. 16. This is the fourth location for the Taiwanese tea franchise in greater Boston. (Image courtesy of Ling-Mei Wong.)

Are you ready for Tax Identity Theft Awareness Week?

BY THE FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

Ready for tax season? If you haven’t heard about tax identity theft, you may not be. Next week Jan. 26 to 30 is Tax Identity Theft Awareness Week. Tax identity theft happens when someone files a phony tax return using your personal information — like your Social Security number (SSN) — to get a tax refund from the IRS. It also can happen when someone uses your Social Security number to get a job or claims your child as a dependent on a tax return. Tax identity theft has been the most common form of identity theft reported to the Federal Trade Commission for the past five years.

Tax identity thieves get your personal information in a number of ways. For example:

• someone goes through your trash or steals mail from your home or car
• imposters send phony emails that look like they’re from the IRS and ask for personal information
• employees at hospitals, nursing homes, banks, and other businesses steal your information
• phony or dishonest tax preparers misuse their clients’ information or pass it along to identity thieves

So what can you do about it? To lessen the chance you’ll be a victim:

• file your tax return early in the tax season, if you can, before identity thieves do
• use a secure internet connection if you file electronically. Don’t use unsecured public Wi-Fi hotspots at places like coffee shops or a hotel lobby
• mail your tax return directly from the post office
• shred copies of your tax return, drafts, or calculation sheets you no longer need
• respond to all mail from the IRS as soon as possible
• know the IRS won’t contact you by email, text or social media. If the IRS needs information, it will first contact you by mail.
• don’t give out your SSN or Medicare number unless necessary. Ask why it’s needed, how it’s going to be used, and how it will be stored.
• get recommendations and research a tax preparer thoroughly before you hand over personal information
• if your SSN has been compromised, contact the IRS ID Theft Protection Specialized Unit at 800-908-4490
• check your credit report at least once a year for free at annualcreditreport.com to make sure no other accounts have been opened in your name

What if you are a victim? Tax identity theft victims typically find out about the crime when they get a letter from the IRS saying that more than one tax return was filed in the their name, or IRS records show they received wages from an employer they don’t know. If you get a letter like this, don’t panic. Contact the IRS Identity Protection Specialized Unit at 800-908-4490.

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Get an inside look at vibrant retirement living! Tour our beautiful campus and maintenance-free homes. Discover dozens of exciting amenities, clubs, and activities. See the continuing care neighborhood, offering memory care, inpatient and outpatient rehabilitation, and skilled nursing care right on campus.

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Sunday, January 25, 2015
300 Linden Ponds Way, Hingham, MA
Independent living and continuing care tours
10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Call 1-800-617-9189 for more information and directions, or to learn about other upcoming events if you can’t make this date.
AARP report reveals older Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders uninsured at high rates

BY AARP

AARP released a new report on Jan. 14 that Asian American and Pacific Islanders (AAPIs) age 50 and older lack health insurance and access to quality, affordable health care compared to other Americans the same age.

“Given the cultural and socio-economic diversity among AAPI groups, understanding the unique needs of each community is the first step in ensuring their health needs are met,” said Daphne Kwok, AARP vice president of multicultural markets and engagement for the Asian American and Pacific Islander Audience. “Our goal is to help reduce ethnic advocacy areas that impact AAPIs age 50 and older. The report, available for free download at www.AARP.org/AAPI, reveals that:

• 20 percent of AAPIs age 50-64 are uninsured (compared with 15 percent of the total U.S. population of the same age)
• 6 percent of AAPIs age 65 and older are uninsured (compared with 1 percent of total U.S. population of the same age)
• 40 percent of AAPIs age 65 and older have private health insurance (compared with 52 percent of U.S. population of the same age)

The main reason for non-coverage among AAPIs is cost. Employers and employee unions are the primary vehicles for health insurance coverage in the U.S. Because many AAPIs are self-employed or run small businesses, access and cost makes health insurance out of reach. Among those age 65 and older, a greater proportion of AAPIs do not have Medicare coverage, so some extend because of ineligibility for Medicare among some immigrants.

For more information about how AARP helps Asian American and Pacific Islander families get more out of life, please visit www.facebook.com/AARPAAPI-Community and www.twitter.com/AARPAAPI.

Chinatown crime blotter for Jan. 9 to 23

BY THE BOSTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

All reports are submitted by the Boston Police Department. The time period is from Jan. 9 to Jan. 23 for District A-1, which includes Chinatown.

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

Violation of auto laws
Jan. 17, 2:15 a.m.: The victim reported he was stabbed by an unknown Asian male. The victim treated for a stab wound to the head. The incident is to be further investigated by district detectives.

Assault & battery
Jan. 19, 6:14 p.m.: The officers responded to Tyler Street on a report of an assault and battery in progress. Upon arrival the officers met with a member of the Neighborhood Crime Watch. He stated he was assaulted by the suspect. The suspect refused to talk with the officers and was arrested.

Quincy selected to participate in 2015 Solarize Mass program

The Massachusetts Clean Energy Center and the Green Communities Division of the Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources have selected the City of Quincy to participate in the 2015 round of Solarize Massachusetts (“Solarize Mass”), a statewide initiative that since 2011 has facilitated contracting for over 16 megawatts of solar energy systems on 2,400 properties.

With the city’s participation in this program, homeowners and business owners in Quincy will, for several months while the program is ongoing, be able to install solar photovoltaic (PV) at a significantly discounted cost than otherwise possible. The more homes and businesses that choose to add solar energy, the more steeply discounted the solar panels will be for everyone.

The program will be organized by Solarize Quincy team coach, Quincy resident Rebecca McWilliams, who is a member of the Mayor’s Climate Change Committee and the outgoing Chair of the Quincy Climate Action Network. The team will rely on volunteers to spread the word to as many home and business owners as possible to sign up for a solar assessment to see if their properties are suitable for solar. Owners will then get proposals from the installer, and sign contracts by June 30 to receive the discounted pricing.

Also part of the Solarize Quincy team are staff from the Public Buildings Department and Planning Departments. Already the team has a robust group of people potentially interested in installing solar panels. Four hundred and forty-six people indicated they’d like to learn more about pursuing solar power for their home or business in response to a Planning Department survey released last spring. The Solarize Mass Interest Survey has collected more than 900 responses to date and was instrumental in the City’s selection to participate in the 2015 round of the program.

The Solarize Quincy team aims to educate as many people as possible about the cost-saving and environmental benefits of solar PV, and to lower the barriers of adoption for those who are interested. If you’d like to learn more about the program please visit www.solarizequincy.wroebli.com and read the FAQ page, or fill out an online sign up form. Information sessions will also be held in the next few months to provide residents an opportunity to learn about the program in person.
Two new scholarships for college

BY THE CHINESE CONSOLIDATED BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION AND ASPIRE

Scholarships for Tufts University freshmen of Chinese descent

The Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association of New England (CCBA) will be awarding a one-time grant of $2,000 to a maximum of three academically outstanding freshmen who have matriculated into the Class of 2018 at Tufts University. Applicant must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents of Chinese descent with a home address in Massachusetts.

Interested students may contact Karen Lee or Larry Young at ch=taine@gmail.com or at (617) 542-2574 for more information and to obtain an application. All application information must be received by 5 p.m. on Jan. 30.

Awards will be presented at the CCBA Lunar New Year banquet to be held on Feb. 20 at Empire Garden Restaurant.

Asian American Women’s Scholarship Fund

With financial support from the Gund Kwok Asian Women Lion & Dragon Dance Troupe, the Asian Sisters Participating in Reaching Excellence (ASPIRE) scholarship launched Jan. 12. Two deserving Asian American females entering their first year of college (2015-2016) will each receive a $1,000 scholarship. For eligibility, questions and the application, please visit www.girlsaspire.org or email scholarship@girlsaspire.org.

Asian Real Estate Association of America’s Boston chapter to hold gala Jan. 28

BY THE ASIAN REAL ESTATE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

The Boston Chapter of the Asian Real Estate Association of America (AREAA) will hold its third Annual Gala at the Royal Sonesta Hotel in Cambridge on Jan. 28 at 6 p.m. The gala is expected to attract more than 350 top-level attendees from all across the real estate and related industries, with special guest speaker John Hale, the United States secretary of energy under President Barack Obama.

This year’s gala is dedicated to recognizing the leaders of Boston and the surrounding communities who exemplify the mission of AREAA. New AREAA Boston board members will also be installed.

Established in 2003, AREAA’s mission is to advocate for sustainable and affordable housing for the Asian American and Pacific Islander community. With more than 14,000 members in 38 states, AREAA (www.areaa.org) is in the only trade organization that represents the diverse Asian American community and gives Asian real estate professionals a voice in various policy and business discussions that affect the real estate market and Asian American Consumers.

Founded in 2013, AREAA Boston is one of the largest and most active chapters of AREAA.

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More Information
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development@aaaca-boston.org
www(aaaca-boston.org

Axis at Lakeshore
Bridgewater, MA

1BRs $1,197, 2BRs $1,207, 3BRs $1,468
No Utilities included except water and sewer
*Rents subject to change with the HUD’s release of the 2015 Area Median Incomes

Axis at Lakeshore is a community that will be two five-story elevator buildings with 192 units and includes a state of the art clubhouse outfitted with a fitness center, meeting space, swimming pool, theater room, and Wi-Fi Café. Units feature spacious floor plans with 9’ ceilings, in-unit laundry, and central air. The units will also be accented with designer kitchens featuring granite countertops and Clean Steel appliances. The first units will be ready in May 2015.

48 of the units will be rented to households with annual incomes not exceeding 80% of Area Median Income (AMI) adjusted for family size as determined by HUD. The 80% AMI Income Limits are as follows: $44,750* (1 person), $51,150* (2 people), $57,550* (3 people), $63,900* (4 people), $69,000* (5 people), $74,150* (6 people).

*Income Limits are subject to change upon HUD’s publication of 2015 AMI

A Public Information Session will be held at 6 p.m. on February 9th at 2015 in the Little Meeting Room at Bridgewater Public Library (15 South St).

Completed Applications may be mailed, faxed, emailed, or delivered in person. Completed Applications and Required Income Documentation must be received by 2:00 PM on March 12th, 2015.

The Lottery will be held on April 1st at 6 PM in same location as the Info session above.
For Applications and Details on the Lottery or for reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities, call 617.782.6900 or go to www.s-e-b.com/lottery. For TTY Services dial 711. Free translation available.

Applications and Info Packets also available in the Bridgewater Public Library (15 South St.). Hours: M-W 9-5, Th 10-5, F 8-10-2
Diabetes: The silent killer

BY DR. RONAK R. PATEL

What is diabetes?
Diabetes is a group of diseases characterized by elevation in blood glucose and if left uncontrolled can negatively affect various organs/parts of the body.

Are there different types of diabetes?
Yes. There are various types of diabetes with Type 2 diabetes being the most common. It could be hereditary and usually found in adults. But now with the obesity epidemic and poor dietary choices, it can be seen even in young people. Type 1 diabetes (autoimmune) is generally seen in children and younger adults. Other forms of diabetes are latent autoimmune diabetes of adults (LADA), Flatbush diabetes, MODY, steroid induced and more. Henceforth, when we refer to diabetes we will be talking about type 2 diabetes.

How much does it cost to manage diabetes?
The total estimated cost (direct and indirect) to manage diabetes in 2012 was a staggering $245 billion. Diabetes is not only a health problem but also a big economic problem.

What are the complications associated with diabetes?
Diabetes is a silent killer affecting various organs and organ systems. It has been known to cause retinopathy leading to blindness, nephropathy leading to kidney failure, neuropathy leading to increased susceptibility to get wounds, wound infections and poor wound healing. It also associated with cardiovascular disease (heart attack) and stroke. Extremely elevated blood glucose can also cause hyperglycemic crisis, which needs immediate medical attention.

What kinds of symptoms are associated with diabetes?
Fatigue, weakness, increased thirst, increased appetite, frequent urination, sudden weight loss, blurred vision, tingling numbness in extremities, poor wound healing, sexual problems and more.

How can diabetes be diagnosed?
Your doctor might diagnose you with diabetes with some simple blood test and based on your symptoms. Routinely used test are HbA1c (more than 6.5), fasting blood (plasma) glucose (more than 126), two-hour glucose tolerance test (more than 200) or a random blood glucose (more than 200) with symptoms.

Can diabetes be treated and what are my options?
Yes. Diet and exercise remain the cornerstone of diabetes management. Seeing a nutritionist who specializes in diabetes and developing an individualized diet plan would be helpful. Unlike in the past when insulin was mainstay in treatment, nowadays there are various treatment options available. Your doctor might prescribe you oral medications, non-insulin injectables or insulin if it remains uncontrolled. Diabetes therapy has to be customized in each patient with diabetes, as one size does not fit all.

How much does it cost to manage diabetes?
Diabetes: insulin and medical supplies may be different and more. Henceforth, when we refer to diabetes, we will be talking about type 2 diabetes.

Dental care for patients with cancer

BY DR. RYAN S. LEE

The side effects of cancer treatment can be devastating on the mouth, especially cancer of the head and neck. Problems in the mouth are often less known, but they are common and can negatively affect one’s quality of life.

Cancer treatment, such as chemotherapy and radiation, can change the environment in the mouth affecting the teeth, gums, salivary glands, mouth lining and other areas. These changes often cause painful dental problems, such as cavities, infections and mouth sores, that can lead to dehydration and poor nutrition.

Good oral health is essential before, during and after cancer treatment. Your dentist will check for the side effects of cancer treatment. Your dentist will check for the side effects of cancer treatment. Your dentist will check for the side effects of cancer treatment. Your dentist will check for the side effects of cancer treatment.

Special attention to your oral hygiene before, during and after cancer treatment is strongly recommended. Be sure to include a dentist as part of your cancer treatment team.

About the author
Dr. Ryan S. Lee, dental oncologist, can be reached at (617) 713-3701.

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(978) 456-8388
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Units distributed by lottery—Assets to $75,000

OPEN HOUSE
Saturday, January 31, 2015
11:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.

Public Information Meeting
6:30, Wednesday, January 28, 2015
Newburyport City Hall, 60 Pleasant St.
Application Deadline
February 19, 2015

Tufts Medical Center

Cancer patients should brush their teeth twice a day with a soft brush and use floss. (Image courtesy of Flickr user Nilanjana Sasmal.)
Asthma and exercise: Tips to remember

BY THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF ALLERGY, ASTHMA & IMMUNOLOGY

Do you cough, wheeze and have a tight chest or shortness of breath when you exercise? If yes, you may have exercise-induced bronchoconstriction (EIB). This happens when the tubes that bring air into and out of your lungs narrow with exercise, causing symptoms of asthma. A study in 2009 showed that people worldwide suffer from asthma, according to the World Health Organization, and strenuous exercise makes it worse for many people. Some people with EIB do not otherwise have asthma, and people with allergies may also have trouble breathing during exercise.

Symptoms

If you have EIB, you may have problems breathing within five to 20 minutes after exercise. Your symptoms may include:

- Wheezing
- Tight chest
- Cough
- Shortness of breath
- Chest pain (rarely)

Triggers

People with EIB are very sensitive to both low temperatures and dry air. Air is usually warmed and humidified by the nose, but during demanding activity people breathe more through their mouths. This allows cold, dry air to reach your lower airways and your lungs without passing through your nose, triggering asthma symptoms. Air pollutants, high pollen levels and viral respiratory infections may also be triggers. Other causes of symptoms with exercise may be that you are out of shape, have poorly controlled nasal allergies or vocal chord issues.

Treatment

The first step is to develop a treatment plan with your physician. EIB associated with more generalized asthma is prevented with controller medications taken regularly (such as mast cell stabilizers, inhaled steroids and leukotriene modifiers) or by using medicines before you exercise. When EIB symptoms occur, they can be treated with short-acting beta-agonists. In addition to medications, warm-ups and cool-downs may prevent or lessen EIB symptoms.

Recommended activities

The goal of an asthma treatment plan is to keep your symptoms under control so that you can enjoy exercising or sports activities. However, there are some activities that are less likely to cause symptoms than others. For instance, swimmers are exposed to warm, moist air as they exercise, which does not tend to trigger asthma symptoms. Swimming also helps strengthen upper body muscles.

Walking, leisure biking and hiking are also good sporting activities for people with EIB. Team sports that require short bursts of energy, such as baseball, football and short-term track and field activities, are less likely to cause symptoms than sports that have a lot of ongoing activity such as soccer, basketball, field hockey or long-distance running.

Cold weather activities such as cross-country skiing and ice hockey, as well as sports that require short bursts of high energy are more likely to make your symptoms worse.

Healthy tips

- If you cough, wheeze and have a tight chest or shortness of breath when you exercise, you could have EIB.
- Walking, leisure biking, swimming and hiking are good sporting activities for people with EIB.
- Cold weather activities such as cross-country skiing and ice hockey, as well as sports that require short bursts of high energy are more likely to make your symptoms worse.

Learn Chinese!
Book review: ‘A Map of Betrayal’ by Ha Jin

BY KENNY YIM

As you read Ha Jin’s latest novel, “A Map of Betrayal” (Pantheon Books), you’ll find yourself divided between two main characters. Deciding which one you will identify with — the Chinese father Gary Shang or daughter Lilian Shang — is one of the central pleasures of reading this Forrest Gump-like novel. The story spans four decades, going through 20th century historical events in Sino-Ameri- can relations. Gary plays critical yet unwilling parts in these larger events. His story is interspersed with Lilian’s, who uncovers her father’s secret past.

The story begins with Lilian, a pro-fessor visiting China, who discovers her father’s diary after his death. Lilian has recently reconnected with her father’s mistress Nellie, which also happens to be her mother. This is only the beginning of the betrayal. In China, she wants to find her family, visiting the village of her fa- ther’s first wife. She befriends her half-sister, via a graduate student translator, and learns about the difficulties of being a single mother in a traditional family. Lilian’s story is told in alternate chap ters with her father’s. His story begins 40 years prior, when he began his work as a government spy, which takes him to Beijing, Japan, Taiwan, Hong Kong and eventually Washington D.C. In America, Lilian’s half-brother will follow in his fa- ther’s footsteps, who is in a troubled re lationship with a pregnant girlfriend and looking to do some business.

The story charts new territory for Jin. (Image courtesy of Pantheon Books.)

This novel describes with poetic detail the struggles of a family building a home together. Unlike the Chinese family of “A Free Life,” a mixed-race couple is the focus of “A Map of Betrayal.” Gary’s second wife is a server at a diner he fre quents. After being separated from his Chinese family, he lives in limbo, not knowing when the Chinese government will allow a reunion. Gary must keep up the appearance of a normal American life to keep working for the CIA. He takes government secrets, including Nixon’s plans to put a wedge between Taiwan and China, to his handler in Hong Kong, while pocketing the cash in a bank ac count. Meanwhile, Lilian wonders if the past might be repeating itself with her half-brother, who asks her husband to buy illegal equipment.

Position Summary:
The Employment Specialist in AACA’s Employment Center is responsible for job placement of unemployed individuals including career counseling and job readiness training of clients and employer outreach.

Qualifications/Requirements:
• Must be fluent in Mandarin and Cantonese
• Bachelors degree preferred
• Experience providing direct services to immigrant and/or low-income clients required
• Experience building relationships with employers strongly preferred
• Keen understanding of tools needed for career advancement
• Strong organizational skills with excellent attention to detail
• Excellent communication skills, oral and written
• Commitment to AACA’s mission of helping limited English speaking and economically disadvantaged people gain eco nomic self-sufficiency

Salary is commensurate with experience. Full benefit package included. To apply, send resume and cover letter indicating the title of the position to:

HR Department
Asian American Civic Association
87 Tyler Street, 5th floor
Boston, MA 02111
Email: hr@aaca-boston.org

Asian American Civic Association is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer
A food aficionado: All Star Sandwich Bar

BY ANNA ING

“A Good Sandwich is like an Old Friend.”

So goes the motto of All Star Sandwich Bar, a vision of two brothers, Johnny and Kosta Diamantopoulos, who infuse their versions of classic sandwiches with combinations of Greek, European, American, home-style and fusion cooking. Their goal is to provide an amazing “All Star” experience for diners by providing an extensive menu that has specials as well as a sandwich of the day.

To begin, the three Deviled Eggs pieces for $0.99 were a delicious, no-frills starter.

The side of deluxe mac & cheese ($4.95) was creamy with a light, buttery, and crispy bread crumb topping over elbow pasta.

The soup of the day, herbed chicken with kale and served with a cheddar biscuit, complemented each other nicely. The warm and flavorful broth was not too salty, while the big generous chicken chunks and the nutrient-rich kale married well together.

Jerked sweet potato wedges topped with spicy scotch bonnet pineapple glaze and served with a ginger mint yogurt ranch dipping sauce ($7.95) also paired well together as a balance of spicy and cool.

The Latin Lover Salad ($9.95) consists of grilled chicken, romaine lettuce, avocado, tomatoes, cucumbers, fire roasted red peppers, queso fresco, grilled corn and black beans topped with crispy tortilla strips served with a delicious and tangy citrus vinaigrette. The ingredients were fresh and the citrus vinaigrette brightened the salad while the roasted red peppers added a lovely sweet contrast.

The masterpiece of the meal, the popular and famous atomic meatloaf meltdown ($9.95), is not for the faint-hearted. The amazing meatloaf made from beef and Italian sausage, seasoned with “inner beauty” hot sauce, packs a fiery, spicy punch with habanero peppers; fortunately, the red onion jam counteracts the spicy heat with its delicious sweetness. With every bite of the meatloaf, the combination of the jam, inner beauty hot sauce, Monterey Jack cheese and sour dough bread were an amazing symphony on the taste buds. Every sandwich also comes with a dill pickle spear and creamy coleslaw.

This small sandwich shop nestled in the heart of Cambridge’s Inman Square serves delightful food. Their portions were generous and the service friendly and efficient. Their menu, especially the rotating sandwich of the day, has garnered many loyal local fans. Next time if you are around the area, be sure to check out All Star Sandwich Bar’s creative and delicious sandwich creations.