Asian American Civic Association rings in 51 years

BY LING-MEI WONG

The Asian American Civic Association (AACA) celebrated its “City Lights” gala on June 22 at the Spirit of Boston cruise ship. More than 400 guests rang in 51 years of service.

AACA deputy director Lisa Wong said, “We are honored to provide opportunities to our community.”

Citizens Bank was recognized as an Employer Partner of the Year. The Employer Partner of the Year award was presented to East Boston Savings Bank as well.

AACA offers the Careers in Banking and Finance program, teaching individuals about customer service and cash handling skills for a lasting career in banking.

Two dances were performed by Fairy Dance Group. Guests enjoyed karaoke and dancing onboard the ship.

Boston City Councilor for District 2 Ed Flynn presented a citation honoring AACA. Diplomats at the gala included Consul General of Japan in Boston Rokuichiro Michii, Consul General of the Republic of Korea in Boston Kim Yonghyon and Deputy Consul General of the People’s Republic of China in New York Jin Qian.

AACA was founded in 1967 as the Chinese American Civic Association. Today, the agency serves clients from more than 125 countries, providing immigrants and economically disadvantaged individuals with education, job training and social services for economic self-sufficiency.

Protesters gather at Statehouse to protect immigrant families

BY YIYAN ZHENG

Protesters gathered at the Massachusetts Statehouse on June 20 to rally against the family separation policy and demand more immigration protections. Another rally took place July 1 at the Boston Common, drawing 15,000 people.

Hosted by the Massachusetts Immigrant and Refugee Coalition, American Civil Liberty Union of Massachusetts, Progressive Massachusetts and others, hundreds held signs that read “Families belong together.” “Child abuse is not ‘great’” and “Build people not prisons.” Protestors chanted “Massachusetts must act.”

Along with opposing federal policy to separate children from families at the American-Mexican border, the protest also urged Mass. Gov. Charlie Baker and other local legislators to include protections for immigrants in the 2019 state budget.

Activist Kate G. said, “This is the majority democratic and progressive state. It shouldn’t be so hard to get pro-immigration legislation through. We are here to see the immigrant initiative funded.”

In May 2018, the state Senate passed a budget amendment to protect immigrants, but the act has not yet been passed by the House of Representatives. President Donald Trump signed an executive order on June 20 to end his policy of separating children from their parents when they are caught illegally crossing the border.

The Trump administration’s zero tolerance policy reminded Americans of the Japanese-American internment camps during World War II.

HIGHLIGHTS

Workers unite against wage theft  
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Restaurant Review: APM Coffee  
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News

工人工會組織舉辦示威遊行 
抗議工資盜竊行為  
中文第八版

餐廳指南：APM咖啡  
中文第八版
**Event Calendar**

**Mulan Society classes**
Saturday, July 7
10 a.m. to 3 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. Register with Warren Wong at (617) 426-0492 x 210 or wswong@aaac-boston.org.

**Chinatown Main Street Festival**
Saturday, July 7
11 a.m. to 6 p.m.
70 Beach Street
Boston, MA 02111
The Chinatown Main Street Festival will take place at Chinese American Civic Association, 4F. Register at https://bit.ly/2ILKaV5.

**Free meditation class**
Sundays, Thursdays
10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
101 Mystic Avenue
Medford, MA 02155
Free meditation classes will take place Saturdays 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.

**Free information clinic**
Mondays
10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
275 Hancock Street 2F
North Quincy, MA 02170
Chinese American Citizen Right Alliance will help clients at Quincy Asian Resources Inc. to provide information and referral services to Chinese Americans.

**Free Zamba**
Monday, July 9
3:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.
Chinatown Park
Zumba by the Wang YMCA will take place at the Greenway’s Chinatown Park.

**Free yoga class**
Every Tuesday
10 a.m.
Symphony Park
Yoga instructor Nicole Ferraro will lead gentle moving and breathing at Symphony Park, on the corner of Edgerly Road and Norway Street. Most of the practice is seated. In the event of rain, classes will be at Morville House, 100 Norway Street.

**Workforce training assessment**
Tuesday, July 10
2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
87 Tyler Street
Boston, MA 02111
The Asian American Civic Association offers workforce training programs Building Energy Efficiency Maintenance Skills (BEEMS) and Careers in Banking and Finance (CBF), and will offer assessments. The New Roots to Employment program is for people with a degree from their native country. Applicants should be at least 18 and have a GED/high school diploma. For more information, visit www.aaac-boston.org/workforce-education.

**Free evening meals**
Every Tuesday to Friday
5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.
54 Eastern Avenue
Malden, MA 02148
Bread of Life offers free evening meals for low-income families and individuals in the metro North area. Evening meals are served Tuesday at Bread of Life, Wednesday and Thursday at 213 Main Street and Friday at 493 Main Street. For more information, call (781) 397-0404.

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

**Free social service clinic**
Thursdays
9 a.m. to noon
244 Harrison Street
Boston, MA 02111
Enhance Asian Community Health will help people at American Chinese Christian Education & Social Services with health insurance and benefits.

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**COMIC EMPTYBAMBOOGIRL**

_The Mundane & Sublime Adventures of an Awkward, Good, and Sometimes-Evil Girl by Lillian Lee_.

5.30.2018

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**SAMPAN**

_A Publication of the ACA_ www.sampan.org

87 Tyler Street
Boston, MA 02111
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SAMPAN is New England’s only biweekly bilingual English-Chinese newspaper. It is nonprofit 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); $55/year (3rd class mail).

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**MASSACHUSETTS BAY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY**
10 PARK PLAZA, SUITE 5170
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02116
NOTICE TO BIDDERS
[Bond Funded Projects]

Electronic proposals for the following project will be received through the internet using Bid Express until the date and time stated below, and will be posted on www.bidx.com forthwith after the bid submission deadline. No paper copies of bids will be accepted. Bidders must have a valid digital ID issued by the Authority in order to bid on projects. Bidders need to apply for a digital ID with Bid Express at least 14 days prior to a scheduled bid opening date.

Electronic bids for MBTA Contract No. W43CN04, ALEWFIE GARAGE STRUCTURAL REPAIRS, CLASS 7: BUILDINGS AND PROJECT VALUE – $6,570,394.00 as submitted at www.bidx.com until two o’clock (2:00 p.m.) on August 1, 2018. Immediately thereafter, in a designated room, the Bids will be opened and read publicly.

Work consists of the following repairs: concrete repairs to precast concrete double tee beams and cast-in-place and precast concrete beams, including patching, external post-tensioning and carbon fiber reinforced polymer (CFRP) strengthening; concrete patching of concrete decks; removal of existing temporary shoring; recaulking of deck joints and cleaning and flushing of the existing drainage system.

Bidders’ attention is directed to Appendix 1, Notice of Requirement for Affirmative Action to Ensure Equal Employment Opportunity; and to Appendix 2, Supplemental Equal Employment Opportunity, Anti-Discrimination, and Affirmative Action Program in the specifications. While there is no DBE goal associated with this contract, the Authority strongly encourages the use of Minority, Women and Disadvantaged Business Enterprises as prime contractors, subcontractors and suppliers in all of its contracting opportunities.

Bidders will affirmatively ensure that in regard to any contract entered into pursuant to this solicitation, minority and female construction contractors will be afforded full opportunity to submit Bids and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, religion, sex, age, or national origin in consideration for an award.

Additional information and instructions on how to submit a bid are available at http://be.mbtagov/business_center/bidding_solicitations/current_solicitations/On behalf of the MBTA, thank you for your time and interest in responding to this Notice to Bidders.

Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority
Luis Manuel Ramirez
General Manager of the MBTA
July 2, 2018

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**Rutledge Properties**

WELLESLEY - Custom built 4 BR Colonial w/ contemporary flare set on cul-de-sac in Bess School district. FR w/ vaulted beam ceiling & masonry FP that opens to white granite kitchen w/ stainless steel appliances and custom cabinets. 4 BRs w/ en-suite baths. LL w/ built-in bar, gym & bonus room. 2 gas fireplaces. 4+ car garage. Price: $999,000. EXCLUSIVE $1,399,000 • 2 Westminister Cir Listed by: Trish Bradley • Cell: 781-910-1238 • Email: tbradley@rutledgeproperties.com

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**SAMPATHY**

A Publication of the ACA
www.sampan.org
87 Tyler Street
Boston, MA 02111
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Pressley discusses immigration reform with advocates

BY LING-MEI WONG

A community preservation forum took place at the Metropolitan on June 20. (From left) Christine Poff, Community Preservation Act director and Karen Chen, executive director of the Chinese Progressive Association. (Image courtesy of Yiyan Zheng.)

Community preservation forum discusses use of public funds

BY YIYAN ZHENG

A community preservation forum took place at the Metropolitan on June 20. Community members and residents were invited to learn about the implementation of the Community Preservation Act (CPA) and how they would like CPA funds to be used in Chinatown.

In 2016, Boston voters approved the CPA. The city finances community preservation in part with a 1 percent property tax-based surcharge on residential and business property. This year, Boston has collected $20 million for CPA revenue to fund affordable housing, historic preservation, open space and public recreation.

“I think the whole neighborhood challenge is hard, but I just want to hear whether there is an opportunity to help and protect Chinatown as a Chinatown,” said Christine Poff, CPA director for Boston. “This is the whole intention of CPA, to preserve the community’s culture, appearance and people who always live here.”

Resident proposals include planting more trees to mitigate air pollution, developing a memorial in Chinatown to commemorate Chinese laborers, prioritizing Chinatown residents for affordable housing lottery selection, maximizing affordability in residential projects and creating street plaques for historic buildings.

Previously, the Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association of New England applied for funds to repair the stairs and wheelchair ramp at its 90 Tyler Street headquarters, formerly the site of the Joseph Chinnery School. This historic preservation project was awarded in the first round of CPA recipients in June.

The forum was hosted by the Asian Community Development Corporation, Chinatown Community Land Trust, Chinatown Residents Association, Chinese Progressive Association and Chinese Historical Society of New England.

The next CPA deadline is in September. For more information, please visit www.boston.gov/community-preservation.

Wang YMCA of Chinatown bids farewell to Richard Chin

BY LING-MEI WONG

Richard Chin celebrated 34 years at the Wang YMCA with a retirement party June 29 at Empire Garden. He received the lifetime achievement award from the YMCA of Greater Boston.

(Image courtesy of Ling-Mei Wong.)

Richard “Big Eyes” Chin celebrated his retirement from the Wang YMCA of Chinatown after 34 years of service. His friends, family and coworkers gathered on June 29 at Empire Garden.

Chin’s tenure at the Wang Y took him to three locations in Chinatown. The first location was a three-room building, which was demolished for urban redevelopment in the 1960s. The Y reopened as an inflatable tent or “bubble” on Tyler and Harvard streets. Intended to be a temporary structure, the Chinatown Y operated in the 4,000-square-foot bubble for 27 years, until it moved into present Oak Street home in 2000. The 45,000-square-foot space includes an Olympic swimming pool, fitness facility, classroom and daycare space.

Board member Bak Fun Wong said, “Richard, you are family to me. You were the first person to greet me at the Y. When I went to play ping pong at the bubble, and made me feel so welcome.”

Coworker Richard Leung reported to Chin from the days of the bubble, which was sweltering in summer and freezing in winter. Attendees spoke about Chin’s impact on their lives. A citation recognizing Chin’s service was presented from Boston District 2 City Councilor Ed Flynn’s office, along with a lifetime achievement award from the YMCA of Greater Boston.

Chin said, “I worked at the Y for 34 years, but was a member for 30 years before. I’ll definitely be back.”

Chin immigrated to Boston as a child, growing up in Chinatown. He organized activities and served as director, helping to secure funding for the Wang Y’s permanent site.

BURLINGTON AFFORDABLE RENTALS
The Huntington
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12—1 and 2 Bedroom Apartments
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For Info and Application Availability:
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TTY/TTD: 711, when asked 978-456-4388
Email: lotteryinfo@mcohousingservices.com

Language/translation assistance available, at no charge, upon request.

Reasonable Accommodations Available for persons with disabilities
Units available to all eligible applicants.

Application Consultations/Open House
Wed., July 18, 2018: 5:00—7:00 p.m.
Burlington Town Hall
Sat., August 11, 2018: 11:00—1:00 p.m.
The Huntington

Application Deadline
August 18, 2018

Units distributed by lottery. Utilities are NOT included in the rent.

APPLICATION AVAILABLE ONLINE AT: www.mcohousingservices.com
Several workers organizations from across the state marched to the Statehouse on June 20, urging lawmakers to pass legislation against wage-theft. (Image courtesy of Valerie Li.)

Hundreds of workers marched from Boston City Hall to the Statehouse on June 20 to support a stop work order, halting work until a wage violation is corrected. The bill passed the Senate on June 21 and will go to the House for a vote.

Several workers organizations from across the state marched to the Statehouse on June 20, urging lawmakers to pass legislation against wage-theft. (Image courtesy of Valerie Li.)

Boston city councilors Lydia Edwards and Ed Flynn also joined the march from Boston City Hall to the Statehouse. Attorney General Office’s fair labor division chief Cynthia Mark met with demonstrators at the Statehouse. “We are here to help workers get fair pay and we believe all workers are entitled to legal protections, irrespective of immigration status,” Mark said.

The workers came out in support of Mass. Senate bill S. 2546, which grants Massachusetts Attorney General Maura Healey the power to bring wage theft cases to court and seek civil damages. It would also let the attorney general issue a stop work order, halting work until a wage violation is corrected.

South Cove Community Health Center opens in Malden

BY LING-MEI WONG

South Cove Community Health Center opened its 5th location in Malden on June 19. (From left) SCCHC board president Nelson Liu, board member Mai Du, Malden Mayor Gary Christenson and SCCHC executive director Eugene Welch. (Image courtesy of Ling-Mei Wong.)

South Cove Community Health Center (SCCHC) celebrated its fifth location in Malden with a ribbon cutting ceremony on June 19. Nearly 200 guests attended the grand opening at 277 Commercial Street in Malden. SCCHC executive director Eugene Welch said, “The center is a gift to the Malden community and to the Asian community. Before, we’d have seniors go all the way to our Boston facility on the Orange Line.”

Malden has the third largest Asian population in Massachusetts after Boston and Quincy, based on 2010 U.S. Census data.

Electronic proposals for the following project will be received through the internet using Bid Express until the date and time stated below, and will be posted on www.bidx.com until two o’clock (2:00 p.m.) on July 31, 2018. Immediately thereafter, in a designated room, the Bids will be opened and read publicly.

Electronic bids for MBTA Contract No. C14CN01, IRON HORSE PARK OPERATIONS CONTROL CENTER, BILLERICA, MASSACHUSETTS, CLASS 7 - BUILDINGS PROJ- ECT VALUE $28,315,535 can be submitted at www.bidx.com until two o’clock (2:00 p.m.) on July 31, 2018. Bidders must have a valid digital ID issued by the Authority in order to bid on projects. Bidders need to apply for a digital ID with Bid Express at least 14 days prior to a scheduled bid opening date.

Electronic bids for MBTA Contract No. C44CN01, IRON HORSE PARK OPERATIONS CONTROL CENTER, BILLERICA, MASSACHUSETTS, CLASS 7 - BUILDINGS PROJ- ECT VALUE $28,315,535 can be submitted at www.bidx.com until two o’clock (2:00 p.m.) on July 31, 2018. Bidders must have a valid digital ID issued by the Authority in order to bid on projects. Bidders need to apply for a digital ID with Bid Express at least 14 days prior to a scheduled bid opening date.

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The Chinatown/South Cove Neighborhood Council met June 18 at the Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association.

A presentation on the Shawmut-Washington planned development area (PDA) took place. The owners of three separate sites plan to develop 537 units of housing that is 26 percent affordable, above the minimum of 20 percent. There is no housing at the current locations. The Davis Companies owns 112 Shawmut Avenue, which was the former location of a Head Start day care and commercial offices. The Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association owns 50 Herald Street, which is leased to C-Mart. Boston Chinese Evangelical Church owns 120 Shawmut Avenue, the former location of nursing home South Cove Manor.

The council voted to support the PDA application.

Gourmet China House general manager Michael Chen said the northern Chinese restaurant will apply for a beer and wine license. The council voted to support the application.

National Night Out will take place August 7 from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Encore career fair gathers job seekers

BY VALERIE LI

Encore Boston Harbor held a casino career information session on June 19 at the Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association. (Image courtesy of Valerie Li.)

Encore Boston Harbor held a career information session at the Asian American Civic Association on June 19. The Everett resort is hiring 4,000 permanent positions in preparation for the casino opening in June 2019.

“We are still under construction but we are starting to speed up the hiring process next spring,” said Encore director of employment Jennie Peterson. “We are very happy to work with AACA for different types of talents, including hotel, food and beverage, the casino, security and facilities.”

The well-attended event attracted approximately 300 employment seekers. The attendees had face-to-face interactions with Encore Boston Harbor staff members and executives.

Sen. Markey encourages dialogue at Climate Crisis Action Summit

BY VALERIE LI

Massachusetts Sen. Ed Markey discussed climate change policies with former EPA administrator Gina McCarthy, former chief science and technology advisor under President Barack Obama John Holdren and former U.S. chief negotiator for the Paris Climate Accord Todd Stern. The panelists spoke at Belmont High School on June 28, with Markey calling in from Washington D.C.

The summit was open to public, gathering about 1,500 people to line up outside of the auditorium. Despite the United States pulling out of the Paris Climate Accord, 16 states and Puerto Rico have joined the U.S. Climate Alliance. Each member has committed to the goals of the Paris agreement, working to cut greenhouse gas pollution by at least 26 to 28 percent below 2005 levels by 2025.

“We are gathered here to learn about where we are and what we can do to ensure that we can maintain our leadership to advocate for more actions to stop climate change,” Markey said.

McCarthy said climate change actions can take place at the grassroots level. “It’s all about your family and your kids,” she said. “Now climate change is a challenge to all of us and to our families so let’s start acting again. Let’s start picking ourselves up by the bootstraps.”

The panelists answered questions from attendees.

IMMIGRATION: Protest draws support

Continued from page 1

“It is widely acknowledged now that this episode of the internment of Japanese Americans is tragic and completely unjust,” Yang said. “Our hope is to remind Americans of these errors in our history which will allow us to avoid repeating that history today.”

The Climate Crisis Action Summit took place June 28 at Belmont High School. Sen. Ed Markey joined the panelists remotely, with former EPA administrator Gina McCarthy, former chief science and technology advisor John Holdren and former U.S. chief negotiator for the Paris Climate Accord Todd Stern. (Image courtesy of Valerie Li)
South Cove Manor hosts dementia discussion

BY SOUTH COVE MANOR

South Cove Manor held a breakfast seminar on May 31 to celebrate the summer and welcome guest speakers at the Boston Chinese Evangelical Church. Diversity outreach coordinator of Alzheimer’s Association Binta Barry spoke on the topic of dementia, while the seminar also featured Lida Arzetsky and Alida Zhang. In addition, new South Cove Manor CEO William Graves, administrator Li Chen and Stanley Thang came from Quincy Point. Barry addressed the question of what dementia is. She defined it including memory changes that disrupt everyday life, challenges in planning and problem solving, confusion of time and place, and decreased judgement or problem solving. Causes of dementia are listed as medication interactions, malnutrition, and mood disorders, as well as Alzheimer’s disease and Parkinson’s. There is a difference between normal aging and dementia; she said; while normal aging is distinguished by forgetting parts of experience and being able to follow written or spoken directions, individuals with dementia forget whole experiences and are only gradually able to follow instructions. In normal aging, individuals may remember experiences later, while those affected with dementia rarely are able to remember.

There are several risk factors that contribute to the onset of dementia. The first and biggest is age, while a family history can also increase risk. Known genetic factors account for less than 5 percent of diagnoses. Women face a higher lifetime risk than men. African Americans and Latinos are generally at greater risk than Caucasians. Treating conditions such as heart disease, strokes, high cholesterol and high blood pressure is a way of controlling risk factors.

An early diagnosis ensures maximum benefit from treatment and allows for future planning. There are ways that dementia can be avoided, and diet plays a role in prevention. A Mediterranean diet or dietary approaches to stop hypertension (DASH) can lead to better health, as well as eating fruits and vegetables and reduced inflammation foods. Maintaining physical health, including exercise and engaging in brain stimulating activities can also factor in to dementia prevention.

Local moms share experiences with childhood cerebral palsy

BY XIAO

Cerebral palsy is a developmental disorder affecting movement and motor skills. This is a common childhood neurological disease, with 200,000 new cases each year in the United States. Affected children move involuntarily and have difficulty with coordination. They may also have visual, hearing, language, developmental or learning impairment.

Clinical researcher Kai-shan Chan spoke during the seminar. Dr. Chan explained there are several causes for cerebral palsy, when a baby’s brain is affected during development, such as the mother having an infection during her pregnancy, the baby’s brain has insufficient oxygen supply during birth, or the baby’s brain suffers encephalitis and cerebral hemorrhage after the birth. Cerebral palsy is a chronic disease, with severe cases needing continuous medical care for children who have limited physical abilities due to the illness, resulting in difficulty to feed themselves and get dressed independently. Parents of the children also face emotional stress and social pressure.

It is a great shock for many parents to find out their child is handicapped, causing worry and even despair. We spoke to three mothers from Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center about their children’s experiences with cerebral palsy, who wanted more people to know about this disease and reduce stigma.

How did you find out your child had cerebral palsy?

Before her son was diagnosed, Ms. Z said he had multiple physical limitations. This included a deformed head, inability to speak and no action to external stimuli. The doctors could not figure out what her son had, until they met a physical therapist. He did a thorough checkup of her son and noticed one side of his body had abnormally tense muscles. After three months of observation, her 8-year-old son was diagnosed with cerebral palsy.

“When the neurologist ordered a magnetic resonance imaging for my son to confirm his diagnosis, they had to sedate my son. I will never forget when we sent him alone to the operating room, and how helpless and scared he looked,” Ms. Z said.

For Ms. Z, family, her son’s impairment was found during an ultrasound when she was 36 weeks pregnant. Her doctor told her the fetus had not moved in an hour and needed to do a caesarean section.

“He had a seizure at home when he was about 2 years old and was unconscious in the hospital for seven days,” Ms. L said. “Iffer the doctor’s diagnosis, he confirmed my son had cerebral palsy.”

Ms. L’s son now sings and moves independently, although progressive is slow. Many children affected by cerebral palsy will start exhibiting symptoms at age 2 or 3. If parents are able to get a diagnosis for their children early, there are effective interventions for the child’s development.

What services did you use for your child’s care?

• Department of Developmental Services
• Special Olympics
• Boston Children’s Hospital

How do you help your child grow?

Ms. L helps her son grow based on his pace. She had to slow down and simplify life skills to teach her son, so he could learn and understand.

“I feel my son is very unique,” Ms. L said. “I take him on trips in my spare time, so he feels happy.”

Every child has different needs, so each family’s parenting approach is distinct. Despite differences, parents share the hope that their children will be happy, nurtured in a loving and supportive environment.

What other support would you like to have?

For Ms. L, America has a great deal of support and medical resources. Ms. L, she hopes for greater acceptance and respect from society and appreciation of differences from others.

What would you like to say to your child?

“Don’t fear failure,” said Ms. J. “The more we fail, the closer we get to success. We can overcome life’s challenges to live our lives to the fullest. I will always love you, believe in you and be there for you.”

DND Affordable Housing Rental Opportunity

Weinberg House
132 Chestnut Hill Ave, Brighton, MA 02135

# of Units: 7
Bedrooms: 1
AIA: Mobility
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By South Cove Manor

Diversity outreach coordinator of Alzheimer’s Association Binta Barry led a discussion on dementia at Boston Chinese Evangelical Church on May 31. (Image courtesy of South Cove Manor.)
Kwong Kow Chinese School graduates complete culture and learning programs

BY THE SAMPAN EDITORIAL TEAM

Kwong Kow Chinese School celebrated its after-school program on June 16, recognizing students for learning Chinese language and culture.

Students performed the Chinese dulcimer, folk dances and songs. Scholarships were presented from Chee Kong Tong, the Chung Sun Chinese Charitable Organization, Gee Tuck Sam Tuck Association, Gee How Oak Tin Association, Wong Family Association, Yee Fung Toy Association, the Boston Chinatown Lions and Boston Chinatown American Legion Post 328.

Taiwan Economic and Cultural Office in Boston Director-general Douglas Hsu congratulated the students.

South Cove Manor celebrates graduation

South Cove Manor at Quincy Point, a non-profit rehabilitation and care community, celebrated staff who completed an English for speakers of other languages course. (From left) Administrator Li Chen; certified nursing assistants and ESOL graduates Lalit Wu, Yanli Chen, Ruihua Kwan, Qingyin Lin, Shuyi Hu, Ling Lin, Yingzhong Xue, Xiuxie Ma; and Bunker Hill ESOL instructor Celia Valada. (Image courtesy of South Cove Manor.)

FEATURES

Author and illustrator Grace Lin kicks off exhibition

BY LINDA CHIN

Award-winning American children’s writer and illustrator Grace Lin drew more than 100 people to the BCNC Pao Arts Center on June 30. The Pao Arts Center is home to her exhibit “From Pencil to Page: Sketches and Illustrations by Grace Lin” until Sept. 22.

Attendees were treated to a display of Lin’s colorful artwork curated by Theresa Furbish, book signing by Lin, egg custard tarts, and special performances by Asian-American theater artists.

Boston actors Lisa Yuen (“Stuart Little,” “Into the Woods”), Phoebe Anthony (“Billy Elliot”) and Ben Choi-Harris (“Beauty and the Beast,” “Gypsy”) performed “Practically Perfect” from “Mary Poppins,” with New England Conservatory graduate David Lin as accompanist. Broadway veteran Yuan played the magical nanny at Wheelock Family Theatre in 2016 and is the first Asian-American actor to play the title role in a professional Equity production.

Japanese-American actor, director and playwright Michael Hisamoto ("Ali- legiance," "Hold These Truths") led the actors and several audience volunteers in a staged reading of “The Ugly Vegetables,” Lin’s first book published in 1999. The daughter of Taiwanese immigrants, Lin grew up in upstate New York “where there were few minorities, especially Asian.” The themes of family and belonging, and her message of cultivating community gardens and sharing stories over food still resonate with readers 20 years later.

For many in the audience, experiencing live theater with professional performers who looked like them was a sweet treat.
Restaurant Review: APM Coffee

APM Coffee's fancy sandwich with egg, bacon, cheese, avocado, mesclun and spicy mayo on a multiseed bagel. (Image courtesy of Ling-Mei Wong.)

APM Coffee adds a jolt of caffeine to Chinatown’s offerings. Husband and wife team Alice Mei and Terry Li prepare freshly roasted Intelligentsia coffee, along with sandwiches, tea and pancakes. The couple owned a coffee shop in China and dreamed of opening their own store in Boston. After immigrating in 2017, APM Coffee opened in spring 2018.

APM’s matcha special pancakes ($9.99) are fluffy and delicious. They come topped with fresh strawberries, blueberries, raspberries and granola, to be slathered in honey or ricotta cheese. The pancakes have the grassy fragrance of the matcha, without being too bitter. The matcha latte ($4.75 for a small hot cup) has gorgeous latte art. A generous amount of matcha blends beautifully with steamed milk. APM’s London fog ($4) or earl grey latte is made with loose leaf tea. Even without a shot of vanilla syrup, it was an aromatic sip.

APM’s double turkey sausage ($8.25) comes with a sunny side up egg, two slices of cheddar cheese, avocado, mesclun and spicy mayo on a multiseed bagel. It’s a hearty mouthful, with a spicy kick from the sriracha mayo. The APM double turkey sausage ($8.99) features a sunny side up egg, three slices of bacon, two slices of cheddar cheese, avocado, mesclun and spicy mayo on a multiseed bagel. It’s a hearty mouthful, with a spicy kick from the sriracha mayo. The pancakes have the grassy fragrance of the matcha, without being too bitter. The APM double turkey sausage ($8.25) comes with a sunny side up egg, two turkey sausage patties, two cheese slices and sriracha mayo on a bagel. My bagel was chewy without being tough, hugging the meat and cheese admirably.

The matcha latte ($4.75 for a small hot cup) has gorgeous latte art. A generous amount of matcha blends beautifully with steamed milk.