Training program opens pathway to greener future

BY LING-MEI WONG

As emissions increase, electric and hybrid vehicles are the future of automotive vehicles. There is demand for automotive technicians to maintain existing diesel vehicles and understand electric engines, yet Massachusetts has a single training program. Thanks to a community partnering this program will be available in the Boston area.

“The Green Automotive Maintenance Skills program is designed to kick-start careers today for technicians of automotive trucks and future hybrid-electric vehicles,” said Edward Hsieh, director of business growth at the Asian American Civic Association.

Hsieh surveyed local businesses maintaining automotive fleets and found a shortage of diesel technicians. Diesel engines power many vehicle fleets, which include buses, delivery trucks and construction vehicles. A diesel engine is built to last and maintaining these vehicles, along with learning to work with electric ones in the future. Hybrid and electric engines will become more prevalent among the same fleets, driving growth in green careers.

“We help immigrants and low-income individuals find meaningful employment, as pay can be $25 an hour,” Hsieh said. “A diesel technician could earn $100,000 after two years.”

Boston Freightliner is an employer partnering with the GAMS program. It is a certified Freightliner dealer, looking for heavy duty diesel technicians to work at its new facility.

“We are looking for additions to our service team that are reliable and have a desire to learn the trade,” said Natalie Reich, service department manager at Boston Freightliner. “We are looking to grow our team with aspiring mechanics with an eagerness to learn, observe and get their hands dirty.”

The GAMS program provides six months of training, enough to start employment as an entry-level technician. Massasoit Community College instructors will provide classes at Madison Park Vocational High School.

“We’re looking for anyone with a hunger to work and mechanical aptitude,” Hsieh said.

The program is open to adults with work authorization and provides scholarships for low-income individuals. AACA will help place students into jobs and offers two years of retention, helping students stay on track if they face issues with housing or substance abuse.

Classes begin February 2020, with more details at www.aaca-boston.org.

CHINATOWN/CINC, CCBA hold elections

BY LING-MEI WONG

The Chinatown/South Cove Neighborhood Council voted in seven councilors on Dec. 1 at Santander Bank, 61 Harrison Avenue.

Commoderator Sherry Dong was reelected in the agency category, along with Rosemary Lam in the business category, Hung Goon in the organization category andNicholas You in the resident category. Ricky Chan was elected in the business category, Amy Li in the organization category, Soo Yee Li in the resident category and Deborah Gove in the other category.

The candidates ran unopposed, with a total of 82 votes cast.

The council has 21 council seats, with a third of councilors up for election every three years. Massachusetts residents over 16 are eligible to vote.

CCBA

The Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association election took place Dec. 3 at 90 Tyler Street for its five officer positions.

Raymond Cheng was elected president with 24 votes, to Felix Lu’s 20 votes. Vincent Feng was elected Chinese secretary over Larry Young. Hung Goon won for English secretary against Simon Chan. Paulia Chan defeated Grace Li for treasurer. Megan Cheng was elected auditor, running unopposed.

Officers serving two-year terms will end their terms in 2019, with new officers taking office in 2020. Voting members include family associations and community organizations.

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Elaine Hsieh’s journey from medicine to award-winning chocolatier

BY ANNI CHEN

Elaine Hsieh, founder of celebrated chocolate boutique, EHChocolatier, in Cambridge, came to Boston from New York in the ’90s to study at Boston University’s accelerated six-year medical program. She then completed her residency in internal medicine and began practicing medicine in 1993. However, she felt passionate about pastry and decided to start a chocolate business.

Hsieh started her artisan chocolate business in 2010 with her good friend, Catharine Sweeney, renting a commercial kitchen in Somerville in an industrial building. Hsieh opened her store to great fanfare, winning accolades such as “Best Chocolate in the U.S.” from Food & Wine magazine.

The way of entrepreneurship was not straightforward. Hsieh fell in love with cooking while she was practicing medicine. She studied at the Cambridge School of Culinary Arts and was particularly interested in pastry-making. Hsieh continued working as a health care consultant while running a small dessert business catering to private clients.

Around this time, Hsieh and Sweeney took chocolate master classes with a classically trained French pastry chef as well as online lessons from Ecole Chocolat at the University of British Columbia. They practiced at home and started their chocolate business selling online directly to friends and family. They moved their entire business in January, including their production kitchen, to a small retail boutique in Cambridge.

One of the biggest differences between handcrafted chocolates and industrial chocolates comes down to the quality of ingredients; handcrafted is far superior. Handcrafted chocolates take more time to make and are made in much smaller quantities. Making bonbon chocolate can take up to two days to finish as it is a multistep process. In contrast, industrial chocolates, which are made by machines, are made quickly and uniformly to be identical. Handcrafted chocolate allows for the variation of appearance, flavors and texture.

Hsieh advised aspiring entrepreneurs, “If you are passionate about something and are considering starting your own business, it is worth spending time learning from successful people in that area by working or interning for them.”

No one can resist the temptation of chocolate. If you plan to buy some for Christmas this year, I recommend the top four bestsellers: Bonbons, brown butter toffee, pecan clusters and caramelized peanut butter cups. The passion fruit caramel is Hsieh’s personal favorite.

First Asian American judge in Massachusetts honored with national award

BY MONIQUE CHING

Judge Richard J. Chin says the Massachusetts court system still has work to do in terms of increasing racial representation and inclusion.

“It’s a very tough system to navigate,” Chin said. “You don’t see a lot of other Asians or minorities in the court system.”

Six tips for immigrant job seekers

BY YIMING ZHAO

Finding a new job is stressful, especially for people who do not speak English as their first language.

Sampan reached out to an expert for tips on navigating this stressful but important process. Mofei Xu is an assistant co-op coordinator and faculty member at Northeastern University, who helps College of Engineering students find experiential learning opportunities to complement their studies. Xu herself is an immigrant from China, working with international students from India and China.

1. Read the job description carefully

Job descriptions contain plenty of information, including what skills employers are looking for, what work authorization you need and more. Do make sure your resume reflects what companies are asking for and apply for jobs you are actually qualified for. This can save you time and energy.

2. Prepare for the interview

Many people are afraid to make mistakes when they talk in interviews, especially when English is not their first language. The fear of embarrassing themselves can be a major roadblock. Xu said for many job seekers, the issue is confidence rather than language, which makes preparing for interviews even more important.

People are more likely to forget things when under stress. It helps to prepare examples which show your best qualities, such as a successful project you managed or a challenging situation you overcame. Turn negatives into positives. Rehearsing with your career counselor or even your friend can help you articulate your strengths better in an interview.

3. Don’t be too humble

In many Asian cultures, being humble is a great virtue. But different cultures have different expectations for professional behavior. Marketing yourself is essential in American culture. This does not mean pretending you are not smart. However, tell your employer what you are good at or what you do best.

4. Customize your cover letter

Don’t send similar cover letters to every company you apply for, even for similar positions. Every company has its own culture and looks for different things in people. Tailor your cover letter to each position you apply to. Make it personal, so yours can stand out from all the other candidates.

However, don’t write too much, as one page is enough for cover letters. Have someone proofread it before you send it out. Typos and grammar mistakes will not make a good impression.

5. Where to find jobs

There are many resources online. Definitely check the career page of your dream companies. LinkedIn is a great resource. Make sure your profile is up to date. Subscribing to select LinkedIn group newsletters can also be helpful.

6. Career fairs

Career fairs are a good idea, but do not go to all of them. Attend the ones that most interest you. Do follow up with the employer.

“Chit chat: Minorities in the workplace” took place Nov. 23 at Boston City Blessing Church for Indonesian international students working in the Boston area. (Image courtesy of Mudita Community.)

Mudita Community celebrates diversity for Indonesian young professionals

BY ESTHER TAMARA

Mudita Community brought Indonesian international students together Nov. 23 for its second annual forum, “Chit chat: Minorities in the workplace” at Boston City Blessing Church.

BEVERLY AFFORDABLE RENTALS

For Info and Application Availability:
Watch the video below for information on the application process. Call 978-456-8388 or email info@mcohousingservices.com for more information.

Applications must be submitted online. Submit your application to info@mcohousingservices.com ASAP to be considered for lottery.

Applications are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis.

Applications are accepted by lottery. Please apply online.

APPLICATION AVAILABLE ONLINE AT: www.mcohousingservices.com

Trailer Video

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2—$53,550 $51,400

3—$50,235 $48,300

4—$46,837 $45,200

SECTION 8 ACCEPTED

Applications for the 2020 lottery must be submitted by March 1, 2020.

BEVERLY AFFORDABLE RENTALS

For Info and Application Availability:

For info and application availability, please call 978-456-8388.

Reasonable accommodations available for persons with disabilities.

Units distributed by lottery.
December 6, 2019

**SMAPAN**

**A Publication of the AACA**

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**COMIC**

**THE EMPTY BAMBOO GIRL**

(Asian American Historical Newpaper)

A LETTER TO MY AMERICAN CHINESE LIFE

*By Lillian Lee*

**Classified Ads**

**AFFORDABLE HOUSING LOTTERY**

**SPRUCE FARM**, **ANDOVER ST., WILMINGTON**

Three New Over-55, 2-BR Units offered at $251,800

Information Session: 12/11/19 @ 6:30 pm, Lottery Date: 1/16/20 @ 6:30 pm at Wilmington Town Hall.

Application deadline: 1/10/20

**Household Income Limits:**

1-person $62,450; 2-person $71,400
3-person $80,300; 4-person $89,200

Applications can be obtained from:

L.A. Associates, Inc. (978) 758-0197 lassoc@laassoc.com

Wilmington Town Hall, 121 Glen Rd. (978) 658-8238

Wilmington Memorial Library, 175 Middlesex Ave. (978) 658-2967

For applicants with Limited English Proficiency, the owner will provide a free translation service.

**First-time homebuyer classes**

Dec. 7 to 8
9 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

38 Oak Street
Boston, MA 02111

ACDC offers HB101 classes in English and Chinese. Each session is a nine-hour class offered over the course of a two-day weekend. Tuition is $50. Sign up for a workshop, graduate and receive a certificate, and become eligible for discounted mortgage products. Registration required, by calling (617) 482-2380 x 208 or 202, emailing CHOP@atianedc.org or visiting https://atianedc.org/b101.

**Education workshop**

Saturday, Dec. 7
10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

1 Oxford Street
Cambridge, MA 02138

Learn more about college admissions, scholarships and financial aid at Harvard University’s Science Centre. Free admission with raffle prizes. Register at https://educationworkshopboston.eventbrite.com.

**Inspiring Across Generations conference**

Saturday, Dec. 7
9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

1776 Heritage Drive
North Quincy, MA 02171


**Tai Tung Village Christmas tree lighting**

Saturday, Dec. 7
1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

244 Harrison Avenue
Boston, MA 02111

A Christmas tree lighting will take place at the Tai Tung Village courtyard. Bring canned foods, whole wheat pasta and cereal, and men’s and women’s white socks to bless those in need at the Pine Street Inn.

**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 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.

**Mayor Walsh’s trolley tour and tree lighting**

Sunday, Dec. 8
1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

1 Harrison Avenue
Boston, MA 02111

Mayor Martin J. Walsh will host a tree lighting celebration with music, food and more at Phillips Square.

**Free legal clinic**

Every Monday
10 a.m. to noon

11 Dartmouth Street
Malden, MA 02148

Greater Boston Legal Services provides free legal counseling at ACDC’s Malden office at Room L4-A.6. If you have legal questions on immigration, work, housing and more, you can meet a lawyer. For more information, call (781) 851-4620.

**Water Drop teahouse**

Tuesday to Saturday
11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

71 Concord Avenue
Cambridge, MA 02138

Water Drop Teahouse offers light vegetarian dishes, coffee and tea at the Fo Guang Buddhist Temple.

**Financial aid assistance**

Wednesday
9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

87 Tyler Street
Boston, MA 02111

Get free assistance on college planning and applying for financial aid towards higher education. Service offered in Mandarin, Cantonese and English. To make an appointment, call (617) 426-9492 x 20.

**The Chinatown Coalition meeting**

December 12
9:30 a.m.

38 Ash Street
Boston, MA 02111

The Chinatown Coalition meeting will take place at the Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center, 4F. The public is welcome to attend. For more information, visit bccoboston.org.

**English for college or job training**

Monday, Dec. 16
8:30 a.m.

87 Tyler Street
Boston, MA 02111

Attend testing for the Asian American Civic Association’s English classes for college or job training. For more information, call (617) 426-9492 x 250 or email intake@aaaca-boston.org.

**Lunch and learn**

Wednesday, Dec. 11
Noon to 2 p.m.

1 City Hall Square
Boston, MA 02201

The Mayor’s Office for Immigrant Advancement offers free private immigration clinics at the Boston City Hall Room 810. For interpreters other than Spanish, please call at least one week in advance at (617) 635-2980.

**Breakfast seminar**

Thursday, Dec. 19
9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m.

120 Shawmut Street
Boston, MA 02218

All are welcome to attend at the ICEC auditorium, the former South Cove Manor location. Refreshments provided. For more information, call Terry Yin at (203) 893-7963.

**Chinatown Safety Committee meeting**

Wednesday, Jan. 8
10:30 a.m.

821 Washington Street
Boston, MA 02210

The Chinatown Safety Committee meeting will take place at the DoubleTree Hotel. The public is welcome to attend.

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**SMAPAN EVENTS**

**By Lillian Lee**

**Event Calendar**

December 6, 2019

Sampan
BY LING-MEI WONG, YIMING ZHAO AND MEILIN ZHU

The Chinatown/South Cove Neighbor- hood Council discussed the Boston Water and Sewer Commission and affordable housing at Parcel 12C. Nov. 18 at the Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association.

Developer Millennium Partners Bos- ton principal Joe Larkin presented plans for Parcel P-12C at 290 Tremont Street. The affordable housing plan, which is funded with $6 million in state funds from the 115 Winthrop Square project to build up to 171 units of hous- ing, 200 hotel rooms, up to 340 parking spaces, a space for the Chinatown Library and a covered pedestrian walkway.

The Boston Water and Sewer Com- mission’s mission is to operate and main- tain the water distribution, wastewater collection and storm water drainage ser- vices for Boston. Workers maintain more than 1,000 miles of sewer pipes and test tap water for safety, said Commission executive director Henry Vital.

CUCC
The Clean Up Chinatown Commit- tee discussed progress on street cleanli- ness and potential enforcement actions on Nov. 21 at the Asian American Civic Association.

AACA director of business growth Edward Hsieh reported on 311 flyer on Nov. 21 at the Asian American Civic Association and potential enforcement actions than 1,000 miles of sewer pipes and test collection and storm water drainage ser-

CSC
The Chinatown Safety Committee met Dec. 4 at the DoubleTree Hotel. Bos- ton Police Department District A1 Capt. Kenneth Fong reported on crime over the past 30 days. The Chinatown area had a rather quiet month with only two robberies, one car break-in, seven theft and one break-in at Hei La Moon restaurant.

Chinatown liaison Lisa Hy informed the committee of Mayor Martin Walsh’s Enchanted Trolley Tour and Tree Light- ing on Dec. 8 at Phillips Square

CRA
The Chinatown Resident Association met Dec. 4 at the Josiah Quincy Element- ary School. Tora Ramen will open at 99 Harrison Avenue.

The Boston Water and Sewer Commis- sion and affordable housing expert Amy Guen, AACA founder, Boston director of code enforcement Steve Tankle said business owners need to keep sidewalks clean.

The Chinese Consolidated Benevo- lent Association met Nov. 26 at its 90 Tyler Street headquarters. Executive director Susan Chu reported Tai Tung Village’s four existing buildings need re-

Boston City Council President Andrea Campbell hosted ethnic media represen- tatives on Nov. 14 at City Hall. Camp- bell shared on the upcoming Boston Civic Leaders Summit, her public education plan and housing.

Campbell represents District 4, cover-

 involves a long list of affordable homes building at Copperworks in Canton. These homes units will be sold at affordable prices to households with incomes at or below 80% of the area median income.

The 1BR homes range from 604 sq. ft. to 814 sq. ft. and the 2BR homes range from 1,239 sq. ft. to 1,311 sq. ft. All homes will enjoy one surface parking space and access to the community amenities which include a roof deck, spacious lobbies with comfortable seating areas, key-operated elevator, complimentary bike storage, and secure entry access by mobile phone. Residents can easily access Canton’s idyllic town center, and will be in close proximity to the Canton Junction Train Station.

Minimum Household Income Limits:
$62,450 (1 person), $71,400 (2 people), $80,300 (3 people), $89,200 (4 people)

The Maximum Household Asset Limit is $75,000.

Applications and Required Income Documentation must be delivered, or postmarked, by 2 pm on December 30, 2019. Applications postmarked by the deadline must be received within 5 business days.

A Public Information Session will be held at 6 pm on November 26th, 2019 in the Sahib Meeting Room at Memorial Hall (2nd Floor, 815 Washington Street). The Lottery will be held on January 22nd, 2020 at 2:00 PM in the Atrium.

For more information on the Development, the Units or the Lottery and Application Process or for reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities, please visit: www.s-e-b.com/library or call 617.762.6900 ext. For TTY Services dial 711. Free translation available. Traducción gratuita disponible.

Applications and Info Packets also available at the Canton Public Library on 786 Washington Street, Canton (Hours M: 1-9 Th: 10-9 F-Sa. 10-5 Sun (closed))
December 6, 2019

Sampan

COMMUNITY

Community developer Asian CDC builds housing and homeownership

BY AHLYANA RICHARDSON

Asian Community Development Corporation executive director Angie Liou spoke about the nonprofit developer’s work Nov. 13 at the Metropolitan. Image courtesy of Ahlyana Richardson.

Asian Community Development Corporation held its annual community meeting Nov. 13 at the Metropolitan. Its motto for the night was “Building homes. Creating leaders. Preserving culture.”

Members of the community, including keynote speaker Warren Wong, attended. The agency’s “Building Blocks” program helps clients unfamiliar with American lending practices to buy homes, particularly immigrants. Client Li Chen attended a first-time homebuyer class with her husband in 2018, offered by ACDC.

Liou recounted ACDC’s accomplishments. ACDC achieved this year to advance its mission of working towards equitable communities for all. In partnership with Millennium Partners Boston, it will develop affordable housing at Parcel P-12C in Chinatown. This project at 90 Tremont Street will bring up to 171 affordable homes to Chinatown. This project at 290 Tremont Street will bring up to 171 affordable homes to Chinatown.

The agency’s “Building Blocks” program helps clients unfamiliar with American lending practices to buy homes, particularly immigrants. Client Li Chen attended a first-time homebuyer class with her husband in 2018, offered by ACDC.

She returned a year later, attending workshops on how to purchase a home.

Legacy of Harry Dow inspires next generation of lawyers

BY HENRY KATZMAN

The legacy of Harry Dow was remembered by local community members, lawyers, students and professors at an annual event Nov. 5 at Suffolk University Law School. Hosted by the Asian Pacific Law Student Association and the Latin American Law Student Association of Suffolk University, the memorial of Dow was remembered as the first Asian American lawyer in Massachusetts.

The presentation by attorney Jonathan Miller, Chief of the Public Protection and Advocacy Bureau of the Massachusetts Attorney General’s Office, showed work he had done on immigration. Milled described how Massachusetts responded to tightening immigration policies from the federal government.

Fred Dow, Harry Dow’s son, attended and warmly greeted attendees. Harry Dow was the first Asian American lawyer admitted to the Massachusetts bar in 1929.

Affordable Housing Lottery

The Rockwell

12 Tyler Road, Berlin, MA

Fifteen 80% AMI Affordable Units:
Five 1BRs @ $1,372*, Ten 2BRs @ $1,498*
Six 50% AMI Affordable Units: One Studio @ $191*, One 1BR @ $1,024*, Four 2BRs @ $1,107*
*Rents subject to change in 2020.

Rents do not include utilities. Tenants will pay gas heat, gas cooking, electricity, natural gas hot water, water, sewer, and trash removal. A free parking space is included.

The Rockwell is a 204 unit rental apartment community located in Berlin. 21 of these apartments will be made available through this application process. 15 of these apartments will be rented to households with incomes at or below 80% of the Area Median Income, and 6 of these apartments will be rented to households with incomes at or below 50% of the Area Median Income. Units feature electronic unit entry, contemporary kitchens with stainless steel appliances, frameless cabinets with quartz countertops, in-unit washer and dryer, patios or balconies, “wood”-looking flooring, fully tiled showers and baths, and faux wood blinds. Community amenities include an outdoor salt water pool and recreation area, a Clubhouse with fitness, entertainment area & work from home pods. Access to nature preserve walking trails and kayak put-in, Outdoor activity equipment rental, and a dog park & pet wash areas.

MAXIMUM Household Income Limits for 80% AFFORDABLE units:
$25,850 (1 person), $60,400 (2 people), $67,950 (3 people), $75,500 (4 people)

MAXIMUM Household Income Limits for 50% AFFORDABLE units:
$40,700 (1 person), $46,500 (2 people), $52,300 (3 people), $58,100 (4 people)

A Public Info Session will be held on December 3rd, 2019 at 6:00pm at the Board Room (Room 218) at the Town of Berlin (23 Linden Street).

Completed Applications and Required Income Documentation must be delivered, or postmarked, by 2 pm on January 6th, 2020. Applications postmarked by the deadline must be received no later than 5 business days from the deadline.

The Lottery for eligible households will be held on January 28th, 2020 at 6 pm at the Hearing Room (Room 227) at the Town of Berlin (23 Linden Street).

For Lottery Information and Applications, or for reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities, go to www.e-b.com/lottery or call (617) 782-6900x1 and leave a message. For TTY Services dial 711. Free translation available.

Applications also available at Berlin Public Library on 23 Carter Street. (M-Th: 11am-6:30pm, Fri & Sun: closed, Sat: 10am-1pm)

Diana Hwang spoke about running for state Senate on Nov. 16 at Simmons University for the Asian American Women in Leadership. Image courtesy of Bela Chen.

Conference encourages Asian American women to rise up as leaders

BY BELLA CHEN

Diana Hwang, founder and executive director of the Asian American Women’s Political Initiative, talked about her experience running for office as a female Asian American.

“People are always going to tell you that you can’t do it,” Hwang said. “So you have to find something that you can keep doing.”

The 11th Asian American Women in Leadership conference took place Nov. 16 at Simmons University, making a comeback since its 2014 edition. The theme of this year’s conference focused on Asian American women conquering unique difficulties in their lives.

As a minority woman in the Statehouse, Hwang underwent difficulties and misunderstandings. She ran for state Senate in 2016. “There was once an Asian American shouting at me, saying ‘You are not going to do it, I won’t support you,’” Hwang said.

Panel speaker Hyoeok “Chris” Hahn, an associate professor and chair of the social research department at Boston University, shared her stories in the “Asian American experience” panel.

“Approach people first,” Hahn said. “You have to be proactive.”

Monica Valdes Lups, executive director at the Boston Public Health Commission, spoke in the same panel. She said when tasks are unfamiliar, people tend to work harder to prepare.

“Make sure to have a solid network, and always be open-minded, be open to everything,” Lups said.
A medical technologist studies patient data at Tufts Medical Center. Medical technology offers a health care career without medical school training. (Image courtesy of Ling-Mei Wong.)

How medical technology saves lives

BY LING-MEI WONG

When hospitals appear on TV, the screen fills with authoritative doctors, caring nurses and ailing patients. However, what happens once the patient’s blood has been drawn?

At Tufts Medical Center, more than 200 medical technicians examine patient samples, from blood to other tissues. These technicians are medical technologists, studying human diseases so doctors can make a diagnosis.

“The pathologist is the doctor’s doctor,” said John Butz, director of laboratory services in the department of pathology and laboratory medicine at Tufts MC.

Butz, together with Dr. Ming Zhou, chairman and pathologist-in-chief, runs many pathology labs in the medical center: chemistry, microbiology, hematology and anatomic pathology. The blood bank is also part of the laboratory services. When a doctor removes a lump from a patient’s arm, the tissue is sent to the anatomic pathology lab. Pathologists slice the tissue and dye it into slides, so they can determine if the tissues have benign or cancerous cells. The technicians analyze data, before sending reports back to doctors.

“We help the physician treat patients,” Butz said. “You need a sharp technologist, the right preparation and excellent phlebotomists to draw blood. If a step is not respected, there will be problems. There are no unimportant jobs in the hospital.”

Working in the lab requires a four-year degree in medical technology. Tufts MC offers paid internships for high school and college students on laboratory medicine, allowing young people to experience firsthand if laboratory medicine could be a career for them.

“There are tremendous opportunities for careers in health care in the laboratory that most people aren’t aware of,” Butz said. “You can have a rewarding career with good work-life balance, working from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.”

Pathologists may not get the same amount of screen time that TV doctors do. However, their work is just as heroic.

“I like the satisfaction that we are taking care of people,” Butz said. “The work we do improves human lives.”

The unsurpassed value of impermanence

BY VENERABLE MASTER ISIN YUN, FOUNDER OF FO GUAN SHAN TEMPLE

Birth and death are realities of life. Regardless of who we are, we cannot escape either one. While birth is celebrated, death is feared by most. To cope with our fear, we often seek comfort in religion.

Although each of the world’s major religious traditions has its own teaching concerning death, Buddhism is the only one that promotes the doctrine of impermanence as one of the universal truths. However, it is a truth that is not embraced by all. The majority of people chose to ignore or refute it, due to a lack of understanding or insight. As a result, impermanence has become a forbidden word in everyday living.

According to the Buddha’s teaching, impermanence is, in fact, a good phenomenon. Because of impermanence, there can be hope in the future. Because of impermanence, there can be happiness without suffering. Imagine a world without change, where everything stays the same forever. Do we really want to live in that kind of a world? If the answer is no, then we should value the Buddhist doctrine of impermanence. However, we must understand that the outcome of change can be either good or bad, depending on the causes and conditions at hand.

When we have a complete understanding of impermanence, we will learn to treasure the value of our lives, our possessions, and friendships. When we witness a seed turning into a tall tree, we will come to appreciate the significance of change.

On the other hand, when we see a flower withering as the seasons change, we will experience the downside of impermanence. Through impermanence, everything is possible.
Art show highlights ‘New beginnings’ for women behind bars

BY LING-MEI WONG

The woman struggled with self-esteem. When she came to the Suffolk County House of Correction, she picked up pastels and started to draw nature scenes. The woman was one of several who studied pastels with instructor Peggy Rambach and spoke during a recorded video Nov. 22 at the Dudley Café. “If you keep pushing, then you’ll have a nerve,” the woman said in the video.

Personal storytelling for social change

raises awareness of world issues

BY SHIRA LAUCHAROEN

Chien-Chi Huang is a survivor of breast cancer. Born in Taiwan, she was the first person in her neighborhood to go to a Catholic school in Taipei. An immigrant to the United States, who made her journey 30 years ago to attend graduate school, she was the first person in her family to marry a non-Asian husband.

“My father said to me, ‘Your life will be hard living away from us. But if this man makes you happy, then I am happy,’” Huang said.

Huang was just one of six performers to share her story during Pao Arts Center and PRX Podcast Garage’s “Personal Storytelling for Social Change,” held Nov. 23 at Dudley Café. (Image courtesy of Shira Laucharoen.)

Chinatown crime blotter for Nov. 16 to Dec. 6

BY THE BOSTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

All reports are submitted by the Boston Police Department. The time period is from Nov. 16 to Dec. 6 for District A-1, which includes Chinatown.

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

Vandalism
Nov. 16: The victim reported an unknown person vandalized the security gate of the garage located on Harrison Avenue.

Robbery
Nov. 16: The victim reported an unknown female punched her in the face on LaGrange Street and stole her phone. The victim declined medical treatment.

Assault and battery
Nov. 23, 10:13 p.m.: The victim reported while driving on Beach Street, he was assaulted by the suspect, who was a passenger in his cab. The victim declined medical treatment and both left the scene.

Breaking and entering
Nov. 24, 10:21 a.m.: The victim reported an unknown person broke into his car on Beach Street. The victim was not sure what was taken.

Shoplifting
Nov. 27, 9:21 p.m.: The victim reported an unknown person entered the store on Beach Street, he was assaulted by the suspect, who was a passenger in his cab. The victim declined medical treatment and both left the scene.

Experience authentic hot pot with skewers at Six Po

BY YIMING ZHAO

Six Po Hot Pot puts its hot pot ingredients on skewers. (Image courtesy of Yiming Zhao.)

What’s more comforting than having hot pot on a cold winter day? Six Po Hot Pot opened this year in Brookline and already has lines.

At Six Po, you won’t need to study a huge menu and wait for the servers to bring you the food. Instead, all your meat and vegetable food options are stacked in the three huge glass-door freezers, ready for you to pick them up. The condiments bar is also self-serve, for sauces to dip your meat, fishballs and vegetables in. Just tell your waiter the soup base you want and you’re ready to go.

Six Po is known for its assorted skewers. Unlike traditional hot pot, where you put all the ingredients directly into the broth, everything is on skewers here. You can easily pull your favorites from the pot to the plate, without having to stir the broth with a huge spoon trying to find your food. Food cooks at your table, in the broth of your choice.

At checkout, your waiter will count the number of skewers you had. The colored ones are $0.50 each and original ones are $0.70 each.

If you love spicy food, you’ve come to the right place. Six Po offers authentic Sichuan style broth with three spicy levels. If your friends can’t handle the spice, you can always choose the two-broth combination in a split pot. Non-spicy broth options include the mushroom soup and the Chinese herb soup.

Open from 3:30 p.m. to 11 p.m., Six Po is usually at full capacity for its authentic flavor and welcoming staff. There’s always a wait during weekends. However, you can join the waitlist on Yelp and come to the restaurant when you’re near the top of the list. If you’re at a restaurant, you can get a milk tea or a beer at the Six Po bar area while you wait with your friends.

Six Po Hot Pot
1353 Beacon Street
Brookline, MA 02446
www.sixpousa.com

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— Frank and Julie McConville, Linden Ponds residents

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Linden Ponds values diversity. We welcome all faiths, races, and ethnicities, and housing opportunities are available for low and moderate income households.

Congrats to Cece Leung and Annie Chen for winning our Kung Fu Tea giveaway!
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Primary Care Physician
Yueling Guo Moran, MD 郭月玲醫生
Primary Care Physician
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Primary Care Physician
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