Tufts MC epidemiologist discusses Chinatown Covid-19 test results
The low number of Asian residents tested is concerning and perplexing
By Ken Smith

Tufts Medical Center partnered with the city and Boston Public Schools to open the Covid-19 screening site at 885 Washington Street. The lab processing is conducted at the Tufts Medical Center and results are completed within two days. After more than two months of testing, data collected at the site has revealed a much lower rate of participation by the Asian population, specifically residents of Chinatown.

The total number of registered participants is 
See page 4, Covid-19 Testing

Animal shelters stay active during shutdown as foster care increases for pets without homes
By Anqi Zhang

Many animal lovers in Massachusetts have provided foster care for pets to keep them company during the pandemic shutdown, and providing a temporary home for the orphaned pets. The foster program at Medfield Animal Shelter (MAS) has increased by about 10 percent, according to the shelter’s manager, Marlene Simmons. The same increase also occurred in the Scituate Animal Shelter (SAS). Maryann Regan, the executive director, said that they have less animals to take care of inside the shelter during the lockdown, after many animals were taken to foster homes. The animal surrender requests also decreased during the lockdown, she said.

Open visits to the public in animal shelters were put on hold in the state since the beginning of the lockdown. In the meantime, staff and volunteers at shelters continued working, and acted as a bridge, taking care of both pets and pet owners. SAS rolled out programs focusing on community assistance during the coronavirus outbreak, helping pet owners get through this difficult time so they do not have to give up their pets due to the pandemic.

“Our mission has always been that we will help animals and the people who love them,” Regan said.

The Phone Pal Program is aimed at building connections with senior pet owners who are isolated at home.

See page 8, Animal Shelters

Drinking and thinking

Chinatown’s波士頓公共市場迎來了一個新的夏天

未來的真正秘密不在于高技術機械或者生產衍生的綜合產品，而是在於經營及管理。我們的企業在競爭過程中的競爭力關鍵在于我們是否能以優異的資源創造出最有效果的經濟價值。因此，我們的企業進行產品併購，或者投資於新的技術，以提高我們的競爭地位，提升我們的效率。這樣做，我們可以獲得新的機會，獲得新的競爭優勢，進而提高我們的市場地位。我們的企業進行產品併購，或者投資於新的技術，以提高我們的競爭地位，提升我們的效率。這樣做，我們可以獲得新的機會，獲得新的競爭優勢，進而提高我們的市場地位。我們的企業進行產品併購，或者投資於新的技術，以提高我們的競爭地位，提升我們的效率。這樣做，我們可以獲得新的機會，獲得新的競爭優勢，進而提高我們的市場地位。我們的企業進行產品併購，或者投資於新的技術，以提高我們的競爭地位，提升我們的效率。這樣做，我們可以獲得新的機會，獲得新的競爭優勢，進而提高我們的市場地位。我們的企業進行產品併購，或者投資於新的技術，以提高我們的競爭地位，提升我們的效率。這樣做，我們可以獲得新的機會，獲得新的競爭優勢，進而提高我們的市場地位。我們的企業進行產品併購，或者投資於新的技術，以提高我們的競爭地位，提升我們的效率。這樣做，我們可以獲得新的機會，獲得新的競爭優勢，進而提高我們的市場地位。我們的企業進行產品併購，或者投資於新的技術，以提高我們的競爭地位，提升我們的效率。這樣做，我們可以獲得新的機會，獲得新的競爭優勢，進而提高我們的市場地位。我們的企業進行產品併購，或者投資於新的技術，以提高我們的競爭地位，提升我們的效率。這樣做，我們可以獲得新的機會，獲得新的競爭優勢，進而提高我們的市場地位。我們的企業進行產品併購，或者投資於新的技術，以提高我們的競爭地位，提升我們的效率。這樣做，我們可以獲得新的機會，獲得新的競爭優勢，進而提高我們的市場地位。
United States Census 2020

Your Public Funds at Work

Health Clinics
School Lunch Programs
Firestations
Roads

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Census 2020

Help Us Make Better Decisions

Bring businesses to your community

aaca-boston.org/2020census
Covid-19 Testing

Continued from page 1

tests from April 1 to June 16 tested for Covid-19 at the Josiah Quincy Elementary School totaled 7,242 people, with 953 registered as Asian (9.9 percent). The number of positive tests overall was 11.9 percent. The total number of patients with a contact address zip code of 02111 was 177 (9 percent) of those tested. The zip code, 65 patients registered as Asian (10.8 percent).

According to statisticalatlas.com, data gathered in September 2018 shows a total of 6,871 people living in the 02111 area code with Asians making up 52 percent of the population at 3,596.

With these numbers in mind, the number of Asians being tested for Covid-19 in the area code remains extremely low; specifically, how many Chinatown residents may have contracted the coronavirus is still a gray area, and one that concerns Doron and other infectious disease doctors.

“If you were to try to compare the percentage that tested positive, I worry that you may have a good representative sample there,” Doron said during a phone interview. “We’ve made it incredibly accessible using the Josiah Quincy School, which is typically used by this neighborhood, and so that’s a lot of the Asian community. It would be a place that people know how to get to and feel comfortable going to.”

We don’t turn anybody away. We have long hours, weekdays and weekends. So I think we’ve done all we can to make testing accessible.

Whether certain populations differ in their interests or willingness, is something that should be studied. Interest and willingness to get tested. This talk of there being a stigma associated with testing, with positive tests – that could be a deterrent, for example. And that may be different in different populations, but I don’t know whether that’s relevant in the Asian population.”

Early on, when the coronavirus had broken out in China in January, residents and business owners in Chinatown were exercising more vigilance, and the majority residents wore masks. In fact, when his report tried to enter a store in Chinatown in mid-February without wearing a mask, he was turned away.

During a discussion with a senior housing facility director in Chinatown, she said that the seniors living in Chinatown is not going to the hospital, not being tested, not being counted, and then dying at home. To clarify when somebody should be tested for the coronavirus, Doron said that the CDC and Department of Public Health are not recommending that everybody be tested in the absence of symptoms. “It’s not them,” she said, “it’s that if they say that they would have to say how often. And then if they said that, they would have to make sure that there was really testing capacity. Testing capacity is improving, but we’re certainly not at a place, nor will we ever be, to test every member of the population of the United States every day. Imagine that number of tests you would need. And, so, what is the frequency of testing, and would you even operationalize that to get it to everybody that needs it.”

With that said, Doron stressed that everybody with symptoms should be tested. And she said maybe it’s possible that Chinatown residents have had no respiratory illness symptoms in the last two months – but maybe not.

She said one must ask the question: are people in Chinatown with mild respiratory symptoms staying at home, and remaining isolated while they wait to recover? “Is that okay? That’s probably okay if they didn’t transmit it to somebody else,” she said. “All it does is not give us the numbers that we need to do our modeling.”

But she reiterated that they want everybody that lives in the Chinatown neighborhood that has symptoms of the coronavirus to get tested, and follows health protocols.

“At the first sign of any respiratory symptom, while waiting for the test, they should isolate themselves from others,” she said. “And to answer the phone if the public health commission is calling because they may be calling to see if they’ve been in close contact with somebody who tested positive. If you were in close contact, the new protocol is that you get one test at some point during the quarantine period, but you still quarantine for 14 days. And then if you develop symptoms, you get tested again.”

Close contact is defined as spending at least 15 minutes within six feet of somebody who tested positive.

Boston Public Health, she said, does contacting tracing if a report of a positive test comes back from a person in a neighborhood, which entails questions about who a person has contacted and where they have been during the entire period that they were communicable, which usually goes back two days prior to the onset of symptoms. They also compile all the names and phone numbers of people they were in contact with and then call those people.

Currently, there is a downturn in Covid-19 positive tests in the state, but there could be a surge in any given neighborhood at any time, and densely populated areas like Chinatown are most vulnerable. So maintaining vigilant testing is a must in containing the virus in the long-term.

The Covid-19 test site at Josiah Quincy Elementary School will operate only until the children return to school, Doron said. The school also has to go through preparations for the returning students, and at that time, in-person or remote alternative site has been identified to replace it, she said.

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Phone: 617-426-9492 ext 256
Tufts Medical Center grants $300,000 of Covid-19 Relief Fund to organizations serving local Asian communities

By Carey Lin

In response to requests for funding from community-based organizations (CBOs), Tufts Medical Center donated $300,000 as part of their Covid-19 relief efforts in early May. This grant was targeted towards CBOs serving communities in Chinatown, Dorchester, and South Boston. The goal is to “lead by example, and encourage them to support local businesses while supporting residents where possible,” said Sherry Dong, Director of Community Health Improvement Programs at Tufts Medical Center.

Earlier in the pandemic, Tufts Medical Center distributed more than 500 wellness kits and provided Covid testing to hundreds of community residents at the Josiah Quincy School at local housing sites. Now, they are also partnering with Jia Ho, a local Chinatown market, to distribute gift cards to CBOs. Donors through organizations focused on emergency food assistance. “The priorities we identified were from CBOs that we surveyed to determine and prioritize those needs,” said Dong.

There were recurring themes from the community health needs assessment. “Certainly in the Asian communities these were compounded by the language access issues and language barriers that they faced across those issues,” said Dong. “So things like unemployment and food access, it was compounded by the fact that things were not accessible in Vietnamese, Chinese, so the role of the CBOs are more important in bridging these gaps.”

As youths are particularly vulnerable during this time, a focus on things like internet access, so that the clients can actually get online and do virtual learning, laptop, so they have technology to do it,” said Dong. “It’s important in this modern era, that Covid-19 has kind of shed a light on; there are definitely things that are easier for some and not others, and I think technology will definitely help bridge that gap. So while not a focus of our grant, definitely something that we wanted to support.”

While these funds will go towards basic needs such as food and necessities to stay physically healthy from Covid-19, behavioral health is also an important aspect that Dong wishes to address. “We’re looking at health broadly, and what contributes to the health of a community,” she said. “It’s jobs; it’s having access to things, like technology and other things, and it’s about your emotional and physical wellness.”

She emphasized that the funds are critical in supporting the staff that are assisting the community members with Unemployment Insurance applications, and being able to provide culturally appropriate foods for families in need. It will also help CBOs acquire proper technology to continue to provide programs and services virtually.

“We’re trying to let people see how we’re supporting health initiatives that we do see, if very broadly,” Dong said.

See below a comprehensive list of all organizations that received aid from this grant.

Asian American Civic Association
Asian American Resource Shop
Asian Community Development Corporation
Asian Task Force Against Domestic Violence
Boston Asian Youth Essential Services
Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center
Chinese Historical Society of New England
Chinese Progressive Association
Greater Boston Chinese Golden Age Center
Josiah Quincy School Association
Kwong Kow Chinese School
Ricesticks and Tea
Vietnamese American Initiative for Development
Wang YMCA of Chinatown

(PHOTO COURTESY OF TUFFS MC)

There’s comfort in being part of a strong community like Linden Ponds on the South Shore. We’re managed by Erickson Living, a national leader in senior living and health care. During good times and tough times, you can count on us to be here for you.

“We were well cared for during this crisis with meals, mail, and essentials delivered right door to your door.”

—Mike B., a community resident

Learn more. Call 1-800-989-0448 or visit LindenPonds.com for your free brochure.
June 19, 2020

Ask Dr. Hang

A mother’s concerns for daughter’s safety at odds with her desire to march in protests

My daughter and I have gone into arguments about her attending the protests against police brutality. Of course, I think it’s wrong for the police to kill Black people, but I worry about my daughter getting hurt at the protests, and I want her to stay safe at home instead. We came to the United States so my children can have an education, good jobs, and a healthy life. I told my daughter all of this, and she keeps saying that we Asians and Asian Americans need to stand up in support of the Black community, because they have stood up to support Asians in the United States. How can I make my daughter understand that she shouldn’t go to the protests?

After the Vietnam War, my parents knew they couldn’t risk the economic hardships and mandatory military service raising their children in Vietnam. My parents sent their children to the United States. But it’s also a dream that has drawn countless people to the United States. It’s a dream that has drawn my daughter to the United States so my children can have an education, good jobs, and a healthy life. I told my daughter all of this, and she keeps saying that we Asians and Asian Americans need to stand up in support of the Black community, because they have stood up to support Asians in the United States. How can I make my daughter understand that she shouldn’t go to the protests?

Asians in the United States. How can one of its many manifestations be so important to her? When she tells you how she feels and what she wants, can you truly hear her words or are they drowned out by your own feelings and needs?

Maybe she is telling you that she feels so sad seeing the suffering of Black people. Maybe she is telling you that she is angry and disgusted by the treatment of Black people in this country. Maybe she is telling you that she feels important to stand up for other people because this is how a just society is built. Can you try to feel what she feels? Would that help you understand her choice in protesting even if you personally disagree?

Furthermore, to make a better society for everybody, it’s essential to take one step further and empathize with other communities that are suffering.

For example, as a mother, you don’t want anything bad to happen to your children. Now, using your empathy skills, think about how Black mothers worry about their children too. Bad things have been happening to Black children for over 400 years in the United States, and they are still happening. Black children are no longer sold like they were when Black people were still enslaved, but Black children and Black adults are still being targeted by the police. They still live in neighborhoods that the government doesn’t care to improve. Black people are jailed at higher rates and for longer times for lesser crimes than White people, and Black families are torn apart by incarceration. Black people still have to fight to vote in this democracy. Once again, can you try to feel what they feel?

I don’t know how long or how many generations you suffered before you took the power away from the United States. I don’t know who much you lost in order to be here for a better life for your children. But I wonder: if you, your people, and your children have been suffering for more than 400 years, would you be in the streets today? It’s easy for your daughter rallying for a better life from a government that is supposed to take care of you?

Finally, try to use empathy to not just understand why your daughter cares about protesting to support Black people, but to also understand those other times you may have made disagreements with your daughter or other important people in your life.

When we are so focused on our own fears and our own egos, we can’t see what other people feel and need from us. Only when we can truly empathize with others can we build strong and positive relationships, communities, and ultimately, a more just society for everyone.

About the author: Dr. Hang Ngo is a licensed Clinical Psychologist. She speaks English, Cantonese, and Mandarin. Dr. Ngo provides therapy, psychological assessment services, and Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion consultation in Davis Square, Somerville. Her website is: https://hangngopsyd.com.

Disclaimer: The advice offered in this column is intended for informational purposes only. This column, its author, the newspaper and publisher are not responsible for the outcome or results of following any advice in any given situation. You, and only you, are completely responsible for your actions.

Haven Terrace, Gloucester, MA

AFFORDABLE HOUSING LOTTERY FOR OUR WAITING LIST

CONDOMINIUM COMMUNITY

1 Three Bedroom Unit ($195,000)

Informational Meeting: June 3, 2020

Lottery Date: July 1, 2020

Attendance is optional and not mandatory to be placed on waitlist

Providing affordable housing in Gloucester; One three-bedroom unit ($195,000) available for purchase.

Income limits apply – 1 person (80% AMI) $67,400; 2 persons $77,000; 3 persons $86,650; 4 persons $96,250; 5 persons $103,950 gross income

Gross Rent $2,413 and Tenants pay 30% of their Adjusted Gross Income in rent – utilities included.

For information, reasonable accommodation, or to request an application, please call Harborlight Community Partners Office (Monday-Friday, 8:30 AM-4:30 PM) located at 283 Elliot St., Beverly, MA 01915 Tel: 978-922-1305; TTY/TDD: Dial 711

Due to COVID-19 and public library/ town hall closures, applications are available only electronically (download or email) by mail. You can go to https://harborlightcp.org/housing/housing-lottery-opportunity/ to download the application or email information@harborlightcp.org or call the number listed above to have an application mail to you.

Applications are to be mailed to P.O. Box 507, Beverly, MA 01915 or dropped off at the above location. Application deadline for the lottery is June 30, 2020. Once lottery has been conducted, we will have an open application period.

HARDY STREET LLC

AFFORDABLE HOUSING LOTTERY FOR OUR WAITING LIST

Informational Meeting: Date/Time To Be Determined 6:00 pm

Via Zoom; Lottery Date: July 1, 2020

Attendance is optional and not mandatory to be placed on waitlist

Six - Two bedroom units including heat, hot water, air conditioning and electric.

Income limits apply – gross income for

1 person (50% AMI) $44,800, 2 persons $51,200; 3 persons $7,600; 4 persons $63,950.

Gross Rent $2,413 and Tenants pay 30% of their Adjusted Gross Income in rent – utilities included.

For information, reasonable accommodation, or to request an application, please call or visit Harborlight Community Partners Office (Monday-Friday, 8:30 AM-4:30 PM) located at

283 Elliot St., Beverly, MA 01915 Tel: 978-922-1305; TTY/TDD: Dial 711

Applications will also be available at the Gloucester City Hall and Sawyer Free Library, 2 Dale Avenue, Gloucester, or on our website: www.harborlightcp.org

For more information, contact: info@harborlightcp.org
Affordable Housing Lottery
Hanover Westford Hills
1 Westford Hills Road, Westford, MA

2BRs @ $844*, 2BRs @ $957*, 3BRs @ $1,097*
*Rent subject to change in 2023. Utilities are not included. Tenants will pay own gas, heat, electric cooking, gas hot water, electricity, and water.

Hanover Westford Hills is a 186-unit rental apartment community located at 1 Westford Hills Road, Westford. 36 Units will be made available through this application process. Of these units, there is a mix of 1BR, 2BR, and 3BR apartments, and one 3BR townhome available.Hanover Westf

Affordable Housing Lottery
Redtail Crossing Phase I
5 Eagle Brook Blvd., Wrentham, MA 02093

2BRs @ $1094*, 3BRs @ $1297*
*Rent subject to change. Tenants will pay own gas, heat, hot water, electricity (cooking is electric). The costs of water and sewer are included, as is free parking.

Redtail Crossing is a 100 unit rental apartment community featuring townhouse style units located at 5 Eagle Brook Boulevard in Wrentham, MA. The units are designed to feel more like a home than an apartment with each unit having its own garage, driveway and private patios for outdoor lounging and grilling. These features, along with a large open area, walking trails, a restaurant and the publically accessible Lake Pearl within walking distance. The interior of the units feature Stainless-Steel, Energy-Efficient Appliances, AC, In-Unit Washer and Dryer, and Wood-Style Flooring. Residents are permitted to have a dog or cat.

Redtail Crossing will be constructed in three phases. This application process applies to Phase I, which will have a total of seven affordable two and three-bedroom apartments.

Affordable Housing Lottery
Modera Marshfield
Commerce Way, Marshfield, MA 02050

2BRs @ $1,577*, 2BRs @ $1,667*, 3BRs @ $2,137*
*Rent subject to change. Utilities are not included. Tenants will pay own gas, heat, cooking, hot water), electricity, and water. Free surface parking space included.

Modera Marshfield is a 248 unit rental community which offers a range of product types and a full suite of community amenities. The community includes 2-story townhomes as well as flat-style apartment homes in 1, 2 or 3 bedroom layouts. Sixty-two (62) units will be made available through this application process at affordable prices in a mix of 1BR, 2BR, and 3BR apartments.

A Public Info Session will be held on July 15th, 2020 at 6pm via YouTube Live Stream (https://youtu.be/pC3BRYfP5gI) or (or just search “Modera Marshfield Info Session”), AND via conference call at (425) 436-6200 Access Code #65267. The lottery will be held on August 20th, 2020 at 6pm.

For Lottery Information and Applications, or for reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities, go to www.moderahousing.com or call (617) 782-4988 (x1) and leave a message or postal mail SEB Housing, 257 Hillside Ave, Needham MA 02494. For TTY Services dial 711. Free translation available.

Affordable Housing Lottery
Kings’ Lyne Apartments
Section 8 Project-Based Voucher waitlist for 1, 2, 3 and 4 bedroom apartments will open from June 15 – July 15, 2020. Placement on the waitlist will be determined by lottery. The income eligibility requirements are as follows:

MAXIMUM Household Income Limits:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No. of Persons</th>
<th>50% AMI</th>
<th>60% AMI</th>
<th>70% AMI</th>
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<tr>
<td>1 Person</td>
<td>$44,800</td>
<td>$52,000</td>
<td>$67,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Persons</td>
<td>$51,200</td>
<td>$61,400</td>
<td>$76,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Persons</td>
<td>$57,600</td>
<td>$68,000</td>
<td>$86,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Persons</td>
<td>$63,950</td>
<td>$75,350</td>
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Applicants must be determined eligible in accordance with the regulations of the Section 8 Project-Based Voucher Program. Rent is 30% of the household’s adjusted gross income.

Applications can be sent to you via email or mail upon request by calling 781-581-7106 or emailing hrodriguez@cjmmanagement.com from June 15–July 15, 2020, M-F, 9am–4pm.

Applications may also be picked up in person at King’s Lyne Apartments Management Office Entrance, Application Box, 115 O’Callaghan Way, Lynn, MA. June 15–July 15, 9am–5pm.

Completed applications must be postmarked, faxed to 781-592-7340, or delivered in person to the mail slot at the King’s Lyne Management Office at the address above by 4pm, July 15, 2020 to be included in the lottery.

The lottery will be held remotely on August 4, 2020 at 2pm.

King’s Lyne Apartments is a smoke-free housing community. For more information, language assistance, or reasonable accommodation for persons with disabilities, contact the King’s Lyne Management Office at 781-581-7106 | TTY: 711

King’s Lynne Apartments | cmjapts.com
Professionally Managed by CJM Management Company

MODERA Marshfield

COMMUNITY AMENITIES

- 24-hour gym
- Clubhouse
- Fitness center
- Resort-style pool
- Outdoor fireplace
- Gas fireplace
- BBQs for outdoor grilling
- Outdoor kitchen
- Community garden
- Tennis court
- Basketball court
- Outdoor fireplace
- Outdoor kitchen

COMMUNITY FEATURES

- Apartments will include frameless cabinets, framed mirrors, garden tubs with tile surround, natural stone countertops, and porcelain tile flooring.
- Future built conditions may vary.

For more information, contact:

KingsLynne.com  |  cmjapts.com

781-581-7106   | TTY: 711

KingsLynne.com  |  cmjapts.com
Professionally Managed by CJM Management Company
Volunteers at SAS check in with seniors on a weekly basis that signed up for the program beforehand or were taken in through community outreach. Volunteers have conversations with them, or offer help with grocery shopping or doing things online.

"Some of them didn’t even need anything," Regan said. "They just were a little lonely and needed a friendly voice, and people love to talk about their pets, of course, everyone does."

A free pet food pantry was set up by SAS in the community since March, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, no questions asked, no matter where you’re from, no matter who you are," Regan said of the pantry. The program kicked off with food offered from the shelter, and donations from people keep the pantry stocked.

"Some days it’s completely full, sometimes it’s completely empty, which to me is a good thing it means that the community is finding it very, very useful," Regan said. "The second we asked for something, we get it, because the community is truly amazing. It truly restores my hope in humanity."

The Animal Rescue League of Boston (ARL) promoted a program called Keep Pets S.A.F.E during the lockdown, which delivers pet food and other essential pet supplies to clients’ homes, according to Catherine Knapp, ARL Director of Animal Care and Operations.

"We were still here in the shelter, receiving animals in critical need and providing veterinary care, in addition to taking care of all the animals in the shelter, and sending as many as possible out to our large, caring network of foster homes," she wrote in an email to Sampan.

As Massachusetts gradually re-opens the economy, animal shelters are making adjustments following new protocols and guidelines updated by the state and local governments, in conjunction with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The adoption centers at ARL opened on June 2 by appointments only. The phone lines of reserving appointments started on May 28, and it has been extremely busy, according to Knapp. Since reopening, their available appointments have been fully booked and many animals were already sent to a home.

"We are lucky to have a large team of more than 700 very committed volunteers who are always willing to pitch in when necessary," Knapp wrote.

Appointment-only adoption meet-ings are also conducted in MAS, and a maximum of two fang in coroners can attend the meeting, according to Simmons.

At the same time, they start to slowly re-engage volunteers, making it possible to gradually take in more pets.

"Nothing can be guaranteed when it comes to making plans, however, and Simmons said they will not be conducting open adoption hours anytime soon.

Besides closing open visits and setting appointment only meetings to practice social distancing, animal shelters are adapting and exploring new operation modes. Regan from SAS said they are developing a kind of new routine.

Traditionally, if pet owners needed help to put their pet up for adoption, but preferred not to send it to a shelter, then the shelter would help post the information on social media, but not be liable for it.

However, during the stay-at-home order, if someone contacted SAS and needed to find their pet a new home, SAS accepted the animal into their system. They then promoted the animal’s profile on their platforms, and took care of things like medical care until finding the right adopter.

"It was like an exaggerated form of something we’ve done before," Regan said. "We might actually proceed with something a little bit at some level in the future.”

How Covid-19 will change a trip to the dentist’s office

By Dan Dunkin
Special to Sampan

As the coronavirus pandemic swept the U.S., state governments mandated that dental offices open only for emergency procedures.

But in the coming weeks, some dental practices may resume regular appointments in individual states where businesses considered "essential" are allowed to re-open. When dentists re-open for full business, the patient experience may seem the same in some ways, but in other ways the offices will reflect a "new normal," says Dr. Kyle Bogan (www.drkytlebogan.com), a general dentist and speaker on workplace culture.

"Dentists are accustomed to following stringent infection control precautions under normal circumstances to lower the risk of transmission of infectious diseases," Bogan said. "These precautions help keep both patients and dentists safe because it assumes all patients may have an infection, despite the reality that most won’t."

"But now I expect patients will be given temperature checks before an appointment and be asked to fill out a questionnaire regarding coronavirus symptoms. All hygiene and safety standards will be enhanced, and the look of a typical dental office will be different."

Bogan said those aren’t the only ways a dental visit may be different as a result of Covid-19. Others include:

• More safeguards against blood and saliva. When dentists work on your teeth, they can produce aerosols – droplets or sprays of saliva or blood – in the air. This happens routinely when the dentist uses a drill or when the teeth are scaled or polished. With the coronavirus pandemic, there is an increased risk that the blood or saliva may carry the virus and either directly infect the dental staff, or land on surfaces that the staff or the next patient can touch, Bogan says. “Equipment that reduces patient spray will come into play for patient and employee safety,” he says. “You’ll see preproce- dural rinses with a hydrogen peroxide solution, which is effective at killing the virus and reducing viral load in the mouth. There will be more use of rubber dams, a shield that fits over top of the tooth and minimizes aerosols in the area. The high-volume suction used to suction up spray will be used at a higher level. And some dentists may be wearing face shields.”

• An empty “waiting” room. Seeing several people in the waiting room reading magazines may be a thing of the past. “You shouldn’t go into an office until it’s your time to go in,” Bogan says. “There will be limited, if any, occupancy in waiting rooms. Offices will schedule more time between appointments, both to maintain safe space between patients and to have sufficient time to clean up between patients or other personnel. Dentists who had to postpone non-essential appointments such as checkups, cleanings, and orthodon-tic adjustments.”

• “Along with having trust in your dentist’s ability to care for your needs, more than ever a patient has to trust in the cleanliness and safety of the dental environment,” Bogan said. “That’s what will help set an office apart, and anything less will result in a patient migration.”

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*A Applicants with rental assistance vouchers are encouraged to apply

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Applications are available by mail, e-mail, or in person as of June 15th, 2020.

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*Selection by lottery

Informational Meetings to be held on 07/01/20 and 07/07/20, from 5pm-6pm via Virtual Zoom Meeting.

Zoom Meeting ID 7/1/20 - 935 8049 7689
Zoom Meeting ID 7/7/20 - 930 5872 4585

Please contact our office for additional details.
Ruby Foo, Chinatown’s first woman Restaurateur

(Part 2)

Let me continue the tale of the admirable Ruby Foo. Her restaurant in Chinatown opened around 1929 and the first advertisement I found for it was in the Boston Globe, July 2, 1935. The restaurant, known as Ruby Foo at The Den, offered “delicious Chinese Foods” and it was open until 4 a.m. It was said that Ruby Foo originally presented Cantonese food for the Chinese community, but eventually, the quality of her food enticed non-Chinese to dine there.

Ruby’s restaurant was so successful during the 1930s that she was approached to open a second location in New York City. Joe Pike and his wife Florence (who was from Boston) used to travel frequently and dined at numerous Chinese restaurants. They were impressed with what Ruby Foo had created, and proposed a partnership to her to open a similar restaurant in New York, using the same Cantonese recipes. This second location opened at 240 West 52nd Street, just off Broadway, in October 1936. This was probably the first Chinatown restaurant in New York, using the same Cantonese recipes. In 1939, it was noted that Ruby now offered a Chinese food delivery service, and experimented on creating excellent Chinese foods that could be canned. Great care was taken in the preparation of all of these foods, including using quality ingredients. Some of the canned foods included Chicken Chow Mein, Vegetable Chow Mein, Mushroom Egg Drop Soup and Noodles.

In July 1939, it was noted that Ruby had created, and proposed a partner-ship to her to open a similar restaurant in New York, using the same Cantonese recipes. This second location opened at 240 West 52nd Street, just off Broadway, in October 1936. This was probably the first Chinatown restaurant in New York, using the same Cantonese recipes. In 1939, it was noted that Ruby now offered a Chinese food delivery service, and experimented on creating excellent Chinese foods that could be canned. Great care was taken in the preparation of all of these foods, including using quality ingredients. Some of the cans included Chicken Chow Mein, Vegetable Chow Mein, Mushroom Egg Drop Soup and Noodles.

Though the Ruby Foo food empire was going very well, it would suffer a terrible tragedy. Ruby Foo passed away suddenly at home on March 16, 1950 from a heart attack. She had recently spent five months in a hospital for treatment of her heart condition. A life cut far too short. According to the Boston Globe, March 16, 1950, Ruby’s alleged last words to her nurse were, “Call me at 1:30 (a.m.). I want to call the restaurant.” That is certainly dedication to her passion.

Despite Ruby’s passing, her restaurant continued to operate under the management of two of her children, Doris Shong and Earl Shong.

During the 1950s, Ruby Foo’s Den remained immensely popular, especially with celebrities, from comedians to sports figures. And the newspapers were very complimentary to how Doris and Earl were handling the restaurant. However, the restaurant finally closed in July 1957.

Ruby Foo is commemorated in Boston as part of The Boston Women’s Heritage Trail. In addition, back in the summer of 2019, the Chinese Historical Society of New England worked with the Boston City Archaeology Program on the first archaeological dig in Chinatown. They spent about three weeks, digging in a vacant lot, which once had been the home to Ruby Foo’s Den. The Hudson Street building was torn down in 1989. Unfortunately, once they had dug down about six-and-a-half feet, they hit the water table and had to cease their activities for safety reasons.

The story of Ruby Foo is a powerful tale of an intelligent, charismatic and savvy businesswoman who became a success in the restaurant industry, and introduced many people to the wonders of Chinese cuisine. Plus, she succeeded during difficult times, from the Great Depression to World War II. Who knows what she might have accomplished if she had only lived longer. Many kudos to the memory of Ruby Foo!
Food for Thought
The Boston Public Markets are open, offering a refreshing start to the summer
By Anna Ing

As we are nearing the official start of summer, I have been excited about the local Farmers’ Markets finally opening back up this month. With everyone cooking so much more at home after the start of this pandemic (myself included), being able to have access to fresh, seasonal, healthy and quality fruits and vegetables is all the more important. And by buying from local farmers, we reduce our carbon footprint, and these growers do not use the harsh pesticides and preservatives on their crops. Plus, I enjoy seeing the different foods and goods being offered.

We went to the Boston Public Market at Seaport on 85 Northern Avenue last Saturday, and there were only four vendors. We were told as the season progresses that more vendors will be added. This year marks the third year of the Seaport market, which is open every Saturday from noon to 6 p.m. from June 6 until Sept. 26, it’s located just a block from the MBTA Silver Line at the courthouse stop. Only 9 years ago, this formerly open and un-developed area has changed within the last few years to having some of the most expensive rents in the city with luxury high rises, top of the line retail shops, and restaurants.

We saw Del’s Lemonade (frozen lemonade) stand from Cranston, R.I. and Native Colombian Foods Coffee stand from Wayland, Mass., offering Colombian coffee grown from family-run farms in the Southern Colombian town Pitalito Huila. We couldn’t resist getting ice cream from Sisters of Anarchy Ice Cream from Shelburne, Vt. Since the flavor we wanted was not in a single scoop serving, we got the Chocolate Safe Space ($1.75 for a single scoop). Wow, this was so delicious! We could have been fooled as the caliber of the dark chocolate was creamy, rich and not overly sweet nor intensely bitter. Per the ingredients list, all of them are locally sourced and made on site at Fisher Brothers Farm in Vermont. We sure were fooled! We loved their inventive flavor names such as: Token Male, Chaste Ann, and Bronx Cheer.

Finally, you cannot have a farmer’s market without a stop over at vegetable/produce vendor Farmer Dave’s from Tewksbury, Mass., which offered some other edible goodies. The Boston Public Market also hosts a Farmer’s Market every Tuesday and Thursday from 11:30 a.m. until 6:30 p.m. at Dewey Square across from South Station on the Greenway from now until Nov. 17. Some mandatory guidelines to note: you must wear a mask; remember to do social distancing; wash your hands, and pay with credit cards. Please feel free to double-check the most up to date information especially for the available vendors list.

The Greenway News

The Conservancy responds to Covid-19; projects ongoing in Chinatown’s Serpentine Path; food trucks running; fountains and streams flowing

By Rachel Lake

The Greenway is the contemporary public park in the heart of Boston, stretching 1.5 miles from Chinatown to the North End. The Greenway welcomes millions of visitors annually to gather, play, unwind, and explore. The Greenway Conservancy is the non-profit responsible for the management and care of The Greenway. Starting this week, we are delighted to bring a regular column to Sampan to provide updates on The Greenway and work of the Conservancy.

As the Commonwealth and City of Boston continue phased reopening, residents and visitors are encouraged to safely visit the park; the Greenway Conservancy has taken special precautions amidst the coronavirus and encourages all park visitors to practice physical distancing, good hygiene, and caution.

While many Conservancy staff continue to work remotely, our horticulture and maintenance teams are at work in the park, as well as our two Greenway rangers. Ongoing projects in Chinatown include the Conservancy’s bamboo renovation project, the transplanting and new plantings in the Serpentine Path area to improve the sightlines for safety, and work on the irrigation systems that keep everything watered. We have delayed the return of most of the movable tables and chairs to the park in an effort to stem the spread of Covid-19.

As we continue into Phase 2 of reopening, the Conservancy has reopened our Greenway PlayCubes, closed in late March, for children with a supervising adult. Additionally, the Conservancy this week began to turn on our fountains across the park, including the Chinatown Stream along the Serpentine Path.

Nearby at Dewey Square, our Greenway Food Truck Program has returned on a limited schedule and the Boston Public Market at Dewey Square has returned for the season, once again bringing locally-sourced food to those who live or work downtown from local farmers and small businesses. The food trucks and farmers market have enhanced cleaning and physical distancing procedures to promote safety for our park visitors; farmers market vendors are proud to accept SNAP/EBT and HIP for all eligible products.

“During these challenging times; the Conservancy’s priorities are the health and safety of our visitors, staff, and partners on The Greenway,” said Greenway Conservancy Executive Director Jesse Brackenbury. “As we continue with the phased reopening in the park, we will continue to provide dynamic, open, community-based public art, and local food options that are essential to everyone who shares our city.”

Have questions? Check out our website at rosekenedygreenway.org or email info@rosekenedygreenway.org. Stay tuned for our next column highlighting our work on the gardens in Auntie Kay & Uncle Frank Chin Park and Mary Soo Hoo Park on The Greenway!