Unprecedented T Shutdowns:
Finding Alternative Public Transport

By: Kristen Si

Since August 19th, the T’s Orange Line has faced the beginning of its unprecedented month-long shutdown in service. This disruption has since been followed by the closure of Green Line stops north of Government Center, with neither shutdown being lifted until September 18th.

Even with the Orange Line opening up on September 18th, there seems to be little reprieve from T shutdowns. The Green Line has been undergoing the Green Line Train Protection System (GLTPS) renovation this summer, with tracks being replaced on B, C, D, and E branches in an effort to prevent derailments and reduce the number of unexpected stops. Only the D branch is left for renovation, which will occur from September 24th to October 30th.

These closures come on the heels of rising MBTA safety concerns, as a Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Safety Management Inspection was conducted this July. FTA Associate Administrator for Transit Safety and Oversight Joe DeLorenzo wrote in a letter to MBTA General Manager Steve Poftak that “there is a continued failure to sufficiently prevent unintended and uncontrolled train movements by disabled trains,” referring to multiple incidents of Red Line trains rolling away on tracks due to faulty braking systems. In the face of glaring concerns, there have been widespread safety overhauls in the Orange Line trains rolling away on tracks due to faulty braking systems. In the face of glaring concerns, there have been widespread safety overhauls in the Orange Line, with tracks being replaced on B, C, D, and E branches in an effort to prevent derailments and reduce the number of unexpected stops. Only the D branch is left for renovation, which will occur from September 24th to October 30th.

The Orange Line is now undergoing a 30-day safety and revitalization renovation project termed the Orange Line Transformation Program. This is part of the MBTA’s “Building a Better T” program and is meant to replace tracks, upgrade signals, and improve stations within a month—an acceleration on the plan’s original 5-year timeline. With respect to the disruption, MBTA General Manager Steve Poftak defends the decision, claiming that “thirty days of 24-hour access to the Orange Line replaces over five years of weekend diversions needed to address delays and slow zones. We can eliminate slow zones, prevent unplanned service disruptions, and increase the reliability of our service. Perhaps most importantly, we will provide the quality of safety and service that our riders deserve.”

With the Orange Line serving
Continued on Page 6

Photo courtesy of Unsplash

Labor Shortages and Climate Crises:
Immigrants Impacted in Food Supply Industry

By: Giselle Chu

Immigrants have long played a key role in the creation of the national food supply. Previously, the US faced a labor shortage in the food industry before COVID, only to have it exacerbated by the pandemic. According to a July 2022 report from the American Immigration Council, the existing labor shortage consists of two key parts: “an increase in retirements as the baby boom generation reaches retirement age, and lower labor participation rates since the pandemic.”

Immigrants’ large impact on the food supply can be noticed in their contributions to the dairy and meat industries. Immigrant workers are a key asset in the dairy industry. The American Immigration Council states that “many dairy farmers rely on immigrant workers—often undocumented—to milk and tend to the cows” and “retail milk prices would nearly double if farmers lost foreign-born workers.” Immigrants hold a similar significance in the meat industry. Specifically, the meatpacking industry, where over 50 percent of workers are immigrants, has historically depended on immigrant workers since the 1880s; in early 2020, 45.4 percent of meatpacking workers were foreign born. The labor shortage has directly impacted this industry, with a rise in meat prices as well as a rise in online job postings. From 2017 to 2021, the number of these postings rose by 86.4 percent. The American Immigration Council reports that “meat producers have called for the federal government to increase immigration.”

Writing in a letter to MBTA General Manager Steve Poftak, the American Immigration Council reports that “meat producers have called for the federal government to increase immigration.”

Increased on Page 4

Continued on Page 6

PAGE 13

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Lantern Stories
PAGE 2

Aspirin, Heart Disease and You
PAGE 3

Gun Possession in Morocco
PAGE 3

Events Calendar
PAGE 5

Interview with Monique Tú Nguyen
PAGE 8

Easter Sunday
PAGE 10

Orange Line Shutdown:
How it effects bicyclists
PAGE 12

Global Warming in China
PAGE 13

The only bilingual Chinese-English Newspaper in New England
Vol. 51, Issue No. 10
September 2, 2022 - September 15, 2022
2022年9月2日－2022年9月15日

Finding Alternative Public Transport

Labor Shortages and Climate Crises:
Immigrants Impacted in Food Supply Industry

PAGE 13

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Lantern Stories
PAGE 2

Aspirin, Heart Disease and You
PAGE 3

Gun Possession in Morocco
PAGE 3

Events Calendar
PAGE 5

Interview with Monique Tú Nguyen
PAGE 8

Easter Sunday
PAGE 10

Orange Line Shutdown:
How it effects bicyclists
PAGE 12

Global Warming in China
PAGE 13

Finding Alternative Public Transport

Labor Shortages and Climate Crises:
Immigrants Impacted in Food Supply Industry

By: Giselle Chu

Immigrants have long played a key role in the creation of the national food supply. Previously, the US faced a labor shortage in the food industry before COVID, only to have it exacerbated by the pandemic. According to a July 2022 report from the American Immigration Council, the existing labor shortage consists of two key parts: “an increase in retirements as the baby boom generation reaches retirement age, and lower labor participation rates since the pandemic.”

Immigrants’ large impact on the food supply can be noticed in their contributions to the dairy and meat industries. Immigrant workers are a key asset in the dairy industry. The American Immigration Council states that “many dairy farmers rely on immigrant workers—often undocumented—to milk and tend to the cows” and “retail milk prices would nearly double if farmers lost foreign-born workers.” Immigrants hold a similar significance in the meat industry. Specifically, the meatpacking industry, where over 50 percent of workers are immigrants, has historically depended on immigrant workers since the 1880s; in early 2020, 45.4 percent of meatpacking workers were foreign born. The labor shortage has directly impacted this industry, with a rise in meat prices as well as a rise in online job postings. From 2017 to 2021, the number of these postings rose by 86.4 percent. The American Immigration Council reports that “meat producers have called for the federal government to increase immigration.”

Writing in a letter to MBTA General Manager Steve Poftak, the American Immigration Council reports that “meat producers have called for the federal government to increase immigration.”

The only bilingual Chinese-English Newspaper in New England
Vol. 51, Issue No. 10
September 2, 2022 - September 15, 2022
2022年9月2日－2022年9月15日

Finding Alternative Public Transport

Labor Shortages and Climate Crises:
Immigrants Impacted in Food Supply Industry

By: Giselle Chu

Immigrants have long played a key role in the creation of the national food supply. Previously, the US faced a labor shortage in the food industry before COVID, only to have it exacerbated by the pandemic. According to a July 2022 report from the American Immigration Council, the existing labor shortage consists of two key parts: “an increase in retirements as the baby boom generation reaches retirement age, and lower labor participation rates since the pandemic.”

Immigrants’ large impact on the food supply can be noticed in their contributions to the dairy and meat industries. Immigrant workers are a key asset in the dairy industry. The American Immigration Council states that “many dairy farmers rely on immigrant workers—often undocumented—to milk and tend to the cows” and “retail milk prices would nearly double if farmers lost foreign-born workers.” Immigrants hold a similar significance in the meat industry. Specifically, the meatpacking industry, where over 50 percent of workers are immigrants, has historically depended on immigrant workers since the 1880s; in early 2020, 45.4 percent of meatpacking workers were foreign born. The labor shortage has directly impacted this industry, with a rise in meat prices as well as a rise in online job postings. From 2017 to 2021, the number of these postings rose by 86.4 percent. The American Immigration Council reports that “meat producers have called for the federal government to increase immigration.”

Writing in a letter to MBTA General Manager Steve Poftak, the American Immigration Council reports that “meat producers have called for the federal government to increase immigration.”

PAGE 13

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Lantern Stories
PAGE 2

Aspirin, Heart Disease and You
PAGE 3

Gun Possession in Morocco
PAGE 3

Events Calendar
PAGE 5

Interview with Monique Tú Nguyen
PAGE 8

Easter Sunday
PAGE 10

Orange Line Shutdown:
How it effects bicyclists
PAGE 12

Global Warming in China
PAGE 13
Lantern Stories, By Yu-Wen Lu at Chinatown’s Chin Park, Boston, MA. August 2022

The Rose Kennedy Greenway Conservancy recently re-installed Lantern Stories in Chinatown’s Chin Park. It’s by Taiwan native and Boston-based interdisciplinary artist Yu-Wen Wu. While its first iteration in 2020 was embraced by the community, it faced COVID-19 restrictions. With this new iteration, Wu created new images that evoked the reality of exclusion acts and racial hatred and the necessity of unity and cohesion. This 2022 version of Lantern Stories also features contributions from other local artists. Wu’s themes cover migration, displacement, arrival, assimilation, and identity. Like most of the best public art in Boston, Lantern Stories exists comfortably within the sometimes uncomfortable intersections of art, science, politics, and socio-cultural identity. It’s yet another unique facet of Chinatown’s rich cultural history that embraces the past, lives in the present, and strives towards a better tomorrow.

Photos by Sampan Photographer Kevin Don
Aspirin, Heart Disease, and You

By: Jeff Millman

Once upon a time, bloodletting and lobotomies were common medical procedures. Cocaine was prescribed for depression, and doctors treated asthma with cigarettes. Conventional medical wisdom – fortunately for us – changes over time. The progress of science is cumulative: as we gather more evidence, we build upon our existing knowledge and abandon those practices for which there is little empirical support. Earlier this year, the United States Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF), a volunteer panel of experts that issues evidence-based medical recommendations, updated their stance on daily aspirin use. 30 million Americans over the age of 40 take aspirin every day because of its supposed benefit of reducing the risk of heart disease. The USPSTF now cautions against such widespread use. They state that aspirin for certain populations may have a small benefit, but that it should not be taken daily by healthy people.

Aspirin works by preventing inflammatory processes in the body. It can also prevent blood platelets from aggregating, hence the potential benefits of aspirin for people with cardiovascular disease. In such patients, abnormal platelet aggregation can lead to abnormal clotting, hence the potential benefits of aspirin, what else can done to reduce the risk? Cardiovascular disease affects nearly half of American adults and is the number one cause of death in the US, so it’s clear that we must be vigilant about preventing it. Dr. Emelia Benjamin, professor of cardiology at Boston University, recommends focusing on the “Simple 7” – the American Heart Association’s 7 goals of eating a healthy diet, exercising, avoiding obesity, not smoking, and keeping blood pressure, cholesterol, and blood sugar within a healthy range. This is particularly important for non-white populations, who may suffer from precursor conditions such as hypertension and obesity. South Asians are more likely to die of heart disease than the general population, and Black and Hispanic adults are more likely to suffer from hypertension, diabetes, and obesity.

Cardiovascular disease will likely continue to be a leading cause of death in the aftermath of the pandemic, which undoubtedly had a negative impact on cardiovascular health. Not only can COVID-19 itself cause damage to the heart, but the unhealthy eating habits, increased consumption of alcohol, and lack of physical activity that resulted from quarantine affected our health profoundly. Dr. Donald Lloyd-Jones, president of the American Heart Association, said in an interview last year that medical professionals “have seen much of the progress [in preventing cardiovascular disease] go out the window since COVID-19 hit.” Another impact of the pandemic was missed medical visits, with many patients postponing regular check-ups with their doctors. The American Heart Association also found that many individuals who experienced a heart attack or stroke during the pandemic “did not seek urgent care out of fear of contract- ing COVID-19 in a hospital setting.”

Everyone can take steps to reduce their risk of cardiovascular disease, but with the pandemic now on the wane, it may take some time to break the bad habits many of us fell into. Recommending ourselves to a healthy diet and daily exercise and avoiding smoking and other unhealthy behaviors can do wonders for our physical and mental health. Heart disease is an epidemic in the United States that requires no less attention than COVID-19, and by listening to our medical professionals and living better, we can regain the progress we were making before the pandemic in reducing cardiovascular disease.

Gun Possession in Morocco: Sampan Interviews a Citizen about Gun Culture in his Homeland and the US

By: Christopher John Stephens

In a 2018 failed bid for the 2026 World Cup, Morocco highlighted its limited threats from gun crime, especially compared to the United States. At that time, Morocco’s murder rate was 3 in 100,000, which looks comfortable against 5.3 in the United States. The rate has stayed more or less the same in Morocco over these past four years. In comparison, the United States experienced more gun-related deaths in 2020 than any other in recorded history. This reporter recently had the opportunity to survey a Moroccan native, via email, about perceptions of US gun violence from a Moroccan perspective.

SAMPAN: What were your initial impressions, as a child, of the role guns played in the culture of the United States?

When I was young, the movies that prevailed were Westerns and Thrillers. Guns were the solution to every conflict and the hero was the one who handled guns better and quicker.

SAMPAN: What role did guns play in your life as a child growing up in Morocco?

Real guns never existed in both my childhood and my adulthood because they don’t exist. Gun Possession is simply not allowed by the law.

SAMPAN: Describe the punishment for illegal ownership and distribution of guns in your country. Does Moroccan popular culture (TV, music, film) glamorize gun use as so often been the case in the United States?

Illegal possession of arms is harshly punishable. If someone is caught, he or she would be tried at the military court and would be sent to jail for a long time. Arms do not represent an issue in Moroccan culture that’s why they are never mentioned or used in Moroccan movies.

SAMPAN: How long have you been in the United States? Were friends and family scared knowing that you’d be coming here and probably susceptible to more gun violence here than in Morocco?

I have been living in the US for more than 20 years. I have never felt threatened for my life or the lives of my children because shootings usually happened in places they were bound to happen. However, since 2016 life has changed dramatically in America. Random shooting and mass-killing has become more common. Last weekend murders in four different states are a good example.

SAMPAN: Do you think the importance of guns in American culture is an unavoidable fabric of who we are? If we consider that the West was “won” by pistols and six-shooters, and guns have been constant from the beginning, how can we change? How can we steer our children away from the impression that guns are the only way to solve problems?

Guns in America are here to stay. Changing mentalities is a long process. First we have to establish stricter laws on the companies that make and market guns. I think if it is easy to trace where a bullet came from, it should be easier to know where the gun came from. By doing so we can punish the gun maker who let it go to the wrong hands. Hollywood and games designers should stop glorifying guns and start steering our children’s attention towards more positive experiences for which there is little empirical support. Another impact of the pandemic was missed medical visits, with many patients postponing regular check-ups with their doctors. The American Heart Association also found that many individuals who experienced a heart attack or stroke during the pandemic “did not seek urgent care out of fear of contract- ing COVID-19 in a hospital setting.”

Everyone can take steps to reduce their risk of cardiovascular disease, but with the pandemic now on the wane, it may take some time to break the bad habits many of us fell into. Recommending ourselves to a healthy diet and daily exercise and avoiding smoking and other unhealthy behaviors can do wonders for our physical and mental health. Heart disease is an epidemic in the United States that requires no less attention than COVID-19, and by listening to our medical professionals and living better, we can regain the progress we were making before the pandemic in reducing cardiovascular disease.

SAMPAN: Are you confident that US legislators and our President, now or later, will be able to write and pass some sensible gun legislation? Can the US gun problem be solved in your lifetime? If so, how? Tell us the ways the US gun problem be solved in your homeland and the US?
federal government to expand the H-2B visa program to allow year-round visas in addition to the seasonal visas allowed today." The current H-2A and H-2B allow for employers to hire temporary foreign workers for seasonal industries such as those of dairy and meat. The H-2A visa regards temporary agricultural workers (such as tending livestock), and the H-2B visa regards temporary non-agricultural workers (such as butchering meat).

It is clear that immigrant workers are significant to the national food supply. However, there are multiple obstacles in their way, such as unsafe working conditions and irregularities due to their status as immigrants. The conditions of extreme heat environments and weather-exposed industries put these workers in dangerous positions. “Heat-related illnesses are the leading cause of death for farmworkers, who are 20 percent more likely to die from than are other workers.” The recent heatwaves this year and this summer only exacerbate the issue of safe working conditions, as workers are still expected to continue to work despite the increased risk of harm and exposure to wildfire smoke.”

An individual Immigrants’ status as a resident in this country also plays a large role in their eligibility and access to rights. According to the Center for Law and Social Policy (CLASP), “workers whose homes may have been impacted by wildfires or flooding may be ineligible for economic or housing assistance due to their immigration status. Immigrants who develop health conditions from exposure to toxic chemicals at work are often not eligible for health care coverage.”

Additionally, “immigrant workers are particularly vulnerable to labor abuses. Both the meatpacking and farming industries aggressively recruit undocumented workers precisely because their status can be used against them. Companies pay them lower wages, provide fewer benefits, and cut costs through subpar working conditions.”

Lack of legal protections means that immigrant food supply workers are particularly vulnerable to worsening labor conditions as a result of climate change. Farmworkers are excluded from many federal labor standards that protect the rights of workers in other sectors, including collective bargaining rights. Although farm work is subject to the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) and other limited federal policies, employers frequently violate these standards with no repercussions.

The Amazon warehouse work is drying up because of this problem. The drought we’ve had this summer also isn’t helping. I would go back to Florida and try my luck in the orange groves, but it’s not much better there.”

Luisa, who declined to offer her city or place of residence, instead gave this reporter some advice: “I think you should understand that it’s not going to get better any time soon. Your fresh fruit will get more expensive. Your dairy and meats will also keep going up in price. You will have to choose between less healthy alternatives and processed food or go to the high-priced stores and pay three times as much for a third of what you usually received. Don’t even get me started on the fact that those stores are nowhere near where frontline food workers live or work.”

The positive impact of immigrants is blinded by their disadvantages in the food supply industry. By filling the labor shortage but not being given equal rights, immigrants are burdened with their responsibility. In the future, the US can surely find a way to consider expanding temporary work visa programs and implementing policies that will protect all workers across the food supply industry, support immigration rights, and make our agricultural system match the invaluable status of our human resources: the people who bring good food to our tables.

Continued from Page 1
Events Calendar

1. SoWa Open Market on Sundays: May 1, 11:00 am–October 30, 4:00 pm. An event every week that begins at 11:00 am on Sunday. “SoWa Open Market is part farmers’ market, part arts market, and part food festival. Local farmers and food purveyors line up to sell fresh produce, animal products, baked goods, and other treats, while artists sell handmade jewelry, clothing, home decor, and ceramics.”

2. To the ICA, free of charge throughout 2022. August 11-2023. 9:00am-5:00 pm. Recurring Event. Institute of Contemporary Art. 25 Harbor Shore Drive Boston, MA 02210. “Open to all, the weekly evening event runs through the end of 2022, and among the murals presented, you’ll view an array of 2022 exhibits, including Deana Lawson’s photographic representations of Black life, the multimedia Installations of Somerville native Renee Green, opulent and joyful sculptures of Raul de Nieves in Treasure House of Memory, and Eva LeWitt’s captivating arrangements of hanging geometric forms. Face coverings are required, and, beginning January 15, people age 12 plus must show COVID-19 vaccine proof to enter the museum.”

3. View ‘Legacies’ by Rose B. Simpson. August 11th, 10:00 am-January 29th, 2023 5:00 pm. Institute of Contemporary Art. 25 Harbor Shore Drive Boston, MA 02210. “A portrait of the Pueblo of Santa Clara, a federally recognized tribe of Native American ancestry in New Mexico, and is an enrolled member of the Pueblo of Santa Clara, a federally recognized tribe of Native American people.”

4. Support local businesses at the Seaport. August 1st, 7:00 pm – August 15th, 5:00 pm. Recurring Event. Seaport. “Visitors can visit 75 Sleeper St., across from the Envoy Hotel.”

5. King Richard’s Faire returns to Carver. September 3, 10:30 am-October 23, 6:00 pm. King Richard’s Faire Grounds, 235 Main St. Carver, MA 02330. “Detail in the woods in an enchanting village known as Carvershire awaits guests where royalty stroll alongside minstrels and jesters, knights joust on horseback, and kissing wenches steal smooches from unsuspecting victors.”

6. The Smithsonian comes to Massachusetts. September 10, 10:00 am-June 23, 2022. 5:00 pm. Smithsonian Institution. “The exhibit produced by the Smithsonian Institution’s Museum on Main Street program. The Smithsonian, along with Mass Humanities, have selected six temporary Art. 25 Harbor Shore Drive Boston, MA 02210. "The exhibition, "America’s Rural Transformation," features new works alongside multimedia installations of Somerville artist Renée Green, opulent and joyful sculptures that go on view at the ICA this August in an exhibit called “Legacies,” featuring new works alongside her signature ones. Simpson lives and works in Somerville, New Mexico, and is an enrolled member of the Pueblo of Santa Clara, a federally recognized tribe of Native American people.”

7. Celebrate Oktoberfest with beer in hand at this Boston bar crawl. September 17, 3:00 pm – 7:00 pm. Union Square, Somerville MA 02143. “Things are about to get a little sticky in Union Square with the return of the 17th Annual "What the Fluff? Festival!" Slated for Sept 17 (with a Sept. 18 rate date), this quirky outdoor party celebrates the goofy goodness of the marshmallow topping invented in Somerville in 1912. Billed as the festival that it was mentioned in Lone- Ray Pearl as one of the reasons Somer- ville is among its top 10 "Best in the U.S." destinations. With this year’s theme of "Fluff at First Sight: Back on Track!" the festival returns for a nutty year of musical performances, cooking contests, Fluff-themed games, activities, and Fluff treats of all kinds.”

8. SoWa Open Market on Sundays: September 10, 11:00 am-October 30, 4:00 pm. “The Seaport x Black Owned Boston Market offers a wide range of products that support Black entrepreneurship, including gifts, apparel, packaged foods, and beauty products. This market, located at Seaport Common, is run by Black Owned Boston, a business service and consulting agency which aims to high- light Black owned businesses, places, spaces and people. Black Owned Bos aims to show people that collective buying power can make an impact, and asks them to be intentional about the distribution of resources in communi- ties. Parking is available at One Seaport Garage, located at 75 Sleeper St., across from the Envoy Hotel.”

9. Go on a guided sake tasting without leaving Brighton at Sake Day East. September 30, 6:00 pm – 8:30 pm. Garage B at the Charles River Speed- way 25 Western Ave, Boston, MA 02135. “Sake lovers, you can thank Marina Giordano, a certified sake educator, sommelier, and well-traveled pro. Giordano founded Sake Day East in celebration of World Sake Day, and it has grown into New England’s larg- est sake tasting. This year, Giordano’s Wine & Sake Experience hosts the event on Friday night, September 30.”

10. Attend the 43rd annual Harvard Square Oktoberfest. October 5, 11:00 am – 6:00 pm. Harvard Square Brattle St Cambridge, MA 02138. “Annually attended by over 100,000 people, the Harvard Square Oktoberfest is a long-standing tradition for Harvard Square. Planned and executed by The Harvard Square Business Association, which hosts multiple events throughout the year, Oktoberfest is one of the group’s largest and most popular celebrations. This year, Oktoberfest will feature: Live music, Dancing, Street performers, Family-friendly activities, Side- walk sales, Arts and craft vendors, VIP tents, Fluff food, Gooey, globally inspired food.”

11. Register Now for Tufts CTSI’s 7th Annual Asian Health Symposium on September 30th. You are invited to join Tufts Clinical and Translational Science Institute (Tufts CTSI) and the Addressing Disparities in Asian Populations through Translational Research (ADAPT) program for the 7th Annual Asian Health Symposium “Unpacking the Root Causes of Problem Gambling in the Asian Community: From Research to Action” on Friday, September 30.

The recently launched Asian CARES report illuminates how problem gambling is the “canary in the coal mine” for the Asian community. Join us to learn about current Asian gambling trends and how problem gambling can be addressed by using a public health approach. Researchers and community members are encouraged to attend! Language interpretation and translation services in Chinese Mandarin and Cantonese will be provided.

Date: Friday, September 30, 2022. 9:00AM-10:30AM (Breakfast and Regis- tration: 9:00AM-9:30AM; Lunch and Networking: 12:30PM-1:30PM) Location: Center for Medical Educa- tion, Room #114 | 145 Harrison Ave. Chinatown. Registration and more information: https://www.tuftsctsi.org/events/7th-annual-asian-health-symposium/
more than 100,000 trips every day, these closures have significant impact on the daily lives of local Boston residents, with a particular focus on the city’s working class community. With many having limited access to personal vehicles, the MBTA has taken on an inability to afford expensive rideshare costs, making public transportation become a necessity for thousands of residents.

In the face of this month-long disruption, the MBTA has offered possible alternative routes for people in need of transportation between the currently closed stations. The commuter rail will be free to riders who show their CharlieCard or CharlieTicket during the Orange Line shutdown. For riders south of the Downtown station, passengers should look for Providence/Stoughton Line trains stopping at Hyde Park and Forest Hills. For riders on the northern side of the Orange Line, look for Haverhill Line trains stopping at Oak Grove. Due to the commuter rail running in parallel to many sections of the Orange Line, the commuter rail may be the closest alternative to previously existing public transportation routes.

For people looking for other Orange Line alternatives, other options include shuttle services and Bluebikes passes. After a $37 million deal with Yankee Line, Inc., shuttle access has been greatly increased across the city. There is currently a free shuttle service running between Oak Grove and Government Center (via Haymarket), between Forest Hills and Copley (via Back Bay), and between Government Center and Union Square. Additional shuttle service between Tufts Medical Center, Chinatown, and Government Center is also being provided on a 30-minute schedule during peak hours.

In addition to these shuttle services, the MBTA has made 30-day passes to Boston Bluebikes freely available to residents during the month of Orange Line and Green Line closures. These will also offer a Bluebikes for up to 45 minutes without any charge.

For the over 20,000 Boston Public School students who use the MBTA as a means of getting to school, the MBTA is offering more than 5,000 free 7-day pass CharlieCards to students to help them prepare alternative routes of travel. Students are also being promised that any late attendance as a result of these transportation issues will not result in penalties at school.

Despite these efforts to lower the burden on MBTA riders during these long shutdown periods, there have been serious concerns being raised about how these disruptions will affect vulnerable populations in Boston. These may be of particular concern to immigrant communities, as well as many Sampan readers, who may not have access to reliable transportation alternatives despite MBTA efforts. While shuttle service is being provided from the Chinatown Orange Line stop to provide access to the Green Line through Government Center, these shuttles are limited to run only during morning and evening hours (5:30 a.m. and 6 p.m.). The frequency for these shuttles is also quite limited, so transportation options for those living or working in the Chinatown or Tufts Medical Center area are far and few between. Remaining MBTA alternatives, such as using Bluebikes or walking, may prove difficult to elderly or physically disabled Chinatown residents looking to travel around Boston, providing additional burden to these communities.

With so many recent disruptions in Orange and Green Line service, many MBTA riders will be confused as to their transportation options during the coming month. MBTA Transit Ambassadors are currently working outside Orange Line stops, helping MBTA riders locate nearby transportation alternatives. For residents within the Chinatown community who may not fluently speak English, local MBTA Neighborhood Liaisons were also present in front of affected stops, helping to cross language barriers during the first few days of shutdown.

How do real riders feel about what’s happening? We can hear from officials and watchorchestrated photo opportunities, but spontaneous comments from people on the street have a way of putting things into perspective. Sampan took the pulse of pedestrian in Downtown Crossing and Chinatown today and here’s a sample of what we found:

Debra T, a nurse from East Boston, told us she hopes we can all support some empathy “I walk ten miles a day,” she said. “It’s a combination of my rounds at work with my extra 30-40 minutes round trip I am walking now from State Street to home. I am relatively healthy, my legs are strong and my determination solid, but I know this is devastating to so many of my colleagues and patients, those who are infirmed but the language difficulties people are facing.”

Leila W, Debra’s friend and also from East Boston, agrees. “I can’t walk too long without feeling dizzy. I get on these shuttle buses from State St to work and I can only imagine the problems second language learners are facing. The drivers don’t announce the stops and you just have to ride by instinct. I have a desk job so I’m not on my feet a lot. The shuttle is a minor inconvenience right now, but I feel for the informed non-English speakers who simply are not being served right now.”

While efforts to reach out to immigrant communities have been made by the MBTA during the Orange Line closure, more can be done to support affected communities who desperately need reliable transportation within the city. Increased signage around affected stops in multiple languages would be able to make alternatives more accessible to those in the community who are not fluent in English. Additionally, more shuttle availability is crucial to make sure that residents in the Chinatown area are not cut off from public transportation services during this time.

More than 100,000 trips every day, these closures have significant impact on the daily lives of local Boston residents, with a particular focus on the city’s working class community. With many having limited access to personal vehicles, the MBTA has taken on an inability to afford expensive rideshare costs, making public transportation become a necessity for thousands of residents as a means to get to work or attend school.

The LightHouses

Rents & Income Limits:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>1BR</th>
<th>2BR</th>
<th>3BR</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Income Limit 30% AMI</td>
<td>$37,860</td>
<td>$42,060</td>
<td>$45,450</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAXIMUM INCOME 60% AMI</td>
<td>$75,720</td>
<td>$84,120</td>
<td>$95,040</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For questions, contact us via phone: 781.917.7353 (TTY 711)
or email: lighthouses@peabodyproperties.com

Available recording online starting August 10, 2022 at LiveTheLighthouses.com or pick-up at 47 Leavitt

Information Session: Available recording online starting 8/22/22 at LiveTheLighthouses.com

Lottery Drawing: 10/21/22 via Zoom

Lottery is a minor inconvenience right now, but I know this is devastating to so many of my colleagues and patients, those who are infirmed but the language difficulties people are facing.”

Leila W, Debra’s friend and also from East Boston, agrees. “I can’t walk too long without feeling dizzy. I get on these shuttle buses from State St to work and I can only imagine the problems second language learners are facing. The drivers don’t announce the stops and you just have to ride by instinct. I have a desk job so I’m not on my feet a lot. The shuttle is a minor inconvenience right now, but I feel for the informed non-English speakers who simply are not being served right now.”
Job Announcements

South Cove Community Health Center has been serving the Asian-American Community in the greater Boston Area since 1972. We have a strong commitment to making health/preventive care linguistically and culturally accessible to patients and clients. We are currently looking for qualified individuals to fill the following positions.

**EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT (FT) – BOSTON**
Perform executive secretarial duties for the ED/CEO and COO including phone coverage, correspondence, report, filing, appointment scheduling, travel arrangements, coordinates calendar and logistics for ED. Provides administrative support to both officers including writing memos, recording minutes of meetings, managing projects. Associate or Bachelor’s degree, strong English writing skills, duties require very good organizational skills, interpersonal skills and ability to deal with confidential information. One to three years of administrative experience preferred. Fluent in English and Cantonese/Mandarin a plus.

**DENTIST (FT) – BOSTON/QUINCY**
Maintain oral health. Familiar with standard concepts, practices and procedures within particular field. Associate’s degree or its equivalent. Dental Hygienist, MA licensed. Fluent in English and Cantonese/Mandarin.

**DENTAL HYGIENIST (FT) – BOSTON/QUINCY**
Cleans calcareous deposits, accretions, and stains from teeth and beneath margins of gums, using dental instruments under the general supervision of a dentist. Provides dental x-ray services for diagnosis. May provide clinical services and health education to improve and maintain oral health. Fluent in English and Cantonese/Mandarin.

**RN (FT) OR LPN (LPN) (FT) – BOSTON/QUINCY/MALDEN**
Performs executive secretarial duties for the ED/CEO and COO including phone coverage, correspondence, report, filing, appointment scheduling, travel arrangements, coordinates calendar and logistics for ED. Provides administrative support to both officers including writing memos, recording minutes of meetings, managing projects. Associate or Bachelor’s degree, strong English writing skills, duties require very good organizational skills, interpersonal skills and ability to deal with confidential information. One to three years of administrative experience preferred. Fluent in English and Cantonese/Mandarin a plus.

**EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT (FT) – BOSTON**
Perform executive secretarial duties for the ED/CEO and COO including phone coverage, correspondence, report, filing, appointment scheduling, travel arrangements, coordinates calendar and logistics for ED. Provides administrative support to both officers including writing memos, recording minutes of meetings, managing projects. Associate or Bachelor’s degree, strong English writing skills, duties require very good organizational skills, interpersonal skills and ability to deal with confidential information. One to three years of administrative experience preferred. Fluent in English and Cantonese/Mandarin a plus.

**DENTIST (FT) – BOSTON/QUINCY**
Maintain oral health. Familiar with standard concepts, practices and procedures within particular field. Associate’s degree or its equivalent. Dental Hygienist, MA licensed. Fluent in English and Cantonese/Mandarin.

**DENTAL HYGIENIST (FT) – BOSTON/QUINCY**
Cleans calcareous deposits, accretions, and stains from teeth and beneath margins of gums, using dental instruments under the general supervision of a dentist. Provides dental x-ray services for diagnosis. May provide clinical services and health education to improve and maintain oral health. Fluent in English and Cantonese/Mandarin.

**RN (FT) OR LPN (LPN) (FT) – BOSTON/QUINCY/MALDEN**
Performs executive secretarial duties for the ED/CEO and COO including phone coverage, correspondence, report, filing, appointment scheduling, travel arrangements, coordinates calendar and logistics for ED. Provides administrative support to both officers including writing memos, recording minutes of meetings, managing projects. Associate or Bachelor’s degree, strong English writing skills, duties require very good organizational skills, interpersonal skills and ability to deal with confidential information. One to three years of administrative experience preferred. Fluent in English and Cantonese/Mandarin a plus.

**DIRECTOR OF CLINICAL OPERATIONS – Malden**
Coordinate clinical nursing activities. Perform nursing procedures that includes PPDs, immunizations, follow-up on lab results, follow-up with patient's visits according to specific guidelines, medical records documentation. Registered nurse, licensed by Massachusetts. Graduate of an accredited nursing program. One+ years of nursing in an outpatient environment. Fluent in English and Cantonese/Mandarin.

**MEDICAL ASSISTANT (FT) - MALDEN**
Medical Assistant provides medical support for providers, general support for other clinical activities such as maintaining equipment and supplies in clinical depts. Works as part of a team in the coordination of care; planning; quality improvement; and patient/family education and outreach. Understand basic medical terminology. Successful completion of a Nurse Assistant or Medical Assistant Program. Fluent in English and Cantonese/Mandarin.

**LAB ASSISTANT (FT) – BOSTON/QUINCY/MALDEN**
Performs phlebotomy waived testing and read lab report when lab supervisor is not available. Draws and collects all blood specimens from patients. Verifies records and specimens for shipment and/or messenger pick-up service and completes appropriate lab forms. Assists in conducting inventory. Fluent in English and Cantonese/Mandarin. Professional telephone and face-to-face communication skills. Certification by a recognized phlebotomy program.

**LICENSED BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PROVIDER (FT) BOSTON/QUINCY**
Evaluate, diagnose and provide treatment to a diverse population. Collaborate with the appropriate human service agencies. Provide crisis intervention and urgent consultation to other medical departments. Contribute to clinical interdisciplinary training seminars, participate in weekly team meetings, participate in professional continuing education program. Function as a caseworker for grants, supervise interns and graduate students. Current MA LMHC or LICSW. 2 years of experience providing therapy. At least two years of full-time or part-time equivalent of paid professional experience in mental health or social work. · Works well as part of a team. Fluent in English and Cantonese/Mandarin, and/or Vietnamese preferred. Salary commensurate with education and experience.

**CALL CENTER AGENT (FT) - BOSTON**
Perform call backs and tracking for designated diagnostics. Assists with scheduling, eligibility confirmation and registering patients. Supports daily activities of South Cove’s Medical Home. Fluent in English and Cantonese/Mandarin. Vietnamese a plus. High school diploma or equivalent. Two years working experience in health care setting required. Typing skills and familiarity with data input preferred.

We are an equal opportunity employer. Interested candidates should send, fax, or email their resume to (please specify the position(s) you are interested in applying for):
Attn: Human Resources, 145 South Street, Boston, MA 02111 • Fax: 617-521-6795 • E-mail: blee@scchc.org
I’d gained status I still had a sense of injustice about my family members still struggling with being undocumented and thinking about all the other families out there that were just like mine, living in the shadows. I had an epiphany moment one day when I did a google search for “immigrants rights movement.” I didn’t know what ‘immigrant rights’ or ‘movement’ was but my search came up with so many campaigns and movements across the country, like California and New York. I got involved and the second one too scary. On the third page were some Massachusetts options. I saved up for six months of living expenses and came up here on a whim. After attending various meetings I came upon Matahari, my former employer. They resonated the most with me because of their work with immigrant women. That’s where I cut my teeth with organizing for immigrant rights. In the beginning I focused mainly on family reunification. Over time, it became more about building empowerment through channels like workforce development and the Massachusetts Domestic Workers Bill of Rights.

SAMPAN: Stability, economic empowerment, civic ownership and social integration have always been important ideals for all of us here in Massachusetts. Could you elaborate on how important it is for immigrants to reach these objectives? What obstacles are still in the way and how are you working to remove them?

NGUYEN: Those are fundamental goals for all of us in the United States. Sometimes, immigrants are not going to feel they have equal access to these goals, especially with language barriers. In my work I’ve come to find that people often struggle with feeling like they speak the language that is most comfortable with them. While they’re learning English they’re only using limited vocabulary. I’m hoping to do a lot of work with the MOIA and the Equity and Inclusion office to build more language access so that immigrants can be working alongside non-immigrants here in Boston to make the city better, more inclusive and powerful. I’m more civically engaged. [Programs include but are not limited to: The Dreamers Fellowship, Immigrant Information Corner, Immigrant Professionals Fellowship, Immigrants Working Boston.] There are so many countries represented among our immigrant population that there’s no way the city of Boston can do it alone so we have to partner with many other organizations.

SAMPAN: COVID-19 has devastated so many aspects of our lives over these last two and a half years. Mental health issues are often untold, maybe because of cultural stigmas, but they’re even more apparent in all of us these days. What is MOIA doing right now to specifically address and repair the mental health problems that are further complicating immigrant advancement?

NGUYEN: That was something definitely revealed throughout COVID, and immigrants especially have less access to mental health care. MOIA has been able to share resources that will allow immigrants to improve their lives and survive during these times. There has been extreme isolation during COVID that has impacted our mental health. So many people had this moment of clarity where they felt like speaking English alone or getting a job are often here in this country alone or far from their families. MOIA’s mini-grants have helped a number of organizations this year, in pilot form, and we look forward to expanding the program more. I got to meet members of one of the organizations, Asian American Youthforce Workshop, last week. They spoke with me about the impact that even $6500 has had as their organization has been able to help members talk through the stigma, the depression and extreme isolation that impacted their ability to function every day. I’m really looking forward to expanding that program.

SAMPAN: Entrepreneurship and academic or political leadership have always been hallmarks of an American dream. We come here with the understanding that we can build our own businesses and create lives as doctors or state officials and these dreams happen for many of us. What is MOIA doing to ensure that newly arrived immigrants can have equal access to the same opportunities as those who have been here for generations?

NGUYEN: I’m confident in the work Mayor Wu has been doing across all aspects of her cabinet to ensure immigrants who felt uncomfortable living here for a while also get empowered. MOIA is trying to adjust the barriers immigrants have so they can equally access the same opportunities as people who speak English or have gone to school here. I am really excited about an initiative we have called Cooperative Business Support. This model has been found to best serve the needs of immigrant business people and we are looking to feature this as a new emergence business model for immigrants. The Dreamers Fellowship also goes a long way towards creating equity. Across the country we are looking to uplift everyone. I understand if people wonder ‘why immigrants?’ but we’re really trying to maintain and sustain equity.

SAMPAN: Do you think there’s more of a cultural divide or a generational divide when it comes to us as a nation of immigrants working together?

NGUYEN: It’s both. It’s cultural and generational. Before we came here as immigrants, we all had our home cultures that upheld traditions. We passed on stories and practices that were so important to our heritage. We came here and were so busy just trying to survive that we lost languages, we lost traditions. We didn’t have cultural support. People have a distance within themselves from their cultures and it makes it harder for them to appreciate new immigrants. We’re working through MOIA that we can all start reclaiming our cultures. It’s interesting that people forget the struggles Italian immigrants went through when they first came to this country. There’s always an ongoing conversation of who is thescapegoat. I hope through MOIA that we can build bridges across cultures. Learning our history will help create more solidarity. My whole point is to build more points of connection, not just points of division.

SAMPAN: How will the Driver’s License Bill help advance the causes most important to MOIA?

NGUYEN: Immigrants feeling they have equal access to opportunities is such a central foundation for functioning in daily life. Something as simple as a driver’s license will lower barriers. People have been living in fear of something so simple like picking up or dropping off their children or going to get food for dinner because they didn’t have a driver’s license. We’re hoping this will give people a sense of identity and validation in a different way. It will help them become more involved with the world and lessen the fear.

SAMPAN: We are in the midst of an unprecedented shutdown of the Orange Line in Boston. Many immigrants who live at either side of the line, in Malden or Forest Hills, are having to scramble for alternatives to commuting into the city. How is MOIA dealing with alleviating the fears of immigrants who don’t know what’s happening?

NGUYEN: The MOIA team, and the whole administration, has been so responsive, open, and communicative. There’s not a day that goes by right now where I’m not responding to groups or residents to get them clear answers to their questions and concerns. I’m proud to say everyone is working inter-agency and across government levels to respond to this MOIA has been working closely with community-based organizations on texting with local directors and organizers to help with anything, like getting things translated and organizing language access. We need to be responsive, open and communicative and be humble that we may not have the answers but we’re here with you to move through this together. If anything, I think it’s been galvanizing for people to start appreciating public transportation more. Without this situation, people wouldn’t have the impetus to create a movement for change. The next time this happens, if it does, we will have a more rapid response.

Government policies and mission statements are always driven by terms and phrases. Whether they exist beyond looking good on paper and sounding strong in stump speeches is the dream that isn’t always realized. For Boston’s MOIA (Mayor’s Office of Immigrant Advancement), the driving motivation rests in that final word: advancement. What does it mean? How is it measured? Can immigrants advance without successfully integrating themselves within the social fabric of their chosen land? What measures need to be taken in order to achieve that integration? Economic strength can only come from financial autonomy. Are immigrants being offered (and taking) opportunities to become their own bosses? Our nation’s table is long and rich with the bounty of hard work, perseverance, and a single-minded determination. Do immigrants have an unconditional seat at that table?

Monique Tú Nguyen, Boston’s new appointed Director of the Mayor’s Office for Immigrant Achievement (MOIA), served ten years as the Executive Director of Matahari Women Workers Center, where her focus was advancing the rights and protections for domestic workers, women, immigrants, and their families. While there, she served as a steering committee member of masssudcufund.org, in the early days of the COVID-19 pandemic, supporting undocumented men, women, and children with direct financial assistance in order to repair, rebuild, and revive their businesses, communities, and families. She was also pivotal in the successful passage of the 2014 Massachusetts Domestic Workers Bill of Rights.

Sampan recently had the opportunity to speak with Nguyen, a Vancouver, Canada native and proud daughter of Vietnamese War refugees. It was a busy time for Nguyen, only one week after her August 16th appointment and four days into the unprecedented Orange Line MBTA shutdown. We covered that topic, and others, in a conversation edited for clarity and continuity.
TOGETHER AGAINST CANCER

WALK WITH US 10.02.22
JimmyFundWalk.org
$5 OFF REGISTRATION WITH CODE: SAMPAN
By: Sonia Cavazos

The big screen has recently felt the presence, the joy, the powerful (and incredibly comedic) storytelling of a Filipino family in America. Jo Koy’s comedy, Easter Sunday, hit the theaters on August 5th, marking an achievement for representation of Filipino culture and opportunities for Filipino actors. Throughout history, Filpinoos have seen little representation, whether through the opportunities given to actors or authentic roles being portrayed in film. Koy, along with some of his co-stars, explore the importance of that representation in this film, adding a bit of comedic flare, relatable family dynamics, and beloved traditions.

Minority representation is often hard enough to obtain. And Filipino representation, at 3.9% according to the 2015 census, is somewhere between amongst the call for other voices. But no more. Filipinoos are the third highest group of Asians in America, accounting for about 4.2 million people out of the U.S. population. They have been a part of American history from as early as the late-fifteen hundreds, contributing to the Farm Labor Movement and the growth of Hollywood’s hometown, California. And yet, Hollywood has shown films with 5.9% of characters being of Asian American or Pacific Islander heritage, out of 1300 top movies between 2007 and 2019. Of those, according to the New York Times, only 2% of Asian American or Pacific Islander lead or co-leads. One might think about why far back Filipino actors stretch.

Currently, some of the names of actors with Filipino heritage will turn up from their more prominent roles. Guardians of the Galaxy’s Dave Bautista, Dante Basco (notable for Hook and Avada Kedavra), Lombardo Boyce, Cuba’s Nolte, and of course Lou Diamond Phillips and Tia Carrere (both of whom star in Easter Sunday.)

Early Filipino actors and roles are difficult to come by, save for the valiant pursuit of one Elena Jurado Jacobs. Born in 1901 in Cebu to a U.S. Army medic, Sergeant and Sibonga born Placida A. Phillips and Tia Carrere (both of whom star in Easter Sunday.)

After a fortuitous meeting with Hobart Bosworth, then a lead actor in the film White Hands for which Elena was auditioning, Elena started her career in 1922. She went on to act in a number of silent films, becoming an early, and sadly often unknown, trailblazer for the representation of Filipinos and women in film.

Koy sought to further this journey for Filipino representation in film, fighting for the showing of Easter Sunday to be in the theater instead of Netflix. According to NBC, Koy said he wasn’t going to have it any other way, stating it was Netflix. But I felt like if it had been on Netflix, it wouldn’t do it any justice.” He went on to recount his own powerful experiences with seeing Filipino actors on television. He felt “seen”, watching Dante Basco lead the lost boys in Hook. He was deeply impacted by seeing Rob Schneider make even a small reference to Filipino culture in Deuce Bigalow. His goal in pushing for this film to hit the theater first was not to only give Filipinos a voice, but to also, hopefully, give a shot to other Filipinos trying to make it in show business.

The film follows Koy, the main character, playing Joseph Valencia, a struggling actor and single father, going home to celebrate Easter with his family. They have their problems, bickering and inner fears, like any, but are filled with love for each other. A unique number of circumstances arise as Joe seeks to create a family for himself. Koy shared more of his passion about the film, “When we shot that, I started tearing up. It’s your emotional to see that, and you want other people to see that. Like, look: This is what we do. These people that live in this country, they’re taking care of other families.”

This expression in the essential sharing of stories from other cultures, and the sharing of one that isn’t often seen, is another culture is. Setting examples, Koy is fighting for authentic roles being portrayed in television. He shared more of his passion about the film, “When we shot that, I started tearing up. It’s your emotional to see that, and you want other people to see that. Like, look: This is what we do. These people that live in this country, they’re taking care of other families.”

Koy’s co-star, Lou Diamond Phillips, has been waiting for such an opportunity. The actor has played in many films and television shows, but that makes us all human.

In a text conversation with this reporter, Ludy Chan, Advisor, NaFFAA New England Region/NaFFAA National Arts, Culture and Entertainment Director said:

“ ‘It’s refreshing to see Filipinos represented in a movie that promotes laughter and is completely relatable. Even if you don’t have a large family Easter is exactly like the movie. There are a lot of moments in the movie that being back memories of spending time with your titas and lula during holidays. I think having all a Filipino cast is significant as we don’t normally see that on American TV. It’s a little surprising that we haven’t had a full Filipino cast in a mainstream movie here because we have a large Filipino population in the US. We know representation matters. We are known for singing and dancing but this movie shows we can act too and you can be a comedian. You can be a producer and you don’t have to follow what others expect of you. I hope this inspires young Filipino to continue to push the boundaries in American media and to follow one’s passion’.

It’s the ability to look past previous, perhaps harmful showings of Filipinos in TV shows with off-the-wall jokes and stereotypes. Koy has provided a means by which people can look to the screen, just like he did, and see themselves in an honest and heartfelt way.

The film follows Koy, the main character, playing Joseph Valencia, a struggling actor and single father, going home to celebrate Easter with his family. They have their problems, bickering and inner fears, like any, but are filled with love for each other. A unique number of circumstances arise as Joe seeks to create a family for himself. Koy shared more of his passion about the film, “When we shot that, I started tearing up. It’s your emotional to see that, and you want other people to see that. Like, look: This is what we do. These people that live in this country, they’re taking care of other families.”

In an interview with Today, Koy shared more of his passion about the film, and the affect it will have. “My mom moved here in ’69 and its been 51 years she’s lived here and never seen anything like this. And this is the first time that her and anyone else that is Filipino will get to be represented this way.”

In the interview, Al Roker commented on the phone call in the trailer that Koy’s character, Joe, is being prodded and guilt tripped by his curious but loving mother about coming over for Easter. “You were listening in on my parent’s conversation!” said Koy. It was nothing but smiles as he agreed. A small moment, but an important one that shows the relatability existent in two different people from different cultures. Another goal of Koy’s is to show that representation of different cultures matter, that it is important to celebrate your history and who you are, that there are things we all have in common that makes us similar but that makes us all human.

In a text conversation with this reporter, Ludy Chan, Advisor, NaFFAA New England Region/NaFFAA National Arts, Culture and Entertainment Director said:

“‘It’s refreshing to see Filipinos represented in a movie that promotes laughter and is completely relatable. Even if you don’t have a large family Easter is exactly like the movie. There are a lot of moments in the movie that bring back memories of spending time with your titas and lula during holidays. I think having an all Filipino cast is significant as we don’t normally see that on American TV. It’s a little surprising that we haven’t had a full Filipino cast in a mainstream movie here because we have a large Filipino population in the US. We know representation matters. We are known for singing and dancing but this movie shows we can act too and you can be a comedian. You can be a producer and you don’t have to follow what others expect of you. I hope this inspires young Filipino to continue to push the boundaries in American media and to follow one’s passion’.

It’s the ability to look past previous, perhaps harmful showings of Filipinos in TV shows with off-the-wall jokes and stereotypes. Koy has provided a means by which people can look to the screen, just like he did, and see themselves in an honest and heartfelt way.
Golda Meir House Expansion in Newton: Affordable Senior Housing Lottery

Now accepting applications!
Opening February 2023, the new Golda Meir House Expansion will offer 68 one- and two-bedroom apartments for adults 62+ with a wide range of income levels.* Both subsidized and unrestricted market-rate rentals will be available in this vibrant, supportive community.

FEATURES:

- Elevator building
- Fully equipped kitchens
- Utilities included
- Cable- and internet-ready
- 24-hour emergency call system
- Award-winning programs and services
- Next to MBTA Woodland Station
- Fitness center
- Art, dance, and movie rooms
- Beautiful private courtyards
- Mandatory lunch plan ($100 pp/month)

APPLICATIONS
Applications must be received by Friday, September 30, 2022, at 5:00 p.m. EDT.

TO OBTAIN AN APPLICATION:
- Download at 2LifeCommunities.org/Golda-Expansion
- Email your name and complete mailing address to Leasing@2LifeCommunities.org
- Call (617) 912-8491 (free interpretation is available); use 711 for TTY and TDD.
- Visit 2Life Communities, 40 Wallingford Rd., Brighton, MA 02135 (vestibule, 24/7)

WONDERING IF YOU QUALIFY?
People of all income levels may qualify to live at Golda Meir House. Subsidized rent is based on income; Section 8 mobile vouchers are accepted. A limited number of unrestricted, market-rate rentals are available with no income cap. For more information, call (617) 912-8491 or email Leasing@2LifeCommunities.org.

IN-PERSON INFORMATION SESSIONS
Visit 2LifeCommunities.org/Golda-Expansion or call for details: (617) 912-8491

*Roxbury Crossing Farmers Market
Open During Orange Line Shutdown
Tuesday & Friday 11 am- 6 pm
Thank you for your support!
Fresh Eggs, Fruits, Vegetables, & Local Honey
Come on Shuttle or Local Bus
Special Honey Raffle Sept 13 & 16
Details at www.mhhm.org
In September: Free Bike Maintenance Friday 3-6 by Boston Cyclist Union
Sponsored by Mission Hill Health Movement

Wellan
EXPLORE WELLAN FOR TODDLER–GRADE 8
• In-Person Tours
• Virtual Info Sessions
Register Today at wellan.org
Newton Centre • Need-Based Financial Assistance Available

2Life Communities does not discriminate against federally and state protected classes.
By: Max Wei

Starting from Friday night, August 26, the MBTA’s month-long shutdown of the Orange Line for overdue repairs will be scheduled to resume service until Monday, September 19.

According to Governor Charlie Baker, in this way, the subway will get faster track maintenance instead of five-year-maintenance on nights and weekends.

What does this public transportation decision mean? What population will it affect? When reading this article, the readers of SAMPAN might already sense the influence of the temporary shutdown of the subway. More people will be affected by it. While September is the month for the students to go back to school and colleges, the routes are getting and will be getting more crowded and dangerous, as bicyclists and motorists try to live together. At the same time, numerous shuttle buses are also added in order to cover the closed subway routes.

Based on the situation, the public worries that the overcrowded traffic will cause safety issues. On Friday, August 12, a 72-year-old Somerville bicyclist was killed after the driver of an SUV opened a car door and hit the bicyclist at 1055 Broadway near Somerville’s Tce Square, which the cyclists call this type of injury “dooring”.

The cyclist’s injury and death were preventable. The bike lane at this stretch of Broadway is unprotected from car traffic.

“Paint isn’t protection,” said Aram Schuva, one of the founders of Somerville Bicycle Safety. “I live about three blocks from where this happened. I ride my bicycle on Broadway all the time. There is no safe way for people in West Somerville to get to and from places in the city safely by bicycle, and that needs to be remedied immediately.”

In order to ensure the safety and convenience of the bikers, one way is to set the block from the bike lanes and roads. Yet this strategy might cause debates and controversy at other places in the city.

On Tuesday, August 2, more than 150 bicyclists lined on Charles Street, petitioning that the neighbor needs the state to install a two-way bike lane, in regard to safety consideration. However, not everyone will be benefited from this possible decision. Some local business owners worry that the reduced traffic to one or two route lanes might decrease the customers and business from this possible decision. Some local business owners worry that the reduced traffic to one or two route lanes might decrease the customers and business from this possible decision.

For the students who are going back to schools in September, the general public has the responsibility to ensure their safety. The pedestrians need to always walk on the sidewalk or walk facing traffic when necessary. When crossing the road, the pedestrians need to use crosswalks when available. The pedestrians need to look left, right, and left again before crossing. The children under age 10 need to walk with an adult when crossing the street. Putting away the phones can avoid the distraction when walking on the road.

The following is a list of instructions and information created by the MBTA, Mass 511, and MassDot:

Alternative travel options for riders:

Orange and Green Line Service Alternatives: https://www.mta.com/projects/building-better-t-2022

Check the latest traffic for drivers: https://www.mass511.com/

Recommended route for the north-
ern Orange Line Section for bicyclists, inbound: https://www.google.com/maps/d/u/0/edit?mid=1Cw0F1oE04e4n6tWRQR3Ms993F1-s0h-dc1-9up-shar

Recommended route for the south-
ern Orange Line Section for bicyclists: https://www.google.com/maps/d/edit?mid=51x0Swh7xR8hLgC23h5V4JknbxB&k=42.3555037777168
6C2%-710687109161904Kce%20

In the same time, beginning Friday, August 19, a free 30-day Blue-
bikes pass will be available. You can get a pass by downloading the Blue-
bikes app or go to Bluebikes.com/join and select a Monthly Membership.
Global Warming in China: Living With Today’s Social and Economic Dilemmas

By: Yang Yang

There is no doubt that human beings are already living in the era of global warming, which is becoming a concern for China. Shanghai, we have gone through 49 days of so-called high-temperature (over 35°C) days in the past two months. There were 7 days officially recorded over 40°C. The last time that Shanghai was this hot was 150 years ago. Besides, keep in mind that Shanghai is a humid city, which can make 40°C feel like over 50°C. What has come with this extreme heat is the drought in the city. It often comes strange to most Shanghai residents, because in the years before 2022, no matter how heated the city became, there was always rain. In June and July, “the Plum Rain Season” in most east-coast cities. It is called “the Plum Rain Season” because humidity, heat, and rain are perfect weather too sunny, and all of the ingredients are essential elements of the weather in these two months. In the scorching August, there are usually a few typhoons coming from the Pacific, which results in heavy rain and thunderstorms. However, this year is different. Month-long Plum Rain Season shortened to several days with meager rainfall; even 2 typhoons that swept across Shanghai made little impact.

What’s happened in Shanghai is by no means the worst picture of global warming in China. Shanghai is a flat city with no mountains or forests, it is a city of economy after all and with all the natural resources supported from all over the country. Human environmental heat may be our only complaint and fame of fashion in this hot condition. However, those who live in the inner provinces and are heavily dependent on natural resources are not so lucky. Jiangnan, Jianghuai, Jianghan and Sichuan and Chongqing are the places which have had the worst of heat and drought months. The drought in Yangtze River is extremely worrisome in terms of its disastrous effect on agriculture and farming. Yangtze River is commonly quoted as the mother river of China, because its river has been used for water, irrigation, sanitation, and transportation. The total area of the Yangtze Delta area generates as much as 20% of China’s GDP.

From July to August, rainfall in the Yangtze River basin decreased significantly, with the average precipitation in July reaching 141.2 mm, 48.2% less than the same period of the year, which is the lowest in history since 1961. Since August, the cumulative precipitation in Jiangnan, Jianghan, and the eastern part of the southwest is less than 10 mm, and the unusually persistent high intensity heat made the drought develop rapidly. On August 19th, a satellite showed that the Yangtze River basin – Poyang Lake and Dongting Lake has shrunk 3/4 of its water surface, compared only to the early June this year. The water level of Poyang Lake had already lowered 11.99m back in early August, which means it entered its dry season over 100 days. In advance. Up to now, the area of medium and many industries in the Yangtze River basin has reached 1.267 million square kilometers, including 89,000 square kilometers of extreme drought. 12.32 million acres of land, 83,000 villages, 160,000 head of livestock have been affected by the drought and lack of water supply in Sichuan, Chongqing, Hubei, Hunan, Jiangxi, Anhui.

Drought led to lack of water supply, which in turn caused the government’s restrictions on its electricity and water supply in Sichuan and Chongqing – the two most affected province and city. On August 14th, Sichuan Province Economic and Information Office and the State Grid Sichuan Electric Power Company jointly issued The People’s Implementation of The Emergency Notice, requiring all industrial enterprises full power and production stop from August 15th to 20th. In Chongqing – the city nicknamed as one of the four furnaces in China – has also issued similar policies. Worse than Sichuan, since August 17th, there were 14 mountain wildfires raging in Fuling, Jiuquan, Banan and other districts of Chongqing, affecting 10 districts and counties. One can see rolling smoke from the downtown. The city mobilized more than 5,000 professional rescue teams, forest firefighters, armed police forces, fire rescue, and resident volunteers to try to put out the fire. Forest fire rescue teams of more than 1,000 people from Gansu, Sichuan, Yunnan and other provinces also came to support Chongqing. City Emergency Management Bureau of Air Rescue Headquarters utilized 7 helicopters to carry out aerial firefighting. Not until August 26th did the city finally put out all the open fires.

If you can imagine, the extreme drought and heat are also detrimental to agriculture and aquaculture. In August, central Sichuan, southern Hubei, northern Jiangxi, and the eastern Sichuan basin, rice, corn and other autumn food crop growth has been greatly impacted by the drought to varying degrees. Fruit farmers are also suffering the worst time of all times. In the Jiangnan area, sunlight has caused sunburn on the fruit trees. One can see with his or her bare eyes that all of the leaves are dried by the heat and fruits dropped long before the mature season. If the living things on the earth do not survive the drought, then the fate of those who habituate in water is of course in danger. This season, Shanghai’s weather, which is considered as the city of the world, experiences its great challenge in aquaculture. As the water temperature rises, it exceeds the critical temperature for warm water fish, shrimps and crabs to live in. Heat also drains the oxygen under the water which is essential for living organisms. With high water temperature and the dissolved oxygen rate of the water body decreases, many fish ponds experience the hypoxic flooding, fisherman therefore suffers economically.

Now it’s towards the end of August. Heat broke loose in these two months in Shanghai and most of the other cities. In Wuhan, Fall finally came. However, the memory of the extreme heat is still near and what it means is that winter will not be easy for human beings. Extreme heat loss usually comes hand in hand with extreme heat. Ten years ago, many people, including Chinese, still thought that global warming may be coming in the distant future. Their Co-existing reality has hit us all hard. What should we do? How fast should we take actions? These are the questions Chinese governments need to answer.
Arbella is proud to support the
Asian American Civic Association

Arbella is committed to supporting charitable organizations that work so hard to positively impact the lives of those around them. We are proud to be local and to help our neighbors, individuals and families in our communities.

Arbella Insurance Foundation

HERE. FOR OUR COMMUNITIES. HERE. FOR GOOD.