Matthew Wong was born in Canada and when he was 7 his family emigrated to Hong Kong. They spent 8 years in Hong Kong before returning to Canada in 1999. He attended college and when he was 7 his family emigrated to Hong Kong. They spent 8 years in Hong Kong before returning to Canada in 1999. He attended college and where he studied cultural anthropology. After receiving his bachelor’s degree, he returned to Hong Kong and attended the City University of Hong Kong School of Creative Media where he received a Master of Fine Arts Degree in photography. Wong was diagnosed in his twenties as being on the autism spectrum and having Tourette’s syndrome. His mother said that he was diagnosed in his twenties as being on the autism spectrum and having Tourette’s syndrome. His mother said that he was diagnosed in his twenties with autism and Tourette’s. He was diagnosed with autism and Tourette’s in his twenties. He was diagnosed with autism and Tourette’s in his twenties. His mother said that his diagnosis was made in his twenties. His mother said that his diagnosis was made in his twenties.

His career began to paint and draw steadily after his death at the age of 35 in 2019. In the exhibit are some rare examples of his early work and a few of his more iconic later pieces. Like many other Asian Americans, Wong has had to fight against the tragic trope of many struggling artists before him. Wong’s fame has come mostly after his death—despite some level of critical acclaim during his career. This exhibit is the first US museum retrospective to focus on Wong’s art. The retrospective spans the 6 short years of his career. This exhibit is the first US museum retrospective to focus on Wong’s art. The retrospective spans the 6 short years of his career.

The Matthew Wong retrospective, The Realm of Appearances is on display now at the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston. It is a moving exhibit with around 40 examples of the self-taught contemporary artist’s work. The retrospective spans the 6 short years of his career. This exhibit is the first US museum retrospective to focus on Wong’s art. The retrospective spans the 6 short years of his career. It is a moving exhibit with around 40 examples of the self-taught contemporary artist’s work. The retrospective spans the 6 short years of his career.

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Hawaiian origin are up to 18.9 percent—according to a 2019 study shows those of Filipino or other Asian groups (34.5% chance compared to a 15.6% chance). With statistics that do not account for these differences, the struggles of the Philippines community can fly under the radar. Income disparities can also be masked by universal statistics. Asian Americans as a whole have a higher median household income than the average American ($78,000/year compared to $66,000/year). One will also find that Indian Americans earn a median household income of $127,000 a year, earning almost twice as much as the average American household. Burmese American families earn only $46,000 a year on average, operating far below the American median. This makes Asian Americans seem to be a monolith.

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Continued from Page 1

high-achieving group, a “model minority.” In reality, many Asian American ethnic subgroups, like Burmese, are facing financial adversity in American society.

Reactions to the bill are not all positive. In a post-COVID social climate, many Asian American groups, especially those of the Chinese community, have been the target of increased discrimination because of the pandemic. As many fear, the singling out of Chinese Americans in data reporting and sharing could further exacerbate this issue. A stronger association with one's country of origin regarding, for example, health access, could prove dangerous to many who already experience unfair political scrutiny. As vice president of the Asian Americans for Equal Rights, Helen Yang, puts it, “Anytime the Chinese government does something wrong, we get blamed.” Leaving Chinese Americans further blamed for the actions of a government they often have little to no connection to could be a serious consequence of the new bill.

The new bill allows Massachusetts state agencies to “collect, organize, and assemble public data on major ethnic groups.” The bill also claims that “By breaking down data into subgroups for all racial groups, it creates more visibility for the diverse experiences within communities.” With the bill’s passage, the visibility of all Asian American subgroups could be increased, and awareness about their struggles could become more widespread, at least at the state level.

The bill has possible effects not just in the health or occupational sectors, but also in aiding victims of domestic violence. Dawn Suana of the Asian Task Force Against Domestic Violence notes, “Information on domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking is incomplete. We lack data on diverse and marginalized populations—such as the Asian, Pacific Islander, and immigrant communities—who often face multiple barriers to disclosing abuse and accessing help. Better data on these groups would help service providers reach these groups, better meet their needs, and ultimately reduce these acts of violence.” Indeed, more targeted and readily available aid can be enabled by the new law.

We see themes repeated in Wong’s work such as paths through the woods to a place of sanctuary or lone King-like figures on mini trunks surrounded by the woods. The forests are often covered in snow or shrouded in fog. The back of a viewer’s head just in the health or occupational sectors, it creates more visibility at least at the state level. As many fear, the singling out of Chinese Americans in data reporting and sharing could further exacerbate this issue. A stronger association with one’s country of origin regarding, for example, health access, could prove dangerous to many who already experience unfair political scrutiny. As vice president of the Asian Americans for Equal Rights, Helen Yang, puts it, “Anytime the Chinese government does something wrong, we get blamed.” Leaving Chinese Americans further blamed for the actions of a government they often have little to no connection to could be a serious consequence of the new bill.

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Continued from Page 1

his painting. The show runs through September 1, 2023.

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India’s Chandrayaan-3: First to Land on Moon’s South Pole Region

By Jeff Millman

On August 23rd, the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) announced that the spacecraft Chandrayaan-3 had landed safely near the moon’s South Pole. The announcement came five weeks after the craft had been launched from Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh, India. The landing is highly significant for the country. India is only the fourth country to land on the moon, following the former Soviet Union, the United States, and China. They are also the first country to land in the lunar South Pole region. The reaction within India has been celebratory, with Prime Minister Narendra Modi commemorating the landing day as National Space Day.

The landing is also an important move in the international space race. Days before the Chandrayaan-3 landing, a Russian lander smashed into the moon’s surface, failing to land properly. Another lander built by a Japanese company failed to land this past April. The United States, Japan, and China are planning more moon missions for the next year, but India’s mission will re-open a new era of scientific research and innovations. I wish all the best on ISRO’s future projects.

World leaders have joined in congratulating India. The U.S. State Department wrote on X (formerly Twitter), “[The ISRO’s] success will power the imagination and light the future of people around the world.” Director of the European Space Agency Josef Aschbacher said he was “thoroughly impressed” by the mission. Even the Kremlin in Russia released a statement, writing “This is a big step forward in space exploration and, of course, a testament to the impressive progress made by India in the field of science and technology.” It is a sign of how great India’s achievement is that the United States and Russia can both agree on its significance.

The ISRO plans to record data for two weeks. Observing the lunar South Pole and conducting experiments on the lunar surface are among the objectives of the mission, and thus far, scientists have recorded temperature on and below the moon’s surface and detected the presence of sulfur and other elements near the South Pole. The ISRO is now searching for hydrogen. All of this has been accomplished on a budget of around $75 million USD – $25 million less than the production costs of the recent landing Oppenheimer.

What is the upshot of this recent mission? What future does it point to? The success of the Chandrayaan-3 has cemented India’s place in space innovation, but it has occurred in the context of renewed interest in crewed missions to the moon and potential lunar “colonization”. The stated long-term goal of NASA’s current Artemis Program, for example, is to establish a permanent base on the moon as early as 2028. These missions are a long-term presence to inform future exploration of farther destinations, including Mars, and other potential future destinations in the solar system, “reads NASAs’ “Moon to Mars” webpage.

It is easy to be cynical about such grand claims. Humans today live in a world full of risk: climate change, nuclear war, societal decline. Is space exploration a kind of escapism, a way to ignore the pressing problems of the present? Or is it a bright spot in today’s darkening world, a sign of human ingenuity and persistence in the face of the threats to our existence? Perhaps it is both. The conflicts of the present will continue, but we continue to look to the stars. To repurpose an old saying from the U.S. moon landing in 1969, if we can land on the moon, what can’t we do?

Affordable Housing Lottery
One Eighty Fearing Street
180 Fearing Street, Amherst, MA

Public Info Session: November 6, 2023 at 6:00pm via Zoom
Go to zoom.com/join or call (646) 558-8656 and enter Meeting ID: 857 2736 5609, Passcode: 815756

Lottery: November 6, 2023 at 6:00pm via Zoom
Go to zoom.com/join or call (413) 584-8065 and enter Meeting ID: 857 2736 5609, Passcode 276410

For Lottery Information and Applications, or for reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities, go to www.sebhousing.com or call (413) 752-4255. To leave a message or postal mail SEB Housing, 25th Hillside Ave, Northampton, MA 01060. For TTY Services dial 711. Traducción gratuita disponible.
**Events Calendar**

- **Sampan**
  - 3rd Annual Labor Day Weekend Block Party
    - Sunday, September 3 • 12 - 5pm, the Charles River Speedway 525 Western Avenue Boston, MA 02135. Say goodbye to summer with our 3rd Annual Labor Day Weekend Block Party!
      - https://www.eventbrite.com/e/3rd-annual-labor-day-weekend-block-party-tickets-695058889877

- **Fenway Flea: Labor Day Market & Day Party**
  - September 4th from 12-5pm; Time Out Market Boston 401 Park Drive Boston, MA 02215. Swing by our patio to shop their curated selection of small business vendors. And don’t forget to grab a frozen daquiri at the Daqirui Deck for a refreshing sip after shopping.
      - https://www.eventbrite.com/e/fenway-flea-labor-day-market-day-party-tickets-699113971547

- **2023 Boston Taiwan Music Festival (波音楽祭) Festa Miyuki**
  - September 10th at 3:30 PM, Hyde Playground in Newton, Massachusetts. The anticipation is building as the inaugural "Boston Taiwan Music Festival (波音楽祭)". This landmark event will mark the first-ever pop music extravaganza from Taiwan to grace the Greater Boston Area.

- **Taiwan Film Festival of Boston 2023**
  - September 9-24, AMC Boston Common 19, 175 Tremont Street Boston, MA 02111. The theme of this year is “Faces of Life.” The Fall Film Festival consists of two days of events, including six to eight feature-length film screenings (for both short and long films of an equivalent length of time), post-screening discussion forums, and the evening Gala Reception. (Early-bird pricing will end on August 31st 2023.)
      - https://tinyurl.com/tff2023

- **The Great Quincy Bake-Off at North Quincy Library**
  - Tuesday, September 5, 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM at the North Quincy Library, 381 Hancock St, Quincy, MA 02171. Love to bake? Want to try new recipes and make new friends with other local foodies? September’s baking challenge is five-ingredient baked goods! Bring a baked good to share that only requires five ingredients or less. Books of five-ingredient recipes will be available! Arts checkout at the North Quincy library!
      - https://thomascrancelibrary.org/events/calendar/

- **Armenian Heritage Park on The Greenway, Boston**
      - https://www.armenianheritagepark.org/

- **The 12th World Open Martial Arts Championship**
  - September 10, 2023, 8am-4pm. Dana Barros Basketball Club, 1776 Washington St, Stoughton, MA 02072. The competition is headquartered by The World Fighting Martial Arts Federation in New York and the Cambridge, Massachusetts. Hosted by Huan’s Tai Chi and Kung Fu Association, 10 martial arts associations in the greater Boston area. A total of 25 students from martial arts gymnasia from all over New England and martial arts gymnasia from other states in the United States will participate. This World Wushu Open is also the first competition held in Boston.
      - https://huantaichi.com/

- **Country Fair at Cider Hill Farm**
  - Sep 2-4th, 8am-6pm; Cider Hill Farm, 45 Fern Avenue, Amesbury, MA 01913. Join us on the farm this Labor Day weekend for a quintessential New England celebration welcoming farmers market. To purchase fresh ingredients recipes will be available for pick-your-own tickets, food or drinks.
      - https://www.ciderhill.com/events/cider-hill-farm-country-fair-september-2-4

- **Cannonball Cafe’s Farmers Forge**
  - Every Saturday, till the end of September, 9:00am - 12:00pm, Cannonball Café, 383 Dorchester Ave, South Boston, MA 02127. Cannonball Cafe will be hosting our very own farmers market. To purchase fresh produce, shop local vendors, and grab a delicious coffee!
      - https://www.eventbrite.com/e/farmers-forged-us-tickets-679473683077

- **The Greenway Artisan Market**
  - Saturday and Sunday through October, 11:00am - 5:00pm; Rose Kennedy Greenway, Atlantic Ave, Boston, MA 02109. A vibrant open-air market featuring talented area artists, makers, stylists and independent designers on the Boston Waterfront. Come take a stroll down the beautiful Rose Kennedy Greenway and explore what over 50 vendors have in store for you.
      - https://www.greenwayartisanmarket.com/

- **Experience Chinatown 2023!**
  - Murals: September 1 - October 14, 2023, Live Performances: September 30, 2023, Chinatown Park on The Greenway (near Chinatown Gate). This full, see, hear, create, and connect. Together, celebrate the rich cultural fabric of Boston Chinatown through free creative activities. Experience Chinatown is a part of Chinatown HOPE, an open space initiative, led by a collective of 8 community organizations in Boston’s Chinatown, to advocate for new and improved open spaces, and promote community wellness.
      - https://www.paoartcenter.org/events/experiencechinatown2023

**PLAN: Downtown**

**Project Description:**
Please join the BPDA for an additional opportunity to provide feedback on the recently released PLAN: Downtown and its recommendations. The planning team and Chief Jemison will be present to hear comments and questions as well as share the PLAN’s overall approach. The draft PLAN: Downtown report was released on August 21, 2023 and can be found at bit.ly/plan-downtown. A public comment period on the draft is open until September 18, 2023.

mail to: Andrew Nahmias
Boston Planning & Development Agency
One City Hall Square, 9th Floor
Boston, MA 02201
email: plandowntown@boston.gov
website: bit.ly/plan-downtown

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**Weymouth Rental Affordable Housing**

**The Vault at 88—88 Pleasant Street—Weymouth 3—Studio and One Bedroom Apartments**

Rents: $3,140 and $1,245—Sewer included in Rent

- **Public Information Mtg via Zoom.com**
  - 6:30 p.m., Monday Sept. 11, 2023
  - Meeting ID: 867 2870 8639
  - Password: 779484
  - Application Deadline: October 2, 2023

- **Language/translation assistance available, at no charge, upon request.**
- **Section 8 and other housing vouchers accepted.**

**For Info and Application Availability:**
Pick Up: Town of Weymouth, Town Clerk’s Office, Public Library
Phone: (978) 456-8388
FAX: 978-456-8986
TTY/TDD: 711
Email: lotteryinfo@mcohousingservices.com

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**Applications must be submitted or postmarked on or before the application deadline. Applications can be returned by mail. The Application includes all submission information.**

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**Reasonable Accommodations Available for persons with disabilities.**

**APPLICATION AVAILABLE ONLINE AT:**

www.mcohousingservices.com

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**Teresa Polhemus, Executive Director/Secretary**

**Andrew Nahmias**

**Boston Planning & Development Agency**

**One City Hall Square, 9th Floor**

**Boston, MA 02201**

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www.mcohousingservices.com
### Job Announcements

- **Certified Medical Assistant (FT) – Boston/Malden**
- **Credentialing Specialist (FT) – Boston**
- **Pediatrician (FT) – Malden**
- **RN (FT) OR LPN (FT) – Boston/Quincy/Malden**
- **Dental Hygienist (FT) – Boston/Quincy**
- **Dental Assistant (FT) – Boston/Quincy**
- **Social Service Assistant (FT) – Boston**
- **Referral Coordinator (FT) – Boston**
- **LICSW/LMHC (FT) – Boston/Quincy**
- **Birthing Coach (FT) – Boston**
- **Accounts Receivable Representative (FT) – Boston**
- **Diabetes Program Coordinator (FT) – Boston**
- **BIDMC Interpreter (FT) – Boston**
- **Diabetes Program Coordinator (FT) – Boston**
- **Referral Coordinator (FT) – Boston**
- **LICSW/LMHC (FT) – Boston/Quincy**
- **Birthing Coach (FT) – Boston**
- **Accounts Receivable Representative (FT) – Boston**
- **Diabetes Program Coordinator (FT) – Boston**
- **BIDMC Interpreter (FT) – Boston**
- **Diabetes Program Coordinator (FT) – Boston**

Please search Indeed.com for more position information.

Or Contact our HR Department:

☎ 617-521-6701

@ Le.jiang@scchc.org

### Clinic Locations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Services</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Boston</strong></td>
<td><strong>Washington St. Clinic</strong>&lt;br&gt;華盛頓街診所&lt;br&gt;885 Washington St.&lt;br&gt;617-482-7555</td>
<td>• Adult Medicine, Pediatrics, Podiatry, and Social Services&lt;br&gt;• WALK-INS AVAILABLE, APPOINTMENTS RECOMMENDED&lt;br&gt;接受無預約的面診，但建議預約&lt;br&gt;MON-FRI 星期一至五 8:30AM-5:00PM&lt;br&gt;SAT 星期六 8:30AM-1:00PM&lt;br&gt;(Adult Med. and Pediatrics ONLY 仅成人科及小兒科)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Quincy</strong></td>
<td><strong>Hancock St. Clinic</strong>&lt;br&gt;漢考克街診所&lt;br&gt;435 Hancock St.&lt;br&gt;617-318-3500</td>
<td>• Adult Medicine, 340B Pharmacy, and Social Services&lt;br&gt;MON-FRI 星期一至五 8:30AM-5:00PM&lt;br&gt;SAT 星期六 8:30AM-1:00PM&lt;br&gt;(Adult Med. and Pharmacy ONLY 僅成人科及藥房)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Malden</strong></td>
<td><strong>Commercial St. Clinic</strong>&lt;br&gt;商業街診所&lt;br&gt;277 Commercial St.&lt;br&gt;781-912-2500</td>
<td>• Adult Medicine, OB/GYN, Pediatrics, Optometry, Behavioral Health, Family Planning, and Social Services&lt;br&gt;MON-FRI 星期一至五 8:30AM-5:00PM&lt;br&gt;SAT 星期六 8:30AM-12:30PM&lt;br&gt;(Pediatrics ONLY 僅小兒科)</td>
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[http://www.scchc.org](http://www.scchc.org)
Acting United States Secretary of Labor Julie Su was nominated by President Biden's cabinet on March 11th, 2023, to fill the vacancy after Marty Walsh's resignation. Su’s mother is Chinese, and her father is Taiwanese. Walsh’s resignation. Su's mother is 2023, to fill the vacancy after Marty Walsh. Su hails from Wisconsin and is a Chinese, and her father is Taiwanese.

Acting United States Secretary of Labor Julie Su was nominated by President Biden for Labor Secretary. Su was approved from the United States government and the general public, often due to the inherent divisiveness in policies handled by the Department of Labor. Your predecessor, former Boston Mayor Marty Walsh. Avoided such controversy in office, such as by de-escalating the possible railroad strike. How do you strive to find a balance in your decisions? When it comes to progress, the results speak for themselves: the U.S. economy has added over 13.4 million jobs since President Biden came into office -- more in just 2.5 years than any President in 4 years -- and just as importantly, we’re laser-focused on making sure that Asian and Latino communities are seen and heard --- two goals that are at the heart of the Biden-Harris agenda.

Acting Secretary of Labor Julie Su: To Achieve Justice for All, We Must Work Together'

By Grey Dowd

SU: I’m proud to carry the lessons from my parents taught me, which includes their experiences as immigrants, into every room, and every meeting. When he announced my nomination, the President called me "the American Dream." My parents believed in it, I benefited from it, and I want to do my part to make sure it is a reality for workers, business owners, families, and the communities we serve across the country.

SAMPAN: Acting Secretary of Labor Julie Su: Some of your most successful policy changes in the past stem from individual cases, like restaurants and sweatshops, and grow larger. How has this ground-up strategy worked, especially with migrant workers?

SU: My first job as a lawyer was at a nonprofit organization now called Asian Americans Advancing Justice. I have always advocated for workers' rights and Asian American civil rights. I got that first job through a fellowship where I was able to choose what I wanted to do in my career, and I represented many migrant workers -- in factories, warehouses, car washes, retail stores, and restaurants. I spent years fighting for workers, including garment workers, trafficked from Thailand, held against their will, and forced to work behind the counter. What I learned from individual cases, like restaurants and sweatshops, and grow larger. How has this ground-up strategy worked, especially with migrant workers?

SAMPAN: Acting Secretary of Labor Julie Su: What have you learned from your parents, who came here nearly empty-handed, that you can practice on a larger scale?

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Sharon Scott-Chandler and the ABCD family congratulate the AACA on their 55+ years of service to the community and dedication to helping immigrants start a new life.
Igniting Promise and Hope: Boston's SPARK Council

By Christopher John Stephens

As we start a new month, go back to school, and soon welcome a new season, more changes to public transit are coming to city commuters. In an effort to keep our readers informed, Sampan will publish regular updates.

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- Beginning at approximately 8:45 PM through the end of service Tuesdays through Thursdays, September 5-7 and September 12-14, as well as Tuesday through Friday, September 19-22.
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Accessible shuttle bus service will also replace Red Line trains between Quincy Center and Braintree Stations beginning at approximately 8:45 PM on Friday, September 8, and through the weekend until the end of service on Sunday, September 10.

For daily updates, please refer to http://www.mbta.com. Be safe, aware, and get to where you need to go on time and stress-free.

Anthony Nguyen, Director of SPARK Boston

For many of us, Labor Day marks the unofficial beginning of the year. Whether we’re many years from having finished high school or college, and whether or not we have children of our own we need to help prepare for the new school year, the promise of starting fresh is as much in the air as the gradual changing from summer to fall. The sun will rise later in the mornings, new schedules will start surfacing for everything from day care to bus and train arrivals and departures. September is a blank slate on which we can all imprint our hopes and dreams for the future.

It’s with this mindset of looking towards the future with new eyes and open minds that Sampan spoke with Anthony Nguyen, the new Director of SPARK Boston. Once known as the Mayor’s ONEin3 initiative, former Mayor Marty Walsh re-launched the program as SPARK Boston in May 2016. The goals are lofty: set priorities, address city issues, and plan for Boston’s future. With millennial and Gen Z young people (aged 20-35) comprising 39% of Boston’s residents, SPARK has the potential to be an agent of positive change as we head into what will surely be a contentious 2024 election cycle.

SAMPAN: City leaders will often talk about their “civic journey” and what it took for them to get from where they were to where they are now. How do you define a “civic journey” for a generation more often than not preoccupied with being social media influencers?

NGUYEN: My civic journey started at a young age and I did not even know it. As a young boy I would often participate in community service trips after school and on the weekends. Instead of sitting around the house watching TV, I took the opportunity to give back to my community. As I grew up, the passion for community service grew with me. All of these experiences would amplify my understanding of the needs people have every day and how the government can influence our lives and why everyone should actively engage. I chose public service because I am able to truly influence people’s lives for the better.

SAMPAN: Words are carefully chosen when creating and selling a city program. Many years ago, the notion of “community” was more solid and definable, literally and figuratively black and white. Change can be difficult for some people. How do you define “community” in a social climate that seems to be more divisive than ever? Can there be “community” when neighbors don’t speak with each other? Can there be “community” when the forever marginalized and disenfranchised always have to fight for a place at the neighborhood table?

NGUYEN: I believe Community is fluid and ever changing; it happens in places and the lives of people you have never had the opportunity to connect with. Sometimes communities can be formed in small groups of people and other times you are one of thousands. If we have a mindset of building towards community, you would be amazed of how much joy, love, and support changes can be in society. All it takes is one initial conversation with your neighbor to start the chain reaction.

SAMPAN: Cultural awareness can manifest in many ways and at many different levels, not all of them positive. What steps are you taking to ensure that all elements of the diverse cultures reflected in Boston get the chance to shine?

NGUYEN: SPARK Boston is focused on connecting, innovating and empowering all of Boston including those who live, work, or hangout in our city’s cultural districts. Whether that’s Little Saigon where Vietnamese families reside, Upham’s Corner or along Dudley Street where some Cape Verdians call home, South Boston where Irish families may live, or pockets of Dorchester where Caribbean families live. SPARK Boston considers all of Boston when we are developing programming. We want our programming to be culturally responsive and a space that is made for everyone to connect to local government regardless of who you are. Understanding the local culture and population is key when determining how civic engagement shows up in SPARK Boston. We also want to give people the space to tell us their needs, interests, and desires for the City of Boston without assuming what is best for the younger generation. This year, our council members represent almost all neighborhoods in Boston. They all bring their own personal perspectives and life experiences to the council. I look forward to their leadership during their term with SPARK Boston.

SAMPAN: Transformation within the heroic journey is a big part of all our narratives. We start in one place and end up in another, for better or for worse. The immigrant narrative is even more gripping, more immediate. As the son of Vietnamese immigrants, what’s your story? How has what your parents sacrificed to come here made you the man you are today?

NGUYEN: I owe everything I am to my parents. My parents immigrated to the U.S. with very little to nothing in their pockets. It was an extremely difficult time for them to adjust and start a new life in America considering the lack of English, finances, and limited access to programming at the time. Over the years, they were able to establish themselves and raise my sister and I in Dorchester. My parents worked very hard to make sure I had what I needed. Growing up in this environment I was able to see firsthand how much hard work is required to support a family, to grind and sacrifice everything so the next generation can have a better life. Everything I do today is because of them and for them. Because of all their struggles they were able to instill all the values I hold dear to my heart today.

SAMPAN: The literal face of Boston leadership has changed over the years and maintaining that trajectory will only make us stronger as a city. Aside from building up the ethnic and racial diversity of Boston’s future through SPARK, how do you hope to change the mindset and ideology of the unfortunate perception many have that Boston has not and will not come to terms with its racism? The recent NAACP conference went far to re-habilitating Boston’s image. Are you hopeful this younger generation of potential civic leaders forge a more positive path for Boston’s future?

NGUYEN: I believe change starts first with ourselves. And then as a collective community. I am excited about the progress our city has made in regards to doing the work to ensure everyone feels welcome. As far as the younger generation, in my experience as a SPARK Council member and now as the director of the program I have witnessed the younger generation leading in neighborhoods in Boston, vol- unteering their time for community cleansups and working towards being the change they want to see in Boston. So, yes I have hope in our city and the younger generation. I encourage young people ages 20-35 years old to connect with SPARK Boston on social media or visit our website at www.boston.gov/sparkboston.

September 2023 Service Changes On the MBTA

By Sampan Staff

As we start a new month, go back to school, and soon welcome a new season, more changes to public transit are coming to city commuters. In an effort to keep our readers informed, Sampan will publish regular updates.

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MBTA Chief Safety Officer, Ron Estes, left at the end of August after years of work with federal agencies regarding MBTA safety. This lack of leadership during a time when numerous incidents of violence have been reported on the MBTA concerns many riders. This past July, Transit Police at Andrew Station arrested two men on a charge of assault and battery with a dangerous weapon. In May, 2 teens were charged for unprovoked attacks on a woman in South Boston on the MBTA, and last January, a “marauding group” beat and robbed several passengers on the MBTA Green Line. With a marked 3% increase in Boston arrests since 2021 cited by Massachusetts Crime Statistics, many have called for increased use of technology in order to help ensure the safety of passengers on the MBTA.

The MBTA (Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority), is a robust public transportation system, providing heavy rail, light rail, buses, and commuter rail options. The system has served as a reliable form of transportation for many living in the city and beyond, providing hundreds of millions of rides to Bostonians each year. Ridership understandably dropped during the COVID-19 pandemic, but it has been clear that in the post-pandemic world, MBTA ridership has not returned to its pre-pandemic levels. According to the Statista Research Department, 214.5 million rides were completed in 2022 through the MBTA, with most of these rides being on the MBTA’s bus and heavy rail system. One major concern that many people have when riding on the MBTA is the possibility of violent crimes and robberies. According to the Superintendent of the Transit Police Department, Richard Sullivan, during 2011-2016, the average number of violent crimes (including homicides, rapes, and aggravated assaults, larcenies) on the MBTA per year was 998 incidents. While violent crimes are a big problem, he reiterated crimes, which are to either report suspicious activity or to directly contact the police. Reports can be made anonymously and can include a photo to help supplement the report. MBTA confirmed that the phone’s flash capability is automatically disabled when taking a photo to support a safety report being made through the app so that people may discreetly report suspicious incidents. Another potential concern with the app is the lack of usage and knowledge about the app. While millions of people use the MBTA to travel to work, school, or for leisure, a simple look on the App Store’s profile of the MBTA See Say app shows that the app itself has only a few hundred reviews. The lack of usage for the app makes it unlikely that it will continue to have a large impact on public safety. Especially with the presence of other third-party apps tracking the time of bus and train arrivals, which tend to be much more popular, the MBTA See Say app is unlikely to make an impact with-out exposure to the general public. One daily rider, who had never heard about the app, suggested to this writer that the MBTA really needs to tell people about the app, in a way that will get the word out by any means possible. "As a general rule, we speak at public forums. Our job is to get the word out by any means possible. ‘The MBTA really needs to tell people. No one knows about this!”

Richard Sullivan told this reporter that the app “has been available for twelve years and is one of many tools riders have to protect themselves and others. It’s made a positive difference for the public and the Transit Police. It really is basic. Mentioning its availability and helping people use it has always been important information for us to share when we speak at public forums. Our job is to make the word out by any means possible.”

While a seemingly simple app, many people have expressed concern regarding the safety of their data while using the app itself. One of the concerns is with regards to the app’s ability to track the location of the user as well as gather other private information and data of the mobile devices of users. According to an interview with NBC Boston, David Choffnes, a professor at Northeastern University, expressed concern that the MBTA See Say app is capable of tracking locations while the user is not using the app’s reporting features and is sending that information back to the app’s developers. To that end, Elerts Corporation denies that they are intentionally gathering any data to track people or gather personal information.

Boston Centerless-Webinar, MA
Position: Full-Time
Salary: $73.31-$425.97/hour
Ability to do the math described below:
Contact: Steven Yotzie, 781-994-5122,
swaid@bostoncenterless.com
www.bostoncenterless.com
Servista-Boston, MA
Position: Adult Day Care Transportation Driver/Full-Time, Part-Time
Requirements: High School Diploma, valid drivers license, current registration, and able to lift 70 lbs. Experience in providing services to individuals with developmental disabilities, preferably with experience with older adults.
Contact: Hongrui Zhang, 617-792-8899,
hongrui.zhang@servita.com
www:www.servita.com/services
Tufts Medical Center-Boston, MA
Position: Practice Coordinator/Full-Time and Part-Time
Salary range: $13.71-$24.75/hour
Great benefits:
High school diploma, with specialized training in business office skills preferred.
1-2 years of office experience required.
Please submit your resume to: practice.1316@tuftsmedical.org
www:www.tuftsmedicalcenter.org
Boston Medical Center
Position: Food and Nutrition Positions (Food and Nutrition Representatives, Dietary Aides, Cooks)
Full-Time and Per Diem available
Salary range cannot be disclosed
Previous experience preferred
High school diploma or GED preferred, not required
Contact: Boston Medical Center
Applying at: www.bmc.org
Contact: Patient Care Coordinator of Instructional Director of Support Services 617-442-7966; nutritionalcare@bmc.org
Massport-East Boston, MA
Position: Legal Counsel/Full-Time
5 years of relevant or transferable experience in a public sector, corporate or law firm.
Experience in maritime operations and commercial and criminal law.
Contact: Winston Pierre, 617-568-3125,
wpierre@massport.com
www:www.massport.com
See Say App Gives Direct Access to Transit Police to Report Violence
By Kristen Si
ABORDAY
劳动节
lào dōng jí
September 1, 2023
SAMPAN
Tufts Medical Center and Transformative Organizations Shaping Boston Communities

By Jerrett Jones

Last summer, Tufts Medical Center conducted a comprehensive Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA), revealing three essential health priorities: behavioral health, financial security and mobility, and access to care and services. In response, a coalition of 20 organizations, carefully selected through an RFP process, emerged with a collective goal of driving positive change across Boston’s diverse neighborhoods.

“In the wake of the CHNA, we strategically harnessed the findings to address pressing health needs through targeted interventions,” states Sherry Dong, Executive Director of Community Health and Community Initiatives at Tufts Medical Center. “These actions are yielding significant improvements in our communities, reflecting our commitment to bettering the lives of those we serve.”

The collective impact of this coalition is evident in its first six months, having served over 5,000 individuals, with 80% identifying as individuals of color. Notable outcomes among residents served reveal progress in multiple areas. 32% now have a better grasp of financial management, equipped with tools for navigating their financial landscapes. Additionally, 27% have started to experience the value of saving, witnessing their savings grow towards greater financial security, while 11% have also been able to tap into crucial benefits and services.

Among the transformative organizations leading these changes is the Greater Boston Chinese Golden Age Center, which focuses on serving Chinese-speaking elders. Through personalized case management, support groups, and cultural workshops, their program has significantly improved mental well-being among participants. This includes offering one-on-one assistance to address specific issues, providing counseling, referrals, and coordinating healthcare services, as well as support groups for mutual encouragement. As a result, 65 participants now feel more informed about their health and well-being, experiencing heightened self-worth, and 30 individuals have seen reduced depression, while 18 reported decreased anxiety and stress. Megan Cheung, Associate Director, shares, “We are devoted to enhancing the lives of our seniors, providing not only resources but also a nurturing space where they can thrive.”

Boston Asian: Youth Essential Service (Boston Asian YES) empowers youth through a variety of experiences that improve access to care and services. Through their program “Positive Thought & Actions,” they have significantly reduced stress levels among participants, with 80% now feeling stressed, compared to the previous 70%. Jane Leung, Executive Director, emphasizes, “Our journey centers on nurturing empowered, capable young individuals who grasp the significance of holistic well-being and connection.” Furthermore, Boston Asian YES has fostered a sense of belonging and engagement, with 75% of participants actively involved in youth leadership activities and feeling more connected to their community. These activities, from biking tours to cultural experiences like Chinese calligraphy, boost overall well-being and self-esteem among young individuals.

Meanwhile, the Gavin Foundation’s Center for Recovery Services (CRS) is using technology to help people dealing with substance use and mental health issues by offering remote support services. In just a short period, this program has significantly impacted its clients. Thirteen participants reported reduced depression, anxiety, and stress indicating improved mental well-being. Furthermore, 13 participants reported decreased alcohol and drug use, underlining the program’s success in promoting sobriety and healthier lifestyles. John McGahan, President and CEO, highlights, “Our Technology Contingency Management Project reflects our commitment to exploring innovative approaches that can positively impact lives and make a meaningful difference in the community.”

Compass Working Capital’s flag initiative, the Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) Program, in collaboration with affordable housing providers and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, enables families receiving rental assistance to build savings and achieve their financial goals. On average, Compass FSS participants build over $8,100 in savings and increase their annual earnings by $10,000. Moreover, third party evaluations reveal an average 20-point increase in credit scores due in part to Compass financial coaching. Edwin Santana, Director of Programs in Boston, underscores the organization’s mission, “We are committed to partnering with families to build savings as a pathway out of poverty, and narrowing the racial and gender wealth divides.”

As these initiatives continue to unfold, Tufts Medical Center remains steadfast in its commitment to enhancing community well-being. Sherry Dong, sums it up eloquently. “We are excited to collaborate with community organizations that are trusted by residents to improve our communities, including one of our long-standing partners, the Asian American Civic Association. Our dedication to bettering the health of our communities remains unwavering, and we eagerly anticipate the ongoing positive impact these organizations will continue to make in their communities.”

Jerrett Jones, Ph.D
Program Director Tufts Medicine
Tufts Medical Center
Community Benefits and Community Health Initiatives

AFFORDABLE HOUSING LOTTERY
2-BR 1-BA Condominium Homes For Sale to Eligible 62+ Homebuyers
Enclave Medfield
Off Ice House Road, Medfield, Massachusetts
CoCedced Fontahan
Applications are now available for six affordable homes in this new twenty-four-unit development.

ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES AND APPLICATION PROCESS
To be included in the lottery, applicants must meet income and asset guidelines, be at least 62 years old, and must submit an application with all required documentation prior to the application deadline. The maximum household income allowed may vary depending on the number of residents in the household.

Maximum Income

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Household Size</th>
<th>Maximum Income</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>$106,650</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>$118,450</td>
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Applications available at Medfield Town Hall and Medfield Public Library and may be requested by phone or email from Paula Stuart - 617-388-1331 pstuart@cogincorp.com

LOTTERY INFORMATION SESSION: September 1, 2023 @ 6:00 P.M. via ZOOM
LOTTERY APPLICATION DEADLINE: September 22, 2023 at 5:00 P.M.

NEWBURPORT AFFORDABLE LOTTERY
8 Colby Farm Ln; 3BR, 2BA, $319,100
Max assets $75,000. Max household income: 1P $82,950, 2P $94,800, 3P $106,650
4P $118,450, 5P $127,950, 6P $137,450

Public Info Zoom Mtg 9/13/23 @ 6 pm
ID 852 6774 8706, Passcode 224059
Lottery Zoom 10/12/23 @ 6 pm
ID 837 0888 9452, Passcode 938717

Apps Kristen Costa (978) 758-0197, kristycosta@laassoc.com, www.laassoc.com,
City Hall & Library.
Deadline 10/6/23
DORCHESTER AVE.
Giữa: Ashmont St. và Freeport St.

¡Trải nghiệm Dorchester theo cách mới tại Các Đường Phố Mở! Đi cùng bạn bè và gia đình, và tham gia ngày vui chơi đi bộ, trượt ván, đi xe đạp và các hoạt động tại Dorchester Ave không có xe hơi.

Đường phố đóng lúc 9am    Hoạt động bắt đầu lúc 10am

BOSTON.GOV/OPEN-STREETS

Thắc mắc? Gửi email cho chúng tôi đến info@openstreetsboston.org hoặc gọi số 311

BOSTON.GOV/OPEN-STREETS

CHỦ NHẬT THÁNG 9
17
10 am - 3:30 pm
In the News

QARI 36th Annual August Moon Festival - Sunday, August 20th, 2023

The August Moon Festival was a momentous holiday in many Asian cultures. It celebrated the harvest and the moon as symbols of prosperity, happiness, and unity. QARI was proud to partner with the City of Quincy to host their annual August Moon Festival, a community tradition since 1987. Designated as the city's signature event for August and voted 'Best Street Festival' by Boston Magazine in 2018, the festival featured traditional and modern performances, food trucks, carnival amusements, games, cultural booths, and a street market. The festival was one of the most popular cultural events in the South Shore area and the largest of its kind in the Northeast, uniting over 20,000 diverse guests each year.

Secretary of Homeland Security Alejandro Mayorkas's speech to newly naturalized citizens at Boston Faneuil Hall, August 24, 2023

Our country today is better than it was yesterday, because of you. You – new United States citizens have chosen to become naturalized, chosen to go through the process to reach this day. And you have, as the judge so eloquently put it, some responsibilities, and many, many rights, and you also have an opportunity. You have an opportunity to shape this country through what you do and your participation in its life, both civically and otherwise, whether it's on a community level, a local level, whether it's in your residence, or more broadly.

Opening Ceremonies | Photo courtesy of Kelly
Lion Dance | Photo courtesy of Kelly
Amusements and Marketplace | Photo courtesy of Kelly
Newly naturalized citizens at Boston Faneuil Hall | Photo courtesy of Charlie Mei
Secretary of Homeland Security Alejandro Mayorkas’s speech | Photo courtesy of Charlie Mei