



# CITIZENS FOR BETTER COMMUNITY

華人權益服務社

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Membership Newsletter

Volume 2, Issue 5

September/October 2002

## Trustee Anna Muh Honored for Service on Fremont School Board

On September 15, 2002, Citizens for Better Community honored FUSD Trustee Anna Muh for her service to the Fremont Unified School District as a Trustee on the Board of Education. At the event, various leaders of the community spoke on behalf of Anna to include CBC founders Henry Yin and Herb Chiu, CBC President Garrett Yee, Fremont City Councilmember Steve Cho, and School Board President Guy Emanuele.

*Henry Yin, Anna Muh and Garrett Yee at Anna's End of Term event held on September 15<sup>th</sup> (con't on Page 2)*



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## President's Message

*By Garrett Yee*



Dear Friends:

**Thank you!** As you may know by now, I am running unopposed for Seat No. 5 on the Ohlone College Board of Trustees. Since I am unopposed, my name will not be on the November 5<sup>th</sup> ballot. During this process, I have been amazed at the encouragement from family, friends, and those that I have just met. Some of you, I have still not met. I would like to especially thank many of the members of Citizens for Better Community for your early inspiration. And of course, thank you all for your generous support.

**So, what have I been doing?** According to state law, I cannot take office until after the November 5<sup>th</sup> election. In the meantime, I have been attending the board meetings and participating in some of the normal pre-election campaign activities in order to give constituents a chance to meet me. For example, I have been interviewed on local cable television by Buzz Colvalt and recently, I met with the Kiwanis Club of Fremont. I have also been attending candidate events (for other offices) as well as attending several of the public community forums. Even though my campaign essentially ended on August 9<sup>th</sup> when I found out I was running unopposed, I have been working hard to meet people out in the community.

**I am committed to making myself available to you.** If you ever have a question or concern about the College, or would just like to state your point of view, please do not hesitate to contact me. If you would like to meet with me, or for me to meet with a group of your

*(See President's Message on Page 2)*

friends, neighbors, or your organization, I would be happy to do so. I can be reached at my home number (510-790-0865) or my personal email ([garretty@attbi.com](mailto:garretty@attbi.com)).

**I am committed to making Ohlone College a responsive member of the community.** One of my goals that I have stated all along is to bring the community and the college closer together. This is something I know I can do. My immediate priorities, in addition to overseeing the construction of the new college facilities in Newark and Fremont, are:

1. Continue to enhance academic excellence for students;
2. Support quality teaching; and
3. Ensure financial accountability.

**I still need your support.** While I cannot ask for your vote on November 5<sup>th</sup>, I do ask you for your continued support during my first four years while I am on the Board. We are fortunate to have Ohlone College within our community of Fremont, Newark, and Union City.

**I look forward to serving you both as your president for the upcoming year and in my new role as an Ohlone College Trustee.**

Respectfully submitted,

**GARRETT S. YEE**

**President**

### CBC Membership Newsletter

The CBC membership newsletter is published bi-monthly. We welcome your questions, comments and feedback. You may send them to Citizens for Better Community, P.O. Box 1, Fremont, CA 94537, or you may contact Teresa Yin Wong, Executive Director, at 510-793-6302, or email [dryin@attbi.com](mailto:dryin@attbi.com).

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Assistant Editor	Ping Gan	
Distribution	Lily Lee	
Contributors	Stephanie Gan	Cecilia Chang
	Vivian Lin	Concord Cheung
	Herb Chiu	Victor Chen
	Angela Yang	Chia-Chee Chan

In 1998, Anna ran for and got elected to the Fremont School District Board of Education. This was after Anna had served for some time as an appointed official on the Board. The fact that Anna served on an elected board made local history, as she was the first Chinese American in Fremont to do so.

Steve Cho remarked that Anna helped to pave the way for others, such as him, to attain an elective office. The Harrisons were out that day with their new family member, Bryce Toy Harrison. Those present for Anna's event were treated to surprise entertainment when Henry's wife, Maria, sang for the group. Assistant Superintendent Dr. Beth Robinson followed by singing the Beatles song Michelle. But the real surprise is when Anna got up to sing. We did not know she had such talent! For the finally, Herb Chiu sang while a few members in the audience danced. Quite an event for a Sunday afternoon...



Audience Enjoys the Entertainment at Anna's Event

### CBC Endorses Measure R— Fire Safety Bond

At the October board meeting, Citizens for Better Community met with Fremont Fire Chief Willie McDonald and Battalion Commander Mark Neveau to learn about the upcoming fire safety bond that will be on the November 5<sup>th</sup> ballot. The bond will enable Fremont to replace three existing fire stations and earthquake retrofit several others. The average cost to taxpayers will be 5 cents a day. After discussing the merits of the bond and the benefits that it would bring to Fremont residents, the board voted to endorse Measure R. Questions: 510-794-7459.

## CBC Youth Leadership Toastmaster Graduation

By Vivian Lin

Many young students got up early August 24, 2002. Instead of sleeping in Saturday mornings, these dedicated students have been attending CBC Youth Toastmasters, a youth leadership program, for the past eight weeks at Long River Education Center. Saturday, August 24, was their last day of class and also their graduation.

This last meeting opened with Garrett Yee and Henry Yin's inspirational speeches about how important speech making really is. Then came the prepared speeches. From Group R, the older group, speeches ranging from cars to toastmasters to different types of music were heard, demonstrating how much these students have learned in such a short period of time. From Group D, the younger group, there was a debate about schools eliminating homework, and listeners heard both sides of the argument, each reason as valid as the last. Then came table topics. Students had to think on their feet when the table topics master came up with a question for them to answer. Listeners understood why students were dreading school, what they were looking forward to, and what they would miss the most. After they finished their table topics, these students received their certificates after a nerve-wrecking table topic speech.

Finally, the long waited moment came for the speakers. They were called up one by one to receive their certificates. After a long three hours, the meeting was adjourned, with many new toastmasters, and everybody gaining better speech-making skills.



CBC Youth Toastmasters Graduating Class of 2002

## Homeless Shelter Update

By Concord Cheung



During this year of 2002, CBC arranged 5 serving days, each time involving about 4 adults and 8 youths, with the Tri-City Homeless Shelter, with three already past. The Tri-City Homeless Shelter currently houses 10 families and 30 single individuals who are in need of temporary shelter. Interested parties should contact Margaret Wang, the coordinator of this program, at (510) 252-1926. Upcoming dates for servings of lunch and/or dinner are November 30<sup>th</sup> and December 29<sup>th</sup>. For more information about the Tri-City Homeless Shelter, visit <http://www.tricityhomeless.org>



## CBC to be honored at the Ohlone College Foundation Benefit Luncheon—Oct. 25th

By Herbert Chiu, DDS

On Friday Oct 25<sup>th</sup>, 2002, CBC will become the first community service group to be honored by the Ohlone College Foundation at its Benefit Luncheon, which will be held at the Fremont Marriott Hotel. The Ohlone College Foundation is a nonprofit, tax-exempt corporation that exists to broaden the educational opportunities of college students. The Foundation provides scholarships, computer equipment, emergency student loans, and other student benefits for the Ohlone Campus in Fremont and Newark Center. CBC invites members and friends to attend this special luncheon. If you are interested in attending, please contact Herbert Chiu at [HkChiu@attbi.com](mailto:HkChiu@attbi.com) or Garrett Yee at 510-790-0865 or [Garretty@attbi.com](mailto:Garretty@attbi.com)

## Dr. Ben Sah steps down from the Hospital Board

By Victor Chen



This year marks the date when Dr. Ben Sah will step down after 13 years on the Hospital Board for Washington Hospital. Dr. Ben Sah was born in Shanghai in 1940. He came to America in the 1950's and was raised in San Francisco until 1958 when he went to college in Philadelphia. After he graduated in 1966 he went to Columbia and studied medical sciences. He pursued a medical training until he was called away from 1968 to 1970 to serve in the US Navy during the Vietnam War. In 1973 he moved to Fremont and continued his residency in the Medical field. He then got elected into the Hospital Board in 1988 and helped to better the hospital staff and community.

Getting onto the hospital board was not a walk in the park for Dr. Sah. He went through many trials before achieving his goal. There were many people who tried to knock him from the board, but in the end they failed. After getting onto the Board, many other people began to follow in his footsteps to run and successfully get on to the Hospital Board.

While Dr. Sah was serving on the hospital board, he made many contributions that benefited the community. One contribution made while Dr. Sah was on the hospital board was to increase the relations and awareness between the board committee with the hospital staff so that the board can better place the needs of the hospital staff thus improving the function of the hospital to better serve the community. Dr. Sah is proud to have been a member of the hospital board and an Asian American who can serve the community. Dr. Sah plans to continue his medical practices a few more years and join his wife in volunteering for Washington Hospital staff when he finally retires.

Dr. Sah is proud of Citizens for Better Community and all the contributions it has made on improving the community. He supports Henry Yin for Fremont City Counsel and all his efforts to serve the community. He also supports Garrett Yee and all the contributions he has made for CBC. He believes that, "The CBC has the right philosophy, right direction to do things that are positive for the community."

Citizens for Better Community salutes Dr. Sah for his service to the Washington Hospital District and in doing so, making this a better community!

## Libraries in China

By Angela Yang

I was very fortunate to be invited to attend the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration of Shanghai Library and the China Society of Library Science Conference in Xian during the summer. Shanghai is a very beautiful city with tree-lined boulevards, ancient temples and ultra-modern skyscrapers. The drive from Pudong Airport to downtown was lined with four layers of blooming flowers and flowering trees. The Shanghai Library is an impressive building that takes up a whole city block. The current building was opened in December 1996 with a total collection of 48.5 million books and documents. Shanghai Library also established nine digital resources databases; some of them specialized in local genealogy, classics and local music. There are 32 reading rooms and numerous meeting rooms. The Library is opened 365 days a year!

The theme of the first Shanghai International Library Forum was Knowledge Navigation and Library Services: International Cooperation. Panel topics included Library's Role in Bridging the Digital Divide, International Collaborative Digital Strategy, Resource Sharing, Library Technology Trends, Library Services etc. The panel I chaired had speakers from China, France, U.S., Singapore and Russia. The best part of the Shanghai Forum was to get to know colleagues from all over the world and share our common concerns, and the parties! I got to sample the delicious Shanghai cuisine, and attended a special Peking Opera featured in the sixth China Art Festival.

The China Society of Library Science Conference was held in Xian. Over 800 librarian delegates from all parts of China attended this gathering. Xian was the capitol of ten Chinese dynasties, and the final resting-place of 75 emperors. There was a lingering sense of awe and history wherever we went. The Conference took place in Shaanxi Library, a new provincial (state) library that opened in September 2001. I was very impressed by the intellectual content, the openness of the papers presented at this conference. The topics included digital library infrastructure building, intellectual property, professional ethics etc.

The highlight of the Xian Conference was the opportunities to visit Qin Shihuang's Terracotta Warriors and Horses, and other museums and historical collections. It was great to get to know colleagues in China and to discover the similarities and differences we are facing. I brought back not only beautiful memory, professional growth, but also many postcards and conference information. If anyone is interested in learning more about libraries in China, please contact me (ayang@aclibrary.org).

## "A Piece from the Past" –

### Steve Chan, DDS

By Stephanie Gan



*To understand anything, you have to look into it deeply, and see it through from the beginning...*

Dr. Steve Chan (President of the California Dental Association) must have had this in mind when he first entered the National Archives in search of his family roots. After hours of digging through endless mountains of files, Chan found what he was looking for: his grandparents' immigration documents – a crucial piece in the reconstruction of the past.

From the information he gathered, Steve was able to paint a clear picture of his grandmother. She had come to the States nearly eighty years ago armed with a few meager possessions and her ambitions. Although the work, fruit-picking and toiling in sweatshops, was strenuous and degrading, the end was worth her pains. Her courage and perseverance paved the way for generations to come.

The story of Steve's grandmother is an inspiring one of courage in the face of daunting odds and less-than-subtle prejudices. However, decades later, Steve was forced to overcome a few hardships of his own. After growing up in sunny Los Angeles and graduating from UCLA with a bachelor's degree in the Arts, Steve made the 2000-mile journey to Georgetown University to study dental surgery.

At the time, the university had a homogenous and predominantly white population. Steve was aware of his cultural and racial differences from the start. To make matters worse, the already self-conscious grad student "practically developed an inferiority complex" after seeing his fellow classmates repeatedly receive higher grades on papers, after putting in less work. It wasn't until he took (and scored in the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile on) a blindly scored, national dentistry exam in his senior year that Chan regained his confidence; he then realized that the cause of his earlier insecurity was actually biased grading – not incompetence. His lesson? In his own words, "You have to work harder, perform better, and speak better than everyone else to be treated as an equal."

Today, Dr. Steve Chan is President of the California Dental Association – an honor heightened by the fact

that he is the first Fremont resident as well as only the third Chinese American dentist to hold this position. He is an active member of several community service organizations (including the South Bay Chinese Club, Citizens for Better Community, and the Fremont Chamber of Commerce) and has received a series of distinguished awards for his work in the field (including three Certificates of Recognition and the title of Honorary Member from the Federation of California Dentists).

Today, Steve and his wife, Sue Chan, reside in Fremont with their two sons, Scott and Tracy. In closing, Steve would like to say to today's youth that, "Everything you do can be done in passion for excellence. In order to rise above competition, you must be passionate."

## Henry Yin Opens Campaign Headquarters In Bid for Fremont City Council



Henry Yin, 55, a 25-year Fremont resident and successful Fremont businessman, announced the opening of his campaign office located at 37070 Fremont Blvd. (at Thornton, next to Carl's Junior), Suite 104, is now open. You are welcome to stop by to say hello and/or to pick up some flyers or campaign materials. Our Campaign Office phone numbers are 794-3472 & 794-3572. Henry's three priorities are:

- 1) Economic Prosperity – Yin believes that a strong local economy is the backbone of Fremont's prosperity. He envisions a stronger presence of Biotech and Information Technology businesses. He also sees Fremont getting its fair share of upscale commercial retail and international trade opportunities;
- 2) Quality of Life – Yin feels that public safety is top priority in Fremont. Public safety personnel need to be well staffed, trained, and equipped to provide the level of service to ensure the safety of our growing community. Other quality of life issues include improved education, more youth and senior programs, affordable housing and better transportation;
- 3) Balanced Growth – Yin sees importance and significance in redeveloping historic and Central Business Districts.

## CBC Welcomes new Board Members Tony Luh, Stanley Woo, Angela Yang & Lena Zee

Citizens for Better Community welcomes the newest board members Tony Luh, Stanley Woo, Angela Yang, and Lena Zee. These four board members were voted in during the September board and will serve terms that will end on November 1, 2003. We are thrilled with the quality of individuals that have been selected to participate at the board level of Citizens for Better Community. Each has a great story to tell and hopefully we will hear more about these individuals in future newsletters.

## Other Events Around Town: 2002 Race Odyssey—A Community Run from the Past to the Future

For those that enjoyed walking with the HERS Walk in September, this is a 5k Run 3K Walk that you won't want to miss. CBC is helping to sponsor this event so that interested in participating, contact Garrett Yee for an application. See [www.onyourmarkevents.com](http://www.onyourmarkevents.com).

Place: Historic Patterson House at Ardenwood  
When: Sat. October, 19<sup>th</sup>, (register 7-8 am)  
Contact: Garrett Yee 510-790-0865

## Friends of Children with Special Needs (FCSN) Annual Dinner

### 華人特殊兒童之友

FCSN appreciates all the support given by CBC. If you are available that evening, please attend to show your support.

Place: Hyatt - Burlingame  
When: Sat., October 26, 2002  
Contact: Albert Wang 510-226-1230

## Mission San Jose Olive Festival

If you haven't heard, the Mission San Jose Olive Festival is the place to be on October 26<sup>th</sup>.

Place: Behind the Mission in Mission San Jose  
When: Sat. October, 26<sup>th</sup> (Herb plays at noon)  
Contact: Herb Chiu 510-490-8649

## Make a Difference Day

Fremont is Celebrating Unity in Diversity Through  
Community Service

Place: Fremont Teen Center at Central Park  
Time: 11:30 – 2:30 (lunch and entertainment)  
When: Sat. October, 26th  
Contact: Cecilia Chang 510-552-0220

## Fremont Community Summit

CBC members are encouraged to attend this worthwhile event. Last year, several CBC members attended and got lots out of it. Hope to see many of you this year as well.

Place: Washington High School  
Time: 8:30 to 2:30  
When: Sat. November 16, 2002  
Contact: Summit Hotline 510-494-4524

**MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE DUE**  
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Okay, get the idea? Please send in your membership dues before November 1, 2002. Remember, next year dues go up.

Thank you,

Chia-Chee Chan  
Membership Chair



Loretta Yu, Josephine Chou, Garrett Yee, and Maria Yee enjoy some shade at the HERS Walk held at Coyote Hills.

## 2002-2003 Directory

**President:**

Garrett Yee.....(510) 790-0865

**Vice President:**

Karen Chen.....(650) 934-5245

**Secretary:**

Cindy Lee.....(408) 280-6631

**Treasurer:**

Gordon Jang.....(510) 790-0740

**Past President:**

Carl Chen.....(510) 490-8118

**Executive Director:**

Teresa Yin Wong.....(510) 793-6302

**Youth Group:**

Eunice Ko.....(510) 657-0136

**Senior Group Liaison:**

Tim Tam.....(510) 796-0962

**Culture Exchange:**

Elise Jan.....(510) 659-9348

**Membership:**

Gordon Jang.....(510) 790-0740

**Website:**

Carl Chen.....(510) 490-8118

**Voter Registration:**

Daphne Yang.....(510) 651-6472

### Committees

**Education:**

Whisky Ho.....(510) 623-7636

**Health:**

Herbert Chiu.....(510) 490-8649

**Business:**

Henry Yin.....(510) 657-1235

**Community Involvement:**

Albert Wang.....(510) 226-1239

### Board of Directors

Cecilia C hang	Chia-Chee Chan	Carl Chen
Simon Chen	Hebert Chiu	Steve Cho
Chi Choy	Whiskey Ho	Tom Hom
Tony Luh	Anna Muh	Ting O'Conner
Michelle Royston	Thomas Tang	Albert Wang
Stanley Woo	Angela Yang	Henry Yin
Teresa Yin Wong	Loretta Yu	Lena Zee

### MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / RENEWAL

**If you like what you see in this newsletter and want to remain informed, please join CBC. Please check one of the following and include a check payable to *CBC* and send to: *CBC, Membership, P. O. Box 1, Fremont, CA 94537-0001***

- \$10 Individual
- \$20 Family
- \$50 Corporate/Organization
- \$100 Individual: Life Membership
- \$200 Family: Life Membership

**Please complete the following member(s) (contact person) information:**

Member: \_\_\_\_\_  

Last Name
First Name
Chinese Name

Spouse: \_\_\_\_\_  

Last Name
First Name
Chinese Name

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  

Street
City
State
Zip

\_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone #
Office Phone #
e-mail

Please check here if you don't want to publish your phone # and address in our membership roster.

## Citizens for Better Community

P.O. Box 1  
Fremont, CA 94537-0001  
Tel. (510) 247-6280  
e-mail: [cbcservices@cbc-sfbay.com](mailto:cbcservices@cbc-sfbay.com)  
Web site: <http://www.cbc-sfbay.com>

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Having fun Dragon Boat training at Lake Del Valle. CBC & CAPA joint picnic in August.

Mailing Address  
Street Number and Name  
City, State 98765-4321

*"To initiate, sponsor and promote community events, which will affect the well being of Chinese Americans with an emphasis on education, health, business and community involvement."*

### Calendar of Events

#### **Serving Dinner at the Homeless Shelter**

Place: Tri-City Homeless Shelter  
When: November 30, 2002  
Contact: Margaret Wang (510) 252-1926

#### **Ohlone College Luncheon**

Place: Fremont Marriott  
When: Friday, October 25th  
Contact: Herb Chiu (510) 490-8649

#### **Unity Day/Make A Difference Day**

Place: Fremont  
When: Saturday, October 26th  
Contact: Cecilia Chang 510-552-0220

#### **Olive Festival**

Place: Behind Mission San Jose  
When: Saturday, October 26, 2002  
Contact: Herb Chiu (510) 490-8649

#### **Friends of Children with Special Needs**

Place: Hyatt - Burlingame  
When: Sat., October 26, 2002  
Contact: Albert Wang 510-226-1230

#### **Tri-City Homeless Coalition Dinner**

Place: Hilton Newark/Fremont  
When: Saturday, October 26, 2002  
Contact: Cecilia Chang 510-552-0220

#### **A Taste of the East Bay**

Place: Newark Pavilion  
When: Sunday, October 27, 2002 (12 – 4 pm)  
Contact: Rick Swartz 510-440-9393

#### **SBCC/CBC Christmas Party**

Place: TBD  
When: TBD  
Contact: TBD

### Next CBC Meetings

#### **CBC Board Meeting**

Wednesday, November 6, 2002  
Place: Henry Yin's – 7:30 pm

#### **CBC Board Meeting**

Wednesday, December 4, 2002  
Place: Henry Yin's – 7:30 pm