



CITIZENS FOR BETTER COMMUNITY

華人權益服務社

P. O. Box 1, Fremont, CA 94537-0001
Web site: <http://www.cbcsfbay.org>

Membership Newsletter

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April – June 2020



According to the California Secretary of State, as of last week (reported on April 16), more than 46% of all households across California have responded to the 2020 Census! That's 6.9 million households —making California the state with the most households that have already responded to the census.

But, we still have millions more California households to go to achieve a fair and accurate count.

If you still haven't responded to the 2020 Census, it's not too late. Households that have not yet responded to their census invitation should have received a paper questionnaire in the mail as of April 8. (more information on page 4)



President's Message

By David Lam

Dear CBC Members and Friends,

The pandemic our country is facing is worse than any that I have witnessed and experienced in my lifetime. COVID-19 became a central discussion topic among our colleagues, friends and families.

During late January, there was news of how easily transmittable COVID-19 can be. For everyone's safety, our Board discussed and decided to cancel the Chinese New Year Celebration that we customarily hold at the Fremont library. While the infection rate continued to increase, the Board also decided to cancel our Spring Celebration. Due to the "Shelter in Place" order, all our other community activities had to take a pause.

During this uncertain time, it is encouraging to see many of our Board members were still actively engaging to help those in need. Around early February, the hospitals in Wuhan, the epicenter of COVID-19, were pleading desperately for international donations of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for use to take care of the infected. CBC, in partnership with Huaren Rotary Club of Silicon Valley, Palo Alto Rotary Club and Bay Area Homeowners Network was able to source surgical gloves and protective suits which were shipped to Wuhan successfully.

On March 29th, CBC was scheduled to cook at Sunrise Village for the homeless, but due to the COVID-19 restrictions, we were denied usage of the kitchen. Nonetheless, Sherry Chang, on behalf of

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President's Message...Cont'd from page 1

CBC, purchased food from local restaurants and delivered dinner as scheduled (see page 5).

In early April, when our own community hospitals and first responders ran into a shortage of PPEs, the same CBC partnership, in addition to the Hanlin Youth Group, Evergreen Chinese American Association and Silicon Valley Chinese American Foundation, was able to source masks, gloves, and gowns from China as well as facial shields handmade by students from Mission San Jose High School (Hanlin Youth Group). These much needed items were donated to our local hospitals and other local facilities. CBC also received a message from Milpitas Police Department requesting masks and we were able to donate 500 KN95 masks for their officers' use while protecting our community.



I've been told of many other good deeds where others have helped in our community. I hope to share those stories with you another time.

Due to the origin of the virus being from China, our Asian and Chinese community did encounter an increase of racial attacks. Since racial tension has always existed, it caused me to think, is there a difference between being American and Chinese American? Subsequently, CBC sent a letter to President Trump to request his help to condemn the actions of the hateful few.

In closing, we all need to exercise patience and perseverance. We live in the most innovative and prosperous country in the world. We will soon find a cure, and our scientists are close to developing a vaccine. As long as we continue to try our best to help those in need in our community, we will live through this crisis and come out stronger together.

I wish you all well during this challenging period. Stay safe and healthy.

Sincerely,

David Lam
CBC President 2019-2020

Donations of Gloves and Protective Suits Sent to Hospitals in Wuhan



Masks, Gloves and Facial Shields Donated to Bay Area Facilities





Together, We Are Stronger!

Donated By


 美國翰林文教基金會
 Hanlin Education Foundation of America

 CITIZENS FOR BETTER COMMUNITY
 Mission History Club of Silicon Valley
 BAHN Bay Area Homeowners Network
 TECAA
 SVCAF

1. Washington Hospital nurse receiving handmade facial shields made by Hanlin Youth Group from Mission San Jose High School students in Fremont
2. Donation of masks to Tri-City Health Center
3. Mayor Lily Mei, City Councilmember Yang Shao, along with Herbert Chiu, Chunchi Ma and Adeles Fan donating masks to FCSN
4. Gloves donated to Valley Medical Center
5. Mission San Jose High School students hard at work hand making facial shields which is in high demand for the front line medical staff
6. Large shipment of gloves picked up by employee of Kindred Hospital in San Leandro
7. Initiating and sponsoring organizations

Reporting Hate Crimes

www.fremontpolice.gov

A new reporting center has been established for community members to privately report incidents of hate related to COVID-19.



Many of our community members are feeling anxious and unsettled due to the growing number of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) cases. Our lives have changed drastically overnight, as stay at home orders are implemented across the Country. Unfortunately, the negative narrative surrounding this disease has caused fear in our community and anti-hate groups are reporting a modest rise in reports of hate speech and crimes across the world.

While the Fremont Police Department has not received any recent reports of hate crimes, we want to assure our community that we take these matters seriously. We want all community members to feel safe living, working or visiting the City of Fremont. During the COVID-19 shelter-in-place, our patrol operation remains fully staffed, and we continue to respond to all emergency calls.

"Fremont has always been a compassionate city; a place where residents celebrate diversity," Mayor Lily Mei said. "With the increase in xenophobia and hate crimes in our broader nation stemming from the COVID-19 pandemic, I want to send a clear message that we will not tolerate hate in Fremont. I encourage each and every one of our residents to report any incidents you may witness or be a victim of to the Fremont Police Department. Now more than ever before, we need to remain unified as a community and be kind to those around us."

The Asian Pacific Islander Legislative Caucus, in partnership with the Asian Pacific Planning and Policy Council (A3PCON) and other Asian American Pacific Islander civil rights organizations announced the creation of a new reporting center to collect and track incidents of anti-Asian American and Pacific Islander hate, violence, and discrimination, including adult harassment, shunning, and child bullying in California and throughout the country in response to the escalation of xenophobia and bigotry related to COVID-19. The reporting center provides individuals who have been directly impacted by hate or have a firsthand account of an incident of hate an avenue to share their stories online. These organizations are also developing targeted education and media campaigns to provide resources for impacted individuals and to advocate for policies and programs dedicated to curtailing racial profiling. The

[press release](#) can be viewed in its entirety online.

The [incident reporting forms](#) are available in English, Chinese, Korean, Thai and Japanese.

The definition of a Hate Crime can be found under 422.55 of the California Penal Code. In summary, a Hate Crime is defined as a criminal act committed, in whole or in part, because of one or more of the following actual or perceived characteristics of the victim: disability, gender, nationality, race or ethnicity, religion, or sexual orientation.

The City of Fremont has a downloadable brochure on Hate Crimes available online at: www.Fremont.gov/HateCrime.

If you believe you are a victim of a hate crime and have not reported it, please do so now by calling the Fremont Police Department at (510) 790-6800 and selecting option 3. All allegations of hate will be thoroughly investigated.

Census... *Cont'd from page 1*

That means, while Californians are at home social distancing, **they can now respond to the census by mail, online or by phone.**

- To complete the census online, go to my2020census.gov.
- To respond by phone, call 844-330-2020. Or go to <https://2020census.gov/en/contact-us> for non-English.

Completing the census only takes about 10 minutes and will help your community for the next 10 years! Census participation determines each community's share of federal funding for healthcare, schools, roads, and more for the next decade.

When you complete the census, make sure that everyone who lives in your household is counted. That includes all children and any extended family or friends who are living with you (regardless of immigration, citizenship, or voter registration status -- *everyone needs to be counted*).

Remember, participation is simple, quick and confidential. To learn more about your rights, you can read California's [Census Bill of Rights](#).

Once you complete the census, help us spread the word. Remind your family members, friends, neighbors and coworkers that it's critical that everyone participate in the 2020 Census.

Let's get counted, let's get funded, and let's continue to stand up for democracy!

CBC Continues to Serve Meals to Most Vulnerable

By Sherry Chang, CBC Coordinator for Homeless Shelter Meals

None of our homeless shelter meal service volunteers foresaw what was coming in early March. It was still early to prepare for our March 29th service at the Sunrise Village Shelter. Besides the stock market drop and nowhere to get one's hands on surgical masks or hand sanitizers in local stores, there was no need to panic about one's daily life. In fact, on March 13th, Ms. Morgan, the shelter director, informed me that "We still need your continued support to prepare and serve the meals to the residents ..."



Within days, the world turned upside down. On March 16th, officials in six Bay Area counties announced orders to "shelter in place" and I got concerned that not a single pack of chicken drumsticks, which we needed to prepare for the meal service, was available at Costco. Then came another email from Ms. Morgan on March 17th, "We are only allowed to have the staff and residents living at Sunrise Village Shelter in the building. You will not be able to come here to serve your meal. If you are able to still bring the food for the meal on the date you were planning to serve your meal, this would be greatly appreciated."

Immediately, our Board leaders were notified and given the options by Sherry to either cancel the March 29th service or to purchase dishes prepared by industrial quality kitchens (as homemade foods are not allowed). Board leaders quickly provided the guideline that CBC will stick to its commitment and set a budget for the March 29th service. A call on March 25th to the shelter kitchen coordinator, Ms. Quintana, settled our modified menu: two large trays of fried chicken drumsticks, one large tray of assorted vegetables, and one large tray of vegetable fried rice. As Ms. Quintana phrased it, "these are good comfort food choices." Our service brings comfort to those in need and CBC is proud of this commitment.

CBC will continue to provide meals on the following dates in 2020:

~ Saturday, June 13th (lunch) ~ Sunday, August 30th (dinner) ~ Saturday, October 31st (dinner)



South Bay Chinese Service Club Scholarship Program

By Randy Sabado, SBCSC Scholarship Committee Chair

The South Bay Chinese Service Club Scholarship Program was started in 1970 to recognize and award the academic achievements of local high school seniors of Chinese descent. This year is the 50th anniversary of the program and over these many years we have awarded in excess of \$500,000 to hundreds of deserving high school students. Many of the past recipients have gone on to successful careers and have returned to the community to live, work, and raise families of their own.

This year, we received 19 applications and were looking forward to celebrating a new class of recipients. However, because of the Coronavirus and the quarantine order, we decided to cancel the awards banquet portion of the program. Recently, the scholarship committee met by web conferencing and selected the recipients. It was also decided that we would collect the information to put together the program booklet and discuss options for distributing the awards, plaques and certificates. Ideally, we wish we could personally award the scholarships to the students, celebrate their achievements and thank the donors but given the current situation, we will need to wait to see what can be done while still being sensitive to keeping everyone safe and healthy.

On behalf of the South Bay Chinese Service Club, I would like to thank Citizens for Better Community for your continued and ongoing support of the scholarship program.

FUSS Supporting the Fremont School Community



By Ivy Wu, Founder of F.U.S.S.

In anticipation of the threats launched by the novel coronavirus in early February, F.U.S.S. (Fremont Unified Student Store) decided to postpone and cancel a few events and workshops including the annual Summer Programs Fair, and Stanford Children's Health Heart-to-Heart workshops.

However, the scheduled AMC10/12 A & B (American Mathematics Competitions) in February could not be put off, so we went ahead to conduct both math contests. With 42 students qualifying for AIME (American Invitational Mathematics Exam) after taking either the AMC 10/12A or B math tests, we proceeded to offer AIME as well. Cautions about the novel coronavirus were duly taken. Desks were spread out to keep social distance between test-takers.

By early March, the danger of COVID-19 became more pressing! Upon notice that F.U.S.D. (Fremont Unified School District) schools would be closed for two weeks from 3/16/2020 through 3/27/2020, F.U.S.S. promptly took action to put together a lunch program for the 7,200 F.U.S.D. students who would rely on the schools' free and reduced meals.

Even though such decision would subject us to daunting responsibilities and huge risks, we went forward with it prayerfully, hoping to give a sense of stability and security to our impacted school community in this unprecedented and uncertain time!

The initial commitment was for 2 weeks; but, on the very first day of our [Grab-a-Bagged-Lunch](#) program on 3/16/2020, the State's Shelter-in-Place Order came into effect. Soon after that, an announcement was made by the School District that schools would be closed until 4/7, and then 5/1, and then for the remainder of the school year until mid-June!

How has F.U.S.S. been dealing with the ongoing challenges and making spontaneous adjustments? Not easy! But, not without a lot of prayers and help!

We are truly grateful to all the people who have stepped up, and are still stepping up, to offer support to make this effort worthwhile and sustaining! They are our heroes:

- **Subway Sandwich** (Driscoll Road): Pranav and Hemali instantly accepted our invitation to provide sandwiches at their store location, as well as at some other distribution sites.
- **Suju's Coffee**: With no questions asked, Mahesh gladly opened up both coffee shops (Thornton in North Fremont and Stevenson in Central Fremont) as distribution sites for the Subway sandwiches.
- **Milk and Honey Cafe** (North Fremont): Teresa responded swiftly upon hearing about this program. Not only did she sign up to provide Chinese boxed lunches, she also reached out to generous donors for funding!
- **Bombay Pizza House and Curry Pizza House**: Romy and the other owners joined the cause since Day 1, serving the needs in both Ardenwood and the Hub areas. They have also been giving sound feedback as to how to offer meals more effectively.
- **TECO Tea & Coffee Bar** (Gateway Plaza): After participating as a Subway sandwich distribution site for a few days, Holly began to offer their own paninis and hot foods.
- **Joe's Corner** (Niles District): Neelam joined us just in time when we needed to expand the program to provide lunch to some impacted students near Niles District.

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FUSS...Cont'd from page 6

- **Our Donors:** We initially set the target amount at \$45,000. This amount was quickly met with donations from over 600 donors. The compassion and generosity shown by all our donors motivate us to press on. We are now at around \$65,000, enough for the program to last through the first part of May.
- **Our Volunteers:** We have been very blessed with highly responsible, enthusiastic, and caring individuals, some of whom have gone beyond their scope of duties to offer extra help whenever needed. They are our Community Members, School Board Member, Student Board Member, School Principal and Teachers, District Staff...!

COVID-19 may be jeopardizing our lives and the quality of life; but we will be able to make it through as a community when we set our minds on working together and watching out for each other while observing the rules and order.

We will try to keep this effort going hopefully through mid-June with the support of our community partners. Necessary modifications will be made along the process to address every real need presented to us. Updates are regularly sent out through emails, newsletters, social media and posted on our website: www.fuss4schools.org.



*Let's all stay safe, stay well, stay calm,
stay hopeful, and stay connected –
though at a social distance!*



Adult Toastmasters meet via Zoom

*By Arunavaa Mukherjee
President, CBC Adult Toastmasters*

This is a new and uncertain situation for everyone and our utmost priority is to take care of our health and sanity. But keeping connected to our dear members seems even more needed in this time of crisis. So, we continue to meet. Yes, we continue to meet! COVID-19 could not keep us down. District 57 has arranged Zoom meetings for all the clubs including CBC Toastmasters. We are having our regular meetings online at the same time every Saturday. So members continue to get a good dose of positivity at our meetings. This obstacle turned out to be an opportunity and offered us new agencies. We are learning the applications of some of the newest tools and being innovative in ways of keeping the audience engaged through online meetings.

Before this new normal started, we successfully conducted our Area Contest which was the next level of the Club Contest for International Speech and Evaluation. CBC Toastmaster member and officer Seng Hua represented our club in the Area Contest. We were totally blown away by his triumphant performance in the Area Contest which needless to say secured him the first place in the contest. He also held the second position in the next level Division Contest.

During this time our officers completed their training from the district and new members continued to join our club. Now we are a proud club who is listed as a Presidents Distinguished Club from Toastmasters International. Toastmasters is not only about speaking but it also gives members ample opportunities to try their leadership skills. We are going to hold an event dedicated to this. We will have our officers' election in the upcoming month.

This year has been very special to us since our club continued transitioning to a new online education program, but at the same time, this year, we have to bid goodbye to our conventional program. As it is a practice in Toastmasters to turn our obstacles into opportunities, we did not mourn to do so; rather, four of our members' endeavor is to achieve the highest possible award in Toastmasters, that is DTM or Distinguished ToastMaster. They are just a bit away from the finish line. We appreciate their effort to reach this point and encourage others to reach for the stars. If you want to be a part of this great community, reach out to us, our door is always open.

Alameda County Civil Grand Jury

By Steven Chan, DDS

Do you know of any civic-minded person who might be a good candidate?

The Alameda County Civil Grand Jury (ACCGJ) is recruiting residents in Alameda County to serve on the 2020-2021 Grand Jury. The recruitment period has been extended to May 1st. Applications can be submitted via <http://grandjury.acgov.org/join-us.page?> They are set up to conduct business via Zoom during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Consider applying for a position on the Civil Grand Jury. They could use your skills and life experiences.

Briefly, the Civil Grand Jury is the watchdog body that investigates government. I was accepted on ACCGJ in 2014-2015. I chaired a subcommittee investigating a City government, two school districts, a community college district. I was on a committee that investigated the County Health System.

It was a very good life experience. I had a great team. Our team did a lot of homework to identify the problem(s), dissect the shortfalls, and create a document that provided solutions.

We learned how government works - and sometimes - how it doesn't work. We could be frank and forthright on our conclusions. Remember, all these institutions are supposed to work for us.

The combined greater populated part of the County is in Fremont, Newark, Union City, Hayward, Livermore, Pleasanton, Dublin. Only 4 of us came from those cities offering textures from our part of the county.

Frankly, I was the only Asian American on my GJ. There were only 2 people of color of the 17 members.

Good government isn't just on autopilot. Errors continue, if not corrected. The GJ can use your life skills to make government better. If you are not at the table, then someone else will tell you what to do. The Alameda County Civil Grand Jury could use your experiences.



CBC’s Mission Statement:

“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.”

CBC’s Vision Statement:

“CBC will be a model of excellence in community service by facilitation and motivating Chinese American involvement in the community.”

2019-2020 Board Directory

President:

David Lam.....(510) 417-0826

Vice President:

Herbert Chiu.....(510) 471-3777

Secretary:

Wilson Hu.....(925) 480-7305

Treasurer:

Robert Kaiser(510) 386-9967

Past President:

Charles Liu(510) 938-6668

Legal Counsel

David Sheen(510) 676-2178

Executive Director

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

Committees

Education:

Yang Shao.....(510) 687-9184

Health:

Herbert Chiu.....(510) 471-3777

Business:

Henry Yin.....(510) 676-7139

Community Involvement:

Albert Wang.....(510) 657-6610

Membership: Wing Ng.....(510) 326-1133

Culture Exchange: Lena Zee(510) 421-6666

Youth Internship: Charles Liu(510) 938-6668

TYLP/Gavel Club: Midji Rovetta.....(510) 798-7871

Social Activities:

Amy Cho.....(510) 823-4328

Cecilia Leon(510) 445-1330

Gerry Low Sabado.....(510) 378-0999

Spring Celebration:

Herbert Chiu(510) 471-3777

Kathy Kimberlin(510) 552-0221

2019-2020 Board of Directors

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David Lam	Albert Wang
Judy Lam	Julie Wang
Cecilia Leon	Marvin Wong
Henry Liang	Henry Yin
Charlies Liu	Lena Zee
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CBC NEWSLETTER

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 Kathy Jang, Executive Director, at (510) 790-0740, or email kjang@cbcsfbay.org.

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Upcoming CBC Meetings

Please contact kjang@cbcsfbay.org for virtual meeting information.

~ Wednesday, May 6, 2020

~ Wednesday, June 3, 2020

~ Wednesday, July 1, 2020