

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

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Membership Newsletter

July - September 2020

Donation Drive for COVID-19 Exceeds Goal



CBC collaborated with four other non-profit organizations to raise funds, and purchased personal protective equipment to be donated to numerous health facilities in the Greater Bay Area. More details on page 2.



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President's Message

By David Lam



Dear CBC Members and Friends,

It is summer and Shelter in Place is still in effect. This pandemic has restricted many of our in-person activities, it has altered life as we knew it. The protests instigated by the Minneapolis incident also leave social issues unsettled. Regrettably, some of CBC's goodwill events had to be suspended, e.g. homeless meal program, Spring Gala fund raiser, etc. It is encouraging though to hear the recent breakthroughs in vaccine research. There is a report that the vaccine from Moderna and NIH was successful in the first trial and will begin the next round of 30,000-person test on July 27th. There is another vaccine from Oxford University that could be ready for trial in Fall. We can only hope that the vaccine is developed and released to the public soon so we can all return to our normal and routine life.

At our last board meeting, we discussed how we can use some of the funds which were donated from a dedicated family for CBC use to serve our community. There are two main programs being considered, expanding the current Toastmaster Youth Leadership Program, and supporting the Fremont Youth Symphony Orchestra to develop quality music education and performance programs for the young musicians in our community. More updates to come.

After careful consideration, the TYLP leadership team deemed it necessary to suspend this year's TYLP program. As for the Gavel Club, the team was initially undecided whether to start but the team subsequently

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

decided to try out a virtual session. The first Zoom meeting was held on June 27th and the second meeting was held on July 11th. The Gavel Club program will continue to be held remotely.

The CBC Website team was also meeting remotely and is closer to completing our new website project. There is still some additional information to collect and the team will share the updates with our Board members during our August meeting before we schedule the go live date. Credits to Teresa Eng, our consultant Greg Green, and the website team for their diligent work.

I was happy to have attended the SBCC Scholarship award ceremony on May 30th and 31st via Zoom Conference and was totally impressed with the various achievements of the recipients. The winner of the 2020 CBC Scholarship for Excellence in Community Service was Nathan Lin, who attended Mission San Jose High School. Nathan had a 4.0 GPA and will be attending UCLA this Fall (see more on page 4 and 5).

In closing, it may seem that we are living in unprecedented times, but I am hopeful that all this will pass as we live in the best free country in the world, one we swear allegiance to. Looking forward to report more positive news in the next newsletter.

I wish you all well during our continued shelter in place. Stay safe and healthy.

Sincerely,

David Lam CBC President 2019-2020

Donation Effort for Greater Bay Area

By Chunchi Ma, Member, Huaren Rotary Club

In March of 2020, when COVID-19 was hitting Wuhan, China hard, Dr. Herbert Chiu of CBC and Huaren Rotary Club discussed ways to help out China. Many of us, from both organizations, who originally came from China and still have close family and friends living there, had the strong desire to help. We also collaborated with BAHN (Bay Area Homeowner's Network, a non-profit organization representing small property owners), and came up with the idea of raising funds to purchase protective personal equipment. Approximately \$20K was collected which enabled us to purchase over 250,000 medical grade gloves. These gloves were donated to two hospitals in Wuhan, China, to aid in their fight against COVID-19.

A month later, as the tables turned and as the virus was spreading across the Pacific and into our home turf in the U.S., many of us in the local Chinese-American community wanted to help out once again. This time, with the collection efforts again led by Dr. Herbert Chiu and in coordination with Huaren Rotary Club, we worked alongside three other great non-profit organizations: BAHN as in the previous cause, SVCA (Silicon Valley Chinese Association) and ECAA (Evergreen Chinese American Association). A new fund raising effort was started with a similar goal of \$20K. In the end, the original goal was far exceeded and over \$70K was collected from several hundred members of the five organizations.



We purchased about 70,000 surgical masks, imported from China, which were distributed to the East Bay, South Bay and Peninsula/SF communities. Approximately, 23,000 to 25,000 masks where allocated to each community. The masks were then donated to several dozen (medical and non-medical) facilities in each region, totaling the recipient count in excess of 100 from the three regions of the Greater Bay Area. Also, over 300,000 medical gloves and over 4.000 face shields, made locally by high school students in Fremont, were purchased and donated to area hospitals and medical facilities. The recipients expanded to include City government, Police and Fire departments, homeless shelters, senior care facilities, homes for kids with special needs, etc., basically covering all of Alameda County.



Cont'd on page 3

Donation Effort...Cont'd from page 2

From our joint effort, we received much praise and appreciation from the recipients. Non-medical employees from a couple of the hospitals told us that since they were NOT considered front line personnel, who directly face COVID-19 patients, no masks were provided to them. This caused them great concern and they were scared to face and interact with numerous people each day. As we know, some COVID-19 patients who test positive can be asymptomatic. Hence, they were so grateful for our donations as we provided them with a bit of self-protection which gave them peace of mind.



Photos Courtesy of Chunchi Ma

When looking back at this epic battle against this common enemy of human-kind, we can proudly say that we did our part, and contributed a little bit to fight COVID-19. The final credits are due to our wonderful members of the five organizations and common folks in our communities who participated in this effort. Also, kudos to Dr. Herbert Chiu (CBC VP and Health Committee Chair) and to one of the great non-profit organizations known as CBC, for spearheading this donation drive.

July 4th Celebration



By Kathy Kimberlin Inspired by Johnna M. Laird/Tri-City Voice (June 30, 2020)

The Fremont's Fourth of July Parade Committee was set to cancel one of the city's most popular events, until the committee heard about Portland, Oregon's idea of a "porch parade" to save its annual Rose Festival, they latched onto the bright idea.

We wanted the Porch Parade to keep the annual Fremont 4th spirit alive, and lift the spirits of those suffering financially or emotionally during this pandemic with a free, fun, and uplifting event filled with music, interviews, a flyover and perhaps a few surprises.

The event ran from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. with live and recorded activities and performances on Facebook. The Porch Parade decorating contest offered an opportunity for overall involvement by Fremont residents and businesses with family-friendly displays to celebrate America's 244th birthday.

Official parade participant signs were delivered to the first 100 registrants by our Sikh community volunteers from Gurdwara Sahib, an alternative to their usual volunteerism of handing out 10,000 cold water bottles along the parade route.



This year's parade theme was "One People United." This theme really helped salute first responders and essential workers, who have reached heroic status in the past three months serving the public through the pandemic. The annual flyover with historic planes from California Beech Boys and Commemorative Air Force buzzed over police and fire stations, hospitals and major grocery stores to pay tribute to those on the pandemic's frontlines.

Musical performances this year included Ideaband, a Chinese American band that performs throughout the Bay Area. With featured drummer, our own Dr. Herbert Chiu, and meaningful videography resulted in a beautiful production piece! Additional fun-filled performances were from local country music artist Jewels Hanson, Tri-City Band Corps, another local group Fantasy band, American High School, Santa Clara Vanguard, and last, but certainly not least were outstanding performances from Fremont's Virtuoso International Flute Ensemble (VIFE), a group of young flautists from throughout the Bay Area, under the direction of another talented CBC member Judy Lam, and the Fremont Youth Symphony directed by Judy Lam and Grace Lai.

South Bay Chinese Service Club Annual Scholarship Awards Program



By Randy Sabado, SBCSC Scholarship Committee Chair Photos Courtesy of Gerry Low Sabado

On Saturday, May 30, 2020, the South Bay Chinese Service Club (SBCSC) awarded \$24,500 in scholarships to 19 high school seniors of Chinese descent during two Scholarship Awards Zoom meetings. This year is the 50th anniversary of this program and over the years we have awarded over \$500,000 to hundreds of local high school students.

South Bay Chinese Club President Anna Muh opened the meeting by welcoming and thanking the graduates, parents, and scholarship donors. She praised the students for their outstanding academic records, community involvement and encouraged them to continue to honor and practice their Chinese culture and heritage. Past President and Scholarship Committee member Joe Woo then gave a brief history of the South Bay Chinese Club and the Scholarship Program. This included a video depicting many of our past recipients and guest speakers. It was a visual reminder of the many students who benefitted by this program and have gone on to successful careers.

In addition to receiving the monetary awards, the recipients also received a plaque and Certificates of Commendation and Special Recognition from U. S. Congressman Ro Khanna and Eric Swalwell, State Senator Bob Wieckowski, State Assemblymember Kansen Chu, and Alameda County Supervisor Scott Haggerty.



The 19 scholarship winners this year are an impressive group of scholars representing 5 high schools in Fremont and 2 high schools in San Jose. The average unweighted GPA was 3.90 and the average weighted GPA was 4.31. They amassed a total of 5,528

community service hours. In this group, there were 8 National Merit Finalists, 9 AP Scholars, 6 students with a perfect unweighted 4.0 GPA's, 1 Girl Scout Gold Award, 5 Presidential Service Awards (Gold), 3 Scholar Athlete Awards and 12 students who participated in student government positions.





Nathan Lin (CBC Community Scholarship for Excellence in Community Service)

I plan on majoring in computer science in college. My goal is to build upon my computer science



skills and learn artificial intelligence and possibly attend graduate school in the future. I would like to thank my family and friends for putting me in the position I am today, especially my basketball coach, Edward Leu.

Emily Lin (Fremont Bank Foundation Scholarship for Academic Excellence)



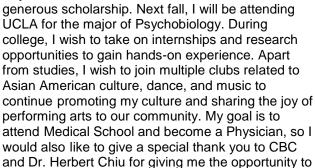
First off, I would like to thank CBC for giving me so many opportunities, including my

Scholarships....cont'd from page 4

internship with Assembly member Kansen Chu. That experience was extremely eye-opening for my path throughout high school and a catalyst for my personal growth. As I enter college, I want to continue to give back to the Chinese community, whether it is by translating documents, organizing cultural events, or tutoring! I will study economics and public policy to learn to increase inclusivity within our society and give back to the Chinese American community. I would love to analyze past trends to shape the future and create social change!

Irene Chang (Republic Services Scholarship for Building Strong Neighborhoods)

First, I would like to thank South Bay Chinese Service Club for the



participate in the CBC Career Dental Intern Program and offering me a part-time job. This internship has allowed me to gain a deeper understanding of working in the medical field and the importance of patient care, which is the key to healthcare. In the future, I hope to continue volunteering at local hospitals and tutoring children with special needs.

Thank you again for your generosity and support. I promise I will keep working hard and eventually give back to others in the community.

* * * * * *

The South Bay Chinese Club (SBCC) was formed in 1965 to preserve the culture and customs of the Chinese heritage, to foster and encourage better understanding of civic responsibilities and the American way of life, and to promote general welfare of the community. In 1984, the Club formed the South Bay Chinese Service Club (SBCSC), a California non-profit organization, in pursuit of community outreach services such as the Scholarship Program. The annual Scholarship Program began in 1970 by providing two scholarships of \$100 each to graduating high school seniors of Chinese descent. The primary funding for the Scholarship Program is obtained through direct solicitation of donations and through an annual fundraising golf tournament held in May each year. Information about the Scholarship Program and the annual golf tournament is available on the Club's website (www.southbaychineseclub.org)



Congrats to the Class of 2020



July 4th Celebration....cont'd from page 3

Decorating awards were presented for Most Patriotic residence (pictured below) or business property; Most Outstanding Decorations; People's Choice, with voting online; and Spirit of Freedom, decorations with the most inspiring messages.



The Fremont 4th of July Parade Committee is thankful for the participation of judges Mayor Lily Mei and the City Council members. View more about the event on www.fremont4th.org!

CBC Adult Toastmasters Installs New Officers

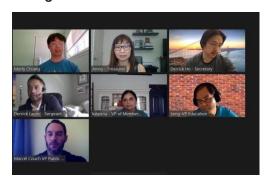
By Marty Chiang President, CBC Adult Toastmasters

In July, CBC Toastmasters Club installed new officers to lead the club. The new officers are:

President: Marty
VP of Education: Seng
VP of Membership: Kalpana
VP of Public Relations: Marcel

Secretary: Derrick H. **Treasurer:** Jenny

Sergeant at Arms: Derrick L.



For more information about the club, visit: https://654714.toastmastersclubs.org/directions.html

Community Preservationist Shares Asian American History

Gerry Low Sabado, 5th Generation Chinese Fishing Village Descendant & Community Preservationist

"The most ambitious television chronicle of the Asian American story in the United States premiered as part of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month on May 11 and 12 on KQED. Asian Americans is a five-part PBS documentary series that delivers a fresh perspective on a history that matters today, more than ever. As America becomes more diverse, and more divided while facing unimaginable challenges, how do we move forward together? Told through intimate personal stories, the series will cast a new lens on U.S. history and the ongoing role that Asian Americans have played in shaping the nation's story." (KQED)

The Asian American Community was excited in anticipation to watch this new documentary series. Randy and I were planning to view the program. In addition, we knew that many of our friends were planning to view the much talked about series. As we watched, we both suddenly realized that a photo shot of me had just flashed onto the screen!! OMG!! We looked at each other and both simultaneously exclaimed "Wow!" and laughed in surprise and awe. We had no idea that the photo had been taken.....no remembrance of the photographer or videographer taking the shot when we were attending the 150th Golden Spike Celebration of The Completion of the Transcontinental Railroad in Promontory, Utah on May 10, 2019! I felt honored and blessed to have my image in my Chinese jacket be included in this most current documentation of the Asian American Story in the United States!!



https://video.kqed.org/show/asian-americans/

The Asian American DVD can be purchased at https://shop.pbs.org/asian-americans-dvd/product/ASAM60001

Asian American History....Cont'd from page 6

In a short CBS "Sunday Morning" segment (link below) titled East Meets West about last year's 150th celebration of the joining of East to West, you can see me in the video at around 5:39. Although you see the other ladies and I in Chinese attire waving, I didn't realize who exactly the photographers and videographers were or who they were working for. There just were lots of people taking photos and videos!! Later, my sister-in-law, Jennifer, happened to watch this segment on TV and was so surprised to see me come up on her screen! She quickly took a screen shot and posted it tagging me. That is how I found out about the show.

https://video.search.yahoo.com/yhs/search?fr=yhs-sz-001&hsimp=yhs-

001&hspart=sz&p=sunday+morning+show+Building+t he+Transcontinental+Railroad#id=1&vid=405db30b0 4734f82363abb02d358b8ea&action=click



May 10, 2020 - Today is the 151st year since the completion of the Transcontinental Railroad. Despite this monumental achievement, the Chinese Railroad Workers' contribution was excluded, ignored and forgotten from history. Thank You to all those friends who filmed and were interviewed in this wonderful video!! LEGACY

"Over 150 years ago, Chinese Railroad Workers blasted and chiseled their way through the rugged Sierra Nevada Mountains near Donner Summit on the Tahoe National Forest in California while completing the Transcontinental Railroad. Despite this monumental achievement, the Chinese Railroad Workers' contribution was excluded, ignored and forgotten from history. Today, grassroots groups including the USDA Forest Service are working together to retell this story."

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PbeBYUFurnY&feature=youtu.be&fbclid=lwAR2KRjrXSVVOzu6L3F4BRdChKZjvx03yycjPtyGCM8QeOZ9E0OnEbuKQXw

My husband, Randy, and I made the trip to Promontory, Utah, to Reclaim Chinese American History and Remember the Brave and Courageous Chinese Railroad Workers and others who worked so hard and sacrificed so much in order to complete the Transcontinental Railroad and connect the East with the West. Their stories had been excluded from our history books for so long. We wanted to show up and represent the Chinese Railroad Workers. My own great grandfather worked on the rail line that came down California into Monterey and ended in Pacific Grove.

Sarah, my second cousin, met NBC Asian Pacific America's Lance Lew at a party. She told him about me and our family's history. Lance contacted me and invited me to be interviewed by Robert Handa on an upcoming segment of NBC's Asian Pacific America. Click on the link below to see segments of the evening's interviews. While waiting in the Green Room I was so happy to meet up with others who are my friends and who were also waiting to be interviewed that evening!

https://archive.org/details/KNTV_20190929_123000_ Asian_Pacific_America_with_Robert_Handa/start/480/end/540

Upcoming CBC Meetings

CBC Board of Directors meet virtually on the first Wednesday of each month. CBC members or guests from the community are welcome to attend the general meeting starting at 7:30 p.m. The regular Board meeting for the Officers and Directors immediately follows the general meeting. The upcoming meetings are as follows:

- ~ Wednesday, August 5, 2020
- ~ Wednesday, September 2, 2020
- ~ Wednesday, October 7, 2020

Please contact <u>kjang@cbcsfbay.org</u> for virtual meeting information.



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: (510) 445-1330 Cecilia Leon (510) 378-0999
Spring Celebration: Herbert Chiu(510) 471-3777

Kathy Kimberlin(510) 552-0221

2019-2020 Board of Directors

David Bonaccorsi Lilv Mei Anna Muh Herbert Chiu Steve Cho Richard Muh Whisky Ho Wing Ng Wilson Hu Midji Rovetta Robert Kaiser Raj Salwan Kathy Kimberlin Yang Shao David Lam Albert Wang Judy Lam Julie Wang Cecilia Leon Marvin Wong Henry Liang Henry Yin Lena Zee Charlies Liu Gerry Low Sabado

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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Albert Wang

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Tri-City Voice/Johnna M. Laird

