#GoodJobsNow launched to connect Minnesota job seekers with employers


Many Minnesota businesses have open jobs but are reporting having a hard time finding the employees they need. At the same time, Minnesota’s unemployment rate remains elevated with workers continuing to seek job opportunities. That’s why DEED is launching #GoodJobsNow, an interactive set of resources connecting Minnesota employers hiring right now with job seekers looking for work.

“Today, I’m proud to launch the #GoodJobsNow campaign, a new tool to help Minnesota job seekers by connecting them directly with employers,” said Commissioner Steve Grove. “Right now, as many Minnesotans face uncertainty, DEED is working to provide job seekers with job opportunities and career training resources through virtual CareerForce services, our regularly updated 30 Jobs in Demand list, the Dislocated Worker Program and now the #GoodJobsNow visualization.”

During second quarter 2020, employers reported a total of just under 111,800 job vacancies in Minnesota. Though that was down 23.7% from one year ago, reflecting COVID-19’s impact on the labor market, it shows existing demand for workers across the state. There were 2.4 unemployed Minnesotans for each vacancy, halting a three-year streak of employers posting more vacancies than there were active job seekers available to fill them.

“We know that there is a talented workforce in Minnesota, and we are passionate about the impactful work and variety of opportunities available at Marvin. We are thankful for the strong partnership with MN DEED to help connect us with the talent in the state through this new, innovative tool,” said Rick Trontvet, Marvin senior vice president of Human Resources.

Good Jobs Now joins DEED’s resources for job seekers, including:
- CareerForce
- Virtual Career Fairs
- Jobs in Demand
- Dislocated Worker Program

DEED will follow up to highlight your opportunities.

“At Wyoming Machine, we celebrate the skills and potential workers bring to the job and we provide on-the-job training, mentoring and technical training through Minnesota State to help our employees advance and build a career in manufacturing,” said Traci Tapani, co-owner of Wyoming Machine.

Minnesota employers who have vacancies are invited to join us in this effort. It’s simple to do that: Just fill out this form and DEED will follow up to highlight your opportunities.

Clues: he was born in Minneapolis in 1929, he has more than 600 film and television credits including roles in “Big Trouble in Little Chinatown” and voiceover role in “Kung Fu Panda,” and he’ll be honored at the 16th Asian Hall of Fame awards. Check to see if your answer is correct on p. 6.

Business & Economy

Identify this Chinese-American actor with Minnesota ties

Clues: he was born in Minneapolis in 1929, he has more than 600 film and television credits including roles in “Big Trouble in Little Chinatown” and voiceover role in “Kung Fu Panda,” and he’ll be honored at the 16th Asian Hall of Fame awards. Check to see if your answer is correct on p. 6.
Publisher’s Pronouncements

Greetings:

Despite the record nine inches snowfall we received three weeks ago, it is not too late yet to prepare for our most challenging season of the year … winter. As hearty Minnesotans, we try to convince ourselves that we actually enjoy the change of seasons and before we know it, Thanksgiving will be upon us.

Unfortunately, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, many of us may not find too much to be thankful for this year, and the political division gripping the country is not making things any better. Thankful, the elections will take place shortly and we hope to elect leaders who will work for the common good.

Unfortunately, it will take more time to get COVID-19 under control. We encourage everyone to vote and follow proper health recommendations.

In addition to Thanksgiving occurring in November in the U.S., we also celebrate Veterans Day on Nov. 11. It is the day we honor our military veterans and let them know their service to the country is deeply appreciated. So, be sure to let our folks in the military know that we appreciate the sacrifices they make to keep our country free, including your right to vote in a completely democratic election.

As many of you know, China Insight has been very active in the initiative to thank our advertisers for their support and cultural harmony between China and the U.S. We encourage everyone to vote and follow proper health recommendations. (Hope springs eternal!)

Thus, in addition to our best wishes for a great Thanksgiving holiday, all of us at China Insight wish you a joyous, prosperous and healthy holiday season.

As always, thank you for your continued support of China Insight. Please feel free to let us know if there are any other topics you would like us to cover or if there are any other ways we can better serve our community.

Sincerely,

Gregory J. Hugh
President – CEO
China Insight, Inc.

1112-2020

FREE DIGITAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

Getting to know you . . .

Who are you? What articles do you enjoy reading?
China Insight would like to ensure our content matches your interests. Please take a few minutes to complete this poll so we can update our reader demographics.

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China Insight would like to ensure our content matches your interests. Please take a few minutes to complete this poll so we can update our reader demographics.

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On the road again

More than 640 million domestic tourists hit the road during the China’s eight-day National Day Holiday in October. This represents a 21 percent decline from the previous year. The tourism revenue generated from this holiday totaled US$869.61 billion, 30 percent drop from 2019. Chinese went by train (15.09 million passengers) and plane (1.67 million passengers) on Oct. 1 alone – a record high for single-day travel since the pandemic began. (Image above was taken at Hangzhou East Railway Station on Oct. 8, the last day of the holiday.) All modes of transportation (flights, trains, buses and rental cars) “achieved overall growth.” Sixty percent of those traveling were born post-1990.

Fifteen of the 25 provinces reporting tourism revenue exceeded US$1.48 billion, with Jiangsu Province topping the list.

The trend this year was for tourists to take short (several days) in-depth tours to a single destination point, with Beijing, Shanghai, Chengdu, Xi’an and Chongqing being the top five cities generating “tourism consumption activities.” The Ministry of Culture and Tourism also reported that the reservation service at scenic spots required for the “epidemic control” was greatly improved.

The figures are promising as there were many COVID-19 restrictions still in place. Many Chinese still chose no travel over the holidays as they were concerned about getting back to work in case of potential lockdowns of certain areas. Therefore, the tourism industry projected had it not been for coronavirus worries, this year would’ve surpassed 2019 figures.

Dance by the law

One of the most popular pastimes for middle-aged and elderly Chinese is square dancing. As many as 100 may gather in public squares for this part-dance and part exercise activity several times a week, is not daily!

However, because of the accompanying loud music and use of public spaces, the activity has sparked controversy. Non-participants have complained. Shanghais is the latest of the cities around the country to impose local regulations on groups partaking in the activity. However, few details are available about the regulations except “individuals should adhere to public rules and social customs and never disturb others around. Those charged with enforcing the regulations hoped the maximum decibels allowed for the music and the distance the activity can take place from residential building will be specified.

Creative roadblock under limelight

Mini Stonehenge? Surely you jest! Well, no one can ever accuse Hong Kong pro-democracy protesters for lacking ingenuity. During the 2019 protests, they built all sorts of brick structures to block police from advancing to the university where they were.

A year later, the Design Museum in London has recognized their creativity and announced their mini “Stonehenges” are one of three finalists in the annual Beazley Designs of the Year awards. “Made from ordinary bricks, these small but powerful structures were used by Hong Kong protesters from the pro-democracy movement as roadblocks to slow down police vehicles,” the design museum’s website reads. “When struck by a wheel, the top block falls away leaving the two remaining bricks, which together form a buttress that prevents the wheel from moving forward,” it describes, adding that the bricks are “more difficult to clear than ordinary roadblocks.”

Beazley Designs of the Year first started in 2008 as a collaboration between London’s Design Museum and global insurance company Beazley. Each year, they receive hundreds of nominations for “the most innovative designs” across fields including fashion, architecture, digital, transport, product and graphic design.

The winner will be announced in November. Nominated works will be on display at the Design Museum until March 28, 2021.

Tit for tat?

On Oct. 21, the U.S. State Department added six more China-based media outlets as foreign missions. These are Yicai Global, Jiefang Daily, Xinhmin Evening News, Social Sciences in China Press, Beijing Review and Economic Daily. All six are substantially owned or controlled by the Chinese government. Nine other Chinese state media outlets are already under this designation since earlier this year. They are all recognized as propaganda organs of the Chinese Communist Party.

The designation will restrict the outlets’ operations within the U.S., but does not affect what they can publish. The outlets will be treated as foreign diplomatic missions and must register their employees and U.S. properties with the State Department.

The State Department issued the following statement, “Over the past decade, and particularly under General Secretary Xi Jinping’s tenure, the Chinese Communist Party has asserted greater control over China’s state-based propaganda outlets while trying to disguise them as independent news agencies.” This is one of many measures the Trump administration employs to combat Chinese influence in the U.S.

Furthermore, in a step to reciprocate “excessive restraints” placed by Beijing on U.S. diplomats, the State Department is requiring senior Chinese diplomats to apply for permission to visit U.S. university campuses or hold cultural events with more than 50 people outside “mission” grounds.

Safe haven for HK activists

Haven Assistance, a group that offers immigration and asylum advice to Hong Kongers, said the Hong Kong government was not happy about German granting asylum to a student activist, the third, who was arrested after the November 2019 pro-democracy protests.

Hong Kong’s chief secretary and Secretary for Security met the German Consul General to “express their stern opposition.” The chief secretary also told the German Consul General to “stop interfering with Hong Kong affairs, which are internal matters within the People’s Republic of China.”

In early October, Canada had also granted asylum to a HK couple who had been active participants in the 2019 pro-democracy protests on the basis that they had “well-founded fear of persecution” over their political opinions. The couple received assistance from a Vancouver-based group, the New Hong Kong Cultural Club, which advocates the “promotion, protection and reform” of HK culture.

Small, with creamy flesh

Chinese believe the durian can help lower cholesterol and reduce blood clots. Cadbury has a chocolate bar with an intense durian flavour available in the Malaysian market. Guangzhou Province has the Qing Qizhou city, Guangxi region. southern Thai province of Pattani had been hit hard. Farmers there hope their province’s durian will attract a large Chinese market.

The Puangmanee durian averages under 4 pounds when ripe and has a very creamy and smooth custardy texture. The durian market is so lucrative that some Thais have removed their rubber trees and planted durian trees instead.
Wanted:

ONLINE

English Language Teachers

Would you like to help Chinese students in grades 6-12 polish their spoken and written English skills (and, occasionally, history and literature)? We are hiring native English-speaking teachers to teach ESL (different levels) or high school U.S. history or literature.

Teach from our Twin Cities cloud-classroom setup or your home office. Teaching will usually take place in the evenings (6-10 p.m.), early mornings (6-8 a.m.), or weekends. Number of hours are flexible. Rates are from $15 to $40 per hour based on the course requirements and the teacher’s experience.

Teaching experience is required. Teaching license is preferred, but not necessary.

If interested, please contact Richard at 612-987-6540 or rfe@chinainsight.info.

News

Chinese “Operation Fox Hunt” targets U.S. residents to return to mainland

“The hunters became the hunted, the pursuers the pursued.” Assistant Attorney General for National Security John C. Demers

Charges were filed against eight individuals by the U.S. Department of Justice for trying to coerce a New Jersey man — a former Chinese government employee who had been living in New Jersey since 2010, to return to mainland China. The target’s identity had not been disclosed to protect him and his family.

The eight individuals are based both in the U.S. and mainland China. The 43-page criminal complaint, unsealed Oct. 28, charged the individuals with acting as illegal agents of China in conspiring to commit interstate and international stalking. Charges include “illegally doing the bidding of the Chinese government in the U.S.”

Five defendants were arrested early Wednesday morning in California, New Jersey and New York. One of the five, U.S. citizen and private investigator, was hired to locate the target and his family’s whereabouts. As this goes to press (Oct. 28 afternoon), the three other defendants “remain at large in China.”

In its repatriation effort, the defendants are alleged to have posted a threatening note on the door of the target’s home. The note stated, “If you are willing to go back to the mainland and spend 10 years in prison, your wife and children will be all right. That’s the end of this matter!” The target’s daughter and her friends also received threatening messages on social media.

“Operation Fox Hunt” was initiated in 2014 under China’s Military of Public Security as part of President Xi Jinping’s anti-graft campaign. It was designed to target former Chinese officials who have fallen out of favour and dissidents around the world to stop their activism. Voice of America reports that since its launch, hundreds of “fugitives” have been brought back to China to stand trial after being arrested outside of China.

FBI Director Christopher Wray said, “The Chinese government’s brazen attempts to surveil, threaten and harass our own citizens and lawful permanent residents, while on American soil, are part of China’s diverse campaign of theft and malign influence in our country and around the world.”

The Chinese Embassy in Washington called the charges “groundless fabrications.”

(HK) Academic freedom on a slippery slope

By Elaine Dunn

The Hong Kong University (HKU) appointed two mainland Chinese scholars to its governing council, one of whom is alleged to have direct ties to the Chinese Communist Party (CCP).

Students and alumni groups view their appointment as “take-over” of the university by the CCP. Media forensics conducted by the former HKU director of Journalism and Media Studies Center found cached web pages indicating one of them was elected in 2014 and 2017 as a CCP committee member, even though his party affiliation is no longer listed on current live pages. Student sit-in protest calling for reconsideration was in vain.

A current HKU student who is also a district councillor, took to Twitter on Oct. 27: “And now, they are appointing professors with strong affiliation to the authoritarian regime of CCP to takeover research and academic development of our University. This shall signal the end of academic freedom and institutional autonomy at HKU.”

HKU’s Alumni Association further views the appointment of the two men by the current vice-chancellor as “anoying” as the three had, at one point, all worked at UC-Berkeley within the same time period and got to know each other.

Since 2018, institutes of higher learning in mainland China have been under pressure to pledge loyalty to the CCP, even if it meant having to change their charters to accommodate CCP members on their boards and administrations.

Not only are universities being “infiltrated,” they also are “shredding” faculty members who do not fall in line with Beijing’s school of thought.

In July 2020, Benny Tai, a pro-democracy activist, was fired by HKU’s governing council for participating in the 2014 protests.

China’s liaison office said Tai’s removal was a “purification” of the academic atmosphere at the university and the governing council’s decision “complies with popular sentiment,” the Hong Kong Free Press reported.

A London-based political history lecturer tweeted on July 29: “The process towards his firing has been underway for some time, and it is a reminder that academic freedoms have been under threat well before the national security law. Now, however, the attacks on academia are on full display, as seen by the LO statement last night.”

The Canadian Association of University Teachers condemned the dismissal as well. Its executive director issued a statement that said, “The firing of Professor Tai is another signal that academic freedoms and civil liberties are under threat from the Chinese government. It sends a clear and chilling message not only to academics in Hong Kong, but to all of those pressing for democratic reforms and respect for human rights.”

A group consisting of 100 academics from Australia, Germany, UK and U.S. called for a “united international front” to defend university freedom. “Individual universities will be picked off unless there is a common agreement to resist Chinese state interference in academic research and teaching on China,” it said.

HKU is not the only university to have dismissed pro-democracy academics. An assistant professor at the Chinese University of Hong Kong mentioned two other professors who were similarly dismissed also in July 2020 from the Hong Kong Baptist University and Lingnan University. Others had been dismissed or contracts not renewed earlier.

Agence France-Presse (AFP) talked with some pro-democracy academics and most felt they have been sidelined or dismissed because of their political beliefs. They also fear university (in the form of grants distributed by a government-appointed committee) may suffer from political manipulation.

The dismissals are seen as a result of the new national security law that went into effect July 1, 2020. It’s Beijing’s way to exert control over Hong Kong and its pro-democracy activists.

Academic freedom is the cornerstone of higher education. Universities should be safe places for open discussion of ideas, no matter how contentious it may get. Under Article 38 of the national security law, which is global in scope and application, exchange of ideas, especially those concerning or critical of China, are no longer possible as fear of “over-stepping the line” leads to self-censorship.

Other recent anecdotes: A lecturer at the University of Leipzig told a Hong Kong activist that his students from China, Hong Kong and Taiwan had asked to drop his lectures on Hong Kong’s political system. He was told, “Start over, we are not interested in your classes.”

Academic freedom is the cornerstone of higher education. Universities should be safe places for open discussion of ideas, no matter how contentious it may get. Under Article 38 of the national security law, which is global in scope and application, exchange of ideas, especially those concerning or critical of China, are no longer possible as fear of “over-stepping the line” leads to self-censorship.

Other recent anecdotes: A lecturer at the University of Leipzig told a Hong Kong activist that his students from China, Hong Kong and Taiwan had asked to drop his political science course because they were afraid of criticism of the Communist Party by fellow students in the class may cause them problems. Individual Chinese professors at Oxford University said they plan to anonymize some students’ papers in group settings to shield individual students from reprisals for discussing flaws of the Chinese system.

So, as Beijing turns its screws, university students the world over will pay the price.

Chilling indeed.
Six basic questions on the 2020 US presidential election

By Ange Hwang, Asian Media Access

The United States, as the world’s largest economic and military power, attracts international attention in its presidential elections every four years. As an eligible voter, please do not waste your precious vote, and please go vote on Nov. 3!!

You may have millions of questions on how the United States conducts elections, so here is a set of six basic questions and answers to help you submit your vote.

1. When is election day?
The US election day always takes place on the first Tuesday of November. So, this year’s election day is on Nov. 3.

2. Who are the major candidates?
The United States is a basic bipartisan political structure with two dominant political parties: Democrats and Republicans. The Republican Party is the comparatively more conservative political party, and their candidate for reelection is the current President Donald Trump. The Democratic Party is a more liberal political party, their 2020 presidential candidate is Joe Biden, who served as vice president from 2009-2016.

3. Who can vote?
To vote in Minnesota, you must be 18 years old by election day, a U.S. citizen, and have lived in Minnesota for at least 20 days. If you have been convicted of a felony, you are eligible to vote if you have completed your sentence, including probation, parole or supervised release. Register at mnvotes.org.

4. How to vote?
a) MAIL-IN VOTERS: Absentee ballots must be received on or before Nov. 3. DO NOT RETURN YOUR BALLOT BY MAIL. For info on how to drop off your ballot in-person, track your mailed-in ballot, visit http://MNVotes.org.
b) VOTE EARLY IN PERSON: Early voting began Sept. 18 and runs through Monday, Nov. 2. You can vote in person at your county elections office. Wear a mask and practice safe social distancing!
c) VOTE ON ELECTION DAY IN PERSON: As long as you are in line by 8 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 3, you can vote. In Minnesota, you have a right to take time off work to vote without losing pay. Visit pollfinder.sos.state.mn.us to find out where to vote in person on Election Day.

5. What is the Electoral College?
The American presidential election adopts the “electoral college” system. The President of the United States is not directly elected by the general public (the popular vote), but by the electoral college of each state based on the state’s population. A state with a larger population has more electoral votes; for example, Minnesota has 10 electoral votes, whereas Florida has 29, and California has the most — 55 electoral votes.

There is a total of 538 electoral votes. In order to win the general election, a presidential candidate must obtain at least 270 electoral votes. The candidate with the most votes from the public sometimes may not necessarily win the general election; for example, in 2016, although Hillary Clinton received more public votes than Trump, Trump was still elected as he had 304 votes from the Electoral College.

6. Does anyone inspect the ballots?
Yes, whether it is by vote at the polling station on election day or vote by mail, there is heavy verification of votes. The reason that counting mail-in votes is so much more time-consuming is because each ballot must be verified with the voter’s signature, and it must match the signature on the voter’s registration card. Owing to COVID-19, the numbers of mail-in ballots are expected to be more than double of “normal” elections, so checking the signature alone will increase counting time. This year’s election result may not come out soon because the supervision of the counting process is stricter than in previous elections. Also, some states have up to nine days after election day to finish counting their ballots.

No matter who you vote for, please exercise your right as a US citizen. Please remember:
- Talk to others in your life who are eligible voters and encourage them to vote.
- Share this article with neighbors, family and friends.
- Volunteer with a campaign or organization to register, educate and turn out voters.

For more information, please call or email Asian Media Access – 612-376-7715 or amamedia@amamedia.org.

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Visit us and let’s have a conversation about what’s important to you.
St. Paul-Changsha China Friendship Garden weeded, mulched; ready for Phase II

By Bill Zajicek, president, Minnesota China Friendship Garden Society.

The garden took a big step forward with the approval of the Minnesota State Bonding Bill. It included $500,000 for the Hmong Cultural Plaza, which brings us up to nearly $1,000,000 for the next phase. Many thanks to supporters who emailed their legislators as well the MAPC legislators, especially Rep. Tim Mahoney and Sen. Foung Hawj who have supported the garden project since 2015.

Previous funding will allow for the planning, design and preparing a construction estimate for Phase II. All remaining funding will be used for construction. The major elements of Phase II include: the Hmong Cultural Plaza, a Chinese Moon Bridge, extension of the Xiang Jiang Pavilion Rock Garden to the water’s edge, and an east entrance moon date/donor wall.

That's the good news. The bad news is that because of the complexity of the first phase of the project and transportation delays, the resulting cost overruns require us to pay $120,000 to the City of St. Paul before we can proceed any further.

During this giving season, please consider supporting one of only two China gardens in Minnesota: a truly unique sister-city project in the Changsha style. You can find us on the GiveMN site during the week of Nov. 15, or use this link to give to the Minnesota China Friendship Garden Society website.

Musician and NFL athlete Wally Yonamine, 91-year old actor James Hong, Congressmember Judy Chu and more. The ceremony’s Celebrity Holiday Auction opened online bidding on Oct. 16 with gifts for all ages from Star Wars, Hewlett-Packard, St. John plus autographed items from Jackie Chan, Pearl Jam, Chicago, Lang Lang, Iron Chef Morimoto and more.

Class of 2020 includes legendary Rock and Roll Hall of Famer and NFL athlete Wally Yonamine, Golden Globe-nominated actor and digital superstar Morimoto, CEO Noel Lee, Emmy and GRAMMY and 3-time Emmy Award-winning bassist Kevin Brandon (Aretina Franklin, Justin Timberlake), Jimmy Kimmel Live guitarist Toshi Yanagi, and other world-class artists.

Contact (206) 624-1195, press@asianhalloffame.org or www.asianhalloffame.org.
**Chinese Language Corner (漢語角)**

**Coming and going: Part 2**

*By Pat Welsh, contributor*

In this lesson we will begin a series of lessons that will talk about coming and going. We will start with where someone comes from and move to arriving and going back. We will then discuss talking about past and future events in Chinese.

Some of the vocabulary we will use:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>English</th>
<th>Chinese Characters</th>
<th>Pinyin</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>kitchen</td>
<td>厨房</td>
<td>chūfāng</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>from</td>
<td>从</td>
<td>cóng</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>to arrive at</td>
<td>到</td>
<td>dào</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>the mall, shopping center</td>
<td>购物中心</td>
<td>gòuwù-zhōngxīn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>the living room, the room into which guests are brought.</td>
<td>客厅</td>
<td>kètīng</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bathroom</td>
<td>洗澡房</td>
<td>xīzăofáng</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pharmacy, drug store, hospital dispensary</td>
<td>药店</td>
<td>yàodiàn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>post office</td>
<td>邮局</td>
<td>yóuzhèng</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>to walk, to go, to depart</td>
<td>走</td>
<td>zǒu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>to walk, to take a walk</td>
<td>走路</td>
<td>zǒulù</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Phrases using "to" and "from":**

**English**

- from the kitchen: 从厨房 (cóng chūfāng)
- from the living room: 从客厅 (cóng kètīng)
- from the bathroom: 从洗澡房 (cóng xīzăofáng)
- to the kitchen: 到厨房 (dào chúfáng)
- to the living room: 到客厅 (dào kètīng)
- to the bathroom: 到洗澡房 (dào xīzăofáng)
- walk from the kitchen to the living room: 从厨房走到客厅 (cóng chúfáng zǒu dào kètīng)
- She walks (goes) from the kitchen to the living room. 她从厨房走到客厅 (tā cóng chúfáng zǒu dào kètīng)

**Chinese**

- from the kitchen: 从厨房 (cóng chúfāng)
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**Tones**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tone</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ä</td>
<td>High level pitch (55)</td>
<td>Regarding tone ä 1. when occurring directly before another dipping tone, tone ä becomes tone ê. 2. when occurring before an other tone, Tone ä will change to a mid-falling tone.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>á</td>
<td>Mid-Rising Tone (35)</td>
<td>2. occurring directly before any other tone, Tone ä will change to a mid-falling tone.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>à</td>
<td>Dipping (213)</td>
<td>1. when occurring directly before another dipping tone, tone ä becomes tone ê. 3. when occurring before an other tone, Tone ä will change to a mid-falling tone.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>å</td>
<td>High falling pitch (51)</td>
<td>2. occurring directly before any other tone, Tone ä will change to a mid-falling tone.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**About Pat Welsh**

In 2009 while teaching English at Sichuan University, Welsh was asked to give a speech where he was introduced to the audience as a “pioneer of Chinese American relations” as a result of his cooperative work in international banking during the Deng Xiaoping era. For more than 65 years, Welsh has been learning Chinese and has used this knowledge both professionally and personally to enhance his understanding of Chinese and Asian affairs. He uses Beijing Mandarin most frequently when meeting with senior Chinese government officials when conducting business in China.

For 17 years, Welsh taught Chinese, German and Spanish in two local high schools. Now fully retired, he currently resides in Georgia where he used to lecture on China to a number of classes at Dunwoody High School.

**Pronunciation Reminders**

This system follows Chinese Pinyin with the exception that the letter “ü” which has two pronunciations. Sometimes it has the value of i ("ee" as in see with rounded lips). At those times we use the symbol “ü” instead of Pinyin “u.” In making this sound, it is most important that the vowel more resembles an “ee” sound and definitely not sounding like a “oo” sound as in “moon.”

The “a” in these syllables sounds like the ‘a’ in “father.”

The “i” in these syllables sounds like the ‘i’ in “high.”

The “u” in “fun” or the “u” in “lung.”

The “o” here sounds much like the “oo” in “ooze” or “spoon.”

The “e” as in “ee-ehn” or “yen” (Here “ehn” and “en” almost sounds like the word “yen.”)

The “a” in these syllables sounds like the “a” in “moon.”

The “i” in these syllables sounds like the ‘i’ in “it” and “u” in “mut.”

The “e” as in “ee-ehn” or “yen” (Here “ehn” and “en” almost sounds like the word “yen.”)

The “a” in these syllables sounds like the “a” in “moon.”

The “i” in these syllables sounds like the ‘i’ in “it” and “u” in “mut.”

**Contact**

Greg Hugh at 612-723-4872 or email ghugh@chinainsight.info
Dong youths’ dating practices

By He Guihua, Bu Aihua and Ma Xiangyuan, The Center for Hunan Cultural Heritage at Huaihua University, contributors

The Dong of Tongdao Dong Autonomous County, western Hunan Province, is known for their romance and openness. Their pursuit of romance has been an attraction, which arouses endless curiosity of outsiders. Dong people have their own special ways of dating and they may date at various locations. In China Insight, Number-December 2018 Article

“Dating practices of Dong young people,” it introduced several unique ways of Dong people’s dating, including conveying romantic love around the fire pit, climbing windows to woo girls gathering at the shelter pavilions, getting together at the community house, and being guests to visit other villages. This article will describe two other interesting ways of dating: playing on the hillsides and farming in the public fields.

1. Dating by playing on the hillsides

Playing on the hillsides is a very traditional way for Dong young men and women to get acquainted with each other. At towns like Boyang and Yatunbao in Tongdao Dong Autonomous County, young men and women are not permitted to sing songs inside their houses at night. Alternatively, they climb to the local hillsides and sing there in the daytime. During festivals, slack farming seasons, or village fairs, Dong youths court while singing antiphonals and competing on the hillsides. After frequent gathering on the hillsides, they get to know each other. They exchange keepsakes in token of affection and some get married as a result.

The young people participating in singing activities on the hillsides are usually those from neighboring villages. At each gathering, male and female participants may differ in number, but their age must be a good match. Such gatherings are often held every 10 days except during busy farming seasons or frozen winters. The hillsides, huyuan (han (meaning “garden”) where they play is usually several li (one li is approx. 1,640 feet) away from their own houses. No one is allowed to say absolute words during the gathering. The young women are often called A-Mei (meaning “younger sister”) and young men are greeted as A-Ge (meaning “elder brother”).

When playing on the hillsides, young women usually wear fine traditional Dong costumes. A silver chain hangs on their neck and a broad embroidered belt wraps around their waist. Decorated with silver headgear, they look like wild flowers in full blossom. As for the singing activities, the main purpose is to express love to each other.

The songs can be on “first meeting,” “self-abasement,” “compliment,” “question-and-answer,” “keepsake,” “company,” “first love,” “farewell,” “love sickness,” “complaint,” “disappointment in love” and “reunion.” The forms of singing include solo, antiphon, talking and singing.

Playing on the hillsides is an important way for Dong young people to find love. Participants often keep the date and place of their appointment confidential, only and their mothers, sisters and those accompanying them know the date and location. Under the disguise of cutting wild vegetables as green feed for pigs or going to fairs, they secretly play on the hillsides. Before face-to-face meetings, young men and women can only hear songs from afar. At the very beginning, they sing songs across the hillsides to attract the attention of each other. As the singing goes on, they move to the agreed place slowly. Upon their first meeting, both look shy. Some young women are so shy that they even lower their heads and hide themselves behind trees with leaves or straw hats to cover their blushing faces. Behaving humbly, both young men and women are reluctant to be the first to take seats. Instead, they sing songs to invite each other to be seated.

Please take a seat, Sit on the leaves if there is no bench, Sit on the grass if there are no leaves. Our singing would be more exciting when we are seated. This kind of antiphonal singing competition test each other’s wits. It doesn’t stop until one side finally agrees to take a seat. Both sides sit on their own leaves or grass several meters away from each other. They may sit face to face or in a line. In the first round of antiphon, both compete to praise each other in a humble way.

Male
A-Mei, your singing allures corkwoods to fly here from the hillsides, Your singing makes peach trees in full bloom. Your singing lets the carps jump out of water. No coach whip is so long as the bamboo rhizome. No coarse cloth is so beautiful as silk. Stars can’t be so bright as the moon.

Female
A-Ge, You are really flattering me too much. No one could open the lock without your key. You keep the key and I retain the lock, No one could open the lock without your key.

2. Dating by farming in the public fields

“Farming in the public fields” is another collective activity for Dong young people to seek loves. Lasting from March 3 to Aug. 15 of the Chinese lunar calendar, farming in the public fields is divided into three phases: sowing on March 3 and April 8, cultivating plants and weeding fields on May 5 and June 6; harvesting crops and celebrating the reap on Aug. 15. The dates are picked mainly according to the periods of the 24 Solar Terms.

“Public fields” are actually a stretch of wasteland reclaimed by young men and women from neighboring villages. The village that owns the public fields is called the host village. On March 3, young men from the guest village and young women from the host village get together to plant sweet potatoes, corn, beans and other upland crops in the reclaimed public fields. Through these reclaiming and planting activities, young women from the host village get some basic information about young men from the guest village. When young men from the guest village play husheng (traditional bamboo pipe instrument) on the way back to their
Dong dating

Continued from page 8

own village, young women from the host village would present them with dry straw knots as gifts. The knots are usually tied in a bundle to the lusheng of the guest leader, which means inviting them to farm in the public fields. After the young men from the guest village return to their own village, they would hold a solemn rally in front of their drum tower to allocate the straw knots to young men in their same village who are of a suitable age for marriage. Those who get a straw knot may participate in further farming in the public field activities. The number of young women and men joining in the farming on both sides should be the same.

On April 8, young men from the guest village would bring salted sour fish and glutinous rice sandwiched with large pieces of meat to join in the farming activity. Carrying seeds and tools, young women and young men walk together to farm the public fields. They romp joyfully while working. After lunch in the public fields, young men from the guest village would then be enthusiastically treated to supper by young women of the host village. Such farming activities do not stop until Aug. 14 when the harvest ceremony is held. On that day, young men from the guest village would play lusheng, carry a fat pig and lead a strong ox to the host village. The young women of the host village would invite them to dance lusheng dances, drink tea, sing antiphonal songs and enjoy helongyan (合拢宴, a joint banquet) together.

The following morning, Aug. 15, young men and women would harvest crops together in the public fields. With the reaped produce and the fat pig brought by the guests as a gift, they make a delicious dinner. Drinking wine and singing antiphonal songs, they celebrate the harvest until early next morning. Then young men from the guest village would kill the ox and hold a banquet to treat and thank elders and brothers of the host village. Young women of the host village would hang Dong cloth and flowery scarves with their names on bamboo poles for demonstration in front of the drum tower. The cloth and scarves are then presented as gifts to the young men from the guest village. Carrying the presents, the guests would play lusheng to say goodbye. The host villagers will set off firecrackers in response. Young women of the host village would then stand in the entrance of the village to block the leaving guests and ask them to sing antiphonal songs. Both seem unwilling to part with each other. In every village where the leaving guests pass, young women of that village would gather to make the guests stay and appreciate the gifts hanging on the poles, and ask them to sing antiphonal songs.

Through such frequent activities of “farming in the public fields,” Dong young men and women get to know each other and develop mutual affection. As they fall in love, they may marry if parents of both sides agree.

Fat pig prepared for dinner at the harvest ceremony. Photographed by u Dingyuan in Tongdao Dong Autonomous County

Dong young women of the host village blocking the guests for singing antiphonal songs: photographed by Su Dingyuan in Tongdao Dong Autonomous County
“Chinese Brothers, American Sons” by Ed Shew

Reviewed by Dale Singer, St. Louis Post-Dispatch, Aug. 1, 2020

Reprinted with permission from the St. Louis Post-Dispatch

Author: Ed Shew
Publisher: Earnshaw Books
Publication date: June 2020
Softcover: 316 pages

Ed Shew grew up in St. Louis, hearing stories of the Chinese migrants who helped construct the Transcontinental Railroad in the 1860s. After retiring in 2011, he took on writing about two Chinese brothers, their lives and experience as railroad workers in America. Shew admits the two brothers were “somewhat based upon my brother and me.”

What was to be a six-month project took more than eight years! Now, in his spare time, Shew engages in social justice activities for his church and the community in his spare time.

Their golden dreams quickly collide with reality, but their innate optimism and strong character help them overcome the seemingly impenetrable mountains. Readers of “Chinese Brothers, American Sons” will travel the dangerous and sometimes deadly journey with them, learning about both Chinese culture and American history.

On the ship, Li Chang tells his brother: “When we get to Gold Mountain, all will be better, you’ll see.”

From the epigraph, a quote from the Chinese philosopher Confucius, Shew sets the tone of humility and brotherhood: “When we get to Gold Mountain, all will be better, you’ll see.”

In telling the story of what the Chinese brothers endure, Shew has essentially combined two books. One is the novel, as Li Yu’s wife and soon-to-be-born child, Li Yu’s wife and soon-to-be-born child, arrives. The other is history, first of the search for gold, then of how railroad crews — Chinese and otherwise — laid track in impossible conditions to unite America in the wake of the Civil War.

And the story is obviously very personal for Shew, a native St. Louis and with family roots in Hop Alley, the old local Chinatown that was torn down for construction of Busch Stadium downtown. He doesn’t always write with the most polished prose, but the novel shows obvious pride in his heritage, and the book is enriched by sketches done by his own brother, John Shew, a retired Post-Dispatch artist.

In the end, readers of “Chinese Brothers, American Sons” will learn, if they didn’t know it already, what Shew says was his lesson behind writing the book: that discrimination may target different groups, but the impulse behind it and the effects it has are universal.

In an afterward, he writes that “the fundamental elements of fear, ignorance and arrogance are common to all such racial tragedies. No one is better than anyone else. To rank historical struggles by one’s race is not purposeful, but respect is an absolute requirement.”

About the reviewer

Dale Singer retired in 2017 after a 45-year career in journalism in St. Louis. He covered business, education, news, sports, reviews and editorials. He was nominated three times for a Pulitzer Prize. He lives in west St. Louis County.

“My Museum” by Joanne Liu

Author-Illustrator: Joanne Liu
Publisher: DK Children
Publication date: November 2017
Hardcover: 32 pages

Max looked at his fellow museum visitors’ faces and their expressions. He chatted up a custodian, viewed the gallery upside down from under a bench, checked out someone’s tattooed arm and light patterns on the floor.

In short, he looked at a variety of things: the impulse behind it and the effects it has are universal.

As one reviewer said, Liu’s whimsical and bold-color illustrations are “playful and joyous.”

My Modern Met
“China Through Time: A 2,500-year journey along the world’s greatest canal” illustrated by Du Fei

Reviewed by Melanie Ho, Asian Review of Books, March 12, 2020

Author: Dorling Kindersley
Illustrator: Du Fei
Publisher: DK Children
Publication date: January 2020
Hardcover: 32 pages

DK, a division of Penguin Random House, is the world’s leading illustrated reference publisher. It has books in more than 100 countries in 60 languages. Its products aim to inspire, educate and entertain readers of all ages.

Illustrator Du Fei was born in Beijing, and has 25 years’ experience as a professor of mural painting and artistic creation. He specializes in painting realistic works portraying Chinese history and traditional culture. His work encompasses a variety of art forms, from murals and oil painting to sculpture and ceramics, and has been displayed in public spaces including museums, concert halls, stadiums, parks and subways.

The book opens with the idea of the Grand Canal:

Some 2,500 years ago, in ancient China, an emperor had a bright idea. If he joined together two rivers, the Huai and the Yangtze, he could transport his troops quickly through his lands to conquer an enemy kingdom.

Du Fei’s illustrations comprise the bulk of each double-page spread. A short introductory paragraph explains the era and the location, while a brief description describes the context of the time. But — as it should be — the focus rests on the illustrations. Certain elements are identified: on the page illustrating the start of construction in 486 BCE, readers can see King Fuchai of Wu and his advisors, soldiers and canal diggers; at a night fair on Maple Bridge in Suzhou in 760 CE, the Hangshan Temple is named as is the Jiangcun Bridge. The integration of the text is subtle, as are the notes that encircle the illustrations and frame each page. “Can you spot the guard whose shield is painted with the face of a tiger?” asks a page dedicated to Kaifeng in 960 CE.

Each scene is richly illustrated and the level of detail on each page commands, at the very least, a close second look. The book covers time periods from 486 BCE in Yangzhou to today in Tianjin, underscoring the importance of the Grand Canal throughout history as well as its continued relevance today.

The organization of the book also makes for an interesting choice: rather than proceeding chronologically or from one end of the canal to the other, the pages move around. Starting with the construction of the canal, the book travels through time up until the 12th century in Hangzhou before going back to 760 CE in Suzhou. Tianjin in 2020, for example, appears before three key moments in the 15th and 16th century in Tongzhou.

At times, the jumps through time and from location to location can be disorienting. At other times, it serves as a way to help absorb the reader into a specific moment.

The book does well in finding ways to engage with young readers: the simple text and the large illustrations help, as does the presence of a time-traveling cat, hidden on each page as a special treasure to find.

About the reviewer
Melanie Ho is the author of “Journey to the West: He Hui, a Chinese Soprano in the World of Italian Opera.”

The following two books are part of the six-book Hong Kong Literature Series. According to John Minford, the series’ editor, the project provides a glimpse into the “extraordinarily warm and ‘human’ city … at this time when Hong Kong is the focus of attention all round the world, to give those people a deeper sense of those hidden depths of the Hong Kong soul.”

“The Drunkard” by Liu Yichang, translated by Charlotte Yiu

Author: Liu Yichang
Publisher: Chinese University of Hong Kong Press
Publication date: September 2020
Softcover: 388 pages

Liu was born in Shanghai in 1918. He left China in 1948 and, in 1957, settled in Hong Kong editing literary supplements for various newspapers.

In 1985, he launched Hong Kong Literature, a literary magazine. He published 30 books and was mentor to a whole new generation of writers.

Liu passed away six months before his 100th birthday.

Charlotte Yiu who translated the book, is currently studying for her doctorate in Asian Languages and Culture at the University of Michigan.

The novel captures the essence of Hong Kong in the early 1960s — the culture of rampant capitalism of postwar Hong Kong. The novel was made into a film in 2010. It was also an inspiration for HK director Wong Kar-Wai’s “In the Mood for Love.”

Don’t be fooled by the title, the book has nothing to do with teddy bears of the Winnie-the-Pooh variety. Instead, Xi’s bears are based on her favourite characters from history and legends such as Genghis Khan, the Queen Mother of the West, Chang’e, even Cleopatra and Lawrence of Arabia, to mention a few.

The author sent “invitations” to her bear guests, dressed them in exquisite outfits, which she created herself, and wrote a “script” for each.

The book is a whimsical book about Chinese culture and the ways in which Chinese clothing and fashion have evolved through the ages.

“The Teddy Bear Chronicles” by Xi Xi, translated by Christina Sanderson

Author: Xi Xi
Publisher: Chinese University of Hong Kong Press
Publication date: September 2020
Softcover: 200 pages

Hong Kong writer Xi Xi (pen name for Cheung Yin) was diagnosed with breast cancer in 1989. Post-operative treatment damaged nerves in her right hand. To regain movement, she focused on handicrafts, including making stuffed teddy bears beginning in 2005, developing a uniquely Chinese breed!

Born in 1938, Xi’s family migrated from Shanghai to Hong Kong in 1950. She worked as an English teacher after completing graduate school.

Translators Sanderson has a background in Asia Pacific studies. She majored in Chinese, Chinese Studies and Spanish at Australian National University, and also studied at Southeast University in Nanjing.

First published in Chinese in 1962 and set in Hong Kong in the 1960s, this book has been called “the Hong Kong novel.” The narrator is at odds with a “philistine” world. He withdraws to his drunken world: his descent through the seedy bars and nightclubs, his encounters with bar girls.

The book covers time periods from 486 BCE in Yangzhou to today in Tianjin, underscoring the importance of the Grand Canal throughout history as well as its continued relevance today.

The organization of the book also makes for an interesting choice: rather than proceeding chronologically or from one end of the canal to the other, the pages move around. Starting with the construction of the canal, the book travels through time up until the 12th century in Hangzhou before going back to 760 CE in Suzhou. Tianjin in 2020, for example, appears before three key moments in the 15th and 16th century in Tongzhou.

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The following two books are part of the six-book Hong Kong Literature Series. According to John Minford, the series’ editor, the project provides a glimpse into the “extraordinarily warm and ‘human’ city … at this time when Hong Kong is the focus of attention all round the world, to give those people a deeper sense of those hidden depths of the Hong Kong soul.”
This novel celebrates and illuminates the struggles and achievements of a largely-ignored group in the rich history of the U.S. - the Cantonese men who conquered building the biggest part of the construction of the Transcontinental Railroad - the tunnels through the granite of the Sierra Nevada Mountains. “Chinese Brothers, American Sons,” tells the little-known story of these brave adventurers through the eyes of two brothers, Li Chang and Li Yu, who arrive in San Francisco in 1854 in search of the Gold Mountain. Despite being the target of racism and not fitting in, their journey is one of hope and triumph - the Chinese brothers are no longer invisible, they are now American sons.

Every group that has immigrated to America has struggled to “fit in” while battling the hatred and discrimination from those already established.

First there was the “Yellow Peril” and later xenophobic myths that Asians were disease carriers, a threat to the nation and later xenophobic myths that Asians were disease carriers, a threat to the nation and later xenophobic myths that Asians were disease carriers, a threat to the nation. It is common in Chinese culture to not question authority, to not be problematic or opinionated. Thus, a defining moment while I was working in human resources was when I heard an employee grievance on behalf of a new HR director. The director advised me to remember that I was part of management and to make my decision accordingly, and I responded that my recommendation would be based on an objective investigation. I was never asked to hear another grievance.

I proudly did not “fit in” the stereotype. I’ve even been asked, “Don’t you think you’ve benefited from being Asian?” After being spat at a couple times during the Vietnam War, denied employment and housing, and stopped seven times for traffic violations — and not once given a warning, always receiving a ticket — well, I hide my scarred-off tongue. I also believe every Asian is wounded when asked, “Where are you from?”, which continues to cast us as “perpetual foreigners.”

What irks me is that even if one is born by one’s neck, the racism directed towards Asian Americans, specifically Chinese, is often dismissed. In fact, the largest mass lynching in the U.S. happened on October 24, 1871, in Los Angeles, when 18 Chinese immigrants were tortured and then hanged while a crowd of white onlookers watched and even cheered.

But I have learned that the fundamental elements of fear, ignorance and arrogance are common to all racial tragedies. To rank historical struggles by one’s race serves no purpose.

In the novel, the scared, unsure boy Li Yu becomes a confident, guiding force of the Chinese railroad workers’ strike. Like Li Yu, I have evolved. For nearly six years, I assisted with the effort to expand Medicaid. Colorado opted in for Medicaid expansion in 2013.

I have made that evolution from always trying to “fit in” to knowing that I believe in being somewhere where you want to be, and they want you. Belonging is being accepted for you. Fitting in is being accepted for being like everyone else.”

Ed Shew was born in 1949 to Chinese parents in St. Louis, Missouri. His story of trying to “fit in” is reflected in his first novel, “Chinese Brothers, American Sons,” as well as this editorial.

Ed Shew
At last, the UK and US see eye-to-eye on the danger posed by China

This Oct. 23, 2020, Opinion piece is reprinted with permission of author Gray Sergeant and Hong Kong Free Press.

During the mid-19th century the United States prided itself on its self-professed peaceful posture towards China. Greater economic ties, Washington maintained, would only be achieved through diplomacy.

That is after the Europeans had, using not so peaceful methods, imposed extraordinarily strict terms on the Chinese. In what has been dubbed “jackal diplomacy,” then and only then would the Americans approach the weakened Qing dynasty asking for equal terms.

Not only did the Treaty of Tianjin of 1858 contain some of the most egregious British demands on the Chinese, from preferential tax and trade policies to the establishment of treaty ports, its enforcement revealed the superficiality of America’s fence-sitting.

In 1859, in an effort to ensure compliance with the treaty, the British once again assaulted the Taku forts. However, this time a reinforced Qing army beat them back. Coming to the aid of the embattled Royal Navy, despite his country’s declared neutrality, was American naval commander Josiah Tattnall. The British were towed to safety and their injured attended to. In justifying his actions Tattnall proclaimed: “Blood is thicker than water.”

Some 90 years later the Brits were not willing to reciprocate this fraternity. After Mao Zedong’s victory in the Chinese Civil war the British swiftly attempted to recognize his People’s Republic of China, much to the displeasure of Washington who was hellbent on containing global communism.

This made the United Kingdom the first western country to seek to switch recognition from Chiang Kai-shek’s Nationalist government.

For Britain, “blood” clearly counted for little when compared to its lucrative assets in mainland China and its recently reclaimed Crown colony of Hong Kong. Of course, Whitehall mandarins would also justify the move as an attempt to drive a wedge between Beijing and Moscow. A masterstroke of realpolitik, not mere self-interest, they would insist. Yet whatever the rights and wrongs of the switch, or its motivations for that matter, the incident gives the lie to the “British poodle”, “American master” narrative. It is a line ever popular with critics of what they themselves demeaningly call “the special relationship”.

Another episode in 1971 also disproves the sneering jibes of the anti-Atlanticists. This time Britain, against America’s wishes, voted to throw the Republic of China, still under the rule of the Generalsissimo, out of the United Nations. Again Britain proved it was not going to be Uncle Sam’s lapdog.

But let us not get too bogged down in all the canine metaphors. Jackals and poodles are ultimately neither here nor there. Rather, they are just a crude way of alluding to who is following who (or not, as the case may be). The point is that Anglo-American relations are complex. All the shared values in the world, and historic ties, cannot guarantee cooperation. Britain more than amply demonstrated this with its policies towards China during the latter half of the 20th century. Yet right now the situation is different. In the past few years there appears to be a growing consensus on both sides of the Atlantic. A growing consensus for challenging, containing, confronting (call it what you like) a rising China. “A new Cold War,” some might say.

It is for this reason I include the historical preamble. As a result of this recent alignment the superpower sidekick slur is being resuscitated. Sure, it can be argued that since the 1940s Britain has been a junior superpower than a “superpower’s preferred junior” as the polemicist Christopher Hitchens once quipped. However, portraying Britain as an unquestioning and subservient junior deserves a rebuttal.

Recently I had the displeasure of virtually attending the Stop the War Coalition’s “The US, China and the Threat of War” fringe meeting at the British Labour Party conference. This is supposedly one of the benefits of the Covid age. That is, the ability to attend the panels you would normally do best to avoid but from the comfort of your own home. It was as disappointing as expected.

Not only was there little actual China-related talk, least of all about Beijing’s aggressive impulses (plenty of complaints about Washington, though). But the tired old cliché that “when Trump says jump, Boris Johnson replies how high” was uttered not once but twice. I was in stitches…

Trump’s distinct approach to “Chinana” is well known. If for no other reason than his bombastic rhetoric. In trying to make sense of their man his administration has ushered in a new approach to the country, one which seeks to learn the mistakes of previous administrations. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo put the problem better than his President ever could:

“We [the United States] did an awful lot that accommodated China’s rise in the hope that communist China would become more free, more market-driven, and ultimately, hopefully, more democratic.”

What America failed to realise, Pompeo went on to say, was how China was actually evoloving. That has all changed. Now, with engagement ditched, both great power competition and the topic of China-proofing the USA have risen up America’s agenda.

Abroad, the United States has stepped up efforts to contain Beijing’s growing power and send strong signals in opposition to its aggressive actions in the South China Sea and towards Taiwan.

At home, the Trump administration has sounded the alarm on Chinese Communist Party (CCP) influence campaigns, while national security concerns have become a more prominent aspect of trade policy. There has even been, in spite of the Commander-in-Chief’s inability to provide moral leadership, encouraging words from high-ranking administration officials who have repeatedly highlighted human rights abuses in Hong Kong and Xinjiang.

It was never guaranteed that Boris Johnson would sign up to this. In fact, after winning the Conservative Party leadership campaign he quickly branded his “pro-China” credentials. As well as proclaiming his enthusiasm for Xi Jinping’s Belt and Road initiative, Johnson vowed to keep Britain the most open place in Europe for Chinese investment. This was no surprise. Not only did this former Foreign Secretary simultaneously have a general disinterest in foreign affairs and a post-Brexit “Global Britain” slogan to make something of. He also had a reputation, from his time as London Mayor, as someone keen to splash the cash on big infrastructure projects – including £52 million on a bridge which was never built.

After winning a “stonking” election victory last December on a promise to level up Britain’s economically lagging regions, the question soon turned to who was going to pay. There were even murmurings in February of the Chinese coming in to put back on track the construction of Britain’s high-speed rail. Not only has this not happened but five months later the British government U-turned on Huawei, announcing its complete removal from the country’s 5G networks by the end of 2027 and a ban on buying its equipment after the end of this year.

Beijing must be wondering what went wrong. According to James Forsyth, political editor of The Spectator and a man with his ear firmly pressed to the walls of No.10, “the trajectory of ever-increasing dependence on it. According to sources, Downing Street’s pandemic-postponed foreign policy review will now aim to get Great Britain “off the trajectory of ever-increasing dependence” on China.

Continued on page 14
MOCA’s “OneWorld Collection” recent acquisitions

Founded in 1980, the Museum of Chinese in America (MOCA) in New York city is dedicated to preserving and presenting the history, heritage, culture, and diverse experiences of people of Chinese descent in the United States. It was named one of 20 “American’s Cultural Treasures” by Ford Foundation in October—a fine way to kick off its 40th anniversary.

On April 24, 2020, MOCA announced its effort to establish the MOCA OneWorld COVID-19 Special Collection (“OneWorld Collection”). The OneWorld Collection features acquisitions of a wide range of artifacts, including but not limited to photographs, letters, articles, journals, messages, notes, certificates, medical records, videos, and oral histories of Chinese Americans during COVID-19. This collection will not only feature stories of community efforts but also highlight experiences of individuals and families during these unprecedented times.

The public is invited to send a write-up and photos to oneworld@mocanyc.org, with the subject line “Submission for MOCA OneWorld COVID-19 Special Collection.”

Tell how you, your association, or your community group organized to help the pandemic crisis.

On March 27, the Chinatown staple 69 Bayard Restaurant shut down. The next day, MOCA staff was allowed by the owner, Zhi Cheng Zhang, to collect some items from the restaurant, including dollar bills, menus and the iconic neon sign.

The collection also includes:
- A donation of more than 300 photographs, postcards and documents from CCBA President Eric Y. Ng, adding to his collection already at MOCA. One of the many highlights of this collection is a handwritten letter from journalist Wong Chin Foo, who some credit with coining the term Chinese American.
- A donation by Douglas Cuo of 600-plus photographs, documents and correspondence of the family of Chinatown businessman James Vip Typond.
- Long-time museum supporter, collector and blogger, Alex Jay, also donated more than 350 books, comic books, magazines, musical scores, etc. relating to Chinese American artists. His blog about Chinese American visual artists can be found at http://chimericaneyes.blogspot.com/.

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Points of View

At last, the UK and US see eye-to-eye on the danger posed by China

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If anything proves the unimportance of America’s influence it would be the British Labour Party’s hardening anti-China stance. Forget the “anti-imperialist” spiel from Stop the War’s fringe meeting. It was fringe in both senses of the word. Its panellists, including the previous Labour Leader Jeremy Corbyn and his Shadow Home Secretary Diane Abbott, have returned to backbench obscurity.

The fact that somebody with Corbyn’s views was ever elected Labour leader just goes to show the deep misgivings about Atlanticism amongst the party membership. No Labour politician will gain plaudits for Johnson’s 80-seat parliamentary majority — has been emphatically made clear, Labour is under obscurity. As his successor Keir Starmer has echoed Washington’s tune he had every reason to construct the UK’s policy.

The public is invited to send a write-up and photos to oneworld@mocanyc.org, with the subject line “Submission for MOCA OneWorld COVID-19 Special Collection.”

Tell how you, your association, or your community group organized to help the pandemic crisis.

On March 27, the Chinatown staple 69 Bayard Restaurant shut down. The next day, MOCA staff was allowed by the owner, Zhi Cheng Zhang, to collect some items from the restaurant, including dollar bills, menus and the iconic neon sign.

The collection also includes:
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