



PCDC was formed in 1966 to preserve, protect and promote Chinatown as a viable ethnic, business and residential community.

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www.chinatown-pcdc.org

## February 2009 News

# Community News

## PCDC's Annual Lunar New Year Celebration Banquet

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Chinese New Year is one of the most important holiday for Chinese Americans across the world. PCDC celebrated the Year of the Ox with almost 400 attendees at our annual fundraising Chinese New Year banquet, on Friday, February 20. It was a successful event by all measures, thanks to supporters such as Presenting Sponsor PNC Bank and Silver Sponsor State Farm Insurance.

## CreditSmart Workshop



### Training Program

If you are planning to purchase a home, PCDC recommends that you attend our FREE Credit Smart® workshop. PCDC will partner with the Consumer Credit Counseling Services of the Delaware Valley to teach the seminars in Chinese.

For millions of families, homeownership is a route to creating wealth. It builds financial security for the future. However, the process of homeownership may seem daunting, especially if you have limited English skills or if you have not established enough credit, or are a first-time homebuyer. With support from Freddie Mac, PCDC will provide a series of workshops to help get you started in the home buying process. The workshops cover the importance of establishing credit, the process of buying a home, tools for how to make the best financial choices for you and your family, and the responsibilities of being a homeowner. If you want to be one of the numerous families that PCDC has helped to purchase a home, you should attend this workshop.

#### Date/Time:

**Part I - Monday, March 9th from 6 - 8 PM**

**Part II - Monday, March 16th from 6 - 8 PM**

Please call Wendy Lee at PCDC 215-922-2156 to make your reservation.

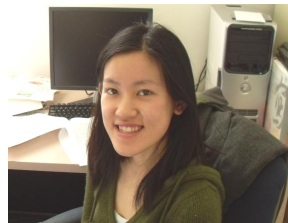
## New Faces At PCDC

PCDC welcomes Judy Wong and Sarah Yeung, college interns to our staff. Here are some words from Judi and Sarah.



Judi: I am a new volunteer at PCDC, having begun my service last year in October 2008. I am originally from San Francisco, California, and am now here in Philadelphia as a graduate student at

Drexel University's School of Public Health. Being in public health, I believe very much in contributing to the community, and thus also volunteer at the Chinatown Community Clinic and for the Hospice of Philadelphia. In the future, I hope to become a doctor, or work as a scientist in the government to help control diseases in the nation.



Sarah: I grew up in Central New Jersey, the home of a thriving Asian community, where I learned at an early age the importance of cleaning out all the kernels in my rice bowl. I am now a third-year Urban Studies and English major at the University of Pennsylvania, where I learned to eat sandwiches for dinner. As a member of the Chinese Christian Church and Center, I am already committed to serving the community of Chinatown. At PCDC, I hope to gain an understanding of the needs of the community of Philadelphia's Chinatown and how urban planners can more effectively work to meet those needs. Once in a while, this may involve Ovaltine.

# Accessing Services



## PCDC Teen Club Program

Good news! PCDC is pleased to announce that in collaboration with other community partners, we are now able to provide a gym space and kung fu lessons to teenagers through our Teen Club program. The gym will be open every Wednesday from 5-7pm. Special thanks to the Holy Redeemer Chinese Catholic Church and School for making the space available for the teenagers. Mr. Pete Pajil, the Ving Tsun martial arts master has offered to give kung fu sessions for the teenagers for FREE. Mr. Pajil is a well-known and respected martial arts master in the community. This is a great opportunity for teenagers that are interested in martial arts. Many martial artists find that Ving Tsun helped them to be more confident, relaxed, and respectful. For more information or to register, please contact Mr. Xu Lin at PCDC: (215) 922-2156 or [xlin@chinatown-pcdc.org](mailto:xlin@chinatown-pcdc.org). We meet every other Friday. The next meeting is on March 13<sup>th</sup>. Hope to see you there.

The Teen Club program is dedicated to working with both immigrant and native born students in the community and providing: general counseling; referral services; college visits; opportunities to make new friends; an atmosphere to develop confidence; resume and interview skills; workshop on financial aid; field trips; internship, volunteer, and occasional job opportunities; sport activities; and recreational activities, etc.

The **Independence Blue Cross & Highmark Blue Shield Caring Foundation's** bi-lingual specialist Jennifer Lam will be available on **Monday, March 9th, from 10:00am to 1:00pm** to provide application assistance for health insurance to low-income families who do not qualify for Medicaid at PCDC's office (901 Wood Street). You must call Jennifer Lam at (215) 779-8954 in advance to schedule an appointment.

CHIP was created to make the high cost of children's health insurance more affordable for working families. In fact, most families pay little or NO premiums or other out-of-pocket costs. You can apply for CHIP through AmeriChoice. **For more information, please visit AmeriChoice's Chinatown office at 1134 Race Street Monday to Friday 9 to 5pm or call: 215-238-4217.**



PCDC is pleased to collaborate with the Greater Philadelphia Coalition Against Hunger to start a campaign to help eligible community members apply for food stamp. Getting food stamps will not affect your immigrant status. Undocumented immigrants are not eligible for food stamps. However, they can apply for their citizen children. For more information, please contact Mr. Xu Lin: (215) 922/2156.



## Free Concert Tickets

The University of The Arts, through their community outreach program, has donated tickets to the Chinatown community for their events and productions. Performances include:

- Cider House Rules Part 1 (Sat., April 4, 2:00 pm)
- Cider House Rules Part 2 (Sat., April 4, 8:00 pm)
- Music and Dance Collaboration
  - (Fri., April 17, 7:00 pm)
  - (Sat., April 18, 7:00 pm)
- Spring Dances (Fri., May 1, 7:00 pm)
  - (Sat., May 2, 7:00 pm)
- Big Band Concert: "Tiempo Latino" – Latin Music for Big Band (Friday, May 1, 7:00 pm).

Contact PCDC for more information to receive your free ticket (limited 4 tickets per family)! For information on these programs, you can go to [www.uarts.edu](http://www.uarts.edu) or call 1-800-616-ARTS.

## Need Help with Heating Bills?

This fall and winter season, PCDC will assist people in completing the **Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)** application. This program helps low-income families pay heating bills. Please call Wendy at (215) 922-2156 to schedule an appointment. The program CLOSES March 31, 2009.

You will need to bring the following documents with you to your appointment: **1)** Social Security cards for all persons living in your home, **2)** proof of yearly income for members of your household (such as 90 days or 12 month of pay stubs; letter from employer; or Public Welfare's award letter/copy of check), **3)** a recent heating bill.