



City of Cambridge

59.

IN CITY COUNCIL

October 21, 1996

COUNCILLOR SULLIVAN
 VICE MAYOR BORN
 COUNCILLOR DAVIS
 COUNCILLOR DUEHAY
 COUNCILLOR GALLUCCIO
 COUNCILLOR REEVES
 MAYOR RUSSELL
 COUNCILLOR TOOMEY
 COUNCILLOR TRIANTAFILLOU

WHEREAS: On Friday, October 11, 1996 at a Chinese Restaurant located on Massachusetts Avenue, the Oceanic, a heroic emergency episode saved the life of Shih Tsun Chan, a retired Taiwanese flight engineer from San Jose who was in New England to view the fall foliage with his family; and

WHEREAS: Mr. Chan was choking and there were doctors having lunch at the restaurant who gave emergency assistance until the paramedics arrived, to the man who had collapsed and had turned blue; and

WHEREAS: Mr. Chan will fully recover due to the emergency assistance provided to him; and

WHEREAS: The doctors, Dr. Allan Sandler, Dr. Nicholas Zervas and Dr. Vincent Perlo, reacted quickly to save Mr. Chan, and received a standing ovation from the diners at the restaurant; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the City Council go on record extending sincere appreciation to Dr. Sandler, Dr. Zervas and Dr. Perlo on behalf of the City Council; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the City Clerk be and hereby is requested to forward a suitably engrossed copy of this resolution to **Dr. Sandler, Dr. Zervas and Dr. Perlo** on behalf of the entire City Council.

In City Council October 21, 1996

Adopted by the affirmative vote of eight members.

Attest:- D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk.

A true copy;

ATTEST:-

D. Margaret Drury
 D. Margaret Drury
 City Clerk

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Councillor Sullivan:

Whereas:

On Friday, October 11, 1996 At A Chinese Restaurant on Massachusetts Avenue, The Oceanic, A heroic emergency episode saved the LIFE OF Shih Tsun Chan; ~~and~~ A retired TAIWANESE Flight engineer From San Jose who was in New England to view the Fall Foilage with his Family; And.

Whereas: MR. Chan was Choking And ~~the~~ ^{there were} Doctors having Lunch at the restaurant ^{who} gave emergency assistance to the many ~~until~~ until the paramedics arrived; And ~~who~~ ^{who} had collapsed and had turned blue, whereas: Mr. Chan will fully recover due to the emergency assistance provided to him; And.

Whereas: The doctors, Dr Allan Sandler, Dr. Nicholas Zervas and Dr. Vincent Perlo, & reacted quickly to save Mr Chan ~~who was~~ received a standing ovation from the ~~the~~ diners at the restaurant, now therefore be it

Resolved:

City Council go on record extending ~~ap~~ ~~a~~ sincere appreciation to ~~the~~ Doctors Sandler, Zervas and Perlo on behalf of the City Council, and be it further

Resolved

Clerk send copies

Doctors rescue choking patron at restaurant

By Pamela Ferdinand
GLOBE CORRESPONDENT

Dr. Allan Sandler, dining with colleagues at a Back Bay Chinese restaurant Friday, never got the chance to open his fortune cookie.

But apparently good fortune was on his side that day, and also on the side of another.

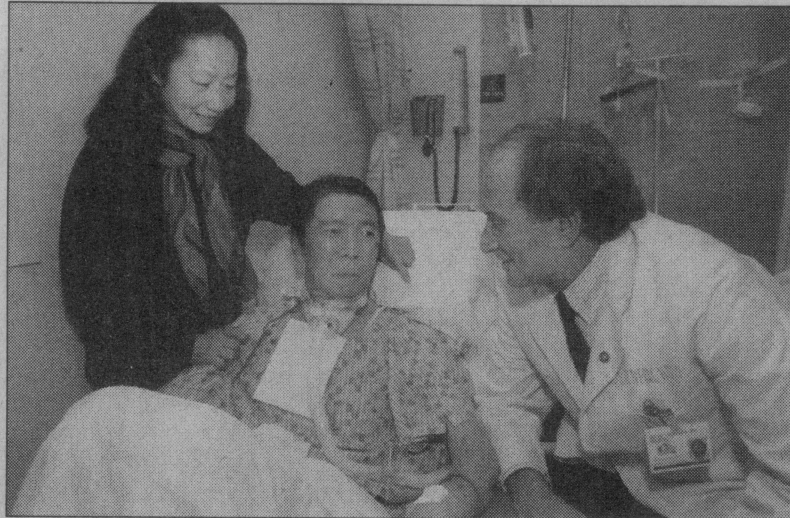
One minute, an elderly tourist sitting five tables away with his wife was enjoying a platter of sauteed vegetables. The next, he had collapsed at the table, blue and motionless.

To the astonishment of a lunchtime crowd more accustomed to watching "ER" at home, Sandler and his colleagues — alerted by a waiter who knew they were all doctors at Massachusetts General Hospital — bolted into action and tried the Heimlich maneuver.

When that didn't work, they placed the man on the restaurant's red carpeting and performed CPR, but to no avail.

Dr. Nicholas Zervas, chief of neurology, then used a blunt kitchen knife to slice open the man's windpipe and insert a tube so he could breathe. Still no response.

Then Sandler, desperate and running out of time, plunged his left hand down the man's throat and



GLOBE STAFF PHOTO / JIM DAVIS

Dr. Allan Sandler visits yesterday at Massachusetts General Hospital with Shih Tsun Chan and his wife of 42 years, Tao-Sunchan.

seized the culprit — a golfball-size wad of watercress.

A soup spoon was wedged in the unconscious man's mouth to keep him breathing until paramedics arrived.

Yesterday, six days later, Shih Tsun Chan, his wife of 42 years at his side, rested comfortably at the hospital where his rescuers work.

"He feels he has someone watching over him," said Frank Chan, 40, translating for his father, a retired Taiwanese flight engineer who immi-

grated to San Jose, Calif., in 1992. "If this had to happen, it couldn't have happened in a better place with better people."

Sandler, recalling the dramatic episode, is still in shock.

"What would have happened if we weren't there? If we hadn't acted as quickly as we did?" he said. "None of us wants to be a hero, but it's awfully nice saving a life."

Perhaps only a fortune cookie could have predicted that the paths of two tourists and a group of doc-

tors would so fortuitously cross at the Oceanic, a Chinese restaurant on Massachusetts Avenue next to the Eliot Hotel.

Chan had been on a New England fall foliage tour with his wife, son and daughter-in-law, also from San Jose. They had been scheduled to return home last Saturday.

Frank Chan and his wife had gone shopping while his parents rested at their hotel, the Eliot. Lunch for them next door at the Oceanic was convenient and the cuisine familiar, he said.

For Sandler, Zervas, Dr. Vincent Perlo, a senior neurosurgeon, and another doctor who did not assist in the rescue, lunch at the Oceanic has been a Friday ritual for more than 12 years.

Chan, who regained consciousness Saturday, is expected to fully recover.

For their heroic efforts, the doctors won a standing ovation from diners and tearful thanks from the Chans, who offered them the wisdom of an Asian adage: If you save someone's life, 10 more years are added to your own.

"Now," said Sandler, "I always carry a scalpel in my wallet."

'70s R&B star, religious family man

rounded by relatives, including three children ages 5 to 14, Franklin's widow mourned the loss of the family's bedrock. "He was a hard-working family man. He loved his kids and he loved me," said Mary Franklin, 37, who referred to her husband by his middle name, Bernard, or more often by the nickname "Daddy." The meaning of the moniker was simple, she said: "He took care of us."

Described by his wife as a born-again Christian, Franklin often used his booming bass for gospel ballads.

As a young man, Melvin Franklin, like his late namesake on the Temptations, rode a deep voice to the top of the charts.

"They were one of the most exciting groups to come out of this area," John Williams of Maurice

Starr Productions said of the Energetics. The group's dynamic choreography, Williams said, had been influenced by the Temptations and later inspired the Boston-based sensation New Kids on the Block.

In the 1980s, under the name Planet Patrol, the group recorded a cult dance song, "Play At Your Risk." The song's popularity has endured, Williams said.

The band broke up in the mid-1980s, Williams recalled, when various members became attracted to the ministry.

"This is a personal loss for a lot of people," Williams added in a telephone interview from his Atlanta office. "It's unbelievable. Here's a guy who was in church every Sunday."

Last month, Mary Franklin said, she and her husband as co-

pastors launched their evangelical Inspirational Ministry, converting the sunroom of their home – itself a born-again abandoned house – into a sanctuary of Bibles and chairs for prayer.

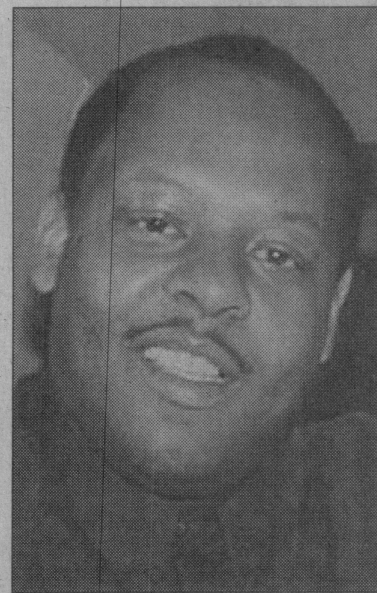
"I'm ordained. He's ordained by God," Mary Franklin said of her husband. "We wanted to reach out to young people."

She had returned home from foster parenting classes Tuesday night when the phone rang around 11. She thought it was her husband, who knocked off work about 8 p.m.

"He's at City Hospital, a bullet in his chest," she was told.

By the time she reached the hospital, Melvin Franklin was dead. She said she leaned over her husband's hospital bed and kissed him.

"Daddy, I love you," she whispered, "and I'll see you in heaven."



MELVIN B. FRANKLIN
Shot near Dorchester home

Auditor finds a drop in bottle, can returns

By Bruce Mohl
GLOBE STAFF

A new state audit indicates that consumers are becoming more erratic in returning bottles and cans, and

"It is unlikely that these sudden and significant changes ... are attributable to consumer behavior alone," the audit said. "Changes in consumer behavior are typically more subtle and incremental."

setts' 51 beverage wholesalers were required to turn over to the state all deposits unclaimed by consumers.

DeNucci said the Department of Revenue employs one person to monitor collection of unclaimed de-

money – nearly half the \$16.9 million collected last year – is being used to cover the cost of an unrelated hazardous waste program.

DeNucci recommended that the state fund the hazardous waste



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BORN, DAVIS, Dwyer, Galluccio
Consent Order #59 Reeves, Russell
Councillor Sullivan re: Extend R1080
appreciation to Dr. Sandler, Dr.
Zervas and Dr. Perlo for a heroic
emergency episode which saved the
life of Shih Tsun Chan at a Chinese
Restaurant on Massachusetts Avenue.

Toomey

In City Council October 21, 1996

ORDER ADOPTED