

New elevators in residential buildings

Zeng Fei and Tom Qian

AN agreement was recently signed to install an elevator at a residential building in Jiangqiao Town, bringing the total number of new elevators in the area to six.

The neighborhood committee of Lane 100, Wuyang Road, started to collect opinions and advice on adding elevators in July. The Yangliu community in Jiangqiao Town was built in the 1990s in eastern Jiading.

The neighborhood committee held several meetings to promote the initiative in order to benefit more residents. A three-member team pushed forward the wishes of residents who strongly favored new elevators in their buildings.

"All the team members are local

residents with strong wills to communicate and organize, so the work can proceed smoothly," said Gu Peihua, Party secretary of the Yangliu Community.

The team manages the fund for building the elevators and affiliated facilities.

To make it easy for residents to access related information and ask questions, the neighborhood committee set up an elevator consultation office staffed with professionals from the elevator company.

A household on the first floor of building 16 was reluctant to sign the agreement, because they will not need to use the elevator. Moreover, they worried that the elevator would affect their lighting and breeze, and noise from it might affect their living standard.

After persistent dialogue and

explanations, the household eventually agreed. So far, agreements have been signed to add a total of four elevators in the community.

"Some residents are embarrassed to speak at the meetings, but they still have doubts in their hearts. When the time comes to sign, they get stuck and refuse to do so. The outcome is usually much better through telephone consultations," Gu said.

There are 55 residential areas in Jiangqiao Town with a total of 2,473 buildings that have six floors or more. Among those, 1,164 are deemed feasible for adding elevators.

The cost of each elevator ranges from 400,000 (US\$61,760) to 600,000 yuan, mostly subsidized by local government.

Latest phase of pavilion renovation project in Guyi Garden wraps up

Yu Chao, Sun Guanyin and Tom Qian

TEN buildings designed in traditional Chinese architecture style in Nanxiang Town's Guyi Garden were reopened during the National Day holiday following the completion of the third phase of protective repair — the largest protective repair project in the last 40 years.

The third phase of the repair project began in October of 2020. Baihe (white crane) Kiosk, Anchorless Boat, Fuyun Pavilion, Weiyin Pavilion and six other pavilions were reopened to the public.

Works of brick carvings, a national intangible cultural heritage from Huizhou, Anhui Province, were displayed in the garden during the repair.

The Guyi Garden is one of the oldest tourist attractions in Shanghai. It was built during the reign of Emperor Jiajing (1522-1566) in the Ming Dynasty (1368-1644). The Guyi Garden will celebrate its 500th birthday in 2022.

The pavilions in the Guyi Garden, especially those near



lakes and ponds, have suffered from decay, leakage and uneven sinking for many years. The renovation project was divided into four phases over a two-year period.

The renovation of Plum

Blossom Hall was completed on the eve of National Day. The hall is located north of Yuanyang Lake in neighboring Anxiang Garden. It was built in 1789 and destroyed in 1937 during the China's war against

Japanese aggression. It was rebuilt in 1962.

The repaired Plum Blossom Hall has a traditional roof with exquisite panes and inlaid plum patterns, echoing the theme of Anxiang Garden.

Special services provided for elderly

Zhou Yulin and Tom Qian

JIADING Town held a series of activities for elderly people in the area to mark Chongyang Festival on October 14 this year, a day dedicated to the elderly.

The town hired professional photographers, hairdressers and other services for the elderly.

One hundred elderly couples experienced the free photo services, including retired soldiers, outstanding residential building leaders and excellent representatives of good neighbors.

Zhu Yueqin, 73, is one of the people benefiting from the charity campaign.

"The temporary powder room set up in the town is wonderful. I feel like taking photos at a photo studio," Zhu said.

Before taking photos, professionals provided makeup services.

Shen Qihua, who is in his 80s, was also moved by the photo service, as he and his wife have been married for nearly 50 years without a formal photo together.

"This is the best gift for me, because we will celebrate our golden wedding anniversary soon. I will frame it and hang it well," Shen said with the photo in hand.

Chen Qiujuan, 77, seldom leaves her home in the Xiaonanqiao Community, because she is too weak. So volunteers went

to her home to cut her hair and provide foot services.

"I had a wonderful festival as they provided the services in a timely manner and saved my time and money at the same time," Chen said.

From now until the end of the month, the town will provide free haircuts and foot services to 100 elderly people in the area who suffer from major illnesses, major family emergencies and special circumstances such as the impact of the epidemic.

In addition, the town has handed out rice cakes and longevity noodles to around 500 seniors in the area.

News in Brief

• Vaccine base

THE construction of an mRNA vaccine production base began on Yunbei Highway last month. The base belongs to China National Biotec Group, a bioscience subsidiary of the Chinese pharmaceutical giant Sinopharm. It is slated to be a state-of-the-art COVID-19 vaccine production facility. The construction area is over 32,000 square meters.

• E-sports lab

CHINA'S first F1 e-sports Chinese championship racing laboratory was inaugurated in Jiading Tongjia Wisdom Education Port last month, providing an immersive F1 racing driving experience for racing fans. On the opening day, the racing laboratory ushered in the first batch of experiencers. The racing laboratory is equipped with a wide-scale, all-round LED display, which can fully simulate the visual effects of the driver and the all-round surround sound effect.

• Animal center

THE CCI Animal Experiment Center opened in Jiangqiao Town early this month. The center covers around 7,400 square meters, or the size of a standard soccer field. The first phase includes an animal breeding area that can accommodate experimental animals such as pigs, dogs, rabbits and guinea pigs. The center houses an animal experimental area, which can carry out interventional and surgical operations, comprehensive imaging and clinical pathology examinations and biocompatibility testing of medical devices.

• Driverless bus

A DRIVERLESS minibus made in Jiading was put into operation at the 14th National Games held in Northwestern China's Shaanxi Province last month. Jiading-based Tongyu Automotive has the capacity to produce 460,000 units of electro-hydraulic-braking systems, one of the few manufacturers of EHB in the world.

• Center growing

THE Shanghai International Short Video Center expansion project is scheduled to kick off by the end of the month in Jiading. As the second phase of the project, the expansion will cover 55,900 square meters. The third phase will take place in the future. After all three phases are completed, the total area of the center will reach 300,000 square meters.

(Compiled by Tom Qian)