**Fears of New Coronavirus Hurting Asian American Businesses**

**新冠状病毒恐惧下的美国亚裔生意**

Asian American businesses are seeing a drop in customers because of fears over the new coronavirus outbreak in China.

由于对中国爆发新冠状病毒疫情的恐惧，美国亚裔生意的客户数量正在下降。

In many places, city officials are trying to stop the financial harm with efforts like information campaigns and personal visits to stores and restaurants. They aim to bring attention to the fact that there have been few confirmed cases of the disease in the United States. They say there is no reason to avoid Asian American businesses.

在许多地方，市政官员正试图通过宣传活动打信息战和亲自走访商店和餐馆等措施来遏阻亚裔的经济损失。此举目的是让人们注意到一个事实——即在美国并没有多少这种疾病的确诊病例。他们表示，没有理由回避亚裔美国人的生意。

The newly opened Asian District in Mesa, Arizona, was organizing a night market for the end of February. Then, news of a case of the illness known as COVID-19 was confirmed at nearby Arizona State University.

亚利桑那州梅萨市的新开设的亚洲区本来正在准备筹办一个将于2月底开办的夜市。随后，附近的亚利桑那州立大学确认了一例名为COVID-19的病例。

Comments on social media and phone calls started almost immediately, said Vicente Reid. He is chief of the Arizona Asian Chamber of Commerce.

亚利桑那州亚洲商会的会长韦森特·里德说，社交媒体上对此的评论还有咨询电话几乎瞬间就来了。

Reid said, “I probably should stop picking up my phone altogether.”

里德说:“或许，我应该完全停止接任何电话。"

The new coronavirus has sickened tens of thousands of people, mostly in China. Fifteen people in the U.S. have been confirmed to have the virus. All but two had recently traveled to China.

这种新型冠状病毒已感染数万人，其中大部分在中国。美国已经有15人被证实感染了这种病毒。除了其中的两人之外，其余几例最近都去过中国。

Fewer people at restaurants

餐馆就餐人数变少

Vegetarian Dim Sum House has been a popular place to eat in Manhattan’s Chinatown for 23 years. But recently, owner Frankie Chu said he will not be able to pay his rent this month.

23年来，素食点心屋一直是曼哈顿唐人街一个很受欢迎的就餐场所。但最近，业主弗兰克·朱表示，他这个月将无法支付租金。

Chu said restaurant sales have dropped 70 percent over the last two weeks. On a recent weekday, just three couples stopped in for lunch. Normally, Chu said he gets up to 30 people for lunch. At dinnertime, his narrow restaurant usually gets about 70 customers. These days, he has about four.

朱先生说，过去两周餐馆的销售额下降了70%。最近的一个工作日，只有三对情侣来这里吃午饭。而通常，朱先生说餐馆午餐最多能来30人。而在晚餐时间，他的小餐馆通常大约有70名顾客。而这些天，餐馆大约有四名食客。

“I don’t know how long I can stay here,” Chu said. “After 9/11, it wasn’t this bad.”

“我不知道还能在这里撑多久，”朱先生说。“自9/11之后，情况从没这么糟糕过。”

The situation has concerned New York City officials and business leaders. They have launched a campaign to bring people back to hard-hit communities in Manhattan, Queens and Brooklyn.

这种境况引起了纽约市政府和商界领袖的关注。他们发起了一项运动，企图引领人们回到曼哈顿、皇后区和布鲁克林遭受重创的社区。

“Chinatown is bleeding,” said Wellington Chen. He is executive chairman of the Chinatown Partnership, a local business and community group. “This thing is thousands of miles away. This fear is really out of proportion.”

“唐人街在流血，”惠灵顿·陈说。他是华埠共同发展机构的执行主席，这是一个当地的商业和社区团体。“这东西（疫情）远在千里之外。而人们的担心不合情理。”

New York City is home to more than 500,000 Chinese Americans, the biggest population of any U.S. city. Some New Yorkers whose families are from China say they feel now like foreigners because of a disease spreading in another country.

纽约市居住着50多万华裔美国人——是美国华裔人口最多的城市。一些来自华裔家庭的纽约人说，因为一种在另一个国家蔓延的疾病，他们现在感觉自己像外国人。

 “It’s a little annoying to be honest,” said Christina Seid, owner of the Chinatown Ice Cream Factory. Her father started the business 40 years ago.

“说实话，这有点烦人，”华埠雪糕行老板克里斯蒂娜·赛德说。此雪糕行是她父亲40年前创立的。

Her great-grandparents immigrated to New York from China. She said business has been slower than usual but added that the winter months are not busy for ice cream stores. She said she feels hopeful that things will soon return to normal.

她的曾祖父母从中国移民到纽约。她说，生意比平时要冷淡，但又表示本来对冰淇淋店来说冬季也并不繁忙。她还表示，她感觉有希望一切能很快恢复正常。

There have been no confirmed cases of the virus in New York City. Officials and politicians are trying to prove to locals that there is no reason to avoid any neighborhood. Many city leaders have been eating at Chinese restaurants and publishing pictures of themselves doing so, using the hashtag #SupportChinatown.

纽约市目前还没有确诊的病例。官方和政客们试图向当地人证明，没有理由回避任何社区。许多城市领导人一直在中餐馆就餐，并发布就餐的照片，并标注标签“支持唐人街”。

In Boston, Massachusetts, Mayor Marty Walsh has launched a similar social media campaign. He has asked people to share pictures of themselves supporting small businesses in that city’s Chinatown with the hashtag #LoveBostonChinatown.

马萨诸塞州波士顿市市长马蒂·沃尔什也在社交媒体上发起了类似的活动。他邀请人们分享自己在该市唐人街支持小企业生意的照片，并标注标签“爱波士顿唐人街”。

In the San Francisco Bay Area, the situation is serious enough that Sunny Wong’s family is considering temporarily closing one of the four restaurants they own in Oakland Chinatown. Even some of his friends and longtime customers have told him about false stories of people getting sick at one of his restaurants.

旧金山湾区情况非常严重，以致于桑尼·王一家正在考虑暂时关闭他们在奥克兰唐人街的四家餐厅中的其中一家。连他的一些朋友和老顾客也跟他说过，听到了有人在他家某个餐馆染病的谣言。

 “They hear stories and rumors and they just don’t really look for the facts in a situation,” Wong said.

“他们听到的都是故事和谣言，但是他们根本不寻求事情真相，”王先生说。

Nom Wah Tea Parlor is the oldest restaurant in Manhattan’s Chinatown. Manager Vincent Tang said the restaurant had a 40-percent drop in business over the past three weeks. During a recent weekday, nearly half the tables were empty.

南华茶室是曼哈顿唐人街最古老的餐厅。文森特·唐经理说，在过去的三周里，餐厅的生意下降了40%。在最近的一个工作日，将近一半的桌子是空的。

Some customers at Nom Wah said they were surprised that others were staying away.

南华茶室的一些顾客表示，他们对其他人避而远之的行为感到惊讶

“It didn’t cross my mind at all,” said customer Kate Masterson. “It’s not happening here,” she said of the outbreak.

顾客凯特·马斯特森说:“我从没想过这个。那不会发生在这里的，”她指的是疫情的爆发。

I’m Ashley Thompson.

阿什利·汤普森报道。

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