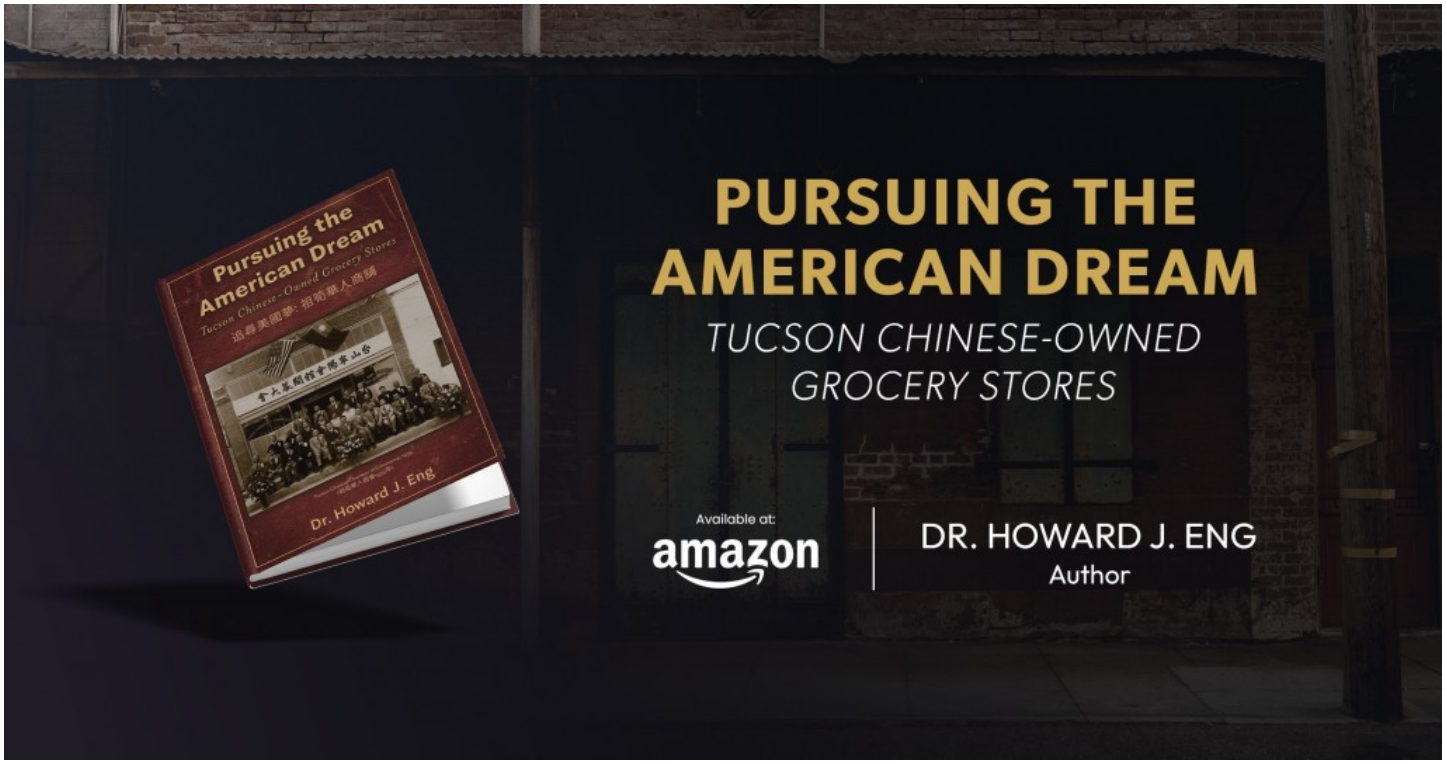
Howard J. Eng Chronicles the Chinese Immigrant Pursuit of the American Dream in Pursuing the American Dream

Tucson Chinese-Owned Grocery Stores



Tucson, Arizona Nov 15, 2026 (Issuewire.com**)** - Author **Howard J. Eng** presents *Pursuing the American Dream: Tucson Chinese-Owned Grocery Stores*, a work of local history that documents how generations of Chinese immigrants built their futures behind the counters of neighborhood grocery stores. Drawing on more than eighty-five firsthand accounts, Eng traces a community's rise, endurance, and lasting mark on the city of Tucson, Arizona.

During the California gold rush era (1848 to 1855), Chinese immigrants called the United States "Gold Mountain," or "Gam Saan" in Cantonese, a name inspired by the gold fields of California. Thousands crossed the ocean to Gam Saan to seek their fortunes and live the American Dream. For many, a grocery store offered the surest path toward that dream, and Tucson became one of many American communities where Chinese families opened their doors for business.

Eng investigates the forces that shaped this history. He explains the U.S. laws and Chinese government policies that influenced Chinese immigration, shows how the stores survived in a fiercely competitive market, and examines why Chinese-owned grocery stores eventually declined in Tucson. He also reveals how the Tucson Chinese community organized to meet the needs of store owners and their families.

The story carries personal weight for the author. Eng's own parents sold groceries from the back of their truck across rural Arizona and on the Tohono O'odham Indian Reservation for nine years before they opened their first store. That heritage anchors the book's more than eighty-eight stories, told by grocery truck, Eng also accompanied his parents on those trips, and he began working on the grocery store

when he was in the sixth grade and store owners and by their children and grandchildren. Each account adds a human voice to a broader chronicle of ambition, sacrifice, and resilience.

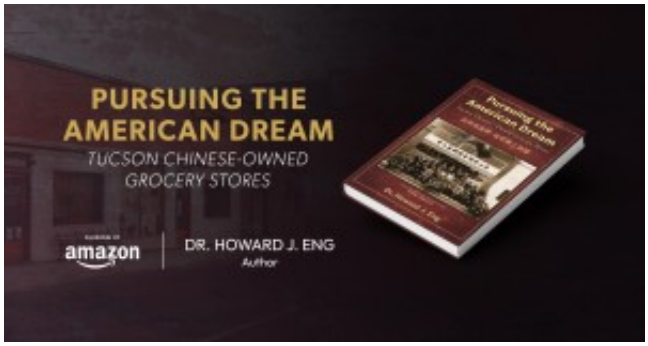
Pursuing the American Dream preserves a vital chapter of Tucson's past and honors the immigrant families whose determination turned a simple storefront into a foothold in a new country.

Pursuing the American Dream: Tucson Chinese-Owned Grocery Stores is now available on Amazon and Barnes & Noble.

For more detailed book information, book reviews, and book ordering go to Tucson Chinese Cultural Center book website: https://www.tucsonchinese.org/bookevents

To learn more about the story and the inspiration behind the book through the Kate Delaney Radio Interview.

Tune in to hear more about this meaningful piece of Tucson's history: Dr. Howard J. Eng - Radio Interview



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