



Our town Parsippany

Daily Record, Morris County, N.J. Tuesday, January 17, 1995 A7

Parsippany factoids

■ The largest increase in township population since 1980 is among Asians or Pacific Islanders. More than 10 percent of the population of 48,478 — about 4,900 — identified themselves as such in the last census. That's up from less than 4 percent in 1980.

'American dream come true'

Teen masters new language to excel

BY ARON PILHOFFER

Daily Record

Ask Parsippany High School senior Fei Fei Li about herself and she'll say she's just like everyone else.

But those who know the 18-year-old say that's not true.

"Talk about the American dream come true, this is it," said Melvin Zirkes, the school's principal.

An honors student who scored 1,250 combined on her Scholastic Aptitude Test, including a perfect 800 on math, Li will graduate this spring in the top 5 percent of her class. She was also one of only 90

Li and her mother moved to Parsippany from mainland China in May 1992.

"My father came first for several years, then my mom and I came," she said. The family chose Parsippany "because there is a big Chinese population and my father's research showed that Parsippany High School was a good school."

At first, the transition was difficult.

"I was never not able to communicate with people before, and all of a sudden communication was a big problem," she said. At first, she had to take English as a Second Language classes, but was taking

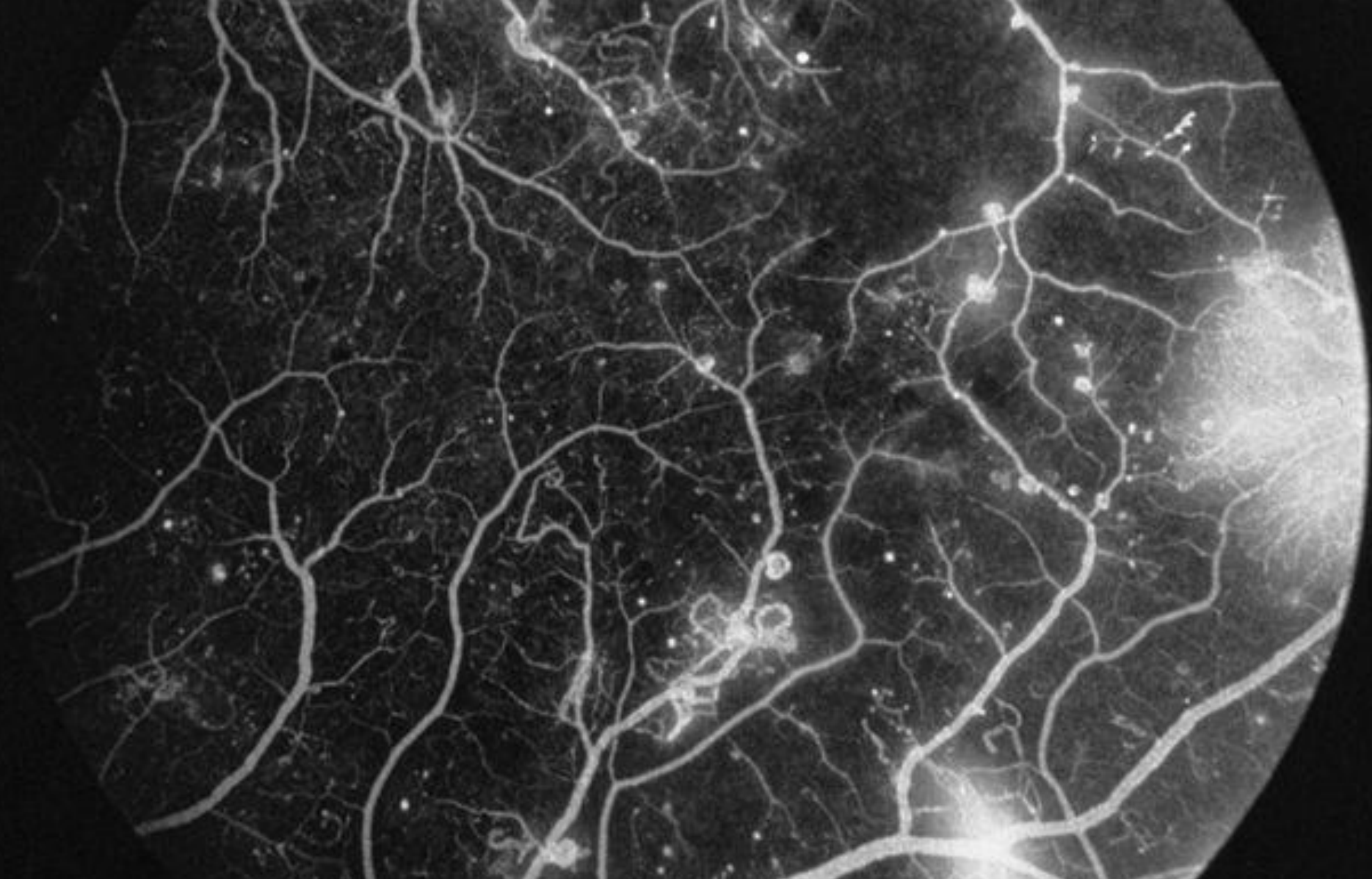
"You are so much a part of your culture, and all of a sudden you're going to a place you're not familiar with," Li said. "In a way, I don't feel I totally belong here still. I had my own life for 15 years in China. It's a big change."

Li has been documenting her experiences in a series of articles she has written for the Chinese magazine "Teenagers in China and Abroad."

"To a Chinese teenager, everything I have experienced is new," she said. "The underlying reason I write is to get out the facts (they) can't receive from textbooks and newspapers."

That's not easy considering the Chinese government's censorship





Bread 5 uting 38g
msmer 44g
most 64g
paprika
melon - 52g
mango 40g
Druet 45g



