

Currents

Asian Pacific American Community Newspaper Serving Sacramento
and Yolo Counties - Volume 28, No. 2 Summer/May 2015

Japanese American artifacts withdrawn from New Jersey auction

On April 17th, the Rago Auction house in New Jersey withdrew from auction 450 artifacts crafted by Japanese Americans during their World War II incarceration. The company was pressured by a nationwide grassroots uproar that the sale of such historical items was outrageous. These items include crafts, personal objects, prisoner artworks and furniture made by Japanese Americans held behind barbed wire during World War II. Cigarette cases woven from onion sack string and wooden family nameplates that were attached to barracks were among the items. The collection had been divided into 24 lots.

At issue was the collection of the late-Allen Hendershott Eaton, a former Oregon state legislator, anti-war activist, historian and champion of folk art. Eaton opposed the

INSIDE CURRENTS

Asian Pac.State Employees Assn
(APSEA) - 3

Jan Ken Po Gakko- 4

ACC Senior Services (ACC)-5

Sacto, Asian Sports Found-12



incarceration and visited five incarceration camps while researching his 1952 book, "Beauty Behind Barbed Wire: The Arts of the Japanese in Our War Relocation Camps." Eaton died in 1962 and the collection was inherited and held by the consignor/owner for 35 years. According to the auction house, the consignor, the John Ryan family of Connecticut was not in the position to donate the collection.

Some community advocates believe that the artwork should be returned to families of the artists with the rest of the collection donated for public exhibition.

Most of the collection came from Wyoming's Heart Mountain Relocation Center where thousands of Japanese Americans from California were imprisoned. Records show that Eaton and the contributors had the mutual expectation that these crafts, artworks and artifacts would be exhibited and photographed for public educational purposes and not held in a private or commercial capacity.

The Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation took legal action to delay or

negotiate with the Rago Auction House the fate of the collection. The JACL reports that the auction house and consignor declined numerous offers from museums, community organizations and individuals to donate the items, voluntarily delay the auction or allow the sale of the collection at or above their stated value.

Locally, the Asian Bar Association of Sacramento (ABAS) voted unanimously to condemn the auction of the collection. After the collection was withdrawn, David Rago of the auction house committed to working with the Japanese American community to find the best home and right place for the collection. ABAS says the goal is to preserve an incredible collection to benefit history.

In May, the Japanese American National Museum in Los Angeles announced that it acquired the collection. Museum board chair emeritus, actor and activist George Takei apparently bought the collection, worth an estimated \$27,000.

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Asian Pacific State Employees Assn.

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Sacramento California 95822

API Heritage Month Films on PBS

Center for Asian American Media (CAAM) is sponsoring 11 films including "Filipino American Lives," a three part series hosted by Lea Salonga, Wayne Wang's latest film SOUL OF A BANQUET, LUCKY CHOW, and more, to air on national public television in celebration of May's Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month. From game-changing labor movements to the many cuisines of Asia to the significance of iconic public transit in the Philippines, visit CAAM's blog to see the full list of programs highlighting Asian and Asian American culture. Check your local PBS station for schedules.

In the Sacramento Valley, three of these films will be aired on KVIE-6

Delano Manongs by Marissa Aroy (30 minutes) – May 13 - 7pm, May 15 - 4pm, May 17- 6pm, May 20 – 130am + 4pm, Filipino American Lives - May 25 + 26, 3pm. Director Marissa Aroy puts the spotlight on trailblazing labor organizer Larry Itliong in Delano Manongs. Itliong and the Filipino farm workers instigated a defining moment in the American farm labor movements. Often overlooked in history, Itliong help lead Filipino, Chicanos and other ethnic farm workers in the Delano California Grape Strike of 1965 which, then brought about the creation of the United Farm Workers Union. The documentary uses interviews as well as archival and present-day footage to illustrate a story that highlights the many struggles and achievements of the movement.

Stateless by Duc Nguyen (60 minutes) May 11 – 11pm

Directed by Emmy Award-winning filmmaker Duc H. Nguyen, Stateless presents another side of immigration by following a group Vietnamese people who are not considered as a national by any state, or "stateless." Through flashbacks and real time interviews, Nguyen uncovers the complicated international history and politics in the post Vietnam-American war era, which resulted in over 2,000 Vietnamese refugees or "Long-Stayers" in the Philippines trapped without nationality or citizenship.

Memory of Forgotten War by Deann Borshay Liem (30 minutes) May 15 – 11PM

Historians Bruce Cumings and Ji-Yeon Yuh curate four accounts from survivors of the Korean War (1950-1953) in Memory of Forgotten War. Through newsreels, U.S. military footage, and archival photographs, the documentary gives historical context to these personal stories of loss, and struggle.

Other CAAM films not being aired in the Sacramento Valley include: Jeepney by Esy Casey and Sarah Friedland (30 minutes); Harana by Benito Bautista (60 minutes); Soul of a Banquet by Wayne Wang (60 minutes); Lucky Chow by Bruce Seidel (Six 30-minute episodes); 9-Man by Ursula Liang scheduled on America ReFramed (90 minutes); Cambodian Son by Masahiro Sugano scheduled on America ReFramed (90 minutes); War for Guam by Frances Negrón-Muntaner (60 minutes); This is My Home Now by Mariah Dunn Kramer and Dean MacLeod (30 minutes).

Info: www.caamedia.org

Letter to the Editor

I enjoy reading the Currents newspaper. I've been receiving it for at least 10 years at the most. Being Asian American makes me more appreciative of my heritage. I work in a job that deals with "white" non-Asians. Today I still feel and see that is a lot of prejudice and racism in the country. There will always be no matter what. I can't believe my ears and eyes. Everywhere you look a white person (Ok ... let's say non-Asian) always overpowers or tries to at most times. You notice that you go into an office and the receptionist is a "white." Most employers do not hire those of color. We need to recruit minorities into the work forces. Many school districts don't hire them in their schools. They are probably in the low category such as a janitor or office clerks. Let's face it - this country is filled with a lot of minorities, and yet the non-whites are not recognized or hired because society looks for an image.

Let me ask this Question: Do you see any newscasters, teachers that are Asians, Blacks or Mexicans? ... Not really. That's because the white have still taken ground. Most minorities have to work harder than the average white person to get where they want.

Currents is a wonderful source of media to help spread the word out that we Asians stand out. I think we should expand our distribution of Currents. I've been taking my copy to my dentist and sometimes to the doctor's office.

We need to help and have people take it to our local schools. It's sad that after a while it gets thrown out. But at least someone got the word. Maybe that's why they got mad. I'm still mad that the way the Japanese-Americans were treated in the concentration camps. And they still hardly talk about it in schools – today's textbooks only have one paragraph about this in the history books.

The damn white people need to step back and learn from the minorities people of color. White people probably really don't know their nationality as far as I'm concerned. Come on! "White" is a color not a nationality. I hope Currents lasts a long time to spread the word about being Asian Americans to let the new generation aware of who really made this American history alive. This is a process of learning. Asian Americans need to be more visible!

-A Currents Reader

Currents no longer be available at Sacramento County library branches

The Sacramento County Library is no longer willing distribute Currents to its branches. For the past years, Currents has relied upon the Main Library staff to deliver bundles of Currents to the branches. The library staff now say that they will only distribute materials for government entities and "library partners."

API outreach on female cancers

Asian American women have the lowest rate of cervical cancer screening and a higher rate of death from cancer than any other American population according to the American Cancer Society.

Southeast Asian women have a higher incidence of invasive cancer and lower Pap testing rate than other US ethnic groups.

Only 48 percent of Filipino and 41 percent of Korean women receive Pap smear within the recommended intervals.

Asian and Vietnamese women have cervical cancer at significantly higher rates than white women.

With a \$10,000 patient advocacy award from the American Society of Cytopathology, the Paul Hsu Asian Clinic's new Obstetrics and Gynecology Clinic is partnering with Vietnamese Cancer Awareness, Research and Education Society (VN Cares) to promote free cancer screening to the underserved Vietnamese population and outreach to the API community detect precancerous lesions early when they are most treatable. The outreach effort will increase awareness about cervical cancer screening and encouraging women to get tested while recognizing their cultural beliefs.

For the past 12 years VN Cares has been providing free cancer screenings to the Vietnamese community. The Paul Hsu Asian Clinic has been serving the underserved Asian American community of Sacramento for 43 years.

ABOUT CURRENTS

Currents is a free community newspaper published three times a year entirely by volunteers. Currents covers local and national issues and events affecting the Asian Pacific American communities of Sacramento and Yolo Counties. Opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect endorsement by the other organizations and are those of the authors or the Editorial Board. The Editor reserves the right to reject prospective materials or advertisements. Current is distributed by bulk mail and other outlets. Currents articles may be reprinted without specific permission but the source "Currents" and author should be acknowledged. Next publication date: Fall/September 2015. Deadline: August 15, 2015. Circulation: 7,000. Editor: Pattie Fong. Distribution assisted by: The Sacramento Gazette (David Fong), Hach Yasumura, John Pamperin, Tim Fong/CSUS-Asian American Studies, UCD Asian American Studies.. Most graphics are by Randall Ishida. Advertising rates: 3.5" X 2", \$50; 5" X 6", \$80; 10" X 6", \$200. Currents has no physical office, but donation advertisements, addresses changes and other inquiries can be sent to Currents/Davis Asian for Racial Equality, PO Box 233, Davis 95617. Other inquiries can be emailed to pmfong@hotmail.com.

CURRENTS IS ON THE WEB AT www.apsea.org "other service"



apsea

asian pacific state employees association

"Professional Success begins with APSEA's New Career Development Program"

The Asian Pacific State Employees Association (APSEA) is pleased to announce its partnership with the Department of Rehabilitation and the Association of California State Employees with Disabilities (ACSED) to bring its members a Career Development Program. These monthly brown bag workshops are open to everyone interested in learning about the steps towards building their own success in the workplace. The Career Development Program is designed to develop knowledge and skills for effective performance on the job. The workshop model includes expert speakers who share their own experiences and how they acquired the skills and abilities to achieve their professional goals.

Future workshops are as follows:

How to Network
(April)

Reasonable
Accommodations
(May)

Communicating
with Intent and
Influence (June/
July)

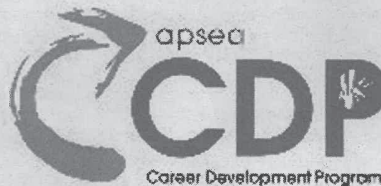
How to Develop
a Statement of
Qualifications

Mock Interviews

Additional workshops are
currently being developed.

If you are interested in attending or joining the committee, information can be found on APSEA's website or contact us at (916) 962-6309. Please also sign up to be on our distribution list! Additional information is available via the APSEA Website.

Link: <http://www.apsea.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/03/APSEA-Career-Development-Program-Flyer0workshop2.pdf>



APSEA Looking Forward at the Capitol: Strengthening Civil Rights

APSEA is working on the 2015 legislative agenda in partnership with others to strengthen equal employment opportunity in California state government. "Our legislative priority reflects the vision of our purpose statement: to ensure equal opportunity and to advance the careers of APIs employed by the State of California" said APSEA President Linda Ng.

Last summer, APSEA in collaboration with the California State Employee Civil Rights Coalition, organized the Joint Informational Hearing (Assembly Public Employees, Retirement and Social Security and Senate Public Employment and Retirement Committees). APSEA testified at the "Examining the State's Commitment to Equal Employment Opportunity and Diversity in the State Civil Service."

APSEA 2015 legislative priorities include:

- Require all Agency and state departments to implement improved compliance with state and federal EEO statutory compliance requirements
- Assign the Government Operations Agency Secretary the responsibility for statewide EEO accountability and compliance
- Require CalHR to monitor and ensure that department exam and hiring interviews have diverse representation
- APSEA has been working actively with the Governor's Office, Agency Secretaries and Department Directors to strengthen diversity and inclusion.

If there are any questions, please contact Dean Lan or Darrel Woo at apseamembership@gmail.com or (916) 962-6309.

Foundation awards scholarships, new board

At the April 21, 2015 APSEA/APSEA Foundation Scholarship Dinner, scholarships were awarded to:

Sydney Kajioke (APSEA scholarship)

Albert Liu (Chinese American Council of Sacramento scholarship)

Kayla Nodohara (Woo Family scholarship)

Annie Xiong (Wells Fargo scholarship)

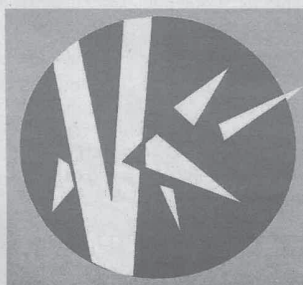
Kayla Umemoto (APSEA Foundation scholarship)

Stephen Lee (David and Jean Shiomoto scholarship)

Joseph Hart (Verizon scholarship)

The APSEA President Award was given to Darrel "H" Wood. APSEA's Member of the Year Award was presented to Jim Kahue, a co-founder of APSEA and the First President.

The APSEA board for 2015 includes: President Linda Ng, First Vice President Grace Koch, Second Vice President Brian Wong, Treasurer Sandy Jang, Recording Secretary Alicia Wong, Corresponding Secretary Rebekah Christensen, Immediate Past President Jeff Uyeda. Advisors to the board are: Dan Tokutomi, Dean Lan, Helen Fong and Oliver Chu.



Living in Sacramento's Nihonmachi (Japan Town)

Asian Community Center
7334 Park City Drive, Sacramento
(new location, former Merryhill School)

1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Saturday, May 16, 2015



Program

1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

- ❖ Interactive panel presentation using PowerPoint and artifacts
- ❖ Q & A
- ❖ Display
- ❖ Tea and Senbei



Japan-town - 1930 – 1940's

Do you remember the "Sumo Tournament" on the 4th of July in Japan Alley, O-bon dancing in the street at 4th and O, and attending Lincoln Elementary and Junior High School? Take a step back in time and hear from those who had families and/or lived in Sacramento's Japan-town share everyday living in Sacramento Nihonmachi.

Round Table: April Ikuma Adachi, Alice Takeda Kataoka, Rev. LaVerne Sasaki, Victor Shibata, Marian Uchida and others

Presented by – Jan Ken Po Cultural Association

Donation: \$5.00

For information contact: (916) 422-8783 or jkpca21@yahoo.com

Foreign adoptions hit low

The number of children adopted from foreign countries dropped by 9 percent last year to its lowest level since 1982 according to the State Department. The new report says there were 6,441 adoptions in 2014, a drop from 7,094 in 2013 and 22,884 in 2004.

China still accounts for most of the adoptions, but in 2014, there were 2040, 10 percent less than 2013 and less than the 2005 peak of 7,903 adoptions. China has expanded its domestic adoption program and is trying to curtail child abandonment.

In 2014, Ethiopia was the second largest source for adopted children at 716, down from 1568 in 2012. Like China, Ethiopian authorities are trying to place more abandoned children with relatives or foster families and has increased

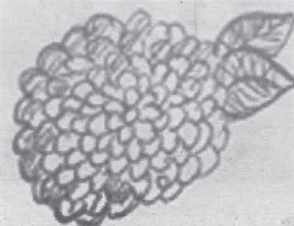
scrutiny of their orphanages for improper practices.

Ukraine had an increase in adoptions, 521 in 2014, up from 438 in 2013. Haiti has an increase of 464 up from 388 in 2013. South Korea also increased its foreign adoptions in 2014 with 370, up from 138 the previous year.

Russia adoptions were 748 in 2012, 250 in 2013 and 2 in 2014. Russia has imposed a ban in 2014. Adoption observers say that the ban was imposed as retaliation for a US law targeting alleged Russian human rights violations.

Concern of corruption, child trafficking and baby-selling prompted the US to suspend adoptions from countries including Vietnam,

Cambodia, Guatemala and Nepal. Guatemala had once been a top source of adopted children with more than 4,000 babies adopted each year. Adoptions from Guatemala were suspended in 2007.





The outdoor Pickleball courts are getting lots of use.

What's New at ACC?

By Linda Revilla, Program Director

The answer is: Pickleball! Pickleball is a paddle sport that is a cross between badminton, tennis, and ping pong. It's known as the fastest growing sport for seniors. It's a fun, social activity that is great exercise without being too strenuous. Pickleball is easy to learn and we offer introductory clinics. Once you get the hang of it, you can participate in open play on ACC's outdoor courts every Wednesday from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm. For those just starting to get in shape, we have a new walking club that meets the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month, from 10:00 am to 12:00 p.m.

Other new or returning classes include hula, tap dance, taiko, keyboards, Spanish, video & special projects editing, aqua fit, and swimming lessons. Check out our class schedule at www.accsv.org for other helpful workshops that can help you learn how lighting affects your vision and health or understand vision loss. If you love to cook, we have a variety of cooking demonstrations. We'll even take you on a tour of 99 Ranch Supermarket so you can see where to get all the specialty items for those recipes you wanted to try. Join the summer fun at ACC, where there is something for everyone!

For more information, call (916) 393-9026 ext. 330.

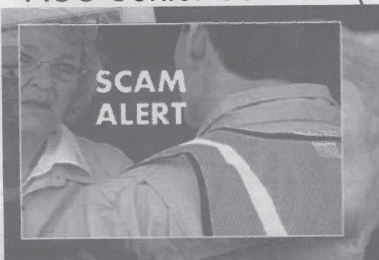


Loretta from Sacramento Taiko Don teaches every Monday.



Loretta also teaches keyboard.

ACC Senior Services (ACC)



Summer Scams Targeting Seniors

By Linda Revilla, Program Director

"Hi, this is so-and-so calling from ACC. We are raising money to help women with breast cancer. Can I count on you to make a donation?"

"This is the IRS calling for you. You owe us \$1,000 in back taxes. We know that it's you because your mother's name is ____ and your sister's name is _____. You need to pay up now before we send the police to arrest you."

"This is Greg from Microsoft calling. We've detected a virus that's making your computer run slower. We can fix your computer remotely. It will cost \$500 dollars to fix. All you have to do is give me your credit card number."

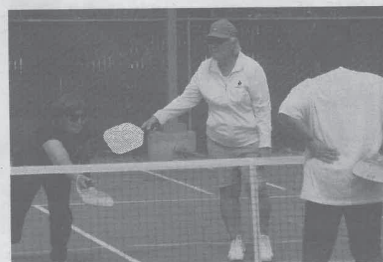
What do these calls have in common? They are all scam phone calls that ACC volunteers have recently received. One volunteer was getting two IRS scam

calls a day! Mary Falcon, from Sacramento Police Department says that the types of scams targeting residents vary with the seasons. A common one in Sacramento during the warmer months is someone pretending to be from a utility company or the City of Sacramento who approaches you while you are working in the front yard, with the garage door up. The fake utility worker may have a hard hat, safety vest, and a clipboard. The fake utility worker says, "I need to check your backyard for a gas leak" or "I need to check your meters" or something similar. The homeowner takes him/her into the backyard. Meanwhile, an accomplice enters the house through the open garage door and steals things. This is an underreported crime, as the homeowners are often too embarrassed to file a police report.

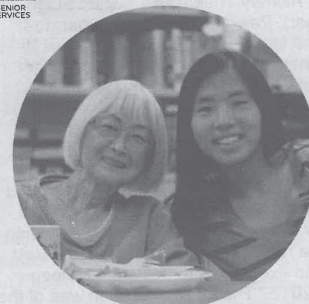
What can you do about this? How can you protect yourself or your loved ones? ACC offers workshops to help you recognize scams. This year, a grant from PG&E is helping to support our financial literacy workshop series, which includes Prevent Financial Exploitation, Identity Theft, and Senior Scams. In June, we will have speakers from the University of the Pacific, McGeorge School of Law, discussing Domestic Violence and Elder Abuse and Mary Falcon from the City of Sacramento will repeat the Summer Safety workshop. See the class schedule at www.accsv.org for more information.

Other helpful resources:

<https://www.metlife.com/assets/cao/mmi/publications/studies/2011/mmi-elder-financial-abuse.pdf>
<http://www.ncoa.org/enhance-economic-security/economic-security-Initiative/savvy-saving-seniors/top-10-scams-targeting.html>



Friendly Visitor Program



Become a Friendly Visitor and enrich the lives of veterans, caregivers and seniors!

ELIGIBILITY: At least 17 years of age, U.S. Citizen or Permanent Resident, HS graduate

VOLUNTEER BENEFITS: Training opportunities, Monthly stipend and \$1493 Education Award (upon completion of 450 hours)

- Contribute 450 hours of volunteer service from Nov. 1, 2015 to Oct. 31, 2016.
- Engage seniors in arts & crafts, light exercises, and other social activities.
- Provide much needed rest to family caregivers.

For more information, contact Khonnie Lattasima at (916) 394-6399 x143 or

Indian rapists given death penalty

An Indian court sentenced four men to death in 2013 for the rape and murder of a 23 year old woman in New Delhi. The attack of the woman and her companion on a bus in December 16, 2012 appalled the Indian nation and world. The physiotherapy student Jyoti Singh and her male friend Awindra Pratap Pandey had gone to see the movie "The Life of Pi" in a New Delhi mall. On their way home, they boarded a bus in upmarket South Delhi. The driver and at least five other men on the bus were drunk and looking for a "joy ride." They dragged the women to the back of the bus and beat up her friend unconscious. They then took turns raping the woman, using an iron rod to violate her as the bus drove around the city for almost an hour. When they finished, they dumped the two victims by the side of the road. The woman's injuries were so severe that some of her internal organs had to be removed. She died two weeks later at a hospital in Singapore. The crime set off demonstrations and started a debate about the treatment of women in India and prompted tougher punishment for sexual abuse.

Following public outcry, the government created five fast track courts to try rape and sexual assault cases. In December 2012, the Delhi High Court reprimanded the Delhi police for being evasive in their investigation. The Delhi Police initiated action against three police station personnel for their inaction in responding to an alleged robbery of a carpenter by possibly the same bus occupants who were involved in the gang rape. Later in December 2012, two assistant Commissioners of Police were suspended for failing to prevent the gang rape incident.

In January 2013, Awindra Pratap Pandey testified at the trial. The trial lasted about seven months ending in July 2013. On September 10, 2013, four men – Vinay Sharma (a gym assistant), Akshay Thakur aka Kumar Singh (bus cleaner), Pawan Gupta aka Kumar (fruit vendor) and Mukesh Singh (either the bus driver or his brother) – ages 19-28 – were convicted of murder, rape and kidnapping and sentenced to death by hanging. Judge Yogesh Khanna said the crime shocked the collective conscience of India and deserved capital punishment. Amnesty International India denounces the death penalty stating that the defendants need to be punished but the death penalty is never the answer. Death sentences issued by Indian courts have rarely been carried out in the past decade. No executions took place between 2004 and 2012. The 2012 execution was of the surviving gunman from the 2008 terrorist attacks in Mumbai who was hanged.

The fifth defendant, Ram Singh (maybe the bus driver), 35, was found dead in his jail cell in March 2013. It is reported that he hanged himself. His family claims that he had been murdered.

A juvenile court convicted the then-17 year 6 month old juvenile in August 2013 and sentenced him to three years in a special juvenile correctional facility, the maximum sentenced allowed.

In March 2014, the Delhi High Court found all the defendants guilty of rape, murder, unnatural offenses and destruction of evidence and confirmed the death sentences. In March 2014 the Supreme Court of India stayed the execution of two defendants to allow them to make their appeals. As of December 2014, the Supreme Court has not ruled on their appeals.

It is said that in India a rape happens every 22 minutes.

In December 2014, the victim's father called upon the government to fulfill its promises of reform. The government has passed tougher anti-rape laws, introducing the death penalty for repeat offenders and imprisonment for acid attacks, human trafficking and stalking. Government figures show that the number of women reporting rapes have risen significantly and attribute that to victims feeling more emboldened to come forward than they did before. In 1971, 2,487 rapes were reported; in 2011 there were 24,206. In Delhi, by October 2013, 1,330 rapes were reported as compared to 706 for the entire 2012 year. Human rights activists believe that prosecution of these crimes has improved in India, but in the long run, there needs more emphasis on the family and schools to resolve the root problem. The victim's family has established the Nirbhaya ("fearless") Trust, an institute to assist women who have experienced violence to find shelter and legal assistance.

Filmmaker Leslee Udwin interviewed some of the defendants for her documentary, *Indian's Daughter*. She found that the perpetrators were not monsters, but symptoms of societal disease. The bus driver Mukesh Singh told her that the rape wasn't his fault but the victim's fault – she was out too late, asking for trouble and fought back. "When being raped, she shouldn't fight back. ... She should just be silent and allow the rape.... The death penalty will make things even more dangerous for girls. Now when they rape, they won't leave the girl like we did. They will kill her." In March 2014, Udwin's film was banned in India.

Rapes continue in India:

March 2015 - A nun whose age is between 70-74 was gang raped in West Bengal after she tried to stop them from robbing a missionary school.

February 2015 - Eight were arrested for a Haryana gang rape and murder of a mentally ill Nepalese woman. A ninth man is being sought.

February 2015 – A Japanese student is raped in Rajasthan by 20 year old tour guide.

January 2015 – Five men arrested in eastern India for kidnapping and raping a Japanese student

May 2014 – Two teens found hanging from a tree outside their village in northern India may have been gang raped.

April 4, 2014 – A court sentenced three men to hang for raping a 23 year old photojournalist in Mumbai in 2013.

January 23, 2014 – Thirteen men are held in West Bengal for a gang rape of a woman, allegedly on orders of village elders who objected to her relationship with a man

January 15, 2014 – Danish woman is gang raped after losing her way near her hotel in Delhi

Indian workers win labor case

Indian workers found that paying \$12,000 to labor recruiters who promised good shipyard jobs and green cards was all a lie. They landed in Pascagoula Mississippi with 10 month worker visas, were packed into a guarded labor camp, and forced to pay \$1050 to bunk with 23 other men in a double wide trailer. They were regularly searched and denied any visitors. When they considered looking for alternative housing, Signal International told them that the housing fee would still be deducted from their pay. They were trapped. One worker was prevented from walking out by a guard and locked up. Quitting meant financial ruin, one man attempted suicide.

In February, the Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC) won justice for five of these Indian workers. It took a seven year legal battle and a four week trial in federal court. The federal jury awarded them \$14 million after finding that Signal International, New Orleans lawyer Malvern Burnett and India-based recruiter Sachin Dewan engaged in labor trafficking, forced labor, fraud, racketeering and discrimination. The jury also found that one of the men was the victim of false imprisonment and retaliation.

Lawsuits on behalf of another 200 Indian workers are pending with legal representation collaborated by SPLC with top law firms providing pro bono representation. Together the cases are one of the largest labor trafficking cases in US history.

The H-2 guest worker visa program was exploited by Signal International. These visas allow employers to import workers on a temporary basis, but these workers are not allowed to change jobs if exploited. If they are fired or quit, these workers face ruin and disgrace back home. Signal used the H-2 program to recruit nearly 500 workers to work repairing Gulf Coast oil rigs and related facilities damaged by Hurricane Katrina. An economist estimated that Signal International saved more than \$8 million in labor costs by hiring guest workers.





My Sister's House

My Sister's House – Human Trafficking Updates

In the fall of 2015, My Sister's House formally launched its "Making a Beautiful Difference" campaign, in partnership with several local clubs of Soroptimists International. The campaign includes a training on human trafficking outreach, followed by a charge to visit area nail and beauty salons to discuss human trafficking and services My Sister's House provides to assist victims. To date, over twenty-five nail and beauty salons have been approached as part of this campaign. If your organization is interested in participating in the "Making a Beautiful Difference" campaign, please contact L. "Rico" Ozaki, Human Trafficking Specialist at My Sister's House. She can be reached at ricoomsh@gmail.com (double O's in ricoomsh) or by calling (916) 930-0626.

As a core partner of the Sacramento Rescue and Restore Victims of Human Trafficking Coalition, My Sister's House organized a legal training titled "Trafficking, Sexual Assault in the Workplace and Employment Discrimination." William Tamayo, Regional Attorney for the United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, San Francisco District, conducted this free training on April 21. Attendees learned about civil rights laws remedies available to victims of sexual assault and sexual harassment. Mr. Tamayo's examples of successful EEOC litigation on behalf of victims included labor trafficking scenarios. Attending attorneys received 2.0 MCLE credits through Women Lawyers of Sacramento.

The April 21 training was a program of the Legal Forum, a committee of the Sacramento Rescue and Restore Coalition. Legal professionals interested in joining the Legal Forum can access the application and pro bono attorney forms through the My Sister's House Human Trafficking webpage, at <http://www.my-sisters-house.org/getting-help/human-trafficking/>.

Finally, on Thursday, May 28, My Sister's House will host a special movie night featuring some short human trafficking films. The movie night will be at the former location of the Sacramento Works Career Center, 915 Broadway, in Sacramento. Feel free to bring a comfortable chair or blanket to sit on the floor. Contact My Sister's House Human Trafficking Specialist L. "Rico" Ozaki (contact information above) to register for the free film night.

Tule Lake Research Underway

The Asian Bar Assn. of Sacramento Law Foundation has received a Japanese American Confinement Sites Research Grant of \$47,400. The funding comes from the federal Japanese American Confinement Sites program for archival research. The project will focus on the Tule Lake concentration camp and segregation center. The ABAS Law Foundation co-applied for the grant with the authors, and administers it as the authors' fiscal agent. Foundation CFO Jerilyn Paik is carrying out the Foundation's grant administration.

"To Tell an Untold Story." The grant will assist noted historian Roger Daniels and writer-activist Barbara Takei in their research about the Tule Lake Segregation Center. The story of the Tule Lake Segregation Center is largely untold, perhaps because its subjects, the Japanese American protesters of the race-based wartime deprivation of civil liberties, have been stigmatized for seven decades as "disloyals."

"Book Under Contract." The University of Washington Press has awarded authors Daniels and Takei a contract for the book that will result from the research. The book's topic and tentative title is "America's Worst Concentration Camp."

"Authors Uniquely Qualified." Professor Emeritus Roger Daniels is the author of more than a dozen books including *The Politics of Prejudice; Concentration Camps, North America; Prisoners without Trial*; and, in 2013, *The Japanese American Cases: The Rule of Law in Time of War*. He was a consultant for the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians. He is regarded as the founding dean of Japanese American studies. Barbara Takei, a Tule Lake descendant, co-wrote *Tule Lake Revisited*, a site guide and short history now in its second edition, and wrote "Legalizing Detention: Segregated Japanese Americans and the Justice Department's Renunciation Program," *Journal of the Shaw Historical Library*, Vol. 19 (2005).

"Research Has Multiple Uses." This research seeks archival records for two purposes in addition to the co-authors' book about Tule Lake. First, these records will help the National Park Service's Tule Lake Unit to interpret this largest, most complex, and most repressive of the ten War Relocation Authority concentration camps. Second, Densho, a Seattle nonprofit, will digitize these documents to make them available on its website, www.densho.org, which is an extraordinary public resource for research and learning.

"Grant Program To Teach about Injustice." The National Park Service's Japanese American Confinement Sites grant program helps preserve and interpret the confinement sites where Japanese Americans were incarcerated during World War II. "As America's storyteller, the National Park Service is committed to sharing this tragic episode of our nation's past and what it teaches us about the fragility of our constitutional rights," said National Park Service Director Jonathan B. Jarvis. "The goal of the program is to teach present and future generations about the injustice of the World War II confinement history and inspire a commitment to equal justice under the law," the Park Service said.

More information about the project can be found at <http://www.abasfoundation.org/TuleLakeResearchProject>.



Asian Pacific American Heritage Month History

May is Asian Pacific American Heritage Month (APAHM) and a time to nationally recognize the accomplishments of the Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) community and highlight their contributions to the development of arts, sciences, government, military, commerce, and education in the United States.

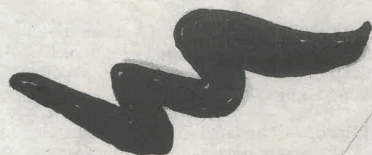
• In June 1977, Representative Frank Horton of New York and Norman Y. Mineta of California introduced a House Resolution to call the first ten days of May, "Asian Pacific American Heritage Week."

• In October 5, 1978, President Jimmy Carter signed a Joint Resolution designating the week as an annual celebration.

• In May 1990, Congress passed a Joint Resolution to extend the week out to an entire Asian Pacific American Heritage Month.

• Finally in 1992, an Act was passed to ensure the continuation of APAHM as an annual celebration.

The celebration takes place in May to commemorate important events in Asian American and Pacific Islander history. On May 7, 1843 the first Japanese immigrants came to the United States. Golden Spike Day on May 10, 1869 marks the anniversary of the completion of the transcontinental railroad, a valuable project that connected the United States through railroad and took years for laborers to complete. A majority of the workers who laid the tracks were Chinese immigrants.





IMSC 17 Planning is Underway

Planning for lu-Mien Student Conference (IMSC 17) got off to a good start Wednesday evening, April 22, when 12 people attended the initial kick-off event and more than half were returning volunteers. After a brief introduction about what is IMSC, we got to learn more about our potential volunteers – students from JC Davis and Sac State, professionals from CA State Dept. of Education and Finance, and representatives from local businesses and hospitals. We learned that new volunteers expressed their interest in wanting to learn more about lu-Mien community and how they can bring visibility to their peers. Former volunteers shared that they want to continue inspiring youth to embrace their roots through education and future careers. Ten out of the 12 have filled out positions to take on for IMSC 17. The Seventeenth Annual lu-Mien Student Conference (IMSC), is scheduled to take place on Friday, February 26, 2016, at the California State University, Sacramento Student Union.

Founded in 1999, IMSC has consistently provided role models of successful lu-Mien or struggling lu-Mien high school and middle school students, helping them gain a vision of a better future. Since its founding, its three-fold mission has been to: (1) empower lu-Mien youth to pursue higher education and/or explore career opportunities, (2) educate them on the importance of preserving ethnic culture, and (3) inspire them to become community leaders. Since its founding, some 7,000 youth have attended, approximately 80% of whom have been inspired to complete high school and pursue college degrees. Many return as volunteers or in other ways give back to Sacramento's large lu-Mien community.

IMSC is one of four major programs of lu-Mien Community Services. Other programs are S.A.E. Mien Youth Club, a weekly after-school club for lu-Mien high school and middle school students; Healthy Village, a biweekly gathering of up to 80 elderly lu-Mien; and ComMIENity Language Program, an intergenerational bilingual class teaching both spoken and written Mien and English.

For further information about IMSC 17, please contact Susun Saephanh at ssaephanh@unitediumien.org or (916) 383-3083.

Muslim school board candidate smeared

Basim Elkarra, an American of Palestinian descent, is running for the Twin Rivers Unified School District board – and his ethnicity is being used against him in campaign literature distributed to voters in April. The special election is May 12th.

Elkarra, as the executive director of the Sacramento branch of the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR), has been a visible spokesperson for the Muslim American community. CAIR advocates for Muslim American civil rights and promotes understanding and respect for the Muslim faith.

In April, inflammatory fliers were sent through the mail or dropped into mailboxes in the North Natomas and Robla areas anonymously to purposefully inflame anti-Muslim sentiment. The crude fliers show Elkarra with a man incorrectly identified as co-conspirator in the 1993 World Trade Center bombing and implies that Elkarra has ties to terrorist groups. A picture of Elkarra with young Muslim women at a youth conference implies that he is untrustworthy. His opponent Sonja Cameron in this election has denounced the fliers.

Anti-Muslim sentiment has caused Elkarra undue attention before. In 2006, US Senator Boxer was going to give Elkarra a community award but withdrew it because CAIR-affiliated persons were engaged in financial dealings with a leader of Hamas and another was indicted for conspiracy. Elkarra has received death threats and like Japanese Americans during WWII, his loyalty has been questioned.

Elkarra wants to serve on the school board because the Twin Rivers district is one of the lowest-performing school districts, he wants to turn that around and raise his family there.

National Park Service AAPI Initiative

The National Park Service Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage projects explore how the legacy of Asian American Pacific Islanders can be recognized, preserved, and interpreted for future generations. The National Park Service, as a storyteller of our Nation's past, is committed to connecting and amplifying Asian American and Pacific Islander stories throughout national parks and communities across the US.

On March 10th the National Park Service and White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders hosted a webinar on the AAPI Historic Sites Campaign. This campaign is part of the AAPI Heritage Initiative which aims to recognize and honor the stories, places, and people of AAPI heritage as part of our entire country's history.

Of the more than 2,500 sites designated as National Historic Landmarks, AAPIs are represented by only 17 of these sites—reflecting a startling deficiency in light of the community's rich contributions to American society. The main goal of the AAPI Historic Sites Campaign is to identify historic sites that are significant to our communities, and the National Park Service

wants help to identify them!

There are several available grant programs, some of which provide funding after a site has been designated or listed – one example is the Japanese American Confinement Sites Grant Program. The National Trust for Historic Preservation also has information about grants and funding opportunities.

Being listed in the National Historic Register (NR) or designated as a National Historic Landmark (NHL) does not give ownership of the property to the Federal government in general or the National Park Service in particular. National Historic Landmarks are owned by private individuals; by local and state governments; by tribal entities; by non-profit organizations; and by corporations. The Federal government owns fewer than 400 NHLs (less than 16% of all NHLs). The laws that govern private property rights still apply to designated landmarks.

Private property owners do not have any federal government restrictions on what can be done with the property. Only when federal funding is involved is the review process called Section 106 triggered. Section 106 reviews allows the federal government to assess whether a federal project may have a negative impact on the property and how to mitigate potential damage.

Some National Historic Landmarks:

Angel Island Immigration Station Foundation, (AISF) worked closely with faculty and students at UC Berkeley and UC Santa Cruz, especially in the area of oral histories. These have been incorporated into a range of documents, including the interpretive resources for exhibits, books and publications, funding proposals, legislative/executive action documents, and promotional materials.

Wing Luke Museum of the Asian Pacific American Experience, Seattle, has been designated an "affiliated area" of the National Park Service – a designation to recognize the national significance of properties that are privately owned and operated but encompass important aspects of our nation's heritage for which an official association with the Service would be mutually beneficial.

Kooskia Internment Camp, Idaho, has been the topic of an online seminar by Dr. Stacey Camp, University of Idaho who examines materials recovered in the form of artwork, gaming pieces, vases, and other artifacts from the WWII prison.

Golden Spike National Historic Site, where the first transcontinental railroad in the US was completed in 1869 between the Central Pacific and Union Pacific Railroads. The Central Pacific included more than 10,000 Chinese laborers, who had built the line east from Sacramento, California.

Locke and Walnut Grove: Havens for Early Immigrants in California are part of the Historic Places Program to trace the experience of early Asian immigrants and the obstacles they encountered as they struggled to make a living and find a place in American society.

Manzanar National Historic Site is the best preserved of ten camps at which Japanese American citizens and Japanese aliens were imprisoned during World War II.

Pearl Harbor - The USS Arizona, traces the course of the Japanese surprise attack on the US Pacific Fleet at Pearl Harbor, and considers the significance of the sunken USS Arizona as a war memorial.

Hawaii National Monument Named

On February 19th, President Obama designated three new National Historic Monuments - Browns Canyon in Colorado, the historic Pullman Neighborhood in Chicago, and the Honouliuli on the Hawaiian Island of Oahu. Honouliuli was an internment camp for Japanese Hawaiians during WWII.

The site, located in a gulch in central Oahu, was used to imprison thousands of Japanese Americans living in Hawaii. 25 miles northwest of Honolulu, it is the largest and longest operating WWII Japanese American confinement site in Hawaii. In contrast to the mass incarceration taking place on the mainland, Japanese American community leaders and those with close cultural or economic ties to Japan were selectively targeted and detained throughout Hawaii. Over 350 Issei and Nisei were arrested in the first 48 hours, following the attack on Pearl Harbor. Over 2,200 were imprisoned by the end of the war. These people were detained at a number of sites across the Hawaiian Islands.

Honouliuli was opened in March 1943 to hold US citizens and resident aliens of Japanese, German and Italian descent, as well as Japanese prisoners of war. The area had over 150 buildings, guard towers and tents on a 160 acre site. The internee population was 320 and most were detained for more than three years and none were ever charged with a crime.

Honouliuli was closed in 1946 following the last of the prisoner of war repatriations and the site was sold as farmland. The site and its history were largely forgotten until the Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii began to research and document its history in the 1990s, and rediscovered the site in 2002.

In 2009 Congress authorized the National Park Service to do a special resource study to review Honouliuli for the National Park System. In 2014, over 6,000 signatures were delivered to support inclusion of the site into the system.

Why Ferguson Matters to Asian Americans

By Glenda Li

This Thanksgiving break, while updating my dearest mother, I casually mentioned that I might move to Canada one day. She seemed extremely annoyed at this. I speculated that she might have thought how ridiculous it was that her family used everything they had to move to America to provide a better life for my generation of Chinese-American cousins just to have me move to Canada. I explained to her that I am so fed up with this country's institutional racism and systematic oppression that I would gladly move to Canada to try to escape it.

With all the recent protests and talk about Ferguson, I asked my mom if she had been keeping up with any of the news. I tried to explain institutional racism to her, but her response was, "Obama is president now, everyone is fine with black people now." WHAT!? How could my own mother be so blind? I asked if she knew that my sister and I will probably never receive the same paycheck as a white person in the same position. She simply turned her back to me and said the two weren't even related. I could not believe what I was hearing and I know that she is not alone in her opinion, especially in the parental Asian American community.

Growing up in San Francisco, I attended a K-8 school that was very diverse and exposed my young mind to many different people and ideas that my conservative immigrant parents still do not understand. San Francisco is obviously a mecca for liberal ideologies, and even in my third grade classroom, I was taught that there is nothing wrong with homosexuality, that only the love between people mattered. In high school, I attended a school that was 61% Asian American, 52% being exclusively Chinese-American. Although I found solace in having such a huge community of Asian Americans to relate to, I can honestly say those four years were very blinding. I was exposed to racial issues going on in the country but my community never acted on racial issues, as if none of them were relevant to us.



Labeled as "model minorities," Asian Americans receive a lot more slack in the eyes of many institutions, but we are clearly not exempt from structural oppression. I know that while I am extremely fortunate to have been born with a "positive" label, it is actually more of a curse. I constantly struggle with the fear of being looked over simply because of my skin color and stereotypes associated with it. Let me explain: When I was applying to college, my 62% Asian American peers and I struggled to find any scholarships aimed towards Asian Americans. Also, it wouldn't be earth-shattering to me if someone white was hired instead of me simply because they look like they would have better English communication skills. We are put on a pedestal to show other minority groups "how they should behave," yet we are perpetually oppressed in order to maintain the status quo of white America. There just doesn't seem to be a way to win for any minority group. The issues surrounding Ferguson and the #blacklivesmatter movement are not exclusive to Blacks; Asian Americans need to realize despite their "success," that they are not exempt from oppression and that as long as you are not white and wealthy, someone is putting policies in place to keep all minorities down.

At UC Davis, my closest friends comprise of seven brilliant and conscious people spanning nearly every color of the human rainbow. Over the years, I have gained perspectives on the first-generational experience of many different ethnicities. It is chilling to hear of the oppression that they have faced from nearly every institution (education, criminal justice, health care, etc.) as well as outright racism from people, especially now that I have a familiar face to match the injustice to. It is also equally painful to hear the loss of hope sometimes present in their voices. Although I myself find optimism challenging at times, I truly believe that the time has come for immense change in this nation. Our generation has opened its eyes to the harsh realities that surround us and will no longer stand to be silenced by oppression.

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A PHOTO FROM THE EATON COLLECTION (SEE ARTICLE ON PAGE ONE.)

CALENDAR

Continued from Page 12

May 16 Sat **iFest**, presented by Rancho Cordova. Village Green Park (3741 Bridgeway Dr, RC). Info: info@ranchocordovaJuly4th.com, shelly@cordovacouncil.org

May 16 Sat **Jan Ken Po Cultural Assn's Living in Sacramento's Nihonmachi (Japan Town)**. 1-3pm at ACC (7334 Park City Dr, Sac, former Merryhill School). Before World War II there were more than 50 Japan-towns in California, today only three exist - San Francisco, San Jose and Los Angeles. For the early Japanese immigrants, Nihonmachi was the gathering place and haven from the racial prejudice of the broader community. People came to Nihonmachi from the surrounding area, where there were marks, doctors, dentists, hotels, boarding houses, pool halls, restaurant, soda factory, pharmacy, sweet shops. \$5 donation. Info: 916/422-8783, jkpc21@yahoo.com

May 16 Sat **My Pake Golf Classic**, in memory of Milt Yee. Noon shotgun at South Area Country Club (Bing Mahoney Golf Course, Sac). \$80/person includes dinner at Hunan Garden (Elk Grove). Proceeds going to American Cancer Society and UCSF ALS Research. Info: Miles Nakatogawa milesn@prodigy.net, 916/835-6024

May 16 Sat **CAAM Cinema Showcase at the Asian Heritage Street Celebration**. A hour long program featuring eight short films. 230pm at Asian Art Museum (SF). Info: www.caamedia.org

May 18 Mon **My Sister's House 14th Anniversary Gala**. 530pm-VIP Reception, 7-830pm performance. Local celebrities, talents, leaders, and supporters take the stage to perform and entertain. \$100/VIP ticket, \$50/general. Info: 916/930-0626, info@my-sisters-house.org

May 19 Tue **ACC Senior Services "Understanding Vision Loss."** 1030-1130am at ACC Senior Services (7334 Park City Dr, Sac). A representative from the Society for the Blind will discuss vision loss and the variety of programs and services designed to help people of all ages with vision loss continue leading enriched and fulfilling lives. Free. To register: 916/393-9026 x330, classes@accsv.org.

May 20 Wed **Stonewall Democratic Club 12th Annual Awards Dinner-Four Freedoms**. Woodlake Red Lion Hotel (500 Leisure Lane, Sac). \$125/person. Tickets: www.sacstonewall.org

May 22 (Elk Grove), June 5 (Sacramento) **Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR) Legal Days Tours**. Free legal advice - discrimination in the workplace, school, visa/citizenship delay, airport/border profiling, FBI interrogations, hate incidents and Know Your Rights Forum. Info: sacval@cair.com, 916/441-6269.

May 23 Sat **PACT Workshop for Adults: Lifetime Journey: Managing the Complexity of First/Birth Parents in Adoption**. 9am-1230pm in Oakland. Info: www.pactadopt.org

May 28 Thu **Asian Real Estate Assn of America 6th Annual Golf Tournament**. 1130am check in, 1pm shotgun at Morgan Creek Golf Club (8791 Morgan Creek Lane, Roseville). Info: Daniel Takata 916/233-5240.

May 28 Thu **Invictus Foundation: 2nd Annual**

Champion Banquet. Honoring Rick Jennings and Stephanie Nguyen for their dedication to youth. Invictus's mission is to heal invisible wounds of war. 530pm at Happy Garden Restaurant (5731 Stockton Blvd, Sac). \$55/person, \$500/table of 10. Info: Wayne Kitade 916/709-9449, wkitade@gmail.com

May 28 Thu **My Sister's House: Short human trafficking films**. Sacramento Works Career Center (915 Broadway, Sac). Bring a chair or blanket. Info: Rico Ozaki ricoomsh@gmail.com 916/930-0626.

May 28 Thu **ACC Senior Services "Domestic Violence and Elder Abuse."** 10-11am at ACC Senior Services (7334 Park City Dr, Sac). Every year, over one million Americans over the age of 65 have been victims of domestic violence. This workshop presented by Victims of Crime Resource Center staff, University of the Pacific, McGeorge School of Law, will cover what is domestic violence, how to spot it, and what to do if you are a victim. Free. To register: 916/393-9026 x330, classes@accsv.org.

Jun 4 Thu **ACC Senior Services "Maximizing Your Memory."** 2-4pm at ACC Senior Services (7334 Park City Dr, Sac). This presentation by the Alzheimer's covers how memory works, the difference between normal & abnormal memory loss, tips for increasing your memory, and three keys to maintaining brain health. Free. Pre-registration requested. Call: 800/272-3900, ptardio@alz.org.

June 5 Fri **TOFA/Sutter Health plus: Passport to Health and Wellness**. Free health screening, blood work, diabetes products, healthy cooking demonstrations, free samples. 4-8pm at Elk Grove Regional Park (Rotary Grove). Info: Ofa Mann, ofamann@tpcp.org

June 5 Fri **Asian Peace Officers Assn: 22nd Annual Community Service Awards Banquet**. 530pm mixer, 630pm dinner at Happy Garden Restaurant (5731 Stockton Blvd, Sac). \$50-60/APOA members, \$60-70/non members. Info: Randy Kajioaka, rkajioaka@sacapoa.org

June 6 Sat **Northern California Soy and Tofu Festival**. 11am-5pm at Peace Plaza (SF) and Buchanan Mall (SF Japantown). An event to educate the public about the health benefits and uses of soy and tofu. Festival: vendors, performances, competition, raffle, children's activities, nonprofit booths. Info: www.soyandtouffest.org

June 7 Sun **Filipino Fiesta of Sacramento 2015**. 10am-5pm at Jose Rizal Center (7320 Florin Mall, Sac). Free. Parade, food vendors, exhibits, career fair, health fair, car show, Eskrima Tournament, hip hop and children's activities. Info: www.sacramentofiesta.org

Jun 18 Thu **ACC Senior Services "Hospice 101."** 1-2pm at ACC Senior Services (7334 Park City Dr, Sac). When medical treatments cannot cure a disease what decisions do you have next? Join us for an informative hour on end-of-life care benefits through Medicare Part A presented by VITAS Healthcare. Free. To register: 916/393-9026 x330, classes@accsv.org.

Jun 18 Thu **ACC Senior Services "Planning for Seniors."** 7pm at ACC Senior Services (7334 Park City Dr, Sac). Tom Nakashima, along with Deborah Short of Planning for Seniors, LLC, will be hosting another informational get-together. They will be revisiting some of the most important issues for Boomers with aging parents... including funding options for

elder care... and asset protection in California, so bring your questions. Eddie Fong (also a Planning for Seniors client) will provide the world famous "Eddie Treats." Free. To register: 530/671-3308.

June 19-21 **Sacramento Juneteenth**, by Sacramento Juneteenth Inc. William Land Park. Info: Gary Simon 916/541-2582, garysimon05@gmail.com

Jun 25 Thu **ACC Senior Services "Summer Safety."** 10am-12pm ACC Senior Services (7334 Park City Dr, Sac). This training addresses simple things seniors can do to make themselves less of a target. We will also talk about scams that are directed toward seniors. Free. To register: 916/393-9026 x330, classes@accsv.org.

Jun 25 Thu **ACC Senior Services "Telephone Use in Emergencies."** 10am-12pm at ACC Senior Services (7334 Park City Dr, Sac). When there is an emergency, do you have a backup plan if cell towers or telephone lines are disabled? In this workshop, we will provide some things for you to think about in the event of an emergency. In addition, we will review some Basic Safety Tips for Natural Gas. Free. To register: 916/393-9026 x330, classes@accsv.org.

July 2-7 **PACT Family Camp**, a gathering of adoptive families with children of color. Tahoe City CA. In 2014 PACT Family camp had 9 first/birth parents and 35 adult adopted and fostered alums who served as mentors and educators. Of the 97 families participating, 33 families in attendance were formed through foster-adoption; 22 families had internationally adopted children and 40 adopted their children as infants domestically; 30% LGBTQ-headed families and 24% single parents. Info: PACT, An Adoption Alliance, 510/243-9460, info@pactadopt.org

July 11 Sat **Jan Ken Po Gakko 40th Year Festivities**. Jan Ken Po Gakko has the distinct honor to be the first Japanese American cultural school established in California. 1-4pm at SJUMC gymnasium (6929 Franklin Blvd, Sac). Light refreshments. \$10-15/adults, \$5/students, Under 12 free, Hands on crafts for children. Info: John and Marlene Itagaki 916/427-8108

July 11 Sat **CAPITAL Meeting**. 830-11am at Sacramento Sheriff Central Station (7600 65th St, Sac). Info: Sonney Chong, sonney.chong@att.net

July 11 Sat **Sacramento Asian Sports Foundation: Annual Benefit Dinner Show**. Featuring Taiko project. 5pm cocktail/dinner, 7pm performance at SASF (9040 High Tech Ct, E.G.) Admission \$25-30/person, box dinner \$10-12/person. Info: www.sasfquest.org, Karen Cotton 916/739-1616.

July 30-Aug 2 **Muslim Youth Leadership Program - Leadership and Empowerment Conference 2015**. For Muslim high school student from across California who will learn about the legislative process, receive hands-on training on civic engagement and media advocacy, gain insights and career advice from top executives and meet other Muslim students. Applications at: bit.ly/MYLP20215

Aug 1-2 (3-6th graders, \$20/player), 15-16 (7-12th graders, \$30/player). **Sacramento Asian Sports Foundation (SASF) "The Challenge."** An unique event to test and showcase hoop skills in several competition. 9am at SASF (9040 High Tech Ct, E.G.) Info: www.sasfquest.org

Aug 10-13 **Sacramento Asian Sports Foundation Basic Hoops Clinic**. 6-730pm at SASF Community Center (9040 High Tech Ct, E.G.). \$45/person. Info Jan Ichiho coach11@yahoo.com

Aug 27 Thu **ACC Senior Services "Effective Communication Strategies."** 2:30-4:30 at ACC Senior Services (7334 Park City Dr, Sac). Learn to decode verbal and behavioral communication by someone with Alzheimer's and other dementias. Participants leave with strategies for meaningful connections with people in early, middle and late stage dementia. Free. Pre-registration requested. Call: 800/272-3900, ptardio@alz.org.

Sept 12 Sat **CAPITAL Meeting**. 830-11am at Sacramento Sheriff Central Station (7600 65th St, Sac). Info: Sonney Chong, sonney.chong@att.net

Sept 13 **ABAS 27th Annual Golf Invitational**. 8am shotgun start at Turkey Creek Golf Club (Lincoln, CA). \$150/golfer. Info: golf@abaslawfoundation.org.

Sept 26 Sat **Sacramento Asian Sports Foundation Hiroshima 2015 "Another Night to Remember!"** Crest Theater (Sac). Info: www.sasfquest.org

Oct 2 Fri **Chinese American Council of Sacramento (CACCS): Gold Mountain Celebration**. Asian Pearl Restaurant.

Oct 3 Sat **Sacramento Aloha Festival**. Cal Expo.

Oct 5 Mon **Invictus Foundation: 2nd Annual Champions Golf Classic**. 8am at Valley High Country Club (9595 Franklin Blvd, E.G.) Info: www.invictusfoundation.net, Norm De Young ndeyoung@yahoo.com, 916/230-3684

Oct 11 Sun **Asian Pacific American Political Alliance (APAPA): Voters Education Forum**.

Oct 17-18 **Hiroshima** is playing at Yoshi's Jazz Club (510 Embarcadero West, Oakland). Info: 510/238-9200, www.yoshis.com/oakland

Currents Faces, New Places

Isao Fujimoto is the 2014 recipient of the Eric Bradford and Charlie Rominger Agricultural Sustainability Leadership Award. Fujimoto, lecturer emeritus of community development and Asian American Studies at UCD, was a founding member of the Asian American Studies program. The award recognizes the leadership, work ethic and integrity of Fujimoto's over 40 year commitment to California agriculture, rural communities and social change.

Korematsu Elementary School in Davis was honored by the Southern Poverty Law Center, as one of 104 schools nationwide, as a Mix It Up Model School. The recognition is for exemplary efforts to foster respect and understanding among students and throughout the campus.

Hasan Minhaj grew up in Davis and recently joined the cast of Comedy Central's "The Daily Show" as a correspondent. Minhaj's achievements include being named Comedy Jam's Best Comic Standing in 2008, touring with NBC Stand-up Diversity, appearing on "Chelsea Lately," MTV, "Arrested Development" on Netflix and HBO's "Getting On." His Sundance Institute

New Frontier Story Lab solo show "Sakoon" (Hindi for "peace of mind") premiered in March on Broadway. Minhaj hopes to open up a conversation about racism, disenfranchised teens; and his struggle bridging the Indian world of his parents and the white world of Davis and now New York.

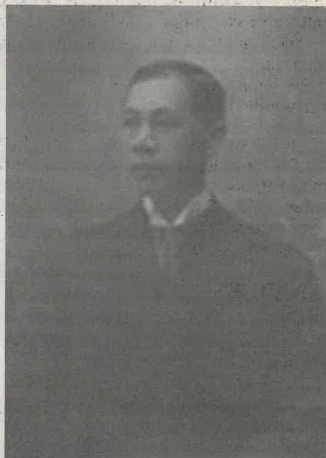
Masood Cajee of Stockton received the 2015 White House Conference on Library and Information Services Award, the highest national award given to a non-librarian advocate for public libraries. Cajee serves on the board of the Library and Literacy Foundation for San Joaquin, chair for Strong Libraries=Strong Communities group, and also serves on the Executive Committee of CAIR.

Grace Lee won a George Foster Peabody Award for "American Revolutionary: The Evolution of Grace Lee Boggs," a film about the 99 year old Chinese American author, social activist, philosopher and feminist.

KW Lee was honored May 11 by the California State Legislature's Asian Pacific Islander Legislative Caucus for excellence in journalism.

Wanda Shironaka selected as Administrator of the Year by the National Assn of Federal Education Program Administrators. Shironaka is Program Manager Title I with the San Juan Unified School District.

Debra Nakatomi has been appointed to the California Wellness Foundation in Santa Monica.



Chinese lawyer admitted to Bar posthumously

More than a century after Hong Yen Chang was denied a license to practice law in California on the basis of laws that discriminated against Chinese immigrants, the Supreme Court of California has granted him posthumous admission to the bar, thanks to the efforts of UC Davis School of Law students.

Students in the law school's Asian Pacific American Law Students Association (APALSA) petitioned the court last year on behalf of Chang, pointing out that the laws that prevented him from practicing as an attorney have been

discredited and repealed and asking the court to "right this historic wrong."

In a March 16TH opinion that includes "a candid reckoning with a sordid chapter of our state and national history," the court granted Chang posthumous admission as an attorney and counselor in all California courts.

"This is a historic moment for all Chinese Americans in California because a terrible wrong has been righted today by the California Supreme Court," said Rachele Chong, a California lawyer and a grandniece of Hong Yen Chang.

Chang first came to the United States and attended Yale as part of the Chinese Educational Mission, a pioneering program initiated by the Chinese government, and later returned on his own to study law. He earned a degree from Columbia Law School in 1886 and sat for the New York bar exam by special act of the legislature. When he was admitted to the New York state bar, The New York Times reported that Chang was the first Chinese immigrant admitted to any bar in the United States. In 1890, he came to California with the intention of serving San Francisco's Chinese community as an attorney.

At that time, the federal Chinese Exclusion Act banned Chinese immigrants from naturalizing as citizens, and a California law prohibited noncitizens from practicing law in the state. Taken together, these laws made it impossible for people of Chinese descent to earn law licenses in the state. Chang petitioned the California Supreme Court, but in *In re Hon Yen Chang*, he was denied admission to the bar.

Last year, with support from the UC Davis School of Law Supreme Court Clinic, the private firm Munger, Tolles & Olson, and UC Davis Law Professor Gabriel "Jack" Chin, APALSA's faculty adviser, the students petitioned the State Bar of California and California Supreme Court on Chang's behalf. Their success delighted Chang's descendants, many of whom still live in the San Francisco Bay Area.

"Sadly, the xenophobic attitude of the times caused the Supreme Court to deny my qualified great uncle Hong Yen Chang the right to practice law in California," said Chong. "Our family is thrilled that this clearly racist decision of *In re Hong Yen Chang* is reversed. On behalf of the descendants of Hong Yen Chang, we thank the California Supreme Court for removing this case off the books. We are also extremely grateful to the UC Davis APALSA and Professor Jack Chin for their dedication to righting this historic wrong done to our great uncle."

"Among legal scholars, the 1890 decision was a notorious symbol of the racism of the era," said Chin. "The laws of California and the United States were intended to rid the country of Chinese and other Asians. It is particularly poignant that this historic decision comes from what is perhaps the most diverse state Supreme Court in the country, at the request of the UC Davis APALSA, future lawyers many of whom would have been barred under the 1890 decision."

CALENDAR

Thru May 9 **Chinese America Theatre of the Sierra CATS production: "Young Love during World War II"** – Henry Lee relives memories of Seattle in the 1940's and the internment of his childhood sweetheart. Based on Jamie Ford's New York Times Best Seller "Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet." Nevada Theatre (401 Broad St, Nevada City Info: info@catsweb.org, 530/265-2990

Thru July 31 **Locke Foundation presents: Gateway to Gold Mountain** photo exhibit on the Angel Island experience. Thu-Sun 11am-430pm on Locke Main Street (Locke). Free

May 8 **Islamic Circle of North America: Why Islam Sacramento – 6th Annual Supporters Dinner.** 630-9pm at Mack Powell Event Center (2003 Howe Ave, Sac). \$15/person, \$30/family. Free babysitting. Guest speakers: Imam Tahir Anwar and Imam Aamir Nazir. Info: www.ICNASacramento.org, 916/426-8182.

May 9 Sat **Locke Centennial Celebration.** 11am-5 pm on Main Street in the town of Locke featuring historical presentations, entertainment, and food. Free. Lunch event is sold out. Info: www.locke-foundation.org

May 9 Sat **CAPITAL Meeting.** 830-11am at Sacramento Sheriff Central Station (7600 65th St, Sac). Info: Sonney Chong, sonney.chong@att.net

May 9 Sat **Nichi Bei Foundation and Nichi Bei Weekly Fundraiser and Preview of 5th Annual Northern California Soy and Tofu Festival.** Fundraiser. 2-4pm at Berkeley Bowl West (920 Heinz Ave, Berkeley) Sponsorships available. Info: www.nichibei.org, www.soyandtofu.org

May 11 Mon **Asian Pacific Islander Legislative Caucus Foundation's Third Annual Asian & Pacific Islander Heritage Month Gala.** 5pm

reception. 6pm dinner/awards program at Sacramento Convention Center. \$100/person, sponsorships \$750-\$25,000. RSVP apilcf@gmail.com

May 12 Tue **ACC Senior Services "How Lighting Affects Vision & Health."** 10:30-11:30am at ACC Senior Services (7334 Park City Dr, Sac). This workshop will focus on how the eye changes throughout our lifetime, common eye diseases, along with breakthroughs in technology. Free. To register: 916/393-9026 x330, classes@accsv.org

May 13, Jun 10, Jul 8, Aug 12 Wed **ACC Senior Services Family Caregiver Support Group.** 12-1pm at ACC Senior Services (7334 Park City Dr, Sac). Self-help group run by and for people with challenges/life changing situations involving caregiving for a loved one with memory decline, such as dementia/Alzheimer's disease, and mild cognitive impairment (MCI). Free. Info: Soojin Yoo, 916/393-9026 x326, syoo@accsv.org.

May 13 Wed **ACC Senior Services "Grief and Coping Skills."** 1-2pm at ACC Senior Services (7334 Park City Dr, Sac). This workshop will provide an overview of the grief process and will include coping skills based on William Worden's Four Tasks of Mourning. Free. To register: 916/393-9026 x330, classes@accsv.org.

May 14, Jun 11, Jul 9, Aug 13 Thu **ACC Senior Services Free Phone & PG&E Bill Review Clinics.** 2:30-4:30pm at ACC Senior Services (7334 Park City Dr, Sac). Are you paying too much for phone service? Is your PG&E bill unusually high? Bring a recent phone bill (residential or wireless) or PG&E bill to see if we can save you money. Info: Susan Sarinas, 916/393-9026 x339, team@accsv.org.

May 14 Thu **ACC Senior Services 9th Annual Golf Tournament.** At Teal Bend Golf Course, scramble format, open & women's flight, and reception. Info: Don Morishita, 916/424-2953, or Brian Chin, 916/393-0796.

May 14 Thu **Asian Bar Assn of Sacramento (ABAS) Law Foundation 13th Annual Wine & Food Tasting Event.** 6-830pm at Pavilions Shopping Center (Fair Oaks Blvd, Sac). \$40/person, ABAS members 2/\$65. Info on sponsorships: winetasting@abaslawfoundation.org

May 14 Thu **OCA 2015 Dragon Boat Festival Celebration/20th Anniversary Gala.** 6-9pm at Sheraton Grand Hotel (1230 J St, Sac). Honoring past OCA presidents. \$90/person, \$40/student, \$720/table of 8. Info: Jinky Dolar, jinky.dolar@crossingstv.com, 916/203-3707, Linda Ng lingmh@sbcglobal.net

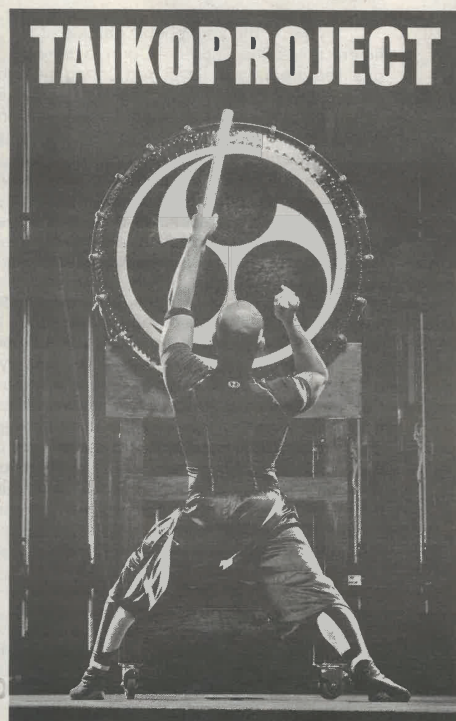
May 14 Thu **Center for Asian American Media (CAAM): Creating Award Winning Documentaries.** Discussion of "Harana" creators Florante Aguilar, Fides Enriquez and Peggy Peralta. Free. Apple Store San Francisco. RSVP www.apple.com/retail/sanfrancisco.

May 15 Fri **APAPA: 150th Anniversary Celebration: Chinese Building of the US Transcontinental Railroad 1865-2015.** Opening Ceremony/Celebration Gala at California Railroad Museum (Sac.) Info: www.railroad150.com, railroad150@outlook.com

May 15 and every Friday **Tarbiya Institute's Tafseerah program** (Tafseer, Seerah) Imam M.A. Azeez to lead this study of an alternative approach to the Quran. 630-830pm at Rocklin Parks and Recreation (5460 5th St, Rocklin). Snacks, monthly potluck. Info: www.tarbiya.org

May 15 Fri **My Sister's House: Cinco de Mayo Fiesta and Day of Giving.** 8am-3pm at My Sister's Café (455 Capitol Mall #110, Sac). Online donations \$25 (get a drink), \$50 (entrée), \$100+ (add dessert). Info: my-sisters-house.org

Continued on Page 10



SACRAMENTO ASIAN SPORTS FOUNDATION Annual Benefit Dinner Show

Featuring **TAIKO PROJECT**

Saturday, July 11, 2015

9040 High Tech Court, Elk Grove, CA 95787

5:00 p.m.	No Host Cocktails/Benefit Raffle
5:00 - 6:45 p.m.	Box Dinners Available
7:00 p.m.	Open Theater Seating Performance
Admission Ticket	\$25 pre-sale \$30 at the door
Box Dinner	(Choice of Steak or Rotisserie Chicken)
	\$10 - Presale
	\$12 - Performance Night

Tickets can be purchased online at the SASF website - www.sasfquest.org or by contacting Karen Cotton at 916-739-1616.

No refunds once tickets have been purchased.

No outside food or beverages permitted.

Proceeds will be used towards our community building expansion (Phase 2)