To help the New York ethnic enclave recover from Sept. 11th, the state launches a business development effort, but at what cost?

By LYNDA LIN
Assistant Editor

At Fortune Furniture, a family-owned business with a 10-year history in New York’s Chinatown, traditional hardwood chairs are placed next to modern futons. It’s a merchandising trick that owner Steven Tin uses to keep up with the times. Tin, 50, grew up in Chinatown, the largest Chinese ethnic enclave in the United States. Over the years, he has seen his old neighborhood expand further out to the Lower East Side to accommodate what he calls “the new immigrants and yuppies” looking for housing in Lower Manhattan.

Fighting for Eternal Peace

A group of Korean veterans are suing a cemetery in the outskirts of Los Angeles for fraud, misrepresentation.

By LYNDA LIN
Assistant Editor

In the grassy area, Kunsup Chang, 82, saw more than a final resting place—he saw eternal glory. A former air force major in his native land during the Korean War, Chang immigrated in 1970 to the United States in search of a better life. Then as the saying goes, life happened. His family thrived and he became a U.S. citizen, but thoughts about the future continued to cloud his mind. Where would he rest in his adopted land?

Hope broke through one day in 2001 when Chung and a group of Korean veterans were bused to Oakdale Memorial Park in Glendora, Calif. On the pastoral grounds, they were promised a one-of-a-kind Korean War veterans’ memorial. This was where he would be buried among other veterans, promised the cemetery salesperson in Chang’s native language of Korean. In-language brochures with color sketches of the memorial were pushed in their hands.

But five years later, not one stone has been moved to build the material and the elderly veterans who bought plots but could not wait for what was promised to them, are buried in scattered parts of the cemetery. When questioned about the memorial, an Oakdale employee said they were temporary resting places for the veterans while the memorial was being built, said Chang through a translator.

In early January, Chang along with 16 other Korean veterans who bought plots sued the cemetery for fraud, false advertising and misrepresentation.

“We wanted to be buried together as veterans,” Chang said slowly rubbing his hands together. He signed the English-only contract to buy two plots for $3,500. “At the time we room for office buildings. But before demolition can begin, the local JA community wants the area declared a California Historical Landmark and have asked owner

APAs Successfully Campaign Against Racist T-Shirts

Spencer’s, a national retailer of novelty items, sold racist caricatures, stereotypes, said community members.

By LYNDA LIN
Assistant Editor

Spencer’s, a popular national retailer, is discontinuing the sale of three racially offensive T-shirts in response to protests from the Asian Pacific American community. “I would like to express Spencer’s deepest regrets for any offense derived from merchandise carried out in our stores,” said Spencer’s Public Relations Manager Mike Champion in a Jan. 19 letter to a Web blogger who initiated the protest. The T-shirts priced at $30 for two, featured Asian caricatures and lewd jokes that many considered racist. One paired a cartoon of a bucktooth, slant-eyed Asian man wearing a queue under a straw hat with the message, “Hang out with your Wang out.” Another featured a

Jefferson County, Texas to Honor Mayumi Family

By CAROLINE AOYAGI-STOM
Executive Editor

Sometimes good things result from controversy. Although the town of Fannett in Jefferson County, Texas may be better known as the place where residents fought a 12-year battle against renaming controversial “Jap Road,” the town now plans to build an historical marker in honor of a local pioneering Japanese family. “As the Fannett residents pass by the historical marker in honor of a local pioneering Japanese family, they may wonder why the town of Fannett is receiving national attention.”

Dirk novo

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Reader Finds 'Haole Hubby Club' Article Offensive

The Haole Hubby Club's article, "Top 10 Reasons to Marry a Haole" lists reasons for marrying white men such as "they think you're exotic" and "your children have a decent chance of being taller than 5'1". While claiming that they do not promote interracial marriages. While I'm sure this article was written light-heartedly, I found it offensive because it only promotes Asian American women according to typical mass-media stereotypes as physical objects of desire and fantasy.

Most appalling was that this article was superficially "antiracism". Such marriage by only discussing exchanges such as artifacts, food, producing mixed-race offspring, "spring", as well as alluding that interracial marriages are an Asian-white phenomenon. Why is it necessarily for these women to implicitly disparage Asian and mixed-race men? Why can't they describe their husbands on qualities other than their race? One way to measure the worth of their spouses and themselves on factors other than physicality and race.

Although I believe in the idea of white masculinity while further in this article implies that being a caucasian is a Darwinian disaster ideal of white masculinity while further associating AA women according to typical mass-media stereotypes as physical objects of desire and fantasy.

As JACL is an ethnic interest group that strives to eradicate stereo-

types that prevail both here and among the rest of the world, all AA's, I believe we have a social responsibility to lead by example. Before we expect others to take us seriously and work with us to eradicate stereotypes of AA's in our community and institutional domains, we must first work within our own community structures to insure that the written and spoken words are congruent with our organizational goals.

The purpose of this letter is to ask your readers for information about playing golf in "camp". I don't know that Ponst II had two "camps", a 9-hole course behind Block 220 and another 5-hole course near Block 209? Did your camp have a course? Do you remember playing golf in the camp? Did you have any of these graphs you are willing to share?

As a nine-hole course, I added it because I think the "camps" where I was in camp. I bought a wood stand with the dime. But, that's another story.

If you know of anyone who played golf in camp, please write to me.

Mar Hashimoto Watsonville, CA
Alito Ascends to Supreme Court

JACL strongly opposes the nomination based on the judge's record on affirmative action, Constitutional protections.

By P.C. Staff and Associated Press

Despite strong opposition from civil rights and Asian Pacific American groups, Samuel Anthony Alito Jr. was confirmed Jan. 31 as the 110th Supreme Court justice in one of the most partisan votes for a high court nominee in modern history.

Alito was confirmed 58-42, the smallest number of senators in the president’s opposing party to support a Supreme Court justice. But one of the Senate’s majority Republicans voted for his confirmation, while all but four of the Democrats voted against Alito.

JACL voiced strong opposition to Alito’s nomination to the Supreme Court based on his “judicial leanings that would make temomn the Constitutional protection of American citizens,” said JACL Executive Director John Tateishi in a letter to the Senate Judiciary Committee.

“Judge Alito’s legal opinions and writings over the past several years have left a clear record of an individual whose legal views could have serious negative impact on the nation’s Asian American communities,” the letter stated.

JACL joined 60 other national organizations opposing the nomination based on Alito’s past opposition to affirmative action programs, support of racial discrimination in employment cases and a “proclivity to undermine due process and privacy protections.”

Alito, a former federal appellate judge, U.S. attorney, and conservative lawyer for the Reagan administration from New Jersey was selected as the replacement for retiring Justice Sandra Day O’Connor, who has been a moderate swing vote on the court.

It was his Reagan-era work that caused the most controversy during his three-month candidacy for the high court.

Critics noted that while he worked in the solicitor general’s office for former President Reagan, he suggested that the Justice Department should try to chip away at abortion rights. He also wrote in a 1985 job application for another Reagan administration post that he was proud of his work helping the government argue that “the Constitution does not protect a right to an abortion.”

Democrats unsuccessfully tried to rally support to filibuster Alito.

Alito was ceremonially sworn in Feb. 1 in a White House East Room appearance.

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Last Link to Truckee’s Chinatown Has New Lease on Life

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

TRUCKEE, Calif.—The last link to Truckee’s 19th century Chinatown has a new lease on life after undergoing a painstaking two-year restoration.

The Chinese Herb Shop, built in 1878, will now be leased for retail or office space. It was unveiled at a ceremony staged by historians, builders and others recently.

The structure is the only building to survive fires that ravaged the Sierra town’s Chinatown, said Gordon Richards, president of the Truckee Donner Historical Society.

“It is the last remnant,” he told Truckee’s Sierra Sun newspaper. “That’s what makes it so important. All the other buildings downtown have burned down.”

Contractor Steve Isbell preserved historic materials of the building while making it structurally sound.

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JACL Credit Union Gets New Vice President

Dean Hirabayashi is the new executive vice president of the National JACL Credit Union.

He has 21 years of credit union experience in management and operations. He also has been a prior board member of many community organizations as well as a Credit Union board member for the past decade.

Hirabayashi is a member of the JACL Mount Olympus chapter in Salt Lake City.

Salinas Valley Honors Scholarship Winners, Educators

The Salinas Valley JACL, awarded eight graduating high school seniors with scholarships for outstanding participation in their schools and community.

The winners are: Nicole Cimeron (also the winner of the student essay contest), Samantha Couch, Jeremy Hayashi, Ryan Kong, Kevin Kurumara, Kari Yamamoto and Tracy Yamamoto.

Dr. Pamela Durkee was also honored with the Outstanding Educator of the Year Award.

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By P.C. Staff and Associated Press

Former ‘Loveline’ Host Mocks APA Awards

Hate Media (CAHM) have blasted Carolla and parent company CBS for anyone, “but declined to comment further.”

The incident took place in early December when Fawcett said, “As long as I’m chief, we won’t have any gooks working in Farmers Branch.”

Fawcett apologized for the comment, and said he has no bias against anyone of Asian or Vietnamese heritage. Fawcett was chief of police in Farmers Branch for 15 years, and had worked for the city for 32 years.

Sun Mercantile Building Makes Endangered List

PhoenixSun Mercantile is the last building of a once thriving Chinatown. It is also at the heart of a $200 million, 39-story luxury hotel and condominium development being prepared by Phoenix Suns majority owner Robert Sarver and his development partners.

The list comes on the heels of a lawsuit filed to save the building by organizations representing the APA community, historic preservationists and neighborhood associations.

APA Professors Land on Political Blacklist

Three APA university professors have been targeted by a Web site’s research on left-wing professors. UCLA Law Professor Jerry Kang, historian Vinita Lal and Lecturer Kent Wong made the Web site’s “Dirty Thirty” list because of their reported history of “radical” ideology. The site is run by the British Amuriit Association, a non-university affiliated organization that recruited student surveillance to reveal professors who promote their political views in class.

All those “targeted” are seeking to formulate a collective response.
PIINEDALE
(Continued from page 1)
Graman Partners and the city of Fres­to help remember the former Pinedale residents by building a per­manent monument.
"It's very important that this memorial be something that teaches the future generation what hap­pened and why," said Hirabayashi, 79. His older brother Gordon is well known for his efforts to be in­terned and taking his fight all the way to the Supreme Court. "Thismemori­cal is important because of the histori­cal lesson on racism - it isn't over by a long shot."

The JACL Central California District and the Central California Nikkei Foundation have formed the Pinedale Memorial Project Committee and attended a Jan. 10 Fresno City Council meeting to discus­si the proposed California Historical Landmark status for the former assembly center. The Fresno Historic Preservation Commission has already approved the nomination of the site to the local register of historic resources.

The city council will revisit the issue at its March 7 committee meeting asked for an explanation.
"The memorial is a reminder that in the history of civil rights there is a tendency to value civil liberties less and make compromises," said Dale Ikeda, a Superior Court Judge, and chair of the memorial committee. He noted the similarities between the internment events follow­ing the Sept. 11 attacks. "The issues are still relevant.

The proposed Pinedale Memorial has garnered the support of several city council members including District 2 Councilman Brian Calhoun whose area encompasses Pinedale.
"I think it's a good idea. All the parties involved want - I want - a memorial to be there," he said. "We won't want this to be a very nice place . . . a part of the past, yet a celebration that we've moved beyond that."

But so far community members and the property owner have not been able to agree on several issues, including where the memorial will be located and how large it will be. "We're looking for a compo­romise," said Calhoun, who is hopeful that an agreement can be reached by the time the city council meets again in February.

The owners had offered a memo­rial within a 90-foot traffic turn­around and $25,000 with the condi­tion that the memorial site be operat­ed by the city of Fresno. But mem­ber committee rejected the idea believing the turnaround area would cause a traffic hazard and does not allow passersby a chance to appreci­ate the memorial.

The committee wants a 5-acre of land adjacent to the turnaround for the memorial and $101,000 for land­scaping and interpretive materials for the memorial. Architect Irv Miyamoto and landscape architect Paul Saito have volunteered their time and expertise following the proposals of the Historic Preservation Commission will be approved by the House. The bill was also the former location for the Sugar Pine Lumber Co.

Dr. George Suda, 90, had just got­ten out of Dental College when he entered the Pinedale Assembly Center with his parents and sister.
"It was a desert, a place where no

T-SHIRTS
(Continued from page 1)
Buddha image with a joke about penis size and one was emblazoned with an image of a rooster and "Stik Man Cock."
"Our choice of the pieces you described was unfortunate, but we never intended to disrespect or cast racism on any ethnic groups," continu­ed Clumpton in the letter. "It is our mission to offer unique, unusual and, other surprising products — prod­ucts that simply cannot be found anywhere else. Obviously, we usually get accolades for our inspiring and entertaining assort­ments."

Since 1947, the Spencer's chain has been hawking novelty items and humorous gifts targeted at 18-25 year-olds.

Mr. Au explained to the Spencer's chain administrator that products illustrated that racism against Asians is socially tolerated and acceptable, and it dis­credited the Asian/Asian American com­munity.

Online retailers like David and Goliah, Inc., T-shirt Hell and large chains like Burlington Coat Factory have all drawn criticism for their Asian-themed apparel.

Particularly, the T-shirt with the image of Buddha juxtaposed with the reference to the penis, which she said would not have been taken lightly had it been another religious deity.

"But both Au and Leong say Spencer's ethnic humor is directed only at Asians. Spencer's didn't respond to the Pacific Citizen's request for comment. The P.C. also found the Buddha T-shirt on sale at a Torrance, Calif., AIDS, another novelty store. A man representing he wasn't aware of the T-shirts and therefore couldn't comment.

Online retailers like David and Goliah, Inc., T-shirt Hell and large chains like Burlington Coat Factory have all drawn criticism for their Asian-themed apparel.

The occurrences point to a larg­er issue.
"These products illustrate that society accepts that racism against Asians/Asian Americans is socially tolerated and acceptable, and it dis­credited the Asian/Asian American com­munity."

His father was interned separately.
"Suda would eventually end up at the Gila River camp and Hata spent time in Tule Lake. Both men agree that a Pinedale Memorial is a good idea.
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**Kosakura Tours & Travel Presents: KOREAN DRAMA & HIGHLIGHTS TOUR**

A Unique Trip to Korea!

- **Included Highlights**
  - Seoul, Chuncheon, Cheju Island, Busan, Gyeongbok Palace, Gyeongju, Donghae, and DMZ
  - Korean Folk Village, Gyeongju Art Museum, and Bullguksa Temple

- **ELK GROVE TOYOTA/SCION**

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- **Other Highlights**
  - Jagalchi Fish Market, Yong Du San Park, and Dongducheon

- **Show**

- **KOREAN DRAMA**

- **Kosakura Tours** & Travel Presents:

- **Leadership Conference and Medicare**

- **FLOYD MORI**

- **Leadership Conference and Medicare**

- **LA DOR to Focus on Mexican ‘Reparation’ Campaign**

- **Blue Cross of California**

- **Monterey JACL Receives $15,000 Preservation Grant**

- **Monterey Peninsula JACL recently received a matching grant from the Thomas Doud Sr. and Anita M. Doud Fund I of the Community Foundation for Monterey County for its building preservation project.**

- **The historic JACL Hall on Adams Street was given historic landmark designation in 2001 as one of the last Western Style Fire buildings in Monterey and the old-est continuously operating social hall in the Japanese American community in Monterey.**

- **Built in 1926, the building has served as a community center, meeting, church and school. More recently, the building has become an Asian cultural center and hosts a variety of community activities including Japanese and Chinese language classes and cultural classes in bosaai, taiko drumming, judo, and jujitsu. It is also the meeting place for Veterans of Foreign Wars Nisei Memorial Post 1629.**

- **Kosakura Tours and Travel**

- **Since 1947 the JACL HEALTH TRUST has offered Health Care coverage to JACL members**

- **Blue Cross of California is committed to keeping you connected to quality health care services.**

- **Seniors on Medicare within JACL should have received information from various sources about the new Medicare Prescription Drug Program by now. JACL had endeav­•

- **or to acquire grant money to assist the chapters in implementing a program of informing our members. Although JACL was not successful in obtaining funds, it is anticipated that our chapters are able to help with this program. Many chapters have already held information meetings.**

- **The Medicare Prescription Drug Program is available to EVERY­BODY who is in the Medicare program. There is extra financial help for special categories of individuals. Both brand name and generic medi­cines are dispensed through the program.**

- **There are four phases for a recipient to participate in the prescription program: 1. Understanding what the program is; 2. Deciding whether or not to enroll in the program; 3. Choosing the specific plan in which to enroll; and 4. Joining or enrolling in the program.**

- **The initial enrollment period for those who are eligible is from Nov. 15, 2005 to May 15, 2006. In order to get coverage, an individual must enroll. Specific information may be found by going to the Web site www.medicare.gov. If you are not comfortable using the computer, ask a son or daughter, friend or neighbor to assist you. Each chapter president or representative should have received a resource kit from Medicare to assist in implementing this program. These were supplied to the district govern­ors by Medicare to assist our members. The Centers for Medicare Services (CMS) will provide all the training and materials needed by the chapters to serve their communities. Specific training can be performed on a district basis or regional basis corresponding to the geographical divisions of CMS. JACL would like all its members and friends to be able to maximize their health dollars by understanding and possibly using the CMS Prescription Drug program.**

- **Floyd Mori is the JACL Washington, D.C. representative and a former JACL national president.**

- **2006 DAY OF REMEMBRANCE**

- **National Museum, Little Tokyo**

- **Feb. 15, 8:00 p.m.**

- **Free - No reservations required**

- **Info: Call NCCR at 213/689-3464, PSWC at 213/308-4471, or the National Museum at 213/305-3414**

- **The program is co-sponsored by Abilities for Civil Rights and Humanities (ACRH), the PSWC-JACL, and the National Museum**
CHINATOWN
(Continued from page 1)
Manhattan’s limited real estate mar­
et. The ability to adapt to his sur­
rounding community has been cru­
tial for his business, which like oth­
er’s in the area, was almost brought to financial ruin after the Sept. 11th terrorist attack.

After the World Trade Towers collapsed near Chinatown, Tin lost 30 percent of his business. Since then recovery has been slow.

“I really involved in the com­
munity, so I get a lot of referral busi­
ness. Other business owners may not have that,” he said.

To encourage economic recovery from the 2001 terrorist attacks, New York Gov. George Pataki and leg­
islative leaders in January declared Chinatown an Empire Zone (EZ), a tax-free business zone. Businesses are now eligible for a laundry list of incentives including a 10-year exemption from state sales tax and special reduced utility rates.

The news came as a welcomed surprise for Tin who hopes the EZ designation will help the commu­nity recover.

“Any help from the government is good. Chinatown faces a lot of prob­lems,” he said. “I am positive about it. I have an open mind.”

But other business owners see the EZ desig­
nation as a seal of ill­
fate for McDonald’s and a Starbucks embedded in an or­
matically Chinese architectural façade. Some fear that the new tax-free designation lays down a welcome mat for big businesses.

Philip Seid founded the Original Chinatown Ice Cream Factory 28 years ago with his brothers and now runs it with his daughter, Christine. The colorful shop at 65 Bayard Street attracts a cult following and has earned many critic’s awards for its Asian blend of gourmet ice cream and sorbet. But even with the suc­
cess, Seid, 56, is worried about the future of his shop.

“Simply because we’re like these,” he said between heavy sighs, “very few survive.”

He too grew up in a Chinatown of a different time where a family could open a restaurant and sustain a living by just catering to their community members. Now busi­
nesses have to draw in heavy traffic in order to just stay afloat. He expresses concern about the money that is coming into Lower Manhattan and how it may be squeezed out.

The real estate is going up like crazy. Small time businesses like mine can’t keep up. I think when

our lease is up we’re going to have some problems,” said Seid.

Chinatown like the one in Washington, D.C. underwent revi­
talization efforts and emerged as a community center for Asian Pacific American residents than a playground for consumers. And the danger of New York’s Chinatown losing its soul is very real, according to Peter Kwong, profes­
sor of urban affairs at Hunter College.

To revitalize an urban area like Chinatown, the city usually looks to encourage more business development and down by investing in beautification and remodeling efforts. But to Kwong, “improve­
ment” is a relative term with many con­
sequences.

“These changes are a mixed bag that people are not thinking about,” he said. “When thinking about these changes, people need to ask the question: ‘At what cost?’”

The cost here may be the authen­
ticity of New York’s Chinatown, which unlike other enclaves of its kind is a place where people live, work and play. Approximately 150,000 people currently call Chinatown’s packed 32 square blocks home.

“It’s an organic hole,” said

Kwong. “You encourage tourism, you’re making the streets safer, cleaner, building new attractions, but that does not help the people who are living there.

“Everyone’s good for ethnic communities,” he said.

But many agree Chinatown needs help. It had been suffering a slow decline even before the terrorist attacks. Reports cite that almost one-third of Chinatown workers lost their jobs after Sept. 11 and the median household income is about $33,000, according to the most recent U.S. Census figures.

“The Empire Zones are useful economic tools to rebuid economic viability,” said John Wang, presi­
dent of the Asian American Business Development Center. “Empire Zones attracts business to come or expand.”

Every community goes through transformations, but some worry that these so-called improvements will change the very nature of Chinatown and make it economi­cally out of reach for its APA residents.

“Authenticity is not how a store­
front looks. Authenticity is not how Chinese people are still patrons,” said Kwong. “The revitalization effort must maintain culture, but not the people.”

JACL Masaoka Fellowship Deadline is April 1

The program is an oppor­
tunity for students to develop leadership skills in public service.

JACL is now seeking candidates for its Mike M. Masaoka Fellowship, an annual program that places extraordinary students in Congressional offices to learn about public policymaking firsthand.

For three and one half months, the successful candidate will serve his or her fellowship in the office of a U.S. Senator or a member of the U.S. House of Representatives. The fel­
low will receive an $8,500 stipend and roundtrip airfare to Washington, D.C.

The fellowship period may be the full term (September-December 2006) or the spring term (February­
May, 2007) and will be arranged with the Congressional office and the fellow.

All students who are at least their third year of college or graduate/professional programs and who are U.S. citizens are encouraged to apply.

Preference will be given to those with a demonstrated commit­
tment to Asian Pacific American issues, particularly those affecting the Japanese American community.

The JACL established the Mike M. Masaoka Fellowship Fund in 1988 to honor Mike M. Masaoka (1915-1991) for a lifetime of out­
standing public service in promoting justice, perseverance and
dependence.

The most recently selected fellow was Michelle Sugi of Apple Valley, Calif., who just completed serving in the office of Sen. Daniel Inouye, D­

Hawaii.

When you call the JACL Long Term Care Call Center you have to invest in making the

right choice for you and your family. The JACL’s Professional Advisory Committee includes experts in this area of care.

JACL Pacific Southwest District recently received a $10,000 grant from Southern California Edison to renovate its Web site. The new Web site includes a comprehensive calendar of events and news. The updated site will aid JACL’s advocacy efforts on core issues including hate crime prevention, leadership development, educa­
tion and youth-related matters.

Pictured (L-R) Edison Public Affairs Region Manager Marissa Castro-Salvati, former PSWDC Program Director Gerald Kato, PSWDC Administrative Assistant Carol Saito and JACL National President Ken Inouye.

Oregon Memorial Needs Donations to Commemorate WWII Evacuation

The permanent public artwork will be created by bronze sculptor David Clemens and artist Kengo Kobayashi. The bronze sculpture of a young girl sitting atop stacked luggage will be the heart of the memo­
rial. Along the perimeter, rock columns with embedded graphics of Yasui, Fred Korematsu and Gordon Hirabayashi, along with other sym­

bolic pictures, will depict the signifi­
cance of justice, perseverance and honor.

An educational program is also in the works to tell the heroic stories of the 100th/442nd Regimental Combat Team and the Military Intelligence Service.

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PSWDC Receives $10,000 Grant

To ‘help the Eugene JA Memorial Committee and the Eugene JACL Foundation meet their July 26, 850,000 goal send donations to:

Lane Arts Council, EAAM Eugene JA Memorial Project Smith Family Bookstore 750 4th Ave Eugene, OR 97401

Ihara, Smith Family Bookstore 541-345-1651 Contributions are tax deductible.

Shopping for Long-Term Care Insurance? Don’t know who to trust?

The JACL established the Mike M. Masaoka Fellowship Fund to honor Mike M. Masaoka (1915-1991) for a lifetime of out­
standing public service in promoting justice, perseverance and
dependence.

The Spirit Mountain Foundation has given the organizations a chal­
genue of $50,000. It is to be matched dollar-for-dollar by July 26, 2006.

The memorial will be built on the corner of Hurt Center for the Performing Arts, the cultural hub of the city of Eugene and the point of assembly for the evacuees in 1942.

"The real estate is going up like crazy. Small time businesses like mine can’t keep up. I think when
From Feb. 10-26, our athletes go play on ice, snow and Italian fields in hopes of coming home with some gold. Meet the APA Olympians ready to take the Winter Games by storm.

**APA Olympians See Gold in Torino**

**Figure Skating**

Rena Inoue

Born: Oct. 17, 1976 — Hyogo, Japan
Training Town: Los Angeles, Calif.
'05-'06 Highlights
• 1st at State Farm US Championships ('06)
• 4th at Trophee Eric Bompard
• 2nd at Skates America

Inoue began skating at four when her doctor suggested it might help her asthma. She went on to become a two-time Olympian for Japan in singles and pairs, but lists her life defining moment as her decision to compete for the US. Along with partner John Baldwin, 32, Inoue made history at the US. Figure Skating Championships where they successfully executed a throw triple axel.

Michelle Kwan

Born: July 7, 1980 — Torrance, Calif.
Training Town: Artesia, Calif.
The most decorated figure skater in U.S. history, Kwan has won an unprecedented 42 championships, including five World Championships, seven consecutive and eight overall U.S. Championship titles, and two Olympic medals, but the gold remains elusive. Kwan made the Olympic team with a stir of controversy. She was picked after petitioning U.S. Figure Skating, which granted the figure skater one last shot at gold.

And while she may not be the same skater who went to Nagano and Salt Lake City as the gold-medal favorite, she remain a contender.

**Speedskating**

Hyo-Jung Kim

Born: Nov. 6, 1988 — Seoul, South Korea
Residence: Colorado Springs, Colo.
Program: US. Elite Short Track Team
Career Accomplishments
• American Record Holder for 1000 meters
• '04 World Cup Team

Kim started speedskating when she was 11 years old at her elementary school. It was the only sport she has ever done before coming to the US. She likes the speed of short track and because “it is helping to make my body strong.”

Apolo Anton Ohno

Residence: Colorado Springs, Colo.
Team: U.S. Elite Short Track Team
Career Accomplishments
• 2002, 2006 Olympic
• 2005 World Cup Overall Champion
• '05 2nd Place World Champion
• Two-time Olympic medalist

When Ohno set foot in South Korea for the first time after he won the gold medal in 2002 — when a South Korean was thought to be unfairly disqualified — 100 riot policemen were at the airport to protect him. He will face rival Ahn Hyun-Soo in an epic battle on the ice in Torino.

**Ice Hockey**

Julie Chu

Born: March 13, 1982 — Fairfield, Conn.
Position: Forward
Career Accomplishments
• First Asian Pacific American woman to compete on the U.S. National or Olympic Hockey Team
• 2002 Olympic Winter Games
• 2004 World Championships, silver

As a student at Harvard University, Chu is one of the highest scoring players in the history of the school and was named Ivy League Rookie of the Year in 2003. At eight, her parents started her in figure skating, but less than one month later, Chu was on the other side of the rink shooting slapshots. Chu does not speak Chinese fluently and her grandmother does not speak English, so they use the “thumbs-up” signal to communicate during games.

**Family Curlers**

Bob Fenson
Coach
... But there’s nothing more rewarding to me than taking and molding four junior curlers into a national “champion.”

Pete Fenson
Position: Skip
Born: Feb. 29, 1968 — Bemidji, Minn.
His curling hero is his dad.

Eric Fenson
Position: Vice-Skip
Delivers: Right-handed
Born: Mary 6, 1971 — Bemidji, Minn.
I grew up watching my parents curl. I was always at the club and traveling around watching my dad curl with his men’s team.

PHOTOS: U.S. CURLING ASSOC.
W e had just seen over 40 people audition to get into our Asian American theater group the past several days, and we were tired as heck.

The people auditioning for the coveted slots were of all Asian descent, every new and then a non-
Asian dropped in because after all, there really aren't any major theater groups on campus other than ours.

"I can also, you know, play the white best friend sidekick if you ever need someone," one Caucasian girl wryly informed me and two other staff members when asked how she would be able to contribute to the theater group.

Now how many times do you see this scenario? A white person trying to get into a predominantly AA organization. Talk about reverse affirmative action.

One Asian American woman in my theater group was recently offered a role, as the first time a non-Asian had been offered a lead role in our theater group in our entire history. She's a senior and this is her senior year, which means she'll have graduated before the next theater season is in full swing, and she'll be living outside of L.A. Until then, she'll have a medium bubble tea with Thai iced tea, and make sure the tapioca pearls are extra fresh.

It's pretty cold here (in southeastern Australia, -10°C/14°F, Snow, 54- inches deep! Roads are frozen, so I wear my good old golf shoes that have spikes! TIME FLIES SO FAST! The older you get, the faster Time shrinks! Hoping you and your family enjoy the Yuletide atmosphere to its fullest. Do to that, forget all worldly trifle (sic) matters and RELAX. Don't of thinking! You may agree the world is Crazy, the weather's Crazy! But Elders like us who have survived the war, coming through all adversities, should calmly enjoy the rest of their lives. Right?

The German greetings from Frank Fukuzawa are simply — Happy Christmas and a Good New Year. And I wondered how many Nisei our age, besides me, agree with him to 'calmly enjoy the rest of our lives'.

Yet, there are concerns with the arrival of the new year, 2006. This will be a "chunch" year for George W. Bush. The sixth-year in office for a president can be precarious agenda-wise, especially for Mr. Bush in wake of hurricanes Katrina and Rita. To maintain an ever keel, Bush keeps saying: "We're fighting the enemy in Iraq and Afghanistan and across the world, so we do not have to face them here at home."

Makeup of the next Congress may reflect how deep the chunch is. The numbers to remember — all House seats are in contention: 231 Republicans and 202 Democrats. In the Senate are 55 Republicans, 44 Democrats and 1 Independent. Up for election are 15 Republicans and 18 Democrats. Many remember the scar of the Vietnam conflict of the 1960s.

How much will Iraq play with voters in the chunch? Social Security, Medicaid, globalization, trade with China may be greater determinants come November. And if America in Japan continue to change, U.S. nuclear-powered vessels can enter their waters. Our troops stationed in Japan are leaving Okinawa, Will an anti-American thrust in Japan ripple across the Pacific and subtly or damage whatever precious persons of Japanese ancestry enjoy today?

While JA baby-boomers now reaching 60 (our Sunsei folk) have made their Jewish heritage carry more money than their parents did, the Spanish term Tercer Edad, "the Third Age," fits them well.

Turning to Latin America, the dominant feature for 2006 is the number of presidential races that began with Bolivia and Chile in December, Guatemala in February, Peru on April 9, Colombia in May, Mexico in July, Brazil and Ecuador in October, Nicaragua in November and Venezuela in December.

The Rafi Shimpo has kept the Alberto Fujimori in Japan on its front page since his return to his hemisphere by private jet from Tokyo to Santiago. He was my choice as the top Nisei of the 20th Century. Two and a half years ago during my week in Bolivia after the PANA convention, I asked the Japanese journalist there first headlined him being form a political party to seek the presidency again.

This is the Year of the Dog ("Inu-no-Toshi"), the animal regarded as friendly, beneficent and protective in Japanese folklore. Status of a dog, together with the lion, guard entrances of many temples.

Dog-year people, according to Chinese fortunetellers, inspire other people's confidence and knowledge as an animal private secrets absolutely private. They have a deep sense of duty and loyalty, are extremely honest and always do their best to make good relationships with people. But they have "terribly sharp tongues; are not good at social gatherings, somewhat selfish and terribly stubborn."

In Japanese history, Shogun Tairaya (1646-1709) was so fond of dogs that he was nick-named Inu-Kobo (Dog Prince). He was born in the Year of the Dog and called for special respect in the treatment of dogs. Because he was so severe enforcing his edict, the resentment that followed damaged his reputation.

Those who were born in 1910, 1922, 1934, 1946, 1958, 1970, 1982, 1994, or this Year of the Dog, are according to one Chinese soothsayer (in Google), "can look forward to a year in which to really shine, win or professionally." Among the famous people born in the Year of the Dog are Bill Clinton (1946) and George W. Bush (1946).

I allow this final quote from Harry Fukuhara's Christmas letter. "For many, (the year) 2006 means they are in the dog-house or dog-tired and to others being good at dog-test, dog-paddle and dog-slap. We are lucky dogs to have you as a friend."

FOAM WHICH WE KNOW THAT YOUR BIG FANS WANT TO KEEP UP WITH THE BIG BOYS ON THE SCREEN.
Untangling English Slang

Q&A with May Pare, waitress, author and idiom expert.

During the day, May Pare took orders, chatted with customers and served food at a Southern California restaurant where she has been a familiar face for over two decades. While refilling coffee mugs, she would often overhear customers make puzzling expressions.

What exactly does "butt ugly" mean? What exactly did a person need to do to their 

by LYNDA LIN

Assistant Editor

During the day, May Pare took orders, chatted with customers and served food at a Southern California restaurant where she has been a familiar face for over two decades. While refilling coffee mugs, she would often overhear customers make puzzling expressions.

What exactly does "butt ugly" mean? What exactly did a person need to do to their...
An exhibit of arts and crafts held at Minakura, circa 1943. Gift of Fumiko Haraguchi Kato.
OBITUARIES

In Memoriam - 2005-2006

All the towns are in California except as noted.

Amano, Yuzo Orshi, 85, Livermore, Mich., Nov. 8; survived by sons, Robert (Masayo) and Richard (Carol) daughters, Dorothy (David) Lindemann; and 4 gc.

Avery, Woodrow, New York, Dec. 31; New York JACL veteran; WWII veteran; survived by wife, Hayaoy; sons, William, daughter, Nancy and several grandchildren.

Dai, Wesley Toshihiko, 69, San Rafael, Nov. 23; U.S. Army, former San Francisco JACL president and governor and member of NCWNP District, survived by wife, Toyoiko Sumida, sons, Darrel (Grace Chang), Gregory (Kazuyo Ogiwara) and Clifford (Mg Kiyong) and 5 gc.

Flume, James Flahar, 91, Columbus, Md., Dec. 30; Washington, D.C. JACLer, survived by wife, Kayo, sister, Elizabeth McKenney, sons, James, Thomas, Robert, Matthew, Stephen and Martin; and 22 gc.

Hayakawa, Ida A. (Miter), 81, Jacksonville, Fla.; Nov. 3; survived by husband, Hiroshi; sons, Todd (Tracy) and John, daughter, Alice (Roy) Delaney, Jean Reavey, grandchildren. trio singing about Asian American identity.

Hisai, Clark, 75, Tujunga, Dec. 31; Univ. of Hawaii law professor, once toured the country with the Yellow Pearl trio singing about Asian American identity; survived by wife, Jane Dickson; sons, Alan and Christopher; parents, Taken and Kazu and sister, Lynee.

Kajimoto, Ben, 97, Selma, Nov. 2; survived by wife, Toshidai, daughter, Alcor Nakahara, 5 gc. and 2 gc.

Kamiyama, F. Emy, Sunnyvale, Jan. 5; survived by sons, James (Hilda) and John (Kim), daughters, Barbara and Phyllis (Possel) brothers, Keith and Bill (Alice) Okumura, sisters, Ada Tanai, Sumiko (Charlie) Nakamura and Eva (Aki) Inaba and sisters-in-law, Grace Okumura.

Miles, Eiko, 72, Oakland, Nov. 19; survived by husband, Josiah, two brothers and a sister in Japan.

Nakamura, Tadashi, 92, San Jose, Nov. 2.

Nakayama, Leo, 79, Cressey, Dec. 18; JACL, Thousand Club, survived by wife, Mary.

Okunishi, Seichi, Jerry; 68, Whittier, Dec. 16; WWII veteran, MS; survived by daughters, Donna (Bryan) Minakata and Eileen Okumata; son, Ross (Helen) and 3 gc.

Obi, Chito, 84, Stockton, Nov. 17; survived by wife, Mary, son, Ron, daughters, Marilyn (Bob) Ono and Tani (Nathan) Edwardse, 3 gc. and 2 gc. and sister, Tani Higashi.

Scoppa, Lynda Perialia, 52, Cerritos, Nov. 30.

Shibuya, Sonoko N., 85, Watsonville, survived by husband, Eiji, sons, Dake (Kim) and Issei, grandchildren. trio singing about Asian American identity.


Tanaka, Satsuki, 83, Los Angeles, Whittier, Jan. 20, 1996 to receive the memory of Clarence Iwao Nishizu.

Watsonville; survived by husband, Enji; sons, Todd (Tracy) and Mark; brothers, Kazuyo and Yashima Yasukochi, 85, Berkeley, Jan. 20, 1996 to receive the memory of Clarence Iwao Nishizu.
MAYUMI

(Continued from page 1)
civil rights groups argued the name was derogatory and forced a name change. The area is now known as “Boondocks Road” named after a former business in the area.

“Since the residents of Fannett chose to rename the road Boondocks Road, it was essential for the marker to be built,” said Tanamachi. “Thus, the Mayumi family will be honored and remembered in Texas for their enormous contribution to our state.”

Yoshio Mayumi settled in Fannett in the early 1900s buying 1,700 acres of land to farm rice. His brother Yasuo ran the farm. The family ran the farm until 1934 when the Mayumis sold the property and Yasuo returned to Japan.

Yasuo returned to Japan with his wife Michiko, and his wife’s family. The Mayumi family story was often lost in the road renaming controversy but will now be highlighted by the marker which will sit in a field located on Boondocks Road. The marker was approved by the Texas Historical Commission in early January.

“The Mayumi family feels very happy that the people in Texas remember and honor their ancestors,” said Hellmut Klicker, who lives in Japan with his wife Michiko, a direct descendant of the Mayumi family.

“Yoshio Mayumi did not achieve his dream of building a life for himself in Texas, but he succeeded in his higher aim of building bridges between Japanese and Americans,” he said. “He and his brother Yasuo won the hearts and minds of the people in Fannett by their modesty, sincerity and generosity.”

Although the road renaming controversy took over a decade to resolve, Tanamachi was not surprised at how quickly the Mayumi family marker was approved.

“Following the changing of J-Road in Jefferson County, two other counties, Ft. Bend and Orange, which had J-Road/Lane, changed the names of their roads as well,” she said. “So it was only fitting that Texas would finally honor the Mayumi family properly.”

The exact wording of the marker is currently being developed by state officials. They plan to use information from a narrative provided by Fannett resident Wayne Wright, who lives on the formerly named “Jap Road” in a house built with materials from the original Mayumi family house.

Wright had fought hard against renaming “Jap Road” but in an interview with The Enterprise he said, “All along we wanted to honor the Mayumis for their contribution out here. I was very thankful I could do my little part in it.”

In addition to Wright and state officials, representatives from the Anti-Defamation League, participants in the application for the historical marker, will have a chance to give final approval to the marker’s wording.

The Mayumi family marker will be completed this year, likely in the summer.

CEMETERY

(Continued from page 1)

just trusted everything that [Oakdale] was telling us.”

The veterans were told that 200 plots needed to be sold in order to build the memorial, so Chang bought two more plots to help fulfill the quota. He paid installments for two years before stopping payment. Julie So of the Asian Pacific American Legal Center (APALC) who filed the suit on behalf of the veterans said the cemetery took advantage of the elderly and monolingual by making them buy plots that they never intended to come.

Oakdale advertised the memorial in local Korean language newspapers and even gave group tours on several Memorial Day ceremonies to promote the location, she said.

Fraud cases involving companies that take advantage of immigrants with limited English skills are common, said Su. In 2003, APALC filed a lawsuit on behalf of Chinese consumers who accused Alhambra, Calif.-based Wondies Toyota of promising deals in Chinese different from what was written in the English language contract. The dealership settled, but the case prompted the passage of the Consumer Protection for New Californians bill requiring some businesses to provide in-language contracts.

“I am shocked that this happened to Korean veterans,” said Calif. Assemblywoman Judy Chu, who sponsored the bill. “They expected to be treated with respect. It is only fair that if these businesses make money off of immigrants, they need to provide contracts that they are signing in the language they speak.”

The new law, however, does not extend to the funeral industry and cases like the Korean veterans are extremely uncommon regardless of language, said Kevin Flanagan, spokesperson for California Cemetery and Funeral Bureau, which is also looking into the case. He calls it a “textbook case” for complaints about needs that were promised, but did not appear in the contract.

“It’s a case where even when someone says you’re going to get this, and this. Don’t worry about it. No. Worry about it,” said Flanagan.

For the veterans, it was Jim Huang Kim, an Oakdale employee named in the suit, who visited local senior citizen centers to urge the veterans to quickly purchase the plots and not be left out. Now there are nearly 800 plots purchased by the veterans.

A spokesperson from Service Corp. International, the parent company of Oakdale Memorial, said they are working with the plaintiffs to try to come up with a fair resolution, but declined to comment on the progress of the veteran’s memorial.

Former soldiers like Young Soom Ahn, 77, who are separated from their native country want to be remembered for their sacrifices. He bought two plots in 2002—one for himself and one for his wife.

“In my mind, I thought there is a cemetery for veterans in Korea. It’s this very great place and all the veterans are buried together and it’s where the kids can go see their dads there and be very proud of their dad’s military service. And when I heard that there was going to be one here, it made me really happy. There’s nothing that can make me happier,” said Ahn through a translator.

The former infantry battalion colonel thought his combat days were behind him, but now he is embroiled in a legal battle in the twilight of his life.

I bought these plots trusting what they told me I was buying into. Of course I want to fight for these plots and I can always give them to my kids. I don’t have to keep them for myself. I really want to reveal the truth of what happened here,” he added.

The veterans’ attorneys want to make an example of Oakdale and send a message that it is not okay to take advantage of helpless immigrants. But for now, Ahn can only hope and wait. Recently, the retired acupuncturist visited some gravesites at Oakdale and was reminded of an old saying.

“There’s an old saying that if the burial plot is in a good place, then the family will be happy. The future generation will be well taken care of. It made me really angry and it made me think that I had to address this issue,” Ahn’s children have had to prepare another plot just in case the legal battle drags on too long.

“I just learned that I have to be really careful and vigilant when someone tries to sell me something,” he said.