



Asian American Press

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"BUILDING COMMUNITY WITHIN DIVERSITY"

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Hmong Studies Journal 2010 Census Issue

The Hmong Studies Internet Resource Center is pleased to announce the publication of its online special Hmong Studies Journal edition on the 2010 Census.

Hmong Studies Journal is the only peer-reviewed academic journal devoted to the scholarly publications of topics in Hmong history, culture, and their life experiences in the U.S., Asia, and around the world. Since its inception in 1996, it has published 16 online issues in 13 volumes with a total of 116 articles.

The special issue co-editors are Dr. Mark Pfeifer, Editor of the Hmong Studies Journal, and Dr. Zha Blong Xiong, Associate Professor at University of Minnesota. "This volume is the culmination of a unique, year-long project involving the compilation of data and analysis of important trends in Hmong American demographic changes, social and economic characteristics," Pfeifer said. "We invited Hmong American Studies scholars from across the United States to write articles in their respective areas of expertise.

The articles in this special issue represent the most in-depth scholarly analyses of emerging issues and



Dr. Zha Blong Xiong, Associate Prof., UofMN Twin Cities.



Dr. Mark Pfeifer, Editor of the Hmong Studies Journal.



Chia Youyee Vang, Associate Prof., UW-Milwaukee.

trends impacting Hmong American communities, according to Pfeifer. "A few key findings emerged," he added. "For example, for the first time in the Hmong American history, there are people of Hmong ethnicity residing in every state, including the District of Columbia. More than 50 percent of the current Hmong population in the U.S. is now American as opposed to foreign-born, and English is no longer a barrier for the majority.

Considerable socioeconomic differences between Hmong communities in different states remain, he adds. Educational disparities, especially within higher education, between Hmong American women and

men have been eliminated. Health disparities between Hmong Americans and the US population remain critical issues.

Contributing researcher Dr. Chia Youyee Vang, Associate Professor at University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, said the special issue is an important opportunity for scholars to not only analyze what the data says about Hmong Americans, but also to discuss what it means for our community. "Hmong Studies Journal has provided scholars with space to make sense of the data," Vang said.

Articles in this special include the following important topics: demographic shifts, socioeconomic status, educational attainment and

language use, household formation patterns and divorce rates, current status of research related to health disparities experienced, and mental health incidence rate.

Volume 13, Issue 2, The 2010 U.S. Census Issue of the Hmong Studies Journal is published at www.hmongstudiesjournal.org.

Support for the 2010 Census Issue of the Hmong Studies Journal has been provided by the College of Education and Human Development, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities and the Hmong Diaspora Studies Program, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

For more information, contact Mark E. Pfeifer, PhD at editor@hmongstudies.org. ♦

Family courageous in teen rape case

ST. PAUL (Dec. 21, 2012) — Mang Yang was found guilty on Dec. 21, in Ramsey District Court for his role in the gang rape of a St. Paul teenager. The jury also found the existence of two aggravating factors. Sentencing for Yang is set for Feb. 27 at 9 a.m. where he faces a guideline sentence of 24 years in prison. Ramsey County Attorney John Choi said he thanks the St. Paul Police and the Gang Unit for their diligent work on this case both to help the prosecution as well as the victim throughout this process. "We are pleased with the jury's verdict, which sends an important message to a bright and beautiful girl who is making progress from being a victim of a brutal gang rape to a survivor, her family and to other girls and women who have been sexually assaulted," said Choi said. "This community will hold those who perpetrate acts of sexual violence accountable for their crimes and we stand and support victims of sexual assault." The victim's courage and testimony at trial was aided by a victim-centered, culturally specific



County Attorney John Choi

response by the Saint Paul Police Department, victim advocates and the prosecutor handling this case, Choi added. The County Attorney's office will publicly address the matter at a later date after related cases are resolved. "I am moved by the courage of this young girl and her family to come forward, which was not an easy thing to do for a number of reasons that we as a community need to address in the future," Choi said. "Our resolve to enforce the community standard that you don't gang rape others and our vigorous pursuit of justice for the victim and her family in the remaining cases will continue until justice is fully accomplished." ♦

Longing for Qeej performance is first for Hmong dance drama

ST. PAUL (Dec. 19, 2012) — In celebrating the Hmong New Year, Iny Asian Dance Theater presented its first-ever Hmong Dance Drama, "Longing for Qeej" Dec. 19 at Central High School auditorium in St. Paul.

As a collaboration of Asian Media Access, Frost Lake Magnet School of Technology and Global Studies, and Pan Asian Arts Alliance, Iny Asian Dance Theater's 89 dancers performed a dance drama adapted from Hmong folktale portraying the origin of Qeej - a traditional Hmong music instrument, a mouth organ with six bamboo pipes of different lengths attached to a wooden air chamber. Hmong believes that Qeej can communicate between the heaven and the earth,



The Eagle Dance, performed by Hmong Heroes. (Photo by Nolan Ly)

the living and the dead. The story starts with powerful narration done by the theater artist Kang Vang. Long ago, there was Sinsay, a great warrior, if Sinsay won a challenge, his prize

was to marry one beautiful woman from that kingdom. Eventually, Sinsay conquered seven kingdoms with seven wives and enjoyed seven celebrations. The God of Heaven decided to have a

grand festival to honor Sinsay. All seven wives arrived, found out each other, and all shouted, "He's my husband!"

The God of Heaven then told the women, "If all seven of you say that each of you are his wife, then each of you must go and make something so that when all seven parts are put together into one, words will come out of it."

So each of them went off to make something, and all came back with different length of pipes. The seven pipes were put together, becoming one instrument, the Qeej, and when it was blown, the words came out. And the God of Heaven declared that all of the women were Sinsay's true wives. Therefore, the Qeej has become the symbol of the Hmong culture.



Ocean Wave, performed by the Ocean dance Group. (Photo by Nolan Ly)

The Dragon Dance was performed by Iny Asian Dance Theater's most advanced group, MN SunSine. The team has long history of winning titles of Hmong New Year Dance Competition,

and just won second place at the recent Hmong American New Year Dance Competition at the Metrodome.

QEEJ
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Indian rape protests foretell feminist spring

Viji Sundaram
New America Media

SAN FRANCISCO (Dec 31, 2012) — As a co-founder of Narika, a Bay Area-based helpline for South Asian victims of domestic violence, I have come across many incidents of sexual assault against women in my community. It happens with numbing regularity.

But few things have struck a chord in me as powerfully as the news of the 23-year-old, female medical student's brutal gang rape on a Delhi bus Dec. 16 by six drunken men. The rape and her subsequent death last week from severe organ damage have traumatized the nation and touched off widespread outrage throughout the country. Even after her cremation on Saturday, thousands continue to take to the streets nationwide to demand the government take steps to stem violence against women.

So I ask myself, is India on the verge of a

Feminist Spring?

For too long, women in India have been viewed as second-class citizens, always expected to walk a few proverbial steps behind their male partners. Not only in public, but in homes as well, violence against women is an all-too-common occurrence, both in India and among Indian communities here in the United States.

And while sexual violence against women happens everywhere, including countries like the Congo — labeled by the United Nations as the rape capital of the world — the horrific attack in India appears to have become the tipping point for a wider, Arab-style revolt against this historic injustice, one that is now spilling beyond India's borders.

Here, in San Francisco, some 70 social rights activists from all across the Bay Area and from every racial and ethnic stripe held a candlelight vigil outside the Indian consulate on Dec. 28 to show solidarity

with protestors in India. Narika, Trikone, ASATA (the Alliance for South Asians Taking Action) and the Asian Women's Shelter co-sponsored what was meant to be a vigil but turned into a memorial service for the raped victim who died only hours earlier that day.

A sign held by one participant summed up the demands of those gathered: "Dear Delhi Government, Do Your Job."

But as Bay Area activist and journalist Papiha Nandy observed at Friday's event, whatever policies and laws are enacted by the Indian government to protect women, those laws must be backed by deeper cultural changes.

Following the attack, the six rapists were arrested and have since been charged with murder, rape and other crimes. Sonia Gandhi, considered India's most powerful politician, recently told protestors: "I want to assure you that your voice has been heard." She urged the country to scale back on

New Year's Day celebrations.

Still, since the Dec. 16 rape another 20 have been reported in Delhi, dubbed the rape capital of India. Last year alone, 24,206 rape cases were reported nationwide, up by 10 percent from 2010. Activists say even that number is a gross underestimate as victims are often either too embarrassed or too fearful to complain.

What is especially galling for women in India is the attitude of the police toward rape victims. Many law officials and politicians seem to think that women who don't wear the traditional sari or the salwar kameez deliberately invite rape. One police officer recently told a reporter from Tehelka, the New Delhi-based hard-hitting, online weekly news magazine, that alcohol and opportunity are sufficient -- and just -- cause for rape. The reporter cites one male police sub-inspector as saying: "She is dressed in a manner that people get attracted to her. In fact, she wants them

to do something to her."

A 17-year-old woman, gang-raped in Punjab in November, ingested poison and died last week after police allegedly told her to drop charges against the rapists and advised her to marry one of them.

It is resentment against such crimes — and the indifference of police and politicians — that is now exploding across India.

In late 2010 a Tunisian fruit vendor named Mohamed Bouazizi set himself on fire in protest against that country's authoritarian regime. Credited with having kick started the Arab Spring, Bouazizi's act was fueled by a population chafing against an oppressive government. That same sentiment was shared by many across the region and provided the tinder for what followed.

Tunisians described Bouazizi's death as the "drop that tipped over the vase." For Indians everywhere, the gang rape and murder of an innocent 23-year-old woman may be that drop. ♦

Not afraid to live openly

By Tsering Woesser

LHASA (Dec. 31, 2012) — Tibetan writer Woesser has a message for the state security police who confronted her at the Lhasa Railway Station

At Lhasa Railway Station, they don't let people seeing off passengers go into the station. They don't even sell platform tickets. I'm sure there isn't another railway station like it in the world. I went into the station on my own, after a tearful parting from my mother and sister, and three state security police, Tibetans like me, appeared from the sidelines and took me into a room. They behaved well, and made it clear that this was just "a chat" and not a "reprimand." But the unspoken meaning was clear: they had the power to reprimand me, if they had wanted to. There wasn't much time, so they just said their piece, and didn't give me chance to say anything. After that, they picked up my luggage and saw me onto the train, saying they hoped to be friends from now on.

Here is what I would have liked to say to them, but didn't have time: Firstly, I would like to thank you for carrying my luggage, because, thanks to that stupid rule about accompanying passengers onto the platform, I would have been lumbered with two very heavy suitcases. They did tell me not to tell anyone about our meeting, so I'm sorry I haven't been able to stick to that. I will agree not to tell anyone your names (assuming the names you gave me were real), but I believe that, in principle, any dealings with authority must be transparent. I want to allow fresh air into certain channels, and putting the details of such meetings out there, on the table, makes it hard for rumors to change fact into fiction.

You said that you were showing "humanity" by only coming to talk to me as I was leaving Lhasa, to avoid upsetting my mother and other family members. I appreciate this; any shock to my mother, who is in her seventies, would be my greatest concern. However, I know your insidious presence in my family only too well; this is an evil which is anything but humane. All of my friends and family have been invited to "drink tea" [with state security police], and most of them have now distanced themselves from me as a result. During the past three months I have spent in Lhasa, a lot of relatives whom I was previously very close to have been frightened off, and haven't dared to show their faces. Where is the humanity in that? It's true that you haven't jumped over the wall in

the middle of the night and dragged me away in front of the elderly and the children, like a "terrorist." But you should know, as you trumpet your "humanity," that it only exists by comparison with the way you treat other people. My hope is that that you will treat everyone humanely, not just special cases.

Another topic you mentioned was "exaggerating," which I take is a criticism of me. OK, so we have different viewpoints and outlooks, and I can't demand that you accept my views on the situation in Tibet and among Tibetans. But as for my exaggerating reality, this view comes from an insufficient grasp of the situation, and the fact that it hasn't yet been spoken about enough. The relevant departments were exaggerating after the March 14 incident [of 2008], when they said "there is sufficient evidence to show that this was a strategic plot and a conspiracy by the Dalai Lama clique." Four-and-a-half years later, they still have yet to produce any evidence, and what's more, they say that Lhasa, with its streets packed full of army and police, "scores the highest on the happiness index." Don't you think it's trivial by comparison to accuse me of exaggerating in my writings about the reality of Tibet?

It is a characteristic of dictatorial regimes that they are smug and self-satisfied about everything they do, while anything anyone else does must have ulterior motives. As I was on my way back to Lhasa [to catch the train], in a friend's car, we were stopped and searched several times along the way by the military, or the police, armed with real guns and bullets. My friend, who works in the film industry, had a video camera with him, and they held us up for more than 20 hours, and nearly didn't let us into Lhasa. There are cameras installed in every corner of Tibet, but a single camera carried by a member of the public is to be guarded against at all costs. Isn't that a bit absurd? How can such a huge country, which holds so much power, get into such a panic over a fiber optic cable?

Based on what you told me, you were fully aware of all my movements while I was in Lhasa. It is a simple matter for the full power of the state to keep track of one small individual. But I don't have any secrets. I'm not afraid to live openly under the sun.

Original commentary broadcast on RFA's Mandarin service. Translated by Luisetta Mudie.

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Immigration Enforcement and Detainers: An Evolving Policy

Immigration Law & You

Just a few days ago, December 21, 2012, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Director, John Morton, released data for the agency's removals (deportations) in fiscal year 2012. The numbers were substantial with a total of 409, 849 individuals removed by the Office of Enforcement and Removal Operations; 55 percent (225,390) had been convicted of felonies or misdemeanors for such offenses as homicide (1,215), sexual offenses (5,557), drug-related crimes (40,448), and driving under the influence (36,166) among others.

At the same time, Director Morton announced to the surprise of many a change in ICE's detainer policy. While noting that the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Secretary Janet Napolitano has been emphatic about the agency prioritizing and focusing its resources in all spheres of enforcement, he declared that ICE had developed a new national detainer policy. (A detainer is a mechanism for ICE to identify and retain those foreign nationals who are subject to removal or removal proceedings. It is issued to federal, state, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies currently holding such individuals and serves to inform them that the agency seeks their custody upon release.)

According to Director Morton, "smart and effective immigration enforcement relies on setting priorities for removal and executing on those priorities." To that end, ICE has changed its policy on those against whom it issues detainers. The agency will now only issue detainers in federal, state, local, and tribal criminal justice systems against individuals it believes are subject to removal from the United States with the occurrence of one or more of the following conditions:

- The individual has a prior felony conviction or has been charged with a felony offense;



R. Mark Frey
AAP Guest Columnist

- The individual has three or more prior misdemeanor convictions (three or more convictions for minor traffic misdemeanors or other relative minor misdemeanors should not alone lead to issuance of a detainer unless the convictions indicate a "clear and continuing danger to others or disregard for the law");
- The individual has a prior misdemeanor conviction or has been charged with a misdemeanor offense if the misdemeanor conviction or pending charge involves: violence, threats, or assault; sexual abuse or exploitation; driving under the influence of alcohol or a controlled substance; unlawful flight from the scene of an accident; unlawful possession or use of a firearm or other deadly weapon; the distribution or trafficking of a controlled substance; or other significant threat to public safety (that is, "poses a significant risk of harm or injury to a person or property");
- The individual has been convicted of illegal entry into the United States;
- The individual has illegally re-entered the United States after a previous removal or return;
- The individual has an outstanding order of removal;
- The individual has been found by an immigration officer or an immigration judge to have knowingly committed immigration fraud; or
- The individual otherwise poses a significant risk to national security, border security, or public safety (that is, "a suspected terrorist, a known gang member, or the subject of an outstanding felony

arrest warrant or the detainer is issued in furtherance of an ongoing felony criminal or national security investigation").

This new development in ICE's detainer policy also contemplates and encourages the exercise of prosecutorial discretion in issuing a detainer even in those cases that may meet the aforementioned criteria. As Director Morton has noted, this policy "does not require a detainer in each case, and all ICE officers, agents, and attorneys should continue to evaluate the merits of each case" based on guidance offered by the agency's June 2011 memorandum devoted to the exercise of prosecutorial discretion. In other words, these officials have the authority to review the specifics of each case and make a determination if a detainer is called for.

Director Morton announced at the same time that ICE will not renew any existing agreements with state and local law enforcement agencies currently operating under the 287(g) program and will instead rely on Secure Communities and other enforcement programs to facilitate a more efficient use of its resources in this realm. (The 287(g) program is one essentially deputizing state and local law enforcement officials to carry out immigration enforcement within their jurisdictions).

ICE is to be commended for these developments. It appears to reflect an effort to craft a system employing explicit and specific guidelines for appropriate times to issue detainers yet allow for discretion to actually issue one or not. The potential for racial profiling in this realm of immigration enforcement has been one raised by critics for some time. These recent actions by ICE seem to acknowledge and recognize this. Let's hope that such is the case and that this refined approach may lessen the prospect of such.

R. Mark Frey is a St. Paul, Minnesota attorney who has been practicing immigration law exclusively for almost 25 years with an emphasis on political asylum, family immigration, naturalization, and removal defense. ♦

Guards and guns in school: Madness

By Betty McCollum

Washington, D.C. — Minnesota Congresswoman Betty McCollum (D-4) issued the following statement in response to today's press conference by Mr. Wayne LaPierre, the National Rifle Association's (NRA) executive vice president:



Betty McCollum

"No legal organization in America is more responsible than the NRA for lobbying to ensure the proliferation of killer guns while denying law enforcement tools to stop killers. Wayne LaPierre's call for guards and guns in every school building and playground is madness and a perverse vision for life in America." "In Congress, we need to move forward comprehensive legislation that bans assault weapons, closes the gun show loop hole, prohibits high capacity magazines, and gives law enforcement the tools to keep guns out of the hands of the mentally ill. At the same time, Congress will protect the rights of responsible gun owners and hunters."

"It is time for common sense Americans to come together to stop the NRA and make America's neighborhoods and streets safer." Congresswoman Betty McCollum serves on the House Appropriations Committee. ♦

CAPAC praises immigration rule to prioritize family unity

WASHINGTON, D.C. (Jan. 3, 2012) — The U.S. Department of Homeland Security on Thursday announced that effective March 4, 2013, certain visa applicants will be able to file for family unity waivers, reducing immigration wait time and making it easier for families to stay together.



Judy Chu

Congresswoman Judy Chu (CA-27), Chair of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus (CAPAC), and Congressman Mike Honda (CA-15), CAPAC Immigration Taskforce Chair, released the following statement:

“Today, the Obama Administration took a critical step forward in fixing our broken immigration system,” said Congresswoman Judy Chu (CA-32), CAPAC Chair. “There is no good reason to force families apart for seeking better lives in America. Asian immigrants have been disproportionately impacted by this process, sometimes waiting as long as 11-years to join their loved ones here. That’s why several Congressional leaders, myself included, have urged the President to make this change in support of family unity. I am thrilled to see it come to pass, and I thank President Obama for his leadership in helping families stay together.”

“The final rule to allow certain visa applicants to file for family unity waivers within the U.S. is a positive step forward for our families,” said Congressman Mike Honda (CA-15), CAPAC Immigration Taskforce Chair. “The Reuniting Families Act, legislation that I introduced, follows

and inclusion as I work with my colleagues to draft comprehensive immigration reform legislation in the 113th Congress.”

Asian Americans are the most likely group to have family members impacted by the visa backlogs. While only comprising six percent of the U.S. population, Asian Americans sponsor more than one third of all family-based immigrants. Under current law, U.S. citizens and legal permanent residents (LPRs) can apply for a green card for their spouse or child. However, many families are forced to live apart for years, even decades, while waiting for the green card. The Obama Administration’s new rule enables certain eligible family members to apply for a provisional unlawful presence waiver (also called the family unity waiver) before leaving the United States for their visa interview, which must take place in their home country. An approved waiver will allow these family members to complete their travel and visa appointment in a short time and avoid additional wait times in home countries that separate them from loved ones in the U.S.

suit with DHS’s final rule by reuniting families despite bars to reentry. This bill reduces the backlog of families trying to reunite with their loved ones, by classifying lawful permanent resident spouses, including same-sex partners, and children as ‘immediate relatives’. It also exempts them from numerical caps on family immigration.

“While the family unity waiver will benefit many, current immigration laws continue to tear families apart and separate American citizens from their loved ones. No family should be left out of the immigration system, and no person should be forced to choose between their spouse and their country. That is why we need a comprehensive approach to fix our broken immigration system and keep families intact.”

“As CAPAC Immigration Taskforce Chair, I have worked closely with President Obama and the Department of Homeland Security. I advocated for fair, effective, and humane implementation of immigration policy, including Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals and the exercise of prosecutorial discretion with respect to same-sex, bi-national partners. I will continue to fight for family unity

The Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus (CAPAC) is comprised of Members of Congress of Asian and Pacific Islander descent and members who have a strong dedication to promoting the well-being of the Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) community. Currently chaired by Congresswoman Judy Chu, CAPAC has been addressing the needs of the AAPI community in all areas of American life since it was founded in 1994. ♦

Buddha’s remains on display in NV

Actual remains of Buddhism founder Gautama Buddha (died around 486 BCE) will be touring Reno (Nevada, USA) from January 25 to 27.

These relics, which resemble pearl-like crystals, were found from among the cremation ashes of Gautama and other Buddhist masters, according to co-host Matthew Fisher. These include eight relics of Buddha from Dalai Lama’s personal collection. This exhibit of precious collection of sacred relics, to be held at Reno Buddhist Center (RBC), is sponsored by Dharmakaya Buddhist Study Group of Reno and RBC.

Hindu statesman Rajan Zed has been invited to

be part of the invocation ceremony on January 25. Zed, who is President of Universal Society of Hinduism, says that Buddha’s “middle way” has lead large populace of the world towards the path to truth. We heartily welcome the relics of this great and enlightened soul to Nevada.

After Nevada, this Maitreya Heart Shrine Relic Tour will visit Mexico, France, Slovenia, Croatia, Italy, Switzerland, Netherlands, Indonesia, etc. Collected by Lama Zopa Rinpoche over many years, eventually these relics will be enshrined in a 150-foot bronze statue of Buddha to be built in Bodhgaya (India),

the town where Buddha gained enlightenment.

“Visitors often report experiences of inspiration and healing when in the presence of the relics... the powerful effects of the relics open their hearts to compassion and loving-kindness”, event announcement points out. “The purpose of the Relic Tour is to inspire people of all spiritual traditions and paths to come together to experience the blessings of the relics”, it adds.

Buddhism, the fourth largest religion in the world, started with the enlightenment of Gautama Buddha under a Bo Tree in India around 531 BCE. ♦

Three attorneys re-nominated to historic Federal Judgeships

WASHINGTON, D.C. (Jan. 3, 2013) — President Barack Obama on Thursday re-nominated Srikanth “Sri” Srinivasan to serve on the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit. The decision came with the re-nomination of 33 other previously nominated persons for federal judgeships in the 112th Congress.

Pamela Ki Mai Chen was re-nominated for the United States District Court for the Eastern District of New York.

Derrick Kahala Watson was re-nominated Nominee for the United States District Court for the District of Hawai’i.

“Today, I am re-nominating thirty-three highly qualified candidates for the federal bench, including many who could have and should have been confirmed before the Senate adjourned,” said President Obama. “Several have been awaiting a vote for more than six months, even though they all enjoy bipartisan support.”

“I continue to be grateful for their willingness to serve and remain confident that they will apply the law with the utmost impartiality and integrity,” he added. “I urge the Senate to consider and confirm these nominees without delay, so all Americans can have equal and timely access to justice.”

Obama first nominated Srinivasan for the position on June 11, 2012. If confirmed, Srinivasan will be the first Asian American in history to serve on the D.C. Circuit, and the first South Asian American to ever serve as a federal appellate court judge.

There are currently only two active Asian Pacific American federal appellate judges in the entire nation, and only six Asian Pacific Americans have ever served on the federal courts of appeal in American history.

Srinivasan is the Principal Deputy Solicitor General of the United States. He is a highly-respected appellate advocate who has spent a distinguished career litigating before the U.S. Supreme Court and the U.S. Courts of Appeals, both on behalf of the United States and in private practice.

He began his legal career by serving as a law clerk for Judge J. Harvie Wilkinson on the U.S. Court of Appeals



Srikanth “Sri” Srinivasan



Pamela Ki Mai Chen

for the D.C. Circuit from 1995 to 1996. He then spent a year as a Bristow Fellow in the Office of the Solicitor General before clerking for Justice Sandra Day O’Connor during the Supreme Court’s 1997-98 term. He was an associate at the law firm of O’Melveny & Myers LLP in Washington, D.C., from 1998 until 2002.

In 2002, he returned to the Solicitor General’s Office as an Assistant to the Solicitor General, representing the United States in litigation before the Supreme Court. For his work, he received the Attorney General’s Award for Excellence in Furthering U.S. National Security in 2003 and the Office of the Secretary of Defense Award for Excellence in 2005.

In 2007, Srinivasan became a partner with O’Melveny & Myers LLP. In 2011, he was named the Chair of the firm’s Appellate Practice Group. He was named as the Principal Deputy Solicitor General in August 2011.

Srinivasan is widely recognized as one of the country’s leading appellate and Supreme Court advocates. He has argued before the Supreme Court twenty times, drafted briefs in several dozen additional cases, and has also served as lead counsel in numerous cases before the federal and state appellate courts.

He has also served as a lecturer at Harvard Law School, where he taught a class on appellate advocacy.

Srinivasan was born in Chandigarh, India, and grew up in Lawrence, Kansas. He received his B.A. with honors and distinction in 1989 from Stanford University and his J.D. with distinction in 1995 from Stanford Law School, where he was elected to Order of the Coif and served as an editor of the Stanford Law Review. He also holds an M.B.A. from the Stanford Graduate School of Business, which he received along with his J.D. in 1995.

Obama first nominated Pamela Chen to serve in August 2012. If confirmed, Chen would become the second Chinese American woman and the fifth openly gay nominee to serve in the federal judiciary.

Since 1998, Pamela Ki Mai Chen has been an Assistant United States Attorney in New York, aside from a brief four-month period in 2008 when she served as Deputy Commissioner for Enforcement for the New York State Division of Human Rights. During her time at the U.S. Attorney’s Office, Chen served as Chief of the Civil Rights Section and Deputy Chief of the Public Integrity Section.

Chen’s experience also includes being a trial attorney in the Special Litigation Section of the Civil Rights Division at the United States Department of Justice from 1991 to 1998. Chen received her law degree from the Georgetown University Law Center in 1986 and completed her undergraduate studies at the University of Michigan in 1983.

She began her legal career in Washington, D.C., at the criminal defense firm of Asbill, Junkin, Myers & Buffone from 1989 to 1991, and at the law firm of Arnold & Porter from 1986 to 1989.

Obama first nominated Derrick Kahala Watson to serve in November 2012. If confirmed, Watson will be the only person of Native Hawaiian descent serving as an Article III judge, and only the fourth to serve in United States history.

If confirmed, Watson will be the only person of native Hawaiian descent serving as an Article III judge, and the fourth in American history.

JUDGESHIPS
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“My professors are passionate about their subject areas and discerning of my talents. I have had ample opportunities to learn and grow.”



— Elizabeth Otto
Hamline University '15

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| Carleton College | Saint John’s University |
| College of Saint Benedict | Saint Mary’s University of Minnesota |
| The College of St. Scholastica | St. Catherine University |
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UN: Gang rape tragedy means time of change for women in India

NEW YORK (Dec. 31, 2012) — Expressing deep sadness at the death of a 23-year-old woman whose gang-rape in India has sparked nationwide protests there, the top United Nations human rights official today called for “urgent and rational debate” aimed at ending violence against women in the country. “What is needed is a new public consciousness and more effective and sensitive enforcement of the law in the interests of women,” said the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Navi Pillay, amidst media reports that India remained in mourning two days after the woman, a physiotherapy student whose name has not been publicly released, died in a Singapore hospital of internal injuries inflicted by her attackers. “The public is demanding a transformation in systems that discriminate against women to a culture that respects the dignity of women in law and practice,” she noted, according to a news

release from the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights in Geneva. The woman was reportedly attacked after boarding a bus in the Indian capital of New Delhi with her boyfriend, who was also assaulted and injured, but survived. Six men have been charged with both her rape and murder, and could face the death penalty if convicted. For her part, Ms. Pillay cautioned against such a response, which she noted was among the demands amid the “escalating protests” that reports say are demanding immediate government action. “However terrible the crime, the death penalty is not the answer,” Ms. Pillay said, as OHCHR noted she called for “urgent and rational debate on comprehensive measures to address such crimes.” The UN official highlighted that the attack was the latest in a series of rape cases, a fact reflected in statistics showing that reported

rapes increased by 25 percent from 2006 to 2011. Ms. Pillay also pointed out that attacks are occurring against women of all social classes. While the 23-year-old New Delhi victim was reportedly from India’s rising urban class, Ms. Pillay cited the gang-rape in October of a 16-year-old girl of the Dalit designation — a grouping traditionally regarded as “untouchable” even though untouchability is prohibited under India’s Constitution. Following that attack in north India’s Haryana state, the girl committed suicide by self-immolation, Ms. Pillay noted, as she went on to describe Haryana as a place from where “an alarming level of sexual violence has been reported.” “This is a national problem, affecting women of all classes and castes, and will require national solutions,” Ms. Pillay said. She also expressed serious concern about the number of rape incidents

of children and called for “accelerated actions to address this,” OHCHR said. The High Commissioner said she joined Indians in “all walks of life in condemning” the attack on the New Delhi student. She also expressed confidence that India could emerge reformed in the wake of this “terrible crime.” “Let us hope that 2013 will be the year the tide is turned on violence against women in India and all women can walk free without fear,” she said, adding that “India has shown through its social reform movements of the past that it can rid itself of a scourge like rape.” Ms. Pillay welcomed the Indian Government’s announcement it would establish a Commission of Inquiry into public safety of women in New Delhi and a judicial panel to review India’s legislative framework on violence against women. She also observed that India had, in 2012, passed landmark legislation on

the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences. “Now is the time to strengthen India’s legal regime against rape,” Ms. Pillay said. “I encourage the Indian Government to consult widely with civil society and to invite the United Nations Special Rapporteur on violence against women to visit the country to assist in this process.” Special Rapporteurs are independent UN experts who serve as unpaid appointees of the 47-nation Human Rights Council in Geneva, and are tasked to investigate and report back on issues related to their particular mandate. Ms. Pillay said OHCHR also stood “ready to support the Indian Government and the people of India during this difficult period.” “I am particularly heartened by the ground swell of energy of the young women and men on the streets of India and their resolve to turn the tide,” she added. In its focus on

India, the OHCHR-supported Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) recommended in February 2007 that the country should “widen the definition of rape in its Penal Code to reflect the realities of sexual abuse experienced by women and to remove the exception for marital rape from the definition of rape.” The Committee also recommended the Government “consult widely with women’s groups in its process of reform of laws and procedures relating to rape and sexual abuse.” Made up of 23 independent experts on women’s rights from around the world, CEDAW monitors implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, which the UN General Assembly adopted in 1979, and is often described as a bill of rights for women. ♦

Trade show support program helps food companies expand markets

ST. PAUL (Jan. 2, 2013) — Minnesota food companies have a great opportunity to economically expand their market reach with the assistance of the Minnesota Department of Agriculture. The Agricultural Marketing and Development Division is offering food companies, and others who add value to agricultural products, discounted booth space

in “Minnesota Pavilions” at several prominent trade shows, and reimbursement of some costs associated with exhibiting at other wholesale food trade shows that are new to the company. The MDA Trade Show Support Program aims to move more Minnesota agricultural products through the food chain, create and maintain jobs, and support economic development. “Booth space is available

at six shows that cover foodservice, retail, and ingredient sectors, and we hope to fill that space with companies looking to expand sales,” said Brian Erickson, MDA Agriculture Marketing Specialist. “These pavilions will be offered at domestic shows, and in the emerging markets of Vietnam, China and Korea, as well.” Mike Traxler of Captain Ken’s Foods, Inc., in St.

Paul, agrees that exhibiting with MDA provides a tremendous advantage. “We have participated in pavilions coordinated by MDA in the past, and they’ve always provided exceptional opportunities to expand our market,” said Traxler. Shows with an MDA Pavilion include: • Natural Products Expo West, Anaheim, CA, Feb. 25-28. • Food & Hotel Vietnam,

Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, Apr. 24-26. • SIAL China, Shanghai, China, May 7-9. • Seoul Food/Hotel, Seoul, South Korea, May 14-17. • National Restaurant Association, Chicago, IL, May 18-21. • Institute of Food Technologists (IFT), Chicago, IL, July 13-16. MDA can also provide cost-sharing for companies with fewer than 500 employees that

are not interested in the trade shows listed; the companies can apply for reimbursement of eligible booth expenses associated with going to a new show. Pavilion booth space and support funds are limited and offered to qualifying Minnesota companies on a first-come, first-served basis. Contact MDA’s Brian Erickson at brian.j.erickson@state.mn.us or 651-201-6539 for more information. ♦

Advertisement for Tuần Báo Người Việt Minnesota featuring a newspaper image with a large phone number overlay: 651-224-0242 and 651-224-7032. The ad lists staff members like Huỳnh Sĩ Nghị and Phan Thanh Tâm, and provides contact information for advertising and subscriptions.

Keeping your financial fitness resolution

The new year is a great time to get yourself pointed in the right direction financially.

“Making small improvements at the beginning of the year is a lot easier than trying to play catch-up,” says financial planner Rick Rodgers, author of “The New Three-Legged Stool: A Tax Efficient Approach To Retirement Planning” (www.TheNewThreeLeggedStool.com). “Just as you would embark on an exercise program to lose weight and get physically fit, there are simple steps you can take that will lead to being financially healthy and fit.”

Here are Rodgers’ seven tips for improving your financial life in 2013.

- Review your credit report - Borrowing money isn’t the only reason to check your credit. Employers check credit reports and so do insurance companies. Your credit score can have a profound effect on the amount you pay for auto and homeowners insurance -- and perhaps on health and life insurance in the not-too-distant future. Order your free credit report at AnnualCreditReport.com.
- Set up an Automatic Savings Plan (ASP) - If your employer doesn’t offer this through payroll deduction you can set one up through

your bank or brokerage account. Simply have a certain amount of money withdrawn from your checking or savings account each month and deposited into your investment account. That way, you save it before you ever have a chance to spend it. Try to increase the amount you invest at least once a year.

- Establish a cash flow plan - Business owners know you can’t control what you don’t track. Take the time to forecast your income and expenses for the year, and put it in writing. Then adjust those numbers to reach your goals, such as paying down debt or replacing a car. Track your progress on a regular basis by holding a monthly family finance meeting to review the plan.
- Pay off your credit cards - It’s especially important to take action on debt in 2013. Cash doesn’t earn much interest sitting in a deposit account (less than 1 percent) and even “low interest” credit cards charge 10 to 12 percent. So if you’re sitting on any extra savings, consider using it to pay down credit card debt. Your cash flow plan should include a schedule to eliminate credit card debt as quickly as possible.
- Shop your insurance - Insurance agents are often

paid commission based on premium levels, so they have no incentive for finding existing customers lower premiums. However, there is a huge incentive for a competing agent to find you the lowest premium in order to win your business. Make note of the coverage levels you have for your homeowner’s and auto policies and use them to comparison shop. Look at ways to save on your health insurance coverage, too, such as switching to a high-deductible plan and opening a Health Savings Account.

- Write an estate plan - At a minimum you need to have a valid will, power-of-attorney (POA) for your finances and health-care decisions, and a living will (Advanced Healthcare Directive in some states). Decide who will be your personal representative in the event you become incapacitated (POA) or at your death (executor). If you have minor children, choose who will raise them in your absence and establish a testamentary trust for their finances.
- Meet with a financial adviser - An adviser is to financial planning as a personal trainer is to an exercise program. Allow yourself to be held accountable by a third party

who will push you to help yourself. Good advisers will help you develop a budget, look at your debts, tax situation, retirement and college savings, estate planning and insurance. You don’t have to be a high-net-worth individual to seek the assistance of a financial adviser. Go to the National Association of Personal Financial Advisors (NAPFA) and search for one in your area.

Don’t just make a vague resolution to save money. According to Psychology Today, of the millions of American’s who make a New Years resolution, 40 percent have already failed by Jan. 31. Let 2013 be the year you make lasting changes to improve your financial life.

Certified Financial Planner Rick Rodgers is president of Rodgers & Associates, “The Retirement Specialists,” in Lancaster, Pa. He’s a Certified Retirement Counselor and member of the National Association of Personal Financial Advisers. Rodgers has been featured on national radio and TV shows, including “FOX Business News” and “The 700 Club,” and is available to speak at conferences and corporate events (www.RodgersSpeaks.com). ♦

M & A due diligence pitfalls in China

U.S. - China Business Connections Twin Cities will hold its monthly breakfast networking meeting on Wednesday, Jan. 9, 2013, from 7:30 to 9:00 a.m. in Schulze Hall, University of St. Thomas, 1000 LaSalle Avenue, Minneapolis, MN 55403.

The January special guest presenters will be Alan Thometz, CFA, Director of Transaction Advisory Services for Grant Thornton LLP.

information; financial control weaknesses; non-compliance with labor laws; and related-party transactions. The networking and breakfast session begins at 7:30 a.m. The presentation begins at 8 a.m. The meeting adjourns at 9 a.m. with optional networking opportunities to follow. The \$30 fee for non-members and \$15 for first time guests includes breakfast. Students may attend free. Parking is available at the Harmon Avenue and 11th ramp, or at the 10th and Hennepin ramp. A \$5 parking voucher is available for with registration to email ucbevent@gmail.com or call Jim Smith at 612-865-6543. ♦

To acquire a business is a journey and in the words of Lao Tzu, “A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step.” Thometz says that one of the first steps to help increase the chance of a successful merger or acquisition is thorough financial and tax due diligence. He said this gives you an understanding of the business and identifies the issues you need to know to make an informed decision and to get the valuation right. Due diligence in China must address some common pitfalls. This presentation will discuss: Multiple sets of books; poor quality / unreliable financial



Alan Thometz, CFA, Director of Transaction Advisory Services for Grant Thornton LLP.

U.S. - China Joint Commission on Commerce and Trade

WASHINGTON (Dec. 19, 2012) — Acting U.S. Secretary of Commerce Rebecca Blank and United States Trade Representative Ron Kirk, along with Chinese Vice Premier Wang Qishan, co-chaired the 23rd session of the U.S.-China Joint Commission on Commerce and Trade which concluded on Dec. 19.

The U.S. officials announced meaningful progress on key elements of the U.S.-China trade relationship but also underscored that much more work remains to be done to open China’s market to U.S. exports and investment.

“During the past four years that I have been pleased to co-chair the JCCT, the two sides have secured key commitments on issues important to both U.S. and Chinese stakeholders,” said Ambassador Kirk. “The meetings were important both as a capstone to our past efforts and to lay a foundation for progress going forward. The progress we made on issues of fundamental concern demonstrates that the JCCT is a valuable platform that can produce results for business and workers here at home.”

The U.S. and Chinese governments signed agreements related to



The principal leaders from the Chinese delegates and U.S. hosts, from left, China’s Ambassador to the U.S. Zhang Yesui, Vice Minister of Industry and Information Technology Liu Lihua, Chinese Minister of Commerce Chen Deming, Chinese Vice Premier Wang Qishan, Acting U.S. Commerce Secretary Rebecca Blank, U.S. Trade Representative Ron Kirk and U.S. Ambassador to China Gary Locke at the 23rd Session of the U.S. China Joint Commission on Commerce and Trade at the Andrew W. Mellon Auditorium in Washington, D.C. on Wednesday, December 19, 2012. (USDA photo by Lance Cheung)

enhancing understanding and measurement of bilateral trade, and increasing the numbers of reverse trade missions which support China’s continued development while creating more U.S. exports and jobs. Additional information about the signings and fact sheet for the 23rd session of the JCCT will be forthcoming.

“The 23rd meeting of the

JCCT demonstrated that the U.S. and China will continue to work toward ensuring healthy and balanced growth in our commercial and economic relationship,” said Acting Secretary Blank. “We made progress today, though we also recognized that there is still work to do. Among other important outcomes, we were able to address U.S. concerns

relating to intellectual property and innovation, to agree on the elimination of significant regulatory obstacles that were impeding U.S. exports, and to secure meaningful steps for dealing with core issues in China’s Government Procurement Agreement accession. As China continues to open its market to American exports and investment, it will benefit



From left, U.S. Trade Representative Ron Kirk, and Acting U.S. Commerce Secretary Rebecca Blank representing the U.S. greet Chinese Vice Premier Wang Qishan to the 23rd Session of the U.S. China Joint Commission on Commerce and Trade at the Andrew W. Mellon Auditorium in Washington, D.C. on Wednesday, Dec. 19, 2012. (USDA photo by Lance Cheung)

both of our countries.”

U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack also participated in the discussions.

“USDA continued advancing American agricultural interests today in our bilateral trade discussions with the Chinese government,” Secretary Tom Vilsack said. “China is currently the top export market for agricultural products produced by America’s farmers and ranchers, and we were able

to make progress on several key issues, while reinforcing the inherent value of the products produced in the United States. Much more work remains to be completed and we’ll continue working with our Chinese counterparts in the year ahead.”

Established in 1983, the JCCT is the main forum for addressing bilateral trade and investment issues and promoting commercial opportunities between the United States and China. ♦

City optimistic about future of Downtown Macy’s building

ST. PAUL (January 3, 2013) — Macy’s, Inc. announced the closing of its Saint Paul store Thursday along with multiple other locations across the country.

The City of Saint Paul Department of Planning and Economic Development (PED) staff have already begun to consider reuses for the site, which will be one of four downtown light rail stops when the Green Line opens in spring of 2014. In 2001, the city provided a \$6.3 million forgivable loan to assist with asbestos abatement and some store improvements. Repayment terms for the loan expired on Dec. 31, 2012.

“In 2001, downtown Saint Paul was in the beginning stages of recovery after several years of decline,

and losing a big-box store like Macy’s could have potentially jeopardized that recovery,” said Saint Paul Mayor Chris Coleman. “But today the face of downtown has changed, and we stand on a firm foundation that includes the building of hundreds of new housing units, a Lund’s grocery store, the Lowertown regional ballpark, a revitalized Union Depot, and an almost completed Central Corridor light rail line.”

“Downtown Saint Paul’s momentum and rebirth continues,” Coleman added. “And much like when the ballpark or light rail was in the infant stages of great redevelopment ideas, the Macy’s site provides the city with a tremendous opportunity to

bring another part of our city into the 21st century.”

The closing of Macy’s brings with it great redevelopment potential, according to Matt Kramer, President and CEO of the Saint Paul Area Chamber of Commerce. “We understand that large national retailers have been trending for years to the suburban mall model. And while we hate to see Macy’s leave Saint Paul, we are very optimistic about the quick redevelopment of this site given its prime real estate location.”

PED Director Cecile Bedor noted, “We are confident that the development community will recognize the potential of this site, and we’re looking forward to working with Macy’s to ensure a quick and efficient sale and reuse.” ♦

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2013 Citizen Advisory Boards

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- Adult Mental Health Local Advisory Council (LAC)
- Community Action Partnership of Suburban Hennepin Board
- County Extension Committee (Minnesota Extension Service)
- Human Resources Board
- Library Board
- Three Rivers Park District
- Workforce Investment Board (WIB)

Application deadline: Monday, December 31, 2012

For more information and to apply online:

www.hennepin.us/advisoryboards



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Calendar of Events

JANUARY

English as a Second Language Class. Mondays at 1:00 to 2:30 p.m., January 7, 14, & 28, at Saint Anthony Park Library, 2245 Como Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55108. Class size is limited to 15 students. Please call 651-642-0411 to register. This ESL class is for adults whose native language is not English. The curriculum will focus on the improvement of basic writing skills, vocabulary enrichment and grammar. Materials will include newspaper articles of current events and vocabulary and grammar books available from the library. A licensed, experienced teacher and an assistant will teach the class.

Poetry Jam/Rap Battle, Tuesday, Jan. 8, 4 to 5 p.m. at the Apple Valley Teen Center, 14255 Johnny Cake Ridge Road, Apple Valley. A chance for youth ages 12 to 18 to express themselves. The Open Mic event is held the first Tuesday of the month. Free food, door prizes, rap battle, poetry performances and a free creative writing workshop 101. Bring friends together for an evening of poetry, rap, dancing and singing. \$4 at the door, \$3 in advance, and \$2 each for groups of 10 or more. Call 952-953-2385 with questions.

Andrea Cremer, Friday, Jan. 11, 6:30 p.m. – Best-

selling author of Nightshade Prequel #2, will be present for the release of "Rise", the fifth book set in the thrilling Nightshade world. Richly sensual and full of magic, Rise is an edge-of-your-seat page-turner about risking it all for what's right. Meet rock-star-author Andrea Cremer, eat some cake, participate in The World of Nightshade trivia, and receive awesome giveaways! (Recommended for ages 14 and up*) Red Balloon Bookshop, 891 Grand Ave. St. Paul. www.redballoonbookshop.com

Mary Logue, Saturday, Jan. 12, 10:30 a.m., — Author of "Sleep Like a Tiger", celebrate the best bedtime book of the season with local author Mary Logue. Illustrated by Caldecott Honor Medalist Pamela Zagarenski, the luminous illustrations pair with Mary's poetic and unadorned language to frame the very simple-sounding question: does everything in the world go to sleep? (Recommended for ages 3 to 8*) Red Balloon Bookshop, 891 Grand Ave. St. Paul. www.redballoonbookshop.com

Free Dollars Into Sense Class. Anoka County Extension Staff and Dollar Works Volunteers will present a free Dollars into Sense class on Tuesday, January 15 at 10 am at the Bunker Hills Activities Center (550 Bunker Lake Blvd,

Andover) and again at 7 pm at the Anoka County Human Services Center (1201 89th Ave, Blaine). To register, call University of Minnesota Extension, Anoka County, at 763-755-1280 at least three days prior to the class you wish to attend. Classes will cover budgeting and address credit issues, tracking expenses, making a spending plan, goal setting and how to get help.

Children's Literature Network's Chapter & Verse Book Club, Thursday, Jan 17, 6:30 p.m. Discuss two books about Louis Armstrong - Travels with Louis by Mick Carlon and When Louis Armstrong Taught Me Scat by Muriel Harris Weinstein, illustrated by R. Gregory Christie. How do these books (one a non-fiction and the other a picture book) compare? What kind of child would enjoy these books? How can parents and educators reach non-readers with these titles? Please bring in a favorite book set in the world of music that will be compiled into an online list. Red Balloon Bookshop, 891 Grand Ave. St. Paul. www.redballoonbookshop.com

Michael Hall, Cat Tale — Saturday, Jan 19, 10:30 a.m. Meet local author and illustrator Michael Hall and hear about his newest adventures with Lillian, Tilly, and William J. These three cats get into humorous homophone and homonym

happenings and have a tongue twisting trip. Go with them as they spot some ewes, they use a box, they box some fleas, and flee a steer. Red Balloon Bookshop, 891 Grand Ave. St. Paul. www.redballoonbookshop.com

Guys Read Book Club, Tuesday, Jan 22, 7 p.m. Attention Boys! If you're a guy in 4th -6th grade, then you're welcome to join the Guys Read Book Club at Red Balloon. Every month the group will pick an awesome book to read and talk about. Bring along a male adult. Dad. Brother. Uncle. Cousin. Neighbor. Friend. Etc. (Because believe it or not, they were once boys too!) For more info and to sign up, please call Red Balloon: 651-224-8320, 891 Grand Ave. St. Paul. www.redballoonbookshop.com

Sing, Play, Learn with early childhood music specialists Musical Snowstorm from MacPhail MacPhail Center Hands-on musical play activities for families with kids, Tuesday, Jan. 22, 4:30 p.m.-5:15 p.m. For ages 0-5 to experience music's impact on learning and reading readiness skills. Sing, rhyme, read, move, and create! Space is limited. At Saint Anthony Park Library, 2245 Como Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55108. Class size is limited to 15 students. Please call 651-642-0411 to register.

"Navigating the Autism Spectrum" — Thursday, Jan 24, 6:30 p.m., Red Balloon invites parents, grandparents, and loved ones of children with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) to a night focused on autism, a condition affecting 1 in every 88 children in the United States. Two local authors will share their works and experiences: Kari Dunn Buron, author of Adalyn's Clare and The Incredible 5-Point Scale, and Elizabeth Verdick, author of The Survival Guide for Kids with Autism Spectrum Disorder (and Their Parents). Learn about the resources Red Balloon has to offer, including some amazing fiction titles for children and teens! This event is recommended for those already familiar with ASD, but all are welcome to attend. Red Balloon Bookshop, 891 Grand Ave. St. Paul. www.redballoonbookshop.com

Iraqi Immigrant Stories In partnership with the Iraqi & American Reconciliation Project, The Advocates for Human Rights has designed a curriculum to familiarize students with the postwar condition of Iraqi immigrants. A free public reception with the Iraqi authors and video producers on January 24, 2013 from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. The reception will be held in the Schulze Hall Atrium on the University of St. Thomas' Minneapolis campus, 1000 LaSalle Avenue, Minneapolis, MN 55403.

The Tiger Among Us, Jan. 25-Feb. 10, 2013 at Mixed Blood Theatre, 1501 South 4th Street, Minneapolis, MN 55454. A modern-day mid-western folktale about a Hmong American family and the tenuous bonds that tie us together, written by Lauren Yee and directed by Ellen Fenster. Shows run Thursday

through Saturday 7:30 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m. An Audio Described and ASL performance will be held on January 27. The Tiger Among Us explores the cultural disconnect felt by an isolated Hmong American family living in rural Minnesota as two siblings seek to blend traditional Hmong family values with modern life. Contains strong language. Recommended for ages 12+. Call 651-789-1012 or email info@mupperformingarts.org. Visit online at www.mupperformingarts.org for performance and ticket information.

Max and Ruby Storytime — Saturday, Jan 26, 10:30 a.m. A very special storytime for the famous bunny duo, Max and Ruby. Have fun with songs, finger plays, rhymes, and stories with help from Max himself! Don't forget your camera for photo ops with Max after the storytime! Max and Ruby originated as an enchanting book series by Rosemary Wells, and has sold over 3 million books worldwide. Making their television debut in 2002, Max and Ruby's playful high jinks are enjoyed by children around the world. Red Balloon Bookshop, 891 Grand Ave. St. Paul. www.redballoonbookshop.com

Racial Justice Day at the Capitol, January 30, 2013, including the Seventh Annual Legislative Report Card on Racial Equity and 2013 Racial Equity Agenda Release. Please consider a gift to OAP to bring down the costs for printing the Report Card and Racial Equity Agenda. Organizing Apprenticeship Project | 2525 E Franklin Ave Suite 301 Minneapolis, MN 55406.

FEBRUARY

Minnesota History Film Series: **Abraham and Mary Lincoln: A House Divided - Ambition,** Tuesday, Feb. 12, 7 p.m., at Charles A. Lindbergh Historic Site 1620 Lindbergh Dr. S., Little Falls. Free and open to the public. This first episode, 'Ambition,' focuses on Abraham and Mary Todd Lincoln's childhoods, courtship and marriage at the start of Lincoln's political career. Phone: 320-616-5421

History Lounge: Minnesota, Voting Rights and the Civil War, Tuesday, Feb. 12, 7 to 9 p.m. at Minnesota History Center 345 Kellogg Blvd W., St. Paul. Join historian Bill Green as he discusses one of the most tempestuous eras in Minnesota history, when battles over freedom, race and the vote raged through the state, echoing the national fight that would lead to the U.S. Civil War. At the same time, citizens both black and white feared the state's clashes over race would turn the region into a northern "Bleeding Kansas," and stop the North Star state from ever forming. Phone: 651-259-3000.

4-H Winter Camps Winter camps and outdoor adventures are being offered through the University of Minnesota Extension, Anoka County 4-H. These programs are held at 4-H Camp Salie located in Linwood Township. Camps are open to 4-H and non-4-H youth. These camps encourage learning about nature and the environment, making new friends and indoor and outdoor

recreation! Campers will participate in a variety of crafts and special projects.

Overnight camps: February 15-16, 2013 (grades 2-5) February 22-23, 2013 (grades 6 and up) **Day Camp:** February 16, 2013 (grades K-5) For information and registration form z.umn.edu/WntrCmps, visit our website at www.extension.umn.edu/county/anoka, or call 763-755-1280.

MARCH

Prom Dress Donations Wanted and Prom Dress Sale - March 2, 2013

Anoka County 4-H is collecting gently used formal dresses for the sale. If you are interested in donating dresses, they will be accepted until March 1st at the Anoka County 4-H Office during office hours from 8 am-4:30 pm at 550 Bunker Lake Blvd NW, Andover MN. Donation receipts furnished. Anoka County 4-H is holding a sale of gently-used or new prom/formal dresses and accessories on March 2 from 9 am-Noon at the Bunker Hills Activities Center, 550 Bunker Lake Boulevard NW in Andover. Over 200 beautiful garments of all sizes and colors will be sold for under \$30! All proceeds support Anoka County 4-H programs and scholarships. Contact annag@umn.edu or 763-755-1280. For information see visit z.umn.edu/promdress.

Connect India

The annual Connect India event will be held Sat., Mar 23, 2013, from 5 to 9 p.m. at Crowne Plaza, 3 Appletree Square, I-494 & 34th Avenue S., Bloomington, MN 55425. This is an opportunity to network with prominent community leaders in Minnesota, participate in a thought-provoking panel discussion, honor the IAM Achievement Awardee for excellence in community service, enjoy a delicious Indian dinner enthralling cultural performance. For information on tickets and sponsoring call 651-321-3421, email president@iamn.org and visit www.iamn.org.

ONGOING

Support Sessions for Southeast Asian Youth are offered on Wednesdays at Brooklyn Center High School from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. We host a safe and fun environment with food, gift cards for steady attendance and provide great resources and support. If you are or know someone who needs help and support with drug or alcohol use, please contact Ying Lee at chem-freeasian@gmail.com.

Introduction to transcendental meditation Wednesdays, 12:30 p.m. and 7 p.m., 399 Ruth Street N., St Paul, MN 55119. Call 651-714-0254 or visit www.TM.org/twincities.

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P.L.A.N. for success to lose those holiday pounds the right way, the healthy way

By Dr. Eudene Harry



Eudene Harry, M.D.

So you overindulged during the holidays and gained a few pounds or, even more distressing, you've added even more weight to the weight you were trying to shed all year.

Regain the upper hand by following a simple P.L.A.N. for weight-loss success: P: Preparation. Whether you are the CEO of your home or CEO of a Fortune 500 company, you know that the odds of success increase with preparation. One of the biggest missteps is to depend on "will power."

If you are stressed after a long day at work, you didn't sleep well the night before and you missed your afternoon snack, what will you choose when you get home: the chocolate chip cookies or preparing a sensible dinner? If, on the other hand, there are no cookies available and you have already prepared dinner, then what do you choose? That's the difference between will power and preparation.

Step 1: Go through the pantry and fridge and dispose of tempting leftovers. You will not help starvation in Africa or any other country by overindulging. Restock with your favorite fruits, vegetables and raw nuts, all of which make easy snacks. Divide the nuts into appropriate single-serving sizes. Remember: preparation, not will power.

Step 2: Take one a day a week to prepare for the week ahead. If you already know what you are going to have for breakfast,

you're less apt to skip this meal, which sets you up to overindulge the rest of the day. If you know that you'll be eating out this week, take time to look at the menu items and nutrition facts for the restaurant online. You can also use the time to plan appropriate substitutions. With this strategy you accomplish two things: making better choices and appearing spontaneous and decisive to your dining partners.

L: Identify your limits. This is the key to success for many weight management programs. It may be presented as daily points, calorie count or prepackaged foods, but the take-home message is the same: Know your limits.

A simple rule of thumb is to eat your vegetables first, perhaps with 1 to 2 teaspoons of olive oil or crushed nuts to ensure absorption of all the nutrients vegetables offer, then consume your protein source (a portion the size of your palm), and finally, the carbohydrate. Keep carbs whole grain,

high fiber and limit to a half-cup. Eating this way has several advantages. It slows down the absorption of sugar and thereby prevents insulin spikes and reactive hunger; it helps you to feel fuller more quickly; and it maximizes absorption of nutrients.

Other things to consider are limiting sodium to less than 2,000 mg a day; limit alcohol to one to two drinks a week; and put all sauces and dressing on the side so you control the amount used – no more than 1 tablespoon. Avoid fried foods, trans fats and foods whose primary ingredient is sugar.

A: Increase activity level. You want to increase activity not because it will help you to lose weight but because it will improve your energy, moods and muscle tone. All are important ingredients in any weight-loss program. The first rule of thumb is to pick an activity that you like – or one you don't hate. Next, shoot for consistency before quantity. Starting out with an hour a day may feel overwhelming and exhausting, and can also cause an injury, which would derail all your good intentions. If 10 minutes four times a week allows you to be consistent, then start there and build up. Rome was not built in a day.

N: Finally, cut the negative talk. Remember when your grandmother said you could attract more flies with honey? I think this is what she meant. Beating up on yourself gives you the excuse you need to continue the habits that

have kept you in the same place. We have just left a season where, hopefully, we have been reminded of the importance of being kind to others. Why not extend that kindness to yourself? Instead of constantly looking for proof of why you are going to fail, look for evidence of success: "I exercised 10 minutes a day for four days last week and already I am feeling a bit better. Wow, imagine when I can do it for 15 minutes."

I often hear patients say, "It's been a month and I have only lost three or four pounds." This is not defeat; this is success! In 12 months that will be 36 pounds. Another thing I hear frequently is, "It has been two weeks. I feel better but I haven't lost any weight so why bother." Try – "It's only been two weeks and already I am starting to feel better. Imagine what I can accomplish in three, six, or 12 months. Remember Einstein's rule: You can't solve a problem from the same mind frame in which it was created.

Eudene Harry, M.D. completed her medical degree and residency training at Thomas Jefferson University. She has been practicing medicine nearly 20 years, including 10 as an emergency physical for Level II trauma centers. She is the medical director for the integrative and holistic Oasis Wellness and Rejuvenation Center, and is founder of Oasis for Optimal Health, a private practice focused on integrative, holistic wellness and empowering and educating the patient. ♦

The Death of Innocence

EDITORIAL
By Janet Pfeiffer



Janet Pfeiffer

The recent tragedy in Newtown, Conn., is one of unspeakable horror. The most recent in what appears to be an alarming trend of mass murders in America is, in my mind, the most gruesome — most significantly due to the tender ages of the victims.

Since the Columbine massacre in 1999, little has been done to secure the safety of our children. Metal detectors, security cameras and resource officers in schools offer little protection against one determined to commit a heinous act. Neither will gun control or tougher sentencing serve as a deterrent to those filled with evil intent. We've put a Band Aid on the problem rather than treat the underlying illness behind the carnage of our people.

I grew up in the 1950's and '60's, when acts of violence in rural America were a rarity. But violence is only a symptom of a much deeper-rooted problem: for decades, our country has been in a state of extreme moral decay.

We have become a nation of self-centered, ego-driven, rude, arrogant, self-righteous people who have lost all regard for our fellow Americans. We are a nation where power, greed and ego take precedence over decency, compassion and kindness. We have turned away from our religious roots and chosen to live life on our own terms. Some find God offensive - His Commandments obsolete and irrelevant in a modern-day world. "Love your God; love your neighbor as yourself; do not kill." Totally archaic.

We continually violate His laws and are shocked when horrific events occur. That's akin to exceeding the speed limit, then being surprised when issued a citation. Laws are created for a reason and God's Laws are absolute.

We have filled our hearts with hatred. We glorify anger, violence, and the suffering of others as entertainment. We judge and label those struggling with personal demons or who don't meet our standards of excellence. We seek revenge on those who offend us and have become oblivious (and even more shocking) indifferent to the suffering we cause others.

We do what we want, when we want, however we want. If others don't like it, too bad. That's not our problem. Our rights, feelings, and needs override that of others. People must earn our respect and even then, we choose who receives this honor.

We have devalued human life and therein lies the root

of evil in this world. We are all God's sacred children, scarred and struggling, but no less precious in His eyes. Who among us was given authority to redefine another's worth?

The massacre in Columbine, the slaughter of 32 at Virginia Tech, the recent mass murders in a movie theater and mall haven't been enough to wake this country up. Will the bloodied bodies of 20 precious babies and the heroes who gave their lives protecting them be the pivotal moment that reminds us to have reverence for all human life?

We don't need to fear the "fiscal cliff". We plunged off the "spiritual cliff" decades ago. It is not our government's responsibility to fix what is broken within each of us. Each individual must commit to resuming a life of high moral integrity.

The keys to preventing more bloodshed in this country are a return to the moral and spiritual dictates of God, to live lives of compassion, kindness, acceptance, inclusion, generosity, forgiveness, and love; to be a reflection of God's presence in this world and treat all His children with the same dignity and tender care He does. Only when love for all becomes the standard measure of a life well lived will we defeat hatred, destruction, and evil.

We are to be healers to one another. With the grace and guidance of God, we can achieve this goal. Let THIS be the new American dream. Return to your houses of worship. Read and live the words of the Bible. Raise your children in the ways of the Lord. Be examples of kindness and love for others to follow.

Rest assured: our precious little angels are resting safely in the arms of our Heavenly Father while we are left to clean up this mess we have made. God help us. We need it.

God gave His only Son so that we may have life. Let not the loss of these babies be in vain. Let their lives inspire us to truly learn how to love. ♦

Special Ed, diversity and benefits of inclusion

For orthopedic surgeon Sean Adelman, a father of three, including Dev, a high-school age daughter with Down syndrome, life lessons are not the exclusive province of the young.

"As a dad, I have often been reminded of the poet William Wordsworth and his line, 'The child is father of the man,'" says Adelman, author of Sam's Top Secret Journal, the first in a the first in a Nancy Drew-style children's book series featuring a protagonist with Down syndrome.

"I think most parents have this experience that, while it's our job to teach our children how to grow up and function in a society, we are constantly learning ourselves. They force us to rethink the basics as we help mold them into mature human beings."

Of course, much of a child's development is out of the hands of parents, he says. School and other social functions provide many first worldly experiences that are so important to developing students. And that makes

diversity so important. Various studies have shown that not only do those with learning challenges benefit from "inclusive education" – a movement that integrates special-ed students with non-special-ed students – but also the rest of the student body.

Adelman explores how inclusion benefits the entire student body: • Empathic development: To a significant extent, society is a social contract among citizens. That means, at the very least, good behavior is required of individuals. At best, however, citizens recognize that we are social creatures who need each other, and the best way to a better society is to have empathy for our fellow human beings.

During the 1990s, inclusion of special-ed students jumped from 48 percent to 70 percent, according to the U.S. Department of Education. Despite concerns at the time about teachers' ability to attend to the needs of all their students in such classes, a Zigmund and Baker study

showed teachers did not lose their effectiveness. The famous study also showed that the students treated each other better in general. Children learn that everyone needs help from time to time, and it's as gratifying to provide it as to receive it.

• Diversity and the real world: Children who attend inclusive schools, where all children are mainstreamed, are better able to navigate the complexities of our diverse adult society. Students with and without special needs benefit from exposure to classmates who face different life circumstances.

Studies from the National Center for Special Education Research, among others from throughout the world, support claims of mutual benefit from special-ed and non-special-ed students with integration. For a well-rounded character and personality, young people need to be exposed to the many faces of humanity in terms of race, economic background and those with special needs. In addition to this personal edification, a

professional career demands social grace and comfort in a diverse work environment.


• The meaning of friendship: Children need to develop social skills and to know how to create and sustain meaningful friendships for a healthy adult life. We may lose wealth, youth, health, and spouses. Friends, however, are often the most reliable emotional resource in life.

Friends must learn to accept one another's limitations and flaws, and to complement one another's weaknesses by contributing their strengths. Friends also quickly learn that superficial differences are far less important than shared values, trust and humor.

Sean Adelman is a practicing orthopedic surgeon and advocate for exceptional kids in Seattle. He and his wife, Susan, have three children. Adelman wrote the "Sam's Top Secret Journal" series to show the similarities the protagonist shares with other children, and to explore how differently-abled individuals benefit society. ♦

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- Must possess valid Class D Minnesota Drivers License.
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If interested in this position and to apply please visit www.plymouthmn.gov and click on "Employment." The application deadline is January 18th, 2013.

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TCC Land Bank, a nonprofit financial service org., seeks CFO to perform strategic financial planning and data analysis, oversee all financial activities including budgeting, audit, and contract and reporting compliance. 5 yrs of experience as CFO or equiv. Letter of application and resume received at hr@tcclandbank.org through January 14, 2013 will be considered.

PUBLIC NOTICE ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Frana Companies invites prospective Bidders to submit Subcontractor bids for Hi-Lake Triangle. This will be a 64 unit apartment building in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Sealed bids will be received at Frana Companies until 2:00 p.m. CDT, Tuesday, January 15, 2013. Bids received after this date and hour will be returned unopened. No telephone bids, emailed or fax bids will be accepted. Bids will be opened privately. Bids shall be addressed to: Stuart Bestul, Frana Companies, 633 Second Avenue S., Hopkins, Minnesota 55343.

Bidding Documents are available electronically online at the following link <https://frana.sharefile.com>; email franabids@frana.com; password; franabids. Bidding Documents can be viewed at Frana Companies, 633 2nd Avenue S, Hopkins, MN 55343 Phone (952) 935-8600; Minneapolis Builders Exchange; Builders Exchange of St. Paul; iSqFt & AGC of MN Plan Room or CD's of Bidding Documents can be requested through Lynn Lindblom at Lindblom@frana.com or 952-352-2680.

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The Washington County Housing and Redevelopment Authority (WCHRA) is accepting applications for a full-time General Accountant perform accounting duties in Washington County. Duties include maintaining general ledgers, accounts payable duties, assisting Finance Director in budget preparation and other accounting duties related to Governmental and Property Accounting. Qualified candidates will hold a bachelor's degree in accounting or related field and 1-3 years working in governmental accounting, or an equivalent combination of education and experience. Candidates will have thorough knowledge of accounting and budgeting principles, accounting technology and financial record keeping. A valid driver's license is required. An excellent benefit package is available; salary range is \$41,122 to \$52,915 per year. This position is a non-exempt position.

This position is Section 3 eligible. This certification does not guarantee job placement. More information on Section 3 is available on the WCHRA website. The application packet may be downloaded from our website: www.wchra.com. To request a paper application packet, email rsmialek@wchra.com or call 651-458-0936 ext 0. This position will remain open until filled.

THE WASHINGTON COUNTY HOUSING AND REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY DOES NOT DISCRIMINATE ON THE BASIS OF RACE, COLOR, NATIONAL ORIGIN, SEX, RELIGION, AGE AND HANDICAPPED STATUS IN EMPLOYMENT OR THE PROVISION OF SERVICES.

UN expert concerned over reports of intimidation of judges in Sri Lanka

NEW YORK (Dec. 21, 2012)— Intimidation and attacks against judges and judicial officers in Sri Lanka are increasing in what may constitute a threat to the independence of the justice system in the Asian country, a United Nations independent expert warned today. "The recent steps taken by the executive and legislative towards impeaching the Chief Justice appear to be the culminating point of a series of attacks against the judiciary for asserting its independence," the UN Special Rapporteur on

the independence of judges and lawyers, Gabriela Knaul, stated in a news release.

According to reports received by Ms. Knaul, attacks and threats against members of the judiciary and lawyers in Sri Lanka, as well as interference in their work, have "dramatically increased" in recent months, with the procedure of impeachment of the Chief Justice of the country's Supreme Court, Dr. Bandaranayake, launched before the Parliament on 1 November, being a particularly evident

example. On 8 December, the inquiry investigating Dr. Bandaranayake found her guilty of three out of the five charges which it had pursued.

"It is of high concern to me that the procedure for the removal of the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court is extremely politicized and characterized by lack of transparency, lack of clarity in the proceedings, as well as lack of respect for the fundamental guarantees of due process and fair trial," Ms. Knaul said. "I urge again the authorities

of Sri Lanka to reconsider the impeachment of the Chief Justice due to the lack of due process and fair trial guarantees and to ensure that the judiciary can operate free from external pressures, threats or any interference," she added.

In the Special Rapporteur's view, according to the news release from the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), the procedure for the removal of judges of Sri Lanka's Supreme Court, set out in article 107 of the country's constitution,

allows the Parliament to exercise considerable control over the judiciary – and is therefore incompatible with both the principle of separation of power and article 14 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

The UN expert urged Sri Lankan lawmakers to modify the country's constitution in order to render it compliant to international human rights law and prevent the future political persecution of independent judges. "To be compatible with both

the principle of separation of powers and international human rights law norms, disciplinary proceedings against judges should be conducted by independent commissions and guarantee full respect for due process and fair trial," Ms. Knaul concluded.

Independent experts, or special rapporteurs like Ms. Knaul, are appointed by the Geneva-based UN Human Rights Council to examine and report back, in an unpaid capacity, on specific human rights themes. ♦

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BEND, NOT BREAK

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building 40 radios a day in Mao's anti-capitalistic China to a mentor and powerhouse in the high-stakes realm of U.S. technology start-ups.

Hopeful, heartbreaking, and empowering, in "Bend, Not Break", Ping includes her thoughts on her life, starting a business that revolutionized design, motherhood, and creating success:

- I had the best of both worlds with my two mothers. Shanghai Mama's unconditional adoration and tender nurturing gave me a foundation of love, compassion, and appreciation for beauty that helped me to survive the harsh Cultural Revolution years. Nanjing Mother's more analytical, rational way of thinking and her tough, unemotional style pushed me to accomplish more.
- At eight years old, the boat on the long river of life was in my hands alone.
- I reasoned that I didn't have a choice about having been born a black element, but I could choose to be good.
- People's openheartedness carried me through my darkest hours.
- I was shy and quiet in class. However, I was assertive in our assignments, driving our team to achieve excellence. Years later, I would find this approach written about in business management textbooks: it was a leadership style known as "servant leadership."
- An entrepreneur works for everyone but himself or herself.
- Negotiating is not about winning a battle, or even positioning yourself to win. It is about not getting into a fight in the first place.
- It is far more important to be interested in the customers' needs than to be interesting.
- If you don't believe in the glass ceiling, it does not exist.
- Like a mountain range, life offers surprising views at every turn. Although the best views can be found on the peaks, it is the valleys that offer the most opportunities for growth and development.
- In valleys we farm, build roads, and formulate our visions for reaching ever higher. In valleys, we develop resilience and cultivate hope.
- Growth is not a goal; it is an ongoing commitment to progress.

"Bend, Not Break", written with MeiMei Fox, is the incredible personal story of a woman of enduring courage and compassion, unbreakable strength, and indelible spirit. Rich in detail, literary style, and career wisdom, Ping Fu's journey is unforgettable and uplifting.

Ping Fu is the founder and CEO of Geomagic, a 3D software company that has reshaped the world of design and manufacturing, from personalizing prosthetic limbs to repairing NASA spaceships. She was Director of Visualization at the National Center for Supercomputing Applications, where she initiated and managed the NCSA Mosaic software project that led to Netscape and Internet Explorer, the first browser to make the Internet easily accessible to non-techies, available for every desktop, for free. She lives in Chapel Hill, North Carolina. For more information, please visit BendNotBreak.com, and follow Ping on Facebook and Twitter.

MeiMei Fox is an author and book editor who also blogs regularly for the Huffington Post.

A Conversation with Ping Fu

Q: What inspired you to tell your story now?
Ping: Since 2006, when Inc. magazine named me Entrepreneur of the Year, my friends have been asking me to tell my story. But I wanted to be sensitive to my daughter. When she was younger, it would have been distressing to put my difficult past in the public eye, but now that she is 18, I felt the time was right.

Q: As a "black element child" in Chairman Mao's China, you were forced to denounce

yourself and your educated parents, to declare and come to believe that you were a nobody. Your secret journal, your "voice in this world," was taken and burned. What did the process of writing this book return to you?

Ping: The journey of writing "Bend, Not Break" helped me think more deeply about the larger significance of those experiences, how they have shaped me, and how they continue to influence me today. So it was at once a difficult and a rather healing process. I came to the realization that the events themselves are far less important than how we deal with the intensity of our emotions and how we make decisions in difficult situations. Some people, for whatever reason, may not be emotionally prepared to deal with traumatic events. I hope those readers will come away with new insights on how to manage that emotional intensity and make sound decisions.

Q: A child worker in a re-education camp, you suffered unspeakable abuse, were forced to eat "bitter meals" of dirt, animal dung, and tree bark, and gang-raped at ten years old. Did having sole responsibility for your younger sister's safety and welfare help you survive?
Ping: The hardships certainly helped me to develop survival instincts. At the same time I developed a great deal of tolerance and resilience, which I rely on in difficult times, like those that may arise while running a company or personal difficulties, like a divorce. My past helped me deal with despair while maintaining the optimism that I find essential to life. I do believe that things always work out, even in apparently hopeless situations. From that perspective, the atrocities I endured absolutely helped me survive. That said, I don't wish anyone to live that life. I don't think that people would need to live a traumatic life to survive as I did.

Q: You chose to be good rather than resentful and bitter. Where did your strength come from?
Ping: I think my strength came from two sources. The first was my Shanghai Papa, who often said to me, "Don't go to the praise" or be the person that you don't want to be. He also said, "If you are straight, don't worry if your shadow is not straight," meaning that I shouldn't concern myself with what others said or thought of me, as long as I was good. When I was being told I was worthless and nothing in the re-education camp, I always had those concepts in my pocket as reminders of who I really was.

The other source of my strength came about as a result of growing up as a nobody. As a nobody, I didn't feel I had a right to behave badly. By being good it was much harder for people to be bad to me. While both of these elements were protective, one was conceptual and one was a survival skill.

Q: At 25, the Chinese government deported you, and you arrived in the U.S. with \$80 and three English phrases: "hello," "thank you," and "help." What did you learn from your early working experiences as a waitress and maid, and from teaching yourself English and math, that informed your work as a manager and business leader?

Ping: I have this principle that every job has value and no job is too small. I never equate what I do with a position. Even though I'm CEO, I'd be happy to clean out the kitchen, pick up trash, and carry machines with me. I've always done that. I think that comes from working manual jobs and being part of the society that struggles to pursue a better life. I also think that though I live a blessed life today, my childhood "re-education" years, in which every day was a struggle for your life, for food, and for shelter, gave me a greater understanding of other

people and families. That time of my life developed my ability to have compassion and not make assumptions.

Q: What did it mean to you to become a mother?

Ping: It was such an incredible experience. My biological mother, Nanjing Mother, told me she never wanted to be a mother, so I didn't really desire to be a mother, either. But when I was married I became pregnant, that was just the best thing that ever happened. Although I had cared for my younger sister, giving birth to my own child was something new and different, my journey was very pleasant. From time to time, I have a hard time understanding why, when I feel such a strong attachment to my daughter, my biological mother didn't want me. To reconcile that was somewhat of a struggle, and at the end I just accepted that everybody is different, that not everyone feels the same.

Q: When you initiated and managed the NCSA Mosaic software project that led to Netscape and Internet Explorer, did you begin to have an idea of the trajectory of your career?

Ping: No. I do have this fundamental belief that life is like a mountain range. I believe more in going forward rather than going up all the time. To move on to another mountain peak, another success, I have to go down before I go up. From this perspective, I always knew that my trajectory would be to go toward the desired outcome. I have always tried to go to where my passions lay and have taken some risks along the way. If I arrive and feel, "Oh, this is not as pretty as I thought," I'm willing to go down again to reach another peak that will amaze me, to find the fabulous and fantastic. No one will hand it to you. You have to travel there.

I was willing to do anything to get a better job, reach an attractive area, chase a passion, or seek people I wanted to work with. It was never about how successful I might be, money I might make, or a promotion. Rather, I thought, "OK, I'd really like a career that will allow me to do art and science," or "I'd really like to take handcraftsmanship and combine that with digital technology." So even though Mosaic was a great success, I decided to start Geomagic to focus on personalized manufacturing, on-demand manufacturing. At that time people asked, "Why would you do that? That is so not sexy." Everybody was talking about dot-coms. GE CEO Jack Welch was saying, "Destroy your business," because he wanted people to innovate and do business in new ways. My new way was to create an IT-enabled cottage industry. I wanted to bring thousands of years of handcraftsmanship into today's digital technology and for the product to start with people. Fifteen years ago, very few people knew what I was talking about.

Q: Your ingenuity and the creativity of the Geomagic team has, among many inventive projects, revolutionized cleft palate treatments for infants, made possible the Invisalign system of braces, and has been a major part of the process that enables NASA to detect, assess, and repair space shuttle insulation tile damage. Please describe what Geomagic does.

Ping: Think about Geomagic as Adobe in 3D. Adobe allows you to design your content for two-dimensional printing or display on the screen. At Geomagic, we create software to capture 3D images from the real world or real people. With 3D scan data, people can create a design and interact with those models. In 2D, you would call it editing a document: cutting and pasting your text or inserting images. We edit models.

We may drop them into a larger environment to interact with other parts, cut and paste a previous model, or import and combine various

3D models. Then we make the output ready for display on the screen, send it to a 3D printer for people to produce a real object, or send it to a machine where people can cut away material to make a product. Geomagic software creates content. We sit between the input that can be sculpted by humans or captured by camera – we allow people to do anything with that data – and the output will be milled, casted, 3D printed, or digital displayed.

For Invisalign invisible braces, the process starts by scanning a dental impression of the patient's teeth. From there our software creates a digital model based on the initial shape and also helps designers create the final perfect smile. With the initial and final stages known, the software will compute a set of models based on tooth movement for every two weeks in between.

We print out the molds on a 3-D printer and apply a liner over that mold. Each progressive liner is two weeks ahead of the current shape of your teeth, so every time you wear a liner, it moves your teeth to the desired shape for two weeks forward. You go through each liner until you reach the desired smile.

NASA's space shuttles were always vulnerable to collision and damage. The Columbia orbiter was destroyed when it re-entered the earth's atmosphere due to damage to the insulation tiles under the wing. On its descent, the heat seared the shuttle and it exploded. So NASA put a 3D imaging camera on the space shuttle and used it to capture affected sites.

That data was sent to the ground via satellite, and they used Geomagic software to do a custom repair. Imagine that the damage looked more or less like tooth decay, and we made the positive shape to fit into that area. The repair tool path was sent to the space station, where they milled the patch, placed it onto the shuttle exterior - and fixed it. It's very similar to how we create fillings for a tooth but on a much bigger scale.

Q: As founder and CEO of Geomagic, you follow a mission of innovation and creativity as an American business. Please tell us about your understanding and involvement in pushing insourcing as a way for economic recovery and job creation.

Ping: Insourcing is about bringing manufacturing back and promoting distributed fabrication locally in the U.S. Currently, China's top ten exports are U.S. companies. Long-distance shipping is inefficient; with the long lead-time between product request and receipt, you might only sell 10% or 20% with the rest going to discount or to warehouses. And it is not green because of the high carbon footprint. Insourcing is, in essence, the opposite of outsourcing, instead of being designed in the U.S. and made in China, we want to promote global design and local fabrication. It's not unlike having the The New York Times printed in San Francisco for people who live there rather than printing it in New York and shipping it west.

With 3D printing and advanced manufacturing, there is no reason to outsource production to other countries. If it's on-demand, we make it near the customer and for the customer. If I go to Walmart and see something made in China, I want it to be a Chinese-designed product that was made here. That way you capture Chinese culture, not an American product made in China and shipped here.

Insourcing also creates local jobs. Manufacturing companies employ the most workers, and carry out the most R&D. If we lose that, we lose jobs. I saw news that Taiwan's Foxconn is building a U.S. factory to make Apple products here in U.S. That's insourcing. Instead of outsourcing Apple products to China, Foxconn will start to manufacture here and create American jobs in the process.

Q: What do you think about the glass ceiling, and the concept that women can have it all? What advice would you give to women who want to advance their careers?
Ping: First of all, we cannot do everything, and we cannot do it all perfectly. So just drop that concept. Anyone who tries to do it all will not have time to enjoy life. As for glass ceilings, I don't believe in them. I always say they don't exist for two reasons: First, I don't believe success is about moving up all the time. I believe in moving forward and in progress; looking at your heart's desire, finding what makes you happy, and then going there. Secondly, disappointment always comes with the concept of a corporate ladder. Why do you want to choose the VP position? Is it that you can affect people's lives in that position, or you can contribute more? In fact, that position doesn't matter. Everybody can contribute more, no matter their position.

I believe that leadership is a being, not a position. In this view, a leader is a person, not just a position of authority. If I am a leader and people trust me and want to follow me, that's an awesome responsibility. And responsibility comes with a lot of work, so one has to think about what one wants in life. That's what I tell female entrepreneurs.

When there are ten people who want a position, one woman and nine men, everybody has one-tenth of an opportunity. On an individual level, no one man has more of an opportunity than a woman, but nine men have more opportunities together than one woman. In a situation where you didn't get the job, your response is important. If my response is, "A man always gets it, and a woman never gets it," then guess what, I'm giving up. If my response is, "Those other eight men didn't get it either, I'm just as good as any of them and I'm going to get it someday," then I try harder. My advice to women is to think individually, not as an issue of race or gender. If gender is important to you, then try to help more women to succeed.

Q: You are among a very few female entrepreneurs

PING FU
Continued from Page 8

RAW STAGES
Continued from Page 12

began as a rag-tag group of kids, became a city-wide institution that lasted into the middle of the 20th Century.

Featuring Christian Bordin, Cameron Ljungkull, Jacob Ingbar, Andrew Fischer, Alan Sorenson, Bob Berdahl, Kendall Thompson, Randy Schemling, Peter Thompson, Jen Burleigh-Bentz, and Marty Ruben.

Saturday, Jan. 12 at 2 p.m. 38: The Dakota-U.S. War at the Minnesota History Center.

Written by Rob Thomas, and directed by Rhiana Yazzie.

In 1862 Mankato, Minnesota was the sight of the largest mass execution in American history. What followed was an exile of the Dakota people from their ancestral tribal lands; an exile that is still legislatively in force today. This new play explores the events leading up to the Dakota-U.S. War – invasions of indigenous sacred lands, cultural genocide, and starvation – through the court trials of the 38 Dakota warriors who were prosecuted as war criminals and executed by the United States government.

Drawing on articles, letters, and diaries, this provocative new play personifies the famous, infamous, and nameless people who were caught up in this tragic moment in our country's history. It is a story that has been waiting one hundred fifty years to be told.

Presented at the Minnesota History Center, featuring: Inez Decoteau, Charles Her Many Horses, Jon Hege, Eric Knutson, Donavan Mountain, Joe Bendickson, Ernest Briggs, and Sisóka Dúta, and Marcie Rendon, Dramaturge. ♦

QEEJ
Continued from Page 1

Not only the dance includes a beautiful dragon head with matching gold/red masks, MN SunShine dancers has also performed this powerful dance with explosive physical capacities along with beautiful costume, and refreshing Asian music.

This 90-minute show, interweaving non-stop acrobatics, amazing costumes, dazzling dances, fantastic lighting has entertained more than 500 audiences, mixed with Asians and Caucasians.

"With more than 15 dances throughout the show, most of our dancers have to do 2-3 dances, they have not only completed the difficult costume changes, but also seamlessly connect each dance's emotion perfectly, said Artistic Director Iny Xiong, spoke. "One of the audience told me that she has the goose bumps by watching the show, she can't believe how strong the performance carrying on at the professional level beyond the ages of the dancers. And that is how good we are." ♦

JUDGESHIPS
Continued from Page 3

Watson brings a wealth of experience and knowledge from his robust career in the legal field, especially in his background with civil justice and rights. I now urge the Senate to act swiftly in confirming Watson's nomination to ensure a more diverse representation in all branches of government.

Pacific Islanders and Native Americans are markedly absent from the federal judiciary. No Native Hawaiians currently serve as Article III judges, and no Native Americans serve on the federal bench. Watson, who is currently the Chief of the Civil Division of the United States Attorney's Office for the District of Hawaii, would break that trend.

His prior experiences include private practice in San Francisco and several years in the United States Attorney's Office for the Northern District of California. Watson also served in the United States Army Reserve and was a Captain in the JAG Corps from 1998-2006. After attending the Kamehameha Schools, he went on to Harvard College and Harvard Law School. ♦

SENIORS
Continued from Page 10

top 2-3 resumes, if I'd e-mail them to her); MS Word I and Excel with Katie Douglass.

Pat is an awesome instructor. She could make standing on one foot while turning to type on a computer seem possible and easy. My lack of confidence and fears are gone. She is direct, with humor and compassion. She shared just enough personal background... which is what adult learners need for a relationship. We all felt she wants us to learn and have success. I was absolutely terrified to take Power Point. Surprise! It came to me faster than Excel.

Katie did a wonderful job with the three of us in Excel I. There were many questions. All three were at different understanding and background levels. The info got through to us. With MS Word I, I found I knew three-fourths of it, but I'd never learned the vocabulary. I'd never learned to right click (because my husband had made it seem so scary).

I met Kadra and Theresa who both help the instructors out if there are too many questions "flying" or if a student is slowing down the pace. They instinctively know when and how to offer help. They also help the instructor meet class time scheduling.

Both of them were so kind, compassionate and understanding. I also learned there were people present in the BAP room any time it is open – to assist students who come in to practice on software or who don't have a computer. The instructors move between buildings for classes.

I truly appreciate the quality and quantity of learning and the knowledge and integrity of BAP's instructors. ♦

Seniors re-tool with expters tutors at BAP Technology Centers

My BAP Experience
By ELAINE SPIEGEL

At age 65 I was 'set-up' to be terminated (as were others at that company). After a job search of over a year, I became a student with the Office of Lifelong Learning Senior Program, at the University of Minnesota.

Due to downsizing from our home of 46 years and purchasing a townhome a year ago, at our ages, my husband and I thought the sale of our home would provide us with enough money to live on for the rest of our lives. Well, the economy changed more and family health changes. We don't have pensions or 401K. Now we are like many other senior (on limited income) who are looking for jobs – either part-time or full-time.

We joined Jewish Family and Children Services Senior Career Counseling, PARNOSSA and we qualified for the Platinum Program for seniors with very limited income. I heard about BAP from the 4/C printed



Elaine Spiegel

Bulletin that JFCS gave to those who felt they needed classes. I came to BAP out of desperation to gain computer skills like Excel and PowerPoint and to learn just how weak my MS Word skills are. I do well, but I'll never be fast. My plans had been to find a Leads Generation/Outbound Sales

Position. When a temp agency saw my "creative problem solving abilities and builds relationships with clients and potential clients," they perceived me as working in project areas – which need these computer skills as tools for their jobs.

I wish that I had known about BAP 6+ months ago, but I wasn't in JFCS, then. James DeSota was my phone introduction to BAP. He was so kind to "listen" and hear about my needs because I'd already had three phone pre-screening interviews and had just realized expectations were to develop proficiency in my three need areas. He actually scheduled me for the trainings.

My classes were scheduled in late September and October 2012 at Sabathini Community Center: Google Basics and PowerPoint with Pat Nelson; Writing a Resume with Kimberly Huebsch (who let me in and offered to proof my

SENIORS
Continued on Page 9

Global Leadership Congress

Philadelphia, PA (Dec. 19, 2012) — CorpU, the leading talent development insight and education provider, and the University of Pennsylvania Graduate School of Education (Penn GSE), an innovator in 21st Century Learning, will host the 14th Annual two-day Global Leadership Congress at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia on April 22 and 23, 2013.

Chief Learning Officers and Talent Development executives will come together to share best practices and discuss complex leadership development challenges facing organizations.

Focused on collaborative social learning, the event will bring together academic experts, best-selling authors, and award-winning practitioners. In-depth analysis and real-world solution options will be provided on topics including MOOCs [Massive Open Online Courses] for business, nurturing a talent ecosystem, driving innovation, and building a deep leadership pipeline with social collaborative learning.

"The Congress is about bringing together leading-edge academics with award-winning CLOs to inspire new thinking and drive innovation through talent development practices. The event is intellectually exciting and features the best in their respective fields. It's a unique opportunity to meet and interact

with CLOs, business leaders, and world-renowned faculty to adopt new ideas that can be quickly put into practice," said Alan Todd, CEO of CorpU.

Early featured speakers include: Carsten Sudhoff, Chief Human Resources Officer, World Economic Forum; George Siemens, Creator of MOOC concept and expert in collaborative learning; and Reda Sadki, Senior Officer, International Federation of Red Cross.

The 14th Annual Learning Excellence Innovation Awards Program Gala Celebration will also be held during the Congress at the historically significant Penn Museum of Archaeology Anthropology on Monday, April 22, 2013, where award winners are recognized for their outstanding work in corporate learning and talent development. The program is independently judged by industry leaders and experts and is the longest-running, most prestigious awards program in the corporate learning arena.

A full agenda and speaker list for the Global Leadership Congress will be available early in 2013.

For more information about CorpU or the Congress, please contact Judy C. Arnold, VP Chief Marketing Officer, CorpU, at 212.213.2828 x7004 or by email at jcarnold@corpU.com. www.gse.upenn.edu. ♦

Ashworth College accepting Keisling ACCESS scholarship applications

Peachtree Corners, GA (Jan. 2, 2012) — Ashworth College is now accepting applications for the 2013 Gary Keisling ACCESS Scholarship program. Applicants will vie for one of 18 scholarships with a combined tuition value of up to \$20,000.

Named for the online school's former President and CEO in recognition of Keisling's dedication and contributions to both Ashworth College and the field of distance education, the scholarship program will award 10 career diploma scholarships and four single semester's scholarships each toward Ashworth Associate

and Bachelor's degree programs. The scholarships also include all of the student's course materials.

"Gary's personal mission was to open the doors of education to the underserved education population of America and we're excited to continue his legacy by offering these scholarships," said Rob Klapper, President of Ashworth College. He went on to explain that it is Ashworth's ongoing mission to provide affordable, quality education that gives graduates the career training employers want with zero student loan debt.

To be considered for an ACCESS Scholarship, all

applicants must submit an application (www.ashworthscholarships.com) and an original 250-500 word essay. All applications are due by February 1, 2013 and recipients will be announced on March 1.

First time students may apply for the career diploma scholarship and both existing Ashworth College students and transfer students may apply for a college degree scholarship. Scholarship recipients will be able to apply their award to their choice of programs which includes business, criminal justice, early childhood education, health care, skilled trades, technology, and more.

Cheyenne Ramsden, Ontario, Canada, was awarded a 2012 ACCESS Scholarship to pursue an Ashworth College Associate Degree in Computer Information Systems. "I'm very honored to have been selected as a recipient. The value of this scholarship is far more than financial - it has inspired me to really make an effort. I wish to thank Ashworth College for their kindness and generosity."

In addition to the Ashworth College scholarships, sister school James Madison High School, is offering an additional four full ride scholarships for a regionally accredited

high school diploma.

Founded in 2011, the Gary Keisling Ashworth College Continuing Education for Student Success, or ACCESS Scholarship for short, was founded to honor the online school's former President and CEO, the late Gary Keisling. It was his personal and professional mission to offer affordable and accessible education to underserved populations who historically have had limited access to educational opportunities or an accredited diploma or degree.

Throughout his career, Keisling was regarded as an industry leader and an influential advocate

for continuing education and students benefiting through distance education.

Celebrating 25 years of Educating Minds and Changing Lives, leading online school Ashworth College has built a tradition of excellence by offering students worldwide an extensive range of online college degrees, online certificate programs, career training and online high school diploma options that are affordable and fit the busy schedules of working adults. Ashworth offers military education as well as specialized programs for corporate partners and homeschoolers. ♦

Biology students recognized for their work on invasive species

WHITE BEAR LAKE, Minn. (Dec. 21, 2012) — The City of Maplewood has honored Century College biology students and Prof. Joy Cedarleaf for 10 years of service related to managing and caring for natural resources in an urban environment.

Over the years, Century students have provided over 4,500 hours of service on projects such as planting rain gardens, planting trees, removing buckthorn, weeding, seeding prairie, pruning, clearing trails and installing signs.

"It's been good for the city, good for the environment and good for the students," said Cedarleaf, who takes students into the community

for service learning projects six to 10 times per semester. "Working in the field makes what students are learning in the classroom much more meaningful."

For example, Cedarleaf noted that Maplewood is known for its leadership in the planting of rain gardens to clean and filter toxins out of rain water before it goes into the water table. Century students have helped plant the gardens and maintain them.

Maplewood is also known for purchasing land for open space, and Century students have helped remove invasive species such as buckthorn and oriental bittersweet from these areas so that

young oak trees and other native species can grow.

Students say it is worthwhile to learn about activities that can immediately impact the local ecosystem. "Doing these projects makes class more interesting and interactive," said Century student Deven Kelley of Stillwater. "It helps us understand the importance of what we are learning in the classroom."

Some students said the work has sparked their interest in pursuing careers related to natural resources and conservation. Century student Hannah Leeper said she is aiming for a career in forestry or wildlife. Ben Brown said he would like to work in fisheries.



Above, Students clear oriental bittersweet and other invasive species at the Maplewood Nature Center. At right, Prof. Joy Cedarleaf.



the Bruentrup Heritage Farm, the Priory Preserve, and the Fish Creek bluff area along Hwy. 61. ♦

Volunteer!

Hennepin County 2013 Citizen Advisory Boards

Vacancies available on:

- Adult Mental Health Local Advisory Council (LAC)
- Community Action Partnership of Suburban Hennepin Board
- County Extension Committee (Minnesota Extension Service)
- Human Resources Board
- Library Board
- Three Rivers Park District
- Workforce Investment Board (WIB)

Application deadline: Monday, December 31, 2012
For more information and to apply online:
www.hennepin.us/advisoryboards



working for you

Make your own media

Saint Paul Neighborhood Network (SPNN) can help you make your own media and share it with your community.

Learn to create your own non-commercial media in an accessible and affordable way. Use our professional-grade TV production facilities and gear. Share your program with the 52,000 Saint Paul homes that subscribe to cable.

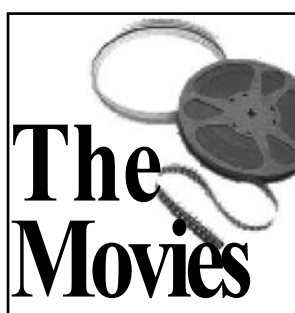
Join SPNN between Oct. 1 and Nov. 15 and receive a 50% discount on your first class. **Memberships start at just \$20.**

To learn more, join us at our **Open House** during the Saint Paul Art Crawl, Friday Oct. 12 from 6-8 PM or at our free Community TV 101 class the first Tuesday of every month at 6:30 PM. Visit www.spnn.org or call 651-298-8908.

"I would never be able to produce Healing Arts 101 without SPNN."

-Christine Huff, Reiki Master, SPNN Member





UPTOWN THEATRE
2906 Hennepin Ave.
Minneapolis
612-825-6128
Jan. 4-10, 2013

THE IMPOSSIBLE - PG13
11:15 (Sa/Su) 1:50-4:30-7:10-9:45 (Daily)

MIDNIGHT MOVIE
FRI/SAT NIGHT: (12:00 AM)
PULP FICTION - R

LAGOON THEATER
1320 Lagoon Ave.
Minneapolis
612-823-3020

DJANGO UNCHAINED - NR
1:20-4:50-8:20 (Daily)
LINCOLN - PG-13
1:10-4:40-8:10 (Daily)

SILVER LININGS PLAYBOOK - R
1:30-4:15-7:20-10:00 (Daily)
ANNA KARENINA - R
1:25-4:20-7:10-9:50 (Daily)
SKY FALL - PG13
1:00-4:30-8:00 (Daily)

EDINA CINEMA
3911 W. 50th St., Edina
651-649-4416 (hotline)

HYDE PARK ON HUDSON - R
12:15 (Sa/Su) 2:30-3:45-
4:45-7:00-8:15-9:10 (Daily)

THE SESSIONS - R
1:30 (Sa/Su) 6:00 (Daily)

RUST AND BONE - R
12:00 (Sa/Su) 2:45-5:20-8:00 (Daily)

CHASING ICE - PG13
1:00 (Sa/Su) 3:00-5:10-7:15-9:00 (Daily)

Brookdale 8 Cinemas
5810 Shingle Creek Pkwy
Brooklyn Park, MN
www.brookdalecinemas.com

NAAYAK
Jan. 8 — TBA

DABANGG 2
Jan. 4 — 9:00 p.m.
Jan. 5 — 1:15, 6:40 p.m.
Jan. 6 — 4:00 p.m.
Jan. 7 — 7:00 p.m.
Jan. 9 — 7:00 p.m.

YAMUDI KI MOGUDU
Jan. 4 — 9:00 p.m.
Jan. 5 — 6:10, 9:00 p.m.
Jan. 6 — 3:35, 6:30 p.m.
Jan. 7-8 — 7:00 p.m.
Jan. 10 — 7:00 p.m.

VISHWAROOPAM
Jan. 10 — TBA

SAROCHARU
Jan. 4 — 6:15 p.m.
Jan. 5 — 1:00, 3:35 p.m.
Jan. 6 — 1:00 p.m.

KO ANTEY KOTI
Jan. 4 — 6:15 p.m.
Jan. 5 — 4:00, 9:10 p.m.
Jan. 6 — 1:15, 6:30 p.m.
Jan. 8-10 — 7:00 p.m.

MAN WITH IRON FISTS
Jan. 4 — 8:00, 10:00 p.m.
Jan. 5 — 5:00, 7:00, 9:00 p.m.
Jan. 6 — 5:00, 7:00 p.m.
Jan. 7-10 — 8:00 p.m.

END OF THE WATCH
Jan. 4 — 8:00, 10:00 p.m.
Jan. 5 — 5:00, 7:00, 9:00 p.m.
Jan. 6 — 5:00, 7:00 p.m.
Jan. 7-10 — 8:00 p.m.

RadioHmong
kpn1610am.com
1610 AM Hmong
radiohmong.com
1710 AM English
am1710.us

Hmong Minnesota Radio
www.hmnradio.com
651-774-5555

RadioASIA
www.RadioASIA.info
106.1 FM & HD 3

KFAI Radio
90.3 FM / 106.7 FM
612-341-0980 - kfai.org

- Filipino-American News Sundays 9:00 p.m.
- Khmers Minnesota Sundays 11:00 p.m.
- CHAT Hmong Radio Friday 6:30 p.m.
- Global Beat Wednesdays 12:00 p.m.
- Wave Radio Sundays 10:00 a.m.
- Hmong American Reachout Thursdays 8:30 p.m.
- Vietnam-Minnesota Radio Sundays 8:00 p.m.
- Sangam South Asia Music Mondays 8:00 p.m.

Expanded Xfinity TV coverage

(BUSINESS WIRE) — Comcast Corporation (Nasdaq: CMCSA, CMCSK), a global media and technology company, and Crossings TV, a privately held, Asian-oriented, multicultural television broadcaster, today announced an agreement to expand distribution of Crossings TV into three additional Comcast Xfinity TV markets: Chicago, Seattle and San Francisco. Crossings TV is currently available to Xfinity TV customers in the California Central Valley, serving a multicultural audience which includes Chinese, Vietnamese, Filipino, Hmong, South Asian and Russian language speakers in Sacramento, Stockton, Fresno and surrounding

areas. As it rolls out in Chicago, Seattle and San Francisco in 2013, the programming will be designed specifically for each of these communities' unique needs and will provide in-language information and entertainment programming that will consist of international news, talk, drama series and movies. "Crossings TV is excited by this new distribution and its enhanced relationship with Comcast," said Frank Washington, CEO, Crossings TV. "We are confident that our locally focused, Asian-community-friendly approach in these key markets will enhance viewer choices and advertiser efficiency." "Crossings TV provides one-of-a-kind programming directly tailored to a

multicultural audience in the communities they serve," said David Jensen, Vice President of International Content Acquisition, Comcast Cable. "We're very pleased to expand our carriage of Crossings TV in these three markets, connecting our customers to content pertaining to their home countries and cultures." Crossings TV is an information/entertainment provider meeting the needs of underserved but substantial non-English/non-Spanish speaking multicultural communities in key U.S. cities. Crossings TV can currently be found on Time Warner Cable in New York City and on Comcast Cable in California's Central Valley. The company's website is www.CrossingsTV.com. ♦

St. Paul Live! radio features musicians recorded live

KBEM Radio in Minneapolis is proud to announce St. Paul Live!, a radio program featuring musicians recorded live in venues in and around downtown Saint Paul. The program returns to the KBEM broadcast schedule in January. The series will air each Monday from 9 to 10 p.m. beginning Monday, Jan. 7, 2013, on KBEM, 88.5FM and on-line at www.jazz88fm.com. It will then be repeated for a total of 26 weeks, and made available to out-state radio stations in the AMPERS network. Each episode will feature two different artists.

Thanks to major support from the Saint Paul Cultural STAR Program, KBEM was able to record a total of over 50 musicians in 15 musical groups performing in six different venues plus a neighborhood music festival. Larry Englund, producer of the series, noted "There's a lot more music, especially jazz, being presented in Saint Paul, than is generally recognized. We're pleased that the Cultural STAR program recognized this unique opportunity." Ten of the featured groups play jazz of one sort or another and include vocalists, a spoken word ensemble, free improvisers, and modern jazz groups, while the rest encompass Latin, roots, and blues. Some of the featured artists include Eric Kamau Gravatt, Butch Thompson and Pat Donahue, the Cory Wong Quartet, Chris Lomheim, Mary Louise Knutson, Nikki & the Rue-Mates, and from Miami, Araya Orta. Each of the thirteen episodes will feature at least two different artists, though many of the artists will appear on more than one episode. The live recordings took place at the Artists' Quarter, The Black Dog Coffee and Wine Bar, Studio Z, the Amsterdam Bar & Hall, and the Twin Cities Jazz Festival. Students from the Saint Paul Conservatory for Performing Arts and Minneapolis' North High School will serve as hosts for the series. Michele Jansen, KBEM

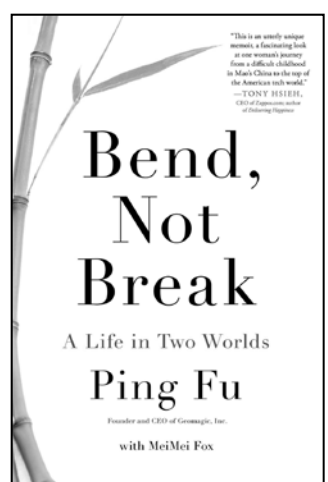
Station Manager, said "We're excited once again for this opportunity to showcase artists and venues in Saint Paul by partnering with the city, its venues, and organizations like the Conservatory. We're happy to produce a second year of shows, to allow even more artists to be part of St. Paul Live!" Oak Grove Capital, a national mortgage lender based in Saint Paul, provided additional support for the series. Oak Grove Capital specializes in affordable housing, market rate multifamily housing, seniors' housing and healthcare. "St. Paul Live! combines a number of the most important things to me, meaning, kids, education, jazz, and Saint Paul. This is a great opportunity for kids to get a direct connection to live music, make a positive impact on the community and give them a sense of accomplishment" said Oak Grove Capital President Kevin Filter. "These are all good things." Recognized as the Twin Cities' public radio voice for jazz and education, KBEM is a program of the Minneapolis Public Schools (MPS). Approximately 150 students annually participate in KBEM's hands-on educational program, which focuses on all aspects of broadcasting and production. Students who develop their skills and select broadcasting experience can gain significant on-air time. The station is on-air 24/7 with 35 hours of student programming each week with live professional announcers and pre-recorded, syndicated programming filling out the rest of the schedule. KBEM is the only station in the Twin Cities market which offers a jazz format and officially provides MN-DOT traffic reports. KBEM was initially established at Minneapolis Vocational High School in the 1960s. The station was moved to North High School in 1983 as a part of the District's desegregation initiative and it continues to reside there today. The vast majority of KBEM students attend North High School. ♦

Ping Fu's "Bend, Not Break" A story of a life in two worlds

When she was eight years old, Ping Fu was torn from the family she knew, relocated to a new city, and became a "mother," solely responsible for feeding and caring for her four-year-old sister in one of Chairman Mao's re-education camps for "black elements," those born to educated and affluent families.

A child soldier who suffered unspeakable abuse, forced by Mao's teenage Red Guards to eat "bitter meals" of dirt, animal dung, and tree bark, a factory worker gang raped at 10, and a political prisoner at 25, Ping was deported, arriving in the United States with \$80 and three English phrases: "Hello," "Thank you," and "Help." Starting all over, without family or friends, as a maid, waitress, and student who arrived at the University of New Mexico in a squad car, Ping became a pioneering software programmer and innovator. She is the founder and CEO of the successful global technology company Geomagic, an Inc. Magazine Entrepreneur of the Year, a member of President Obama's National Advisory Council on Innovation and Entrepreneurship, a proud mother of a daughter, and a U.S. Citizen.

Now, in "Bend, Not Break" (Portfolio/Penguin; Dec. 31, 2012; \$26.95), Ping Fu shares her remarkable and inspiring journey through these two very diverse worlds in a powerful testament to the resilience and strength of the human heart and spirit. As an "unfinished child," she held tight to the memories and teachings of her beloved Shanghai Mama and Papa — "Bamboo is flexible, bending with the wind but never breaking, capable of adapting" — and to any small kindness, like Uncle W smuggling to her forbidden



Bend, Not Break: A Life in Two Worlds
Author: Ping Fu
Portfolio/Penguin; Dec. 31, 2012; \$26.95 Hardcover

Western novels including *Gone With the Wind*. She persevered through the Chinese Cultural Revolution, in which 36 million people were persecuted, and 3 million were killed or maimed.

Imprisoned in China when her university thesis on female infanticide was leaked from the Chinese press to international press (shaming her country to outsiders), Ping was exiled. She relates her experiences as an immigrant worker, teaching herself English and math, who — aided by her hard-won and well-honed survival instincts — became a pioneering software programmer, initiating and managing the NCSA Mosaic software project that led to Netscape and Internet Explorer, forever changing how we access information.

Drawing insight and strength from her past and moving forward with remarkable resourcefulness, purpose, and hope, Ping grew into someone she never thought she would be — a strong, independent, entrepreneurial leader and mother. With her husband,



Ping Fu

she founded Geomagic, a 3D software company that has reshaped the world of design and manufacturing, from personalizing prosthetic limbs and invisible dental braces to repairing NASA spaceships. Resilient following a divorce, she continued on her path as an innovative and highly respected CEO, whose visionary leadership helped guide her young company through the recession. In "Bend, Not Break", Ping skillfully blends the wisdom and lessons learned from both her worlds in her fascinating story; from imprisonment to freedom, from a cruel childhood in which her voice was silenced as she was forced to denounce herself and her parents as less than nothing to an engaging speaker who inspires rapt audiences, from a 10-year-old worker

BEND, NOT BREAK
Continued on Page 9

UPAM
University of the Philippines Alumni in Minnesota

Huli Man at Magaling Holiday Party
January 8, 2012, Sunday, 3 PM to 7 PM
Party Room of Burlington Apartments
1160 Cushing Circle, St. Paul, MN 55108

Whether from UP or not, got unos or dropped, Studied or taught, an activist or not, Brad, sis, barb or none of the above. Just join in...MAKISAMA at MAKIKAIN!

Please bring food to share & a wrapped gift to exchange (worth \$5 dollars or more). Kids from infancy to senility are welcome!

Attending? Questions? Ask!
Mar Alojado (651) 578-8431
Sandy Rodriguez (651) 458-0708
Tessie Enoza (651) 735-2524

Marlene Dohm (651) 483-2544
Cherrie Adlarde (651) 224-5349
Ligaya Carlos st.ligaya@gmail.com

"Like" us in facebook. Look for "UPAM University of the Philippines Alumni in MN".

Hennepin County Library
www.hclib.org

VIETNAMESE NEW YEAR 2013

Celebrate the Year of the Snake!

Cultural dances
Martial art demonstrations
Vietnamese traditions

Southdale Library 7001 York Ave. S., Edina
Saturday, Jan. 26, 10:30 a.m.

Sumner Library 611 Van White Memorial Blvd., Minneapolis
Saturday, Jan. 26, 1:30 p.m.

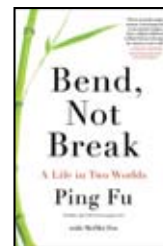
Brooklyn Park Library 8600 Zane Ave. N., Brooklyn Park
Sunday, Jan. 27, 1:30 p.m.

Augsburg Park Library 7100 Nicollet Ave., Richfield
Saturday, Feb. 2, 10:30 a.m.

Minneapolis Central Library 300 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis
Saturday, Feb. 2, 1:30 p.m.

Ridgedale Library 12601 Ridgedale Dr., Minnetonka
Sunday, Feb. 3, 1:30 p.m.

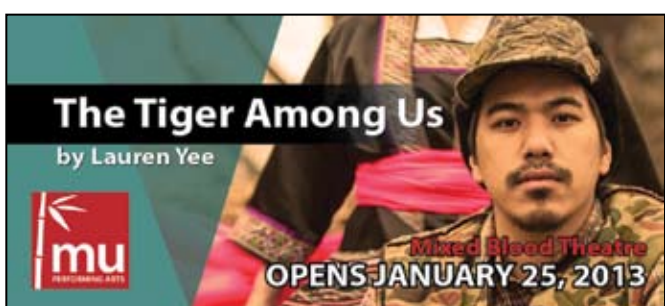
CLEAN WATER LAND & LEGACY
Funded with money from Minnesota's Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund and presented in collaboration with Hung Vuong Association of Minnesota.



Ping Fu's new book "Bend, Not Break", tells the story of a Chinese women refugee's life in two worlds. See Page 11

The Tiger Among Us explores Hmong life in rural Minnesota

MINNEAPOLIS — Mu Performing Arts has concluded casting and full production details for The Tiger Among Us, the next Mu show written by Lauren Yee (Ching Chong Chinaman). A previews show on Jan. 24 with the show running Wednesday through Sunday, Jan. 25-Feb. 3 at Mixed Blood Theatre, 1501 South 4th Street, Minneapolis, MN 55454. Its November in Minnesota and to bored high school student Lia, it's just another unbearably cold month. For Lia's troubled father, November means the start of the hunting season and a chance to capture what has eluded him his entire life. For her entrepreneurial brother Pao, each day offers the opportunity to scratch out a new way of living in this rural landscape. But soon, Lia finds herself caught between her responsibilities and her dreams. And just outside their door,



something is about to break. The world premiere commission will be directed by Ellen Fenster (Pillsbury House Theatre, Gremlin Theater, Phoenix Theater Project) and assistant directed by Kathy Mouacheupao (former Executive Director of CHAT: Center for Hmong Arts and Talent). Katie Ka Vang is the Cultural Consultant. The cast features exciting young actors Maxwell Thao (Mu: Into the Woods, Stages Theater Company, TigerLion Arts) as Pao and Gaosong Vang (Mu: Into the Woods, WTF) as his younger sister Lia, two Hmong

American teens growing up in rural MN with their father (Saikong Yang, WTF). The cast also includes the siblings' family, friends and neighbors played by Sheng Kong, Claire Bancroft and Garry Geiken (Jungle Theater, Gremlin Theatre, Park Square Theatre). The creative team includes Ron Albert (Scenic Designer), Mike Kittel (Lighting Designer), Andrea Gross (Costume Designer), Katharine Horowitz (Sound Designer) and Kellie Larsen (Props Designer). Playwright Lauren Yee (www.laurenyee.com) is a graduate of the Yale School



Playwright Lauren Yee

of Drama and UCSD. This is Yee's second collaboration with Mu after the successful world premiere of Ching Chong Chinaman in 2009. She has been a Dramatists Guild fellow, a MacDowell Colony fellow, and a member of the Public Theater Emerging Writers Group. Yee has also been a finalist for the Heideman Award, the Jerome Fellowship, the PEN USA Literary Award for Drama, and the Wasserstein Prize. Ching Chong Chinaman was a finalist for the 2008 Princess Grace Award and

the winner of the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival's 2010 Paula Vogel Award and Kumu Kahua Theatre's 2007 Pacific Rim Prize. Named one of the top 10 plays of the year by the East Bay Express and City Pages, the play has been produced at Artists at Play, Impact Theatre, Mu Performing Arts, the New York International Fringe Festival, Pan Asian Rep, and SIS Productions. The play has been published by Samuel French. Ellen Fenster (Director) is a company member with Pillsbury House Theater and has served as director of the Chicago Avenue Project since 2007. Ellen is an artistic associate with the Illusion Theater where she has directed several new plays and for seven years managed the Lights Up! series, an annual performance event that features new work by emerging artists. As a teaching artist Ellen

works in many area schools, is the resident creative movement instructor with theater e3 (a summer theater institute for children), and is the director of the South High Theater Program. Recent directing credits include Sea Marks and Burn This at Gremlin Theater and Art with the Phoenix Theater Project. Ellen is honored to be working with Theater Mu on their upcoming production, The Tiger Among Us. Kathy Mouacheupao (Assistant Director) is the former director of CHAT: Center for Hmong Arts and Talent. Founded in 1998, the company is the world's first Hmong arts organization and serves an ever-expanding group of youth artists at its Saint Paul location. Single tickets start at \$10 (students and children under 18), \$18 seniors, and \$22 adults, and are now on sale by calling Mu Performing Arts at 651-789-1012 or visit www.muperformingarts.org. ♦

History Theatre "Raw Stages" — A festival of works-in-progress

A 35th Anniversary Season is an excellent time to celebrate History Theatre's unparalleled track record of commissioning, developing, and producing new works for the professional stage: 112 in 35 years! An important part of the process of developing new scripts is soliciting feedback from the audience. To that end, History Theatre produces Raw Stages, a festival of works-in-progress.



Eric "Pogi" Sumangil

process. This year there will be six new scripts, a different one each night between Jan. 7 thru Jan. 12.

Monday, Jan. 7, at 7 p.m. — God Girl
Written by Kristine Holmgren, directed by Austene Van, the setting is Princeton Theological Seminary in 1976. The war in Vietnam is over, the women's liberation movement is in full swing, and idealistic Kris Holmgren joins the first large population of women seeking ordination into the Presbyterian ministry. Will she survive the cynical, sinister secrets of her new career?
Featuring: Summer Hagen, Randy Schmeling, Terry Hempleman, John Middleton, Heather Stone, and Paul De Cordova

Tuesday, Jan. 8 at 7 p.m. Debutante Ball
Written by Eric "Pogi" Sumangil, and

directed by Rick Shiomi. Every year around Valentine's Day, young people from the local Filipino community get together for the annual Debutantes' Ball. It's an event filled with pomp and circumstance, pageantry and elegance, and a fair amount of teen angst and rebellion. Through hip-hop and Filipino kundimans (love songs) this new play explores the struggles between tradition and assimilation, parental pressure and independence, and the virtue of a DJ over a band.
Featuring Eric Sharp, Katie Bradley, Ernest Briggs, Sarah Ochs, Alex Galick, Lita Malicsi, and Suzie Juul.

Wed., Jan. 9 at 7 p.m. Augie
Written by Joe Minjares, and directed by Raul Ramos. Meet St. Paul's Augie Garcia, "The Godfather of Minnesota Rock & Roll." Augie was a Korean war veteran who had the Twin Cities rocking long before Prince was Prince! In 1956 he threatened to upstage The King when he opened for Elvis Presley at the St. Paul Auditorium — perhaps it was his trademark Bermuda shorts! This new work explores the life and times of a Minnesota legend.
Featuring Ricardo Vasquez, H. Adam Harris, Rich Remedios, Christina Castro, James Rodriguez, Matt Rein,

Tom Reed, and Darius Dotch.
Thurs, Jan. 10 at 7 p.m. Jackie, Jack & The Kid
Written by Eric Simonson, and directed by Ron Peluso. Little Ronnie Rabinovitz, at age 10, met Jackie Robinson, his baseball hero and started a 17-year letter correspondence and friendship that lasted until Jackie's death in 1972. At the same time, Ronnie's father David was working hard to get Jack Kennedy elected President of the United States of America. A young boy in Wisconsin was witness to the intersection of the political process, a social movement, and baseball.
Featuring Ethan

Davenport as Ronnie, Mark Benninghofen as David Rabinovitz, Stacia Rice as Mrs. Rabinovitz, Brian Grandison as Jackie Robinson, and David Mann as JFK and others.
Friday, Jan. 11 at 7 p.m. Working Boys Band
Written by Dominic Orlando, music by Hiram Titus, and directed by Ron Peluso. A new musical about the "city band of young boys" created by a group of Minneapolis businessmen to keep kids off the streets and out of trouble. What

RAW STAGES
Continued on Page 9

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