

N.Y.C. CHINATOWN REUNION NEWSLETTER

February 16, 2012

We wish to offer our condolences to the family of Robert (Smokey) Lee.

We also wish to offer our condolences to the family of Maurine (Pong) Fong. She was a friend to all.

Condolences to Jim Chin-Bow and family for the passing of his dear wife Diana and to the Mock family too.

We're losing too many old friends. Time to wake up and smell the roses, so join us at the NYC Chinatown Reunion in Las Vegas from May 14 to May 18, 2012.

NEW YORK

OCTOBER 15, 2011

We're just five weeks away from the Asian American / Asian Research Institute's 10th Annual Gala, on Thursday, November 17, 2011, from 6:30PM to 10PM, at Jing Fong Restaurant, 20 Elizabeth Street, Manhattan.

Ticket Prices

General (\$150) | Member/Senior (\$80) | Student (\$50)

Join AAARI as we celebrate our 10th anniversary as part of the City University of New York, together with 400+ Asian and non-Asian academic, business, civic, and community leaders, faculty staff and students; and to honor the following individuals for their leadership and contributions to the Asian American community:



Leadership Award

Dr. Judy Chu, Congressmember, 32nd District - California



CUNY Asian American Distinguished Alumni Award

Robert Wann, Senior Exec VP & COO, New York Community Bancorp, Inc.



Golden Scholar Award

Betty Lee Sung, Co-Founder, AAARI & Prof. Emerita, City College of New York/CUNY



Community Service Award

Adhikaar



CUNY Thomas Tam Scholarship

Sahar Khan, BA, City College of New York/CUNY



CUNY Thomas Tam Scholarship Honorable Mention

Seimi Kim, Undergraduate, Brooklyn College/CUNY

NEW JERSEY

Who says they are not hiring?

New Jersey Asian American Law Enforcement Officers Assoc. P.O. Box 958 Old Bridge, New Jersey 08857 www.asiancops.org/ www.njaaleoa.org

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The NJAALEOA just got this intel of the Customs Patrol Border Agent hiring's. If you meet the tough qualifications and have what it takes to be a Customs Border Patrol Agent then go for it. Stop thinking that a 65K+ office job is just waiting for you after being out of work or seeking work for over a long period of time.

With the economy pretty much kicked to the curb it is welcome news that an important well paying career position such as Customs Border Patrol Agent is available, probably for a limited time. Please check out the website noted. <https://staffing.opm.gov/cbpo/>

FYI, The Fort Lauderdale Police Department is accepting applications for certified and non certified sworn police positions. Very few days are left to decide if you want to attend the National Asian Peace Officers Association 2011 conference held in California. Please check out their website. There is a section to e- mail NAPOA executive board members. The New Jersey Asian American Law Enforcement Officers Association is proud to be affiliated with NAPOA.

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The Federal Bureau of Investigation is hiring for a limited time. Can you understand, speak and believe you can effectively translate a language. If the bureau is seeking specific language translators you may find yourself employed as a G-man. Special agents are being sought also at this time as well as other positions.

go to <http://www.fbijobs.gov/>

CALIFORNIA

Bridge Comes to San Francisco With a Made-in-China Label

Read the article at the following website.

http://www.nytimes.com/2011/06/26/business/global/26bridge.html?_r=1&emc=eta1



California Supreme Court pick Liu accustomed to hot seat

A few days after his recent nomination to the California Supreme Court, UC Berkeley law professor Goodwin Liu found himself in familiar territory.

Conservative Republicans were calling him a "bad choice" for the state's high court. Foes of gay marriage branded him biased and unfit for the job. Critics tried to tar him with the ghost of former Chief Justice Rose Bird, Gov. Jerry Brown's most infamous and ill-fated past Supreme Court choice.

But for the 40-year-old Liu, the latest slings and epithets are old hat. He's already been through the ringer, a veteran of four marathons who has survived his own political marathon. For 18 months, Liu endured adjective after adjective as critics waged a withering campaign to sink his nomination to a prestigious federal appeals court, calling him everything from "left-wing ideologue" to "radical."

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Liu appeared to lose that campaign when in May he withdrew his bid for the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, seemingly ready to retreat back into academia as a footnote in history. But Brown had other ideas.

After two long meetings this summer cinched the result, Brown plucked Liu from political ruin for the state Supreme Court, setting up a confirmation hearing later this month. The Democratic governor chose the liberal legal scholar whom Republicans worried would be their Voldemort in robes, a potential threat to someday reach the U.S. Supreme Court, to join perhaps the most influential state Supreme Court in the country.

Confirmation expected--Brown's advisers, however, say the governor was trying to make a different statement by elevating Liu, considered one of the nation's brightest legal minds. And barring unforeseen circumstances, Liu is expected to be confirmed when a three-member commission considers his nomination.

California Republicans and gay marriage foes have pledged to mount another campaign against him, but they concede it will be hard to keep him off the high court. The commission hasn't turned down a governor's Supreme Court pick since the 1940s.

There certainly appear to be no secrets or fresh debates to consider in evaluating Brown's first judicial pick since he took office in January. Liu, the son of Taiwanese immigrants who went from a schoolboy trying to learn English to a Rhodes scholar, has had his record turned inside out.

"One of the virtues of Goodwin Liu is that nobody ever nominated to the California Supreme Court has been as thoroughly vetted as Goodwin Liu," said San Francisco appeals court Justice J. Anthony Kline, Brown's legal affairs secretary in the 1970s and now one of his key advisers on judge picks. "There are certainly no skeletons in his closet."

Liu declined to be interviewed. But his background emerged during his battle in Congress, revealing a classic story of a son of immigrants reaching the pinnacle of his profession in a relatively short time. Indeed, if confirmed, Liu would give the Supreme Court an unprecedented majority of Asian-American justices.

The son of doctors, Liu was born in Georgia and moved with his family to Sacramento in the late 1970s. He assembled a glittering résumé, earning degrees from Stanford and Yale, as well as completing his stint at Oxford. He clerked for U.S. Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg.

But when the White House nominated Liu, then just 39, to the 9th Circuit, the Bay Area legal superstar got demonized as too liberal by conservatives eager to take on the Obama administration's judicial nominations. Liu was targeted on several grounds, including the fact he spoke out against the Supreme Court nominations of John Roberts and Samuel Alito. Republican senators also criticized Liu's legal writings and positions on issues such as same-sex marriage rights, which he has supported.

'Good nomination' - But Liu also had strong support, even from conservatives such as Kenneth Starr. John Yoo, a colleague and controversial former Bush administration lawyer, said Liu was "a good nomination for a Democratic president" and is convinced he'll make a "fine justice" on the state Supreme Court.

While Liu's most recent critics say his lack of judicial experience is another reason to doubt his qualifications, Brown views him as a justice who can raise the prestige of the state Supreme Court.

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The governor was even willing to disappoint Latino groups who were hoping a Latino would be chosen to succeed Justice Carlos Moreno, the only Latino on the court.

In the short term, Liu is not expected to make a large imprint on the Supreme Court, where he'll join six moderate to conservative Republican appointees. But experts say Liu has decades to make a lasting impression on the law -- certainly not what Republicans had in mind when his 9th Circuit nomination died.

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General Salutes Nisei Vets as 'My Heroes'



Copies of Senate Bill 1055 are given to Nisei veterans of World War II during a ceremony on Saturday at the JACCC Plaza celebrating the Congressional Gold Medal. (MARIO G. REYES/Rafu Shimpo)

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By J.K. YAMAMOTO, *Rafu Staff Writer*

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Nisei veterans of World War II, who collectively will receive the Congressional Gold Medal later this year, were saluted at a special program held Sunday in Little Tokyo during the Nisei Week Japanese Festival.



Maj. Gen. Rodney Kobayashi (MARIO G. REYES/Rafu Shimpo)

A group of veterans gathered with their families in the JACCC Plaza a few hours before they were to ride as guests of honor in the Grand Parade. The Nisei Week Festival Marching Band performed John Philip Sousa's "The Liberty Bell" under the direction of Ron Logan, who produces live entertainment for Disney.

ABC 7 news anchor and reporter David Ono served as emcee. "This is your day," he told the vets.

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"We are celebrating the signing of Senate Bill 1055, signed by President Obama on Oct. 5, 2010," he explained. "This bill authorizes the granting of the Congressional Gold Medal to the 100th Infantry Battalion, the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, and Military Intelligence Service, United States Army, in recognition of their dedicated service during World War II. It's long overdue, we all know that, but we're so glad that it's happening."

The medal ceremony is expected to be held in Washington, D.C. later this year, but the details will require agreement between the Republican-controlled House of Representatives and the Democrat-controlled Senate.

Rev. Mark Nakagawa, president of the Nisei Week Foundation, recalled, "Earlier this year when we ... heard of the predicament that Go For Broke and other veterans' organizations were in — the very delicate issue about wanting do something around S. 1055 without making folks over on the other coast too mad — we at Nisei Week felt that we were in a position to step in and do something."



Maj. Gen. Rodney Kobayashi presented a framed copy of S. 1055 to Don Seki, who represented the 442nd RCT. (MARIO G. REYES/Rafu Shimpo)

"Since every year during our parade the veterans are part of it anyway, we saw this as an opportunity to just do the right thing, quite frankly, and that is to make a way that enables the veterans' organizations here in Southern California to honor all of our veterans before it's too late. God knows there are enough veterans who are no longer with us ... That's why we are here today."

Retired Maj. Gen. Rodney Kobayashi was the guest speaker. Ono noted that Kobayashi's record includes service in the Vietnam War as well as in Iraq and Afghanistan, and that the Hilo native has also served as company commander of the 100th Battalion/442nd Infantry at Fort DeRussy in Honolulu.

"This is the first time in history that the Congressional Gold Medal recognizes three military units," Kobayashi stated. "The Congressional Gold Medal ... is the highest civilian award bestowed by the United States Congress to express the nation's appreciation for distinguished service and contributions. The first Congressional Gold Medal was presented by Congress to Gen. George Washington and John Paul Jones. The Congressional Gold Medal is completely separate from the Medal of Honor ... but both medals are awarded by Congress."

To illustrate the "courage, selfless service, loyalty and extreme professionalism" of the Nisei soldiers, Kobayashi recounted the actions of one man from each unit:

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- S/Sgt. Robert T. Kuroda, of Company H, 442nd RCT, made his way through heavy enemy fire near Bruyeres, France, to destroy a machine-gun nest. He tried to rescue an officer who had been struck by hostile fire on an adjacent hill, but found that the man was dead. Kuroda picked up the officer's submachine gun, advanced through continuous fire toward a second machine-gun emplacement, and destroyed the position. As he turned to fire upon additional enemy soldiers, he was killed by a sniper. He was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor.
- Sgt. Hoichi "Bob" Kubo took part in the invasion of Saipan as a member of the MIS. He and other bilingual Nisei bravely entered caves in hopes of forcing enemy soldiers to surrender and free their civilian captives. Kubo's successful attempts saved the lives of more than 100 women and children. He received the Distinguished Service Cross.
- Pvt. Joe Hayashi of K Company, 100th Battalion, singlehandedly charged and destroyed a German machine-gun nest in Italy, allowing many of his fellow soldiers to continue their advance and saving many lives at the cost of his own. He is also a posthumous Medal of Honor recipient.

"These are just three of the many members of the 100th Battalion, 442nd Regimental Combat Team and Military Intelligence Service," Kobayashi said. "There are many more — fathers, brothers, grandfathers, great-grandfathers, uncles and neighbors — each with similar stories."

Asking the vets to stand, or to raise their hands if they could not stand, Kobayashi told them, "I will not be joining you at the parade. However, I wanted to be here today especially to thank you ... You have set an example for me and for the United States Army and for all American citizens to follow ... You are my heroes."

Kobayashi presented a commemorative copy of S. 1055 to each unit. Accepting were Mas Takahashi of C Company, 100th Battalion, who fought in the Gothic Line campaign; Don Seki of L Company, 442nd RCT, who helped to rescue the "Lost Battalion" and earned a Purple Heart; and MIS veteran Hitoshi Sameshima, who served in the war crimes trials in Yokohama. Special thanks went to philanthropist George Aratani, who was an MIS language instructor.

Ono urged everyone to watch for the vets in the parade and "cheer them on."

WASHINGTON, D.C.

On September 22, 2011, President Obama nominated Judge Jacqueline H. Nguyen to serve on the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. OCA congratulates Judge Jacqueline H. Nguyen on her recent nomination. Judge Nguyen is the First Vietnamese American woman to be nominated for a federal appellate judge position.

"OCA is proud to recognize the historic nomination of Jacqueline Nguyen. Currently APA's represent almost 10 percent of the population in the ninth circuit however there are no seats currently filled by an Asian American. This is truly a milestone for our community," said President Ken Lee.

Nguyen, along with her five siblings fled Vietnam during the fall of Saigon in 1975. Upon arriving in the U.S. she and her family were placed in a refugee camp in Camp Pendleton, California. She worked with her mother at a dental office and on weekends at a donut shop. Nguyen managed to study in between jobs earning her a scholarship at Occidental College.

"Judge Nguyen has been a trailblazer, displaying an outstanding commitment to public service throughout her career," President Obama said. "I am honored to nominate her today for a seat on the United States Court of Appeals and confident she will serve the American people with fairness and integrity."

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Nguyen has legal experience in both the private and public sectors, working as a litigation associate at Musick, Peeler & Garrett LLP. Judge Nguyen was appointed to the state bench as Judge of the Superior Court of the County of Los Angeles in 2002 and remained a judge on that court until she was appointed to the federal bench in 2009.

"Judge Nguyen's legal achievements and amazing life journey reflect the work ethic she will bring to the bench, and we hope for a speedy confirmation," said Interim Executive Director, Tom Hayashi.

Judge Nguyen received her undergraduate degree from Occidental College in 1987 and her law degree from the University of California at Los Angeles in 1991.

She is a founding member of APABA and is a member of numerous minority bar associations in the L.A. region.

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OCA, a national organization dedicated to advancing the social, political and economic well-being of Asian Pacific Americans, applauds the Senate for unanimously passing Senate Resolution 201 last night, a resolution that addresses the Chinese Exclusion Laws.

"The Senate's unanimous support of Resolution 201 represents a victory, not only for our community, but all groups that may have suffered in the past as a result of exclusionary policies. This reaffirms the beliefs of so many immigrants that we are a nation built on diversity, inclusion, and opportunity," said OCA National President Ken Lee.

The Chinese Exclusion Laws were a series of legislative acts that explicitly discriminated against Chinese laborers and were later expanded to all persons of Chinese descent. They were the first to restrict a group of immigrants based on race and class. The laws were later repealed in 1943 without any formal apology.

"The Chinese Exclusion Act had a profound effect on Asian Americans affecting many aspects of our society for nearly sixty years. It is a time in our history that America tried to forget but that we, as a community, have fought to have remembered. This is a great win toward that effort," said OCA Interim Executive Director, Tom Hayashi.

NEVADA

OCA wishes to congratulate the recent nomination of Miranda Mai Du to serve on the U.S. District Court for the District of Nevada. If confirmed, Du would be only the third Asian Pacific American in U.S. history to serve as an Article III judge.

Du's tough journey at the tender age of nine had begun with Du's father. Her father, a former member of the U.S.-supported South Vietnam Army took Du, along with her relatives and fled the country by boat seeking refuge in Malaysia during the Vietnam War. After almost a year in the refugee camp, her family was able to seek sponsorship and asylum in America because of her

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father's position in the army. After settling in America, Du applied herself in school during her youth and eventually earned a dual undergraduate degree in history and in economics at U.C. Davis. She later received her law degree from U.C. Berkeley's Boalt School of Law in 1994.

"In a state where Asian Americans make up nearly 10 percent of the population this represents a significant milestone for our community. Asian Americans are dramatically underrepresented in our courts. Her exemplary work in public service and perseverance in the face of extraordinary hardship demonstrate that she is well suited for this nomination," said OCA Interim Executive Director, Tom Hayashi.

Du currently practices law at McDonald Carano Wilson. She is the current Chair of the Employment & Labor Law Group whose focus is litigation employment and civil cases. She received a law degree from U.C. Berkeley's Boalt School of Law in 1994 and earned dual undergraduate degrees in history and economics from U.C. Davis in 1991.

Du was selected as a "Top 20 under 40" Young Professionals in the Reno-Tahoe Area in 2008. She was also nominated as a Woman of Achievement by the Nevada Women's Fund in 2007.

SEATTLE, WASH.

Artists explore the Asian-American experience

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-us-canada-14500419>

MISCELLANEOUS

A new film maker, Patrick Wang has written, produced, directed and starred in the movie "In The Family" and will have several premier showings. First of which will be in Hawaii then San Diego and finally in New York City. Please check the following links to get more information for your area. Let's support our own.

We premiere at the Hawaii International Film Festival Oct. 16th and 17th. Then we play in the San Diego Asian Film Festival Oct 24th and then we start our New York theatrical run at the Quad Cinema on Nov. 4th. Hopefully, you'll get a chance to see it during the New York run.

Here are some program notes about the movie from San Diego:

<http://sdaff.gala-engine.com/2011/festival-guide/program/in-the-family/>

New York run begins Nov. 4th at:

Quad Cinema
34 West 13th Street
New York, NY

For advance tickets call 777-FILM #636 or visit movietickets.com

The Story:

In the town of Martin, Tennessee, Chip Hines, a precocious six year old, has only known life with his two dads, Cody and Joey. And a good life it is. When Cody dies suddenly in a car accident, Joey and Chip struggle to find their footing again. Just as they begin to, Cody's will reveals that he named

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his sister as Chip's guardian. The years of Joey's acceptance into the family unravel as Chip is taken away from him. In his now solitary home life, Joey searches for a solution. The law is not on his side, but friends are. Armed with their comfort and inspired by memories of Cody, Joey finds a path to peace with the family and closer to his son.

www.inthefamilythemovie.com

www.facebook.com/pages/In-the-Family/111993435567468

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Congratulations to US Commerce Secretary Gary Locke who left his high profile super important job to become the Ambassador to China, another super important job.
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What is up with David Wu? Forced to leave the United States Congress because of issues with a female less than 1/2 his age?
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Charles Wang owns the NHL Islanders and wanted the citizens of Nassau county to pay a huge sum of money to buy him a new arena with all the trimmings.

That is my understanding from speaking to some "on the island." First thing that was mentioned by John Q. Citizen was that their taxes would immediately go up and probably will not go down even after the completion of the place. The people have spoken and they have said NO to Charles and company. I recall years ago hearing about the owner of the NHL Islanders. Several times I wrote to him asking if he could donate a small sum so we could purchase the "Your Friend the Police Officer" coloring booklets that the NJAALEOA gives out at no cost to children when we attend a public function. After several attempts I did not even get the courtesy of a response. At least the well to do Wang got a response from the people of Nassau County... NO way Wang.

By the way Charlie, we have found over the years much less affluent folks who donate what you may call a mere bag of shells to purchase this very positive tool to promote good will between our youngsters and the police community. There's still an invite Charles just send an e-mail, call or have one of your aids write a note. I'll keep a light on for you.
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On a local level Asian Americans should be proud we have people such as **Judge Sue Pai Yang** and **NJ Assemblyman Upendra Chivukula**. We need more Asian Americans to fill local, state and national roles, though in the west coast they are by far leaps and bounds ahead of the east coast in regards to Asian Americans taking up elected opportunities.
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ticker shock: 'Made in China' ranks only 2.7% of U.S. spending

Most personal consumption goes for services, groceries and gasoline that are produced in America, a federal study finds.

<http://www.latimes.com/business/la-fi-made-in-china-20110813,0,2746654.story>

By Alana Semuels, Los Angeles Times - August 13, 2011

Convinced that everything you buy these days has a Made-in-[China](#) label?

Then you aren't paying attention. Things made in the U.S.A. still dominate the American marketplace, according to a new study by economists at the San Francisco [Federal Reserve](#).

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Goods and services from China accounted for only 2.7% of U.S. personal consumption spending in 2010, according to the report titled "The U.S. Content of 'Made in China.'" About 88.5% of U.S. spending last year was on American-made products and services.

How can this be, considering that many of the toys, electronics, housewares, shoes and other goods we use daily come from the Middle Kingdom?

One word: services. Services, which account for about two-thirds of spending, are mainly produced locally. Your dry cleaner, accountant, mechanic and manicurist most likely are right in your neighborhood.

Then there's groceries and gasoline. Most of the food Americans eat is produced domestically. And although the U.S. imports about half of its petroleum, China is not a major supplier. About 90% of all gasoline sold in the U.S. is refined in the United States.

"Although globalization is widely recognized these days, the U.S. economy actually remains relatively closed," economist Galina Hale and researcher Bart Hobijn wrote in the report. "The vast majority of goods and services sold in the United States is produced here."

Foreign-made products are most prevalent among so-called durable goods, which are big-ticket items such as cars, furniture and appliances. About one-third of all durable goods Americans purchased last year were made abroad; 12% came from China.

But even merchandise made in China can contribute to the U.S. economy. Consider a pair of Chinese-made sneakers that retails in the U.S. for \$70. Most of what a consumer pays goes to cover trucking costs, rent for the store where the shoes are sold, profits for shareholders of the U.S. retailer, as well as the cost of marketing the brand. Included in these costs are the salaries, wages and benefits paid to the U.S. workers who staff these operations.

"On average, of every dollar spent on an item labeled 'Made in China,' 55 cents goes for services produced in the United States," the report said.

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If you are not familiar with the 1882 Chinese Exclusion Act, watch my show which discusses and shows the actual laws affecting Chinese. And then join us and sign onto the website which will contact your congress representative. Scroll down and click onto the attachment. Do it for our parents, our families and especially our children!
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Smartphone pictures pose privacy risks – very scary thought.

(Check out the following video. If you cannot click on any of the links that are in the newsletters, copy and paste to the URL line to access.)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N2vARzvWxwY>