



International Examiner

Asian and Pacific Islander
Heritage Issue: Part II

'Doing honor to us all'

Examiner announces CommunityVoice recipients

by David Takami, Board Chair

The International Examiner Board of Directors is thrilled to announce that Ruth Chinn, Dorothy Cordova, Frank Fujii and Quynh T. Nguyen have been selected as recipients of the 1991 International Examiner Community Voice Awards.

Awards selection panelists, including Examiner board members and community leaders, had the difficult task of narrowing down a list of 25 diverse and talented nominees. In the end, we chose longtime community advocates who may have not received the recognition they deserve "unsung heroes" who have worked behind the scenes to support community services and causes, provide invaluable leadership in community organizations, and serve as role models for young people.



Dorothy Cordova

four remarkable individuals. Through word and deed, they are truly "Community Voices," who do honor to us all.

For more information on the dinner call 624-3925. Please make your reservations soon, as tickets are selling fast.

Community Voice Award winners:

Ruth Chinn has championed community causes since the end of World War II when she began teaching English to Chinese brides of American GIs. Since then, she has instructed hundreds of Chinese immigrants, helping many of them pass the U.S. citizenship test. Chinn was also one of the original members of the Jackson Street Community Council, established in the 1950s. In 1967, she founded the Jade Guild Chinese women's service organization. She also co-founded with her husband, Robert Chinn, United Savings and Loan, the first Asian American-owned savings and loan in the country.



Ruth Chinn

Dorothy Cordova's unwavering dedication to the Filipino American and Asian American communities has been

an inspiration to all who know her. One of Cordova's chief passions is history. She directs the research organization Demonstration Project for Asian Americans, as well as the Filipino American National Historical Society. She is also co-founder, along with her husband, Fred Cordova, of the Filipino Youth Activities, which began 34 years ago.

Frank Fujii's legacy looms large as a former teacher and varsity basketball coach at Franklin High School, where his team won the Metro League championship in 1972. He went on to another career as a graphics arts instructor and administrator at Seattle Central Community College for 17 years, before retiring two years ago. Fujii is a renowned artist and graphic artist in his own right and has been unfailingly generous of his time and talent for community organizations and events.



Quynh T. Nguyen

Quynh T. Nguyen is one of the country's foremost experts in the field of mental health treatment for Southeast Asians, many of whom are traumatized by memories of war and the difficulties of resettlement. As the consultation and education specialist at the Asian Counseling and Referral Service, Mr. Quynh has trained hundreds of mental health specialists throughout the Northwest region on the special needs of refugee clients. A former government official



Frank Fujii

from South Vietnam, he is a widely respected figure in the Vietnamese and other Southeast Asian communities.

**Community Voice
Awards nominees:**
Nellie Fujii Anderson
Fred Cordova
Selena Dong
Harry Fujii
Theresa Fujiwara
Aimee Hirabayashi
Ngy Hul
Kazzie Katayama
Aki Kurose
Tracy Lai
Alan Lau
Mike Lowry
George Nakauye
Dan Rounds
Bob Santos
Van Sar
Stan Shikuma
Craig Shimabukuro
Tama Tokuda
Shawn Wong
Irene Woo

Norris Bacho

'The potential is fantastic'

by Veronica Allen

You could say that Norris Bacho's first day on the job last month as director of Tacoma's new Department of Planning and Development got off to a "running start." His 80-person staff greeted him dressed in sweats and running gear in reverence for his announcement that he plans to have a "jumping department."

The newly created department is really a combination of three departments: planning, human services and community development. The departments were merged as part of a recent reorganization of city government by Tacoma's City Manager, Ray Corpuz.

"The activities of our department touches everyone's lives," Bacho says.

"With a budget of about \$10 million, we coordinate with 18 agencies and commissions to address a wide spectrum of concerns, from the arts to zoning."

According to Bacho, there's a lot to jump for. Tacoma-Pierce County was rated by Money Magazine recently as the fourth best place to live in the United States. He sees Tacoma as "number one in terms of cultural and economic diversity, and opportunity—the opportunity to shape a really great future—a future of our own."

Bacho, 37, was born and raised in Seattle, and had his first involvement in community development as a University of Washington intern working as a neighborhood planner in Seattle's south end. He later did a stint in the finance division, developing taxation districts for local business improvement areas.

Bob Santos, Director of the International District Preservation and Devel-

opment Authority, also recalls that Bacho and his older brother, Peter, were among the young college activists in the 70's who helped focus attention on the displacement of older International District residents with the building of Seattle's Kingdom.

"Much of the resources we have in the International District today, the development of housing, health, daycare facilities and community gardens, can be attributed to their efforts in organizing community rallies around the Kingdom issue," he said.

Prior to his Tacoma appointment, Bacho was the property manager for The Westlake Center.

"The Westlake Mall project was like managing a small city," Bacho says. "Maybe that's why I view local government operations kind of like a shopping mall without walls. You're required to deal with people all across the board. It's really all about being

responsive and delivering the kind of services that the people who support it—our taxpayers—want and expect."

Bacho sees housing and growth management as key issues in Tacoma.

"I'd like to recapture some of our neighborhoods like the Hilltop area so that we can maintain its social fabric, but at the same time, we need to encourage long term investment and expand home ownership and improvements with low cost housing rehab and lease-option programs, for example."

The 1990 U.S. census shows that Tacoma's population has increased over the last ten years from 158,500 to 176,600.

"As Seattle's cost of living gets higher, outside locations like Tacoma are attracting more and more people," Bacho says. "We're actually the cultural hub of the South Sound. There's lots of parking and we're well laid out for growth. Tacoma's port authority is expanding, commercial property is increasing, and the prospect of the University of Washington establishing a branch campus.

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Norris Bacho
Courtesy of Tacoma News-Tribune

Editor's Note

As the Asian and Pacific Islander Heritage Issue is distributed throughout the streets of the International District, and beyond, the staff, board, and volunteers of the *Examiner* prepare to celebrate our seventeenth year of publication.



Danny Howe

Through-out these seventeen years, most of our contributors have been volunteers. So, it is fitting that we celebrate the accomplishments of Frank Fujii, Ruth Chinn, Quynh T. Nguyen, and Dorothy Cordova, recipients of the *Examiner's* Community Voice Awards, who have volunteered much of their time to help others. Each of them represents a particular kind of heartbeat in our community—teaching and inspiring and nurtur-

ing, in their own respective ways.

Many of the articles and commentaries in this Heritage issue tell the story of those who stand on the edge of traditional Asian and Pacific Islander culture: the Chinese American man struggling with mental illness, the Korean adoptee searching for identity, the woman of Japanese and African heritage, redefining ethnic lines. We seldom have the opportunity to hear their stories. Yet, if this month of celebration is to have meaning, we must embrace their struggles as our own.

Thank you's must go out to Bob Shimabukuro, Alan Lau, and others who have brought the *Pacific Reader* Literature Supplement to life. And to the staff of the *Examiner*—Serena Louie, Dean Wong, and Mary Akamine—who, in my first four months as editor, have continually demonstrated the commitment it takes to work for a nonprofit, grass roots community paper.

Finally, a warm welcome to Emily Wong, who officially joined the *Examiner* staff on May 6.

Continued from page 1

Norris Bacho

and a large new Boeing site developing here means that mucho jobs are going to be generated. The potential is fantastic!"

Bacho, who was a recipient of the Governor's Award for Volunteerism, currently serves on the board of Harborview Hospital. His other community activities have included working as a Crisis Clinic volunteer and fundraising for Community Home Health Care.

He reserves his personal time for his 12 year old daughter, Anna, who

attends Seattle's Meany Middle School.

Besides Bob Santos, Bacho attributes his career achievements to the encouragement of people like Seattle City Councilwoman Dolores Sibonga.

"Norris has already had an impressive career," says Sibonga. "He did an outstanding job with Seattle's business improvement districts and in the private sector. I think his strong grounding in economic development and experience with community-based organizations will be very helpful to Tacoma. And, working with Ray Corpuz, Tacoma's City Manager, Bacho will be dynamite!"

National News

by Danny Howe

JA group calls for Gates resignation

The National Coalition for Redress/Reparations (NCRR) has emerged as the first major Japanese American group to call for the resignation of Los Angeles Police Department Chief Daryl Gates, following the beating of Rodney King by L.A. police officers, reports the *Rafu Shimpō*. NCRR states that Gates "has made a number of public statements which have been both insensitive and racist in nature."

The announcement came within a week of the appointment of criminal defense attorney Michael Yamaki to the Los Angeles Police Commission by Mayor Tom Bradley. Yamaki is the first Asian American to sit on the commission.

In a May 2 Hokubei Mainichi commentary, NCRR representative June Hibino says, "The King beating refused attention on Gates' 13-year history of bigoted statements. Gates has called Latinos 'lazy'; said that Blacks die in greater numbers from the chokehold because they are not like 'normal' people; that the Soviet Union was sending Jewish immigrants to the U.S. to disrupt the 1984 Olympics; and that casual drug users should be taken out and shot."

Hibino says that the call for Gates' resignation is not motivated by "anti-police" sentiment, but by the desire for a police department to truly "protect and serve."

Census undercounts Asians

The 1990 census may have undercounted America's Asians and Pacific Islanders by as much as 4.6%—or over 330,000 people—according to U.S. Census Bureau estimates, the *Hokubei Mainichi* reports. The undercount figures were released after the government surveyed 165,000

households to assess how many people were missed. The Commerce Department, which oversees the Census Bureau, is scheduled to decide whether or not to adjust census figures by July 15.

Yamamoto writings adapted for television

Two short stories from Hisaye Yamamoto's *Seventeen Syllables and Other Stories*, have been adapted for television and will be shown Friday, May 24, at 10 p.m. on KCTS TV, channel nine. The adaptation entitled "Hot Summer Wind" is about a Japanese American family living in California's Salinas Valley.

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Phone: (206) 624-3925

Publication dates are the first and third

Wednesdays of each month. Deadline for

display ads and news releases is seven days

prior to publication.

Subscriptions: \$15—one year; \$25—two years;

\$35—three years; overseas \$30 per year.

Optional first class subscription: \$27.50 per year.

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I join in saluting
Asian/Pacific American
Heritage Month

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of Asian/Pacific Americans
have enriched the history of
Washington State.

— 43rd District Senator
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I'm very happy to salute
the contributions of
Asian Pacific Americans

Seattle City Council Member
Cheryl Chow

District News

by Ann Fujii and Danny Howe

Twinkle premiere

The world premiere of Gary Iwamoto's play, *Twinkle*, is scheduled for 8 p.m., May 29, at the Northwest Asian American Theatre. This comedy musical follows Suzy Wong, a spunky, Chinese All-American girl from Bellevue, Washington, as she follows her dreams to Hollywood, California, to become the first Asian American female star. Iwamoto, who also wrote *Miss Minidoka* 1943 and *Who Killed the Dragon Lady*, created *Twinkle* to reflect the difficulties and stereotypes ethnic performers constantly face. The show is billed as "a hilarious parody of the Hollywood Dream, Asian American style." Formore information, contact Kathy Hsieh at 340-1445.

Small business honored

Beacon Market, owned by Eddie Lau, was one of ten Seattle small businesses who received Seattle Mayor Norman B. Rice's Outstanding Small Business Awards during ceremonies at the Westin Hotel. The judges were impressed with how Lau handled many of the struggles of an entrepreneur. Despite long hours and day-to-day problems, Lau is still able to find time for his family, and has remained dedicated to the Beacon Hill area and its continued growth.

Winners were selected from 81 small business owners nominated by friends, clients, other businesses and/or sponsor-

soring organizations. The event was co-sponsored by Seafirst Bank and The Mayor's Small Business Task Force.

Iwami receives teachers award

Dennis Iwami, a teacher at South Shore Middle School, was one of 10 outstanding Seattle teachers honored by the Seattle Business Committee for Excellence in Education for his service to the public school system. Iwami received a \$2,000 award and a crystal apple. Iwami is a physical education teacher who has been employed with the Seattle School District for over 20 years.



Michelle Corsilles — Stan Shikuma photo

Corsilles new at Seattle City Council

Congratulations to Michelle Corsilles who joined the Seattle City Council as their newest intern on April 16. A sophomore at the University of Washington, Michelle is also a steering committee member of the UW Asian and

Pacific Islander Student Union and has written for the *Examiner*.

Cordova honored by Governor

Fred Cordova is one of three individuals who received the third annual Governor's Ethnic Heritage Award. The other two were Patrinn Wright and Joseph Locati. Cordova, of Seattle, has been one of the state's chief proponents of Filipino American culture and heritage for many years. He founded Filipino Youth Activities, the FYA Khorodobah Drill Team, and the Jhabandah performance group. He is the founding president of the Filipino American National Historical Society and has conducted extensive research on the history of Filipinos in America. He is the author of *Filipinos: Forgotten Asian Americans*, which chronicles the Filipino experience in America from 1763 to 1965.

Seafair ambassadors

Laurie Oettinger (Redmond High School), Gerald Palomo (Ingraham High School) and Carolyn Sumulong (Seattle Prep) were selected as outstanding high school juniors to be a part of the Seafair Ambassador Corps for 1991-1992. The Ambassadors will spend their year learning more about key issues facing the Pacific Northwest such as homelessness, the environment and international trade. They will also travel to Seattle's Sister Cities in Japan and Mexico to compare these same issues and experience international cultures.

War memorial nominations

Harry Akune, chairman of the Name

Criteria Selection Committee, 100th/442nd/MIS World War II Memorial Foundation, has announced the nomination process and criteria for determining the names which will be placed on the Honor Roll of Japanese American WWII Veterans Memorial to be located in Los Angeles. For more information, please contact the NCA Committee, 1438 Oak Street, Los Angeles, CA 90015.

Micro-Enterprise Pilot Project

The International District Improvement Association (Inter'im) is conducting a Micro-Enterprise Pilot Project. The project is being funded by a grant from the Office of Neighborhoods. If you run your own micro-enterprise or are interested in starting one, you may be interested. A micro-enterprise is defined as one that is "typically owner-operated and often is not the primary source of income for the micro-business owner," according to Inter'im. For more information, contact C.J. Kennedy or Naty Lafuente at 624-1802, or Laura Chester at 632-4559.

Corrections

• The May 1 *Examiner* story on Henry Tatsumi mentions George Taylor as having been a student of Tatsumi. Taylor was actually a colleague of Tatsumi's.

• The April 17 *Examiner* feature on Wing Luke staff members did not include Leslie Katsman, educational assistant and weekend staff coordinator. Leslie works closely with the Museum's On Wheels Program.



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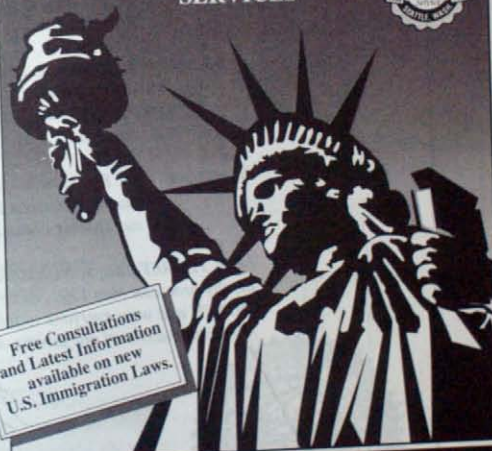
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Heritage art exhibit opens in Olympia

There are probably as many reasons to put together art shows as there are to make art, according to Irene Kuniyuki and Lucia Enriquez, organizers of the Heritage Art Exhibit, featured at the State Capitol Building in Olympia on May 13-31. This exhibition of art, featured throughout the remainder of Asian Pacific Heritage Month, came about at the suggestion of Roberta Perry, Director of Visitor Services at the Capitol.

Why an art show? Furthermore, why an Asian American art show? The answers are both simple and complex for Kuniyuki and Enriquez. The artists believe that art is a direct, individual ex-

pression of their culture. "It is the way in which we partake of a collective identity and make it our own," says Enriquez. "It is the way in which we re-identify ourselves, and hence, the way we define our heritage. Bringing these together broadens the possibilities of identification, or in other words, provides diversity."

The exhibit contains over 50 pieces of art, in four locations: the State Reception Room, the fourth floor balcony, the floor of the House of Representatives, and the office of the Speaker of the House. The artists are Susan Ebira Otani, Alan Lau, Eric Chang, Teiko Shimazaki, Myong Hee Kim, So-Ying Leung, Fumiko Kimura, Irene H. Kuniyuki, Wan Frieda Sze, Stuart Nakamura, Dean Wong, Meng Ludwig, Robert Lee, Midori Kono Thiel, Cheryl Leo Gwin, Louise Kikuchi, Verna Yip, Tracy Tsutsumoto, Nora Mukaihata, and Lucia Enriquez.

The coordinators received assistance



Eleven of the 20 artists exhibiting work at the State Capitol Building in Olympia. Left to right (front row): Irene H. Kuniyuki, Teiko Shimazaki, Midori Kono Thiel, Fumiko Kimura, Lucia Enriquez; (back row): Tracy T. Tsutsumoto, Myong Hee Kim, Eric Chang, Alan Lau, Meng Ludwig, Robert Lee. —Joe Schuster photo

from Roberta Perry of the House Visitor Services; Velma Veloria of Rep. Art Wang's Office; Ron Chew, the staff, and board of the Wing Luke Asian Museum;

and Brian Locke of the Washington State Commission on Asian American Affairs. For more information, please call Roberta Perry at 1-786-7773.

City of Seattle • Office of the Mayor

PROCLAMATION

- WHEREAS, *the City of Seattle is a beautiful mosaic of diverse people, each bringing a distinct cultural heritage that adds to the richness of our city; and*
- WHEREAS, *the Asian Pacific community of Seattle has played a critical role in the social, economic and cultural life of our city and nation; and*
- WHEREAS, *the Asian Pacific community, with all of its diversity, provides Seattle with a rich history and countless contributions in the areas of tradition, business, trade, art, politics and individual expertise; and*
- WHEREAS, *because of its proximity and economic growth, Seattle's future is tied to the Pacific Rim, and we can look forward to long and friendly bonds with the native countries of our Asian Pacific community; and*
- WHEREAS, *the President of the United States has expanded the former Asian Pacific/American Heritage Week, the first week of May, into a month-long annual celebration;*

NOW THEREFORE, I, NORMAN B. RICE, Mayor of the City of Seattle do hereby proclaim May 1991, to be ASIAN PACIFIC/AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH and urge everyone to join me in recognizing and applauding the many fine contributions of our diverse Asian Pacific community.



Norman B. Rice
Norman B. Rice
Mayor

'China cannot avoid the world trend'

by Shalin Hai-Jew

World renowned pro-democracy activists and physicist husband-and-wife Fang Lizhi and Li Shuxian met with Chinese student groups, the press, the American public, and their physics colleagues during a recent stop in Seattle. Their visit coincided with the publication of Fang's acclaimed non-fiction work, "Bringing Down the Great Wall: Writings on Science, Culture, and Democracy in China." Fang capped their stay with a speech to an enthusiastic full-house at the University of Washington's Kane Hall on May 7.

Mischievous, mild-mannered, impassioned and blunt, Fang brought several messages; foremost, the pro-democracy movement has "not died." The tragedy of the June 3-4 Tiananmen Square Massacre heralded China's political crisis, which Fang believes few Sinologists really understand. A crisis is "good," because it indicates that change is coming, he said. Just as China followed other countries into communism, it will follow those countries out into democracy. "China cannot avoid the world trend. China in (the) future will definitely be a democracy country." It may take a "decade or generation or even longer," but gradually, democracy will



Fang Lizhi lectures at the University of Washington—Dean Wong photo

become the political reality. The timeline of this country with a recorded history of 6,000 years will be much slower, he cautioned, though the trend is the same as in Eastern Europe.

Second, he emphasized that China's problems are the world's problems. He disagreed with Beijing's assertion that that country's affairs were "internal" ones. China has the world's largest population, with up to a fifth of the world's people. It is the worst contributor of air pollutants of all the world's developing countries. Its human rights abuses have caused millions of refugees to flee abroad. It had the highest inflation rate of any East Asian countries last year. Its Gross National Product is only \$400 annually per citizen. One requirement to solving those problems would include modernization in industry, science, education, and agriculture, he said.

Education plays a major role in upholding democracy in society. Universities in the People's Republic of China (P.R.C.) serve as a "tool of the Party," not as institutions to encourage free thought. Education cannot develop without freedom, since one basic requirement for academic enterprise is independent thought free from political tampering. "You can't separate science with politics," he said. In a similar way, economic reforms cannot occur without political ones. He encouraged the Communist Party to withdraw from the marketplace.

Fang discussed the correlation between China's scientific progress and the amount of freedom allowed by Chinese leaders. During the 1957 anti-Rightist Movement, the 1966-76 Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution, and the current government suppression, dras-

tic drops in science occurred. The repression of free thought had a direct damaging effect on science.

To further the human rights cause, Fang had taken advantage of the fact that dissident scientists were punished relatively lightly due to China's need for advanced technology. Following the events at Tiananmen Square, he and his wife found it "impossible to remain," and sought refuge in the U.S. Embassy in China. "After Tiananmen Square, the policy of the government made a U-turn...back to the Cultural Revolution (chaos)," he said.

Fang and his wife spent a year there in sanctuary, holed up in the embassy's compounds. The Chinese government restricted their movements so that they could not communicate with someone living even one kilometer away.

The support of his colleagues internationally eased Fang's intellectual solitude while at the embassy. The publication of his articles in foreign countries allowed him to prove he was "safe and very stable." His wife, who previously held a teaching position at Beijing University and was, Fang explained, "not involved too much" in the 1989 pro-democracy movement, was also able to continue her professional academic work. Some of Fang's colleagues, however, were put under house arrest, and stripped of their rights to perform physics research and teaching. Others were held in deplorable jail conditions.

One of the Beijing administration's requirements for releasing Fang and his

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One man's struggle with mental illness

by Koon Woon

Being Asian American and mentally ill, I best try to be invisible. I avoid, when I can, the hospital, the workplace, the classroom, and family gatherings where I may be seen as a reflection of family. In Chinese American culture, the family is one unit and its well-being takes precedence over the individuals composing it. Therefore, by being ill, I shame my family.

That's why I am an embarrassment at family association dinners and picnics. You know nobody comes right out and says "we don't want you to be here," but body language and the uncomfortable silences give it away. So, I stopped attending those social functions and my mother, when asked where I am by relatives, says that I live far away and thus, am unable to attend. She says she does that to protect me.

Other times, family members told me to shape up; thus, as my illness progressed from bad to worse, from longer and longer bouts of depressions and confusion, I was considered lazy, lacking in character, and purposefully causing my family to lose face.

At the onset of my illness, a point where the disease had progressed far enough to call it by its rightful name, my family's solution was not to send me on a trip to the doctor's office, but a sojourn to San Francisco to stay with a grieving aunt whose son was a victim of homicide. That came to pass. The Bay air was good for me and I became "fit" to work as a prep-cook.

I was in the Bay Area and my parents thought that I should marry a nice Chinese girl for a modest piece of happiness (I was also to provide back-up labor for the family restaurant). The plan was bound to fail.

My mental illness brought bizarre thoughts and behaviors, leading me to give all my money to street musicians, to write insulting letters to government officials, to wander around homeless, to set fires to trash bins for which I was arrested. Paradoxically, this led to hospitalization and some needed help.



ALAN LAU

I was placed in a half-way house with other patients after the hospitalization. Here, a long and uneven process began. After the tenure at the half-way house, I attempted to rejoin my family. Not long after I got off the Greyhound, my father said to me, "You are not normal, you go back to half-house." Kind friends sheltered me for a year, and later I received federal welfare. After several unsuccessful tries at school and work, I gradually drifted through the various low-income slums to the International District (ID) six years ago.

Sociologists refer to the fact that mentally ill people often fall downward in economic class as the "downward drift" theory. Medical studies also show that the more severe of the mental illnesses tend to show up more in the bottom social classes. You'd expect the ID would have a higher prevalence of mental illness than the national average. I counted about a dozen people in my apartment building, where about 70 people live, as having severe mental health problems. While I don't know exactly what the national average is, I guess it is about 3 to 5%. Actually, a person can "down drift" farther down into system to a half-way house, a nursing home, or a

state hospital.

I would like to stress that my family did not deny my illness and reject me out of malice; rather, they did so because they were trapped in their cultural and social milieu. They attempted to ignore and hide my problems as long as they could before seeking help; and there was little information available for them about mental illness other than gossip—hushed tones of how so and so's cousin, twenty years ago, saw spirits. Denial is a common way to deal with unpleasant and unacceptable things to Asian Americans. I heard a woman who had a cancerous breast removed; she had to be told by three people that one of her breasts was gone before she accepted the reality.

Given the fact that (in Asian American cultures) the family is the primary social unit, it was reasonable to involve the whole family when I began outpatient treatment. They came to treatments with me a couple of times; each time reaching the verdict that the therapists were not qualified. Of course there can be no admission of any detectors in the family, and thus, being unable to re-integrate then, I "voluntarily exiled" myself.

Thus, it became necessary to find others for support. Some loyal friends were found in half-way houses and mental health centers. Others of various persuasions became friends: gays, lesbians, writers, poets, political dissidents, and "ordinary" people. I broadened the base of friends as much as possible to assuage my loneliness. Disregarding the psychiatric component of not always being able to trust one's perceptions, thoughts, and feelings, mental illness is a kind of devastating loneliness that a

paralegic, a grieving widow, a cancer patient, or even perhaps, a criminal could understand.

Since my family values hard work and thrift, as many immigrant families do, my "idleness" seems, even to me, a weakness when my late father worked 80 hours a week. Unproductivity gnaws at me, and so I must comfort myself with something my father said to me once, although he meant it in a different sense: "I used to think we can grow a president in one generation, but now I guess it takes at least three..."

My "odyssey" to the outside world in order to alleviate burden and shame to my family and to find myself could have gone on forever, like the adult of a specie of whale that roams the deep blue seas, never meeting another of its kind...

But I came back. When my cousins arrived from China five years ago in their total helplessness in the language, I became a tutor. Through me, they learned survival English and they helped me to enhance my Chinese. Gradually, I earned an identity in this tenement, where the sweat of immigrants tell stories of bitter strength. Little by little, I reintegrated into my culture and into my family.

I see now two of my compatriots in the adjacent building staring vacantly out of the window. A certain medicated look in the eyes, some stiff or repetitive movements, and an incoherent statement give us away. Rather than to be accepted by a materialistic and wasteful society, I have had to accept myself. I also believe the younger generations will be more open. Mental illness is a disease; when not denied, it's 75% treatable.

Author's note: Since this is one person's personal and necessarily subjective account, a person should look at it as a recipe to treatment. I did receive generous assistance on the emphasis of this commentary from two mental health professionals:

Quynh Nguyen, MSW, MMHS, mental health coordinator at Asian Counseling and Referral Service;

Dr. Liang Tien, specialist in Asian American Mental Health, a professor at the University of Washington, with a private practice.

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The Washington State China Relations Council wishes to recognize the contributions of Asian Pacific Americans in this state

Building children's self-esteem

by David Takami

Three ruddy-checked first graders sit around the table in a small conference room at Maple Elementary School, and as you might expect, they talk all at once and squirm in their chairs. They are barely able to contain their enthusiasm as the half-hour lesson begins.

It is difficult to believe that a few months ago the three boys were singled out by their teacher as unusually quiet and hesitant to participate in class. The students, all of Chinese heritage, were referred to the school-based mental

health program run by the Asian Counseling and Referral Service (ACRS) which combines special classes at Seattle's Maple and Hawthorne Elementary schools with home visits and parental education.

Now in its third year, the ACRS program began in response to numerous requests from teachers and administrators, who reported an increasing number of Asian and Pacific Islander students experiencing problems ranging from poor academic performance to near suicides. "It was very clear that there was a growing need for intervention among children, youth and families," recalls ACRS Executive Director Theresa Fujiwara.

At Maple School, the 12 children enrolled in the program are primarily children of Chinese immigrants. The five students at Hawthorne are Southeast Asians. Because English is their second language, communication can



Tracy Testamante

be difficult with these children, but ACRS' school-based counselor Kitty Kitnikone says the problem goes beyond language to cultural differences in classroom behavior.

"In school they are expected to ex-

press their feelings and participate," says Kitnikone, who is a specialist in the field of mental health care for youth and families. "But many Asian parents tell their children, 'Listen to the teacher and don't talk back.' As a result, Asian kids are often quiet in the classroom. They don't ask questions or ask for help."

The youngsters may also be facing difficulties at home. Their immigrant parents often work long hours six or seven days a week, leaving young children at home alone or with slightly older siblings. Communication is sometimes strained between tradition-bound parents and children who are quick to pick up American customs and mores.

The ACRS program addresses the problem both at home and at school.

Kitnikone visits children's homes to observe family life, and educate parents about the American school system.

At school, she meets with the children once a week in small groups to teach them how to speak up in class, take turns when talking and build self-esteem. She also works closely with teachers, administrators and the school psychologist.

In the Maple School conference room, the blackboard is covered with ego-boosting "brags," statements such as "I'm proud of the way I can..." and "I know how to make..." Kitnikone is covering a lot of ground in a fast-paced unit on stress.

"Who knows what stress is?" she asks. "My mom has stress," one of the boys replies. "She needs sleep all the time and her head hurts."

She then reads them a story about a boy with a "crabby" mother who argues with his friends and worries about making his soccer team.

Judging from the positive comments from teachers, the boys are making remarkable progress. They are raising their hands more often and talking more in class.

Kitnikone also counsels Southeast Asian teenagers in her office at ACRS. Some have been referred to the agency because they are skipping school or getting involved with gangs. At home, they face deep divisions between generations and between cultures.

In the case of one Mien family, for instance, the parents forbid the son's friends from coming over to play music and have parties, which were disturbing the grandparents. The teen complained of a lack of freedom and began staying out late with friends. Over the next few months, he left home for periods of two weeks and longer.

As with the school-based program, Kitnikone tries to involve the family as much as possible in treatment, though she is always careful not to contradict parents or make judgments on how they are bringing up their children.

"I respect their culture," she explains. "I don't want to say they're wrong. I just try to educate them about what does and doesn't work (with American teenagers). I encourage them to spend more time with their children, to get to know them. I give parents the information and then they can choose."

In addition to the school-based program, ACRS counselors also treat child victims of sexual assault and conduct parent training in conjunction with the School of Social Work at the University of Washington.

Office of the County Executive King County, Washington



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Asian/Pacific Americans represent many distinct ethnic groups, each having a unique and proud cultural heritage; and

WHEREAS, specific time has been set aside for several years as a means of honoring the contributions these people have made to our community's social, economic and cultural life; and

WHEREAS, King County has a significant proportion of its population claiming Asian/Pacific heritage;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tim Hill, King County Executive, proclaim May 1991 as

ASIAN/PACIFIC AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

in King County and encourage all residents to join our Asian/Pacific neighbors in celebrating their rich cultural legacy.



Tim Hill
Tim Hill
King County Executive

The Hawaiians Meet Western Civilization

Bull Session



Bob Shimabukuro

Washington communities are getting ready to celebrate the 200th anniversary of the exploration of the Columbia River by American Robert Gray. Obviously, "exploration" is not the appropriate term since the American Indians had it all figured out, having established their own trade network from the Pacific Ocean to the Great Lakes.

And Gray only got 20 miles up the river, while Capt. George Vancouver (or at least his subordinate Lt. W.R. Broughton) managed to reach 100 miles up the river that same year, around 1792.

But Gray's little foray, along with the Lewis and Clark expedition around 1811, established America's "claim" to the river. Still, by 1814, Hudson Bay Company of Great Britain had taken over Astoria (established by New Yorker John Jacob Astor in 1811) and a decade later had established Fort Vancouver 100 miles up the river.

What's all this have to do with Asian Pacific American History Month?

In the late 1700s, the Kingdom of Hawaii became an important trading post for ships traveling between the Orient and the Pacific Coast. The early 1800s brought many Hawaiians to the Northwest, as they were highly valued for their swimming, diving and boating skills, useful in both sailing the Pacific and in the river fur trade. Many were also used as laborers in Fort Vancouver.

But racial sensitivity and commitment to racial diversity was not one of Capt. Vancouver's strong points, and many



Hawaiians decided to join the Indian settlements along the southern Washington border rather than face the Captain's version of affirmative action.

This information (excluding your usual B.S. embellishments) was given to me by a Hawaiian woman who was living in Clark County, over lunch at the Tanuki restaurant counter in Portland, Oregon, while I grilled (food) and served her. I don't remember her name, but nothing I have seen later has contradicted what she said.

I had owned Tanuki at the time and I had decided to open up a Hawaiian style plate lunch in 1983. Business-wise, it was a terrible decision. But for listening to people's stories, it couldn't have been better. I met a lot of people, including this Hawaiian woman and other members of the Hawaiian population in Clark County. They told me a lot about growing up in southern Washington. About Capt. Vancouver and his style of management. About the proud Kalama family and intermarriage with the American Indians. About the migration of Hawaiians to Longview in the 1940s. And about a lost band of Hawaiian sailors dumped on one of the San Juan Islands a long time ago when their services were no longer needed. Their descendants learned only during the 1970s where their ancestors were from.

Next year, as towns along the Columbia celebrate the bicentennial of the "exploration" of the Columbia River, and other towns elsewhere honor the quinquennial of the Niña, the Pinta, the Santa Maria, it would be fitting and proper to acknowledge the contributions of our Native American (Hawaiian and American Indian) brothers and sisters during those 200 and 500 years respectively and respectfully.

Now it is stories like these that often get lost in the shuffle, in our schools, grade, high and otherwise, including college. The University of Washington is just another one of those institutions of higher learning full of learned men who know very little real history.

In the recent flap over the Ethnic Studies Requirement (changed to American Pluralism Requirement so that departments can avoid the real issues of racism and Eurocentric curriculum and instead ask for more money for pet projects), a business professor, Philip Bourque, was quoted as saying that the requirement "had been prepared by benevolent faculty members attempting to indoctrinate our students in cultural diversity."

Well, excuse me. What in the world is wrong with that? The professor obviously needs some educating. For one

thing, cultural diversity in America (or for that matter, the world) is a fact. You don't indoctrinate students that one plus one is two. You teach them. Likewise, schools don't indoctrinate students about cultural diversity. It's there. Walk out the door into the world, professor. It certainly will not hurt our business students (and business professors also) to learn that there are all kinds of people in the world.

It will not hurt engineering students either. Or literature and art students.

It is disconcerting to me that colleges view such a small requirement with such disdain and fear, but it should not be surprising.

All institutions, educational ones notwithstanding, overlook, ignore, or minimize contributions by groups that could threaten their control. And I suppose that faculty members, being so long "indoctrinated" themselves about the value of European culture and Western Civilization feel a little threatened when the high moral purposes and goals of their "truth and methodology factories" are questioned.

But people of color have little real power in today's American academia.

So why such a fuss? When what is really such a small requirement (we're talking about one or two classes on most campuses), is hotly debated around the country; when supposedly intelligent men worry about Shakespeare classes being replaced by Asian American literature classes and not by *History of Physical Education in America* or *Football Strategies As A Prelude to Life* (This is no joke, folks. Check out some of the course lists for the North Carolina State basketball or University of Miami football team members); when the only way students on college campuses can learn about people of color is from the students of color; then is it any wonder that racist acts on the campus are increasing. The students, after all, simply follow the examples set by their administrators, deans, and faculty.

So Mr. Bourque, I've got some questions for you. Can you tell me, please, anything about the African mathematicians who preceded the Greeks? Can you tell me what Columbus and his band of men did to their hosts when they invaded this continent? Can you tell me about some of the contributions Hawaiians made to Pacific Northwest development?

Give it a thought, will you? It's important. For you, for me, for our state, for our country, for our children.

It's Asian Pacific American History Month, you know.

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Korean American Gary Kim

by S. E. Solberg

There comes a point where the new immigrants begin to impinge upon the old. For Korean Americans that moment came in the early seventies. When Kun Hon Park interviewed Gary Kim as part of the Demonstration Project for Asian Americans' "Forgotten Asian Americans" oral history project in 1981, he, as the grandson of that first wave, was already facing those problems, and the questions. For, to phrase it bluntly, "if he (the newcomer) is Korean and I (the third generation Korean American) am Korean, what is our commonality, our sameness? There is a moment of panic on both sides. Just who or what am I anyhow?"

When asked how he related to the growing Korean community, Gary replied:

It's kind of hard to answer in a concrete sense because I live in a community where there are not that many Koreans.... So, I relate to it but it's right now kind of in the intellectual sense.... I don't speak Korean and it makes me very nervous, and I think it makes Koreans nervous too. I mean it's an odd thing for a Korean not to speak Korean. So that creates a tension.

The immigrant sense of being Korean American dates from yesterday, the first day in America.

And because we grew up in different places I'm a third generation Korean and I've never seen Korea, other people have grown up in Korea. Of course, there are a lot of things which we see differently. So, sometimes it's a little tense at first. It's a little difficult.

Gary Kim's Korean Americanness derives from growing up in Los Angeles and Granada Hills in California and his years at the University of Oregon in Eugene, where as a graduate student, he established the first Asian American studies course and continued on as teacher/administrator for some years after graduation.

It also derives from the practicalities of living Asian in America, particularly isolated from Asian American communities as he was in Eugene, where

...All of us kind of stick together and identify ourselves as Asian American first because the white people always see us that way.... With most of the white people there it doesn't make sense to tell them I'm Asian. Now in dealing with the other Asian communities, of course, the most important thing is I'm Korean. So depending upon which situation I'm in, definition shifts.

Yet his strong sense of his family history across the bitter years before the Pacific War was an anchor. His father was born in Mexico, where his grandfather had come at the turn of the century to a situation little better than slavery. As Gary remembers the story:

...while they were in Mexico it was...very difficult work. There was racial tension between the Koreans and the Mexicans. At that time they were doing plantation labor....A number of the Koreans stayed in Mexico, some of them went to Cuba, and a number of them crossed over the border into California. While they were in, I think it's in Sonora, northern Mexico, they're doing coal miner's work. And so it's very difficult, sweaty hot work.

The family then moves up to Reedley, and on to Delano in an agricultural area.

I remember my father telling me when I was young that he would never want his children to work in the fields because of the work he had to do there. So



Justin Norman—illustration

they worked there in Delano and then the family moves to Riverside, California, where a number of Korean families again moved from the Delano area down to Riverside, and were picking oranges, picking other kinds of fruits, whatever kinds of work they could find. My father does not talk about that period an awful lot. I think it was a very, very difficult time.

On his mother's side, the story is more typical, though hardly less dramatic.

...My mother's father....comes over in 1903. He goes to Hawaii to work on the sugar plantation. So it's the same kind of labor—out in the sun all the time. By 1906, he breaks his contract illegally in Hawaii, goes to San Francisco just after the earthquake. Then gradually moves down to Los Angeles and, because—I'm just guessing but because he's not able to get work, he opens up a small vegetable stand. And then later, somehow saves up enough money to open a small store. And then he was, that's what he did all of his life. He was a small shopkeeper.

The maternal grandmother came later—a picture bride in 1918 after the green goods stand was better established.

...during the depression, the times were so difficult that they decided the entire family could not be fed in America so grandmother and the two daughters go back to Korea. And stay in Korea until just before the Second World War breaks out. So they're in Korea, my mother in fact goes, I think, to high school under the Japanese Occupation. So she, of course, witnesses the banning of the Korean language, the burning of the books, teachers crying that we're going to have Japanese names now, and having to have hand grenade practice, and sword practice and that sort of thing. It's the eradication of the Korean culture period. Then they come back to the United States just before World War II breaks out, before the Pearl Harbor.

The family does not usually dwell on the hard times, but on occasion, a confrontation with the newcomer sparks fireworks. Newcomers with gold mountains still in their eyes would ask the maternal grandmother in disbelief:

"...you've been here now how many years? Fifty, sixty, seventy years of your life, why aren't you rich, why aren't you powerful, why aren't you famous?" And she gets very mad at them and tells them to sit down, "You don't understand when we Koreans first came here, we were treated like the black people and never forget that." So that's one of the few times when she ever will talk about it. Usually, they don't mention it.

Yet it is that that has shaped their lives, their children's lives, and even that of the third generation.

My parents have always stressed we were going to have to work very hard because they have never had any illusions about how the white society would treat them; they knew they had to be better at everything we would do because they had to be better at everything they did in order to simply get the same kind of job somebody else would get with less effort, preparation, or whatever.

In 1981, Gary Kim was making no predictions about where the new immigrants might be going, what their struggles might be. On the other hand, he felt an urgency for protecting the Asian, the Korean part of the heritage for his daughter, preferably in a multi-ethnic setting.

...the main thing is, she's half Korean and half Russian....[and] that part of her which is the Asian side, the Korean side, is going to be very difficult to reinforce because I am not with her [because of divorce].

But what is that Korean side, and how do you find it for yourself so you can pass it on? The answers are not simple. I'm still trying to bring out that part of me which is the Korean side, the Asian side, instead of having it be a mystery or something which is not there. And it's something you work on all the time for a lot of us, a lot of the American-born Koreans; we have a lot of that to work through. Probably it is a little bit more difficult because you are facing lots of the new immigrants from Korea these days.

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'My dad looks like Michael Gross'

by Mike Mullen

I grew up as a White person in America. This wouldn't be a big deal, except that I'm Korean.

For me, assimilation wasn't some sociological phrase used to describe the pressure to move into mainstream society; rather, it was me, my way of life, everything I'd ever known. With a family who has always loved me, I have always been accepted by Whites. I felt like an equal among my friends, who were all White.

Most of the people who knew me from my youth in Spokane, Washington, would be shocked, perhaps alarmed, to hear me talk about life in such racially-defined ways. Race and ethnicity were not an issue, and they did not manifest themselves in my life. They were absent.

Of course, you can't escape it, though. People are surprised when they talk to me on the phone or hear about me, and then see me for the first time. Mike Mullen is an Irish guy, right?

Sometimes I will see a White person on TV and remark, "He looks just like my uncle!" Everyone around me will laugh or think I'm lying. It's even worse when I try to explain to people that my dad looks like Michael Gross on "Family Ties." You know, with the graying beard and hair.

I met my first Asian when I was a junior in high school. That may not be much of a revelation to most people, since perhaps we can all remember the first day we met someone of a particularly scarce background. In my old town, Asians are pretty scarce. The difference, of course, is that I am of Asian descent.

Anyway, I had come to Seattle for a leadership conference, and this other student, Sang-Mo So, informed me that I was Korean. Of course, I knew that before then, but it didn't mean anything to me. It's like someone telling you that you're a human being or that you live on

the planet Earth...so what? To Sang-Mo being a fellow Korean was a bigger deal, though. He insisted that because of our common ancestry, we should share some of our rich Korean heritage. This amounted to the two of us eating Korean food and playing ping pong (OK, so we weren't breaking any stereotypes). I hadn't done either before, but somehow, I liked it.

That was the first moment that being of Korean descent, of Asian descent, meant anything real to me.

To be truthful, I had actually met other Asians before Sang-Mo; I just wasn't aware of it. At my high school, there were plenty of ESL students, most of whom came from Asian countries and adhered to tradition Asian culture. But I never felt I had anything in common with any of them.

They were "foreigners" to this country, and they were "foreigners" to me.

I can remember this one early encounter I had with these other Asians. There were two of "them" talking together in the school lunch line, passing time as we all anxiously awaited the soy burgers and fries. They were surrounded by "us," all of "us" perfect English-speaking people I don't know what they were talking about, since they were talking in Chinese. One of my friends who I was with was rather annoyed by the loud babbling, and bluntly told them, "You're in America. Speak English!"

I saw their faces, the look of hurt and anger, of wanting to strike out, but knowing that if they did so, they would be the losers in the end. And then, one of them looked at me, as if I was supposed to intervene. I was, after all, the one who could speak perfect English, so I could speak for "us."

But, I was quite confused as to who was included in "us." My idea was that I was part of the White, English-speaking crowd. They were the foreigners, after all.

I saw one student's face, as she looked at me, waited, and then realized that I wasn't going to do anything. She turned away and looked knowingly at her friend, but kept her mouth shut. Being forced to speak only English meant not being allowed to speak.

For myself, I had no feelings. I wasn't angry at myself at the time; I wasn't angry at my friend for being so rude. I felt no compassion for the ESL students; I felt no connection to them. An innocent



Justin Norman—illustration

bystander, that's all I was.

Looking back, I can still see her face, as it if were a face I saw only yesterday while walking around the International District. Or maybe I saw her on campus, trying to go to her next class. Or maybe it was at the bus stop, as we both waited for the next bus downtown. I guess, in reality, I see her in all those faces, hear her in all those tongues that speak in English that isn't so perfect, unknowingly making up new, perhaps better ways to say a trite English phrase, speaking with a rich accent that distinguishes: not only from where they came, but who they are—something about which to be never confused.

Having dealt with a plural heritage all my life has given me a lot of insights, but not enough to answer all the conflicting questions I have.

On the one hand, I feel a strong bond with Koreans and other Asians; on the other, the people I feel the strongest bond with are my family, and they are White. I feel like there's a lot of Korean culture missing inside of me, but I wouldn't trade my experiences, nor my family and all their love, for anything.

It makes me sad to see the adopted Koreans at the Korean Identity Development Society cultural camp act in ways so contrary to Korean culture. But I feel such empathy with them because they are only doing what they've learned—and besides, they're happy. I

know their parents have saved many of these children from poverty and starvation (like I was), and most of them are doing the best they can to give the children some sense of cultural background, but it all seems so inadequate.

Some may read this and decide that children should be placed with families of the same ethnicity. They may argue that matching ethnicity should be a major factor in determining capability to successfully adopt a child.

Such a suggestion would effectively destroy adoption and all the good it has done. Sure, in the ideal world, there would be exactly enough Korean families to take in Korean children, exactly enough Black families to adopt Black children, exactly enough Native American families with whom to place Native American children. We all know that the real world isn't so ideal, though.

It seems to me, then, that the most important aspect in adoption is the love of the family. I can't imagine feeling closer to any other people than how I feel toward my family. I can't imagine loving any other family as I love mine.

Sure, maybe my family wasn't very adequate at practicing Korean culture or teaching the language. But I learned so many other things: to have respect for other humans, to be confident and strong, to be gentle and caring.

And that's what families are supposed to teach.

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Korean Adoption

'You are always a part of your history'

by Mike Mullen

Lee Carter, a Korean-American student at Western Washington University, does not remember his Korean mother or father. He does not know what it is like to grow up in a Korean family. Like the tens of thousands of other adopted Koreans in the United States, he lives everyday with the obvious fact that his family is not Korean, and he is.

"I used to dream that my dad was the king of Korea and I was going back and would become prince," he recalls. "I used to wonder which of my traits I inherited genetically from birth and which I've developed."

Carter experienced a few problems as a youth coping with the adoption. "When I was in 7th grade, I went through some things," he says, elaborating, "I went through some extreme depression, living recklessly, and doing irrational things like stealing." Almost all of his 7th grade friends were White.

Sandy Mehl, the mother of two Korean children, has met adoptees who reach a point in their lives where they feel they must have an understanding about their Korean heritage. She believes it is vital to help the children confront, accept, and learn about their backgrounds. "It's better to help them understand their differences and be proud of them than to have them looking in the mirror and want to be blond and blue-eyed and hate themselves because they aren't," she says.

Susan Cox, director of development at Holt International Children's Services, the largest Korean adoption agency, disagrees with the idea that the parents need to be pushing "Koreanness" at their children. Cox was adopted from Korea 35 years ago. Her parents made a real effort to Americanize her because they felt she needed to be able to "fit in," as any child needs, so she had no attachment to her birth country.

Still, she acknowledges, "You are always a part of your history, and that's something you carry with you. So, you need to learn about your mother country." Being American and being Korean have to be kept in balance, she maintains, and it "couldn't be made a bigger issue than it is."

Mehl works to help her children, as well as other adoptees, come to an understanding with their Korean background. In 1983, she and 12 other adoptive parents founded the Korean Identity Development Society (K.I.D.S.),



Participants in a Korean awareness camp—Holt International Children's Services photo

a non-profit volunteer organization which strives to teach Korean-American children about the customs, culture, and characteristics of Korea.

"Each family becomes Korean American by adopting children who are adopted," explains Mehl. "We also realized that learning about Korea is a family experience. What we do as a family and as parents is important."

K.I.D.S. holds a culture camp every summer. For five days, children learn traditional games and music, leave their shoes at the door of the classroom, write in *hangul* (the Korean alphabet), and read folk stories. On the last day, a big Korean lunch is shared by all the families. People come from as far away as Alaska and California to the camp; one family from Texas hopes to be able to fly up this summer.

The camp allows children to meet other children with common backgrounds. Carter attended a similar camp in Eugene, Oregon, sponsored by Holt International, which strengthened his Asian identity and answered many of his questions about being Korean. "I realized that I wasn't the only one going through this stage, but that there were others," he says. "There were counselors who were older and who had already gone through the same thing." Now, he volunteers every summer as a counselor to help other Korean adoptees.

The K.I.D.S. culture camp has now grown to two camps—one in West Seattle and another in Kirkland (which is already filled for this summer with 120 students). An even bigger event is the annual Lunar New Year Celebration, attended by 450 people last year. K.I.D.S. also offers adult education programs: all-day workshops or evening forums dedicated to such topics as Korean adoptive experiences, history, cooking, and current events.

A key to the success of the K.I.D.S. program has been the support from the Korean community. The University of Washington Korean Student Association

sends students to help with the camp; the Seattle Korean Association provides speakers for workshops; the Korean Consulate gives access to resources and materials; a local Korean Presbyterian Church makes a special effort to invite and include K.I.D.S. in its annual Korean sports day.

"The Koreans have been nothing but grateful and supportive," says Mehl. "They are pleased that we are teaching about Korea to the children, and that seems to be the difference." Mehl traveled with her daughter to South Korea last year. "Even within Korea," she says of the trip, "the reactions were not negative. It was almost embarrassingly positive—too much praise for what I've done." Mehl also explains that it can be a shameful matter for Koreans to see that a child of theirs had to come to another country because it implies that their country is not capable of taking care of its own.

The Korean government has announced plans to phase out most foreign adoption by 1996. Cox emphasizes that this is not because intercountry adoption hasn't worked, but that the necessity of it has simply dropped. She cites several reasons: the successful efforts by the government to educate the public about birth control, greater adoption by Korean families, lower fertility rates due to industrialization, an improved economic situation, and the legalization of abortion.

"We aren't upset that there will be a decrease in international adoption; we applaud the Korean government's efforts. This is a real victory, a real success for Korean society," she states, reiterating that the decline is not due to problems with international adoption itself.

In fact, interethnic adoption is considered to be just as successful as other adoptions. As David Kim, Executive Director of Holt International, says, "I found that over my 30 years of experience, the differences in physical traits or color has little to do with the successful outcome of an adoption."

Cox hopes to continue to expand her knowledge about the people, the country, and the culture of Korea in general. Specific goals, such as learning the language, seem to be too time consuming and difficult. She knows there are limits to what she can do: "I will never be 'Korean'; I will always be more 'American' because of how I was raised. But in actuality, I'm both, and that's an advantage."

Carter would also like to learn more about his Korean background someday, but right now it's not a high priority. "I'm somewhere on the line between being American—whatever that means—and being Korean," he says. His Asian identity is stronger these days, evident in his active involvement with groups such as the Washington Asian and Pacific Islander Student Union, but his identity as a Korean trails. "Perhaps subconsciously I surround myself with Asians, but not with Koreans," he admits.

More importantly, he has reached an understanding about the reason for his adoption. "I used to try to deny it. I felt that my parents were just throwing me away when they gave me up for adoption," he says frankly. "Now I realize it was hard for them to give me up, and only their love for me allowed them to give me up and allow me the chance at better opportunity."

If you would like more information on the Korean Identity Development Society, please write to: K.I.D.S., P.O. Box 60102, Seattle, WA, 98160-0102

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Art & Life

by Alan Lau
Visual Arts

• A new show of drawings and prints by Japanese artist Shigeki Kuroda will be shown at Azuma Gallery until May 25. 622-5599.

• "Discharge The Sun - Portraits Of Roderick 1987 - 1990" is the title of an exhibit by Irene Kuniyuki at Cunningham Gallery on the U.W. campus till June 14. Kuniyuki will show slides and discuss her work on May 22 at 12:30 p.m. in room 4 of the Art Building 685-1090.

• 19th and 20th Century Japanese Woodblock prints with the theme of "Beauties, Birds and Flowers" continues till June 1 at Carolyn Staley Gallery. 621-1888.

• Chinese artists Meng Luding, Guan Qige, Liang Wei and Shao Baiwei will participate in a panel on modern Chinese art at Seattle Art Museum May 18 at 2 p.m. An exhibit of their work is at the Mezzanine level of the Twin Cranes Gallery from May 18 to June 2. For information on the show and panel call 233-9362.

• Cynthia Lee of Shorewood High School won an Olympic Scholar Award for her work devoted to art education in the community.

• Opening May 30 at Wing Luke Asian

Museum will be the "Collector's Show" comprised of works of art by N.W. masters such as Anderson, Horiuchi, Callahan, Tsutakawa and others. A percentage of the sales on these works will benefit the museum. Preview reception to view the art is Thursday, May 30, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. 623-5124.

• David Mendoza, first director and co-founder of *Seattle's Artist Trust*, will step down to become director of the *National Campaign for Freedom of Expression*. This new group, formed by artists concerned with growing opposition to artistic freedom of expression, will help artists fight racism, sexism and homophobia wherever it's needed across the country.

• The final public art piece in the Metro Bus Tunnel quietly opened last month in the International District Station. The origami sculptures, done in elegant yet colorful style by Sonya Ishii, resemble poetic transformers with masks unfolding until they seem to merge in the center about to take flight off the walls. The phases of the moon and the transformation of the cherry blossoms accent the design. For a booklet that offers a self-guided tour of Metro bus tunnel art, drop by Metro's Westlake Station Customer Shop on the mezzanine level.

The Performing Arts

• "Super Cad" is the debut album being recorded by local jazz trumpet player Lester Iwana. Produced by Michael Powers, the project is financed by war reparations money received by Iwana's parents for their internment in Minidoka. One of Iwana's compositions on the album is entitled "Minidoka." Six of the songs were written by Iwana, and

the recording is scheduled for release in early 1992. Meanwhile, catch the band live around town at the Bite of Seattle and Latona's. 725-5814.

• The Emerald City Brass Ensemble, with Jeffery Domoto on trombone, performs with Seattle Pro Musica Singers as conducted by Karen Thomas in John Rutter's *Gloria*. May 18 at 8 p.m. at Phinney Ridge Lutheran Church. 784-6380.

• Deems Tsutakawa plays at the New Orleans on May 24 and 25. 622-2563.

• Catch singer Primo Kimata jazz jam with Mike Dennis at the Edgewater Inn. Call 782-7000.

• Pianist Kei Akagi, formerly with Miles Davis, has now joined Blue Note artist Stanley Turrentine.

• The Northwest Folklife Festival traditionally serves up a tasty multicultural feast for the ears, and the Asian tradition in music is always represented. It's free at the Seattle Center May 24-27. Call 684-7300 for schedule information.

Video, Film and Media

• Filmmaker Valerie Soe, who recently received a Washington State Arts Commission grant to do a video on the U.W. campus, plans to interview local Asian Americans on their reactions to "marrying out." She has an open position for a local production coordinator. Experience in video production and knowledge of the local Asian community is a must. She will be visiting Seattle in mid-May and filming in October. If you qualify, call her in San Francisco at (415) 522-1091.

• The Winter issue of *FUSE*, a Toronto-based arts magazine, has articles on filmmakers Richard Fung, Trinh Minh-

Ha and "Meng Gen," a new documentary on Asians in Quebec. Fung covers recent films in his article "Seeing Yellow" and Haruko Okano discusses Japanese Canadian culture at Vancouver's Powell St. Festival. 183 Bathurst St., Toronto, Ontario, CANADA.

The Written Word

• *China Boy* (E.P. Dutton) is the debut novel of Davis, California, lawyer Gus Lee. It concerns the San Francisco boyhood of a Chinese American boy in the 1950's who learns to box and defend himself. Lee comes to Seattle in June to read from his novel.

• Entries are now being accepted for the James Clavell American Japanese Literary Award Contest. Short stories must incorporate some aspect of the Japanese American experience in the Americas. Deadline is May 25.

Inquire to The American Japanese National Literary Award, 510 Justin Ave. #205, Glendale, CA 91201 for information.

• *REBOLUSYON! A Generation of Struggle in The Philippines* is a new book by Benjamin Pimentel (Monthly Review Press).

• In her book of short stories, *The Clay That Breathes* (Milkweed Editions), Catherine Browder depicts the American encounter with a Cambodian family, Hmong refugees in an inner-city housing project, an Issei man, and Japanese exchange students.

She shows us that we, as Americans, could learn as much, if not more, from other cultures if we only had the patience to listen and see.

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Nellie Wong

Politics beyond 'color, gender or ethnicity'

by Mary Akamine

Poet and activist Nellie Wong is a second-generation Chinese American who was born in 1933 and grew up in Oakland, California. She has published two books of poetry, *Dreams in Harrison Railroad Park* and *The Death of Long Steam Lady*. She is a self-described radical feminist and a member of the Freedom Socialist Party and Radical Women.

Wong delivered a message entitled, "Illuminating the Linkage: Racism, Sexism, and War," as both the keynote speaker of the Northwest Women's Studies Association Conference, held April 19-21 at Washington State University, and as the featured speaker at a University of Washington gathering April 25, sponsored by Campus Radical Women. Wong spoke recently with the *International Examiner* about her life and politics. The following are excerpts of her comments.

International Examiner: What sources have shaped your development as a radical feminist?

Nellie Wong: A lot of what I struggle for today has to do with my past...When I was growing up, I really felt that life was unfair because certain people had certain things the rest of us didn't. I felt silenced, because I was a girl. With the influence of the media—from looking at magazines and going to movies and reading fashion magazines, etc.—I thought I had to be white. I wanted to be white...

I'm an older person, I'm in my 50s. I can look back and really see how I was shaped by what I was taught in school, and how in my own community it was like, 'Well, Nellie. If you don't get married, what are you going to do with your life?' It was very much, 'This is



Nellie Wong—Haruko photo

tradition. You get married? I thought I wanted that too, and I did get married. I was married for 12 years...I lived pretty much a closed-off life...

It's like, how come we can only be identified as women only if we do certain things? Isn't there something else we can do, and use our talents and our energy and our brains to make society better? These were some real basic questions I had been facing for a long, long time...

By the time I went to college in the 1970s, I was ripe and ready for some kind of an education...The time I was going to SF State (San Francisco State University) I changed pretty rapidly...I began to look at understanding the oppression of women, and fighting racism. All that came together for me, and I began to look at it with a class analysis of women's oppression. I really liked some of the things Radical Women was saying...I decided to join (Radical Women and the Freedom Socialist Party) because I thought I didn't have any other choice. I thought it was important to not only continue being active in the movements, but to join an organization that would really fight and organize for women's rights, as well as fight racism, and heterosexism, and homophobia.

IE: In joining the FSP, do you find that

being Chinese American strengthens the movement?

NW: Yes, I do. Because of the interlocking connection of racism, sexism and class oppression, I think that any organization is going to be strengthened or enhanced if it has a multi-racial composition. When you fight for issues of the most oppressed—women and people of color—you're really fighting for everybody.

IE: Do you ever receive threats because of your political views?

NW: Not personally, but Radical Women and the FSP, yes...When you're out there as a political radical and as a revolutionary, what you stand for is out there in the open. That's why it's important to organize with other people. You can't put yourself out on a limb. You have to realize that the only way we're going to make change is to organize and work together...I've been on the clinic lines, to escort women in the clinics, and I've faced anti-abortionists who have called us all kinds of names. It was really hard for me to see that among the anti-abortion people, there were a lot of Asian Americans. They were also churchgoers, and they were being led

by a white minister, a man. In some of those kinds of activity and actions, you know that you're really faced against what is, you know—you're on opposing sides.

IE: Asian Americans, at least among certain ethnic groups, sometimes have difficulty speaking out in a mixed group.

NW: I don't find it a problem now...We can't fight solely on the basis of our color, or our gender, or our ethnic background. We have to fight around a political program that will fight for the needs of the most oppressed people...We have to fight for reform, but gaining some reform is only going to answer part of what's going on. It puts a band-aid on what's going on, but it doesn't really make social change. While we have to fight for reform, we have to fight for the change that will uproot the capitalist system...When I look at those issues that affect us, I know that we're divided off because there are the people who own everything, and those of us that create the wealth through our labor.

HARBINGER is from Nellie Wong's book, *The Death of Long Steam Lady*, available from West End Press, P.O. Box 291477, Los Angeles, CA 90029

HARBINGER

In the March winds my mother comes to me
She is the sunlight piercing my eyes,
she is the breeze caressing my cheeks.
In braided red yarn she flies,
no wings, no gold teeth.
Eyebrows penciled a fine line.
Her feet grip this brown earth.
She might be sixteen.

Eight years ago I sat with my mother,
sixty five, at her blue formica table
in her fifth floor apartment
and I asked what she thought
when she saw my father
for the very first time.

My mother looked down, blushed

like a young bride,
not knowing she emerged
a harbinger of wedding sons
to her children and grandchildren
who filled her arms:
How lucky, how lucky
to be born in America,
how she was born too soon,
how her luck clouded
beneath the stars,
how it had been decreed
through precepts, through rituals
she would work to bone.

How she insisted
I listen to her very words,
how I closed my ears thinking:
She is only my mother.

And now rainclouds overhead
move like a serpent
breathing fire
into my fingers, piercing my heart.

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'The difference is a global perspective'

by B.R. Winfrey

Does this scene sound familiar?

You have just completed the first page of a job application. As you turn to the back page, you notice the section of the page asks for your racial background, for affirmative action purposes. "Well, let me see," you say to yourself. "Should I screw up the system and claim all of my Asian, Pacific Native American AND Black heritage?"

How about this scenario?

You are out with friends, who have brought along others you have never met. After the introductions, one of them looks at you curiously. "What's your last name?" he asks. You respond by

telling him your decidedly European last name. "Hmmm..." he says. "Where are you from?"

"Tacoma," you answer. Then he abandons any sense of tactfulness and boldly asks you what he's been trying to figure out all night—"What are you?"

These situations are all too typical for people of multi-racial backgrounds. Most "curious" people don't even realize they are offensive.

My personal background is second generation Japanese and who knows how many generations of enslaved African American. Personally, I'm happy to be me. But I wasn't always this happy.

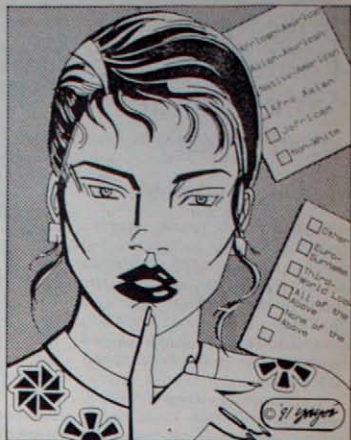
During my childhood years in the early 60's, after internment and before James Brown's proclamation of being "Black and Proud," I suffered a lot of loneliness.

I knew I was "different" in my predominantly Caucasian neighborhood, but I didn't realize how different. Now I know that the difference is that I have a global look, as well as a global perspective.

I have been able to travel worldwide, often being mistaken for a native. In the Caribbean, people thought I was Jamaican. In Central America, people spoke Spanish to me at a very fast clip. In Hawaii, people would ask me how long I had lived there.

Local people, particularly people from island nations, have always sensed a Third World kinship with me. They have taken me to places relatively unknown by the typical tourist and shared with me their cultural tidbits.

In Seattle, people on the street frequently speak to me in Tagalog or Spanish, which has enabled me to learn new languages. I feel at home in



social situations with a variety of different races.

Sometimes, I am privy to racial slurs that I just happen to overhear because someone thinks I am Mexican and proceeds to denigrate people of African ancestry. Other times, I have heard bad jokes about Asians. When I reveal my ethnicity, the offending racist will say, "Oh, but you don't look Black," as if that's a compliment.

So, what's going to happen as the world becomes more racially mixed? My guess is that multi-racial people will grow in numbers so large that the census count in the year 2000 will have updated forms to reflect all the diversity. As for labels, I have never liked "Mulatto" or "Amerasian." My son, whose father is African American, says he is "Colored." I like to say I'm "African."

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People's Conference for the Philippines

The Philippines-United States Military Bases Agreement will expire on September 16, 1991, and the negotiations are under way to finalize the details. With this in mind, the People's Conference Committee for the Philippines is sponsoring an all-day conference on June 1, 1991, at Seattle Central Community College in Room 1141. The conference focus is on the issues surrounding U.S. military bases in the Philippines.

Cecilia Sayo, the founder of the Philippine Women's Center in Vancouver, B.C., will provide an economic and political update. Four workshops will be held to discuss the bases. The video, "History of the U.S. Military Bases," and the film, "U.S. Bases and the Filipino People" will also be shown.

Co-sponsors of the conference are the International Students Club (ISC-SCCC) and the Women International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF). Pre-registration is encouraged before May 28. For further information, call People's Conference Committee for the Philippines at 633-2139 or 932-4549.

Fang Lizhi

wife from China, was that neither would participate in anti-Chinese activities. Fang said that he did not promise not to speak in public. "I want to help China," he clarified. "I'm anti-Chinese current government. That is a different concept." He discouraged speculation that he might run for political office if China were to become democratic. He insists that he is merely "Fang Lizhi," astrophysicist.

He said the Chinese people's tendency has been to support rule by the individual rather than rule by law. The preferable system is one which guarantees a good leader. Under such a system, at least a poor leader may be ousted from power. Once Deng Xiao-ping (whom Fang calls "superman") dies, the central government will become weaker, and there will be an opportunity to push for greater democracy, as well as a decentralization of political power, Fang said.

Fang's one requirement for returning to his homeland is to be able to do research and teaching. He has never sought political asylum or citizenship from any country. He encouraged the return of Chinese students to the mainland "even in this moment," as long as they aren't under direct threat of persecution.

Fang criticized the Bush administration policy towards China for being "soft." He said the U.S. "can do more." He supports a conditional offering of the Most Favored Nation (MFN) trade status, and points out that the U.S. should try to encourage free immigration and the abolition of forced labor. He commended "Toycott" (boycott of mainland China made toys) organizers, saying he respects their efforts. "I understand the idea, especially toys played by the children," he said. "It's very sad."

Fang mentioned to reporters that he has been monitored by Chinese authorities while abroad. He is particu-

larly made aware of their presence before public speaking engagements. The UW took the precaution of asking their camera-person not to pan the audience, in order to protect those who had come to hear Fang speak.

Fang disagreed with the assertion that the Chinese students went too far in their demands. Their initial requests in April 1989—for a dialogue with the government, freedom of speech and the press—were all reasonable, he said. It was only after the imposition of martial law by the government that the students became "angered" and "lost control." Then, the movement became "spontaneous." The main trend of the movement was appropriate, he said.

Resistance against the Beijing regime's crackdown on dissent has surfaced in numerous ways.

Fang cited several examples. A student reversed the Communist slogan, "China can only be saved by Communism," to "Communism can only be saved by China." A poem published recently in the *People's Daily* could be read from various directions. One line read "Down with Li Peng." This coded sign of dissent has been a traditional way citizens have protested poor rulers.

During the Asian Games, which the Beijing-based government hosted in 1990, scientists set up a new computer system to manage the games. Some sci-

entists inserted a computer virus. Once the computer was turned on, operators did not receive a regular signal. They were instead asked a question: "Is Prime Minister Li Peng a killer?" A "Yes" answer allowed the operators to continue in the system.

Fang wrapped up his talk at the UW with a political joke.

President Bush asked God when the U.S. could be a perfect society. "At least 20 years," God replied. Bush cried, knowing his presidency would end before then. President Gorbachev then asked God when the Soviet Union could be perfect. God replied, "Half a century." Gorbachev cried, because even with a lifetime presidency he wouldn't see that day. Finally, an unnamed top leader of China asked God when China could be a perfect society.

God cried.



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Painter Bob Henry holds a copy of the original Hing Hay Park mural design by artist Jon Woo. Henry, with fellow painter Tim Bredo, recently spent several weeks restoring the mural. "It gets kind of chilly up here, but it's different from working in the studio," said Henry. "People come up to us and tell us how we're doing." The International District PDA obtained a Neighborhood Matching Fund grant to pay for the supplies. Ackert Communications donated the labor. Woo's design depicts "Asian pioneers in America."—Dean Wong photo

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The Seattle Indian Services Commission honors the International District community on the occasion of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month.

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Community Calendar

by Ann Fujii

Political Empowerment Panel

The Rainbow Coalition is sponsoring a panel discussion entitled "Political Empowerment in Asian Pacific American Communities," May 21, at 7:30 p.m. Panelists include Martha Choe, Nemesio Domingo, Dave Froyalde, Lloyd Hara, Conrad Lee, Clarence Mori-waki, and Betty Patu. The event will be held at the Central Area Motivation Program, 722 18th Ave. For information, contact Velma Veloria, 786-7974.

CISC Open House

The Chinese Information and Service Center will hold an open house from 4 to 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 22, to celebrate the completion of office renovations and to recognize CISC volunteers. There will be a special performance by members of the Sunshine Garden Senior Day Care Center. The open house will be at the CISC office, 2nd floor of the Bush Asia Center, 409 Maynard Avenue South. 624-4062.

Small Business Seminar

Small businesses in the International District will be hosted at an informational seminar on banking products and services, co-sponsored by U.S. Bank and the Chong Wa Benevolent Association. The seminar will be held from 5:30 to 9 p.m. Wednesday, May 22 at the Chong Wa Hall, 522 7th Ave., in the International District. Participants can register in advance for the event by calling Ling Mar at 744-5707, or Paul Woo at 624-0137. Registration forms and drop-off boxes are also available at Mon Hei Bakery, Asian Travel and the Welcome Market.

EOC Job Fair

The Employment Opportunities Center will hold its annual Job Fair, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., May 29 at the Rainier Community Center, 3701 S. Oregon St. The event is free. For more information, call EOC at 725-8200.

Nikkei Health Fair

The Nikkei Health Fair for Diabetes and Cardiovascular Disease will be held 9 a.m. to noon, Saturday, June 7 at the Providence Medical Center, Conference Center. Dr. Wil Fujimoto will give a research progress report and discussion on complications of diabetes (heart disease, hypertension, eye problems, circulatory problems, high cholesterol) at 9 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. There will be question and answer stations and medical screening tests available at the Fair. For more information or child care, call the JACDS office at 543-5597.

Alcohol and Drug Conference

A conference entitled, "Looking Behind the Mask: Alcohol and Other Drug Problems in the Asian and Pacific Islander Communities" will be held from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. June 13 at the Nippon Kan Theatre, 628 S. Washington St. There is no charge.

The event is sponsored by the King County Division of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services and endorsed by the Asian Pacific Directors Coalition. Registration deadline is June 6. Space is limited. For more information, contact: Conference Coordinator, KCDASAS, 296-7615.

Matsui reception

A reception for Bob Matsui, Congressman from California, will be holding two events here in Seattle to help him raise funds in his bid for U.S. Senate in 1992. There will be a general reception 4:30 p.m., June 22 at the Bush Garden Restaurant. There will also be a special reception dinner for sponsors, those contributing \$500 to \$1,000 or more, at 7 p.m. June 22 at China Gate Restaurant.

Miss Chinatown Pageant

The Seattle Chinese/Chinatown Chamber of Commerce invites interested young women of Chinese ancestry to participate in the 1992 Miss Seattle Chinatown Pageant, Sept. 7, 1991, at the Seattle Sheraton Hotel and Towers. If you are female, between the ages of 18 and 26, of Chinese ancestry, and wish to participate, please contact Carol Chin at Tour de Force Travel, 441-6444, Teresa or Tom Fung, Salon Nouveau, 324-0160 or Al Yuen, 721-4901. Application deadline is Monday, May 27, 1991.

Overbreeding Animals Is Serious Business

by Ron Sims

16,500.

That's how many dogs and cats are destroyed every year by the King County Department of Animal Control. Those are also 16,500 good reasons for my recent proposal for a halt to the continued overbreeding of cats and dogs throughout King County.

The proposed King County ordinance would apply in unincorporated areas and it would ask pet owners to refrain from breeding their dogs and cats for six months. After six months, we would assess how well the breeding ban worked.

Both during and after the moratorium, pet owners would be able to breed their animals only if they obtained a license at the cost of \$100 per animal.

The law would also require mandatory spaying or neutering for all dogs and cats that are at least 9 months old, and which are not registered show pets.

My proposal has proven controversial - to say the least!

Never have I been involved with an issue which produced such a mixed outpouring of support, criticism, sympathy and sarcasm. Some poke fun at the proposal. It may seem humorous. Others question how the measure can be enforced, and, I admit, enforcement will be difficult.

But, after the giggles subside, we come back to that very un-funny figure - 16,500.

More than 16,000 unwanted pets are being destroyed every year just by King County Animal Control. Thousands more are destroyed by the City of Seattle, and what are we, as caring human beings, going



King County
Councilman
Ron Sims
Reports



to do to stem this inhumane carnage?

Yes, there will be challenges in enforcing my proposal, but laws aren't passed just to provide punishment, and they should not be judged solely upon enforceability.

Laws are created to encourage compliance, to show where we stand, and it's high time we stood up to demand a more caring, more thoughtful approach to the animals which live among us.

If you have a better idea than mine, I'm willing to listen. That's one reason I put forward the proposal. There has to be a better approach than the current one, which allows overbreeding to the detriment of human beings and animals alike.

If you are interested in learning more about this issue, contact my office at 296-1005.

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

Success Knows No Boundaries.

Success. We are only limited by what we believe we can achieve. U S WEST believes that fulfilling individual potential is the key to economic development, and that every success enriches the community in which we work and live. That's why we're proud to be working with the Asian community, sponsoring events and programs of community and economic interest and fostering excellence, innovation and achievement.

U S WEST recognizes and applauds the accomplishments of all Asian/Pacific Americans during this month of celebration!

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Colleges**

*Celebrating
achievements of the
Asian - Pacific community*

North Seattle Community College
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527-3600

South Seattle Community College
6000 - 16th Avenue SW
764-5300

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1701 Broadway
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Certification Program

- Certify bonafide MWBEs for participation in all state, county, city and port contracts.
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- Provide a directory of certified firms.

Monitoring & Compliance Program

- Establish MWBE goals for state agencies and educational institutions.
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- Investigate and resolve complaints.
- Evaluate the state's goal attainment in order to identify barriers and provide planning guidelines to agencies.
- Assist agencies in development and achievement of their goals.



James A. Medina, Director
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Olympia, WA 98504
(206) 753-9693
(SCAN) 234-9693

'Trying to forget, trying to remember'

by Joseph Dovinh Tai

April 30. Sixteen years after it all happened: the fall of Saigon, the folding of the American flag in Vietnam, the end to an era of violence and internal turmoil in American history.

What does it all mean today, to the millions of Vietnamese who have fled Vietnam, to Americans as a nation and a people, and to the 30,000 more Amerasians?

The full account is yet to be written, for Vietnam looms distant in the minds of many Americans and Vietnamese Americans as an unfinished story, an

ever-haunting spectre of something to be forgotten, or remembered.

Just ask the person next to you and they'll tell you something they know about Vietnam. Whether through friends and family or formal education, everyone knows a little something about Vietnam. Yet, upon second thought, nothing is really known about Vietnam except the war and the war and the war! In the minds of many people, to invoke "Vietnam" is to speak of WAR.

Vietnam as it is today still faces sanctions, economic encirclement and ostracism in world politics. In America, people still wait for loved ones to arrive home from the war. Tens of thousands of refugees who fled Vietnam in the aftermath of the war are in the camps. Some are taking to ritual suicide in the protest of the policies of forced repatriation.

All of this has been going on with little or no attention from the American public. Silence seems to be the watch-



Humanitarian issues in Vietnam were the topic of a convention April 27 in Seattle.

word. Sixteen years of unbroken silence has kept Vietnam's economy in the lower ranks of Third World nations. Sixteen years of isolation and closed-door politics have created a society stagnant, deprived, and on the verge of collapse. Change has not come to Vietnam, at

least not on the scale of reforms seen in Eastern Europe. Stubbornly, the leadership of Vietnam has reiterated that Vietnam is not Eastern Europe. The old clichés are hanging tough, waiting for either their lives to give out or the Second Coming (of Americans, that is)—whichever comes first.

It has been two years since the fall of the totalitarian regimes of Eastern Europe and the Tiananmen uprisings, but Vietnam does not budge. She is determined to seek the "true path of Socialism." And while Vietnamese exiles wish and pray, the flicker of hope of democratic reform in Vietnam has all but died out. A new generation of leadership among Vietnamese Americans has yet to step out into its own light and take charge. Politicians of the old South Vietnamese government are beginning to look more and more like invalids.

Many Vietnamese Americans still dream of a liberated Vietnam. But Vietnamese Americans are finding themselves at a crossroads. The conflict between love of their native land and the practicality of their circumstances in America creates an unresolved paradox. Many, longing to make a contribution to Vietnam, find their efforts thwarted and often face doubts and persecution from their native countrymen. Some are gunned down, like Le Triet and Doan va Toai, for openly expressing a liberal view.

Today in America, people speak of Vietnamese gangs and Vietnamese mafias. Crimes committed by Vietnamese are reported in mass media throughout the country. Disturbing and distorted images are being created of Vietnamese Americans, who are already facing enough difficulties adjusting to their newfound culture and could do without the myths and stereotypes beginning to envelop them.

All this, and the Thirtieth of April. Vietnamese Americans are trying to forget, and trying to remember at the same time. There is nothing unusual in that. Finding oneself seems to be a part of the American experience, as other immigrant groups have discovered. Vietnamese Americans are finding themselves more and more like Amerasians, whom they disregarded back in their native land. Like children of mixed heritage, the Vietnamese American community is entering its adolescence.

Note: The author is the former president of the Vietnamese Student Association and founder-advisor to the Southeast Asian Students Council, both at the University of Washington.

The Small Business Bottom Line ReportSM

How to increase your sales by 27%.

A leading national daily business journal reports that up to **27% of all customers who get a busy signal on their first call, go elsewhere.** What are busy signals costing your business?

Here's how to make sure you don't lose the 27% your competition may be gaining.

Adequate Phone Lines: By making certain you have enough lines for customers to get through, especially during peak business hours, you may eliminate losing sales to a busy signal.

In-Coming vs. Out-Going Lines: By assigning some lines only to in-coming calls and others to out-going, you increase your productivity. Clients are less likely to get a busy signal calling in and you are more likely to get a line out.



Lines for Fax and Data: By putting your fax machine on its own line, you eliminate callers hearing fax tones, and you can be on the phone and the fax at the same time. To make sure your lines for talking business stay open with less chance of callers getting a busy signal, transmit all your facsimile and data on lines just for fax and data.

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**International Examiner
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Thursday, June 20, 1991

*Come honor individuals for their outstanding
 contributions to the Asian American community
 and for their advocacy of Asian American issues.*

Four Seas Restaurant
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No Host Cocktails at 5:30 p.m.
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 Table for 10 / \$400
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For information call: 624-3925

**SEE THE WORLD
 THROUGH NEW EYES**

17th Seattle International Film Festival May 16 - June, 1991

Around the world in 3 1/2 weeks, 140 films from 39 countries, premieres and celebrity guests, the Seattle International Film Festival is your ticket to the best of global cinema! It all takes place along Broadway at the Egyptian, Harvard Exit and Broadway Market theaters. Come and experience the world through new eyes...it might even change your life!

Highlights of the Festival include:

JAPAN

THE VIOLENT COP - Japan's No. 1 entertainer Kitanos Takeshi directs and stars in this exciting police thriller. US Premiere. Monday, May 27, 9:30 PM Harvard Exit Theatre

KNOCKOUT - Major prize-winner about a boxer and his come-back fight, starring Akai Hideo. Tuesday, June 4 9:30 PM Broadway Market Cinemas

MANIC ZEN - Hilarious new movie from Susa Masayuki about a punk rocker who inherits a Buddhist temple. Saturday, May 25 9:30 PM Broadway Market Cinemas

HONG KONG

RED DUST - Lush, romantic story set during WWII & the Communist Revolution. A Chinese DR. ZHIVAGO, starring Maggie Cheung and Lin Chin-hsia. Winner of all major Golden Horse Awards. Thursday, May 30, 9:30 PM Harvard Exit Theatre

SWORDSMAN - Fabulous costume epic, the latest extravaganza from Tsui Hark (A CHINESE GHOST STORY, PEKING OPERA BLUES), starring Samuel Hui, Jacky Cheung and Cecilia Yip. Thursday, May 23, 7:00 PM and Saturday, May 25, 2:15 PM at the Egyptian Theatre

THE FRONT PAGE - The legendary Hui brothers reunite after 9 years in this hilarious parody of ethics and ethics in showbiz tabloids. Wednesday, May 29, 7:00 PM Harvard Exit Theatre

SOUTH KOREA

THE BLACK REPUBLIC - Tragic love-story directed by Park Kwang-su (CHIL-SU AND MAN-SU). US Premiere Friday, May 24, 7:00 PM Broadway Market Cinemas

SON OF A GENERAL - The most popular film in Korean history, directed by Im Kwon-taek (MANDALA). US Premiere Tuesday, May 28, 7:00 PM Broadway Market Cinemas

CHINA

BALLAD OF THE YELLOW RIVER - Wide-screen historical drama of bandits, heroes and maidens along the Yangtze River. Winner of Best Director (Teng Wenji) at 1990 Montreal Film Festival. US Premiere Monday, May 20, 7:00 PM Harvard Exit Theatre

Advance tickets on sale in the Broadway Market from 10AM to 7PM Monday through Saturday, and Noon to 7PM Sunday. For information and schedule updates, please call the Festival Hotline at 325-2485.

**The Seattle International
 Film Festival, 325-2485**



**Win Up To \$5,000
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It's easy. Just match three dollar amounts and get that amount. You can win up to \$5,000 instantly.

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JOB HOTLINE: 489-5111 EOE



PROFILE: SUSAN WONG OCCUPATION: SEATTLE POLICE OFFICER

Susan Wong's athletic ability, educational background and her intense desire to be in Law Enforcement gave her the edge in becoming a Seattle Police Officer.

Susan graduated in 1988 from the University of Washington in Chinese Regional Studies. She expected to work in shipping and International Trade, but started as a bank teller instead and worked her way up to documentation specialist in the loans department.

Susan admitted to herself, though, that she always wanted to be a Police Officer ever since she was a child.

Susan is a sports enthusiast and is an accomplished volleyball player.

She plays on local teams and realizes that staying fit helped in getting through the Police Academy physical training.

"The Academy really wasn't that hard," she said.

"It was easy for me probably because I haven't been out of school that long. If you have the gumption, you'll make it....the hardest part is getting in (hired)."

"You feel an accomplishment when you graduate, besides when everyone is supporting you and you're paid to go to school, you can't fail."

"My advice is, be determined, you really have to want to do it. Effort is real important."

"My mom said to me, 'You studied more for this than in College.'"

"That's because I wanted this for me, it's something I've always wanted. And right now, it's fun!"



FOR EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT
OFFICER KIM FRANKLIN 684-5473
OR PUBLIC SAFETY AT 386-1303.
EEO/AA EMPLOYER



Jesse Wineberry
State Representative, 43rd District
Majority Whip

"I salute my friends of the Asian & Pacific Islands community. We have contributed to Washington's past and together we will direct its future."



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"Your Local Bank for the 1990's and Beyond"



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7% Interest Rate

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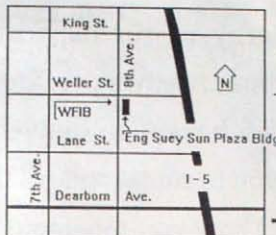
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Washington First International Bank is a full service, locally-owned commercial bank. We provide personalized financial services to businesses and individuals, including consumer loans, real estate loans, SBA loans and other types of business loans.

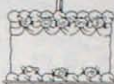
Come in and discover our full range of banking products and services.



Join Our Open House

May 15th, 16th and 17th
Wednesday thru Friday

We are serving coffee, tea and cookies. Also take advantage of our **Open House Special Offer:** Open a new account of at least \$1,000 during these 3 days and receive an anniversary cake as a gift.



Free travelers' checks to our customers between May 15th and June 15th

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(206) 292-8880

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Friday 9:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.

Saturday 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

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celebrates

Asian Pacific American Heritage Month

An Equal Opportunity - Affirmative Action Employer
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NEW LOCATION

City of Seattle - Human Rights Department
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Washington State
DEPARTMENT OF
SOCIAL & HEALTH
SERVICES

"The Department of Social and Health Services pays tribute to the heritage of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders and their contributions. Your legacy and that of other ethnic groups have forged a culturally rich, diverse state, of which all of us can be proud. Our state's dynamic diversity also challenges us to continually adapt and change, and to deliver even better services to the needy.

There is no higher priority in our department than building a culturally-diverse workforce to deliver proficient, culturally-relevant services and programs. We believe in delivering superior services through diversity. I urge you to contact one of the offices listed below about job information and how you can join our team."

Richard Thompson, Secretary

Bill Sterling
Spokane
456-6119

Jesse Torres
Yakima
454-7214

Yolanda Oliverrez Weyers
Everett
339-3993

Doug Chin
Seattle
626-5769

Linda Irby
Tacoma
597-4247

Nancy Pierpoint
Olympia
586-2821

Mike Stewart
Olympia (Headquarters)
753-1030

**Washington State
Department of Social and Health Services**

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY/AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER



ETHNIC HERITAGE
COUNCIL
of the Pacific Northwest

3123 Eastlake Ave. E.
Seattle, WA 98102
(206) 726-0055

The Ethnic Heritage Council salutes the rich heritage of Asian Pacific Americans. They are an important part of the diversity shared by all of us.

For Resource Information
call 726-0055



Northwest AIDS Foundation

is proud to join in
celebrating May as

Asian Pacific American Heritage Month

127 Broadway East, Seattle, WA 98102 206-329-6923

SUPPORT THEIR FUTURE

FREE services

1-800-442-KIDS

Washington State Department of Social and Health Services

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The Examiner is published on the first and third Wednesdays of each month. Classified ads are due on the Friday prior to publication. \$15.00 for the first 15 words, 35 cents for each additional word. Send ad and payment to: International Examiner, 318 Sixth Avenue South, Suite 127, Seattle, WA 98104.

EMPLOYMENT

INSTRUCTORS

Progressive state funded vocational school is expanding programs. Positions are available for instructors to teach typing, 10-key, time mgmt, motivation, goal setting, computer, customer svc, banking and ESL courses. Send resumes to WIAT, 315 22nd Ave. S, Seattle, WA 98144. Attn: Instructional Svcs - DEADLINE 5/22/91

OFFICE MANAGER

Office Mgr FT for nonprofit agency. Manage office and provide secretarial support inc. phones. Word processing, spreadsheets + 4 yrs exp. required. Start \$16,500 - 20,625 + benefits (DOE). Resume to Common Ground, 107 Cherry St. #410, Seattle, WA 98104. Apply by 5/28/91. EOE

JANITORIAL

MBM needs you! Join the team, pays \$6.30 to \$8.50 per hour + benefits + chance for promotion. Evening work: F/T or P/T. Call now 632-5332 or apply 8-12, Mon-Fri, 3829 Aurora Ave. N.

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Full Time, 8-5 MON-FRI. Immediate opening in downtown Seattle publishing co. Duties include daily deposits, computer invoicing, customer svc., month-end reconciliation, RBase software experience plus. Previous A/R experience required. Non-smoking office, good benefits, pleasant work atmosphere. Send resume with salary requirements to: Sasquatch Publishing, Box BIE113, 1931 2nd Avenue, Seattle WA 98101. No Phone calls.

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Come join the Key Bank team: We offer a competitive salary + benefits package (opportunities for recognition/increased compensation twice in your first year, paid vacations, bank holidays, free + discounted financial services, bus pass subsidy, etc.) We are recruiting individuals with excellent communication + interpersonal skills for a variety of positions.

We invite candidates with clerical, data entry, customer service or cashiering + experience who have 10 key + typing skills to consider one of these opportunities. For more detailed information

on these & other openings with Key Bank, please visit our Human Resources Office, M-F, 8:30 am - 4:30 pm, 1000 2nd Ave., 9th Floor, Seattle, 98104 or CALL OUR 24 HOUR JOB LINE AT 684-6189 FOR A COMPLETE JOB LISTING. Valuing diversity in our workplace, we encourage minority & female candidates to apply. Candidates who most closely meet our current needs will be contacted within 2 - 3 weeks.



AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY
EMPLOYER

COMMUNITY SUPPORT SPECIALISTS

Needed for full time, part time, and graveyard shifts with progressive agency to provide innovative instruction, support, and personal assistance services (i.e. bathing, toileting, dressing) to adults with developmental disabilities living in their own residences in the Kent area. Qualified applicants will be 18 years or over, have personal insured car, valid WSDL, telephone, and demonstrated ability to work reliably in a professional manner. Requires assisting in wheelchair transfers. CNA's and people with experience working with persons with developmental disabilities encouraged to apply.

* Variety of shifts available
* \$7.25/hr to start with increase after 520 hrs
* personal leave
* paid training
Apply in person at COMMUNITY LIVING, 1048 W. James St., #101, Kent, WA 98032 or call for application 206-859-8770. EOE.

DEVELOPMENT SPECIALIST

Grant writing, donor research and contribution management. 2 years writing and budget monitoring experience in nonprofit. Fulltime, \$21,068 - 24,012 plus benefits DOE. Closes 5/24/91. Call Northwest AIDS Foundation, 329-6923 ext. 241 for application.

FIREFIGHTER

The City of Tacoma is accepting applications through May 29, 1991. Non-smokers, females, and minorities are encouraged to apply. Human Resources Dept., Room 1336, 747 Market St., Tacoma, WA 98402. AA-EEO Employer.

SECRETARY

Evergreen Legal Services. Good typing, spelling, accuracy required. Legal and WordPerfect experience desired, but will train. Starting salary \$16,100/year. Excellent benefits. Minorities encouraged. Call Cynthia, 464-1422.

HOUSE MANAGER

ACT Theatre. Up to 40 hrs/wk. Incl. evens and wkends. 35 to 45 wks/yr. Based on prorated salary of \$14,000. House Manager exp. pref. Theatre bkgnd. desired. Resume by 5/22 to ACT, 100 W. Roy, Seattle, WA 98119. No calls. Equal Opportunity Employer.

RECEPTIONIST/SECRETARY

Excellent phone and people skills. Bookkeeping and WP experience preferred. 30 hrs. a week. Benefits. EOE. Resume to: Personnel, Friends of Youth, P.O. Box 12, Issaquah, WA 98027

SEWING MACHINE OPERATORS

9 Positions. Two years textile experience: Overlock Machine experience preferred. Dependable, fast, top quality. M-F, \$4.63 - 6.98/hour plus benefits. Apply to: The Lighthouse, 2501 S. Plum Street, Seattle, WA 98144. Equal Opportunity Employer

More employment
ads on page
24

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Volunteering is a gift that costs but a few hours,
yet is worth so much more.



Call 461-3655

United Way of King County
Volunteer Center

CLASSIFIED ADS

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Employment

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SOCIAL SERVICES/HOUSING RESOURCE SPECIALIST

For Emergency Shelter Program, counsel and assist residents in transition from temporary to permanent housing. Knowledge of Seattle/King County housing options, experience in counseling, domestic violence, housing. Applications close 6-10-91. Women, persons of color and disabled persons are strongly encouraged to apply. For information please call 548-8331.

SOCIAL SERVICES/COUNSELOR

For Emergency Shelter Program, counsel and assist women entering/residing shelter. Applications close 6-10-91. One regular position, graveyard shift, 28:30hours/week, \$9.65/hr. plus full benefits. Several on-call shifts, all shifts/hours, \$9.65/hr. Women, persons of color and disabled persons are strongly encouraged to apply. For information please call 548-8331.

More employment ads on page 23

Construction and Land Use MECHANICAL BLDG INSPECTOR

Begin at \$3,020/month
Inspect the installation of HVAC systems in high-rise building to ensure compliance with land use codes. MIN QUALS: 3 yrs exp in the design, installation, or inspection of commercial HVAC systems. 2 yrs college level course work in mech engineering. Some subs allowed.
For application and info come by office or send SASE to Personnel, 710 2nd Ave., Room 1220, Seattle, WA 98104. Filing closes 5/22/91. AA/EOE

SEATTLE CONSERVATION CORPS CREW CHIEF

\$16.36 per hour
Direct activities of Seattle Conservation Corps, a job and life skills training program for the homeless and chronically unemployed. Plan workload, lay-out jobs, supervise, develop workshops, write grants, and prepare bids. REQUIRE: 4 yrs in construction, grounds or forestry maintenance, incl some as supv. Prefer prior work with special population or job training program. For application and info come by office or send SASE to Personnel, 710 2nd Ave., Room 1300, Seattle, WA 98104. Filing closes 5/30/91. AA/EOE

ACCOUNT REPRESENTATIVE
Metropolitan Life in the International District is looking for quality team members to learn and grow with our company. An ideal career position for self-motivated, energetic and people-oriented individuals who seek financial security in a job. We provide training, salary + bonus, good fringe benefits. Bi-lingual skills a plus. For an interview, call Vic Lim at 623-7070.

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Data entry and word processing for fundraising department. 1 year data base experience required. Fulltime. \$15,801 plus benefits. Closes 5/24/91. Call Northwest AIDS Foundation, 329-6923 x 241 for application.

ABM AMERICAN BUILDING MAINTENANCE CO.
Janitor positions available. Seattle and Eastside. Free Medical & Benefits. Evening Work. Advancement Potential. Training Provided. \$6.20/hr to start. Call ABM 325-4939, or apply in person at 1711 So. Jackson, Seattle, WA EOE

ACCOUNTANT
Convention and Trd Ctr is accepting applications for an Accountant position. Responsibilities include: general ledger accounting, includes working with two computer and accsys; WA state payroll activities; contract acctg; regulatory and governmental repts. Requires: BA in acctg; min 3 yrs professional level acctg exp; analytical skills; WA state AFPS exp. Prefer acctg lead or supervisory exp. Lotus 123 exp desirable.
For further info call 447-3039. Applications are available at WSCCTC Service Entrance, Pike at 9th, Mon-Fri, 8-5 pm, may be returned to Service Entrance or mailed to: WSCCTC, 800 Convention Place, Seattle, WA 98101. Apps must be completed for consideration. Position is open until May 24.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

SERVICE DELIVERY COORDINATOR
The Department of Social and Health Services is currently recruiting for a Service Delivery Coordinator 2 position. The position is full time and located in Tacoma. The coordinator will work with managers and staff to promote cultural diversity. Duties will include recruiting and development of a culturally diverse workforce and outreach and coordination with the minority communities. Minimum qualifications are a Bachelor's degree and four years of professional administrative, supervisory or consultative experience in a social or health service program. A Master's degree may be substituted for two years of the required experience. Additional qualifying experience may substitute year for year for required education. Salary range: \$2432 to \$3113 per month. To receive an application and the complete job announcement, call DSHS at (206) 597-3631. Applications must be submitted by May 22, 1991.

THE STATE OF WASHINGTON IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER. WOMEN, RACIAL AND ETHNIC MINORITIES, PERSONS OF DISABILITY, PERSONS OVER 40 YEARS OF AGE AND DISABLED AND VIETNAM ERA VETERANS ARE ENCOURAGED TO APPLY.

The Examiner is published on the first and third Wednesdays of each month. Classified ads are due on the Friday prior to publication. \$15.00 for the first 15 words, 35 cents for each additional word. Send ad and payment to: International Examiner, 318 Sixth Avenue South, Suite 127, Seattle, WA 98104.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYERS

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NOTICES

The Seattle School District No. 1 will receive sealed bids for: Bid No B04124: 1991 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM SCHOOL MOVES

until 2 p.m., May 24, 1991
A mandatory prebid conference will be held at the Facilities Center Conference Room No. 2, 4141 Fourth Avenue South, Seattle, WA, on May 7, 1991, at 8:30 a.m. A site walk through will follow immediately. A bid bond is required. The bid contract person is Sue Bruckbauer at 298-7560.

The MWV participation requirements for the above bid are 0% Certified MB and/or Certified WB. The Seattle School District No. 1 has a MWV policy and actively encourages MWV's to bid.
Bid specifications may be picked up at the District Facilities Center, Purchasing Services, 4141 Fourth Avenue South, Seattle, WA, 98134, or by calling 298-7560.
The Board reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

The Seattle School District No. 1 will receive sealed bids for: BID NO. B05126: AUTOCAD 36/20 WORKSTATIONS until 3 p.m., May 21, 1991

The MWV participation requirements for the above bid are 5% Certified MB and/or Certified WB. The Seattle School District No. 1 has a MWV policy and actively encourages MWV's to bid.
Bid specifications may be picked up at the District Facilities Center, Purchasing Services, 4141 Fourth Avenue South, Seattle, WA, 98134, or by calling 298-7560.
The Board reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

INVITATION TO BID SEATTLE SCHOOL DISTRICT
Bid #B05128
SEISMIC IMPROVEMENTS AT SEWARD AND SCHMITZ PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS
Qualified firms are invited to bid on a contract for CLP project 83358 - Seismic Improvements at Seward and Schmitz Park Elementary Schools. Sealed bids will be received until 3:00 p.m., Thursday, May 30, 1991, at Se-

attle School District No. 1, Facilities Department, Purchasing Office, 4141 4th Ave. S., Seattle, WA 98134.

Contract documents may be obtained by bona fide bidders at the Seattle School District Purchasing Section (address above), upon deposit of (\$50.00) per set from 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Seattle School District is an Equal Opportunity Employer and encourages participation by minority and women business enterprises (MWBE). The MWBE participation requirements for this bid are: 15% Certified MBE and 10% Certified WBE. The complete legal notice and invitation to bid for this project is being published in the May 9 and 16, 1991, Seattle Daily Journal of Commerce.

The State of Washington, Department of Social and Health Services, Information Systems Services Division is issuing a Request for Quotation (RFQ) to procure convenience contracts for the purchase of personal computer workstations and related goods and services.

Letters requesting a copy of the RFQ should be addressed to: DSHS
Office of Vendor Services
Attn: Michael Paulson
Mailstop OB-22N
Olympia, WA 98504
RFQ 2300-81668 (Q)
FAX (206) 586-8487
Deadline for requests is May 24, 1991.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR ENGINEERING SERVICES TO CONDUCT: FERC DAM SAFETY INSPECTION OF THE SKAGIT RIVER PROJECT

The City of Seattle, City Light Department (CLD), is required by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) regulations to have five-year safety inspection of its licensed hydroelectric project conducted by independent consultants. The project will be inspected under the contract contemplated by this Request for Proposal. The Skagit project, FERC #553, consisting of three major concrete dams and surface power plants, requires inspection in 1991.

This advertisement is a Request for Proposals from prospective firms to furnish consultant services necessary to conduct this inspection and prepare the required reports.

Proposals to provide the services necessary for the FERC requirements shall be delivered by 4:30 p.m. on June 5, 1991.

A description of the services requested, evaluation criteria for consultant selection and other pertinent information are contained in the Request for Proposal documents which may be obtained by contacting: Donald A. Gwilym, P.E., Civil Engineering, Seattle City Light, 1015 Third Avenue, Seattle, WA 98104 (206) 684-3622

The City of Seattle is an Equal Opportunity Employer. The selected firm(s) will be required to comply with and complete such forms as required by the City's Ordinance No. 101432, "Required Contract Provisions (Equal Employment Opportunity)"; Ordinance No. 109113, "Women's and Minority Business Utilization Ordinance"; as amended; and Ordinance No. 109116, "Fair Employment Practices."

THE CITY OF SEATTLE REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS CUSTOMER SERVICE TRAINING AT THE TRANSFER STATIONS

The City of Seattle Solid Waste Utility is looking for a qualified consulting firm to develop and present customer service training for the floor laborers, scale house operators, and crew chiefs at the City's North and South Transfer Stations.

The goals of the customer service training are to:

1. Provide tools and techniques that will increase skills and confidence in communicating important information.
2. Provide alternative methods for communicating accurate information to the customer.
3. Provide diversity awareness to enhance communication with customers and employees.
4. Provide techniques for stress management.
5. Provide skills to handle confrontations with customers and employees.

Training content for the customer service training, in addition to the above, shall incorporate the following topics: listening skills, group problem solving, handling conflicts and confrontations, stress management, team building and diversity awareness. The estimated cost of consultant services is expected to be between \$5,000 and \$10,000. With the time of performance between July and October, 1991. Training shall be completed on or before October 31, 1991.

Interested firms shall contact Melina Thung at (206) 684-7666 for full details of the scope of work and other requirements including a proposal package. The deadline for receipt of proposals is 5:00 PM, July 1, 1991. The City of Seattle is not responsible for delays or loss caused by the U.S. Postal Service. If mailed, the proposals must be received by the deadline. These are firm deadlines; proposals received after the above time/date will not be considered. The City of Seattle is an equal opportunity employer. Disadvantaged, Minority and Women-owned firms are encouraged to apply.

The City of Seattle is an equal opportunity employer. Disadvantaged, Minority and Women-owned firms are encouraged to apply.

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